



Draft Minutes, OBESSU COMEM 2015

Copenhagen, Denmark, 5 - 6 December 2015

Day 1, Saturday 5th of December

1. Opening of the COMEM

Board member Oona opens and introduces the Council of Members (COMEM) of OBESSU.

Board member Oona thanks the Danish organisations DGS, EEO and LH for hosting the COMEM.

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, according to the payment of the Annual Financial Contribution.

First Roll Call:

AKS, CANAE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK

In addition, KYC is present as Affiliate Organisation. This is not included in lists of roll calls.

20 MOs present, 1 Affiliates present.

2. Election of the Chairperson

The Board proposes Dasa Koribanicova, former Board member of OBESSU to be the Chairperson of the COMEM.

The COMEM approves the Chairperson by acclamation.

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

3. Election of the minute-taker

The Board proposes Giorgio Tessadri, OBESSU Communication and Membership Officer to be the minute-taker of the COMEM.

The COMEM approves the minute-taker by acclamation.

4. Election of the Ballot Committee

The Chairperson explains the role and function of Ballot Committee.



30 The Chairperson explains that the COMEM has to decide on the composition of the Ballot
31 Committee. She suggests a Ballot Committee of 3 people.

32 Three people are needed for the Ballot Committee. ISSU proposes Gearóid Dardis, KYC
33 proposes Agnesa Qerimi and EEO proposes Simon Kleemeyer.

34 The COMEM elects the ballot committee by acclamation.

35 **5. Explanation of procedures**

36 The Chairperson explains the procedures.

- 37 • Speaking list
- 38 • V and T signs
- 39 • Secret ballots
- 40 • Amendment to amendment
- 41 • Statement to the minutes
- 42 • Presentations of MOs

43

44 No questions or comments are made.

45 **6. Legality of COMEM and adoption of the Agenda**

46 Secretary General Rasmus Åberg explains that the COMEM to be legal, 50% plus 1 of the total
47 number of OBESSU Members has to be present. At this COMEM 21 Organisations are present,
48 which satisfies the legality criterion. Furthermore, all deadlines leading up to the COMEM
49 were kept. No protests are made known and therefore the Chairperson confirms the legality
50 of the COMEM.

51 The legality of the COMEM is approved by acclamation.

52 The Chairperson explains the agenda and no comments are made.

53 **The Agenda of the COMEM is approved** by acclamation.

54

55 (SVB arrived).

56

57 **7. Voting right for Member Organisations failing to pay the** 58 **Annual Financial Contribution**

59 The Chairperson explains that according to the Statutes, only Member Organisations which
60 have paid the Annual Financial Contribution (AFC) have the right to vote. There are 3 MOs
61 present that have failed to pay the AFC. These are: CNE, MAKOSZ and UdS.



62 One delegate from each organisation has the chance to explain why their organisation has
63 failed to pay the AFC on time. The COMEM will vote on whether to grant the right to
64 vote/speak. To pass, a simple majority is needed.

65 A secret ballot is requested for this.

66 The organisations concerned make a brief explanation and the Chairperson opens the floor
67 for questions or comments:

- 68 • CNE (not present at this moment)
- 69 • MAKOSZ explains the reasons why they failed to pay.
- 70 • UdS explains the reasons why they failed to pay.

71

72 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

73 DOS asks what is the progressive system and how does it work.

74 Rasmus says that it is based on each organisation's annual turnover. In case you have zero
75 budget you do not need to pay the AFC.

76 SAKKI proposes a secret vote.

77 ISSU wants to know the history of the organisations in term of AFC.

78 MAKOSZ replies that they did pay last year.

79 UdS says that next year the priority will be the OBESSU AFC.

80 Rasmus also replies that MAKOSZ did pay last year but not everything. UdS have not paid for
81 a while, they only paid part of last year AFC. CNE has a debt and they have to pay this year
82 AFC.

83

84 Roll Call to hand out the ballot papers for those who paid

85 AKS, CANAE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS,
86 USO, VSK

87

88 Now we have 18 organisations with the right to vote in the room. A simple majority will be
89 enough to grant the right to vote to each organisation.

90

91 The ballot committee leaves the room with the Secretary General to count the votes.

92 The Ballot Committee comes back with the results:

- 93 • MAKOSZ: 12 votes in favour, 6 against, 0 abstentions
- 94 • UdS: 13 votes in favour, 4 against, 1 abstentions

95



96 (CNE arrived)

97

98 CNE explains its situation. They are facing some problems after the change of the Minister of
99 Education and now it is not easy to get in contact with the Ministry for support. But they will
100 try to solve this issue.

101

102 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

103 FSS asks if they have any other income.

104 CNE replies that they have partners but not for financial support.

105 ISSU wants to know about their AFC history.

106 Rasmus replies that the debt is around 120 euro plus this year AFC.

107 UNEL asks for some clarification about the debt.

108 Rasmus replies that it is 120 euro plus this year AFC.

109 SAKKI asks about the debt of last year.

110 Rasmus replies that the debt was around 200 euro.

111 SAKKI proposes a secret vote.

112

113 Roll Call to hand out the ballot papers for those who paid

114 AKS, CANAE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, Uds UNL,

115 UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK.

116

117 Now we have 20 organisations with the right to vote in the room. A simple majority will be
118 enough to grant the right to vote to each organisation.

