



# OBESSU 40th General Assembly

*9th and 10th August 2014*

## **1. Opening of the General Assembly**

Board Member Nora Kleibel opens and introduces the 40<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of OBESSU.

Nora welcomes everyone and thanks the sponsors for the General Assembly: the City of Vienna, the Ministry for Education and Women, the Austrian Student Union and the Public Transport Authority of Vienna. Nora gives the floor of the representative of the City Council of Vienna to welcome everyone to Vienna.

The Roll call is made, and voting cards are distributed in alphabetical order to the organisations present. Yellow cards are given to the Member Organisations (MOs) with the right to vote, and white cards to the Candidate Organisations (COs) with the right to speak, according to the payment of the Annual Financial Contribution.

### **First Roll Call:**

AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS (not present), UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not presents), VSK.

18 MOs present, 3 COs

## **2. Election of the Chairperson**

The Board proposes Andreas Berger, former Monitoring Committee (MC) member of OBESSU to be the Chairperson of the GA.

The General Assembly approves the Chairperson by acclamation.

The Chairperson welcomes the delegates and briefly shares his experience in OBESSU.

## **3. Election of the minute taker**

The Board proposes Estel Buch, OBESSU Project Officer, to be the minute taker of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly approves the minute taker by acclamation.

## **4. Legality of General Assembly and adoption of the Agenda**

For the General Assembly to be legal, 50% plus 1 of the total number of OBESSU members have to be present. At this GA 21 Organisations are present, which satisfies the legality criterion. Furthermore, all deadlines leading up to the GA were kept. No protests are made known and therefore the Chairperson confirms the legality of the General Assembly.



29 There are no comments concerning the Agenda.

30 Proceed to vote the approval of the agenda

31 In favour: 14

32 Against: 0

33 Abstentions: 1

34 **The Agenda of the General Assembly is approved.**

## 35 **5. Adoption of the Internal Regulations**

36 The Chairperson introduces the Internal Regulations of Statutory Meetings.

37 Proceed to vote:

38 Agree: 14

39 Against: 1

40 Abstentions: 0

41 **The Internal regulations for the General Assembly of OBESSU are adopted.**

42 The Chairperson explains the procedure to speak during the GA and the signals for direct reply and technical  
43 point.

## 44 **6. Election of the Ballot Committee**

45

46 The Chairperson explains the role and function of Ballot Committee and how it works. Three persons are  
47 needed for the Ballot Committee. LH proposes Stefan Frederiksen, AKS proposes Dora Jandl and DGS  
48 proposes Mads Waedegaard.

49 Proceed to vote:

50 In favour: 15

51 Against: 0

52 Abstentions: 0

53 **The Ballot Committee is elected unanimously**

## 54 **7. Voting right for Member Organisations failing to pay the Annual Financial Contribution**

55 The voting process is explained: according to the Statutes, only Member Organisations which have paid the  
56 Annual Financial Contribution (AFC) have the right to vote. There are seven Member Organisations present  
57 that have failed to pay the AFC. These are: EEO, LMS, MAKOSZ, UdS, UNL, USO, and CNE.

58 One delegate from each organisation has the chance to explain why their organisation has failed to pay the  
59 AFC on time. The General Assembly will vote after each organisation has presented, on whether to grant the  
60 right to vote/speak. To pass, a simple majority is needed.

61 The organisations concerned make a brief explanation and the Chairperson opens the floor for questions or  
62 comments.



63 FSS: Asks for a secret ballot for this voting as they consider it can be a delicate voting.

64 The Chairperson welcomes UDS which has just arrived. UDS also makes a brief statement.

65 The floor is open for Questions and Answers.

66 Some organisations ask questions related to the delayed payments and the organisations concerned reply with an explanation.

68 The Chairperson explains the procedure to vote.

69 Roll Call to hand out the ballot papers

70 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, DGS, DOS, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS, UNSS, VSK

71 Now we have 15 organisations with the right to vote in the room. A simple majority will be enough to grant  
72 the right to vote to each organisation.

73 The Chairperson reads the names of the organisations and the ballot committee will collect the votes.

74 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, DGS, DOS, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNSS, VSK

75 The ballot committee leaves the room with the secretary general to count the votes.

76 The Ballot Committee comes back with the results:

77 **EEO is granted the right to vote by 10 in favour.**

78 **LMS is not granted the right to vote because they only obtain 7 votes in favour.**

79 **UDS is granted the right to vote by 13 in favour.**

80 **MAKOSZ is granted the right to vote by 9 in favour.**

81 Now we have 18 MOs with the right to vote.

82 The Chairperson calls the vote to give CNE the right to speak.

83 Proceed to vote:

84 In favour: 18

85 **CNE is granted the right to speak.**

86 Now we have 18 MOs with the right to vote and 3 COs with the right to speak.

87 **8. Adoption of minutes from the Extraordinary General Assembly and Council of**  
88 **Members 2013**

89 The Chairperson explains that the minutes were sent out in time. There are no comments or questions  
90 about the minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly and Council of Members 2013. The minutes are  
91 adopted by acclamation.



92 **9. Speaking rights for extra delegates**

93 The Chairperson explains that there are some organisations with more than two delegates and, according to  
94 the internal regulations, the General Assembly has to vote on who has the right to speak.

95 There are no comments or questions.

96 Proceed to vote to have unlimited number of speakers:

97 In favour: 18

98 Against: 0

99 Abstentions: 0

100 **Carried**

101 Therefore each delegation can have an unlimited number of speakers.

102 **10. Guests present at the General Assembly**

103 We do not have any guests now. The voting is postponed until we have guests joining the General Assembly.

104 **11. Presentation of the report on the Extraordinary General Assembly and**  
105 **Council of Members**

106 The rapporteur Martina from UDS who could not be present at the GA has proposed Maria Rodríguez (CANAE)  
107 to read the report of the ExGA and COMEM 2013.

108 There are no questions or comments

109 **12. Presentation Activity and Impact Report 2014**

110 The Board presents the Activity and Impact Report 2014 that was sent out to all organisations.

111 **Highlights**

- 112 • Permanent observers of the CoE structure CDPPE
- 113 • Daniele Di Mitri in the steering committee of EUCIS-LLL
- 114 • Successful campaign on Social inclusion in education “Education we have a problem”
- 115 • Translation of the Manual for School Students in Macedonian and Georgian
- 116 • Participation in the European Youth Event in Strasbourg

117 **Structures and Participation**

- 118 • YFJ Education WG
- 119 • YFJ Taskforce on Post-2015
- 120 • EC ESL TWG/Stakeholder WG



- 121 • OECD WG on School Resources
- 122 • CoE Steering Committee Education Policy and Practice
- 123 • EC Advisory Council on Vocational Training
- 124 • UN Youth Advocacy Group on Global Education First Initiative
- 125 • EUCIS-LLL Steering Committee
  
- 126 **Policy and Advocacy**
  
- 127 • 50 External Representations
- 128 • Meetings with major political parties in the European Parliament
- 129 • Close contact with all relevant institutions
  
- 130 **School Student Structure Development**
  
- 131 • 24 Member and Candidate organisations from 19 European Countries
- 132 • Contact organisations in 22 countries
- 133 • 4 Study visits
  
- 134 **Events**
  
- 135 • Training Course for International Officers, December 2013, Brussels
- 136 • Joint Study Session with IGLYO, March 2014, Budapest
- 137 • Education in Crisis, June 2014, Rome
  
- 138 **Youth Policy**
  
- 139 • [Vote@16](#)
- 140 • Structured Dialogue
- 141 • UNESCO Youth Forum
  
- 142 **Human Rights**
  
- 143 • Social Inclusion Campaign
- 144 • Study Session in March.
  
- 145 **Global issues**
  
- 146 • Post-2015
- 147 • YAG
- 148 • OECD WG
  
- 149 **VET**
  
- 150 • ACVT of the EC
- 151 • WG from OBESSU
- 152 • ExtRep



153 **Citizenship Education**

- 154 • Summer School 2013  
155 • NECE Conference  
156 • EPEP "School Students' Europe 2019"

157 **Commodification of education**

- 158 • World Congress European Access Network  
159 • Education in Crisis

160 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions. CANAE congratulates the Board for the work done in the past  
161 two year. They consider the advocacy and political work to be highly positive. Also, they thank the effort put  
162 into internal communication with MOs. They highlight the Study Visits as a good tool to make organisations  
163 involved in OBESSU. They ask if there has been the debate to join other international platforms as UNESCO.  
164 SAKKI asks for the reasons behind the decision to abolish the VET Policy Officer position in the Secretariat.  
165 The Board replies:

- 166 ➤ We plan to expand our advocacy work. We are now in the middle of writing the application to  
167 become members of UNESCO. Also, we would like to become closer to the European Youth Forum  
168 (YFJ) and that is why we plan to run for the Board elections, if OBESSU GA ratifies the decision.  
169 ➤ After a reflection process, the decision to abolish the VET Policy Officer position was made with the  
170 intention to move the political power to the Board. We realised this position on the Secretariat had  
171 become very political.

172 DGS asks if there are specifics and concrete papers, resolutions and documents as outcomes of all the  
173 activities and projects from the past year to share with their members. The Board replies:

- 174 ➤ We try to have the impact evaluated in the impact report. Some examples are the report on Early  
175 School Leaving done by the EC where governments were represented. We did not put our name,  
176 but it has a school student focus. Other examples are the participation of OBESSU on the UN  
177 preparation of the guidelines on Education for Global Citizenship through our direct participation  
178 in YAG. We have also contributed on two policy papers of the YFJ: on Citizenship Education and  
179 Quality Education.  
180 ➤ We were invited to the revision to the recommendation of UNESCO on technical and vocational  
181 training. We are at the working group on the OECD and raised our concerns about PISA and finally,  
182 we cooperated with the OESC with an input on the communication: Opening up education where we  
183 had an audition to give our inputs.

184 **Roll Call**

185 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,  
186 UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.

187 Now we have 18 MOs with the right to vote and 3 COs with the right to speak.



188 **13. Report of the Secretary General**

189 **Office**

- 190 • We have moved to a new office that is in a very good location and close to our partner organisations  
191 at European level.

192 **The staff**

- 193 • Rasmus – Secretary General  
194 • Estel – Project Officer  
195 • Giorgio- Communications and Membership Officer  
196 • Paolo - Financial Manager

197 **What:**

- 198 • The Secretariat is in charge of the operational work of OBESSU, in close cooperation with the Board  
199 (Statements/reactions; meetings with partner organisations; training events; contact with  
200 prospective MOs)  
201 • Applications and reports  
202 • Logistics of events  
203 • Administration  
204 • Finances  
205 • Communication

206 **Communication**

- 207 • Internal communication with member and candidate organisations.  
208 • External communication: webpage, newsletter, social media

209 **Finances**

- 210 • Compared to last year, the finances are much more stable.

211 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions. SAKKI asks about the lobby role of the secretariat. The  
212 Secretary General replies:

- 213 ➤ The Secretariat does not do any lobby work because it is a political role done by the Board. Only if  
214 there is an event that the Board cannot attend, the Secretariat might go on behalf of them.

215 **14. Financial report 2013 and budget 2014**

216 **Financial report on 2013**

217 The secretary General, Rasmus Aberg, explains the structure of the financial report 2013 and makes the  
218 summary of the year.



- 219
- 2013 was a good year and we got all the projects that we applied for.
- 220
- We received the operating grant from the EC.
- 221
- The balance was positive with 38€. We would love to have a surplus every year but it is very difficult
- 222
- to achieve this objective since the EC rules state that you are not allowed to have a surplus when
- 223
- getting an operating grant.
- 224
- The highest amount of incomes came from the EC operating grant (150.000€) and the contribution
- 225
- of projects from EC and CoE.
- 226
- When it comes to expenditure the biggest amount are the staff costs, employer charges (called
- 227
- ONSS) and travel costs.
- 228
- As a summary, it was a relatively good year and there were no dramatic issues happening.
- 229
- The Chairperson opens the floor for questions. FSS asks about the different concepts of the financial report
- 230
- (difference between mailing and communication and between transportation and travel costs). SLL asks
- 231
- whether OBESSU has any buffer at this moment. DGS encourages OBESSU to prepare a simplified budget for
- 232
- the next GA to make it more understandable. Also, they ask what percentage of OBESSU's budget is spent on
- 233
- projects and activities. The Secretary General replies:
- 234
- Mailing costs are costs for postal costs (like sending out packages and letters), while
- 235
- communication costs are related to phone, Internet, copying, etc. Regarding the difference
- 236
- between transportation and travel, the Secretary General is not 100 % sure.
- 237
- OBESSU has a buffer in various ways, for example through a "social fund" to protect staff members
- 238
- against an eventual bankruptcy, in accordance with Belgian legislation. We wish the buffer could be
- 239
- bigger.
- 240
- CANAE wants to know what is the advanced payment in the balance sheet. If we are going to receive the
- 241
- money expected as travels? And how does the per-diems system works. Finally, they want to know what the
- 242
- exceptional charges are.
- 243
- When the Board member started, OBESSU gave them an advanced payment ("Board loan") for them
- 244
- to pay for their travel expenses and avoid the need to use their personal money. At the end of their
- 245
- mandate, they will give it back.
- 246
- All the travel payments are to be received in the next months.
- 247
- Per-Diems are received by the Board and the Secretariat in case they are travelling for OBESSU
- 248
- events and in case they do not get their meals covered by the organiser.
- 249
- Exceptional charges include the money that was stolen from the old office and money that we had
- 250
- to pay back to the European Commission for the YOUNET project.
- 251
- LH would like to know how many hours are the employees hired for and ASUBIH asks for what are the AFC
- 252
- used for.
- 253
- Officially the Secretariat is hired for 37hours per week, but the employers work many more hours.
- 254
- Furthermore, the Secretariat does not get any payment for extra working time.



255 ➤ The money for AFC goes to the core budget and it is used for the all the OBESSU expenses.

256 The Board explains that from their points of view, the results that we get from the Secretariat is much more  
257 worthy than the salary they get and they would like to be able to offer better salaries in the future.

#### 258 **Budget 2014**

259 Rasmus explains that the rules have changed a little bit compared to last year because of the new Erasmus+  
260 Programme from the European Commission.

261 Projects are: Education in Crisis (EiC), European Youth Foundation Work Plan 2014 (EYF WP 2014) and the  
262 Summer School Estonia (continued from 2013).

