

Studievereniging voor Politicologen In Leiden
Study Association for Political Scientists in Leiden



Interim GA
XLIIInd board 2022 - 2023

ENGLISH / ENGELS

INTERIM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

March 16th, 6:30 pm

Table of content.

1. The SPIL Anthem	2
2. Agenda	3
3. Minutes Policy GA part 1 & 2, dated November 3rd and 24th	4
4. Interim Policy XLIInd board ‘SPILbuster’	
i. Policy	29
ii. Yearplan	47
iii. Budget	52
5. Interim report Audit Committee	62
6. Letter sustainability taskforce	63

ONZE NOB’LE DISCIPLINE

By Max Nederkoorn and Stijn van den Wijngaard on the tune of the Marseillaise

Onze nob’le discipline,
 De politieke wetenschap!
 Het debat is voor ons routine,
 Trots op ’t studieus broederschap,
 Dit Leidsch superieur instituut,
 Eren wij de vereniging,
 Die heerst en regeert deze stad:
 Sedert ’t jaar één-en-tachtig
 Is de SPIL oppermachtig!

Maak plaats, hier is de SPIL!
 De SPIL maakt ’t verschil!
 Chapeau, chapeau:
 Wij prijzen hoog
 De glorie van de SPIL

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Choosing Voting Committee
3. Setting the agenda
4. Announcements
5. Received documents
6. Evaluating the minutes of the Policy GA part 1 & 2, dated November 3rd and 24th 2022
7. Interim Policy XLIInd board 'SPILibuster'
8. Interim report Audit Committee
9. Letter Sustainability Taskforce
10. Election Board of Advisors
11. Discharges and installations
12. Any Other Businesses (W.v.t.t.k.)
13. Round of questions
14. Discharge of Voting Committee
15. End of meeting

MINUTES POLICY GA PART 1, dated November 3rd 2022

1. Opening

The Chair of the General Assembly, Ms. Easton, opens the General Assembly at 19:32.

Those present at the GA are:

Annabelle Jung	Nienke Uittenhout	Bas van der Tas
Robin Buijs	Fince van Kampen	Jette Boonstra
Lara Akande	Niels Bosman	Salome de Bona
Elena van der Klok	Sybrich Zeinstra	Emma Breed
Anna Gruber	Thomas Meijer	Rex van der Kruit
Marvin Lamers	Dante Renes	Yesim Benli
Margot Ammerlaan	Sjors de Natris	Patrick Daa,em
Noor Stuijt	Thirze Wiegers	Alfons Hooft
Pieter Mauritz	Haitske Pottinga	Frits Weyne
Jokin de Carlos	Sjoerd van Helst	Rokus Hoogendorn
Marit van der Heide	Jurgen van der Zwet	Noor Saris

After singing the SPIL anthem, the GA Chair welcomes everyone.

2. Choosing Voting Committee

The GA Chair instals Ms. Stuijt and Mr. Van Kampen as members of the voting committee.

3. Setting the agenda

There are no changes, the agenda is set.

4. Announcements

The GA Chair ask those who are present to please write their name on the attendance list at the door. When you leave early, please put a cross before your name.

The GA booklet and motion paper can be found at the back of the room. The booklet is both in Dutch and English. Due to sustainability, the minutes of the last GA are not included in the booklet. These can be found in the mail.

The GA Chair asks the attendees to state their full name before they speak for the minutes. The CALVV asks the secretary if there are any further announcements.

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking if there is money budgeted for beer.

Ms. Akande explains there is not.

Mr. Van der Zwet is wondering if this is the reason the attendance is so low.

5. Received documents

There is a vote transfer from Mr. Groenink to Mr. Weyne, from Mr. De Vries to Mr. Van Kampen, from Ms. Dekker to Ms. Stuijt, from Ms. Easton to Ms. Boonstra and from Ms. Bensdorp to Ms. Benli.

There is also a letter from Mr. Groenink which will be discussed at point 10 of the agenda.

6. Evaluating the minutes of the Additional GA, d.d. 6th of October

The minutes are discussed as a whole. There are no changes. The minutes are set.

7. Increase contribution

Ms. Akande gives a short explanation of the letter she wrote to the GA. There is less income from studystore and there is a lot of inflation. Activities have become more expensive to organise. There is therefore more money needed.

There are no questions.

- *The increase in contribution is accepted with 21 votes in favour, 0 against and 7 abstaining.*

8. Policy XLIInd board 'SPILibuster'

1.

Mr. De Natris is asking if enhancing contacts with students and universities abroad is only mentioned in the general policy.

Ms. Gruber is explaining there will probably be an activity in this regard on the short trip.

2.1

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if there is an intention to organise the same amount of activities in Leiden and The Hague.

Ms. Jung confirms that this is the case.

2.3

Mr. Bosman mentions that he completely agrees with the making the dress code gender-neutral. He is asking what the general idea is for the changes.

Mr. Buijs explains that the tie is now officially only for men and the bow-tie for women, although it is currently allowed to wear a tie for women (in Dutch 'gedoogbeleid'). The board would like to give all members the opportunity to choose.

Mr. Bosman supports the tendency that women want to be able to wear ties. He is wondering if men not wearing a tie will make their appearance look less formal.

Mr. Buijs explains the board doesn't think the gender of the member should matter in this regard.

Ms. Van der Heide is suggesting to add a provision that the blouse should be fully buttoned up for a formal dress code.

Mr. Buijs explains that this is not the case for women, so it also shouldn't be for men.

Ms. Stuijt is asking if there are plans to change the name of 'casual chiq' since it can be confusing.

Mr. Buijs explains it will be changed to 'business casual'.

3.1.4

Ms. Boonsta is wondering how the committee thank you day was.

Ms. Van der Heide explains not many people showed up, but

3.1.4

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking how much the proposed insurance will cost.

Ms. Akande explains it depends on the amount insured. The plan that's being thought will cost around 400 and 500 euro's a year. There will be more research done on this.

Mr. Bosman is asking what such an insurance will be needed for.

Ms. Jung explains lawsuits then won't be the personal responsibility of the board.

Mr. Bosman is saying that due to a new law, when there is an audit committee doing checks, you can't easily be sued personally. If you don't all those break those rules, the board can't be sued for financial malpractice.

Ms. Jung explains even if the chances of something happening are really small, the insurance might still be needed. Most associations also have insurance like this, and the insurance companies were also really surprised there isn't one. But there is no concrete plan yet, which is why it isn't budgeted in.

Mr. Bosman recommends talking to a legal expert.

Ms. Jung confirms she will.

Ms. Van der Heide explains StOP will do a training on the WBTR (law).

3.1.5

Mr. Van der Tas is asking how it is going with sharing the yearplan with Ciros.

Ms. Jung explains the yearplan was not yet exchanged. There is a plan to sit down with Ciros to discuss current state of affairs.

Mr. Van der Tas thinks it might be problematic to get their yearplan.

Mr. Bosman adds it depends on the working relationship with Ciros.

3.2.1 – 3.2.3

Ms. Van der Heide is wondering if there will be someone trained in first aid at the Dies dive.

Ms. Jung explains she didn't think about it.

Ms. Boonstra is saying she vaguely remembers some being a BHV'er at the Change of Boards GA.

