

MINUTES YEN General Assembly 2023

Minute Takers: Lara Heisinger (HAK) and Elisabeth Satovich (HAK)

Time	General Assembly of YEN 2023 <i>Oberwart, Austria (hybrid), 6th April 2023, 9.30 am (CET)</i>	
9:44	1.	<p>1. Opening of the General Assembly</p> <p>Opening welcome by Andor Barabás (YEN president) and opening of the General Assembly (GA) at 9.44am (CET).</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) welcomes all delegates, guests and partners of the GA 2023 joining online or in physical attendance. Introduction of the bilingual school in Oberwart/Felsöör/Borta, Austria, where the Easter Seminar took place this week. Andor Barabás (YEN president) thanks the host organization HAK for their efforts made to set up this GA and especially to the director of the school, Ms. Iris Zsotér.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) introduces Ms. Zsotér, followed by FUEN Vice-President Olivia Schubert and AGDM Youth Coordinator Hanna Klein.</p> <p>Iris Zsotér (School Director) greets us warmly and wishes a successful Assembly. Vera Buranits (HAK) gives her a Thank You gift.</p> <p>Greeting from Olivia Schubert (FUEN Vice-President).</p> <p>Hanna Klein (AGDM Youth Coordinator) gives thanks for the invitation and looks forward to the cooperation and work together with YEN.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) explains information required for this GA. He will not go through all the reports but is open for any kind of questions. Democratic procedures and transparency are underlined, everybody present encouraged to be active, critical and ask questions throughout this GA. Further technical information is explained regarding hybrid GA.</p> <p>Information is given regarding interpretation, how to intervene, ask questions or comment during the GA, and data protection (photography).</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) explains voting procedure: every minority in a country, represented by an ordinary member, has 6 votes and if there are more organisations belonging to one minority, the 6 votes of the minority are spread among them. The votes are decided by the simple majority, but the vote on accepting new members and elections of the Board is decided by the absolute majority.</p> <p>New voting system "NemoVote" is introduced. There will be automatically generated protocols of the voting.</p> <p>A short voting test is conducted.</p>

		<p>Test Vote:</p> <p>IS IT SUNNY WHERE YOU ARE?</p> <p>The vote ends and the results are shared via screen sharing.</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>54 yes, 12 no, 12 abstentions.</p>
10:02	2.	<p>2. Establishing of the Quorum – Roll Call.</p> <p>Establishing of which organisations with voting rights are present at this extraordinary GA is carried out using NemoVote. This only applies to ordinary members.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) explains the Roll Call procedure.</p> <p>14 Ordinary Members are signed up for the GA and are listed below with the following number of votes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADJ - 6 2. HAK - 6 3. KSŠŠD - 3 4. Mlada El - 3 5. SdU - 6 6. Pawk - 6 7. GiuRu - 6 8. MOSP - 6 9. CTArm - 6 10. BJDM - 6 11. Rökefloose - 6 12. Kenstroll Breizh - 6 13. MIERT - 6 14. JDR - 6 <p>Extraordinary Members present at the GA: Sumnal.</p> <p>Guests: Olivia Schubert (FUEN), Aaron Jones (Plaid Ifanc), and 1 or 2 representatives from Via Nova with whom YEN has a partnership until the end of 2023.</p> <p>Total votes possible are 144 and the quorum is reached if 72 votes are present.</p> <p>Votes present: (78)</p> <p>Absolute majority: (40)</p> <p>$\frac{2}{3}$ majority: (52)</p>

		<p>Should a quorum not be established, an Extraordinary General Assembly must be organised, which will constitute a quorum in any case.</p> <p>The quorum is established, and the GA can proceed.</p>
10:04	3.	<p>3. Election of the Chair of the General Assembly</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) explains that the next three votes will be based on recommendations of the Board considering the practicality of the further GA.</p> <p>The Board proposes Jakub Schäfer (Pawk) to chair and Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) to co-chair the GA and lead it bilingually.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) opens the floor for other proposals. There are no other proposals for chair. Proceed to the vote.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH LINEA KOPF AND JAKUB SCHÄFER AS CHAIRS OF THE GA 2023?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>Jakub Schäfer (Pawk) and Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) are elected chairs of the GA 2023 (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).</p> <p>Voters are asked to remain online in NemoVote as the GA proceeds to the election of the minute takers.</p>
10:05	4.	<p>4. Election of Two Minute Takers of the General Assembly</p> <p>The Board proposes Lara Heisinger (HAK) and Elisabeth Satovich (HAK) as the minute takers of the GA 2023.</p> <p>There are no other proposals.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH LARA HEISINGER AND ELISABETH SATOVICH AS MINUTE TAKERS?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>Lara Heisinger (HAK) and Elisabeth Satovich (HAK) are elected as minute takers of the GA 2023 (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p>

10:07	5.	<p>5. Election of the Vote Counter of the General Assembly</p> <p>Explanation that all voting is conducted through the system NemoVote. The results will be shown following each vote, so a vote counter is not necessary because we have a protocol after each vote.</p> <p>The chairs explain to the GA that Jenny Browne (YEN) will be guiding and reviewing the voting process on NemoVote and will share her screen so that the voting results are visible to everyone in the room and online.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS PROCEDURE?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The proposed procedure is adopted by the GA (72 yes, 0 no, 6 abstentions).</p>
10:08	6.	<p>6. Adoption of the agenda</p> <p>The floor is opened to any comments on the agenda.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) comments that point 15.5 should be 15.6 and that another point (15.7) should be added in which Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) will ask for the GAs support in his candidature for a position in the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe. Christoph will explain this point further later.</p> <p>Floor is opened to comments on the proposal.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) asks if there are any comments on the agenda? There are no further comments on the agenda from the membership.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH ADOPTING THE PROPOSED AGENDA?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The agenda is adopted (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p>
10:11	7.	<p>7. Adoption of the Minutes of the General Assembly 2022</p> <p>The chairs open the floor for comments regarding the Minutes of the GA 2023.</p> <p>There are no comments from the membership of the GA 2023.</p> <p>The Minutes of the GA 2021 are adopted (78 yes, 0 no, 6 abstentions).</p>

		<p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The minutes are adopted (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p>
<p>10:13</p>	<p>8.</p>	<p>8. Annual Report of YEN 2022/2023</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK) presents slideshow of pictures from YEN events 2022/2023. He explains projects: the Diversity Festival and the Europeada in Kärnten, the Seminar in Hermannstadt with ADJ, the Kick off Seminar in Krushevo with BYCM, the Easter Seminar in Oberwart, and board meetings in Romania and Flensburg, the joining of the European youth conference etc.</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK): Everyone had time to read the detailed reports of the Board, Working Groups, Office, Finance and Internal Audit, which were presented in the AGM folder (English, pp. 13-50 / German, pp. 13-53).</p> <p>Report of the Executive Board, pictures are shown. Office report and the report of the External Representative to the Advisory Council of Youth Pia Slogar (YEN).</p> <p>Chair passes the floor to Secretary General Eva Schubert (YEN) for the report on finances.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General): introduces YEN. Fusion with FUEN. 2022: 2 staff members throughout the year. One position limited, other position unlimited. Issues with finance last year. Arrangement with second staff member not being employed full time. Begin of 2023 project member Jakob Stadler decided to leave YEN, but still supports in some ways. In report the financial situation is unclear, but a second YEN employee is now possible. The position will be open soon. New YEN staff member Jenny Browne is introduced as Rise Up project manager for the next 3 years.</p> <p>Last year's challenges due to financial issues are shared, and optimism for easier future year. Thanks to board members and volunteers for making this possible. Many great ideas in the last year were realized, around 3000 Euros raised, thanks to those who donated to our cause. Two options for budget 2023, because it was unsure whether funding would be received. Voting possible for one budget. After GA 2022 Board members decided that position of Treasurer would go to Christoph Graf. In March 2023 the internal audit of accounts, office reports are in GA folder. Membership fees were sent out to members, numbers did not change much from last year. Understanding that some organisations struggle financially due to the</p>

		<p>pandemic and other causes, some are having issues paying the fees, and this is fully acknowledged and supported by YEN.</p> <p>An email was sent to members to inform about the process of how fees are calculated - based on number of members of organisations. YEN has 3 bank accounts and cash registers. Regulations with these accounts has not changed.</p> <p>YEN received administrative and project funding. Announcement that YEN finally received structural funding from EU, foundation funding from the Council of Europe, the European Youth Foundation and from Germany. Project funding: funding from European Youth Foundation and time to time apply for Erasmus+. Partnership with Erasmus+ horizon project runs for 3 years, covers staff costs and small parts of the projects.</p> <p>Budget proposal: members received in digital form. Budget 2022 and Budget updates on 2023 (was voted on at GA 2022). Budget proposal 2024: still two options in folder, but only the option with the higher number is relevant.</p> <p>The floor is opened to questions. Chair: No questions and comments in audience or online. The agenda continues.</p>