119

120 The ballot committee leaves the room with the Secretary General to count the votes.

121 • CNE: 11 votes in favour, 8 against, 1 abstention

122

123 **All the organisations have been granted the right to vote.**

124

125 Roll Call

126 AKS, CANAE, CNE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, UDS,

127 UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK.



128 Now we have 21 MOs with the right to vote. The new quorum for simple majority is 11.

129 **8. Adoption of the Internal Regulations**

130 The Chairperson introduces the Internal Regulations of Statutory Meetings.

131

132 There are no questions or comments.

133

134 The Chairperson invites the COMEM to adopt the Internal Regulations.

135

136 **The Internal regulations for the COMEM of OBESSU are adopted unanimously.**

137

138 **9. Adoption of minutes from the General Assembly 2015**

139 The Secretary General explains that the minutes were sent out in time and they are available
140 online and opens the floor for questions.

141 There are no comments or questions.

142 **The minutes of the GA 2015 are adopted by acclamation.**

143

144 **10. Guests present at the COMEM**

145 The Chairperson explains that there are no guests in the room, but in case they come, we will
146 allow them when the time comes.

147 Board member Oona proposes to vote to allow the Affiliate organisations SVB and KYC to
148 have the right to speak during the COMEM.

149 There are no comments or questions.

150 SAKKI proposes a secret vote.

151 Roll Call

152 AKS, CANAE, CNE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, UDS,
153 UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK.

154 Now we have 21 MOs with the right to vote. The quorum for simple majority is 11.

155

156 Proceed to vote:

157 In favour: 19

158 Against: 1

159 Abstentions: 1

160 **KYC and SVB have been granted the right to speak in the COMEM.**



161

162 **11. Code of conduct at COMEM**

163 Giuseppina from the Board explains the importance to have a code of conduct as an informal
164 document to agree upon in order to have a safe space to work in.

165 Eleonora from the Monitoring Committee opens the floor for discussions and questions.

166 Outcomes of the discussion:

- 167 • Put any devices on mute
- 168 • Speak English
- 169 • Respect others who want to sleep
- 170 • Listen to each other
- 171 • Don't bring arguments for the sake of it
- 172 • Respectful communication
- 173 • Here at night, here during the day
- 174 • Socialise - make new friends
- 175 • Silent applause
- 176 • Be aware you are representing your organisation
- 177 • Be punctual

178

179 **12. Presentation Board Report**

180 Ruta and Brendan from the Board present the Board report.

181 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

182 ESCU asks the reasons of having only one Board meeting in the last months.

183 Board replies that it was a matter of financial recourses and acknowledges that it was a very
184 hard situation.

185 ESCU asks why they did not have Board meetings via Skype.

186 Board replies that they used every communication channels to communicate but it was a bit
187 complicated.

188 FSS says that the International Students' Day was a great campaign and asks for comments.

189 Board says that it was very successful and they are very happy about it, although there was
190 not so much cooperation with the European Students' Unions (ESU). The results were really
191 good: the data related to the hashtags; the chat with American school students union; and
192 the number of partners all around the world. The Board explains also the emails sent to the



193 MEPs to advocate for the call. They received some feedback and one MEP shared the call and
194 supported the campaign.

195 DOS wants some clarifications on the Board strategy to communicate with the MOs and asks
196 who usually attend the external representations.

197 Board replies that they need to set different ways to communicate with MOs and find the best
198 ones according to each organisation. Regarding the second question, they says that it
199 depends on the timing and financial support. In general when it comes to big events, they are
200 attended by the Board members. But not covered informal meetings in Brussels are done by
201 the Secretariat.

202 There are no more comments or questions.

203

204 (Coffee break)

205 Roll Call

206 AKS, CANAE, CNE, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS, UDS,
207 UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK.

208

209 Now we have 21 MOs with the right to vote. The new quorum for simple majority is 11.

210

211 The Chairperson announces that the deadline for urgent motions and resolutions is on
212 Sunday 6th at 9:00h via email to Rasmus Åberg and to the Chairperson.

213

214 UNEL proposes to change the agenda and to switch the Political Platform amendments with
215 the Workplan amendments.

216

217 Whether or not vote on the proposal.

218 Proceed to vote:

219 In favour: 19

220 Against: 1

221 Abstentions: 1

222

223 The actual vote on the proposal.

224 Proceed to vote:

225 In favour: 16

226 Against: 2

227 Abstentions: 3

228 **The change of the agenda is approved.**

229



230 **13. Development Strategy Review**

231 Oona and Giuseppina from the Board present the Development Strategy Review.

232 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

233 LMS asks which actions they have in mind for the priorities related to school student structure
234 development.

235 Board replies that they are working on that. The first step it is mapping the school student
236 situation in Europe and see where and who are more involved and who are less. After
237 mapping the EU situation they can address specific countries. It is an ongoing process.

238 LMS asks if the Board needs the help from MOs and if ad hoc Working Group will be set.

239 Board replies that they can discuss it at the next Board meeting, but the funding for a new
240 Working Group are quite difficult to find. Moreover the Working Group on the Manual already
241 identified some countries to address, using the Manual as a tool.

