



## EUROPEAN COUNCIL DISCUSSION MEETING MINUTES Discussion of Resolution Proposals

Friday, Oct. 27, 2023, 14:00-15:30h,  
Convention Center *Messezentrum Klagenfurt*

Designated ID Chairperson	ID Barbara Grewe	MD 111 Germany
Forum President	PID Dr. Walter Zemrosser	MD 114 Austria
Forum General Secretary	Karl Brewi	MD 114 Austria
Forum Archivist & Advisor	PID Miklós Horváth	MD 119 Hungary
Europa Forum Accountant	PID Daniel Isenrich	MD 111 Germany
Forum Vice-President	PID Nicole Miquel-Belaud	MD 103 France
International Director Europe	Pirkko Vihavainen	MD 107 Finland
International Director Europe	Jürg Vogt	MD 102 Switzerland/Liechtenstein
International Director Europe	Marcel Daniels	MD 112 Belgium
International Director Europe	Danyal Kubin	MD 118 Turkey
International Director Europe	Halldor Kristjansson	MD 109 Iceland

Language: Simultaneous Translation

Invited Participants: All Member Countries; one voting representative per member.

1. Call to order;  
Forum President PID Walter Zemrosser calls the meeting to order at 14:00h.
2. Opening by PID Walter Zemrosser, President of the Europa Forum 2023.  
President PID Walter Zemrosser opens the European Council Discussion session by greeting and welcoming all attending executive officers, Europa Forum Member delegates and all the Lions attending.
3. Credentials – Karl Brewi, Forum General Secretary  
Attendance of Member delegates is documented by signature.  
25 member delegates were present, out of a total of 32.
4. **Discussion of Resolution Proposals**  
President PID Walter Zemrosser explains that all 13 Proposals presented at the EC I meeting had been accepted and will now be presented for discussion in the order of the application number.  
President PID Walter Zemrosser opens each Resolution proposal for questions and closes each proposal after discussion.
  - 4.1 **Resolution 1 – 3** concerning the Revision and complete overhaul of the Europa Forum Rules and Procedures Manual.
    - o Resolution 1 Acceptance of the New Europa Forum Manual as per Draft Resolution (annex)
    - o Resolution 2 Acceptance of the New Europa Forum Manual to be composed of two parts
      - part one (modifications) Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Orders and Appendice – to be voted
      - part two history – to be freely upgraded
    - o Resolution 3 Acceptance of the New Europa Forum Manual Entering into Force as from Oct. 28, 2023, immediately after the adjournment of the Klagenfurt Europa Forum, with exceptions as stated in the Application.

- PID Bent Jespersen , MD 106 Denmark: We'd like to propose to have the rules for the LEMC and YAA programs included in the EF Manual as an appendix.
  - PID Miklós Horváth: It is a very good idea, but I would suggest for this EC to consider it at the next board meeting in Bourdeaux; in the meantime, the LRPC will work on it, and we will make a Resolution for the EF in Bordeaux to include it as an appendix to the manual.
- CC Kees Willemse, MD 110 Netherlands: We don't see any guidelines in the manual for a timeframe in terms of when should people submit their application for hosting the event. How long before the EF do proposals have to be submitted?
  - PID Miklós Horváth: The deadline for submitting a proposal to the EC is the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, endorsed by your multiple district convention. And this is in the manual.
- CC Kees Willemse, MD Netherlands: Thank you for that part; but my question actually relates to how many years in advance should a country apply to host the EF; are there any guidelines for this?
  - PID Miklós Horváth: No, somewhere in the annex it is written 5 years in advance, but if we want to plan the future and we have valid proposals for years after the five year period, we will consider them.

No other question, remarks – the discussion to Resolutions 1 – 3 is closed.