<p>10:32</p>	<p>9.</p>	<p>9. Discussion and discharge of the board</p> <p>9.1 Discussion Chair opens the floor for discussion and any questions or comments are welcomed. All board members or the office can be asked about the respective reports, the finances, the budget or the auditors' report or their work.</p> <p>Comments from the membership:</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SDU): Thanks to the board, under the circumstances they did a very good job.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK): 2023 update. Are no funds coming from Council of Europe? Any relevant update to last years' saying that the Council of Europe is struggling?</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General): There is funding coming from Council of Europe, IYF. Due to Russian federation leaving the council, there is a large sum of money missing from their budget. But other organisations have stepped up and there are an extra 5000 euros from the youth council.</p>

		<p>Currently it doesn't seem to be a problem.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president): Agrees with Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General). When a meeting takes place with the Council of Europe, it is a constant discussion about funding which is a good sign that it's working.</p> <p>The question is settled for Konstantin Vlasich (HAK).</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) thanks the board members on behalf of HAK for their hard work.</p> <p>No further comments from the membership.</p> <p>9.2 Discharge of the Board</p> <p>Vote: DO YOU APPROVE THE REPORTS OF 2022/2023 AND DISCHARGE THE BOARD?</p> <p>Result: The board is discharged (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p> <p>9.3 Approval of the 2024 Budget</p> <p>The preliminary budget for 2024 can be found as a separate attachment. The floor is opened to any questions.</p> <p>No further comments or questions.</p> <p>Vote: DO YOU APPROVE THE PROVISIONAL BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD OF 2024?</p> <p>Result: The proposal is approved (78 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions).</p>
<p>10:43</p>	<p>10.</p>	<p>10. Adopting Resolutions and Statements</p> <p>10.1 YEN Resolutions and Statements</p> <p>Chair: No Resolutions or Statements have been received in the past year. Chair encourages membership to hand in resolutions in the future, especially about matters related to their work. Resolutions are a formal expression of opinion which can be integrated in the work of YEN and a</p>

		<p>tool to advocate on local, regional and European level towards various stakeholders.</p> <p>The floor is opened to further comments.</p> <p>No further comments.</p>
<p>10:44</p>	<p>11.</p>	<p>11. Work Plans of YEN 2023/2024</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU): YEN’s plans and strategic priorities for the period from now until the next GA in Spring 2024 have been put forward in the GA folder.</p> <p>The floor is passed the floor to Andor Barabás (YEN president) to present the YEN work plan 2023/2024.</p> <p>11.1 Work Plan YEN</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president): The mission of YEN continues to be to work for the preservation and development of the rights of national, ethnic, and linguistic minorities with a special focus on young people. To realize YEN’s mission, a new strategy and Work Plan called “Keeping Traditions Alive! Since 2023” was developed during the YEN Board Meeting in the Summer of 2022. It reflects current developments, interests, and opportunities of the YEN membership.</p> <p>At this Easter Seminar the focus is on traditions, and their role and impact on minority communities. Participants came together to address traditions as a tool for representation, community building or as a tool against forced assimilation. They reflected on the advantages that lie in preserving, adapting, adopting, changing, or inventing new traditions to address the needs and wishes of young people, but also to keep minority communities alive and relevant.</p> <p>In the framework of this work plan, YEN will also organise together with VIFO (Hungarians in Serbia) the Autumn Seminar called “Traditions in Transition” in Subotica, Serbia.</p> <p>The Diversity Festival will take place between 24 - 30 July in Trieste, Italy, in cooperation with DM+.</p> <p>Besides these activities, this summer, the Board plans to come together to discuss and create a new strategy for the next 2 years and to plan the celebrations for YEN’s 40th Anniversary.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) opens the floor for any questions regarding the workplans of YEN and Working Groups.</p> <p>11.2 Work Plan WG Member Integration</p> <p>Floor opened to further question or comments.</p> <p>No further questions or comments from the membership.</p>

		<p>11.3 Work Plan WG Communication</p> <p>Floor opened to further question or comments.</p> <p>No further questions or comments from the membership.</p> <p>11.4 Work Plan WG Minority Rights & Politics</p> <p>Floor opened to further question or comments.</p> <p>No further questions or comments from the membership.</p> <p>11.5 Adoption of the Work Plan for 2023/2024</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU ADOPT THE WORK PLANS OF YEN AND THE WORKING GROUPS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023/2024?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The Work Plan 2023/2024 and the Work Plan of the Working Groups have been adopted (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p> <p>11.6 Update on the possibility to move the seat of YEN to Germany</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) passes the floor to Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) to present the suggestion to change the seat of the organisation.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) states that YEN's working office is in Germany and it is a suggestion to move YEN from the Netherlands to Germany, as this would make work easier. Fundings have been contacted to figure out if it is possible.</p> <p>The last update: it's not possible for a non-profit organisation to move countries while keeping the identity of the organisation, so no action can currently be proposed.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) says that she will continue to find out more information on that topic and talk to lawyers and the European Forum. She hopes for a solution at next year's GA.</p> <p>Clarification that YEN having its seat in the Netherlands is not a huge problem, however it would of course be easier to be registered in Germany.</p> <p>The chair opens the floor for comments or questions on the topic.</p> <p>No further questions from the membership.</p>
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10:53	12.	<p>12. Membership</p> <p>12.1 Presentation of candidates for extraordinary membership</p> <p>Chairs inform membership that the Board has not received any application for Extraordinary Membership.</p> <p>12.2 Presentation of Candidates for Ordinary Membership</p> <p>Chairs inform the membership that the Board has not received any application for Ordinary Membership.</p> <p>12.3 Information on the current situation of supporting memberships.</p> <p>Chairs remind the membership of the current situation of the supporting memberships which can be found in the GA folder on page 66 in the English version, and on page 73 in the German version.</p> <p>The floor is opened for questions regarding the current situation of the supporting memberships.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) adds that one can be a supporting individual instead of a member, who receive information and pay a small fee, which is used to finance organisations who are not financially able to attend events.</p> <p>No further comments from the membership.</p> <p>12.4 Voting on candidates for membership</p> <p>Chairs announce that they have not received any applications for this at the GA 2023, and move on to the next point on the agenda.</p> <p>12.5 Discussion and vote on changes to the membership of inactive MOs</p> <p>The chair passes the floor to Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) for this point on the agenda.</p> <p>Linea explains that YEN currently has nine sleeping member organisations. "Sleeping" is a working term (not regulated in our Statutes or RoP) which means that an MO is not sending participants to YEN seminars or responding to our communication. As soon as an MO becomes active again and sends participants to our seminars they are no longer considered sleeping. If an MO is considered sleeping, we increase our effort to reconnect with them.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) lists the sleeping member organisations together with their membership status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alsace-Lorraine Volksbund Youth Group (Extraordinary Membership) • GML - Grup dla mendranza ladina (Extraordinary Membership) • KDZ - Slovenes in Austria (Extraordinary Membership)
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MISZSZ - Union of Hungarian Youth Organisations of Romania (Extraordinary Membership) • MGHFE - Burgenland Croats (Extraordinary Membership) • DJU - Germans in Ukraine (Extraordinary Membership) <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) explains that furthermore, YEN currently has four Member Organisations with the status of Ordinary Membership that are not paying the Membership fee for at least two years. Due to their membership status and voting rights, their inactivity can represent a problem for YEN when it comes to reaching the quorum at the General Assembly.</p> <p>According to our Statutes: §8.4 All members shall be required to pay membership fees of an amount to be fixed in the Rules of Procedure. If so requested, members shall furnish evidence to the General Assembly that they have made such a payment. If an ordinary member does not pay its membership fee without any reasoning two consecutive years, it shall be downgraded to extraordinary member.</p> <p>Extraordinary members are invited to YEN events and its General Assembly, their members can run for Board or working group positions, but they do not have voting rights at the General Assembly and pay a lower membership fee.</p> <p>The following Ordinary Members have not paid their membership fee for over 2 years: CroV - Croats in Vojvodina Lunjina - Aromanians in Serbia MIERT - Hungarians in Romania VYCA - Aromanians in Albania</p> <p>At the General Assembly 2022, a proposal to downgrade the named Member Organisations to Extraordinary Members was made. After that, the Board reached out to the four member organisations multiple times. Since December 2022, multiple emails were sent to get updates about them, their challenges and financial situation especially regarding the membership fees. In December 2022, three options were presented to the MOs with information about what the new status would include. The options were the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deletion or reduction of the fee 2. Request for the GA to downgrade to extraordinary members 3. Request to change status to inactive MO's (Clarification: according to YEN's RoP a Member Organisation can send a request to change their status to inactive with reasons why. If the board agrees on it, the MO still receives all the information about YEN and its activity but won't pay a membership fee. The organisation can send a request anytime to change their status back to the old membership. <p>The latest date for a reply was the 31st of January 2023. Lunjina was the</p>