Mr. Bosman is saying Ms. Akande has a first aid licence. He also promotes the dies-week. There will be a week full of activities like a dive, cantus, ice-skating and much more.

Ms. Jung explains there will also be a music and karaoke night and a lecture.

Ms. Uittenhout is asking when tickets will be available.

Ms. Jung explains they are available on the website.

Mr. De Carlos is asking if there was something like a newsletter with an overview of all the activities.

Ms. Jung explains it is on the Instagram and website.

4.1.1 – 4.1.2

Mr. Buijs fills in the gaps about membership. There are currently 1475 members, of which 1414 are regular members and 61 reunionists. There are 271 alumni. From the members and alumni together, 769 study IRO, 128 International Politics, 153 Politicologie, 33 follow a master and 48 did IBO. For 680 students the programme is unknown.

Mr. Van der Zwet is complementing the quote that Mr. Buijs used and recommends the board to use more quotes from ‘the office’.

Mr. Van Kampen is asking to what extent Mr. Buijs sees Mr. Scott (from the quote, red.) as example.

Mr. Buijs explains that he relates very much and that he thinks they look a bit alike in terms of humor. Mr. Scott is a very wise person that’s sometimes misunderstood, something Mr. Buijs recognises from his own life.

Mr. Van Kampen is asking if Mr. Buijs also sometimes starts a sentence without knowing where it is going.

Mr. Buijs confirms he does sometimes start a sentence with the hope he finds it along the way.

Mr. De Natris is asking if Mr. Buijs also feels like he is running a failing office.

Mr. Buijs is asking if Mr. De Natris has seen the office.

Mr. Van der Zwet mentions that he doesn’t want spoilers.

Mr. Buijs explains that during the show it appears that the business that Mr. Scott is running is actually quite successful. If this resembles the board, he wouldn’t mind.

Mr. De Carlos is asking if the ink used for the printing of the quote means that the board is insecure about it.

Mr. Buijs explain that when it comes to printing he knew exactly what to do, but in a much more real sense he had no idea what to do.

4.1.3 – 4.1.4

Ms. Breed is asking if the alumni system is complete.

Mr. Buijs confirms that the alumni system contains everyone that signed up on the website. He also found out that there is still alumni database of the university he can use.

Ms. Breed is asking if Mr. Buijs has the information of all the alumni that were part of LAP.

Mr. Buijs explains that his predecessor told him the LAP was dissolved at one point and everyone got an email to sign up of the website of SPIL. 271 alumni did this.

4.1.6 – 4.1.7

Mr. Van der Zwet is suggesting to send the former board members an invitation for the borrel two months before.

Mr. Buijs will take it into consideration. He will check if he can do it sooner than one month.

Ms. Boonstra advises sending a 'save the date' sooner before everything is finalised.

4.2

Ms. Van der Heide is asking how Stairs Affairs is going.

Mr. Buijs explains that he noticed that it is hard for the committee to meet. The point was to ask more experienced members for the committee, but this resulted in busy schedules and hard to plan meetings. There is a preliminary date for a first event. The contact with the university has improved. He believes the committee can still realise an amazing event this year.

Mr. Meijer is asking if, since Mark Rutte was quoted, the board also plans on deleting their text messages.

Mr. Buijs explains he does not have a work phone so it's less relevant, but that he will not delete any messages that are really important to the association.

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking how Mr. Buijs would determine which messages are really important for the association.

Mr. Buijs explains more important messages are the ones that do not harm his reputation or ones that are private.

Mr. Van der Zwet complements Mr. Buijs on his quote again. He is asking if Mr. Buijs sees any similarities between Michael Scott and Mark Rutte.

Mr. Buijs explains he personally believes Michael Scott and the board are running the businesses a bit better than Mark Rutte. Since SPIL is a politically neutral organisation he can't go into too much detail about this at the time.

Mr. Van der Kruit is wondering if SPIL is still politically neutral after the comments of Mr. Buijs.

Mr. Buijs explains he made the claims about Mark Rutte in personal capacity and not in any way on behalf of the association or the board.

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking if Mr. Buijs is then speaking in personal capacity all the time during this GA.

Mr. Buijs explains he speaks in the capacity of a board member all the time during the GA, but that he switched only for the comment on Mark Rutte. He explains Mark Rutte also sometimes does this during interviews.

Mr. Van der Zwet is suggesting to make this distinction clearer by taking of his 'penning' whenever Mr. Buijs makes a statement in personal capacity.

Mr. Buijs explains he will do so.

Mr. Meijer is asking why a member of D66 quotes Mark Rutte.

Mr. Buijs explains he used the quote of Mark Rutte in his capacity as secretary of SPIL, and that this is in no way related to whatever personal political preference he might have as an individual.

5.1.1 – 5.1.2

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking if Ms. Akande considers herself as 'highclass'.

Ms. Akande explains she considers herself 'of the highest calibre'.

5.1.3 – 5.1.4

Ms. Bosman is asking if Ms. Akande knows about a 'pinmachine'.

Ms. Akande is explaining there is one and she will work on figuring out how it works.

Ms. Boonstra is wondering how opening more accounts at Mollie is going.

Ms. Akande is explaining she is in the middle of the process but that it is going well.

Mr. Van der Zwet is complementing Ms. Akande on behalf of the Audit Committee about her work.

5.2

Ms. Breed is asking how many members the SPIL-weekend committee will have and why.

Ms. Akande explains it will probably be seven, because that's not too big or too small in her opinion.

Ms. Breed advises to not make it bigger than seven, and five might be ideal.

Mr. De Carlos is asking what SPIL thinks about the independence of Belgium.

Mr. Lamers explains that SPIL is politically neutral and he can therefore not answer the question.

Mr. Van der Tas is asking why Mr. Lamers won't go back to Liege.

Mr. Lamers explains he was almost beaten up in Liege. He did like the city itself. He advises Mr. Van der Tas to bring all his friends to Liege sometimes.

Mr. Van der Tas states that he does not have many friends.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if Ms. Akande is thinking about a destination far away or a bit closer.

Ms. Akande explains she will leave the choice up to the committee.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking how Ms. Akande will make sure that enough people attend.

Ms. Akande explains she will talk to many members to make it more attractive and will not keep the location a secret.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking what Ms. Akande means with 'the choice of destination will be left to the members' in the policy.

Ms. Akande explains she means members of the committee.

6.1

Ms. Van der Heide is complementing Ms. Van der Klok on the policy and is wondering what she meant with 'the evaluation of the bachelor' in her policy.

Ms. Van der Klok explains the education committee will evaluate the bachelor in the middle of every block, and the programme committee throughout the year. This is to make the distinction more clear.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking how the education committee will do this evaluation.

Ms. Van der Klok explains she will discuss this with the committee.

Ms. Van der Heide is suggesting contacting Leiden MUN for activities like workshops etc.

6.3

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if Ms. Van der Klok is in the groupchat for masterstudents.

Ms. Van der Klok explains she is in two appgroups of that sort.

6.4

Ms. Van der Heide is asking how the negotiations with studystore and Index went.