#### 4.2 Young Ambassador Award

- **Resolution 4** Changing the Age Limit of the European Young Ambassador Award (motion 1)
- **Resolution 5** Raise of the Price Money of the European Young Ambassador Award (motion 2)
- PID Bent Jespersen, MD 106 Denmark: On behalf of my council chair, to Resolution 5: Who is going to find the sponsors; are we aware of that we are committing the next countries, first Bordeaux and the following hosts; they have to come up with the sponsors.
  - PID Miklós Horváth: In fact the proposal is to raise the price money, and this should be considered in the budget of the forthcoming forums; 2024 Bourdeaux, 2025 Dublin, 2026 Karlsruhe, who must finance it from their budget.
- PID Dieter Van Hoye, MD 112 Belgium, the European coordinator of the YAA: Yes, it goes to the budget of the next forums, but an organization that claims 'the youth is the future' should put it's words together with it's deeds. If every country would for instance save on the one-time use of banners, pins, leaflets, which most of the people throw away, then this is easily funded. We are only asking for a humble amount compared to for instance the music competition and if we cannot agree upon this, it means that for the future, never ever will any price money be raised. This is just an index for cost of living, we do not want to punish the young people for that. So I do hope that all of you will support this; it's just a small amount compared to the whole budget for the forum.
- PID Bent Jespersen, MD 106 Denmark: It is not a question of not supporting the young people. In the manual now § 7 states all cost incurred carrying out the above, including price money of EUR 5,000, the host country may seek sponsors to provide funds for these expenses; so it is not part of the budget, I regret. May be we should consider to make it part of the budget.
  - PID Walter Zemrosser: We know that tomorrow all member countries will vote for or against this resolution. From my point of view as President of the EF Klagenfurt, I'd like to say some words to this: We are in a very new and better situation as organizers of this EF. Last year in Zagreb we decided on a voluntary contribution between 50 Cents and 1 EUR per member and many of you here were so generous to give money in this common account which is administrated by our forum accountant Daniel and so we could be generous in delivering this motion; this is my point of view, but without adding anything to your voting tomorrow.
  - PID Miklós Horváth: The fact to find a sponsor, or sponsoring themselves through the budget, it is the same. For instance in Dublin we heard last year that they don't have sponsors; so if they cannot find the sponsors, it should be in their budget. This just to help you decide tomorrow.
- Andreja Stojkovski, MD 132 Rep. of North Macedonia: We already voted on hosts with their projected budgets; may be, we could amend the resolution thusly; to make this proposal a recommendation for the already decided hosts Bourdeaux, Dublin, Karlsruhe, and make it obligatory starting with the host countries 2027.
  - PID Miklós Horváth: Tomorrow, we can only vote on the Resolution as it currently stands. But the proposal of Denmark concerning the Music Competition and the YAA we take it as a recommendation and we will discuss it in the LRPC next year, and eventually submit it to Bourdeaux next year.
- PID Nicole Miquel-Belaud, MD 103 France: We must have a recommendation, we have already begun to work with the budget, the prices for the rooms are incredibly high; we have to be very careful to not increase all the fees to organize the EF.

- CC Michael Pap, MD 111 Germany: As organizer of EF Karlsruhe, we have already considered this issue and for us it is absolutely no problem and it's absolutely no question that the prices should be increased. We are talking about a very small amount of money in comparison with the sums of the budget of the EF it is a minor problem, and we should really treat it as a minor problem.

No other question, remarks – the discussion to Resolutions 4 – 5 is closed.

4.3 **Resolution 6** - Acceptance of the final financial report of the Europa Forum 2021 Thessaloniki  
No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

4.4 EF 2022 Zagreb D126 Croatia

**Resolution 7** - Acceptance of the minutes of European Council meetings of the EF 2022 Zagreb  
No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

**Resolution 8** - Acceptance of the Final Financial Statement of Europa Forum 2022 Zagreb  
No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

4.5 **Resolution 9** Acceptance of the candidacy to host the Europa Forum 2027 in Venice  
No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

4.6 **Resolution 10** Acceptance of the candidacy to host the Europa Forum 2028 in Budapest  
No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

4.7 **Resolution 11** Application by MD 108 - Italy to EUROPA FORUM 2023

○ The Lions of MD108 ITALY urge the European Council to:

- 1. Take every initiative that is useful and necessary for determining the best possible dissemination in Districts and clubs of themes and initiatives subject of Europa Forums and other international Lions events;
- 2. Take every initiative that is useful and necessary for allowing the largest possible participation of Lions members in said events;
- 3. Take every initiative that is useful and necessary for ensuring, also to Lions members that are not able to attend Europa Forums, the knowledge of what is discussed during said events, as well as the initiatives presented and resolutions passed.