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	<p>only organisation to answer before the deadline.</p> <p>On the 20th of February a reminder was sent to MIERT, CroV and VYCA. The new deadline for their answer was extended to the YEN GA 2023 on 6th of April. There the Board would propose to downgrade the member organisations to extraordinary members if they had still not replied. MIERT answered.</p> <p>A final email was sent to VYCA and CroV on the 2nd April 2023 to give them one more chance to decide on an outcome.</p> <p>Outcomes are as follows: Lunjina - wish to change their status to inactive members of YEN. YEN are in the process of making this happen.</p> <p>MIERT - asked to pay the membership fee later, which the Board agreed to accept. MIERT will therefore not be downgraded to an extraordinary member.</p> <p>VYCA - according to the absence of an answer and YEN's Rules of Procedure, the Board proposes to vote on downgrading the organisation to the status of extraordinary membership.</p> <p>CROV - according to the absence of an answer and YEN's Rules of Procedure, the Board proposes to vote on downgrading the organisation to the status of extraordinary membership.</p> <p>Chair opens the floor to any questions or comments.</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) thanks the Board for understanding that MIERT will pay the membership later.</p> <p>No further requests to speak.</p> <p>Vote: Do you agree to downgrade the status of the Member Organisations as proposed?</p> <p>Result: The proposal is approved (54 yes, 12 no, 12 abstentions).</p> <p>12.6 Presentation of Partnerships</p> <p>The Chairs give the floor to Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) to present this point.</p> <p>Felicia explains YEN's partnership with Via Nova which runs until the end of 2023.</p> <p>She talks about her visited to Via Nova in June 2022 while they were hosting an Erasmus + project, and her positive experience being hosted by</p>
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	<p>them, being shown their Academy (which is a great place to host seminars). Via Nova explained the situation in Slovakia which can be read in the YEN Study Visits report.</p> <p>Felicia hands the floor to the representative of Via Nova, Morva Matyas.</p> <p>Morva Matyas (Via Nova) thanks YEN and Felicia for the opportunity. Matyas states that he is representing his organisation (Hungarian minority in Slovakia) and that he enjoys attending the YEN seminars. His only previous participation was in the online GA in 2021. Matyas explains that Via Nova has a lot of younger members believes it would be beneficial for their members to attend the seminar. He talks about the positivity of shared experiences and a space to discuss problems and to visit various places to practice the languages. He thanks the Board, especially Felicia for visiting and states that information can be found on page 35 in the GA map. He adds that Felicia understood their issues and communicated it in a precise way. He hopes for a continued partnership in the future.</p> <p>Felicia thanks Matyas Morva for being present and active and sharing his kind words.</p> <p>Matyas Morva (Via Nova) invites the membership and GA guests to Via Nova’s festival this summer and hopes they can join.</p> <p>Felicia adds that she recommends visiting Via Nova, and that it is always nice to support each other.</p> <p>The chairs open the floor to any further questions or comments on the matter.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) adds that during this one year partnership, YEN and the organisation can get to know each other and if interested, they can apply for extraordinary membership at next year’s GA.</p> <p>There are no further questions or comments. The discussion ends.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>DO YOU AGREE WITH THE PARTNERSHIP SIGNED WITH VIA NOVA FOR THE YEAR 2023?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The proposal is approved (63 yes, 12 no, 3 abstentions).</p>
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<p>11:19</p>	<p>13.</p>	<p>13. YEN Code of Conduct</p> <p>The Chairs give the floor to Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) who will continue with the next point in the agenda.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) explains how YEN have been in a process to establish a code of conduct to follow at all YEN events.</p> <p>The definition of a code of conduct is an agreement on rules of behavior for a group or organisation. This is a set of conventional principles, expectations that the members of the group or organisation must follow.</p> <p>She explains that the Code of Conduct aims to protect participants at YEN events and create a positive, safe environment, to raise awareness regarding our values/ values of YEN and to have a way to address problematic behavior and know how to react to it.</p> <p>She states that creating a Code of Conduct concerns everyone, thus inputs and ideas were gathered to create a draft (this can be found in the appendix of the GA folder). The feedback has been gathered from last year's GA and at the Kick off seminar.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) thanks everyone for their feedback and participation in this process, and announces that it is in the stage of being finalized. The next step is the final decision on the wording, before work begins on the design its presentation. A checklist will be created to select contact persons and a "How to act" for contact persons & support YEN Board and staff to be able to fit this role.</p> <p>Felicia asks if there are any ideas from the membership on what changes should be made to the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) has printed the code of conduct in English and German and copies are passed around the room. Everyone is invited to make notes and afterwards mention the changes they would like to see by stating the line. The membership is given a few minutes to think about it.</p> <p>Felicia opens the floor to ask if anyone has any ideas for changes.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK): Request to change "team members / Vorstandsmitglieder" to include participants and board members for clarity in line 6 ENG/114 DE.</p> <p>The preliminary change is made.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK): Points out a spelling error in line 223.</p> <p>The preliminary change is made.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) asks the membership for any further ideas or changes.</p>
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	<p>Nelli Artes (JDR): Requests clarification for line 166 in the German translation – “nicht wertend sein”.</p> <p>Eva Schubert proposes the new wording “nicht verurteilend”.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) opens the floor to further suggestions.</p> <p>There are no further comments from the membership.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) summarizes the official amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Line 6: add “board”: This Code of Conduct aims to support YEN’s work and applies to all participants, board and team members... - Line 114: add „Vorstands-“: Dieser Code of Conduct soll die Arbeit der JEV unterstützen und gilt für alle Teilnehmer*innen, Vorstands- und Teammitglieder... - Line 166: change to „Nicht verurteilend sein“ - Line 223: complete the German sentence „Jede geschädigte Person hat das individuelle Recht, rechtliche Schritte einzuleiten“ <p>(see appendix)</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) adds that she has been to many YEN seminars, and she finds it very important to vote on the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Vote: DO YOU AGREE TO ACCEPT THE CODE OF CONDUCT AS DISCUSSED?</p> <p>Result: The Code of Conduct is accepted (78 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p>
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<p>11:39</p>	<p>14.</p>	<p>14. Relations between YEN and FUEN</p> <p>The chairs give the floor to Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) to moderate this part of the agenda, who has chosen to moderate this section as it involves the YEN board members and their work with FUEN, but also involves YEN’s member organisation Pawk.</p> <p>She begins with an introduction to the relations between YEN and FUEN and requests that if there are questions may the membership raise their hand. She continues that afterwards will follow a discussion relating to a point that was made as to whether YEN president Andor Barabás should continue to attend the FUEN presidium. Then the plenum will be open to ideas of what the future relationship between YEN and FUEN should look like.</p> <p>A speaker list is introduced, so whoever wants to speak can be noted down in running order.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) continues with background information: FUEN and YEN share a lot of history. For almost 40 years, FUEN had a youth section, but they decided to have an independent youth organisation so YEN was founded. YEN is a member of FUEN but YEN does not have a normal membership. YEN’s role is that the president of YEN is part of the board in FUEN. YEN’s work is independent without any influence from FUEN.</p> <p>Settings where we are connected: funding, but even there we have our own communications and handle our own budget and report.</p> <p>Eva continues to share the events of the FUEN Congress 2022: there was an urgent resolution handed in with the main point of voicing concern over the state of democracy in Hungary – first from the German “Minderheitensekretariat” which is not a member of FUEN and therefore could not hand in resolutions and then from Domowina (which is a member of FUEN and forms part of the Minderheitensekretariat)</p> <p>The resolution was then not voted on in the congress, but it was agreed to have a discussion about it. This was then abruptly cut short by FUEN president Loránt Vincze who praised Hungary and its protection of minorities. Many organisations in the audience felt this was not an appropriate end to the discussion and that it cut the needed debate short before everyone could voice their opinion. There was however no open rejection to the end of the debate.</p> <p>FUEN receives funding from Hungary and the president of FUEN Loránt Vincze is part of Hungarians in Romania. YEN’s president Andor Barabas has been working for Loránt Vincze since June 2022.</p> <p>In the follow up of the FUEN congress YENs member organisation PAWK</p>