263 For EiC we received a grant from the EYF but unfortunately we did not get a grant from the Italian Ministry.  
264 Regarding the EYF WP 2014, we organised a Training for Trainers, and two study visits (and we will have a  
265 third one in Latvia). The final activity of the Work Plan will be Right to Representation (R2R), from which we  
266 are waiting for an answer from the Flemish National Agency to get cofunding from the European  
267 Commission. We are also working on another application for the Europe for Citizens programme from the  
268 European Commission.

269 In general, the situation is a lot better than it could have been regarding the amount for projects.

270 It is difficult to plan how the year is going to finish because we are still waiting for project grants.  
271 Regardless of this, this will be a good year because we have had half of the year with only two full time  
272 Secretariat members.

273 The Chair opens the floor for questions.

274 CANAE acknowledges that in the last months we have seen some project grant applications rejected and  
275 encourages OBESSU to work hard for them. CANAE asks for the reasons why there has been a reduction on  
276 the amount for the operating grant.

277 ASUBIH asks for the reason why there is not the General Assembly in the budget.

278 LH points out that is strange to be approving a budget for 40.000€ less than 2013.

279 ➤ Maribel Social, a social fund from Belgium will cover Giorgio's salary for the next years.

280 ➤ Regarding the failed grant applications, with Erasmus+ the programme has changed and now we  
281 have to apply for our projects to the National Agencies and this makes it a little bit complicated  
282 because we are not in contact with them and we do not know what they want. An example can be  
283 the one with Summer School in Slovakia this year. This is the reasons why we are looking for other  
284 sources for the funding.

285 ➤ The reduction of the amount on the operating grant in was a decision by the EC, after negotiations  
286 with the Parliament and Council. The reduction is a pity, but it could have been much worse. We  
287 hope it will increase in future years.



288 ➤ The General Assembly is in the budget but not as a separate project. It is included in lines 22 and  
289 23. (It is also for the COMEM later this year)

290 ➤ The reasons our budget is smaller than last year is because of the reduction of the operating grant.  
291 It should be emphasised that the budget is always an estimate and that it can change in the future.

292 SAKKI asks whether we have considered how OBESSU is going to manage if the general budget is the same  
293 amount as this year and we have three full-time employees.

294 ➤ First of all, we hope the European Commission will increase the amount again. But even if this will  
295 not be the case, we have the possibility to lower some of the expenses that we have.

296 SLL asks if OBESSU has expected to have sponsors during this year and for which amount.

297 ➤ We have had sponsors for this GA but we have not decided what are we going to get in the future,  
298 but it is an idea we want to keep working on in non-funded activities or projects.

299 There are no more questions or comments so the Chairperson calls for the vote to adopt the Budget 2014.

300 Proceed to vote:

301 In favour: 18

302 Against: 0

303 Abstentions: 0

304 **The budget 2014 is adopted.**

305

306 FSS asks when the AFC will be adopted this year.

307 ➤ The annual financial contribution was adopted for 3 years and it is adopted automatically with the  
308 adoption of the budget.

309 The Board takes the floor and thanks the Secretariat for the hard work. There have been some struggles and  
310 issues going and they have been great.

## 311 **15. Report from the Working Groups and the Pool of Trainers**

### 312 **European Parliament Elections Platform “School Students’ Europe 2019”**

- 313 • Political platform for the Parliament elections of 2014.
- 314 • Timeline: Policy paper from GA Haapsalu, first toolkit (Autumn 2013), advocacy work started  
315 (autumn 2013), second toolkit (spring 2014), public debate at the European Youth Event (EYE).
- 316 • Policy paper: made in cooperation with the MOs, through questionnaire and discussions, three clear  
317 topics were selected.
- 318 • Advocacy: SMART goals were set, effort was put in planning the meetings, the presented demands  
319 received a positive response and the social media mentions were successful.
- 320 • MOs: toolkits for MOs were planed, more encouragement should have happened to MOs.
- 321 • There was an event on Facebook and the EYE debate with ESU.
- 322 • Impact: MOs’ response was low, in general there was a low engagement with the EP elections.
- 323 • SMART goals were met: institutional relationships between OBESSU and political parties.



- 324 • Possible next steps: meeting with the future CULT committee, follow up with political youth  
325 organisations, post-election debates.

326 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions and comments.

327 CANAE wants to congratulate for the Working Group and apologise for not being very active.

328

### 329 **Pool of Trainers**

- 330 • We have a Pool of Trainers at use for the member organisations. It includes trainers and facilitators  
331 with different levels of experience and it was created with this idea.
- 332 • It is generally working well.
- 333 • Members of the pool can benefit from going to different external trainings.
- 334 • The biggest project of the pool is to work on the OBESSU “enlargement project”, where they take an  
335 active role in the study visits to candidate and partner organisations.
- 336 • Trainers are very interested to come to your trainings.

337 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions and ASuBiH asks how they can have a study visit to their  
338 organisation.

- 339 ➤ Study Visits belong to the EYF Work Plan 2014 and they are already set. If any member organisation  
340 is organising a training or activity, they can always ask someone from the pool to go there.

341

### 342 **Roll Call**

343 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,  
344 UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.

345 We have 18 member organisations in the room, and 4 with the right to speak. The simple majority remains  
346 at 10.

### 347 **Social Inclusion Campaign Taskforce**

348 “Education we have a problem!” Campaign

349 Topics covered:

- 350 • Costs of education
- 351 • “Education snobbery”
- 352 • Special needs
- 353 • Ethnic and religious minorities
- 354 • Gender identity and sexual orientation

355

### 356 **Timeline**

- 357 • Launch in October 2013 in Brussels with many partner organisations
- 358 • Organisational fair before YFJ COMEM (November 2013, Thessaloniki)
- 359 • Input session at the TCIO (December 2013, Brussels)
- 360 • Closing of the Campaign at the EYE (May 2014, Strasbourg)
- 361 • Online initiative (October 2013 - February 2014)

362 Outcomes and results:

- 363 • Case study on hidden costs in education
- 364 • Guidelines on social inclusion in education



365

366 Visibility and influence: (Increased influence)

367

- 368 • SIRIUS stakeholder meeting on teachers with migrant background, March 2014
- 369 • Speaker at IGLYO resource launch, January 2014
- 370 • Conference on homophobic and transphobic bullying in schools, June 2014, Athens
- 371 • The role of VET in making education more inclusive, November 2013, Vilnius

372

373 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions and comments. ASuBiH wants to know where the pictures that  
374 MOs sent to the Secretariat for the campaign are and SAKKI asks who the targets of the campaign were.

375 ➤ The pictures people sent are included in a Facebook album.

376 ➤ We had two main aims: First one was for MOs to spread the campaign at national level and it was up  
377 to the MOs to pick up what they thought was relevant. The second one was to bring up the topic at  
378 European level. It was a starting point to show what Inclusive education is and if the guidelines are  
379 approved, it will be a next step.

## 380 **16. Report of the Monitoring Committee**

381 The Monitoring Committee (MC) compiled this report that is presented by Kristen Aigro. The MC is composed  
382 by Kristen, Alvaro and Ville.

383

### 384 **How do they work**

- 385 • They started only being two (Ville and Kristen) and it was complicated to get things done.
- 386 • They did not have any references and they had to decide on how to organise themselves and their  
387 work.
- 388 • They worked via skype and whatsapp
- 389 • One meeting in Sarajevo
- 390 • Visit to the COMEM
- 391 • Skype meetings

### 392 **Events**

- 393 • Not very monitored because they could not attend all the events, and only have feedback from  
394 participants.
- 395 • Events are a strength of OBESSU

396

### 397 **Statutory meetings**

- 398 • Improvements like: policy corners, online pre-meetings and gender balance on rapporteurs.
- 399 • There has been a change to separate the GA, there was a concern, but most of MOs are here.

### 400 **Board**

- 401 • The MC is very satisfied with the Board's work



- 402       • They have been through many changes (new Secretary General, new Board member), but they kept  
403 things going.

404 **Secretariat**

- 405       • They have been working very hard, with a lot of changes in the organisation.  
406       • There has been a lot of changes, but the organisation is strong and the membership officer is an  
407 important new position and we think it is an improvement.  
408       • The Board has been helping the Secretariat a lot when they were understaffed.

409 **Workplan**

- 410       • The summer school is the only think that has not been done, because of the lack of funding.

411 **Advocacy and communication**

- 412       • There seems to be a problem when we send out calls or surveys to MOs, it is a problem from the  
413 organisations side but also it should be investigated further how to encourage participation.  
414       • OBESSU has a really good reputation with partner and other organisations.  
415       • Improvement: presence in new structures and to new organisations.

416 **Political Platform**

- 417       • There have been 74 points of the PP followed out of the 81 demands that one can find on the  
418 document.

419 **Working Groups and Pool of Trainers**

- 420       • The Working Groups have been less effective as the motivation is not that high. This is something  
421 that needs to be looked at.  
422       • The PoT has a good reputation.

423 **Structure development**

- 424       • Some MOs left OBESSU but there are some new members coming in.  
425       • Something new: Affiliate Organisations that opens the door for new organisations and more  
426 countries and students in Europe.

427 **Finances**

- 428       • Generally the budget has been observed as it was adopted.  
429       • The Board has internal regulations and everything has been followed.  
430       • There are cash-flow problems, due to delays in payments of grants.  
431       • 92% of income was from an outside source.  
432       • The new Erasmus+ programme has brought some insecurity compared to previous years.  
433       • The report of the external auditor was approved, so finances are in good shape.



434 **The overlapping mandate system**

- 435
- The system started last year.
  - It is in motion now but there are pros and cons.
    - 437 - Cons: It does affect a lot of the team work (portfolio). It creates a problem with the team
    - 438 spirit.
    - 439 - With the new election, next year GA we will elect only 1 person, which will create a
    - 440 problem.
  - Suggestion from the MC: the Board that will be elected decides that one of the people resigns after
  - 442 one year. Otherwise we will not be able to put the overlapping mandate in motion.

443 The Chairperson invites the Board to leave the room and opens the floor for questions and comments.

444 DGS suggests that if in this GA MOs only elected 5 members in next GA they could elect 3 people more and it  
445 would put into run the overlapping system. SAKKI asks if there is a big thing to do by the Board or the  
446 Secretariat and SIF asks for clarification when talking about the insecurity produced by the new Erasmus+  
447 programme.

- 448 ➤ This election system would work. But the MC has realised that a Board of five works better than a
- 449 bigger one. But this is also an option.
- 450 ➤ Changes with the Board and secretariat: The big change now is the overlapping mandate and to
- 451 make it work. We will have the first results now with Luke continuing and going from there we will
- 452 see.
- 453 ➤ More help will be needed from the MOs at their national level as OBESSU will only be able to apply
- 454 to National Agencies and it will not be so easy.
- 455 ➤ From the report of the Board and Secretariat it is difficult to say if they have to make any major
- 456 changes. We are happy on how the Board has been working and things right now are going well.

457 SLL asks if they found something important for the MC and what would you do differently and if they created  
458 any kind of regulations for the MC work that are going to pass to the new MC. EEO asks if there is a way to  
459 make the Board and the MC work more transparent. SIF asks if they see more pros or cons with the  
460 overlapping mandates.

- 461 ➤ The MC tries to communicate with the members. They did not get a lot of inputs, but it is interesting
- 462 when getting them. It is also interesting to be next to the Board and Secretariat and also be there
- 463 for them for help they might need.
- 464 ➤ The MC is an advisory body and tries to make sure that things work. We try to see the things MOs do
- 465 not see and provide an overview of what has been going on.
- 466 ➤ We will give a number of documents to the new MC so they do not have to start from scratch.
- 467 ➤ The Board has been transparent on what is necessary and all this information is out there. They
- 468 have an external representation spreadsheet that is public, but there might be other ways to think
- 469 on how to communicate this information to the members because it seems that is not reaching the
- 470 MOs.



471 ➤ The MC does not have a really straightforward answer. In theory is a good idea in case of big  
472 changes, but it is difficult because it creates a gap between old and new members and slows down  
473 the work.

474 LH asks what do the MC thinks OBESSU can do to improve at the financial level. CANAE asks whether the MC  
475 should meet more often and have a bigger budget assigned to them. AKS asks on the method the MC used to  
476 contact MOs, if there is a set method or it is based at a personal level.

477 ➤ The MC job is to point out what is not working properly. The Secretariat is working on it and the only  
478 thing to say is that the MOs should be active and help when applying to their countries.

479 ➤ The Statutes say that MC should meet twice a year and attend all the events and this did not  
480 happen. Much more could be done but if finances are difficult, we cannot always be there. In the  
481 ideal conditions, yes the MC should meet up at least twice per year and participate in all events.

482 ➤ We did not have a proper overview of the MOs. The contacts were made more informally and had not  
483 been managed.

484 SIF asks if the MC think the Board should have done something differently or that could be improved. ISSU  
485 asks on what could be done to avoid the difficulties at the beginning of the mandate of the MC.

486 ➤ The MC has the impression that internally not all Boar members are happy with their portfolios and  
487 it has also happened with the enlargement of the team. There is a problem there and it will happen  
488 again with the overlapping mandate. It is important to think how are the portfolios being  
489 distributed and it has to be the team who discusses it.

490 ➤ We did not receive much information from the previous MC. The previous MC and the new one did  
491 not agree on the role of the MC so they had to start from scratch. Also, the Board was not happy  
492 with the old MC work.

493 CANAE asks for the MC report in advance to be able to evaluate the work.

494 ➤ You will receive a document as soon as possible.

495 The Board is welcomed back in the room and the Chairperson updates them that the GA wants to hear their  
496 opinion on the overlapping mandate.

497 CANAE asks for the personal opinion of each of the Board members about the overlapping mandate.

498 ➤ Dejan: In theory it makes perfect sense but unfortunately it slowed down the pace of the work, and  
499 it was a little bit difficult. Nevertheless, it is fair to still give it a shot. It was not the most efficient  
500 process, but he would not cancel it.

501 ➤ Luke: Agree with Dejan that it works well in principle. It does make sense to have a process to  
502 ensure a proper handover to continue from the old and new. But it practice things do not work as  
503 easily as thought. It is hard to evaluate now that we have only had the first part and not the second  
504 with the new Board.