• PDG Aron Bengio of MD 108 Italy reiterates the necessity of this proposal:

This morning we had our session about Internationality of Lions and had the honor to have Patty Hill to hear our discussion. For us the problem in the clubs is - the basic lions do not know what we do in all these international conventions; we must inform them, if we want 1,5 as a goal, it is important that they are able to come to these meetings, not only do service in our little city, every district should be able to go to a meeting, all district governors must have many meetings and disseminate the information to all Lions. We must have Osmosis with two worlds, if 1,5 is a goal, we must be united. Thanks

No questions, remarks, comments, discussion

4.8 **Resolution 12** (Emergency) - Marching Order at the Parade on International Conventions

- PID Bent Jespersen, MD 106 Denmark: Speaking also on behalf of the CC of Scandinavia; it is a good proposal only if it can be accepted that all Scandinavian countries can march as one unit and not be split up in five parts.
- CC Mika Pirttivaara, MD 107 Finland: As Nordic countries, we are marching together at the convention, can we continue that, it is a really important practice for us.  
- PID Walter Zemrosser: We will consider this point and our Archivist and Advisor will complete the Resolution with this addition to be presented for voting tomorrow.

No other question, remarks – the discussion to Resolutions 12 is closed.

4.9 **Resolution 13** - Support of Lions Europe for the 3rd International Vice-President candidate PID Dr. Manoj SHAH, MD 411, Kenya, endorsed by the Executive Officers and the International Board of Directors for the position of International Third Vice President of the Association at the 2024 Melbourne, Australia International Convention. Submitted by PIP Gudrun Yngvadottir as chairperson of the LRPC Europe.

- PID Philippe Soustelle, MD 103 France - CC Philip Farrugia translates:  
Many years ago, I was the president of the Cannes EF; the resolution 13 has never existed before in an EF. The vote always takes place at the International Convention; in order to be in exact conformance with the specifications of the contract documents for the EF, we are asking you to retreat the motion number 13. In order to not set a precedence, and because we are not here to vote for candidates, if the motion is not retreated by you today, we will ask the people who are voting not to vote tomorrow because we do not want to start something, that has never happened before.
  - PID Walter Zemrosser: We understood your discussion point, but could you please tell us where in the rules and procedures for the EF it states that it is not possible to vote on such a resolution?
  - PID Miklós Horváth: It is in fact a premiere, a first time, and what we asked the honorable EC is to consider the support of the candidate endorsed by the executive officers and the board of directors; we don't vote on him; we vote to support him or not, it will depend on you and we have examined in great detail the existing rules and procedures and our proposal doesn't go against it; you can ask legal experts to confirm what I have said. And moreover, our general purposes state that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members. But we are not discussing politics here, democracy versus Republicans and so on; our purpose is to provide a forum for the open discussion of matters of public interest provided however that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by members; this is the general principle based on which eventually this resolution can be discussed, but we are discussing about lions here, about service, and not about politics, and to support a candidate I think is not contrary to the rules. Thank you very much.
  - PID Heimo Potinkara, MD 107 Finland: In Finland, we are thinking to support this resolution; we give our support to Manoj, endorsed by our whole constitutional area. Because we have to respect the executives and the board of directors, and they are evaluating every candidate, and he is the candidate of choice for Melbourne.
  - PDG Andreja Stojkovski, MD 132 Rep. of North Macedonia: Just for clarification: The resolution is to support the decision of the board, and to support the international directors from Europe that sit on the board. We do not support the candidate here, the council votes for the resolution that supports the decision of the board; that's it. It does not create a precedence, and it does not go against the rules. We already spoke about marching as a constitutional area; this is unifying Europe in support of our International Directors and the decision that they took on the board.

No other question, remarks – the discussion to Resolutions 13 is closed.

Forum President PID Walter Zemrosser announces the voting session on Saturday, and closes the discussion session at 14:50h.

Karl Brewi  
Forum General Secretary

PID Walter Zemrosser  
Forum President