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	<p>send an open letter to the YEN Board and all YEN member organisations.</p> <p>There they voiced their discomfort with how the discussion at the FUEN congress was handled and also voicing the issue that as Andor is working for Lorant Vincze they are afraid that he cannot act independently in the FUEN presidium and therefore cannot represent the interests of young people from minorities there.</p> <p>Eva reads quote from letter: <i>“We therefore demand the resignation of the YEN President from his position in the FUEN Presidium. In addition, we ask the YEN Board to take a stand on this.”</i></p> <p>The YEN board clarified with PAWK that they do not mean that Andor should stop being YEN president, but that their demand only relates to his position in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>Another YEN member organisations SdU, replied also saying they are worried about the situation of dependency between Andor and Lorant. They also mentioned that they see the representation of the interests of the youth in the FUEN Presidium as an elementary task of the work of the YEN and wondered what options YEN has here. They asked to discuss and weigh up the problem intensively and in a solution-oriented way.</p> <p>The YEN Board replied in December 2022 that they do not agree with how the discussion was handled at the FUEN congress and it did not follow the democratic standards were not upheld.</p> <p>In the letter the relation between YEN and FUEN was explained and mentioned the long partnership between YEN and FUEN.</p> <p>The YEN Board explained in their letter: <i>“We, as YEN Board, acknowledge that there is a dependency between Andor and Loránt and that we don’t know how it will develop in the future. But we believe that in the past Andor was able to be an advocate for youth-related issues within the FUEN Presidium. He has proven to us that he is able to separate his work relationship from his volunteering one. Also, we believe that this topic needs to be further discussed by YENs General Assembly to allow more Member Organisations to give their input.”</i></p> <p>The YEN Board decided that until the GA further discusses and decides on this point Andor should remain in the FUEN presidium under certain conditions:</p> <p><i>“In order to ensure that Andor’s working relationship with Loránt does not impact his work in the FUEN Presidium, the YEN Board will meet before all future FUEN Presidium meetings where we will discuss the agenda together and develop a common position that will be communicated by Andor during the FUEN Presidium meetings. “</i></p>
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	<p>Eva explains that the Board saw it as important that this topic is discussed with a larger audience, hence this point on the agenda at the GA 2023.</p> <p>The floor is opened to discussion.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) asks how the Board informs all member organisations about what they have voted on so that such situations do not arise later.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) explains the regular procedure that is taken, a short list with added info, so that any organisation that wants to see the minutes, can do so.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) asks how has the funding from the Hungarian government and related organisations affected FUEN.</p> <p>Andor (YEN president) explains that the funding helped FUEN greatly as an organisation in terms of what they could achieve, but as he is not managing the finances of FUEN he cannot completely answer this question. YEN did not receive any money from this source.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) expresses his anger at the choice of words by FUEN president, and YEN not using their voice to question the situation. He sees YEN's position as weakened because Andor works with Loránt Vincze – hence this proposal needs to be discussed.</p> <p>Andor replies that the way in which the situation was handled was clear. The reaction from the Board and Pawk – this will be taken seriously and. He continues what when he took the decision to work for Loránt Vincze it was discussed with the YEN board. Andor believes that after the FUEN congress other people should have stood up, and that it shouldn't all be on him. It's not fair that discussion was cut short. Andor states that as YEN president he is only as strong as the YEN board and MOs give him the power to be and would very much appreciate their input. Andor also states there is no evidence that they voted against the interests or YEN.</p> <p>Eva suggests continuing and to save the discussion for later.</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) asks that YEN think about their relationship to FUEN, how YEN depends on it, and that the Board is only as strong as its members. He thinks the discussion should be based on the FUEN congress, because YEN is not FUEN. YEN should focus on what YEN wants and communicate with FUEN. Christoph encourages the members to share on how the YEN Board should communicate with FUEN.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) provides more background info, that according to the current statue of FUEN only the YEN president can join</p>
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	<p>the FUEN board. It used to be the case that any YEN member could join the FUEN board. She sees the possibility of YEN asking FUEN to change their statutes at the next congress about how YEN can be represented in the FUEN presidium. This will be brought up at the next congress in October, aiming to give more freedom in choosing who can join the FUEN board. Additionally, she explains that YEN and FUEN office members share space and see each other often.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) asks Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) whether he would prefer Andor Barabás (YEN President) to step down from the FUEN presidium, or another solution.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) agrees that it is a good decision to discuss the YEN and FUEN relations and how we should react to this situation. He adds that it would be an important step to maintain this strength and independence in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) explains that this has been discussed within the Board, and that no matter what the outcome of the discussion, YEN would like to submit a change to the statutes, so that in the future this dependent relationship is not endangered. YEN want to maintain this freedom to decide, and what that will mean in concrete terms is that it requires a permanent person to do this.</p> <p>Sebastian Arion (ADJ) asks Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) whether he wants Andor Barabás (YEN president) to step down as president. He expresses concern at what will happen if YEN lose the vote in FUEN, and that Andor is still YEN president for one more year.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) clarifies that he does not want Andor to resign as YEN president, rather that YEN want to see change in the FUEN constitution and not that we will lose a vote.</p> <p>David Ressmann (KSŠŠD) thanks Pawk for discussing this topic openly. He believes it's a pity that it didn't happen earlier on the Board's part. He shares further concerns about how transparent the process can be when Andor discusses only with the Board what is being negotiated and what comes out of it.</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) adds that Jakob Schäfer's (Pawk) proposal was to change the representative. She understands that YEN wants to ensure its independence and adds changing the representative in FUEN to someone else would be the opposite of what should be shown to FUEN. It looks as though YEN doesn't trust its president.</p> <p>It is important to emphasize this opinion to ensure that Andor Barabás (YEN president) will represent the organisation. There is no need to change the statue of FUEN, the question is rather of what the organisation wants to be.</p>
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		<p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) says it is about clarification, not about proposing to change the statutes of FUEN now, but in the future. From the FUEN congress onwards we can decide who goes there.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) explains that he initially understood this as Pawk suggesting he should step down as president, but what is now being suggested is that YEN wants to propose to change the statutes of FUEN.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) wants to accept the Board's proposal to ask FUEN to change the statutes, and until then have the YEN Board discuss the agenda points of FUEN presidium meetings in advance. He expresses confidence in the YEN president.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) agrees with Jakob Schäfer (Pawk), suggesting YEN use this discussion to get input and Andor's trust to represent him. The moral dilemma is that changing the statutes is a self-protection to avoid such situations in the first place. It is not because we didn't trust Andor at any point.</p> <p>Mads Lautsen (SdU) states that it is not a sign of weakness if YEN don't send their president to FUEN, but it shows that you are broadly positioned and not to do with trust/not trust, but with bias.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) states that Andor Barabás always tries to voice everything to the members, and testifies this. It is not only about Andor but also our position with FUEN in general, and we can always improve how we share information. We are part of YEN to be critical, discuss and raise our voice, and should see this as an opportunity to improve our communication and how to be stronger together.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) thanks Pawk, agreeing that it is good to make the motion to change the statutes of FUEN. However, she states we are in the here and now and she would personally still like to see a solution until such changes take effect. It is important that it is discussed now and not in the future. She adds that it would be good if Andor Barabás did not continue in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK): It is not so much the question of what Andor's role should be, but how far a YEN President can be / wants to be part of President FUEN's board. Konstantin finds the statements by FUEN president Loránt Vincze reprehensible and asks how YEN can support someone who has such anti-democratic views and rejects facts. YEN should not just retreat on personal.</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK) states that as a board we are supposed to communicate what has happened and the communication channel with member organisations has not worked as well as it should. Often there is no feedback from member organisations, but it is understandable because</p>