505 The Board has to ensure to make a new group and group dynamics.

506 ➤ Nora: The overlapping mandate has been a topic in my OBESSU life. It wasn't the easiest thing, but  
507 with every change there are always positive and negative things. In theory is a good thing, to have



508 some kind of insurance that there is a process to pass on the information. It is hard for the group  
509 dynamics, but this has happened before also when people resigned. The problem is that is loose in  
510 the Statutes and they are very open on this matter. Maybe if you GA decide to carry this one, take  
511 into consideration on clarifying the guidelines to implement this.

512 ➤ Daniele: Looking back at the history, the process was not really smooth and the result was that  
513 there were only people elected for 2 years and in the last elections there was only 1 candidate  
514 running. There was a failure on the lack of candidates and not clear guidelines on how to implement  
515 the overlapping mandates. We need to see in the future how it works or if there are more problems.

516 ➤ Dasa: If we want to make it work, there has to be a fixed number of Board members. The Board of  
517 OBESSU is its face and this is something stable, and once you get to know this faces, and this is a  
518 strong thing. If there is the overlapping you can have too many faces leaving and coming in every  
519 year.

520 ➤ Ida: We have to bear in mind that we are only halfway to implement it. Even though you have the  
521 people working, every time you have someone new, you have to redistribute workload and  
522 portfolios. Every 6 months we have been having elections and it has been a mess. I agree with the  
523 idea but so far it did not work.

524 There are no more questions or comments from the GA.

525 The Chairperson gives the floor to Nora that explains how the policy corners will work. This should not  
526 replace the discussion that is going to take place on the plenary of the GA.

## 527 **17. Policy Corners I**

- 528 • Workplan 2015-2017
  - 529 ○ SAKKI, FSS, SLL Amendment
- 530 • Development Strategy
- 531 • Amendments to the Statues

532 The Chairperson welcomes everyone again after the break. He explains that organisations can present  
533 urgent motions and resolutions and that the deadline is tomorrow morning at 9h.

534 He also informs that LMS has paid their membership fee and therefore they will be given the voting  
535 card at the next Roll Call.

### 536 **Roll Call**

537 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL,  
538 SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

539 Now there are 19 organisations present with the right to vote and 3 with the right to speak and the  
540 simple majority is 10.



541 **18. Candidate Status of UNEL**

542 The Chairperson explains that by decision of the Board there are two candidate organisations and now the  
543 GA will decide if they ratify the status of Candidate Organisation of UNEL.

544 UNEL delegates take the floor and present their organisation.

545 The Board explains the reasons why they gave the status of candidate organisation to UNEL.

546 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

547 DGS asks on how large the rate of students they represent is.

548 ➤ UNEL: it is difficult to say. It is not really clear to know how many people. We work more as a  
549 platform and we do not insist on fees. We want to open participation to more people on our  
550 activities, but our main focus is to be as representative as possible and to be as inclusive as  
551 possible.

552 LMS asks if they work with school councils and CANAE wants to know if students join UNEL directly or if there  
553 is a regional structure in the organisation. They also ask on how they make the difference between school  
554 students and university students.

555 ➤ UNEL: There are structured bodies as school councils and we have worked with them in the past for  
556 instance on some campaigns. We also have members on our body that are at school councils.

557 ➤ We do not structurally make a distinction between school students and university students, they  
558 have the same rights, but interests might be different. Usually the events are more attended by  
559 school students because they are in the country.

560 ➤ We used to have regional organisations in the past but we had a split many years ago that took the  
561 regional committees. Luxembourg is so small that there is no need to create these regional  
562 structures.

563 There are no more questions and the Chairperson calls for the vote to ratify the Board decision to give UNEL  
564 the status of Candidate Organisation of OBESSU.

565 Proceed to vote:

566 In favour: 18

567 Against: 0

568 Abstentions: 1

569 **The GA ratifies the decision to grant UNEL the status of Candidate organisation.**

570 **19. Discussion and voting on proposals and amendments I**

571 **WORK PLAN 2013/2014**

572 Amendment #1 (UDS, AKS, UNL, CANAE)

573 Line 224



**Add:** "It is important to remember the historical meaning of the 17th of November for school student organisations, which is not always known and taken into account.

In 1941, the International Students Council declares for the first time the 17th of November as the "International Day of the student", because of on that day happens very important facts for the national student movement.

On the 28th of October in 1939, during the occasion of the anniversary of the independence of Czechoslovakia, students and teachers of the University of Prague were demonstrating against the Nazi regime and for independence. The Nazi regime responded with harsh repression of the event and on that occasion they killed the student Jan Opletal. On 15th of November, on the occasion of the funeral of Jan Opletal, students turned the funeral procession in a demonstration against the Nazi regime. A few days after the event at the University of Prague repression became much harder: many buildings were closed, thousands of students and teachers were arrested and 9 people amongst them were executed without a trial on the 17th of November.

And yet, on the 17th of November 1973, at the peak of the Greek revolt against the dictatorship of the colonels, a tank bursted at the University of Athens repressing the student revolt.

It is in 2004 that during the World Social Forum, an international students meeting attended by international associations was organised and launched the 17th of November as a day of commemoration and international action.

The International Day of the students has a long history of contents and global actions. From mere commemoration of the day it has become a way to continue to raise the voice of students from around the world and to bring attention to issues such as Quality in Education, rights and democracy.

If it is true that education systems are different from country to country, it is also true that the student struggles are often highly interconnected. Even today, students face huge problems such as access to education and the cost of it.

With this day we remember student movement of the past, but we want to remember too that students have to be themselves an important part of the decision making process also in the present.

For this reason, this year OBESSU wants to invest on the day of 17th November and bring it in the context of the economic crisis on education.

OBESSU believes that the best way to make this process inclusive for all MOs is to use the policy paper Education in Crisis and the resolution from the omonim event held in Rome, as international platform of the day. OBESSU is also going to promote, on the basis of that document, an international call of action for the 17th of November, which could also involve school student organisations that are not part of OBESSU at European Level, and extra-European ones to create a global students cooperation on these themes. Moreover we believe we should be able to work closer on this occasion with the European Students Union, always keeping in mind that struggles for education are not sectoral, but should be able to give a complex



and complete picture of society, that cannot abstract from the material conditions that students all over Europe live every day in and outside educational institutions.”

**After:** “of the Light on the Rights Documentary”

574 UDS: the sense of the amendment was that we thought it would be very important to stress the day of 17<sup>th</sup>  
575 November to keep struggling for school student rights. The amendment goes through the history until now.  
576 We think it would be very interesting that all organisations stressed it.

577 There are no comments or questions.

578 Proceed to vote:

579 In favour: 13

580 Against: 2

581 Abstentions: 4

582 **Carried**

583 **Workplan 2015-2017**

584 Daniele and Dasa from the Board of OBESSU present the Workplan 2015-2017

585 The Chairperson explains that first we are going to open the floor for discussion about the Work Plan and  
586 then present and discuss the amendments. Finally, we will vote for the Workplan.

587 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions and comments.

588 SLL asks if there is a budget for all this Working Groups and if they will be ad hoc working Groups.

589 ➤ Each Working Group will run for a year and not all together. There is still no budget, but if we  
590 approve them, we will include them in the budget.

591 SAKKI exposes their concern for the fact that there is not going to be a VET Working Group foreseen in 2015.

592 ➤ The idea is that it starts again in 2016 and this was a decision taken to prioritise the Working  
593 Groups in 2016. Not everything done by OBESSU has a Working Groups and it does not mean that  
594 the work on this topic will stop.

595 CANAE asks for more spaces for debate with the MOs on the process of making the new Workplan. The  
596 involvement in the discussions has depended only on the people attending events and not within MOs. They  
597 also call to MOs to think how to translate the Workplan to their national realities. They also propose to  
598 establish a system to revise the objectives during the implementation of the Workplan as its objective might  
599 change during the implementation years. They also have the question why there is no WG in 2017. Finally,  
600 they ask for the possibility to have an editable version of all campaigns and materials so they can translate  
601 it to their languages.

602 SLL asks what the Board is planning to do to make the PoT more usable for the MOs.



603 SAKKI insists on the importance VET is taking at European level and wonders how the Board is going to do it  
604 without a VET policy officer or a Working Group.

605 ➤ For the moment there is no way planned to revise the WP, but the way how it was envisioned was for  
606 it to be flexible and not rigid and to adapt to the needs of the next GAs and COMEMs.

607 ➤ True, there is not WG, but this is another occasion to take notes for the future. This was a  
608 complicated process to create a work plan for such a long period of time and putting all the needs  
609 together. You are welcome to propose changes to the WP in the future.

610 ➤ Up until now it was not possible to share the editable versions of all our materials because they  
611 were done by an external graphic designer. Now with Giorgio in the office we will be able to do it. .

612 ➤ The PoT was created at the previous WP and it was implemented a bit more than a year ago and now  
613 in the last year we extended it and made it bigger with the study visits and the training. It is been  
614 this year that we have been working on it. We feel it is important to keep it, but to keep for the new  
615 Board to work on it and how to make it better.

616 ➤ The Board took a very conscious decision to change the role of the former Policy Officer and to  
617 ensure that the political roles are taken by the Board and not by someone in the secretariat. VET  
618 will remain important for OBESSU in the future as well. Also, keeping the VET WG might not mean to  
619 lower the work load for the Secretariat or the Board.

620 **Amendment #1 (FSS, SLL, SAKKI)**

621 Lines 135 and After 173/174

**ADD:** ADD "Member Organisation Forum "AFTER ... "Working Groups,"

ADD " Member Organisation Forum

The Member Organisation Forum is an online discussion platform created for the member organisations and Board of OBESSU. The main aim of creating the Member Organisation Forum is to improve the internal communication and transparency of the organisation and to increase the exchange of ideas and knowledge between member organisations. The Member Organisation forum also works as a pilot for using more internet-based solutions in creating the policy work of school student unions.

**AFTER:** "...outcomes of Education in crisis."

622

623 FSS: We wanted to tackle the issues about internal communication in OBESSU. There have been some earlier  
624 issues in communication between MOs between events and between the Board and MOs. We think this will  
625 help.

626 The Chairperson opens the floor for debate.

627 LH asks if they have thought about who would be the moderators and control the discussions in the Forum.



628 FSS: To make it easy to launch we made the amendment flexible to give space to the Board to decide the  
629 best way to implement it.

630 UNEL shares their previous experience with online forums and they point out that in general these spaces  
631 are not used and people end up using email or Facebook. It is critical because people have to specifically log  
632 in to a new platform.

633 SAKKI: We discussed the kind of Forum it should be, but we wanted to give the idea and develop it within  
634 OBESSU in the future.

635 DGS asks on the access rights to the forum.

636 SIF point out that it might not be as effective as we would like if people are not logging in. But we could  
637 have a system where people could upload their amendments and discussions there.

638 FSS insist that they haven't really thought of it, it is still very open.

639 UDS sees the point of looking for a solution to communicate between MOs but they are concerned about  
640 who will have access to it. They are also worried that online platforms might substitute the face-to-face  
641 meetings.

642 DGS insists on asking who is going to decide who is going to be in the platform. For them we are voting on  
643 the idea that can be great, but it is still only an idea.

644 UNSS: It is a great idea but it is floating in the air because it is not concrete.

645 SAKKI: About who should be in the forum: for them it does not matter who is there, it says that MOs will give  
646 their knowledge in there. There can be different understandings on how to do it. The idea behind it is that  
647 every MO will impact in there.

648 UNEL asks for Candidate organisations to be included in the amendment.

649 FSS: the Board in OBESSU are the ones deciding how to do things in practice. In practice the discussions  
650 could be divided with the technicians. We can solve the practical matters if we are creative.

651 DGS suggests to vote against the amendment and to create a Facebook group to solve the problem.

652 ISSU points out this might exclude people that are not on Facebook.

653 ASUBIH does not see the point to create a new Facebook group.

654 SLL stresses there are already lots of Facebook groups but in a way it is better to develop another option for  
655 that.

656 SIF: we should not think on how we do it, but just vote and go from there.

657 There are no more comments or questions, thus the Chairperson calls for the vote on the proposal.

658 Proceed to vote:



659 In favour: 16

660 Against: 0

661 Abstentions: 3

662 **Carried**

663

664 **Amendment #2 (CANAE)**

665 Line 59

ADD:

“Conference: School methods 2020

Decision makers often try to improve education by law changes. However, they sometimes forget that one of the main factors for educational quality is not in the hands of the law, but in schools and teachers: the methods. Whereas other sectors (such as medicine) change their techniques day by day as soon as research discoveries emerge, teaching methods evolve too slowly. Many teachers keep giving their lessons the same way they used to 50 years ago, and they are reluctant to implement innovations that pedagogy research finds out. New methods could boost school students’ motivation, improve attention to diversity and help students to take the most advantage of their individual skills.

At this event, we will compare what methodologies are used in our countries and invite experts in innovative teaching methods. We are going to discuss all these inputs in order to come up with the recommendation *School methods 2020*. This paper will compile new methods that should be implemented in our schools by the end of the decade.”

**AFTER:** “...legality and peace, vote at 16.”

666 CANAE: There are efficient experiences from all of our countries. We think OBESSU has not discussed enough  
667 about this topic and we think it could be interesting and important to discuss it now.

668 The Chairperson opens the floor for debate.

669 ASuBiH supports this amendment. All Countries face this problems and it is important to tackle.

670 DGS asks how it works with having an extra conference with the budget.

671 FSS supports it 100% and it is a very important topic for them. There is very few people lobbying about this  
672 kind of topics and it is very important for OBESSU to speak about it even if we have to change the budget.

673 LH supports the amendment and they think it is interesting to share experiences and best practices. Also, in  
674 Denmark there are a lot of networks working on this so it would be easy to get funding.

675 ➤ Rasmus clarifies that we do not have a budget for this because there is no budget for 2016. He  
676 explains how it works in case it is approved.

677 UNSS supports this amendment but it would make sense if we included teachers or professors at the  
678 conference.



679 There are no more questions or comments, thus the Chairperson calls the vote.

680 Proceed to vote:

681 In favour: 19

682 Against: 0

683 Abstentions: 0

684 **Carried**

685 All the proposed amendments have been discussed and voted upon. Therefore, the Chairperson calls for the  
686 vote on the whole Workplan 2015-2017.

687 Proceed to vote:

688 In favour: 18

689 Against: 1

690 Abstentions: 0

691 **The Workplan 2015-2017 is approved by the GA.**

692

693 **Roll Call**

694 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO(not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
695 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

696 Now there are 18 organisations present with the right to vote and 3 with the right to speak and the simple  
697 majority is 10.