242 DOS asks if the Board is familiar with the situation in Croatia and says that DOS can help to
243 increase the membership in the Balkan countries.

244 Board replies that OBESSU used to have an organisation in Croatia willing to apply for
245 membership but they refused to grant it due to some democratic issues. The Board also says
246 that if DOS has any input to help them, those are more than welcome.

247 ISSU asks if they can send them the Manual to translate into Irish.

248 Board replies that they will send it to them in order to be translated.

249 There are no more comments or questions.
250

251 **14. Presentation Monitoring Committee Report**

252 Eleonora from the Monitoring Committee presents the role of the MC and the MC Report.

253 The Board and the Secretariat leave the room.

254 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

255 ESCU asks how she sees the approach of the Board to advocacy in general.

256 MC replies that they give them some advises. They asked them to provide better and more
257 comprehensive reports about external representations. Moreover, they suggested that in
258 case they say no to some events they should report it. When it comes to topics, the Board
259 should realise themselves if they have not worked on some topics and improve accordingly.
260 They should also diversify the institutions they advocate to. For example focus also on other



- 261 structures like the EU Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO. In general they should be
262 more proactive.
- 263 LMS asks if OBESSU had some contacts with UNESCO.
- 264 MC says that OBESSU did advocacy work towards the UN in the past. OBESSU could apply as
265 an NGO to get invitations to events and should have good possibilities. Moreover OBESSU
266 applied for "membership".
- 267 ISSU says that at TCIO participants discussed about the MOs online platform and asks about
268 the next steps.
- 269 MC says that not enough has been done so far and the online platform should be a priority of
270 the Board. She also says that the Board realised the importance and they are planning to
271 take action.
- 272 UNEL asks if the MC has any suggestions on how improve the communication between Board
273 and Secretariat.
- 274 MC replies that there has been an unequal workload within the Board. One Board member is
275 doing too much comparing to the rest. Another problem is that people are not used to work
276 online. Furthermore, the new Board members did not have enough time "to get into"
277 OBESSU. But now it seems they understood and they are tackling these issues.
- 278 SAKKI asks how the level of motivation within the Board is.
- 279 MC replies that the level of motivation differs during time, but in general they are very
280 motivated and working well as a team.
- 281 VSK asks if the evaluation of the Board from the MC it is done individually.
- 282 MC replies that what they did it was talking to them individually. Then in the report the MC
283 focused to the Board as a team.
- 284 FSS asks how much contact did the MC has with the Board from last Statutory Meeting.
- 285 MC replies that they had interviews and a questionnaire. There was also communications via
286 email. The MC has the impression that now they started to react to the lack of
287 communication and they acknowledge these issues.
- 288 DOS agrees with Board on setting those priorities on the Development Strategy. DOS also
289 asks the MC to give an example about the Board relying too much on the Secretariat.
- 290 MC replies that in some cases they think that the Board relies on the Secretariat a bit too
291 much. For example, if you ask the Board something related to the financial situation of
292 OBESSU they cannot reply and they have to ask to the Secretariat. The Board should be
293 aware on what happen in OBESSU, also on financial aspects. The Board has to know that in
294 NGOs like OBESSU things can change quickly. For example, if the Secretary General leaves



295 the organisation and the Board does not know how to deal with the finances, it can be very
296 difficult. Furthermore, the Board is meant to be the executive body of OBESSU and they
297 should act as it.

298 DOS asks if the MC has any solutions in mind to improve this situation.

299 MC replies that they think it should be up to MOs to discuss how to improve it, but they
300 advise the Board to get training to bridge the possible lack of knowledge.

301 The chairperson proposes to close the speaking list.

302 Proceed to vote:

303 In favour: 20

304 Against: 0

305 Abstentions: 1

306

307 LMS comments on the relationship between the Board and the Secretariat.

308 MC says that what they meant with this report it is to start a debate on these possible issues.

309 DGS asks how to deal with new Board members and the overlapping mandate.

310 MC replies that the transition period started really well, but then has worsened. Board
311 meetings need to be planned in advance in order to dedicate finances for all of them with no
312 need of skipping one. Another advice is to improve the capacity building within the Board.

313 UNEL asks if the MC can facilitate the transition between one Board to another. Then UNEL
314 asks for clarifications on the meaning of executive role of the Board.

315 MC replies that they would also see the MC as an advisory body for them, in particular in the
316 transition periods. They still think that the overlapping mandate system is valuable in
317 OBESSU. Then, the executive role of the Board is meant to, for example, decide the hot
318 topics, send emails, be proactive and not rely too much on the Secretariat. The MC also says
319 that OBESSU believes on this role of the Board, comparing to other international platforms.

320 KYC asks if the Board is in charge of looking for diversification of funding. Then, KYC says that
321 maybe MOs should received reports from the Board meetings.

322 MC explains that the Board reports are always available online and after every Board
323 meetings the Board sends out a summary. About funding the MC says that the Board selects
324 some areas where OBESSU can save some money and where to apply for funding. Of course
325 the problem with funding is not only in OBESSU. It affects also many other international
326 NGOs.