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	<p>capacities are very limited. He thanks everyone for this discussion because the GA is an important tool and shows that it should become a central instrument to discuss such concerns and then decide on something.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Paw): If the YEN board discusses what will be discussed in FUEN presidium meetings together with Andor Barabás (YEN president) it is a position of strength. We trust our president Andor, but we want to take the moral pressure off him. The problem is, if Andor does not continue being part of the FUEN presidium before we submit the motion to change the statutes of FUEN (and therefore can have another YEN representative join), that is also a dilemma. We want to end the dependency between Loránt Vincze and the YEN representative in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) states that the YEN Board wants to find a solution for the next year but believes there are other solutions without Andor Barabás (YEN president) having to step back from his position in the FUEN presidium. We are eager to work on this and make changes and be transparent to the member organisations.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) asks if the YEN board ever wrote a statement/letter to FUEN regarding the problematic statements from the FUEN president (especially about the FUEN congress)?</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president): Officially there was no statement in written form regarding FUEN. He does not agree on how the discussion was cut short. We should say our opinion, but we need to talk about it in depth and need a common effort on what we don't agree and want to change. Andor states that in his opinion Loránt Vincze is a democratic elected member of the European Parliament and FUEN. If these interviews happened and are so problematic, why didn't YEN talk about it before he was elected as FUEN president. The interview Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) referred to was filmed in Hungary, and yes there are problematic statements but they were not addressed before.</p> <p>There are also other topics FUEN recognized as problematic and wants to change in the future, such as that it is possible that a working group of FUEN is not represented in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>He also adds, that YEN does not have a framework for how its voluntary elected representatives should act in such a situation, it does not forbid him to be employed by someone from FUEN. Andor adds that he said that for him it was an opportunity to work in the European Parliament and he took it.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU): It is important for us that there are people in the working groups/Board so we can work on solutions together.</p>
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		<p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) says that there were critical voices before the election of the FUEN president, and that it is important that there is a strong YEN voice in the FUEN presidium. We want to take away this moral dilemma from Andor Barabás (YEN president) so that we can have a strong democratic and independent voice in the FUEN presidium.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) adds that leaders should still be criticized even after they are elected.</p> <p>David Ressmann (KSŠŠD): The question is how much can be discussed (before a FUEN presidium meeting), and how fast is the exchange? It is not possible to discuss everything immediately for practical reasons, but this requires the Board's trust. It is only one opinion in the FUEN presidium. There was a vote regarding Loránt Vincze, which Andor Barabás (YEN president) also supported. David supports Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) in her view that there has to be a solution now on a political level but also in relation to our voice as an independent youth organisations.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) thinks it is important for YEN to keep in mind that Andor Barabás (YEN president) meets with Loránt Vincze regularly. Criticism of the FUEN president's views seem to be shot down from the FUEN presidium. Loránt Vincze makes statements that we cannot agree with. In reference to FUEN's budget in 2021 (464,000 Euros came from the Gabor Hungarian Foundation and about the same amount from the German Ministry of the Interior), so a large part of the budget comes from Hungary, which the FUEN president has to defend in public and takes as a kind of hush money from Hungary.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) answers that until now we didn't have a vote that was against the interests of YEN and wishes everyone to understand that he would vote in YEN's interest. He still feels empowered and able to do so. He would be happy to send out message about FUENs work to all member organisations and discuss it with everyone. He clarifies that he wants to represent YEN in the FUEN presidium, but if you want me (Andor) to step out of the FUEN presidium, I want to know your ideas on how to continue YENs relation with FUEN. He also asks Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) as to what statements the FUEN president made.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) answers with statement by Loránt Vincze from a South Tyrolean newspaper to the Mittel Deutsche Rundfunk, that Vincze stated that it would be ungrateful if FUEN criticized Hungary. Konstantin Vlasich asks if this means that FUEN takes the money but we don't criticise the Hungarian democracy? Konstantin adds that he doesn't know if the rest of FUEN thinks in these contexts. Konstantin suggests the possibility of YEN formulating an open letter.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk): We have sent our letter to the whole organisation</p>
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	<p>(YEN) so that everyone knows about the demands, and which statements made us angry. As the EU parliament has made a statement that Hungary is approaching an authoritarian state, such issues must also be critically reflected and acted on by YEN.</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) is from the same organisation as the FUEN president. She feels it is unclear whether Andor Barabás (YEN president) should step down from his position because of the statements from Vincze or because of FUEN's funding from Hungary. She understands the main arguments and criticism feels a discrepancy in the logic - why should Andor step down because of statements from Vincze? It doesn't matter if the Hungarian parliament is right/left wing, there are 5 million Hungarians in Europe (living as minorities in other countries) and the Hungarian state should support them by all means. They should use all the money the Hungarian government is willing to spend on minorities. Dora Szilagyi (MERT) can't see how you can show independency and strength in an organisation if you just choose to say goodbye to the YEN president because you don't agree with the statements from the FUEN president. She asks if she has been understood correctly.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk): The FUEN President's statements are one point, another is how we react to them. This is done by Andor Barabás (YEN president), but because Andor is employed by Loránt Vincze, he cannot act independently. We want to free him from this moral dilemma - that's the reason for this discussion. He also again criticizes how the discussion about Hungary was cut short at the FUEN congress. Jakob adds that he doesn't understand Dora Szilagyi's (MIERT) point – he sees the independence of FUEN endangered by accepting money from Hungary.</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SdU): Agrees with Jakob entirely. The problem with the FUEN congress was how the discussion was handled. He proposes for YEN to propose a change in the statutes of FUEN to leave it up to the FUEN assembly of delegates. It's not about Andor Barabás (YEN president), it's about bias that exists.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) mentions that not many new points are being raised, and suggests closing the speaker list shortly, to then presenting what should happen in terms of voting, have a lunch break, and then proceed to voting.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) asks to change his speaker position to the last position. Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) states that this is not possible.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) reiterates his point: a Hungarian foundation is buying into FUEN and the FUEN president doesn't dare criticise Hungary. YEN is part of FUEN and YEN cannot condone Loránt Vincze's statements. When money comes from Hungary, criticism does not seem to be appropriate because it damages FUEN's image. Loránt Vincze at the helm of FUEN is the big problem, irrespective of Andor's employment.</p>
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		<p>Konstantin asks whether YEN can take a position on the FUEN president and express distrust towards him.</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) agrees that it is questionable that Andor Barabás (YEN president) is working for Loránt Vincze. She asks if there is any proof or an example of when he was in a position where he couldn't formulate any opinion.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) states that YEN did not see any direct situation but that we cannot be sure how it will continue in the future (as stated by the YEN Board's letter in December 2022), hence why we are discussing this.</p> <p>Olivia Schubert (FUEN) praises the YEN GA 2023 and wishes there was such a culture of dispute in other organisations. She adds that as far as the Hungarian organisations are concerned, she thinks the problem is that there are only two big supporters in FUEN. There are 100 member organisations and before Hungary joined as supporter there was one supporter, so countries were constantly asked to support, and nothing ever happened. She says she wishes the funding was more diverse and balanced so that it is not left to just depend on two, and that the decisions that are made by FUEN are decisions of all member organisations. She explains that when she was in the presidium, they committed to the core values and sent them to the media. She thinks it's great that so many countries have spoken out, but you must think about whether only individuals or the whole organisation is being asked. She believes the importance of YEN being in the FUEN presidium, and that young people should be heard.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) opens the floor to the plenum to react to the statement from the FUEN presidium member Olivia Schubert. <i>(FYI, Eva Schubert and Olivia Schubert are not related).</i></p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president): We have gathered positions in this regard, we have some solutions, and we must work together on this.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) explains that during the lunch break the YEN Board will write up a short summary and work on a vote with which the YEN GA can then later deciding whether Andor Barabás (YEN president) should stay in the FUEN presidium.</p>