698 **Development Strategy 2015-2019**

699 Luke and Nora from the Board present the Development Strategy 2015-2019.

700 The Chairperson opens the floor for discussion.

701 LH asks if their amendment to the statues will affect the development strategy. They also express their  
702 disagreement with the point concerning the consistency of the statues.

703 Board: The amendment in case is carried will not affect the development strategy because they are separate  
704 documents. If a MO wants to change the Statutes, there are the procedures to follow it. We propose to find a  
705 way to find other documents for ad hoc changes that do not need to change the Statutes at every statutory  
706 meeting.

707 LH: From their point of view it is critical that MOs have the opinion that the Statutes should not be changed.  
708 It is very democratic that you can change the Statutes.

709 DGS points out that there are no amendments past on the development strategy and they do not understand  
710 how can a document overrule the Statutes.

711 Board: explains the Statutes are the governing paper of OBESSU and any amendments can be proposed but  
712 the Development Strategy is saying that as a platform we should be careful how often we change the  
713 Statutes, not that it cannot be changed or not. The strategy is saying that we should be reconsidering what  
714 we put in the Statutes.



- 715 DGS: From their point of view, the way how is written the document is very unclear.
- 716 LH does not agree with the wording. MOs should consider if amendments are necessary or not on the spot  
717 and not before.
- 718 Board: From their perspective the phrasing is showing the aim, not that it is obligatory. We are not  
719 prejudging any amendments to the Statutes. All amendments will be welcomed and discussed. We are  
720 drawing attention to the point on how we handle amendments.
- 721 UNEL: Wants to support the Board. It is anyway on the group proposing an amendment to convince the GA  
722 that it is necessary. This is very deeply thought through. It is not preventing people to proposing changes  
723 on the Statutes. If we change Statutes so often, it can challenge the consistency of the documents.
- 724 CANAE thanks the Board for the development strategy. From their point of view the document lacks more  
725 concrete points on how to evaluate the strategy and they propose to discuss further indicators and  
726 measurable objectives at a COMEM.
- 727 SLL agrees with CANAE, but what they would have liked to see first a draft to be able to input during the  
728 elaboration process.
- 729 CANAE thinks the strategy should be approved now, but the evaluation method should be further developed  
730 at the next statutory meeting.
- 731 DGS generally opposes the idea of a 5 year strategy because the picture might change. From their point of  
732 view we have many documents that we are changing all the time. For them a 2-year WP is enough.
- 733 UNEL thinks is a really good idea to have a strategy because it is flexible to adapt in the future. It has  
734 important goals. They agree that there should be accountability.
- 735 UDS appreciates the work that has been done. They believe a WP is very different from a strategy document.  
736 The WP is binding and it is a programme, the PP includes the values, and we need a strategy to guide us. At  
737 national level we might not need it because you are there every day. Thus, being a European organisation,  
738 we should follow some of the tendencies that are being followed at the European level. It is better to give a  
739 longer perspective.
- 740 UNSS can agree that is too many documents and it can be little bit confusing, but it is good to have long  
741 term aims, because when you change the Board that often, if you do not have a document like this it is  
742 difficult to forget the aims.
- 743 CSU agrees with UDS. The development strategy can be a fundament document that builds the organisation.  
744 This document should be accepted.
- 745 Board: The purpose of the document is to ensure the improvement of the organisation (the others make  
746 sure the organisation runs). On how we monitor and evaluate, we had the discussion but the idea was that it  
747 did not make sense to create arbitrary numbers, but leave it open to the interpretation of the MOs to decide  
748 how would we would like to hold the Board accountable.



749 CANAE points out that MOs are the ones who are going to choose how to implement the development  
750 strategy.

751 Board: The Board creates the strategy but the question on how to do it is also a responsibility for the MOs to  
752 interpret. MOs should be the once deciding on the indicators.

753 CANAE asks again on the evaluation of the implementation, and also wants to know what we are going to do  
754 with the Workplan, as it should include the steps to fulfil the objectives.

755 Board: There is no planned way on how to evaluate the development of the Workplan and we welcome  
756 everyone to give us some ideas.

757 About the WP, we do not see a contradiction between the two documents. The Development Strategy  
758 together with the Workplan will help the Board, the MOs and MCs on thinking how to run the organisation.

759 We would have liked to see more amendments as there are so many concerns about the document.

#### 760 Roll Call

761 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,  
762 UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

763 Now we are 19 organisations with the right to vote and 3 with the right to speak. The simple majority will be  
764 10.

765 As there are no further comments or questions, the Chairperson calls the vote to approve or not the  
766 Development Strategy.

#### 767 Proceed to vote:

768 In favour: 10

769 Against: 2

770 Abstentions: 7

771 **The Development Strategy 2015-2019 is approved.**

#### 772 Statutes

773 **Amendment #1 (SLL, SAKKI, FSS)**

774 Line 393

**ADD:** "d) At each Board meeting, the Board will elect a Chairperson, rotating between all Board members, who is responsible for:  
coordinating the work of the Board until the next Board meeting  
monitoring the Board's tasks to ensure they are fulfilled  
chairing the next Board meeting"

**AFTER:** "c) The Board will have a Board meeting at least three times a year."

775



776 SAKKI: We think this could make the organisation better reachable externally and internally. From our point  
777 of view, it would mean an improvement.

778 The Chairperson explains the procedure to discuss the amendments 1, 2 and 3 and opens the floor for  
779 debate.

780 UDS would prefer to have the word Chairperson or coordinator instead of President. From their point of  
781 view, the creation of the Chairperson would mean that someone in the Board would have more power and be  
782 more important than the others and would give a wrong message of what OBESSU is. If this person would be  
783 the one representing the organisation externally, we have the example that without a Chairperson it can  
784 also work. If this person has to deal with internal communication, they do not see the need of calling in  
785 president. If we need an external press person, they suggest having a communication portfolio.  
786 Furthermore, they do not see the point on giving remuneration to this person in the future. From their point  
787 of view, OBESSU must highlight and recognise does who do not have more skills to speak, and we should be  
788 school of activists.

789 FSS points out that the amendment does not include the word president.

790 DGS says it has the word President.

791 UNSS does not agree with it. If you have a president you have a hierarchic structure and a person having  
792 more power within the Board. From their point of view, all Board members should be equal to operate the  
793 best way.

794 VSK recommends to vote against this amendment because we have a very well functioning Board and do not  
795 think that there is the need for a president. Being a Board member already means a lot of work. Also, for  
796 external communication, they agree on having a communication and press portfolio.

797 CSU are concerned if there is a suitable person that could cover the 19 countries and people and if he/she  
798 would be able to represent all the students.

799 DOS thinks that OBESSU has been without president for almost 40 years and it is been working properly. The  
800 Board represents all the organisations and a person alone cannot represent them all.

801 DGS expresses that it is important to pass this for the quality of the ethos of the organisation, because it  
802 will help with the external way of acting of OBESSU.

803 AKS thinks it is important that the MOs criticize the work of the structures of the organisations but they do  
804 not agree because they do not think it is democratic that the Board decides who this person is, and because  
805 there is already people responsible for external relations within the Board. They believe that OBESSU is  
806 about the member organisations and not the people. A Board therefore is more representative and they  
807 believe is the responsibility of the MOs to cooperate to reach the media.

808 AKS also proposes the secret ballot for the voting.

809 LH is against the amendment and would like to question the Board on how they would feel being a member  
810 of a Board with a Chairperson.



811 UNEL thinks that having a president would invite hierarchy and populism and create a constant  
812 campaigning. They think that having a Board fully support the aims of the organisation and are against the  
813 amendment even though they cannot vote.

814 FSS supports the secret ballot. They think their organisation always tries to develop OBESSU. They are not  
815 trying to create any hierarchies and the idea is to get more structured and get the OBESSU works more  
816 fluent and easy going.

817 SIF would like to hear the Board opinion on the matter.

818 VSK do not agree that having a president would make OBESSU a more professional organisation. They think  
819 we have an organisation that is giving responsibilities to 5 people and it is more democratic than giving it  
820 only to one.

821 DGS does not believe that it is going to be more populists. They think OBESSU could have someone to go to  
822 the press and make our picture better known at the European level. It would contribute to the European  
823 situation of the media.

824 The Board does not support the amendment because they do not see how this would work in OBESSU. From  
825 their point of view, national and European organisations are very different. Board members come from MOs  
826 with very different structures and we have a network that is very different, that is why we need equal and  
827 shared responsibilities. Board members are volunteers, and it would be very impossible for this person to  
828 coordinate the whole work of the platform on a volunteer basis. All Board members have their own  
829 portfolios and they monitor and speak up about them at the Board meetings. They all have their own areas  
830 of expertise and one of these portfolios is media and Public Relations because there is no European media to  
831 face to. They have a rotating system to chair the meetings. Furthermore, from their point of view they do  
832 not think that the Board electing the president is a democratic process.

833 VSK expresses their fear is not that the president would take populist points of view, but they think it is  
834 more democratic to have an equal Board. The chair has more prestige and more strength, but the chair can  
835 only attend one on six meetings and it would also affect the prestige of the other Board members.

836 AKS reminds everyone that we are at European level and that there is no such thing as European media, it is  
837 more the MOs task at national level. Organisations need to adapt to the structures that we have.

838 UNSS thinks that if we vote for this amendment, we should also change the monitoring obligations, and we  
839 could not do it until the next GA. The Board thinks it is not necessary.

840 Board stresses that OBESSU has a communication officer and a public relations Board member.

841 DOS thinks that OBESSU goals should not only be to be on the media.

842 SAKKI thinks there is something really bad in an organisation if the president is going to be the boss. The  
843 president is responsible for but does not mean that he/she has to do everything. So it can be done by  
844 anyone.



845 UNEL does not see what the president is supposed to be doing a part from the press tasks. There is no  
846 European press per se. We could work on the press releases and work with the MOs on this. MOs can do this.

847 Statement to the minutes: SLL proposes that the speaking list will be closed.

848 There are no further comments or questions and therefore the Chairperson explains the voting system by  
849 secret ballot.

850 **Roll Call**

851 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,  
852 UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

853 We have a second roll call to collect the ballots:

854 AKS, ASUBIH, CANAE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNSS,  
855 VSK.

856 Proceed to vote:

857 In favour: 7

858 Against: 11

859 Abstentions:1

860 **The amendment #1 is not carried.**

861

862 **Amendment #2 (SLL, SAKKI, FSS) (only if previous amendment is passed)**

863 Line 393

Replace:

"e) At every Board meeting the Board will decide on a Board member who **conducts** the next Board meeting."

FOR:

"e) At every Board meeting the Board will decide on a Board member who **hosts** the next Board meeting."

864 **The amendment is not discussed as the previous one was not carried.**

865 **Amendment to Statute Amendment #1 and #2 (UDS)**

866 Line 393

Add:

"d) At each Board meeting, the Board will elect a Chairperson, rotating between all Board members, who is responsible for:



coordinating the work of the Board until the next Board meeting  
monitoring the Board's tasks to ensure they are fulfilled  
chairing the next Board meeting"

AFTER:

"c) The Board will have a Board meeting at least three times a year."

867 **The amendment is not discussed or voted upon as the two previous amendments were not carried.**

868 **DAY 2, Sunday**

869 The Chairperson welcomes everyone back.

870 **Roll call**

871 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
872 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

873 There are 18 organisations present with right to vote and 3 with the right to speak.

874 The Chairperson explains that we will continue the discussions about the Statutes that yesterday was not  
875 finished.

876 **Amendment #3 (LH)**

877 Line 33

Add:

G) To promote new teaching methods in learning and promote healthy teaching environment.

878 LH thinks that this is a big problem in Denmark and also in other northern countries, that teaching methods  
879 are not inclusive. They think OBESSU should promote this and to have it in the Statutes means more than  
880 just having it in the Workplan.

881 There are no comments or questions.

882 **Proceed to vote:**

883 In favour: 17

884 Against: 0

885 Abstentions: 1

886 **Carried**

887

888 **20. Vote of Trust YFJ Candidacy**



889 Nora explains that during the last two years OBESSU has used the European Youth Forum (YFJ) to speak up  
890 and now we want to engage even more, by running for the Board. The current Board of OBESSU thinks it is  
891 more democratic and transparent to first discuss it with the GA and therefore they propose Dejan Bojanić.

892 Dejan explains his personal engagement with the YFJ. He has been involved in the task force for the UN and  
893 the Structured Dialogue and in a couple of meetings. He explains the motivations to represent OBESSU in  
894 the YFJ.

895 The main ideas we want to focus during the candidacy are:

- 896 • Strengthen education. We do believe we are among the main stakeholders on education. They have  
897 been focusing a lot on NFE, but formal and informal education has had enough space in the YFJ.
- 898 • Education for Citizenship. Our expertise can contribute on how vote@16 is implemented. We think  
899 OBESSU is one of the main experts in this issue.
- 900 • Critical approach to youth policy. Sometimes the YFJ only advocates to have youth everywhere and  
901 only making policy for policy.
- 902 • Focus on social inclusion. So far the YFJ has focuses only partially, and we think there is no HR  
903 related initiative from the YFJ.

904 The Chairperson opens the floor for discussion.

905 DGS would like to stress the need to change the vision of young people as lazy and selfish.

906 Dejan: We agree, and it is important because in the last GA we already approved a position on this so it  
907 should be one of priority areas.

908 LH asks how this will be connected with the new OBESSU Board.

909 Nora explains that when OBESSU engages with other platforms, we usually do it with former Board members  
910 because it is too much work and we do not want any of the new Board members to be taken by other  
911 responsibilities rather than focusing on our platform. What is clear, though, is that one of the main points  
912 of the new Board will be to decide on the communication between Dejan and them. In the YFJ, candidates  
913 run in the name of the member organisation. So this candidacy is a candidacy of OBESSU and not of one  
914 person. Therefore, we should all feel ownership of this position and the ties with the YFJ. It would be  
915 beneficial to talk with the NYC and other organisations you are involved with, to explain them that we are  
916 running.

917 UDS thinks it is a good step forward in the European scenario and they hope that the GA will give a vote of  
918 trust today. We should firmly stand for the fundamental ideas we believe.

919 As the YFJ, they have been doing a lot of things on the Youth Guarantee, we should also benefit from the  
920 work they are doing. In this sense, they remind that it is important to keep the contact with the Board of  
921 OBESSU.