327 There are no more comments or questions.

328

329 The Board and the Secretariat enter in the room.

330



331 Board says that they are happy to confront the MC, Board and Development Strategy reports.
332 And usually they listen to and take into consideration all the suggestions.

333

334 UNEL asks the Board if they are happy with 5 Board members.

335

336 Board replies that there are pros and cons on both sides (5 or 7 members).

337

338 There are no more comments or questions.

339

340 The Board proposes to change the agenda and moving the world cafe after lunch.

341 Whether or not vote on the proposal

342 Proceed to vote:

343 In favour: 21

344 Against: 0

345 Abstentions: 0

346

347 The actual vote on the proposal

348 Proceed to vote:

349 In favour: 21

350 Against: 0

351 Abstentions: 0

352 **The change of the agenda is approved.**

353

354 (Lunch)

355 **15. World cafe'**

356 The Chairperson and the Board explain how the world cafe' works.

357 a) ICT and education

358 b) Entrepreneurship and education

359 c) Paris Declaration

360 d) Migration education

361 The Board members facilitated and took notes from the world café on the topics mentioned
362 above. These will later be used to shape OBESSU's positions on the topics. Probably these will
363 be adopted at the General Assembly in 2016.

364 **Roll Call.**



365 AKS, CANAE, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SLL, SUS,
366 UDS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK

367

368 Now there are 22 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.

369

370 **16. Letter from SLL**

371 SLL presents the letter that it sent out to the Board prior to the COMEM.

372 Brendan replies to the letter on behalf of the Board. He thanks SLL for the letter and in
373 particular for raising good points. The Board will address these aspects and tomorrow here at
374 the COMEM there will be a workshop focusing on the role of the Board.

375 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

376 SLL is glad that tomorrow the COMEM will have the chance to discuss about it.

377 SAKKI asks if SLL wants more transparency and participation of MOs.

378 SLL explains that the main goal was to clarify the role, the transparency of the Board and how
379 they represent the platform.

380 There are no more comments or questions.

381

382 **17. Presentation Secretariat Report**

383 Rasmus presents the Secretariat Report.

384 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

385 CANAE says that the Secretariat is doing a very good job and they will miss Rasmus who is
386 leaving the job soon.

387 ISSU asks how it was the workload this year.

388 Rasmus explains that this year was better than last year, mainly because the Secretariat now
389 has three full-time staff members. Of course there were busy periods and the workload went
390 up and down. But in general it went really fine.

391 There are no more questions.

392



393 **18. Financial report 2015 and budget 2016**

394 **Financial report 2015**

395 The Secretary General Rasmus explains the structure of the financial report 2015 and makes
396 the summary of the year, with the help of a background document.

397 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

398 ESCU asks if OBESSU has ever tried to looking for sponsors from private companies.

399 Rasmus replies that OBESSU never tried. Giuseppina on behalf of the Board explains that
400 OBESSU does not have a position on getting funding from the private sector.

401 FSS thanks Rasmus for the comprehensive financial overview.

402 ISSU asks how, in case of more financial support for OBESSU, the platform would spend the
403 money.

404 Rasmus says that the first thing to do will be having a better reserve. Then lower the
405 participation fee for events and maybe increase the salary for the Secretariat members.

406 DOS asks to explain the *actual/expected* columns of the core budget in the table.

407 Rasmus explains and clarifies the differences in the table.

408 FSS asks how the reserve of OBESSU is at this moment.

409 Rasmus replies that right now it is a bit less than 3000 Euros. He adds that it is really
410 important to have a reserve because for example in 2010 OBESSU lost a lot of money for an
411 event. This is why OBESSU needs to have a reserve to face these kinds of financial issues.

412 DOS says that there is an error in "*travel calculations*" - line 44 in the table.

413 Rasmus admits that it is true and he will look into this. He also thanks DOS for the remark.

414 There are no more questions or comments.

415

416 **Budget 2016**

417 The Secretary General, Rasmus Åberg, explains the Budget 2016 and explains that it is very
418 difficult to make an accurate prediction for a full year.

419 The Chair opens the floor for questions:

420 DOS asks what would happen in case OBESSU will not receive the grant from the EU
421 Commission.

422 Rasmus replies that in case the EU Commission would partially cut the grant OBESSU could
423 still make it, of course changing the structure of the platform. But in case of no funding at all,



424 we could not have an office as we do right now and we should re-think completely the
425 structure of the OBESSU. However, this is very unlikely at the moment.

426 Eleonora says that the Monitoring Committee underlines the importance of diversification of
427 funding and since OBESSU changes a lot we should not take this stable situation for granted.

428 There are no more questions or comments so the Chairperson calls for the vote to adopt the
429 budget 2016.

430

431 **Roll Call.**

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

434

435 Now there are 23 MOs with the right to vote.

436

437 Proceed to vote:

438 In favour: 23

439 Against: 0

440 Abstentions: 0

441 **The Budget 2016 is approved.**

442

443 (Break)

444

445 **Roll Call.**

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

448

449 Now there are 23 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate organisations. The simple majority
450 is 12 votes.

451 In order to clarify about the error spotted by DOS, Rasmus explains that the table seen by the
452 COMEM in the previous presentation was a summary of a more detailed one. This is the
453 reason why the numbers did not match.

