

Europe
Rotaract



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
EUROPEAN ROTARACT INFORMATION CENTRE
DATED 18 MAY 2024 AT 09:00 EEST

ATTENDANCE LIST

The attendance list might be found here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ugZFLMTBFB73gRFRpkVJ7JloVpDGjDBW/edit#gid=961697891>

AGENDA:

FIRST SESSION

1. Country Call

The country call was run by Adrianna.

2. END OF THE YEAR REPORT FROM BOARD 2023/2024

a) President update and summary

- At the beginning of her speech Veronika presented her board and what were the initial goals at the beginning of her term as president and the initiatives which she will be able to perform such as:
- update of CR Guide;
- CR Buddy system thank to which the new friendships were made and the CR were able to get to know each other better;
- Celebration of 35 years of ERIC existence;
- Organizing a Social Project of the Year;
- Initiation of works on Rotaract App; and
- Presentations of ERIC countries during a general assemblies of Rotaract Europe;
- Strengthening cooperation with other MDIOs;
- Organizing of online Rotaract Peace Conference;
- participation in WHO Vaccination event;
- delivery of water filters to Ukraine; and
- organizing 1:1 teleconferences with CRs to understand their needs and opinions about ERIC.

Veronika thanked everyone for a fruitful year and especially her assistant Rastko Zeljkovic who was supporting her throughout the year.

b) Vice-President update and summary

Katharina followed with a summary of her year and presented her initiatives such as preparation and adoption of Rotaract Europe Harassment Prevention Policy and supporting Veronika in all her projects.

In addition she invited everyone to participate in the Rotary European Summit in Bonn which will take place from 30 August to 1 September 2024.

She also thanked the Events Committee and Harassment Prevention Committee which she was leading this year.

c) Treasurer and budget update and summary

At the beginning Stephanie explained that due to personal issues she was not able to be active in the whole year and she thanked the board members, her assistants and Daniel Lazar (treasurer in Rotary Year 2022/2023 for supporting her in her duties).

Veronika and Stephanie presented the budget and confirmed that the detailed financial statement will be provided after the Rotary year is over and that the financial statements will be voted on by the next CRs.

d) Social Services Officer update and summary

Matteo thanked everyone for this year, his assistants, Social Services Committee members and CRs for this year.

His goal for this year was that each club will share the same enthusiasm for social projects.

He showed that the number of projects submitted in the ERIC Project Directory increased significantly compared to last year.

He said that the good idea would be to create a handbook for current and future board members and he created the one for the next social service officer.

He also created sustainable events guidelines as sustainability was a very important topic this year.

e) Marketing Officer summary and update

Michel thanked his assistants and marketing committee for this year.

He showed that the number of followers of Rotaract Europe on Instagram increased.

He also presented a new merch of Rotaract Europe which was available to be purchased during the General Assembly.

f) Information Technology summary and update

Aron presented a summary of his year which included:

- Signing up for the non-profit program of several providers
 - Most of our infrastructure is now completely free
- Onboarding to Google Workspace for free
 - Emails
 - Email lists
 - Cloud Storage
 - etc.
- Migrating the websites to a new provider, resulting in faster load speeds and more reliability
- Starting working on the new website for rotaracteurope.eu; and
- Dealing with the usual IT problems.

g) Secretary summary and update

Adrianna thanked her assistant and legal committee for this year and presented her summary which included:

- Coordination of process of Kosovo joining Rotaract Europe;
- Analysis of legal status of Rotaract Europe ASBL in the light of luxembourgish law;
- Adding committee members to Rotaract Europe website;
- Answering legal questions of CRs;
- Adoption of amendments to the bylaws at REM Stockholm, REM Sofia and in April 2024;
- Preparation of draft of power of attorneys for the proxies acting on behalf of Crs;
- Preparation of form for submitting amendments to the bylaws by the CRs.

3. AID FOR BRASIL

Brasilian Rotaract presented the current situation in his country resulting from unprecedented flooding in Brasil and asked Rotaractors for help.

4. VOTING TOPIC 1 - PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE FOR EUCO 2025 BELGRADE

Dragana presented the reason why she decided to be a candidate to organize Euco 2025 in Belgrade, she also presented the packages and its cost.

She emphasized that it is not possible to organise a similar Euco as in 2019 due to the fact

that prices are much higher and, in addition, an Expo will be organised in Belgrade in 2027.