922 DGS asks how many people are running, how is composed the YFJ Board and what are our chances.



923 Dejan explains that normally there are approximately twice as many candidates as places. He explains the  
924 two pillars of the YFJ (INGYOs and NYCs), and that we will have to convince the people from INGYOs. We do  
925 not by default get support by members, but we have to candidate a lot and in the past years it is been a little  
926 more difficult.

927 CANAE asks if there are any other educational organisations running for the Board.

928 Board explains that so far we only know that AEGEE is going to run for Vice-President.

929 CANAE proposes to have more coordination with NYCs in order to have more impact in education. If we are  
930 elected, we could do a real work in education at national level.

931 Board also sees the need to better coordinate and work with the NYC.

932 ISSU ask for how long OBESSU has not been in the YFJ Board.

933 Board explains that Luca Scarpielo was a former OBESSU person but was in the YFJ through the Italian NYC,  
934 not through OBESSU. The last one was in 2004.

935 There are no more questions or comments, thus the Chairperson calls for the vote of trust to Dejan Bojanić  
936 as OBESSU candidate for the YFJ Board.

937 Proceed to vote:

938 In favour: 18

939 Against: 0

940 Abstentions: 0

941 **OBESSU General Assembly gives their trust to Dejan Bojanić unanimously.**

942

## 943 **21. Policy Corners II**

944 The Chairperson explains how the policy corners will work.

- 945 • Guidelines (Social Inclusion/LGTBQ-Inclusive)
- 946 • OBESSU “crib sheet” on the Post-2015 Agenda
- 947 • Education in Crisis Resolution
  - 948 ○ Board amendments
- 949 • Amendments to the Political Platform

## 950 **Roll call**

951 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
952 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.

953 There are 18 organisations present with right to vote and 3 with the right to speak.

## 954 **22. Presentation CSU**

955 CSU delegates take the floor and present their organisation.



956 The Board explains the reasons why they gave the status of Candidate Organisation to CSU.

957 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

958 AKS asks about the inclusion projects of the organisations and why there are so few women in their  
959 structures and activities.

960 SAKKI asks if they also represent VET students.

961 DGS asks for how long they have existed.

962 CSU: We exist only for one and a half year and we started with the “dubbing project”. When finished, we are  
963 starting other projects. We are a very young organisation, and we are establishing so we do not have social  
964 inclusion projects.

965 For the women, it is true that in the Board we have only one girl, but we spoke about this in the GA, but  
966 there were only two candidates and one was elected to the Board. We have women in the Secretariat and in  
967 the next GA we hope there will be more people.

968 We only represent high school students. We cover all **HGS**, but also VET, but the majority of members, are  
969 from HGS. The problem is that we do not know student councils from VET schools.

970 The Board explains that OBESSU organised a study visit to Check Republic, and we realised of the lack of  
971 students and VET, but this is what it is about to be in OBESSU, to get to know other organisations and  
972 structures and get new ideas.

973 There are no more questions or comments and the Chairperson calls the vote to ratify the decision of the  
974 Board to grant the status of Candidate Organisation to CSU.

975 Proceed to vote:

976 In favour: 18

977 Against: 0

978 Abstentions: 0

979 **The GA ratifies CSU as a Candidate Organisation.**

## 980 **23. Discussion and voting on amendments and proposals**

### 981 **Guidelines on social inclusion in education**

982 Ida presents the guidelines and explains the background of the paper and the process that we have  
983 followed.

984 There are no questions or comments.

985 Proceed to vote:

986 In favour: 18

987 Against: 0

988 Abstentions: 0

989 **The GA adopts the Guidelines on social inclusion in education unanimously**



990 **Guidelines for inclusive education: Sexual orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression**

991 Luke presents the guidelines and explains that this is a revision of other guidelines that were created in  
992 2007. It is a joint document between OBESSU and IGLYO.

993 The Chairperson opens the floor the questions and comments:

994 FSS explains that with a partner organisation they launched a project and created a guide book and  
995 materials that can be used to promote the papers.

996 LH expresses that they are against this proposal and therefore will vote against it.

997 SIF explains that guidelines are only guidelines that can be followed or not.

998 AKS expresses that OBESSU is a European platform and LGTB people are discriminated in many countries,  
999 and we should fight for everyone.

1000 LH explains that if they accept it, they will lose members. For them, the changes that we are including are  
1001 against what they want to represent.

1002 AKS insists that OBESSU is a platform and they believe we have to represent all school students, especially  
1003 does that face discrimination.

1004 UDS does not understand what the discussion is about. This is an outcome of an event, where all member  
1005 organisations expressed the need of sexual education in school. This is not compulsory and we are a  
1006 European organisation and we believe this. We are providing a tool, that we can decide to translate or not.

1007 DGS thinks that if we lose members we are losing representativeness and for them it is not acceptable.

1008 AKS asks why we should be losing members if we defend LGTB people.

1009 LH thinks that this is not the focus that matter to their members.

1010 SAKKI do not think the conversation is going anywhere.

1011 AKS explains these guidelines are not forcing anyone to have a campaign on the topic. Even though it is not  
1012 on the media, there is this problem everywhere. They do not understand why some organisations are  
1013 against it, because it is only a guideline.

1014 UNEL stresses that it is a guideline, not a policy paper.

1015 LH expresses they cannot support the changes. If they do not like some parts, they do not see the point of  
1016 voting it.

1017 VSK statements of the minutes: proposal to close the speaking list.

1018 Procedure to vote to close the speaking list:

1019 In favour: 16

1020 Against: 1



- 1021 Abstention: 1  
1022 **The speaking list is closed and the last speakers are added.**  
1023  
1024 FSS thinks it is ok to agree to disagree sometimes. It is important OBESSU stands up as HR defenders  
1025 sometimes but the organisation situations are very different and it is ok that organisations use the  
1026 documents as they consider. We should consider documents as working tools.  
1027 UNEL expresses they would like to hear a discussion on the content of the document.  
1028 The Board explains that we are not adopting/rejecting a policy paper. We are discussing guidelines that  
1029 have been existing for almost 10 years and we updated them with IGLYO and bring them to the GA for the  
1030 sake of transparency, to ratify them.  
1031 There are no other comments or questions, therefore the Chairperson calls de vote to ratify the Guidelines.  
1032 Proceed to vote:  
1033 In favour: 15  
1034 Against: 1  
1035 Abstentions: 2  
1036 **The Guidelines for inclusive education are ratified by the GA.**  
1037  
1038 **OBESSU “crib-sheet” on the Post-2015 Agenda**  
1039 Dejan explains the document and the background of the global work.  
1040 There are no comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote to adopt the OBESSU “crib-  
1041 sheet”.  
1042 Proceed to vote:  
1043 In favour: 18  
1044 Against: 0  
1045 Abstentions: 0  
1046 **The GA adopts the OBESSU “crib-sheet” on the Post-2015 Agenda unanimously**  
1047 **Amendments to Education in Crisis resolution**  
1048 Daniele explains the background of the amendments.  
1049 **Amendment #1 (OBESSU Board)**  
1050 Lines 28

**Replace:** “This leads to a less skilled workforce and many students”

For:

“The obstacles in accessing higher education have left many young people”



1051 Board: We thought it would be better with this wording.

1052 There are no comments.

1053 Proceed to vote:

1054 In favour: 18

1055 Against: 0

1056 Abstentions: 0

1057 **Carried**

1058

1059 **Amendment #2 (OBESSU Board)**

1060 Lines 30-31

**Replace:** "insist that free education is a right which must be guaranteed to all."

**For:**

"insist that education is a human right which should be accessible for all. This means there should not be any official fees for education, but also that hidden costs in education need to be abolished."

1061 Daniele: It is a clarification of what we mean by free education. We thought it was important to stress this  
1062 clearly.

1063 There are no comments or questions.

1064 Proceed to voting:

1065 In favour: 18

1066 Against: 0

1067 Abstentions: 0

1068 **Carried**

1069 **Amendment #3 (OBESSU Board)**

1070 Lines 33

**ADD:** "The rise of far right hate is a worrying trend that is caused by general dissatisfaction in society in times of austerity and the policies of far right movements and parties are aimed directly at certain vulnerable groups."

**AFTER:** " in Europe. "

1071

1072 Daniele: This is not referring to a political area, but a way of thinking called far right. These movements are  
1073 acting in a very intolerant, ignorant and exclusive way and we think it is important to take a stand on this  
1074 issue.



- 1075 The Chairperson opens the floor for discussion:
- 1076 DGS does not think it is related to education and they do not think OBESSU should take a stand in society in  
1077 general.
- 1078 UNEL expresses that we were talking before about social inclusion and LGBT and they also think it is related  
1079 because far right movements are the ones discriminating others. Far right is rising, that is why we have to  
1080 fight them.
- 1081 AKS expresses that it is one of AKS' principles to take stand on things happening in society and we have to  
1082 name the far right ideology because is the ideology that is discriminating others. They express the hope  
1083 that other organisations will take a stand.
- 1084 DGS explains there are left ideologies that are also discriminatory. There are other ideologies that are  
1085 discriminating other people. From their point of view, we should stand for a wording not pointing out  
1086 ideologies.
- 1087 LH agrees with DGS. They think we should not say far right but "groups discriminating other people". They  
1088 understand AKS, but they think it is not OBESSU's job to say so.
- 1089 UNEL does not that it would be more precise to call them groups. From their point of view we should name  
1090 things by their names. From their point of view OBESSU is a political organisation, taking political  
1091 statements, and education is very political. They think we are being afraid of calling the problem by its  
1092 name and that we should not fall into political correctness.
- 1093 FSS expresses that in the OBESSU Statutes it says that we work promoting equal access to education and far  
1094 right movements are a threat to equal access to education.
- 1095 DOS thinks OBESSU has to react to what's happening in Europe and since the last elections, there is a huge  
1096 rise of far right movements across Europe.
- 1097 UDS agrees that OBESSU is not a political party, but they think it is a political organisation, otherwise our  
1098 document would not be called Political Platform.
- 1099 DGS expresses there has been a raise on far left movements, too.
- 1100 The Chairperson proposes to close the list of speakers acknowledging the importance of the discussion.
- 1101 Proceed to vote on closing the speaking list:
- 1102 In favour: 18
- 1103 Against: 0
- 1104 Abstentions: 0
- 1105 **The speaking list is closed and the last words are added.**
- 1106 CANAE agrees with UDS.
- 1107 FSS thinks all MOs can basically agree on this topic but they wonder why there was no amendment to the  
1108 amendments.



1109 DGS explains they did not have the time to discuss that they completely agree against far right hat but that  
1110 they do not agree on the wording.

1111 LH is independent from political parties and if they say far right, they say that they are on the left and it can  
1112 affect their finances.

1113 SAKKI completely agrees with DGS and brings up that we can write far right parties in all our documents but  
1114 still it would not change anything.

1115 There are no more comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote to include or not the  
1116 amendment.

1117 Proceed to voting:

1118 In favour: 11

1119 Against: 6

1120 Abstentions: 1

1121 **Carried**

1122

1123 **Amendment #4 (OBESSU Board)**

1124 Lines 34-35

**Replace:** “minority groups and call for all possible measures to be taken to ensure that the equal rights of minority groups and immigrant communities are recognised in education.”

**With:** “disadvantaged social groups and call for all possible measures to be taken to ensure that the equal rights of minority groups, immigrant communities, LGBTQ+ people and other groups at risk of being excluded, are recognized in education. As the economic crisis can lead to growing gender gaps in society, it is also important to emphasise and promote gender equality in education.”

1125 Daniele: the amendment specifies the “at-risk groups”.

1126 The Chairperson opens the floor for discussions:

1127 DGS explains they think the original wording was good and there is no need to change it.

1128 ASuBiH explains we discussed this amendment in Rome with representatives of most of the member  
1129 organisations.

1130 AKS explains that women are paid less than men and have fewer opportunities and they have been more  
1131 affected during the crisis.

1132 LH agrees with DGS. They think we should have more time for discussion.

1133 DGS explains in Rome we did not know anything and they had a different mandate. From their point of view  
1134 women are not disadvantaged. Women and LGTB are minorities and not disadvantaged. They would like to  
1135 see specific studies to be put forward to us.



1136 UDS explains there is no minority in women and that disadvantages is that society is giving rules and norms  
1137 that bring them. Someone is disadvantaged when she has to sign a paper stating that she has to resign if  
1138 she gets pregnant. From their point of view we do not need data, we know that it happens and if we do not  
1139 assume this, we do not know what we are doing.

1140 DOS supports the amendment.

1141 There are no other comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote to accept or not the  
1142 amendment.

1143 Proceed to voting:

1144 In favour: 14

1145 Against: 2

1146 Abstentions: 2

1147 **Carried**

1148 **Roll Call**

1149 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO(not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1150 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.

1151 There are 18 organisations with the right to vote and 3 with the right to speak.

1152 The Chairperson explains there is a written petition by LMS if it is possible to stream the GA for their Board  
1153 members. The Chairperson proposes to deal with it as it will be treated as guest people.

1154 LMS explain they just had the Summer School and people were very interested in OBESSU. So they were very  
1155 interested and would like to see what OBESSU is and see what is happening in here.

1156 Proceed to vote:

1157 In favour: 18

1158 Against: 0

1159 Abstentions: 0

1160 **Carried: welcome to everyone watching the GA online**

1161

1162 **Amendment #5 (OBESSU Board)**

1163 Lines 50

**ADD:** "We are concerned by the various forms of commodification of education currently taking place, above all: the widespread trend of comparing the educational performance of different countries through standardised tests. This leads to a one-sided education, focusing more on narrowly measured educational outcomes than the learning process itself and the individual development of learners."

**Before:** "Education is an investment..."

1164 Daniele: We feel it is important to add something on commodification and standardisation because it is an  
1165 alarming trend in education in Europe.