454



455 **19. Discussion and voting on proposals and amendments**

456 **POLITICAL PLATFORM**

457 The Chairperson explains that amendments are adopted by simple majority. She explains the
458 rules of the debates.

459
460 **Amendment #1 (OBESSU Board)**

Line(s)	94
Amendment	ADD "Teacher training for supporting student initiatives and student participation should be done at schools to ensure the support of the entire school for sufficient student participation at all levels" AFTER "... bodies supporting it"

461
462 Oona on behalf of the Board: It can be argued that student councils that get support from the
463 entire school can do more for the wellbeing of students. In addition to headmasters the
464 teachers play a crucial part in this. Training teachers on student participation ensures their
465 support and understanding that can be helpful for the work of the student council at the
466 school.

467
468 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:
469
470 USO asks how the Board imagines these teacher trainings.

471
472 Oona explains that the idea is to have teachers understanding and supporting student
473 participation, fostering student councils and student activism. It is important to avoid the
474 situation teachers versus students: there are no two different separate entities.

475
476 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

477
478 Proceed to vote:

479 In favour: 22

480 Against: 0

481 Abstentions: 1

482 **Carried**



483
484
485

Amendment #2 (UNEL, CANAE, Uds, DGS, ŠUS, ISSU)

Line(s)	359-361
Amendment	<p>“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 mindset;”</p> <p>ADD “xenophobia” BEFORE “homophobia”</p>

486

487 UNEL: OBESSU has already made a study session on xenophobia and has a clear stance
488 against xenophobic ideas. Therefore, it is crucial that it is included in the passage, so that
489 school communities and learning environments take clear positions against xenophobia as
490 well.

491

492 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

493

494 There are no comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

495

496 Proceed to vote:

497 In favour: 21

498 Against: 0

499 Abstentions: 2

500

Carried

501

502

503

Amendment to the amendment #3 (DGS)

Line(s)	366-367
Amendment	<p>REPLACE</p> <p>“Unfortunately, the European community has become a grow-ground for different modes of fascism such as xenophobia and racism.”</p> <p>WITH</p>



	“Unfortunately, the European community has become a grow-ground for different modes of fascism which may spread xenophobic and racist ideas.”
--	---

504 DGS: Of course facism spread xenophobia and racism but it might not be like that in all
505 cases, which is why DGS wants to insert “may” between “which” and “spread”.

506 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

507

508 UNEL says that with this amendment we are not talking about right wing movements but
509 fascism. In this sense, UNEL thinks that fascism clearly spreads xenophobia and
510 discrimination. UNEL says that we should leave the amendment how it is.

511

512 LMS says that when talking about fascism, there are no concrete definitions and it is the
513 same when it comes to political ideologies.

514

515 UdS says that fascism has inside the idea of supremacy of someone against someone else.

516

517 UNEL says that we can have many definitions of fascism, but the meaning is clearly one.

518

519 CSU asks if someone can give some examples of fascist movements in Europe right now.

520

521 UNEL replies that for example the German far right movement PEGIDA who don't call them
522 self fascists but at the end they are.

523

524 UdS also replies that in Italy is forbidden by law to call a party “fascist” but there are several
525 ones who are inside fascist. And there are many examples of actions made by them against
526 immigrants. Moreover, nowadays we can see in Europe several types of movements and
527 actions against minorities.

528

529 CSU says that since OBESSU defends school students, they think that these topics should
530 don't concern the platform.

531

532 UdS replies that since we are an organisation who does politics, we cannot say that these
533 topics are not important for OBESSU. On the contrary, the platform has to take a clear
534 position on this.

535

536 LMS thinks that the word “may” in the amendment is redundant and it is not needed.

537

538 UNL says that we are here to defend education and education has some values. We must
539 take position against this ideology. Fascism is clearly against education. We need to take a
540 clear position.

541

542 CSU says that a clear position can be found in line 359 of the OBESSU Political Platform.



543
544 EEO proposes to close the speaking list.

545
546 Proceed to vote:

547 In favour: 14

548 Against: 0

549 Abstentions: 9

550 **List closed.**

551
552 Board says that violence and racism are matters of school students. The Board adds that
553 need to consider that hate speech and these important topics are mentioned several times in
554 the OBESSU Political Platform.

555
556 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

557
558 Proceed to vote:

559 In favour: 2

560 Against: 18

561 Abstentions: 3

562 **Not carried**

563
564 **Amendment #3 (UNEL, CANAE, UoS, DGS, SUS)**

Line(s)	366-367
Amendment	<p>Replace: “Unfortunately, the European community has become a grow-ground for different modes of fascism such as xenophobia and racism.”</p> <p>With: “Unfortunately, the European community has become a grow-ground for different modes of fascism which spread xenophobic and racist ideas.</p>

565 UNEL: The former sentence would imply that “modes of fascism” would be xenophobia and
566 racism but fascist regimes are by definition “any ideology or movement inspired by Italian
567 Fascism, such as German National Socialism; any right-wing nationalist ideology or
568 movement with an authoritarian and hierarchical structure that is fundamentally opposed to
569 democracy and liberalism” (source: dictionary.com). Thus, they often spread xenophobic and
570 racist ideas but xenophobia and racism are not modes of fascism.