Ms. Van der Klok explains the main goal of Index is providing great service for the students, which is opposite to studystore. She has also put pressure on studystore about SPILs possibility of not prolonging the contract.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking what the money aspects of this all entails.

Ms. Akande explains the contact person at studystore said they are thinking about compensation, but they can't give monetary compensation. They are willing to give us the same provision as we have now in a new contract. Ms. Van der Klok are still deciding if they want to prolong the duration of the contract for half a year.

Ms. Boonstra is thinking studystore might be legally obliged to monetary compensate.

Ms. Akande explains that regards to the customers (students) and not for associations.

Ms. Boonstra is suggesting getting rid of studystore as soon as possible.

Ms. Van der Klok will take it into account.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if the provisions at Index will be the same as at studystore.

Ms. Van der Klok explains the first meeting was mostly a 'get to know each other' and she does not know yet what the provisions will be.

6.5 – 6.6

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if there will be a SPIL-member in the FLO-committee and how it is going.

Ms. Van der Klok explains there is a member of the excursions committee in the FLO-committee and that the committee has just been formed so she does not know how it is going.

7 – 7.1

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking if Ms. Gruber can read the quote out loud.

Ms. Gruber reads the quote out loud.

Ms. Boonstra is wondering what it means.

Ms. Gruber will look up the exact meaning in the break.

Ms. De Bona confirms she is a native French speaker and she can translate the quote if needed.

Mr. Van der Kruit is wondering if there are examples of a activity directly helping the local community.

Ms. Gruber explains she does not have one for the Brussels Trip since the committee was formed before her board year, but for the Short Trip they are thinking about planting trees or doing a city clean up.

Mr. De Carlos is asking if the Brussels Trip will be more focussed on the EU or NATO.

Ms. Gruber explains there will be multiple meetings, and that the reader with the specifics will come out tomorrow.

Ms. Wiegers mentions that it was hard to find the sign-up link for the Brussels Trip and recommends changing something in this regard.

Ms. Gruber will take it into consideration.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains it was on the home page of the website, but members had to scroll down to see it.

7.2

Mr. Van Kampen is asking if Ms. Gruber can give an overview of flights, accommodation and activities during the Short Trip.

Ms. Gruber gives a small overview: the flight tickets and accommodation have been booked, and there are four political relevant activities scheduled so far.

Mr. Van Kampen advices to fill in guest lists in time.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking if Ms. Gruber is aware that Portugal held the presidency of the Council of the European Union instead of the Council of Europe, as she had stated in her policy.

Ms. Gruber explains Portugal has held both presidencies.

Mr. De Carlos is asking if the board has completely certified the existence of Portugal.

Ms. Gruber explains she has.

Mr. Van der Tas is asking is Ms. Gruber is aware there has to be a karaoke night on the trip.

Ms. Gruber confirms.

Ms. Breed is asking what members that haven't participated in earlier trips can say about how to improve the trip.

Ms. Gruber will take it into consideration when reviewing the letters that this might be inconvenient.

Ms. Breed is asking if the plan is to keep the program as full as it was on the Athens trip, or if there will be more meetings.

Ms. Gruber explains the committee is still working on the full program, but it won't be too busy.

Ms. Benli is asking if the board plans on writing a covid-policy.

Ms. Gruber confirms.

Mr. De Carlos is asking if the payment for the Short Trip needs to happen at once or can happen in multiple instalments.

Ms. Gruber explains they can work something out if needed.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking how a sustainable city will help making the trip more sustainable.

Ms. Gruber explains there will be activities focused on sustainability, and she will look into sustainable transport.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking what other destinations were considered.

Ms. Gruber explains they looked into Berlin, Paris, London and Copenhagen. These were not suitable, because train transfers were needed multiple times and seat reservations would make the trip too expensive. These reservations also can't be made until all the participants are known.

7.3 – 7.3.1

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if destinations within Europe are also considered.

Ms. Gruber explains she will probably only consider destinations outside of Europe.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking why.

Ms. Gruber explains she will discuss it with the committee once formed.'

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if there will be information about picking the destination before the next GA.

Ms. Gruber explains she will take this suggestion into consideration and it might be included in her next policy.

7.4

Ms. Benli is asking if there is still contact with IAPPS.

Ms. Gruber explains she has tried to get in touch with IAPSS has, but there has been no response. There is still no information about a possible congress on their website.

Ms. Benli is saying she can give some contact information for future collaborations with IAPPS.

The GA Chair suspends the meeting at 20:44

The GA Chairs reopens the meeting at 20:59

8.1.1.1 – 8.1.1.3

Ms. Benli is asking what Mr. Lamers means with that inclusion can be reached by various articles and writers.

Mr. Lamer explains he is aware diversity and inclusion are very important, also within DEBAT.

Ms. Benli is asking if and how Mr. Lamers wants to get inclusion withing DEBAT.

Mr. Lamers explains this can for instance be achieved by having guest writers.

8.1.1.4

Mr. Bosman is complementing Mr. Lamers with his extensive search for a solution for the sending-issue. He stresses it is a shame members can't all receive the issues at home. It is a topic that is very personal for Mr. Bosman as it is for the association as a whole. To start scaling it down is a shame. The current solution will work really well, although not everyone might be reached by just the Instagram and Newsletter. For those people, he proposes sending a letter to all members that would have received the DEBAT physically. It will cost money, but it is worth it.

Mr. Lamers will take it into account and discuss it at the next board meeting.

Ms. Benli is asking what will happen with the reunionists in regard to receiving DEBAT.

Mr. Lamers explains the reunionist will receive information in one way or another about why DEBAT wasn't delivered last months.

Mr. Buijs adds reunionists will still receive DEBAT at home, without having to sign up.

Ms. Benli is asking how many people signed up to receive the DEBAT at home and if Mr. Lamers is happy with that amount.

Mr. Lamers explains 55 people signed up, and there are 61 reunionists who will receive DEBAT at home. He is generally happy with this number, and it is in line with expectations.

Dhr. Van der Kruit vraagt wat te doen als de lijst vol is, wanneer iemands inschrijving verloopt en of Dhr. Lamers openstaat voor een kleine toelage voor leden die DEBAT thuis willen ontvangen zodat ze zich niet zomaar inschrijven.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking what happens when the sign-up list is full, what happens when someone deregisters as a member or doesn't want to receive DEBAT anymore and if Mr. Lamers would consider asking members that want to receive DEBAT for a small fee.

Mr. Lamers explains he did not expect many signups, there will be budgetary room for between 200 and 250 members to receive the DEBAT at home.

Ms. Akande confirms this.

Mr. Lamers explains he is aware that number might rise, but it will not exceed 250.. Otherwise, there will be some room to send it to more members. The signup is for one year. He did consider asking members for a fee, but because it financially feasible now he would rather not ask members for a contribution.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking if Mr. Lamers will buy stamps to send them.

Ms. Akande explains University will send an invoice for the sending costs.

Ms. Benli is asking if it should be an option for new members to sign up for a physical DEBAT at the same time as their initial registration.

Mr. Lamers will take it into consideration and update the GA next time.

Dhr. Van der Kruit geeft het bestuur een compliment over hoe ze het verzend-probleem hebben afgehandeld.

Mr. Van der Kruit would like to complement the board for the way they handled the DEBAT issue.