1166 There are no comments.

1167 Proceed to vote:

1168 In favour: 18

1169 Against: 0

1170 Abstentions: 0

1171 **Carried**

1172

1173 **Amendment #6 (OBESSU Board)**

1174 Lines 55

<b>ADD:</b> "top"
<b>Before:</b> "priority"

1175 Daniele: it is a wording amendment.

1176 There are no comments.

1177 Proceed to vote:

1178 In favour: 18

1179 Against: 0

1180 Abstentions: 0

1181 **Carried**

1182

1183 **Amendment #7 (OBESSU Board)**

1184 Lines 55

<b>ADD:</b> "and never cut its budget"
<b>After:</b> "education"

1185 Daniele: an addition to the sentence.

1186 There are no comments.

1187 Proceed to vote:

1188 In favour: 18

1189 Against: 0

1190 Abstentions: 0

1191 **Carried**

1192 **Amendment #8 (OBESSU Board)**

1193 Lines 59



**Replace:** "Equal rights and access for immigrants and native students"

**With:** "Equal rights and access to education for all, with special support for immigrant students and other disadvantaged groups"

1194 Daniele: There are more groups that should have equal access than just "immigrants" and "native  
1195 students", but it is still important to separately mention the inclusion of immigrant students.

1196 There are no comments.

1197 Proceed to vote:

1198 In favour: 18

1199 Against: 0

1200 Abstentions: 0

1201 **Carried**

1202 **Amendment #9 (OBESSU Board)**

1203 Lines 63

**ADD:** "to ensure the participation of young people in society"

**After:** "youth forums"

1204 Daniele: It is also a wording amendment.

1205 There are no comments.

1206 Proceed to vote:

1207 In favour: 18

1208 Against: 0

1209 Abstentions: 0

1210 **Carried**

1211 **Political Platform**

1212 **Amendment #1 (AKS - UNL - UDS- CANAE)**

1213 Line 325

**ADD:** "OBESSU defends human rights and condemns every organization and movement that supports racism, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny and class discrimination. Everyone has the right to be free and respected by all people: we have to remember the past, when far-right ideologies created war, murder and pain in Europe. In the last years, many parties and movements have gained votes in national and European elections by promoting far-right ideologies. This is a threat to the freedom of European citizens, and every institution and organization that defends human rights has to break those movements. Schools and School student unions must recognize this threat and also recognize their responsibility to inform school students, to advocate diversity and equality under all circumstances, to support antifascist



campaigns or projects and carry them to schools.”

**After:** “Thus, school must fight all forms of segregation and discrimination”

1214 UDS: We believe this amendment is important and it should not be undertaken its importance. Our values  
1215 are against the values that these far right movements are promoting. It is to create a safe space for  
1216 everyone in our platform.

1217 VSK explains political neutrality is a very important principle in their organisation. They fully understand  
1218 the meaning but political neutrality is a case for words, and in this case it is not really very carefully worded.  
1219 They think we have to be careful in OBESSU with our political neutrality, to be more representative to all  
1220 school students.

1221 DGS thinks the language is very aggressive and it is not really fitting. They also agree with political  
1222 neutrality and would like to keep the wording is as it is. From their point of view OBESSU is an interest  
1223 organisation, but not a political organisation.

1224 AKS understands where the neutrality comes from but an organisation that stands up for equality and  
1225 solidarity is already taking political statement. They think the problem with this discussion is not that we do  
1226 not agree on the words, but the arguments here are more on organisations not being sure if we should take  
1227 a stand on certain hate speech movements. Organisations in OBESSU should read the political platform  
1228 again and decide if they really should be in this platform.

1229 UNEL noticed there seems to be a problem with the agreement on language. Therefore, they recommend  
1230 having debates or creating an agreed language to discuss these topics. But from their point of view, as  
1231 interest defenders of certain groups, we are defending some ideologies, so we cannot separate them.

1232 DGS thinks it is really important that we discuss the content of the amendment. It is how much our  
1233 organisations want OBESSU to be a political platform, and of course society is reflected in society. But in  
1234 DGS this is a society analysis and we do not think it is something that should be in the Political Platform.

1235 VSK thanks the clarification from DGS and explains we should disagree with these ideologies and  
1236 movements but we should not have in our political platform that we are against these movements.

1237 LH cannot support this amendment because in their organisation they are only doing education politics and  
1238 they cannot go further than that. The debate should be on the content of the amendment.

1239 AKS asks for the Board’s opinion.

1240 UNEL agrees that we have mandates from our organisations, but they would like to invite everyone to take  
1241 the discussion in their organisations. If we engage in education politics, we have to have a stand on how far  
1242 do we take this debate in our organisation so MOs do not see this debate as their mandates, and some do.

1243 Luke, on behalf of the Board, explains that the Board is in favour of this amendment. They see there is a  
1244 clash on political and organisational culture of organisations on what should we do. The European level is a  
1245 different arena than the national. At the European level we engage on youth policy issues that go further  
1246 than only related to education. Furthermore, the values presented here are the ones from OBESSU and they



1247 apply to the current political situation in Europe. We should be against all these movements that challenge  
1248 our values. We are a political organisation, with a political mandate that does political work.

1249 VSK agrees that we have to take action against these political changes in Europe, but they still believe that  
1250 wording is a little bit aggressive and that the way it is now is already enough.

1251 There are no further comments or questions.

1252 Proceed to vote:

1253 In favour: 6

1254 Against: 9

1255 Abstentions: 3

1256 **Not Carried.**

1257 **Amendment #2 (AKS - UDS - UNL - CANAE)**

1258 Line 347

**ADD:** "- a school community and learning environment which take clear positions against racism, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny and class discrimination and offer no place for anti-human rights movements, neofascist ideologies or supremacist mindsets"

**Before:** "- cooperation between school and local networks engaged with social issues."

1259 AKS: We believe OBESSU must speak out against current far-right hate rise and state clearly its relevance to  
1260 school students and school student unions.

1261 LH thinks the amendment is unintentionally discriminatory because we are saying there should be no place  
1262 for anti HR movements, but what we actually do is to exclude them and we cannot educate them, then.

1263 DGS would like to criticise that organisations create a number of very similar amendments. They also state  
1264 they have the same arguments as on the other amendment. They believe it is unnecessary and aggressive.

1265 UDS would like to remark this amendment is only explaining how the educational context should be. Saying  
1266 neo-fascist ideology is not the same that far-right. It is an absolutely unacceptable behaviour and we think  
1267 it is not exclusive, because we are going to include everyone in a HR approach.

1268 FSS proposes to close the speaking list.

1269 Proceed to vote:

1270 In favour: 12

1271 Against: 3

1272 Abstentions: 1

1273 **The speaking list is closed and the last organisations on the list are added.**

1274 SIF thinks there is no exclusion in the amendment. From their point of view, if anyone has a problem  
1275 excluding anti-HR movements they cannot agree with that. The amendment it is about excluding ideologies  
1276 and movements towards people and individuals.



- 1277 VSK thinks this amendment is better in a way we are describing ideas that are harming students, there are  
1278 no people offended. For them this amendment is acceptable and they can support it.
- 1279 AKS thinks we should never welcome neo-fascist ideologies and that it is not about school students but  
1280 ideologies discriminating people.
- 1281 UNEL thinks maybe using left and right concepts it is not the best wording. For them it is a discussion about  
1282 tolerance, intolerance, etc. and they think this whole dichotomy makes us change our discourse. The think  
1283 we are talking about not allowing a platform for exclusionary propaganda. If we mean an inclusive  
1284 environment, you can not include ideologies that discriminate people. From their point of view, we have to  
1285 be brave and get over the fear to be politically defined.
- 1286 LH explains their plan is to make a fully working democracy and ask if we should include violent anti-fascism  
1287 ideologies too.
- 1288 There are no more comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote.
- 1289 Proceed to vote:  
1290 In favour: 9  
1291 Against: 6  
1292 Abstentions: 3  
1293 **Carried**
- 1294 **Amendment #3 (AKS - UDS - UNL - CANAE)**  
1295 Line 155;165

**ADD:** "Therefore higher education should not be linked to any fees or entrance restriction. Nowadays lots of universities in Europe raise entrance fees and set limits of students in the university courses, selecting them by entrance tests, graduation vote, exams outcomes or personal background. This presents a barrier for many students, especially for the less privileged.

OBESSU believes that all students must have the possibility to choice freely about their future and to study what they dream."

**After:** "...preventing students from accessing higher education."

**ADD:** "OBESSU therefore believes that"

**BEFORE:** "...higher education entrance criteria should be flexible and aim at encouraging as many school students as possible to continue with an additional level of education.."

- 1296 AKS: It is important to state clearly that higher education should not be linked to any restrictions of any  
1297 kind (fees or tests). We think that OBESSU should stand up against it.
- 1298 SLL explains that all the member countries are different in the admissions processes and that for them,  
1299 entrance tests are part of their culture, and they agree with it. There should be a way to make sure people  
1300 that get into university can follow the studies.



- 1301 DGS explains they are going to abstain because they think it is a wrong procedure.
- 1302 UNEL feels that this is a good amendment, because entrance exams are just like standardised testing, and  
1303 are not an accurate image of students. They support demanding more flexibility when it comes to entrance  
1304 to university.
- 1305 ASuBiH agrees with the fees part but they do not understand how universities would make sure to not be  
1306 overcrowded.
- 1307 AKS believes that there is no need to have criteria to get into university. There should be investment so  
1308 there is enough space for all young people that want to get as much education as they want to and it should  
1309 be as easy as possible.
- 1310 LMS asks how it would be possible. From their point of view, there would be a lot of people that would want  
1311 to go, but it might not have enough space for everyone and they ask themselves how would this decision be  
1312 made and the selection done.
- 1313 UDS explains that the Political Platform is something that we demand and it should not be overly concrete.  
1314 For them, if we say that everyone has equal access to education, all educational institutions should provide  
1315 it. They understand member organisations worries, but they believe this is the place where we can dream.
- 1316 UNSS thinks that without the tests some universities would remain empty and they could lose experts.
- 1317 CSU thinks this proposal is out of mandate because we are school student unions and we cannot focus on  
1318 university education. For them, there are no simple solutions when it comes to access to higher education.  
1319 From their point of view, we should approve more realistic goals to improve the system gradually and  
1320 entrance restrictions and fees are fictions from some realities.
- 1321 AKS thinks it is essential that we have a position on the transition from higher education to university. It is  
1322 important that we have aims and objectives. The ideal situation that we should demand is that there are  
1323 many quality universities, with no access restrictions.
- 1324 There are no more comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote.
- 1325 Proceed to vote:
- 1326 In favour: 7
- 1327 Against: 6
- 1328 Abstentions: 5
- 1329 **Carried**
- 1330 **Amendment #4 (AKS - UDS - UNL - CANAE)**
- 1331 Line 155;165

1)155

ADD: "Student grants should be guaranteed as an additional support, especially to those with lower socio-



economic background.”
<b>After:</b> “...requirement for continuing their education.”
2)165
<b>ADD:</b> “ - Accurate student grants to enable everyone to continue further and higher education”

1332 CANAE: We should demand student grants as support for those who are most disadvantaged.

1333 There are no comments or questions.

1334 Proceed to vote:

1335 In favour: 15

1336 Against: 0

1337 Abstentions: 3

1338 **Carried**

1339

1340 **Amendment #5 (AKS - UDS - UNL - CANAE)**

1341 Line 155;165

1)155
ADD: “Higher education should always be a responsibility of the public state and never be given into hands of private companies in order to ensure high quality education for all.”
AFTER: “requirement for continuing their education”
2)165
ADD “- Higher education to be owned by the public state to ensure same chances for everyone”

1342 LH expresses that they do not have the mandate to approve this. From their perspective, it is about higher  
1343 education and they will not vote for it.

1344 DGS does not agree with the amendment because they consider it is two proposals in one. Furthermore,  
1345 they explain in Denmark there are self-owned schools and education is still free.

1346 CSU considers it is far beyond our mandate; it is unrealistic and it goes against constitutional law at least in  
1347 Czech Republic. They do not see such a long Political Platform, and add more and more to it all the time.  
1348 They think it is a utopian vision and it is not realistic.

1349 AKS insists they think this is not beyond our mandate, because many school students might go to  
1350 university, and if there are many privatised universities, it can be really hard for school students to access  
1351 this higher education. We can only ensure access to education, if the state is responsible for higher  
1352 education.



1353 CANAE explains that our political platform is made of our goals and objectives and although it could seem  
1354 utopian, that is what we aim to get.

1355 There are no further comments or questions.

1356 Proceed to vote:

1357 In favour: 5

1358 Against: 3

1359 Abstentions: 10

1360 **Carried**

1361 Statement to the minutes by LH: It is noticeable that at the political platform amendment #5, 10 of the  
1362 Member organisations abstained. Furthermore, it is LH's opinion that there should be an opportunity to  
1363 ask the MOs who abstained whether they need more debate before the vote or if they abstained for political  
1364 or technical reasons. Also, we would like to have the possibility to vote again if needed.

#### 1365 **24. Adoption of new official OBESSU address**

1366 The Secretary General explains that we have moved the Secretariat office to a new address and that the  
1367 General Assembly has to adopt the new official address:

1368 Rue de l'Industrie, 10

1369 B-1000 Brussels (Belgium)

1370 Proceed to vote:

1371 In favour: 18

1372 Against: 0

1373 Abstentions: 0

1374 **The new official OBESSU address is adopted unanimously.**

1375

1376 **Roll Call**

1377 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1378 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL(not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.

1379 We have 18 MOs with the right to vote and 3 COs with right to speak.

#### 1380 **25. Election of new Board members**

1381 The Chairperson introduces the Statutes that determine that the General Assembly have to decide on having  
1382 a Board of 5 or 7 members, and opens the floor for discussion:

1383 FSS proposes a secret ballot for this vote.

1384 UDS speaks in favour of a Board of 5, mainly for budgetary reasons. The Board should be able to meet as  
1385 much as possible.



