

EES 2019 General Meeting

Thursday, 7 November, 2019

Prague Congress Centre

Prague, Czech Republic

Time: 19:00 – 20:00

MINUTES of the General Meeting (GM) of **European Evaluation Society**, an association, having its corporate seat in 's-Gravenhage, and offices at Johannes Vermeerplein 11, 1071 DV Amsterdam, registered with the Trade Register of the 's-Gravenhage Chamber of Commerce under number 40413697, hereinafter to be referred to as the **Association** or the **EES**, held in Maastricht, Netherlands on 7th November 2019.

As Chairperson of the Meeting acted Bastiaan de Laat, President of the EES.

1) Welcome

The Chairperson opened the Meeting and declared:

- that this is an General Meeting held by virtual electronical means, as per the EES' Statutes, Art.16, paragraph 1;
- that in the notice to convene this meeting all issues to be acted upon have been stated, in particular the information on finances and audit report.

The Chairperson introduced other presenters: *Secretary General* – Karin Kohlweg, *Treasurer* – Laura Fantini.

The Chairperson presented the GM Agenda, which was approved by the Meeting.

2) Approval of the General Meeting Minutes 2019

The Secretary General presented the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting, which took place in January 2019 in Prague via virtual means and asked for comments.

- The minutes were unanimously approved by the 2019 General Meeting.

3) President's Annual Report: Main activities 2019

The Chairperson stated on the activities and highlights of the EES in 2019

- 2019 is a non-conference year, several actions were taken by the EES to organize a non-conference event but unfortunately none of the activities were realized at the end.
 - Intention to have a joint conference with the Council of Europe in autumn 2019, but due to funding issues the event was not organized.

- Workshop on evaluation during the IDEAS Conference, that was held in Prague in November, but due to late preparation the workshop was cancelled.
- Luxembourg event was cancelled.
- Preparation EES 2020 Conference in Copenhagen
 - Conference preparation team was introduced. The audience was asked to volunteer to help the conference preparation team with the bursary selection and other activities.
 - Close collaboration with DES in regards with the conference preparations.
 - Call for Abstracts is scheduled to be disseminated before Christmas.

4) **Finances/ Annual accounts 2017 results**

The Treasurer presented the audited results of the 2016 and 2017 Accounts. The figures from the Profit/Loss overview were presented. The audit results are available on the EES website, in the members only area. The 2018 Accounts will be audited in upcoming months, the results will be presented at the next AGM.

The Chairperson promised on behalf of an EES Board to perform better and on time with the presentation of the audited results in future.

The audited financial reports of 2016 and 2017 are considered closed and were adopted unanimously by the 2019 General Meeting.

5) **EES Board elections results**

The Secretary General presented the results of the EES Board member elections for 2020. She thanked to Julia Brümmer, Laura Tagle and Jos Vaessen, the leaving Board members, for their contribution.

57 members voted and participated in the elections. The number of votes for each candidate was presented.

Alena Lappo – 30 votes
Estelle Raimondo – 29 votes
Oto Potluka – 26 votes

Eddah Kanini – 18 votes
Antonina Rishko-Porcescu – 11 votes
Michell Guertin Basak – 11 votes

Vice-President Tom Ling was elected with 50 votes. 6 votes were abstain, 1 vote was against.

Daniele Lamarque will become an EES President as of January 2020. Weronika Felcis, Karin Kohlweg and Laura Fantini will continue as Board members. Bastiaan de Laat will act as a Past president for the next year.

Ananda Millard and May Pettigrew were appointed by the EES Board as co-opted Board members. Laura Tagle will continue as the EES Conference coordinator.

The Secretary General thanked to all members participated in the elections, congratulated to the winning candidates and the other candidates were encouraged to volunteer for EES.

The EES Board member elections results were unanimously adopted by the 2019 General meeting.

6) **Membership**

The Chairperson briefly presented the current Membership status with around 250 members. There are continuous difficulties to keep the membership numbers increasing. Even if the last 2-3 years the communication of EES via social media was very high, this seems to have hardly any impact on membership.

Voluntary Evaluator Peer Review (VEPR) – Introductory Offer of a free VEPR as part of the 2-Year Membership

The offer of the VEPR as 2years membership benefit was presented to the General meeting. The offer needs to be endorsed by the General meeting.

The motion was unanimously adopted by the 2019 General meeting.

DES-EES joint membership – in progress

In view of the upcoming conference and following the experience with the CES, the EES would like to offer a membership discount to DES individual members in the amount of 25% discount on the individual membership fee. The same discount will be offered to EES members for DES individual membership. The negotiations are still in progress.

The general meeting unanimously endorsed that the Board continue in the negotiation with the DES to lead the membership on the same conditions as with the CES.

Discussion:

Laura Tagle asked if there was a similar agreement with the Greek evaluation society. The Chairperson answered that there was no discussion about it at that time. EES will develop this idea with other societies in future. This might be a tool how to attract more members for EES.

Daniele Lamarque commented that southern and eastern national societies should be involved also in the membership cooperation's, and not to focus to the northern countries only.

The Secretary General made a comment that the reason for the DES-EES membership is that the conference is held in Copenhagen in 2020. EES will continue in the discussions to reflect the cooperation always with the society were the conference is held. On the other hand, EES has to take into consideration also costs implications for the society.

The Chairperson added that the aim is mainly to attract new members. In fact, there are not hundreds of people applying for the membership discount. E.g. there are only 10 CES members using the discount based on the CES-EES joint membership memorandum.

Laura Tagle pointed out to be careful with the societies selection not to favor the rich countries only.

7) NEXT AGM

The Secretary General announced that the next AGM is going to take place during the next 2020 EES Conference in Copenhagen. The exact date will be confirmed.

8) AOB

Discussion about the EES membership and membership survey.

The Secretary General proposed to do a small survey among EES members about their interest in EES, EES membership and evaluation community and what the expectations of the EES members to the EES are.

Laura Tagle pointed out that a similar survey was done a couple of years ago by Mariana Branco using interviews with around 50 people. This survey result still has some validity. First to use this material as a starting point in order to decide what to do further and if to continue with the survey.

The Secretary General pointed out that the world is changing, different sources of materials are available on the internet, on the other hand people are also missing relevant information from EES. We have to look at the members who didn't renew the membership and understand and to find out the reasons for not renewing.

Eddah Kanini is asking to organize a webinar to share experience on evaluation. This would be also a tool to attract new members.

The Chairperson closed the meeting.