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Lunch break: 13:30-14:30

14:30	14.	<p>14. Relations between YEN and FUEN (continued)</p> <p>The YEN Board and office wait for everyone to return to the GA to ensure that a quorum can still be established.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) explains the vote on Andor Barabás (YEN president) staying in the FUEN presidium under the circumstances the board decided in December 2022. If the majority will vote no, then further steps will be decided upon afterwards, keeping in mind that currently only the YEN president can be part of the FUEN presidium and that no one will be able to represent YEN in the FUEN presidium at the moment.</p> <p>Following this we will debate about the general YEN-FUEN relations. Here the proposal is for the GA to decide whether we should propose statute changes for FUEN at their next Assembly of Delegates.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu): In relation to what Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) said earlier, we must consider how much say do we really have and how much does the FUEN really need us. Do we actually have representation?</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU): First comes the vote and after it will be discussed how YEN continues to act with FUEN.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) confirms that the discussion has already ended and now it is time to vote.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Should Andor Barabás as president of YEN continue to take part in the FUEN presidium meetings under the regulations set up by the YEN Board in December 2022?</p> <p>These regulations are that the YEN Board discusses the agenda of FUEN presidium meetings and forms a common opinion in advance, which the YEN president needs to follow.</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The proposal is not approved (36 yes, 42 no, 0 abstentions)</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN President): So, you don't want me to continue to be in the FUEN presidium? Okay, let's see what the next steps are.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) states that the decision that has been voted upon was that the membership no longer want Andor in the</p>
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	<p>FUEN presidium. The next step is to decide how YEN wants to interact with FUEN.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) enquires as to the question of whether YEN want to change the statutes. Do YEN want that to be presented and the statutes changed so that YEN can have a representative in the FUEN presidium who has no conflict of interest.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) asks the membership for input as to how they would like to move forward, also in terms of statutes of FUEN.</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SdU): This is an interesting situation and YEN officially still is in the FUEN presidium. Andor would still get the invitation with agenda items, so that the Board can send in comments on it.</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) adds that is very contradictory points if YEN want to change the statutes or if YEN want representation in the presidium at all. He says that this is a difficult situation for the board and would appreciate additional suggestions.</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SdU) doesn't think it should be interpreted that YEN doesn't want to have any connection with FUEN at all.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK): It's not always the easiest decisions that we make here, but this is a burden that YEN relieves Andor of. Did we make the decision because we don't want to put Andor in a bind or because we don't support the position of the FUEN?</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) is disappointed about this situation and believes that it was a rushed decision and that we have sabotaged ourselves. Now YEN has no representation in FUEN.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) expresses his disappointment and feels mistrusted as YEN president. What are the motivations? How will we move forward? The vote is clear but what about other solutions? How will YEN be represented in FUEN? He wants to know what the proposal is in order to move forward.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) is surprised by the result. It was made clear in the discussion that Jakob was happy with Andor in the FUEN given the regulation set up by the YEN board, and he is curious as to how this will now be resolved. This is a stalemate.</p> <p>Louis Albert Becker (Kenstroll Breizh) adds that this is an important time for YEN and more time is needed to reflect. The question is what is the</p>
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	<p>representation of YEN and what do we want for YEN? Not all YEN members are here so this needs time.</p> <p>Sebastian Arion (ADJ) adds that the vote was lost, and that maybe no one will take it/us seriously. It may be that we will not work together with FUEN for the next two years.</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN): The vote is closed. We can't change it. YEN should still ask for the FUEN statutes to be changed, but YEN can't make any promises about what will come out in the end.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) refers back to Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) and rejects the idea of this being an "emotional decision", adding that some people have been thinking about it for a long time. They have also thought about the consequences and want to set a sign. We have to decide clearly what we want to tell FUEN, that's an important point - it's also good for FUEN to see that we don't let them do everything and that we have a say in it.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) offers further options, for example contacting FUEN to say that the GA doesn't want the current YEN president in the YEN presidium (that it does not mean, they want no representation in FUEN at all), but YEN still wants to be working together.</p> <p>David Ressmann (KSSSD): If a person in the FUEN presidium is employed by another person in the FUEN presidium, questions need to be asked: like what are the problems? How can we proceed? How can we change the statutes, to prevent this? all need to be asked. If YEN's voice is important to FUEN they will take this into account.</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SdU) we have to clarify that it is one thing that we want to make a statement, and that it is another thing about Andor being in the FUEN presidium and working for the FUEN president and they have nothing to do with each other.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) voices his support for Louis Albert Becker (Kenstroll Breizh), that it is time to reflect, that this decision is not too emotional. It is about YENs representation in FUEN and it is a bold decision. If FUEN wants young people's voices being represented, YEN will not accept that at every price. YEN are not so close to FUEN, and there are a lot of people who do not feel represented by FUEN in the first place.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) disagrees that a solution doesn't need to be found. This message to FUEN is what we want to show? You want to change the statutes and have a closer relation to FUEN but now we are on the outside. Andor asks how can you now trust him as a board member and representative now that he is on the outside of FUEN. He doesn't see a solution.</p> <p>Louis Albert Becker (Kenstroll Breizh) referring to Konstantin Vlasich (HAK): It is emotional for some people, for this you need more time for reflection.</p>
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		<p>Sebastian Arion (ADJ) expresses his agreement with Andor Barabás (YEN president), and thinks that for a decision like this, there should be many representatives.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) adds that when you are stressed you are not creative, and that she feels somewhat feel bullied into this. It takes time and be ready with a steady solution today.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) also expresses that he feels somewhat bullied right now too. He asks the board how long it would take to prepare an extraordinary GA and invite people?</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) agrees with this situation being overwhelming, but stresses that a statement is still necessary, at least one or two sentences.</p> <p>Mads Lausten (SdU) agrees with Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) something must be said today. He does not quite understand who is responsible for this and asks whether this will require an extra working group.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) summarises: the membership sees that Andor is in a dependent relationship with Lorant Vincze (president of FUEN) and YEN is just not yet clear about how their current relationship should be with FUEN.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) agrees with Mads Lausten (SdU). She states that it is not only uncomfortable right now, but also difficult to have to decide this now. This has all stemmed from a conflict of interest and now a decision has been made. As Andor said, YEN are now on the outside as Andor said, but everyone has spoken positively about changing the statutes, so at this point no one from YEN is in the FUEN presidium and perhaps an extraordinary YEN GA can be called so that we can decide whether we want to propose the statutes of FUEN to be changed and whether we want to be part of the FUEN at all.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) clarifies that the membership did not decide on whether YEN should leave FUEN.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) suggests a break, further discussion, to formulate some sentences, take a break. He thinks that could be the best solution for now and we can vote on the text that will be sent to FUEN as an explanation.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) adds that small groups are formed to draft short texts of explanation to FUEN.</p>