571 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions.

572 There are no comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

573
574 Proceed to vote:

575 In favour: 20

576 Against: 0



577 Abstentions: 3

578 **Carried**

579

580

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

Line(s)	423
Amendment	<p>ADD</p> <p>“Usage of technology should be adjusted according to student and school needs. This modern technology should be provided by the school or support for acquiring such technology should be given to students. This ensures that the use of technology is equal and the usage is not connected with the economic background of the student.”</p> <p>AFTER</p> <p>“...modern world”</p>

582 Brendan on behalf of the Board: Use of technology is mentioned in the paragraph but not
583 elaborated in terms of needs to adjust the use to the needs of the school and students. For
584 example, for some VET schools practical work remains a crucial part and the usage of ICT
585 would not necessarily work with specific programs. Secondly, the addition puts emphasis on
586 the responsibility of the school to provide the technology for students or that students get
587 support in getting it. This is in line with removal of hidden costs of education that is an
588 important aspect to notice in this context.

589

590 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

591

592 SUS thinks that this it could not be accomplished in many European countries for financial
593 reasons. Some students cannot afford a personal laptop and perhaps they have to work with
594 school technology devices that don't work properly.

595

596 DGS explains that the amendment says that schools should provide laptop only for those
597 students cannot afford it. The Political Platform should be a document aiming for a better
598 system. Maybe this is not possible now but we have to aim to achieve it in the future.

599

600 FSS says that the Political Platform should be ambitious. It will be weird to do not have this in
601 the Political Platform. Maybe is not possible now, but we should work to achieve it.

602

603 CSU says that in some countries like Czech Republic it would be difficult to achieve. They
604 think that we should make the OBESSU demands in the Political Platform easier to



605 accomplish. We have to discuss within the platform if we want to have a realistic Political
606 Platform or not. They don't agree with a Political Platform too ambitious and not realistic.

607
608 FSS says that we have a workplan to implement the Political Platform and a Political Platform
609 where we state the ideas and views of OBESSU.

610
611 Board says that the idea of this amendment is already stated and it is in line with the Political
612 Platform, when we talk about hidden costs in education. The amendment is meant to
613 complete this part.

614
615 CSU says that since the Workplan puts into practice the Political Platform, this one should be
616 realistic.

617
618 SUS says that you have to think the differences in European countries. How can we choose
619 which students can or can't afford a laptop? It can be a bit arbitrary and discriminating
620 towards some students.

621
622 The chairperson proposes to close the speaking list.

623
624 Proceed to vote:

625 In favour: 15

626 Against: 3

627 Abstentions: 5

628 **List closed**

629
630 USO understands the concerns of some countries. But they think it is quite easy to set
631 different levels between students of low and high income backgrounds.

632
633 AKS says that this is not discriminating but rather a support for the school students.

634
635 UdS says that the idea of this amendment is what OBESSU should aim to. Then each country
636 should decide how to implement it.

637
638 ISSU explains that basically the amendment says: technology for all.

639
640 LMS says that this amendment states that OBESSU is really for free education. One day it will
641 happen and it should be in the Political Platform.

642
643 SLL says that we need to strive for it. For some countries is today for some it will be in the
644 future.

645
646 LH says that if the concern is the difficulty to fairly set the different levels, it is more
647 important to give a laptop to all the students rather than to no one.

648



649 SUS says that right now their country will not be able to provide a laptop to low income
650 students.

651
652 Board says that the Political Platform is meant for putting together the different views and
653 they know that we come from different backgrounds. Moreover, next year OBESSU will have a
654 working group to work more on this topic.

655
656 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

657
658 Proceed to vote:

659 In favour: 22

660 Against: 1

661 Abstentions: 0

662 **Carried**

663

664 The chairperson proposes to change the agenda.

665

666 Whether or not vote on the proposal:

667 Proceed to vote:

668 In favour: 22

669 Against: 0

670 Abstentions: 1

671

672 The actual vote on the proposal:

673 Proceed to vote:

674 In favour: 20

675 Against: 0

676 Abstentions: 3

677 **The change of the agenda is approved.**

678 **Roll Call.**

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

681

682 Now there are 23 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.

683 **20. Discussion and voting on proposals and amendments**

684 **WORKPLAN AMENDMENTS**

685 **Amendment #1 (VET Working Group)**



Line(s)	156
Amendment	ADD <i>Vocational Education and Training 2017</i> The outcome of the event will be that all participants have a clear view of the situation regarding VET (in their own countries as well as in Europe overall), understand why we need VET, understand the downsides of privatization in VET and give a positive image of (and to) VET students. The event will also give the OBESSU participants tools on how to incorporate VET-students better in their organisations' workplans.

686 Jasmina from SAKKI and the VET WG: This event is about giving VET education the attention
687 and respect it needs. The VET education is at crisis all over Europe and it is important for
688 OBESSU to be one of the spokespeople against the budget cuts. The aim of the event is to
689 give everyone a clear image of VET, why it exists and why it is a good thing.

690 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

691
692 CSU really likes the idea but asks for clarifications about the “*downsides of privatisation*”.
693 They give the example of Germany where the VET system works very well.