- 1386 DGS agrees with UDS. They would like to know how much money would cost to have 7 members, and propose  
1387 that in the next election the GA decides to have 7 members to implement the overlapping mandate. They do  
1388 not have strong opinions on the overlapping mandate, but they think it is a bad idea to have only one  
1389 person overlapping as we have the situation now.
- 1390 AKS are also in favour of a Board of 5 because communication is easier and more efficient as they do not live  
1391 in the same city.
- 1392 DOS supports a Board of 7.
- 1393 FSS asks the current Board on the workload.
- 1394 CANAE is also in favour of a team of 5 people, because communication and coordination of the team is  
1395 easier. They think probably not all the candidates we have today will be elected and they do not agree on  
1396 having a meeting every half a year to add people to the Board. They think the Board should be elected  
1397 today.
- 1398 UNSS thinks it is better to have a Board of 7 for the workload. They think it would work better.
- 1399 The Secretary General explains that the biggest change with regards to the budget would be the cost of  
1400 Board meetings, which would be approximately 6000€ more expensive per year with a Board of 7 compared  
1401 to 5.
- 1402 Dasa explains that when it comes to the workload, it depends on the time of the year, portfolios and events  
1403 so it is really difficult to answer this question.
- 1404 Ida explains that the current Board did a lot of things, which means a lot of work and that they have had 6  
1405 Board members.
- 1406 LMS thinks a 5-people Board is the best option.
- 1407 Roll call to hand out the ballots.
- 1408 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1409 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL(not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO(not present), VSK.
- 1410 There are 18 MOs with the right to vote.
- 1411 Roll call to vote.
- 1412 The Ballot committee and the Secretary General leave the room.
- 1413 The ballot committee comes back with the results.
- 1414 There were 18 valid votes.  
1415 In favour of a Board of 5: 11  
1416 In favour of a Board of 7: 7  
1417 **The GA decided to have a Board of 5 people, so there will be elections for 4 new Board members.**



- 1418 The Chairperson explains that as there are two candidates from the same country, according to Internal  
1419 Regulations (Art. 7.23 and 24) there is going to be a vote on whether the GA is going to vote on having 1 or  
1420 2 candidates from the same country.
- 1421 UNSS asks for a secret vote for all of the votes regarding this procedure.
- 1422 The Chairperson explains how the procedure will work and then opens the floor for discussion.
- 1423 ASUBIH stresses the need to remember that delegates represent their organisations.
- 1424 The Chairperson calls the vote to decide if the GA will vote on having two candidates from the same country.  
1425 The vote will be by a simple majority.
- 1426 Roll call to hand out the ballots.
- 1427 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1428 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL(not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.
- 1429 There are 18 MOs with voting rights.
- 1430 Roll call to vote.
- 1431 Ballot committee leaves the room with the Secretary General.
- 1432 The ballot committee comes back with the results.
- 1433 There are 18 valid votes.  
1434 In favour: 16  
1435 Against: 2  
1436 Abstentions: 0
- 1437 **The GA decided that they want to vote on whether they want to have two candidates from the same country**  
1438 **or not.**
- 1439 The Chairperson gives 1 minute to each of the candidates to present why they want to run. Then he will open  
1440 the discussion with the MOs and afterwards there will be the voting on whether both candidates can run or  
1441 not.
- 1442 The two candidates, Oona and Karolina Lang give the speech for one minute.
- 1443 The Chairperson opens the floor for discussion:
- 1444 VSK thinks MOs should let them both run because the MOs are organisations and not countries and if some  
1445 of us want a balance depending on geographical background we should take that into account when doing  
1446 the actual election for the Board.
- 1447 CANAE thinks only one of them should run for the Board. OBESSU Board should represent different  
1448 countries. Therefore there should not be more than one person from one country.



- 1449 SIF explains that the Board of OBESSU represent us. MOs decide who is in there and who should be in there.  
1450 They understand the arguments for diversity, but they think MOs should focus if the candidates are capable  
1451 even if they are from the same country.
- 1452 ISSU thinks both candidates are individuals and they should be given the chance to run.
- 1453 VSK hopes MOs notice that we choose the most qualified members regardless of any other balances.
- 1454 There are no more comments or questions; therefore the Chairperson calls the vote on allowing or not both  
1455 candidates to run for the Board elections.
- 1456 Roll call to hand out the ballots
- 1457 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1458 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL(not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.
- 1459 Roll call to vote.
- 1460 The ballot committee leaves the room and comes back after some minutes.
- 1461 There were 18 valid votes.
- 1462 In favour: 14  
1463 Against: 4  
1464 Abstentions: 0
- 1465 **The GA decides that both candidates will be able to run.**
- 1466 Roll call
- 1467 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO(not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1468 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.
- 1469 The Chairperson explains there has been a proposal from LH, DGS, LMS, DOS and ASuBiH to suspend Luke  
1470 Shore as Board Member of OBESSU. The Chairperson proposes to include this point on the agenda for  
1471 discussion and organisations have to vote if they agree or not in including the point.
- 1472 Proceed to vote:
- 1473 In favour: 14  
1474 Against: 3  
1475 Abstentions: 1
- 1476 **The point is included in the agenda of the GA.**
- 1477 The Chairperson also proposes to stop the live stream for this point of the agenda.
- 1478 Proceed to vote:
- 1479 In favour: 17  
1480 Against: 0  
1481 Abstentions: 1
- 1482 **The GA agrees on ending the streaming.**



- 1483 LH talks on behalf of all the organisations who proposed the suspension. They call for a suspension of Luke  
1484 Shore as a Board Member, because when the GA was having the discussion about far right movements, he  
1485 was tweeting about it in a way that could be considered offensive. For their organisations this is not an  
1486 acceptable behaviour.
- 1487 Luke: First I would like to apologise for what I did, and for any insults or calls to any organisations. I will  
1488 make sure it never happens again.
- 1489 After a discussion between the delegates, the Chairperson proposes to close the speaking list
- 1490 15 in favour
- 1491 2 against
- 1492 1 abstention.
- 1493 **The speakers list is closed**
- 1494 FSS: Asks for a secret vote.
- 1495 Roll Call to hand out ballot paper
- 1496 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1497 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.
- 1498 There are 18 organisations with the right to vote and 3 COs with the right to speak. The quorum for the  
1499 question is 2/3, so 13 organisations. There are 3 possibilities: "Yes" in favour of the suspension, "No"  
1500 against the suspension and "-" for abstention.
- 1501 Nora reads the Statutes to clarify the terms of the suspension and the procedure afterwards.
- 1502 Roll call to collect the votes.
- 1503 The Ballot committee and the Secretary General leave the room and come back with the results.
- 1504 In favour: 3  
1505 Against: 10  
1506 Abstentions: 5
- 1507 **The suspension has not been carried.**
- 1508 SLL, SUS, ISSU statement for the minutes: There should be a warning for Luke.
- 1509 VSK proposes to stop the live stream because it could have a bad influence.
- 1510 LMS proposes to continue the streaming.
- 1511 The Chairperson proposes to vote it at once if anyone has anything against, and opens the floor for  
1512 discussion.



1513 VSK is sorry for slowing the GA but they think the livestreaming is something very new, but it is having a bad  
1514 influence and also social media in total. They think OBESSU should have a policy on social media as well for  
1515 the next statutory meeting.

1516 DGS thinks it is good for the transparency for the organisations to see what is going on in the GA.

1517 DOS does not have anything to hide.

1518 VSK neither they do but there are heated discussions and if you are in personal in the debate, it can be  
1519 easier to understand the tone of the GA, but we think that some people can have the wrong impression of  
1520 this GA.

1521 The Chairperson proposes to close the speaking list.

1522 Proceed to vote:

1523 In favour: 17

1524 Against: 0

1525 Abstentions: 1.

1526 **The speaking list is closed and the last words are added to the list.**

1527 SAKKI thinks live stream is really nice, but we did not plan it beforehand, therefore we should not do it if  
1528 there is someone against it.

1529 CSU thinks this should be discussed in our MOs, we still have a big agenda ahead of us and we should focus  
1530 on that.

1531 LH would like to continue streaming.

1532 CANAE would like to continue the streaming but they can understand the position of VSK, and they are not  
1533 sure we should continue, that is why they will abstain. They propose to study this further in future statutory  
1534 meetings.

1535 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote on continuing the live stream.

1536 Proceed to vote:

1537 In favour: 7

1538 Against: 8

1539 Abstention: 3

1540 **The GA decides to not continue the livestream**

1541 The Chairperson explains that usually Board candidates leave the room but as there are candidates that are  
1542 the only representatives of their organisations the proposal is that all candidates stay in the room for the  
1543 candidates speech but that all candidates leave the room only for the Q&A.

1544 There is no organisation against it.

1545 The procedure is as follows: Each candidate will be given 5 minutes to present him- or herself. After each  
1546 presentation, the delegates can ask questions to the candidates.



1547 There are 6 candidates:

- 1548 • Oona Heiska from SLL
- 1549 • Hrefna Osk from SIF
- 1550 • Karolina Lang from FSS
- 1551 • Brendan Power from ISSU
- 1552 • Matic Matjašič from DOS
- 1553 • Giuseppina Tucci from UDS

1554 The Chairperson proposes that we do the presentations by alphabetical order starting from Z:

- 1555 • Giuseppina Tucci from UDS presents herself

1556 The Chairperson invites the candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1557 VSK: What kind of Board member profile would you describe yourself and what can you offer?

1558 CSU: On what are you interested in educational system itself? What are your proposals regarding education?

1559 DOS: You are more like a social liberal, what did the GA choose on and amendment against your opinion?  
1560 How are you going to defend it?

1561 Giuseppina:

- 1562 ➤ I covered various positions, I have been a Board member and a Secretary General, I have  
1563 organisation skills, but human and solution oriented. I try to ease the work as much as possible and  
1564 try to look always for consensus. I am described as the mum.
- 1565 ➤ I come from a school student union where was responsible for lobbying at the Ministry of Education  
1566 for the last 6 months. I have an idea of a framework of the right to study and welfare for Europe. I  
1567 do not have a perfect system in mind because all of them have good points. But I would resume it  
1568 with quality education, free access, and safe environment, free materials.
- 1569 ➤ I do not like to label myself; I stand for what the organisation thinks is right. If the mandate is from  
1570 the organisations, I would represent the organisations.

1571 ESCU: With whom do you see yourself on the Board?

1572 CANAE: Will you be willing to resign from the Board at the first Board if we need it to implement the  
1573 overlapping mandate? What can you offer to this Board team? If you had to choose a Pokemon, what would  
1574 you choose?

1575 LH: What do you want OBESSU to interfere on the labour market?

1576 Giuseppina:

- 1577 ➤ I do not really want to say names but I want to share this experience with activists willing to share,  
1578 motivated and willing to learn.



- 1579 ➤ If MOs asked me so, I would resign from the board; but I believe this should be a transition mandate  
1580 for the overlapping mandate work. If MOs ask for it, I would do it. But I prefer to stay for the full  
1581 mandate.
- 1582 ➤ Knowledge on the VET systems (I have been a VET WG member for the past 3 years), I have a lot of  
1583 competences on gender issues, I have good lobbying and advocating skills, and the competences  
1584 will depend on the portfolios.
- 1585 ➤ I do not know Pokemon, but I like a turtle.
- 1586 ➤ The question is very tough: we should defend the education and educational system from bad  
1587 influence. We stated that education should be free and with any influence on the curricula and we  
1588 should be able to sit on the table with the people deciding curricula, and we should play a crucial  
1589 role on that.

1590 SUS: What changes would you like to do? Where do you see OBESSU in two years?

1591 SIF: What would be your field of interest? Name your three obstacles.

1592 CNE: What can OBESSU do to help develop democratic school student structures in non-democratic  
1593 countries?

1594 Giuseppina:

- 1595 ➤ Make OBESSU an organising bureau and no longer a network of experiences. This is where I would  
1596 ideally see OBESSU in 2 years. Also, I see a lot of candidates and overlapping mandate, and a  
1597 functioning WP and strategy.
- 1598 ➤ I am afraid of flying but I can do it, but I can still do it; I am very strict in a lot of things; I am  
1599 impulsive; and my English needs to improve.
- 1600 ➤ I would like to have the VET portfolio, the Early School Leaving and the labour market; and we  
1601 should investigate more on LGBT.
- 1602 ➤ We have a big problem on exporting democracy on other organisations. We should find cooperation  
1603 on a global level. I believe in “think globally and act locally”. We should always keep in mind that  
1604 we should keep the personal based approach.

1605 ASuBiH: Giuseppina was a great host in Rome for the event “Education in Crisis”, and made our needs come  
1606 true. She is a really great girl.

1607 There are no more questions; therefore the Chairperson welcomes back all the candidates in the room.

- 1608 • Brendan Power from ISSU presents himself.

1609 The Chairperson invites the other candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1610 SUS: What is your added value? What makes you better?

1611 CNE: How can OBESSU directly link its MOs?

1612 CANAE: We would like to know your previous work on advocacy and lobby at national and international  
1613 level? Could it affect your work in advocacy the fact that you are shy?



1614 Brendan:

- 1615 ➤ I can bring a new perspective and passion.
- 1616 ➤ This is something that we should talk with the Board.
- 1617 ➤ I was a member for the local council for youth, lobbying for local and national issues.
- 1618 ➤ I suppose I am shy, only when I am around new people but I could grow.

1619 SIF: What would be your interest in the Board? What do you think has been missing when it comes to  
1620 communication between OBESSU and its MOs?

1621 SLL: which Pokemon would you be and why?

1622 CSU: How would you change the education system at European level and what and how would you improve  
1623 the education system at national level?

- 1624 ➤ I have not thought of any particular portfolio. It should be a decision to take with the Board.
- 1625 ➤ A lot of MOs see OBESSU as an event provider only and we should act as a network for problem  
1626 solving.
- 1627 ➤ Regular and consisting communication.
- 1628 ➤ Picachu because it has a lot of colours.
- 1629 ➤ OBESSU has a major role on changing education at European level. Continuous assessment.
- 1630 ➤ At national level we have a one day evaluating system and other systems could be a better way.

1631 AKS: During discussions of amendments, did not you participate on the discussions because your  
1632 organisation did not have an opinion? What are the reasons?

1633 ASuBiH: Do you have free time to dedicate to OBESSU?

1634 DOS: What's the biggest project you have done so far?

1635 Brendan:

- 1636 ➤ In ISSU I do not have an executive position and I did not receive many mandates so I did not feel to  
1637 express my own thoughts and not the organisations'.
- 1638 ➤ In September I will start college and I will have time and willingness to dedicate it to OBESSU.
- 1639 ➤ As educational officer in ISSU, we reviewed the transition year system. A project that lasted 18  
1640 months involving consultations.

1641 AKS: You signed the warning for Luke, how would you handle the situation with him if you would join the  
1642 Board?

- 1643 • It was not personally against Luke but for his actions. I consulted with my organisation and they  
1644 thought of making the note for the minutes and as it was already done by SLL, I thought it was the  
1645 best way to do it.