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	<p>Andor Barabas (YEN president) requests the membership stops using the term “conflict of interest”, because he hasn’t done anything in that sense. The reason for a GA is to discuss these things and come up with a solution.</p> <p>Dora Szilagyi (MIERT) suggests suspension of the decision until the changes become effective.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) replies that we might need to come back to it at a later point, but for now we continue as proposed. She organises one discussion group online via a breakout room to discuss the reasons to give to FUEN and the steps for the future. The other group stays in the room and discusses in person. Eva asks Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) to facilitate the discussion on Zoom.</p> <p>After the break (16:39)</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) explains that these small discussion groups will be hopefully combined to create a statement for FUEN. Afterwards the regular GA agenda can continue.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) asks the groups for their feedback.</p> <p>Online group</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk):</p> <p>“Final suggestion online: The YEN membership considers the dependencies because of the working relationship as critical. Furthermore, YEN does not want to support questionable positions on democratic processes... ”</p> <p>Present group</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK):</p> <p>The group is dissatisfied with the current situation of FUEN, so here is the conclusion of our ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not distancing from the idea of FUEN but concerned about the development in FUEN since last year ● Voice of youth is not included, we need to figure out the situation and this requires time. The need for another board member as an independent representative? We have to rethink YEN’s relations in general, propose to change FUEN’s statutes and the possibility of other members joining the FUEN presidium ● To have an extra representative who is responsible for starting the process of evaluating the relationship ● Leads to a participatory process inside of YEN
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To start an active dialogue process with FUEN to figure out YEN’s representation <p>Sebastian Arion (ADJ) expresses a contradiction in point 3 (above) to the previous vote.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GuiRu) adds: It doesn’t have to be a discrepancy to vote on Andor to leave the FUEN presidium and wanting more impact. To have more impact we would like to have another board member that isn’t working for Lorant Vincze.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president): Since this is the decision, we must come up with solutions so that we can move forward with this. He requests the membership not to use the phrase “conflict of interest” – he would prefer “working relations”, because conflict of interest is a loaded phrase. He explains that when he was employed by parliament he was asked what other work he undertook and they did not find it a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) suggests that a common statement is formed from what was suggested, and opens the floor to any more comments.</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK) states that the decision made here has to be respected, but the that YEN also should works towards YEN’s president being at the FUEN presidium also in the future.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) shares her screen to show the written statement.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) asks whether this is the final formulation? And whether it will be changed slightly before sending it?</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) confirms that spelling mistakes, full names etc. will still be changed before voting.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) enquires as to the sentence on how YEN is going to continue with FUEN... she states she is on the same page with how FUEN chose to be in the past, but is that the outcome, that YEN doesn’t know what to do with FUEN?</p> <p>David Ressmann (KSSSD) asks is this what we are dissatisfied with? He doesn’t find it a problem if the statement is a bit vague for now, so that after a discussion YEN can clearly demand what we want.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General)explains that the intention of the statement is to be somewhat broad because apparently we don't know yet, and opinions are unequal.</p> <p>Damjan Stern (Mlada EL) states that he would sign the first part right away, because as a neutral observer (<i>not having been involved in YEN in the past</i>)</p>
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	<p>he finds it difficult to find a neutral reason. In term of FUEN and what doesn't fit/should improve it is difficult because the meaning is unclear... so, the second part would be more difficult.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) approves the formulation of the statement. She opens the floor to any further comments regarding the statement before a roll call is carried out.</p> <p>Konstantin Vlasich (HAK) adds a thought about one the sentence about changing the statutes: It is contradictory because in one sentence we don't know how to continue with FUEN and in the other sentence we want to continue with FUEN in the future.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) opens the floor to any further comments on or amendments to the proposal?</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) also suggests changing the sentence Konstantin mentioned, because we can't distance ourselves.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) states that this sentence will be deleted.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) reads the final statement aloud:</p> <p><i>The General Assembly 2023 of the Youth of European Nationalities voted for its president Andor Barabás not to continue his participation in the FUEN presidium because we see the working dependency between Andor Barabás and FUEN president Loránt Vincze as critical.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, we will ask for changes to the FUEN statutes to allow another YEN Board member to take over the role in the FUEN presidium to avoid future similar issues.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, it became clear that the YEN General Assembly does not feel sure about how to continue its relationship to FUEN and needs some time to rethink it. YEN does not distance itself from the idea of FUEN but is concerned about the developments of FUEN in the past years.</i></p> <p><i>YEN will have an internal discussion about its relation to FUEN and is also interested to engage with FUEN in finding a way to ensure our future cooperation.</i></p> <p>She opens the floor for further comments.</p> <p>No further comments from the membership.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) proposes to vote on the statement.</p>
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		<p>Roll call is carried out.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN Secretary General) confirms that we have 72 votes, and the voting begins.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Do you agree with this statement?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>The proposal is approved (54 yes, 12 no, 6 abstentions).</p>
<p>17:13</p>	<p>15.</p>	<p>15. Election of the Board and the Auditor</p> <p>Chair explains the election procedure. For each position the applications will be presented, and the membership will be asked as to whether there are other candidates. Afterwards the candidates may present themselves. When all the candidates have had a chance to present themselves, the GA will be invited to ask questions to the candidates. When the questions to all the positions have been answered, the voting will commence.</p> <p>15.1 Vice-President for Internal Relations</p> <p>Chair: On application as received for the position of Vice President for Internal Relations from Vera Buranits (HAK). The membership are asked if anyone would like to put forward the candidature?</p> <p>The floor is opened for potential candidates.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) presents herself to the GA, explaining that she is a Burgenland Croat and part of the host organisation of the seminar (HAK). It was a spontaneous decision to apply for president for internal relations. She adds that this is her 7th seminar, and she has been active since 2019 and I still loves it. For her the most important thing is to meet new people, connect with other minorities and try to learn new things. She states the importance of having various people to help the Board, to have various opinions, and she would like to help with her knowledge of HAK etc. and would love to work with the Board.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) thanks Vera Buranits (HAK) and asks the membership if there are any other candidates.</p> <p>There are no further candidates, and the floor is open to the membership to comment on the candidate.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (PawK) believes Vera Buranits (HAK) will be an asset, as she has been active for a long time, and she will continue it well. YEN supports this decision.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GuiRu) agrees wholeheartedly with Jakob's statement. Angelica adds that Vera is not only a great person, but also believes that she</p>