694 The Working Group explains that the idea of the amendment was not to make look bad
695 privatisation. It was only an example.

696 USO brings an input from his country. They say that In Switzerland it works and they have
697 good relations with private companies.

698 DGS says that it is also good to look at the downsides of privatisation.

699 SVB says that in Germany student activists don't know what the good side of privatisation is.

700 USO says that we should also talk about co-funding and not only privatisation.

701 CSU asks for the meaning of privatisation.

702 The Working Group says that OBESSU is against of privatisation in education.

703 The Chairperson proposes to close the speaking list.

704 In favour: 21

705 Against: 1

706 Abstentions: 1

707 **List closed**

708 CSU asks if the Working Group considers the German VET system part of the privatisation of
709 education.



710 The Working Group replies that right now we are discussing about the creation of an event.
711 The point is that companies should not run the VET system. The Working Group wants to
712 represent the VET students.

713 The Working Group also says that at the next General Assembly the MOs can amend it.

714

715 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

716 Proceed to vote:

717 In favour: 18

718 Against: 1

719 Abstentions: 4

720 **Carried**

721

722

723 **Amendment #2 (SLL)**

Line(s)	188 - 191
Amendment	REPLACE “This working group will analyse the current OBESSU Political Platform to map the outdated parts and the identify relevant issues which are still missing. In addition the Working Group will analyse tools and mechanisms which would enable consistent reviewing of the PP to ensure it is not outdated and continues to serve the platform efficiently. “ WITH “This working group will analyse the current OBESSU Political Platform to map the overlapping themes, shorten it and identify relevant issues that are still missing. In addition the Working Group will come up with tools and mechanisms which will enable consistent reviewing of the PP to ensure it is not outdated and continues to serve the platform efficiently”.

724 SLL: Instead of just mapping out the outdated parts, we feel there is a need for mapping out
725 the overlapping themes and removing or combining them. A shorter and more readable
726 version of the political platform will make the goals and objectives of OBESSU clearer for MOs
727 and Board members.

728 Instead of the working group just analysing and maybe coming up with something, we want
729 to oblige the WG to come up with new, concrete methods for keeping the Political Platform
730 up-to-date.

731 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

732

733 There are no comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.



734
735 Proceed to vote:
736 In favour: 20
737 Against: 0
738 Abstentions: 3
739 **Carried**

740 **DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

741 **Amendment #1 (SLL)**

Line(s)	182
Amendment	DELETE "such as prep teams and Working Groups"

742 SLL: We feel it is important for all OBESSU internal structures to be proactive in investigating
743 new ways of improving their efficacy.

744 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

745

746 UNEL asks the opinion of the Board.

747

748 Board says that they don't have a particular opinion on this amendment. They have just a
749 comment about the paragraph: that part relates to events and in substance the amendment
750 doesn't change the content.

751

752 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

753

754 Proceed to vote:

755 In favour: 11

756 Against: 7

757 Abstentions: 5

758 **Carried**

759

760

761 **Day 2 Sunday 6th of December**

762

763

764 **Roll Call.**

765 AKS, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS, UNL,
766 UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK

767

768 Now there are 21 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.

769



770 The Chairperson opens the second day of the COMEM and introduces a guest.

771 Dominika Koprđova presents herself and why she wants to attend the COMEM.

772 There are no more comments or questions and the Chairperson call the vote.

773

774 Proceed to vote:

775 In favour: 21

776 Against: 0

777 Abstentions: 0

778 **The COMEM allows Dominika to stay in the room.**

779

780 **21. Working Group reports**

781 The Chairperson explains that a member of the WGs will present their work.

782 a) Working Group on the Manual for School Students:

783 Giuseppina from the WG explains the work of the WG throughout the past year and
784 future steps.

785

786 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

787

788 ISSU asks in which languages is the WG planning to translate the Manual.

789 Giuseppina replies that we don't know, but if MOs are willing to translate it, they can contact
790 the WG and they can arrange it.

791 UNL says that they can translate it into French.

792

793 b) Working Group on VET:

794 Four WG members (Rebecca, Blaz, Agnesa and Jasmina) explain the mandate of the
795 WG, future plans and ideas.

796

797 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

798

799 There are no questions or comments.

800

801 c) Working Group Welfare:

802 Oona from the Board explains the work of the WG, past and future activities.

803

804 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:

805

806 SIF asks some clarifications about the case studies and how the WG is working on this.



807
808 Oona says that they have three case studies and to do so they used a questionnaire and
809 direct questions.
810
811 ESCU wants to know which are the main things the WG has done since the Convention in Cluj-
812 Napoca.
813
814 Oona replies that we are finalising the case studies, prepare the next face-to-face meeting in
815 Helsinki, Finland, and of course many things will be done at the next WG meeting.
816
817 Oona tells the MOs that there is an open call for the Monitoring Group on Educational
818 Reforms in Europe. Oona suggests the interested representatives to apply.
819
820 There are no more questions or comments.
821

822 **22. Presentations of Member, Candidate and Affiliate Organisations**
823 **(First part)**

824 The Member and Affiliate Organisation present the latest achievements of their organisations.
825 (Break)

826 **Roll Call.**

827 AKS, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,
828 UDS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK

829
830 Now there are 22 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.
831
832

833 **23. Presentations of Member, Candidate and Affiliate Organisations**
834 **(Second part)**

835 The Member and Affiliate Organisation present the latest achievements of their organisations.

836 **24. Report from the Board about the world cafe outcomes**

837 Giuseppina from the Board presents the outcomes of the **Migrant education** table/policy
838 corner.

839 SVB asks for some clarifications about the point on refugees.

840 Board better explains the point and give some clarifications.



- 841
- 842 Oona from the Board presents the outcomes of the **ICT** table/policy corner.
- 843 ISSU says that they have some concerns about privacy.
- 844 Board replies that they have taken it into consideration.
- 845
- 846 Ruta from the Board presents the outcomes of the **Paris declaration** table/policy corner.
- 847 There are no comments or questions.
- 848
- 849 Brendan from the Board presents the outcomes of the **Entrepreneurship and education**
- 850 table/policy corner.
- 851 There are no comments or questions.
- 852 (Lunch)
- 853 **Roll Call.**
- 854 AKS, CNE, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS,
- 855 UDS, UNL, UNEL, UNSS, USO, VSK
- 856
- 857 Now there are 22 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.
- 858
- 859 **25. Role and responsibilities and tasks of the Board**
- 860 Giuseppina from the Board presents the role and responsibilities and tasks of the Board.
- 861 The Chairperson opens the floor for questions:
- 862 ESCU asks if the Board has a shared online archive to show what they have done during the
- 863 week.
- 864 Board replies that between Board meetings they work on individual tasks. Now they are
- 865 discussing new methods to work together.
- 866 ESCU suggests for example a joined Google doc where you list what each person has done,
- 867 also in order to make positive pressure to the rest of the Board members.
- 868 Board says that they use Google docs on Drive, plus emails and chat conversations. By using
- 869 these means they can check what the rest have done.



870 ISSU suggests that to keep the motivation high, they should maybe have a rotating person to
871 be responsible of the Board for every week.

872 Board says that since it is a voluntary commitment, they don't have working hours. They
873 have set a rotating chairperson for each meeting and a coordinator within the Board who
874 oversees and make sure the tasks are fulfilled between the Board meetings.

875 UNEL asks how to avoid issues during overlapping mandates.

876 Board says that the Board members are using buddy system between new and old Board
877 members to improve the work. For example between Board members with shared portfolios.

878 CSU asks an opinion of having a president.

879 Board replies that they don't believe a president would make the work of the Board better.
880 They prefer to have the same responsibilities within the Board and be on the same level.

881 UNEL asks if the Board uses the Monitoring Committee for help and support.

882 Board replies that they did not do it in the past, apart a few times for clarifications on some
883 documents. They have had contacts with former boardies Dejan and Daniele but now for the
884 Secretary General recruitment also with the MC.

885 Monitoring Committee says that they have done the interviews with the Board members.
886 They are trying to strength and foster the "advising part" of the MC in order for them of
887 having an outside perspective. They can provide trainings to the Board members and they
888 hope the Board members will contact them.

889

890 Giuseppina from the Board explains the second part of the session. MOs have to reflect all
891 together and give inputs on the role and responsibilities of a "general" Board (the "perfect"
892 Board). The inputs are collected on a flipchart paper.

893 Now the delegates are divided into groups and they have to reflect on these inputs.

894 (CNE has to leave and thanks all the delegates for the inspiring experience)

895 Now all the delegates are back in plenary and report on the groups' outcomes.

896 (UNL and USO have to leave and thank all the delegates)

897 Giuseppina from the Board sums up the entire session and commit on behalf of the Board on
898 taking the inputs on board.

899

900



901 **26. Urgent resolutions and motions**

902 There are no urgent resolutions and motions.

903

904 **Roll Call.**

905 AKS, CSU, DGS, DOS, EEO, ESCU, FSS, ISSU, LH, LMS, MAKOSZ, SAKKI, SIF, SLL, SUS, UDS,
906 UNEL, UNSS, VSK

907

908 Now there are 19 MOs with the right to vote and 2 Affiliate Organisations.

909

910 **27. Any other business**

911 Board member Giuseppina updates the COMEM on the Post2015 Agenda process on
912 sustainable development goals. OBESSU is now engaging with Education International and
913 European Students' Union (ESU) in a project to ensure the implementation in Europe. The
914 Board will need inputs from the MOs and in January they will send you a survey. Please be
915 engaged!

916 Secretary General Rasmus says goodbye to the platform because he will soon leave the job.
917 He goes through his entire period in OBESSU starting from his first event and telling good
918 memories and nice experiences to the delegates. He emphasis the good atmosphere in the
919 office, with the Board and in general in the all platform. He thanks everyone in OBESSU,
920 Working Groups, Monitoring Committee and delegates. A big thank you goes to the current
921 and to the previous Board and to the Secretariat members.

922 The current Board and all the delegates say thanks to Rasmus with a video.

923

924 **28. Closing of the COMEM**

925 The Chairperson thanks all the delegates for all the civilised discussions. She is very happy to
926 see OBESSU growing and that there are a lot of super active and motivated school student
927 activists.

928 The Chairperson closes the Council of Members of OBESSU 2015.