Dragana answered the question with pre euco will be organised in Timisoara, and as for post euco they will come back with an answer.

Iga CR of Poland asked if they had started negotiations with hotels, Dragana replied that they had and that they could accommodate a maximum of 700 participants.

Moreno asked if the venues would be exclusively reserved for participants and Dragana said yes.

5. VOTING TOPIC 2 ADOPTION OF ERIC BUDGET FOR 2024/2025

Katharina presented her budget, the key notes are as follows:

- She reduced the number of euco participants in her budget but as merch is added, the budget is balanced;
- there are money in the budget for strategic weekend for board + CR weekend
- One package for board in every conference is reimbursed
- Administrative fees for changing legal status in luxembourg and bank account are ensured in the budget.

6. VOTING TOPIC 3 PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR E.R.I.C. BOARD 2024/2025

a) Candidates for Vice-President

- Rastko Zeljkovic:
 - He presented his biography and Rotaract experience;
 - He said his idea is to execute projects rather than talking and using "buzzing" words;
 - He wants to assist a president in all its activities.

- Pedro Summavielle
 - Presented his biography an Rotaract experience;
 - Found a job thanks to Rotaract;
 - Presented his projects in Rotaract;
 - He wishes to organize event in Portugal, so far he organizes international trip to one of a city in Portugal;
 - He said that when he receives something good he wants to give it back; and

- Even if he doesn't win he will still participate in Rotaract events.
- Matteo Facchetti
 - Presented his biography and Rotaract experience;
 - he said that is very important to onboard future board to ensure continuity
 - Planning & execution is a key;
 - Safety & DEI should be of utmost importance for Rotaract Europe;
 - We should remember that Rotaract Europe is an information center so all information should be available on the website.

Then, in the Q&A session Blanka asked each of the candidates to describe each other in three words.

Pauline asked Rastko how we will find time to be Vice-president in his busy schedule. Rastko answered that it is all about good organization.

Dragana asked: " how would you describe each other".

Answers:

Rastko to Pedro / Matteo: "you are experienced Rotaractors".

Matteo: "Rastko is composed ... never said anything out of context".

Pedro to Rastko and Matteo: " both are doing great job".

b) Secretary candidates

- Marcello Andria

He is a country representative of 14 Italian districts and former DRR of D2280.

During his speech he emphasized that:

- we need to work with other information center to share the news from Rotary; International also to work with Rotary International to have voice of Rotaract;
- we are formed by district members, we should make district members involved
- work with IT officer: we must keep one group to make it official;
- we use a lot of our online systems to make sure that we have one place

- when everything is stored;
- three "C" programme: connection, cooperation, communication'
- we need to create our online archive; and
- the final goal is to be here for you.

- John Koutroumpis

He presented his background and said he is knowledgeable about Rotaract and Rotary bylaws.

He said that we should start using AI to prepare the minutes of the meetings.

He said we should bear in mind obligations stemming from Luxembourgish law towards our organization.

Q&A session: please describe yourself in couple words:

Marcello: passionate, pragmatic;

John: thinker, doer, organizer.

c) Treasurer candidates

- Paulo Franco Mendes

- he is from Portugal but lives in Germany and in the past in Belgium;
- Loves travelling and he is into music
- Joined rotaract in 2017 head of fundraising committee in Brussels
- Presented his professional experience
- His goals: supporting events committee, transparency, collaboration, resource optimization, merchandise,
- This year reduced he helped to reduce fix costs of ERIC; and
- Find sponsors: sponsors should be limited at the events, with a help of marketing we can find sponsors, current budget is healthy but we can gain more funds for the projects.

- Blanka Bákai

- Likes to travel a lot,

- Presented his rotaract experience
- Founded english speaking club in Budapest;
- She works in Morgan Stanley;
- We should think of the budget in a longer perspective: 3 years and about inflation.

Q&A session

Federike asked Pedro how his work as treasurer assistant was.

Paulo answered that he was there to support, but most of the job was done within a board

Marina asked both candidates of their experience in fundraising.

Both candidates answered that they are experienced in this field, Paulo added that we should work with the HOC to get sponsors of the conferences.

d) Marketing officers candidates

- Lilya Teslenko
 - Presented her biography;
 - she was as coordinating rotaract week this year;
 - presented her ideas for next year;
 - She was a candidate last year but she is happy she was not elected.