	<p>will be extremely competent in this position.</p> <p>Chair opens the floor to further comments.</p> <p>Martina Jazbec (DM+) adds she has been waiting for this moment for a long time, and her confirms support.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) adds that she would be very proud to step in Linea's footsteps.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) mentions the close contact to HAK, and that it is always enjoyable to work with Vera because you can count on her.</p> <p>15.2 Vice-President for External Relations</p> <p>Chair states that one official application has been received from Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) for the position of the Vice-President for External Relations.</p> <p>Christoph Graf is asked to present himself to the GA.</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) encourages more people to work with YEN, including the next generations. He emphasises his wishes to expand the network and democracy. He studies Law in Germany, enjoys the work with YEN and would like to continue</p> <p>Chair thanks Christoph and opens the floor to any comments.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) adds that he is very proud of Christoph and admires his active work as Board member.</p> <p>15.3 Convenor for WG Member Integration</p> <p>Chair explains that no official applications for the position of the Convenor for Member Integration have been received. However, Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) showed interest to candidate again.</p> <p>The floor is opened to anyone who would like to candidate for this position.</p> <p>No further candidates.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) presents herself to the GA, greeting the membership and adding that she is part of Pawk, and a Sorbian-French in France. She explains that she has gone further into the topic of minorities throughout her last year, and that she enjoyed travelling Europe and meeting minorities. She had thoroughly enjoyed learning and would like to continue her position for the next 2 years.</p> <p>Chair thanks Felicia and opens the floor to further comments.</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) adds that she was part of the working group for Member Integration and that Felicia did an awesome job. She thinks she is a great choice for this position, and always makes a great effort in visiting and communicating with other organisations.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) can only agree with Vera. He is very proud that Felicia is continuing with YEN and wishes her much success for the next two years.</p>
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	<p>15.4 Convenor for WG Minority Rights and Politics</p> <p>Chair states for clarification that there has been a mistake in past election procedures. It states in the Rules of Procedure that two convenors shall be elected in even years. To get the right balance again YEN must therefore elect the Convenor for Minority Rights and Politics only for one year.</p> <p>No applications have been received for the position of the Convenor for Minority Rights and Politics.</p> <p>Chair opens to the floor to people who would like put forward the candidature?</p> <p>Louis Albert Becker (Kenstroll Breizh) presents himself to the GA. He is from the Breton minority in France and wants to work on minority rights in Europe. He adds that some people already know him...</p> <p>Chair opens the floor to further comments from the membership.</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot (YEN/Pawk) says she is delighted by Louis' spontaneous application. She knows he will have great ideas and is very interested in the topic. She looks forward to their work together.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer (Pawk) adds that to have a Breton on the Board is the best decision, and he also wholeheartedly supports Louis' decision.</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GuiRu) expresses her support for Louis' candidacy, that he is knowledgeable and how important it is to have various minorities represented.</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (YEN/HAK) expresses his support to all of the applicants.</p> <p>Chair opens the floor to further comments.</p> <p>15.5 Treasurer</p> <p>Chair states that no applications were received for the position of Treasurer and proceeds to open the floor for potential candidates.</p> <p>Vera Burantis (HAK) suggests Angelica Augustin (GiuRu) for Treasurer as she believes she would be great in this position and already knows YEN.</p> <p>Angelica thanks Vera but declines.</p> <p>15.6 Internal Auditor</p> <p>Chair states that one application has been received for the position of Auditor. Martina Jazbec, former Treasurer and member of DM+ will run for the position.</p> <p>Chair opens the floor to other people who would like to candidate as an Auditor.</p> <p>Floor is opened to any questions for the candidate.</p> <p>Martina Jazbec presents herself to the GA. She is from the Slovenian</p>
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	<p>minority in Italy, has been a member of YEN for two years and has held the position of Treasurer, so she has experience and believes she will know what to do as Auditor. She adds that she is 30 years old, works as project manager and will try to bring some light, so that everything is in order.</p> <p>The chair opens the floor to further questions for the candidates.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) adds that he is pleased about the candidates for these positions, especially after the pandemic, but that there is still one important position to be filled.</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) adds that we still need to find a Treasurer.</p> <p>The chair opens the floor to any other candidates interested in the position of Treasurer.</p> <p>No further comments or candidates from the membership.</p> <p>The chair proceeds with the agenda, and we continue to the elections of the Board positions.</p> <p>Chair announces the first vote, the election of the Vice President for Internal Relations.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF ELECTING (VERA BURANITS) AS VICEPRESIDENT FOR INTERNAL RELATIONS OF YEN FOR THE MANDATE 2023-2025?</p> <p>Result: Vera Buranits has been elected as the vice President for Internal Relations (72 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p> <p>Vera Buranits (HAK) expresses her thanks and excitement.</p> <p>Chair proceeds to the election of the Vice President for External Relations.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF ELECTING (CHRISTOPH GRAF) AS VICEPRESIDENT FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF YEN FOR THE MANDATE 2023-2025?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>Christoph Graf (YEN/Pawk) has been elected as the Vice President for External Relations (72 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).</p> <p>Chair proceeds to the election of Convenor for Member Integration.</p>
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		<p>Vote:</p> <p>ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF ELECTING XYZ AS THE CONVENOR FOR MEMBER INTEGRATION OF YEN FOR THE MANDATE 2023-2025</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>Felicia Touvenot has been elected as a Convenor for Member Integration (72 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)</p> <p>Chair proceeds to the election of the Convenor of Minority Rights and Politics.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF ELECTING LOUIS ALBERT BECKER AS THE CONVENOR FOR MINORITY RIGHTS AND POLITICS OF YEN FOR THE REMAINING YEAR OF THE MANDATE 2022-2024?</p> <p>Result:</p> <p>Louis Albert Becker has been elected as a Convenor for Minority Rights and Politics (66 yes, 0 no, 6 abstentions).</p> <p>The election of the Treasurer is skipped because no one stood for election.</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) explains that due to the lack of voters, it is not possible to establish a quorum anymore, so the rest of the Agenda (votes for Auditor, working groups and hosts of future events) will have to be postponed. YEN proposes an extraordinary general assembly on 6th May 2023 in Berlin, where we will go through the rest of the agenda. (It will also be possible to join the GA online, it will be held in a hybrid form). There is no objection to this proposal.</p> <p>The YEN Board will send out the official invitation in the coming days.</p> <p>The floor is opened for any final questions or comments.</p> <p>There are no further questions or comments. The chairs express their congratulations to the newly elected Board. The new Board members are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VICE-PRESIDENT FOR INTERNAL RELATIONS: VERA BURANITS (HAK) (mandate 2023-2025) 2. VICE-PRESIDENT FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS: CHRISTOPH GRAF (Pawk) (mandate 2023-2025) 3. TREASURER: - 4. CONVENOR FOR MEMBER INTEGRATION: FELICIA TOUVENOT (Pawk) (mandate 2023-2025) 5. CONVENOR FOR MRP: LOUIS BECKER (KENSTROLL BREIZH) (mandate 2022-2024)
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<p>18:10</p>	<p>16.</p>	<p>16. VARIA</p> <p>Chair announces that we have reached the end of this GA.</p> <p>The floor is opened for further questions or comments?</p> <p>Thanks are given to the Board.</p> <p>Group picture with the delegates in the room and online is suggested by Alex Wukovits (YEN/HAK).</p> <p>Angelica Augustin (GuiRu) suggests only in-person GAs in the future to motivate more people to show up in person and to avoid "drop-outs".</p> <p>Andor Barabás (YEN president) adds that a hybrid GA allows more people to take part online and believes that everyone should have the chance to participate. He says that in the future it is better to have the GA in presence.</p> <p>Linea Kopf (YEN/SdU) notes that it is almost impossible to have a spontaneous AGM because of the technology and the risk of not having a quorum. An AGM with everybody present would be ideal, but is unfortunately not realistic.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (YEN) adds that the main point is the translation, and also the seminars are much smaller than previously, so in the past we were never afraid to get the quorum. She thinks it would be good to have an idea how many would come to the seminar.</p> <p>Jakob Stadler (KSSSD): Regarding the length of an AGM - a "normal" AGM does not necessarily take longer. He also invites the membership to the KSSSD Ball in Vienna on 4.11.23.</p> <p>Alexander Wukovits (HAK) promotes a HAK event: HAK are celebrating 50 years of Dan Mladine this year from 08-10.09 in Petrovo Selo. The festival brings the Burgenland-Croatian youth together.</p> <p>Group picture is taken.</p> <p>Thanks given to Linea Kopf and Jakob Stadler and farewell video is shown.</p> <p>Eva Schubert (secretary general of YEN) announces that YEN is looking for a new staff member and invites the present members to forward the call when it is published.</p>
<p>18:31</p>	<p>17.</p>	<p>17. Closing of the GA 2023</p> <p>Chairs announce that they hereby officially close the GA 2023.</p> <p>Jakob Schäfer thanks the following:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Translators and technicians- Delegates- Hosts <p>Chairs invite the membership to follow YEN's events in 2023 and beyond as well as the social media channels.</p> <p>They thank everyone for their patience and participation, and hope to see everyone again very soon.</p>
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MINUTES YEN General Assembly 2023

Minute Takers:  (HAK) and  (HAK)