Dhr. Daamen vraagt zich af hoe vaak het gepromoot wordt dat leden zich kunnen aanmelden voor een fysieke DEBAT.

Mr. Daamen is asking how many times it will be promoted that people can sign up to receive DEBAT at home.

Mr. Lamers confirms they will update the members regularly of this option.

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking how much time Mr. Lamers spend on thinking on the problem, and how much time on the solution.

Mr. Lamers explains he spend a lot of time thinking about it, because he knew exactly what to do, but in a much more he had no idea what to do.

8.1.1.5 – 8.1.1.6

Ms. Breed is asking how Mr. Lamers will recruit members for DEBAT-online.

Mr. Lamers explains the committee has his priority, but he also approached guest writers from for example hallway associations.

Ms. Breed notes some members might not be aware of the possibility to write something for DEBAT-online.

8.1.2 – 8.1.2.1

Mr. Van der Zwet notes Mr. Lamers is quite the writer with five pages of policy. He is wondering if Mr. Lamers will also write for DEBAT.

Mr. Lamers explains he will write for the editorial column, but he isn't planning on writing for the first edition. Maybe for the second.

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking how the five pages relate to sustainability.

Mr. Lamers will take his suggestion in to account and write less and talk more.

Ms. Benli is asking how Mr. Lamers sees almanac committee members to be more active.

Mr. Lamers explains he plans on doing interviews after events.

Ms. Benli is asking if Mr. Lamers is planning on beginning with the almanac earlier during the year.

Mr. Lamers confirms he will.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking is Mr. Lamers is planning on making a yearbook or almanac.

Mr. Lamers explains he will make a yearbook.

Mr. Buijs adds a member of the Board of Advisors gave advice on the name only for the heading of this part of the policy, but not on the mentions in the text. This is why the heading was changed.

8.2.1

Ms. Benli read in the newsletter that the committee is planning on organising a world-cup viewing party. She is wondering this is a political neutral decision.

Mr. Van der Zwet mentions this topic should be discussed at point 'social activities' instead of now.

8.2.2

Mr. Van der Tas is asking what will be done to make sure members attend the borrel.

Mr. Lamers explains he plans on starting with promotion earlier and doing activities during borrels, like the epic 'SPINGO'.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking if the new regular bars will reserve enough room for the borrels.

Mr. Lamers explains he made a deal with the Pakschuit, who ensured him they would make sure there will be enough place for SPIL'ers. The Preathuis will also reserve enough room. He adds there are deals made about the prices for beer.

Ms. Breed explains no other associations have the Pakschuit as regular bar.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if Mr. Lamers plans on making deals on non-alcoholic drinks.

Mr. Lamers hasn't yet, but he will take it into consideration.

Mr. Bosman is wondering if the borrels will still be at regular times within the month.

Mr. Lamers explains having a borrel at set times during the month wasn't an option due to other scheduled events.

Mr. Bosman is asking if the borrels will still be on Thursdays.

Mr. Lamers confirms.

Ms. Benli is asking if Mr. Lamers had contact with CIROS about the dates of borrels. She advises to do this.

Mr. Lamers explains the dates are not communicated yet, but he will take it into consideration.

Mr. Van der Zwet would like to complement Mr. Lamers with finding regular borrel spaces. He is also asking if the beer meter will be at the next borrel.

Ms. Jung explains the board will have an arts and crafts afternoon soon.

Mr. Lamer explains the new regular bars are also an achievement of the committee.

8.2.3

Mr. Van Kampen is asking if Mr. Lamers can explain why the Halloween party was such a great success.

Mr. Lamers explains it was due to the hard work of the committee and the members showing up.

Mr. Van der Tas is wondering when the gala will take place.

Mr. Lamers explains he will try to organise the gala around valentines.

Mr. Bosman is asking how the gala will be made attractive for members without a relationship or date.

Mr. Lamers explains everyone will be welcome, and this will be communicated as such.

Mr. Bosman recommends not emphasising that it is a valentines gala too much.

Mr. Lamers will discuss it with his committee.

8.2.4

Ms. Benli is asking if it is appropriate to watch the World Cup.

Mr. Lamers explains this was one of the first events scheduled. He does note that it might be controversial seen the new information that has come to light, so he is wondering what the GA's opinion is about organising the event.

Ms. Benli feels like it is a political statement to host a watch party. She recommends educating the attendees on the matter, if it does take place.

Mr. De Natris is asking if Mr. Lamers has been in touch with the University.

Mr. Lamers explains this has not happened yet, but he will reach out.

Mr. Daamen is asking if SPIL supports the jumbo.

Mr. Lamers explains he will not take a stance on this matter.

Ms. Boonstra mentions that watching the World Cup is not a political statement by itself. She notes that it would be okay to watch the game, if the problems will be addressed.

Mr. Hooft is noting that cancelling the event would be a way bigger political statement than not cancelling.

Mr. De Carlos notes that giving the members the information and making them choose themselves would be the best option.

Mr. Lamers thanks the GA for their opinions and will take them into consideration.

Ms. Van der Heide notes that giving context should be done during the viewing event.

Mr. Bosman is saying that people that just want to watch the game should not be forced to be part of the discussion about the circumstances. The opportunity should be given at different event.

Ms. Pottinga notes the University has already hosted an event on this subject.

Dhr, Weyne adviseert om te blijven proberen betere deals te sluiten gedurende het jaar voor de prijzen van bier.

Mr. Weyne advises to keep on trying to make better deals for beer prices during the year.

Mr. Lamers confirms he will do this.

9.1.1-9.1.2

Mr. De Carlos is asking if Ms. Ammerlaan can read her quote out loud while imitating the Godfather.

Ms. Ammerlaan admits she has never seen the Godfather.

Ms. Easton notes 'she is falling to the mand'.

Ms. Ammerlaan is asking if members can show her how to imitate.

Multiple members imitating the godfather

Mr. Daamen proposes organising a watch party for the godfather while giving information about the Italian mafia.

Mr. Van der Tas is asking if the merchandise will also attract non-students.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she doesn't know how Mr. Van der Tas lives his citizen-life, but she will make sure they will also appeal to non-students.

Ms. Benli is asking if there already is a deal with Pizzabakkers at Leiden Central

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she is working on it, but there is no deal yet.

Ms. Breed is asking if the printing of the committee long-sleeves will be the same as the sweater.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains the front will be the same, but the logo on the back will be a bit different.

Ms. Benli is asking if last years' sweaters were not cool.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she does not think so, but this change was a result of feedback over the years. She will advice the next board when she receives feedback about this design.

Ms. Stuijt is asking if there will be nothing on the back.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains there will be something on the back. It will be SPIL without SPIL.

Ms. Breed is asking what 'SPIL without SPIL' means.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she doesn't want to ruin the surprise.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if Ms. Ammerlaan will not make an agreement with SIL-verslagen.

Ms. Ammerlaan there is currently no deal with SIL-verslagen.

Ms. Van der Heide suggests not signing another contract with them.

Mr. Van der Kruit is asking if the institute allows a contract of such sort.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she did not have contact about this with the institute.

Ms. Jung explains other associations can have a deal for summaries, but that it depends on the institute. She will discuss it with the institute.