- Anna Gordienco
 - presented video due to health issues, her rotaract and professional experience;
 - said that we should work more with influencers.

- Adara Cheles
 - Works as engineer
 - Gained rotaract experience in Romania and UK.
 - Once being CR decided to help the marketing sphere of rotaract.

Her ideas are as follows:

- Self promotion on tiktok is important;
- Let's talk for real: proposed starting podcast of Rotaract;
- Creating eric guide how to make posts in order to be reposted on our social media
- Reposting more and more, ;
- Creating templates with themes.
- Posts about district and projects.

Q&A session:

Marina asked "what will be important within your team"?

Adara: "compose different members within a team".

Lilya: "soft skills: important to pay attention to personality as well".

Wasima asked a question about how to promote Rotaract outside of Rotaract.

Liliya: optimize the technical part, we should pop out on searches (if someone searches on the social media), important to partner with different NGOS.

Adara: visibility on tiktok is important.

e) Social services officer candidates

- Marina Zheleva

She said that social projects at the events are very important.

She is currently DRR of the Bulgarian district.

She said that it is hard to recruit people for Rotaract.

She believes that in rotaract we may elevate projects such as stem cells donation.

She wants to promote club and district projects.

She is hardworking.

- Iga Koprowska

She is an extrovert and loud person.

She is a Polish girl living in Ireland.

She enjoys being in Rotaract.

She believes in Diversity Equity Inclusion.

She said that everybody is different, let encourage people to be themselves, we all deserved to be heard and understood And this is what rotaract is doing at the core of our organisation

She said we are integral part of change, who we are as rotaractors, we can help understanding the process and be excellent example

Her key project will be "Donate your steps to cause" in which you will exchange steps for money.

Q&A session:

Blanka asked how the candidates want to cooperate with a treasurer?

Iga wants to do something which does not require ant funds, whereas Marina wants to find sponsors together with a treasurer.

Another question concerned the most important project for Iga.

Iga answered that it is creative art therapy" - it is hard to make it better, and also appreciates stem cell donation in Sofia, however next year she wants to focus on the project and donate your steps to cause, as it is something which will be easily implemented in all countries.

f) Information Technology Officer Candidate

- Aron Pammer

He said that he wants to continue his journey as an IT Officer as there is a still lot of work to be done.

During Q&A session Anna Gordienko asked if you need technical knowledge in the IT committee and he answered that no.

After all the presentations of the candidates, the Secretary together with IT Officer explained how to vote and the Country Representatives started voting.

7. UPDATES FROM THE UPCOMING EVENTS AND COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS.

In the next session members of HOC of REM Luxembourg and REM Prague presented the update of their events.

Subsequently, CR of Germany, France and DRR of District 2241, Romania and Moldova presented a presentation about the functioning of Rotaract in their countries.

The presentation regarding the upcoming events and country presentations can be found in the following folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1Ks2EFPfsZaTrjg4MJgmvV0JWxmKQOmuQ>.

8. VOTING RESULTS

Once updates from the upcoming events and country presentation were completed, the E.R.I.C Executive Board announced the voting results.

The results of voting are as follows:

- EUCO 2025 will take place in Belgrade;
- The Rotaract Europe budget for 2024/2025 was approved;
- Matteo Facchetti was elected as Vice-President in Rotarian year 2024/2025;
- Marcello Andria was elected as Secretary in Rotarian Year 2024/2025;
- Adara Cheles was elected as Marketing Officer in Rotarian Year 2024/2025;
- Blanka Bákai was elected as Treasurer in Rotarian Year In Rotarian Year 2024/2025;
- Marina Zheleva was elected as Social Services Officer in Rotarian Year 2024/2025;
- Aron Pammer was elected as Information Technology Officer in Rotarian Year 2024/2025.

The results of voting in percentages you may find the following folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/16G50P1jOn7PhtKFdkG4-pesNrD10HYTc>

The current Rotaract Europe President Veronika and the upcoming President Katharina congratulated all the candidates. Katharina added that she cannot wait to start working with a newly elected board.

With that the General Assembly was closed.

Prepared by Adrianna Kończak, Secretary of Rotaract Europe.

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Veronika Botsova

President of Rotaract Europe.

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