1646 CANAE: Seen all the CV of candidates, we as CANAE think he has done a very hard advocacy and lobby work  
1647 before coming here and we think it is so important for a Board member. He has experience in campaigning



1648 and implementing projects, so for us he has a very interesting profile. In the past ExGA, we did not elect  
1649 Lukas, a person from OBESSU with a similar profile, and we think we should now elect Brendan and not lose  
1650 his profile.

1651 There are no more questions; therefore the Chairperson welcomes back all the candidates in the room.

1652 • Matic from DOS presents himself.

1653 The Chairperson invites the other candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1654 FSS: What is your biggest achievement in your school student union?

1655 CNE: Have you established quality standard indicators for your possible mandate?

1656 Matic:

- 1657 ➤ I have been involved in activism 2.5 years. My biggest achievement was a fund were we raised  
1658 9000€ for disadvantaged people.  
1659 ➤ My first OBESSU event in Budapest, but also in Estonia and in TCIO in Brussels.  
1660 ➤ My goal is that we should improve this organisation. There is a conference in Vilnius and it will be  
1661 very interesting and we will have to make new goals. There are lots of documents. We need to follow  
1662 them and get new ideas.

1663 SIF: Which portfolio would you like to have in the board?

1664 CSU: What are your main priorities regarding education and educational systems?

1665 CANAE: We have seen you joined your organisation the previous year? What can you offer to the OBESSU  
1666 Board? Could you be willing to resign the OBESSU Board in order to implement the overlapping mandate?  
1667 Do consider that you have enough experience in team working?

1668 Matic:

- 1669 ➤ I have more experience in organisation skills, I think this could be my portfolio.  
1670 ➤ There is still a whole board, a GA and OBESSU and we have a political platform. Three would be my  
1671 priorities: quality education, free education, inclusive for all.  
1672 ➤ I joined DOS 2-3 years ago, I worked in the committees and joined the MC in DOS and then elected  
1673 in the Board of DOS for 6 months.  
1674 ➤ We still cannot see the pros and cons of the overlapping mandate. I cannot say my opinion now.  
1675 ➤ I lead many projects in DOS, one of them is the national school student conference where we hosted  
1676 3 MEPs. All my work in DOS is team work.

1677 AKS: Could you describe the world that you are aiming for in 5 words? During the GA, your organisation was  
1678 taking part in the discussion but it was not you talking, why?

1679 SLL: Could you clarify how could OBESSU documents be improved?

1680 SUS: What is quality education for you?



1681 Matic:

- 1682 ➤ Peace, equality and friends.
- 1683 ➤ We read the amendments, and discussed them in the Board and if we had comments, we made
- 1684 them.
- 1685 ➤ OBESSU make a lot of documents all of year, but some organisations we only get them on email and
- 1686 it is not implemented at the national level.
- 1687 ➤ Inclusive for all, free, and we should experiment with new teaching methods and change
- 1688 something. Even if we make a mistake we should try.

1689 AKS: Why was Klemen talking and not you? AKS expected the candidates to speak during the GA.

1690 SUS: You have never been involved in a prep-team or WG. Do you see yourself doing it now?

1691 CSU: Do you think OBESSU should revise its documents?

1692 The Chairperson wants to propose to close the list to give space for other candidates.

1693 Matic:

- 1694 ➤ Klement is our president, I decided not to participate and also because I was nervous.
- 1695 ➤ I led this conference that was similar to an OBESSU event and I am sure I can do it.
- 1696 ➤ I also mention this in the letter. OBESSU could make a short summary of documents to send to
- 1697 organisations and also to contextualise them for each of the countries.

1698 The Chairperson welcomes the candidates back in the room.

- 1699 • Karolina Lang from FSS presents herself

1700 The chair invites the other candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1701 VSK: We hope we can see Karolina in the Board. I hope this will not badly affect it. If both Oona and Karolina  
1702 are in, we do not see a problem. I hope it is about quality of candidates.

1703 AKS: We think it is really cool that you mention social inclusion in your speech because we are very  
1704 interested.

1705 UNSS: OBESSU is not perfect and I wanted to ask you what is the best think that OBESSU is doing good and  
1706 what would you change?

1707 Karolina:

- 1708 ➤ The best of the best is giving European School Students a voice at European level. School Students  
1709 are underrepresented.
- 1710 ➤ The change would be to increase the participation of the MOs and give them the space to be more  
1711 active in the decision making of OBESSU. We proposed the online forum and I am hoping to be able  
1712 to discuss it with MOs.



1713 SIF: What would be your preferred portfolio?

1714 CSU: As OBESSU has many goals, what concretely should be changed at European level when it comes to  
1715 education?

1716 SUS: How can do the experience as a president benefit OBESSU?

1717 Karolina:

1718 ➤ I am very interested in social inclusion and HRE and Citizenship Education.

1719 ➤ The participation question is a really hot topic, and of course, the economical crisis and the cuts of  
1720 education.

1721 ➤ Being a president of a national school student union I've done everything from lobbying at the  
1722 parliament to running to a train to get to a media interview, to being in a school in the middle of  
1723 nowhere on school student rights.

1724 CANAE: You take active part in a political party. How could it affect on OBESSU non-partisan position?

1725 DOS: Why it is more about us than about you?

1726 Karolina:

1727 ➤ I am a member of the education committee of the Swedish-speaking Finns' Party of ALDE. As an  
1728 OBESSU member I would be driven by OBESSU agenda and not by my political engagement and this  
1729 engagement it is not against our values as OBESSU. I stand for HR.

1730 ➤ I think is important as a Board member not to be driven by my personal agenda, but giving a voice  
1731 to organisations.

1732 CANAE: Will you keep on being an active part on this party?

1733 Karolina:

1734 • If it is not a problem, yes, I will. I am only involved at the local and national level, not at all at the  
1735 European level.

1736 There are no more questions or comments and the Chairperson welcomes back all the candidates.

1737 • Hrefna Osk from SIF presents herself

1738 The Chairperson invites the other candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1739 AKS: You participated in two OBESSU events until now. Do you think you can manage to be in the Board  
1740 even though you have not already been in a prep-team? Do you think you have enough experience?

1741 SUS: What did not you like of the Board of the last years and what would you like to do differently?

1742 CANAE: Could you describe your previous experience in your organisation? Would you be willing to resign  
1743 from the Board in order to implement the overlapping mandate?



1744 Hrefna:

- 1745 ➤ I was really interested on how the work was done during the Study Session in Budapest, and the
- 1746 second one was in Rome where I got to know how it works and I have ideas on how to improve them.
- 1747 ➤ I have experience at the local level in Iceland.
- 1748 ➤ The current Board is wonderful. We are lacking communication between Board and MOs and I think
- 1749 this is the most important thing.
- 1750 ➤ I considered it; I would run for a year instead because getting the overlapping mandate working it
- 1751 is very important.

1752 CSU: What would be the first think that should be changed in education?

1753 SUS: What is your added value?

1754 UNSS: How would you deal with the situation to defend something you do not stand for personally?

1755 Hrefna:

- 1756 ➤ I would lobby for mandatory sexual education across Europe because it could promote gender
- 1757 equality. I want to promote democracy.
- 1758 ➤ I've been working in this for a very long time. I was so determined that I paid my own way here and
- 1759 I've always felt that there is change needed in the educational system. I've always been very
- 1760 stubborn and professional and looking for the best solution and not the easiest one.
- 1761 ➤ It is super important that the values of OBESSU come first than my opinions.

1762 SUS: What would you do to stop an MO to leave OBESSU?

1763 DOS: Public or private education?

1764 Hrefna:

- 1765 ➤ Communication is the key, and we should talk to this organisation and ask for what kind of changes
- 1766 should be done; but above all, we have to keep OBESSU values.
- 1767 ➤ I feel a combination of both is the best result. Public education we need to have at all times, we
- 1768 cannot really ban corporations and companies to fund their own schools, working in cooperation
- 1769 with the government. So finding a balance.

1770 There are no more questions and the Chairperson welcomes the candidates back into the room.

- 1771 • Oona from SLL presents herself

1772 The chair invites the other candidates to leave the room and opens the floor for questions:

1773 VSK: We think it is not a problem to have a problem having two people from Finland, what do you think?  
1774 Which Pokemon would you be?

1775 SIF: What would be your preferred portfolio?



1776 SLL: We expected the candidates to be actively involved, why did not you take a more active role during the  
1777 GA?

1778 Oona:

- 1779 ➤ Karolina and I are different, we have different opinions and it should not influence the work on the  
1780 Board.
- 1781 ➤ Cat Pokemon, cute and cuddly but dangerous.
- 1782 ➤ I am very much into youth politics. I've also been involved at the Finnish National Youth Council.
- 1783 ➤ I was very active yesterday. As a candidate I do not want to repeat points. I rather keep silent if I do  
1784 not have anything to add.

1785 CSU: What are your main goals regarding education systems?

1786 UNSS: OBESSU is an NGO, if it would be helpful for OBESSU, would you transform it into a governmental  
1787 organisation?

1788 CNE: How can you work to improve the transparency of OBESSU?

1789 Oona:

- 1790 ➤ For me, I've been a lot involved in participation and democracy. I am strong at this.
- 1791 ➤ I would be against to be a governmental organisation because it would change the purpose of the  
1792 union.
- 1793 ➤ It is a hard question. It also starts with the MOs, that we should encourage MOs to share our work  
1794 and get the work at the local level, because it is really hard to get to the local level from the  
1795 European level.

1796 FSS: As Karolina, you are also active in a political party, how would it affect your work in OBESSU?

1797 DOS: What did you change in the education system in your country?

1798 AKS: In which party are you involved?

1799 Oona:

- 1800 ➤ I am a member of the Finish Coalition Party (center-right) and their agenda is: Education is really  
1801 important, hard work, civilisation. Doing your best to develop ourselves. I think my involvement  
1802 would not affect my political work in OBESSU because there is a political platform to guide us and I  
1803 am not in a Board or anything, I have only been to two events. My commitment to the party is not  
1804 that big.
- 1805 ➤ There was a demonstration one year ago about the student grant being cut in Finland; we came  
1806 together with the other organisations.
- 1807 ➤ In upper-secondary schools, I was involved in the work on how you choose your courses.

1808 CANAE: Could you explain more your engagement with the party? Will you continue your involvement if you  
1809 are elected?



1810 Oona:

1811 ➤ I have been a member for one year and been in 2 events (two regional meetings), and I am not  
1812 planning to get more involved if I am elected. When I was a member of SLL board, I did not go to  
1813 any of the party activities. I would not be active.

1814 The Chairperson welcomes back the candidates and explains how the vote will work.

1815 CANAE: For us it is very important that Board members of OBESSU do not have any responsibility in political  
1816 parties.

1817 Roll Call to handout the ballots

1818 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1819 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

1820 Now we have 18 organisations with right to vote in the room and 3 COs with speaking rights.

1821 Roll Call to vote

1822 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1823 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

1824 The ballot committee has entered the room and we now have the results.

1825 There were 18 valid votes

- 1826 • Oona: 15
- 1827 • Hrefna: 4
- 1828 • Karolina: 6
- 1829 • Matic: 9
- 1830 • Brendan: 10
- 1831 • Giuseppina: 15

1832 **Oona, Brendan and Giuseppina are elected as new Board Members.**

1833 The Chairperson asks the elected Board members if they accept the votes and they all do.

1834 Roll Call

1835 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1836 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

1837 There are 18 organisations present and we need 10 organisations.

1838 The Chairperson asks the current Board members if they want to remain in their position as there were only  
1839 three people elected but none of them wants to stay. There will therefore be an Extraordinary General  
1840 Assembly (ExGA) with new elections in the end of the year.



1841 Statement to the minutes from UNEL, DGS and LH: We think it is wrong to announce the exact amount of  
1842 votes on the individual candidates in front of everyone.

1843 Statement to the minutes from DGS and LH: We think it is wrong to clap your hands right after the  
1844 publishing of the elected candidates without out saying that we are also clapping for the candidates who  
1845 were not elected.

1846 26. Monitoring Committee elections

1847 There are 5 candidates to the Monitoring Committee. As only two of the candidates are present, the  
1848 Chairperson proposes to not have questions and answers, to make it fair for everyone. There are no  
1849 objections from the GA.

- 1850 • The video presentation of Jenni Lang from SAKKI is played.
- 1851 • The video presentation of Elsa Lengeler from USO is played.
- 1852 • Nora Kleibel from the Board of OBESSU presents herself.
- 1853 • Larissa Nening from AKS presents herself.
- 1854 • The video presentation of Sasa Pesic from UNSS is played.

1855 The Chairperson explains the voting procedure.

1856 Roll call to handout the ballots

1857 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO (not present), ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI,  
1858 SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL (not present), UNEL, UNSS, USO (not present), VSK.

1859 We have 18 organisations and there is only the need of 10 votes to get elected.

1860 Roll Call to vote

1861 AKS, ASuBiH, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,  
1862 UDS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK.

1863 The ballot committee comes back to the room with the results:

1864 There were 18 valid votes cast.

- 1865 • Jenni: 6
- 1866 • Elsa: 13
- 1867 • Nora: 16
- 1868 • Larissa: 5
- 1869 • Sasa: 12

1870 **Elsa, Nora and Sasa are elected as Monitoring Committee members.**

1871 The Chair person thanks all candidates for running for this position.



1872        27. Any other business

1873        Rasmus thanks the leaving Board and presents are given.

1874        Statement for the minutes from FSS: FSS encourages the MOs to consider to the next OBESSU statutory  
1875        meeting a secret ballot when deciding who has the right to vote and speak of the Member organisations  
1876        failing to pay the annual financial contribution. This is to ensure a sensitive way of dealing with a delicate  
1877        matter for some member organisations.

1878        SIF on behalf of Kristen from the MC thanks the Board and a video is played.

1879        LH: We thought it was unfortunate with the sometimes negative tone of the debate. It was not nice to be in  
1880        the room, and for next GA we should think of stopping the debate. We should have some more fruits or food,  
1881        and we should have more breaks. We would nevertheless like to thank you for a nice GA.

1882        VSK raises the idea on having a policy on digital matters or social media for future debates.

1883        UNEL: Thank you to the GA for accepting us as a Candidate Organisation. Also thank you to the outgoing  
1884        Board for driving us through this experience. We also insist on the need to create an agreed language for  
1885        the discussions.

1886        CSU: Also thank you for accepting us as candidate organisation.

1887        Board: thanks to the Chairperson and to AKS for organising everything and helping us.

1888        28. Closing

1889        The Chairperson closes the 40<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of OBESSU.