9.1.4 – 9.1.4.3

Mr. Van der Tas is asking if four members in the promotion committee is enough.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains the committee functions very well.

Ms. Boonstra advices to keep members involved in the committee.

Ms. Breed is asking why introduction activities are not promoted for first years only.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains the game night was only for firstyears, but that a part of the committee is also promoting contact between first years and other members.

Ms. Breed is asking how she will do this.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains the events are only promoted in the appgroups for first years, but that on Instagram is doesn't explicitly state the audience.

Ms. Breed is asking if the tiktoks will also be posted on Instagram Reels.

Ms. Ammerlaan confirms.

Ms. Benli would like to complement Ms. Ammerlaan that the promotion looks nice and the communication is going well. She is asking if the promotion committee is helpful for the Commissioner External Relations.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she will consider this during the year. If the promotion-form is filled in on time, the committee is very helpful.

Mr. De Natris is asking if not too many activities are being sent in the IRO groupchats.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she is not in the groupchats.

Ms. Jung would like the advice of Mr. De Natris on how to solve this.

Mr. Bosman complements Ms. Ammerlaan about the fact that the Instagram looks really well.

9.1.5

Ms. Van der Heide remarks uploading photos of events might be nice.

Ms. Boonstra is asking if members have used the chatting function on the website.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she did not realise she could use this function.

Ms. Boonstra will text Ms. Ammerlaan about this.

9.2

Mr. Van der Zwet is asking how many people signed up when Ms. Ammerlaan said 'hallo'.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains that the quote symbolised the importance of first impressions.

Mr. Meijer is wondering if Antoon can be invited for an event.

Mr. Buijs explains hiring Antoon is very expensive.

9.2.3-9.2.4

Ms. Breed is asking if Ms. Ammerlaan is considering scouting Paulus as a venue.

Ms. Ammerlaan confirms.

Ms. Breed notes that scouting Paulus has not been very nice to the SPIL, so other options might be also reconsidered.

Mr. Bosman is asking if the moment for the EJW does not interfere with the overlap agreements.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains she has not looked into this yet.

Mr. Meijer is asking why the weekend has been moved.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains before ELCID might not be ideal due to internationals not being in the country yet. Immediately after ELCID is the HOP week, so the proposed week is the most convenient.

Mr. Meijer remarks it might be nice to already know some people during the introduction period from the freshman weekend.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains this might also work the other way around.

Mr. De Natris is asking if attendees of the ELCID and HOP will be able to still apply for the freshman weekend.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains if the maximum amount of participants is not yet reached, they can.

Yearplan

Mr. Bosman is asking if the Dies party will be included in the yearplan.

Ms. Jung confirms.

Mr. De Natris is asking why there are cover letters instead of interviews for the application for trips.

Mr. Buijs explains this procedure is set in the Rules of Procedure, and the board believes the current procedure is fine as it is.

Ms. Breed is asking if Purple Friday won't interfere with Politicologie Inside, and what the celebration will look like.

Ms. Jung explains the education committee will organise a lecture for Politicologie Inside, and the borrel afterwards will be Purple-Friday themed.

From 22:28 onwards, the recording stopped recording sounds. The minutes below are therefore a summary of what the Secretary remembered from the GA, based on his notes.

[Ms. Benli is wondering if the attendees of Politicologie Inside can come to the borrel afterwards. Ms. Jung and Ms. Ammerlaan explain this unfortunately is impossible, since the University was worried about minors and alcohol.]

[Ms. Van der Heide is wondering if the Purple Friday celebration should happen on a Friday, since these are usually less busy than other days. Ms. Jung explains Purple Friday is a concept and therefore can't be rescheduled.]

[Mr. Daamen is wondering how the trip to the Efteling will be paid for. Mr. Lamers explains he is still looking into this. Mr. Van der Zwet advises to use the LUF-money like previous years.]

[There are some questions about the yearplan. A possible continuation GA will be held within the period as described in the Rules of Procedure, and the fact that there are two Pip-congresses in the yearplan is a mistake.]

Budget

[Mr. Van der Kruit is asking why Ms. Akande choose to not add acquisitions income. Ms. Breed is asking what the 'NPO contribution' is. Ms. Akande explains this is funding from the university, which will be received after organising events with 'community building purposes', with a maximum of 3.000 euro. This is not extra money, but will be used to fill the deficit. She adds that educational events will mostly be organised with funding from the university. Almost all events can be explained as 'community building'. These events will be like the usual education events. Ms. Breed is asking how Ms. Akande will handle cash contribution payments, since this costs money. Ms. Akande will look into this.

]

[Ms. Ammerlaan explains new merchandise needs to be bought, because there are only a few stickers, pens and bags left.]

9. Amendment Rules of Procedure

[Ms. Gruber gives an explanation about the motivation of the board to change the Rules of Procedure, to make it more fair. Now, the applicant can't mention any personal details, which in the opinion of the board makes it hard to express their true motivation. The board believes members should be able to mention reasons like: 'I don't know anyone so this is the perfect opportunity to make friends', 'I work hard in committees and would also like to go on a trip to get more of the benefits' and other personal motivations. To only black out the name of the applicant might open the procedure up to favouritism, since the reviewers of the letters can then see or distinguish who wrote it. Therefore, the people reviewing the letters will be changed to (multiple) academic staff members and former board members who are not as active anymore in the association. This way, the reviewers won't easily distinguish the applicants.

There are questions from the GA about the way the new Rules of Procedure are phrased. The board and some members rephrase the proposed text, to make it more clear.

Some members of the GA don't agree with the boards reasoning. They believe the old way of reviewing is better, and people can still write about their true motivations without any personal information. A discussion follows, but the board and the members can't agree.]

Before the change of the Rules of Procedure was put to a vote, the quorum was lost. The GA is suspended until the continuation GA at the 24th of November 2022. The rest of the agenda, starting from point 9, will be discussed then.

MINUTES POLICY GA PART 2, dated November 24th 2022

The Chair of the GA, Ms. Easton, opens the GA at 18:50.

Those present at the GA are:

Annabelle Jung	Nienke Uittenhout	Jokin de Carlos
Robin Buijs	Suna Can	Sjors de Natris
Lara Akande	Marit van der Heide	Sybrich Zijnstra
Elena van der Klok	Gijs Verhoeff	Veerle van Onzenoort
Anna Gruber	Niels Bosman	Alexandra Drugescu
Marvin Lamers	Dante Renes	Haitske Pottinga
Margot Ammerlaan	Thirze Wiegers	
Noor Stuijt	Thomas Meijer	

Ater singing the SPIL anthem, the GA Chair welcomes everyone.

The Chair of the GA instals Ms. Stuijt and Mr. Bosman into the voting committee.

9. Amendment Rules of Procedure

The board amended the proposed change for the Rules of Procedure. The proposed amendment is now the following:

'Article 3

3.1

The motivation letter will be evaluated by a neutral committee of three members, which will be a combination of former board members and academic staff members connected to Leiden University.'

Ms. Gruber explains that in previous years all the personal information was blacked out. The board believes that personal information should be reviewed to make sure the true motivation of the applicant can be considered.

- *The amended change of the Rules of Procedure is accepted with 11 votes in favour, 1 against and 7 abstaining. The amendment of the Rules of Procedure is set.*

10. Nomination College of GA Chairs

Ms. Van der Heide announces her candidacy for the College of GA Chairs.

Mr. Buijs reads a letter of Mr. Groenink about his candidacy for the College of GA Chairs.

- *Both candidates are accepted per acclimation.*

11. Discharges and installations

The GA Chair discharges as members of the CALVV Noor Saris and Nicola Otten.

The GA Chair instals as members of the CALVV Marit van der Heide and Thomas Groenink.

The GA Chair suspends the meeting at 19:03.

The GA Chair reopens the meeting at 19:17.

12. Any Other Businesses (W.v.t.t.k.)

Mr. Buijs reads out the first motion. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Constateernde dat de commissaris externe relaties een fenomenale quote uit de Godfather citeert in haar beleid, maar deze film(s) nog nooit gezien heeft. Vraagt de ALV om een watch-party waarbij de Godfather 1 en bij voorkeur ook 2 en 3 gedurende het academisch jaar gescreend worden

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Van Kampen, Pieters et al.

[Since the Commissioner of External Relations has never seen the Godfather, although she used a quote from the series, asks the board to ask a watch party for the Godfather 1 and preferably 2 and 3]

Ms. Jung explains the board has no preference on this motion.

Mr. De Carlos proposes to just organise a watch party for part 1.

Ms. Can feels just watching the first part is enough, since it is quite long

Mr. De Natris remarks the experience includes all three movies.

Mr. Bosman disagrees with the motion.

Ms. Can is asking if the watch party should be starting in the morning or afternoon.

Mr. Bosman believes this should be up to the board.

Mr. Verhoeff mentions there can be multiple watch-parties.

Mr. Buijs clarifies that the motion currently only state that the first movie should be watched.

Mr. De Carlos remarks that watching the greatest movie of all is important for the professionalism of future political scientists.

Mr. Bosman remarks that it ultimately should be up to the board whether something should be organised.

➤ *Motion 1 is adopted with 6 votes in favour, 5 against and 8 abstaining.*

Mr. Buijs reads out the second motion. This is the following.

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Taking into account the vital role trips have for the association, SPIL's gratitude towards the hosting country, the 'vo impact it can have for the common room. The GA asks the board to buy flags of the visited countries and decorate the common rooms with them.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Zeinstra, Van Kampen et al.

Ms. Jung explains the board advises the GA to adopt this motion, since it is nice to add flags to decorate the common room.

Mr. De Carlos remarks that the common rooms are full already and flags can add the rooms looking messy.

Mr. Meijer disagrees, if the flags are small.

Ms. Can remarks there is already a world map in the common room and that adding flags might over represent the trips.

Ms. Wiegers asks if the motion states something about the trips that have already taken place.

Mr. Buijs explains the board interprets this motion as only a request to buy flags from trips to come.

Mr. De Natris proposes buying the flags of the trips of the last five years, and to refresh them every year.

Mr. Verhoeff is wondering if the flag needs to be rebought with a revisit after some years.

Mr. de Natris is proposing an amendment. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Taking into account the vital role trips have for the association, SPIL's gratitude towards the hosting country, the 'vo impact it can have for the common room. The GA asks the board to buy flags of the visited countries during the last 5 years and decorate the common rooms with them. The flag collection will be updated every year.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

- *The amendment is rejected with 5 in favour, 5 against and 9 abstentions.*
- *Motion 2 is adopted with 6 votes in favour, 3 against and 10 abstaining.*

Mr. Buijs reads the third motion. This is the following.

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Requests the current and future boards of SPIL cease from organising any and all events which obviously touch with human rights issues, such as the Qatar World Cup or something in that nature, except if it is solely an educational event such as a debate or guest lecture.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

De Natris, Wiegers et al.

Ms. Jung explains the board advises to reject this motion because the phrasing is subjective and therefore not implementable.

Mr. Verhoeff agrees with the opinion of the board that it is subjective and therefore not implementable.

Mr. De Natris explains that the term 'obvious' was put in the motion, because otherwise there would be even more room for interpretation.

Ms. Jung explains Mr. De Natris' points confirmed why the motion is too subjective.

Ms. Van der Heide believes it is already something the board needs to take into consideration. The board takes decisions, and explain afterwards why they believed an event was in touch with human rights issues. The fact that it is difficult, doesn't change the necessity of the motion.

Mr. De Carlos thinks it is easy to distinguish whether an event is in touch with human rights.

Mr. Verhoeff thinks SPIL being a political neutral organisation already includes the human rights aspect being taken into consideration. The motion is therefore not necessary anymore.

Mr. De Natris remarks that the board explained at the first policy GA that the event would not be cancelled because this would be a political statement.

Ms. Can is asking what the consequence is of organising an event that is not political neutral.

The GA Chair explains the GA can ask questions about the event.

Ms. Jung suggests separating the discussion between the world cup event and the motion.

Ms. Van der Heide believes this motion is trying to move forward from what happened, and to learn from it.

Mr. Verhoeff thinks that there is already enough discussion about events, like the one at the previous GA about the World Cup Viewing, and a new motions are therefore not necessary.

Ms. Van der Heide explains she meant that the event caused a discussion, and out of that discussion this motion appeared. This is a way of trying to make sure further situations like these don't appear again.

Mr. Verhoeff remarks the discussion already made the board think twice about the event.

Ms. Jung explains the board takes political neutrality seriously, and the world cup event was held after it was clear that the majority of the GA was in favour of the event. The board therefore acted upon the mandate given by the GA. The motion is therefore redundant.

➤ *Motion 3 is adopted with 8 votes in favour, 4 against and 9 abstaining.*

Mr. Buijs reads the fourth motion. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Noticing that not everybody on the Brussels Trip knew the lyrics or, in some cases even, the existence of the SPIL anthem. Recognising that the SPIL anthem is an important part of our identity. Suggesting that the SPIL anthem should be printed on the first page of each reader of every trip.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Van der Heide et al.

Ms. Jung explains the board advices to adopt the motion since the SPIL song is an important part of the identity of the association.

Mr. De Carlos remarks that the anthem is in Dutch and is therefore hard to learn for internationals and that tune on which it is sung is not mentioned in the booklet.

Ms. Stuijt remarks that the motion does not state that all members should know the song, just that it should be in the booklet of the trips.

Ms. Gruber adds that executing this motion can help with the integration of international members.

➤ *Motion 4 is adopted with 14 votes in favour, 0 against and 7 abstaining.*

Mr. Buijs reads the fifth motion. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Given the fact that the SPIL book store does not clearly show it is not run by SPIL, but by Studystore, and that Studystore has failed to properly deliver books to students (hurting SPILs image). This motion hereby requests the board to properly inform its members and add a disclaimer to the bookstore about Studystore's responsibility in the book deliveries.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag

Unknown

Ms. Jung explains the board advises to reject this motion because a disclaimer is hard to add to the book sale page of the website.

Ms. Can proposes to also include the Studystore logo.

Mr. De Natris suggests adding a page to the online bookstore with a disclaimer about Studystore handling the sale, before you get redirected to the store itself.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains putting the logo of Studystore on the promotion is impossible since it is not in accordance with the deal with Studystore.

Mr. Verhoeff remarks it is now unclear for members that Studystore handles the book sale. This only hurts the image of SPIL.

Ms. Akande explains there are negotiations with several bookstores and it might not be relevant anymore in a couple of weeks. She proposes to withhold the motion until there is clarity about a new deal.

Mr. Bosman agrees.

Ms. Van der Heide remarks that it might still be in the interest of SPIL to let members know that the bookstore is handled by an external partner, whether this is Studystore or not. Only if adding the disclaimer is possible.

Ms. Can thinks the disclaimer of which company SPIL is working with should be included for all deals.

Mr. Bosman proposes an amendment to make the motion an advice to the board instead of a request. This way, the board can see what is possible and what not.

Mr. Buijs proposes to change the word 'requests' to 'advices'.

The GA Chair suspends the meeting at 19:53.

The GA Chair reopens the meeting at 19:55.

- *Motion 5 is amended by Mr. Verhoeff. It is now as follows:*

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Given the fact that the SPIL book store does not clearly show it is not run by SPIL, but by Studystore, and that Studystore has failed to properly deliver books to students (hurting SPILs image). This motion hereby suggests the board to properly inform its members and add a disclaimer to the bookstore about studystore's responsibility in the book deliveries in whichever way is technically and/or lawfully possible.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag

Mr. De Natris remarks a disclaimer can be neutral.

- *Amended motion 5 is adopted with 14 votes in favour, 0 against and 8 abstaining.*

Mr. Buijs reads the sixth motion. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Requests that from 2023 onwards, a world café to be organised in any form every block by an existing committee with the suggestion of that committee being the education committee.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag

De Natris, Bosman, Meijer, Wiegers, Renes, Uittenhout

Ms. Jung explains the board advices to reject this motion, because it should be the choice of committees to choose what to organise and not set in stone. The board however agrees the event was successful and is sure the committees will take the positive feedback into account.

Ms. Can remarks that the name world café is a bit too vague for some members to understand what the event will be about.

Mr. De Natris explains his reasons for submitting the motion is that some members are missing the existence of a debate as activity.

Ms. Stuijt thinks every block is maybe too often for the education committee.

Ms. Renes thinks that 'world café' is a specific concept known worldwide.

Ms. Van der Heide also thinks four times a year is way too much for the education committee. This motion might hurt the organisation of other relevant events.

Mr. De Natris agrees it might be too much of a workload for the education committee, but other committees can also organise the events.

The GA Chair explains traditions and regular organised events aren't written down somewhere.

Ms. Uittenhout proposes an amendment to add only to organise the event when possible.

Mr. Buijs explains the board really understands the event was popular. However, there is a big risk in filling motions about all events that needs to be organised, since this might create a cascade in mandatory events per year.

Mr. De Natris proposes to make it an advice instead of a request.

Mr. Buijs believes this is better, but still believes advices can be given in the form of statements on GA's and that a motion here fore is not necessary.

Mr. De Natris explains that he filled the motion to make sure the board really takes it into consideration.

Ms. Van der Klok will take into account that debates and world cafés are popular.

Mr. Bosman adds that since the discussion is included in the minutes, Mr. De Natris can be sure his suggestions will be taken into account.

➤ *Motion 6 has been withdrawn.*

Mr. Buijs reads the seventh motion. This is the following:

De Algemene Ledenvergadering, hier bijeen in Scotts Tavern, Leiden:

Vraagt om elk board member om elk omstebeurt hun penning af te doen, hun persoonlijk opinie te geven over de erkenning van de soevereiniteit van België en oftewel zij voor de annexatie van Vlaanderen al dan niet Wallonië zijn.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag

Breed et al.

[Board members should take of their 'penning' and give a statement on the sovereignty of Belgium]

➤ *The Chair of the GA remarks that the motion cannot be discussed because the board can't make personal statements at GA's.*

Mr. De Natris mentions Mr. Buijs made a personal statement at the first part of the policy GA.

13. Round of questions

Mr. De Natris is asking why the board made a personal statement at the first part of the policy GA.

Mr. Buijs apologises again for his statements made at the previous GA, and that was corrected and he hopes the GA does not deem it necessary to file a motion of no confidence.

Ms. Wiegers is asking if the statutes explain what politically neutral means.

Mr. Buijs explains it is not.

Mr. Bosman explains this is also covered in national law on associations.

Ms. Ammerlaan is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know she is very much looking forward to the borrel and the DEBAT reveal.

Mr. Lamers is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know he completely agrees with the words of Ms. Ammerlaan. He is very happy the policy is accepted and he is looking forward to working with the GA the rest of the year.

Ms. Gruber is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know she is still fully enjoying her board year.

Ms. Van der Klok is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know she completely agrees with the words of Ms. Ammerlaan, Mr. Lamers and Ms. Gruber.

Ms. Akande is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know she is impressed with the show up for this GA.

Mr. Buijs is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know that he is really happy with the attendance and he hopes the members that are present will also be there at the next GA. He hopes everyone will join the borrel afterwards.

Ms. Jung is asking if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIInd board know that she agrees with Mr. Buijs and that she hopes the members will tell their friends the GA is nice. She is also very proud of her board.

14. Discharge of Voting Committee

The GA Chair thanks them for their service and discharges Ms. Stuijt and Mr. Bosman the voting committee.

15. End of meeting

After the SPIL anthem has been sung, the GA Chair closes the meeting at 20:16.

INTERIM POLICY PLAN SPILIBUSTER 2022-2023

1. LONG TERM POLICY GOALS

The main goals of the association have been recorded in the statutes of the association. These are the following:

The association's goal is to:

- 1a. contribute to a lively exchange of views regarding subjects of interest to political scientists within the field of Political Science and beyond;
- 1b. advance contacts with universities outside of The Netherlands in its broadest sense;
- 1c. inform about the possibilities of internships and about the position of political scientists on the job market;
- 1d. advance contact between political scientists on an informal level.
2. The association aims to reach this goal by organising gatherings in the broadest sense, domestic and foreign excursions, and the publication of a journal.
3. The association is politically neutral.

These are the foundations upon which the policy goals of the XLIInd board 'SPILibuster' are built.

2. ASSOCIATION WIDE POLICY GOALS

NS personnel sees SPIL'ers in board-suits

"If you like, you can sit first class"

2.1 Visibility

The XLIInd board believes that visibility is of the utmost importance for the association. A visible association and board will result in a welcoming atmosphere for all members, regardless of their study programme, residence or nationality. Leiden and The Hague are equally important, as is the input from all members. Being visible is essential in making sure everyone can join and contribute to the association.

Over the past months, the XLIInd board has tried to be approachable towards members, other associations, the faculty and the Institute both physically in the common rooms and online. These efforts include, but are not limited to, consistent communication about events on social media and in the newsletter, the board being completely present at as many activities as possible, inviting study advisors to activities, and cooperating with the faculty for events. Furthermore, the association has been represented at various Open Days, Introduction Weeks (e.g. Winter OWL) and different kinds of Student for A Day activities to make sure that future students are also aware of all that SPIL has to offer.

2.2 Interconnectedness

Interconnectedness is meant for all different levels of the association. One of these levels is within the board. The norm for decision making has been consensus, which has proved to work well during the first semester. If differences in opinion occurred, the XLIInd board worked together to find a common ground. Once decisions have been made, this was communicated to the outside world homogeneously.

As important as interconnectedness within the board, the board wishes to be connected to the members. The XLIInd board has consistently been trying to approach (new) members and make them feel welcome. This has resulted in a warm and welcoming community of members that is always open. Committee chairs are recommended to undertake bonding activities with their committees. Therefore, the XLIInd board has continued this year with the Committee Cup, to enhance committee bonding and involvement within the association. Furthermore, the Committee Bonding Day took place on the 3rd of December. All committee members were invited to play pool in their committee long sleeves, while having free drinks and snacks. The Committee Thank You Day will be organised later this year.

Via mouth-to-mouth referrals, non-committee members are also invited to events, to connect them to the association and all she has to offer. The XLIInd board believes creating interconnectedness on all different

levels of the association is never done, and will continue the upcoming semester to try and achieve this even further.

2.3 Innovation

The XLIInd board has experimented with several innovations during the past semester. The dress code has been made completely gender neutral to make sure all members feel accepted. During the past semester, the XLIInd board has noticed that members feel more comfortable wearing formal clothes (e.g. other than what fits the man/woman stereotypes) and even the B.I.L. has copied the new dress code.

Another example of an innovation is the sustainability taskforce. Although the XLIInd board didn't propose the establishment of such a taskforce, she is very happy with the efforts by members in this regard. Furthermore, the Commissioner Internal Relations has made agreements with the regular bars about not only the price for beer, but also for non-alcoholic drinks to make sure all members feel included. Another innovation are the new rainbow SPIL-stickers, made for the first Purple Friday celebration.

To facilitate the opportunity for innovation even more for the rest of the year, the XLIInd board has set up an evaluation form for committee members. This way members can evaluate the past semester and suggest improvements to the board about the function of the committee or the association as a whole.

3. PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONER DIES

3.1 President

"I am in love with us as a board" - Ms. Ammerlaan

3.1.1 Internal Affairs

Over the past semester, the XLIInd board has worked hard to organise activities for the members and to keep the association running smoothly. To achieve this, the President has been trying to create good communication within the board. She has realised that spending time on extra talks with board members is worthwhile.

Besides checking in casually, the President plans personal evaluations after each block. These have been very successful to discuss how the board member is doing with regard to their function, but also on a personal level. The President also tries to find out how to improve things like the weekly board meetings. One of the things she does is discuss difficult issues or feelings with the concerned board member(s) before the board meeting, to take off the sensitive edge and make the discussion during the board meeting more focussed. This makes the meeting overall more productive, with a more constructive environment. As a result, more time is left for "puntje persoonlijk", in which everyone is always very honest and open about how they are doing on a personal level.

After the first semester, the President organised a board evaluation day in which the yearplan was amended, the position of the board on trips was discussed and everyone evaluated their priorities. Overall the President is proud to see that all board members are still motivated and invested in their board year. They have been working really well as a team and help each other when someone is feeling overwhelmed by the workload.

3.1.2 External representation

The President has been representing the association in different meetings and organisations. She has noticed that the Association Deliberation (Verenigen Overleg – VerO) Leiden has been especially useful to communicate with the hallway associations and the assessor. Together they are looking into collaborations, improvements for the faculty and better communication between the faculty board/staff and the associations. Less frequent, meetings for the VerO The Hague are organised. From now on, the President will attend these as well. The Study association Deliberation Platform (StOP) organises the Big Association Deliberation (GroVer) which can offer perspective about issues that all big study associations experience. The President also tries to attend the StOP general assemblies to stay up to date with their policy and plans.

3.1.3 Platform for Political Scientists

The President meets approximately every month with board members from EOS (Free University of Amsterdam -VU), Ismus (Radboud University) and Machiavelli (University of Amsterdam -UVA) in the Platform for Political Scientists (PvP). These meetings are meant to discuss current issues within the different associations and to oversee the organisation of the PiP Congress. The President is working as Treasurer within the PvP. She has also made sure that the Ultimate Beneficiary Owners (UBO) of PvP are registered correctly.

The PiP Committee consists of six members, two of which are from SPIL. They hold the positions of Chair and Secretary. The collaboration between the different associations has been going well. Due to some organisational issues the PiP Congress is being postponed. It will now take place the 8th of May in Nijmegen. The theme will be “Diplomacies with Autocracies”.

3.1.4 Other activities

After the first block, the President organised a reflection meeting for all committee chairs. It was nice for everyone to discuss their work and ask each other for advice. However, it was difficult to find a date that everyone was available. For the chairs that missed the meeting, there were some dates on which they could talk to the President personally, which some chairs did. The President is currently finding a new date for the chairs to meet. This will probably be combined with a social activity, to stimulate bonding between the chairs. In the meantime, the President reminds all chairs that they can always reach out to her. Multiple chairs have had calls or meetings for some extra advice or a listening ear.

One of the President’s goals, in light of the XLIInd board’s pillar “Innovation”, was to organise an activity on Purple Friday. This idea was turned into two days of activities, thanks to the Education Committee organising a lecture and the Festive Committee organising a “Purple Borrel”. The President decided to organise a creative activity where people could meet up and talk about whatever they felt comfortable with. In both The Hague and Leiden students could paint their own tote bags. The President asked Labyrinth, Emile and Itiwana to join and make it a faculty wide activity, which they did. The board found these activities very successful and hopes to see upcoming boards organise something for and about the LGBTQ+ community (on Purple Friday).

In light of the Purple Friday activities and the change of the dresscode, the President was invited to speak at the Diversity and Inclusion Symposium, where she proudly talked about the XLIInd board’s innovations. The President has also signed the Declaration of Equity on behalf of SPIL, which is meant as a letter of intent to respect values surrounding diversity and inclusion. The document gives non-binding practical advice to make an association more accessible for everyone. The declaration can be found on the Leiden University website.

This year, the XLIInd board helped with the organisation of “meestuderen”, which was previously called “Politologie Inside”. The two day programme was filled with activities for potential Political Science and International Politics students. The Education Committee organised one activity that these high school students were invited to. Furthermore, the President helped search for accommodation for the students and joined the group for some parts to excite the prospective future members.

The President has looked into board-liability insurance and believes such insurance is of importance. However, the XLIInd board has decided to postpone this innovation, due to other (financial) priorities of this year. The President would like to advise the next board to look into insurance again if they find it important.

The President has been talking to a lot of associations and experts about how to set up a trust persons network. After hearing different approaches, she has decided to find one person from the board and one former (board) member. This way members can choose who they go to, whether it is a board member who is involved in all SPIL related things or someone who knows the association, but does not come to activities anymore. This Confidential Contact Person (CCP) will be appointed for one academic year, but can stay in function longer if they wish. The President is looking into training for the CCP, so they know what to expect and understand how to talk to people in need. She will also try to create a direct link between the CCP and the student psychologist from the University so the CCP can direct students if they need it.

3.2 Commissioner Dies

“Does being in committees count as a hobby? I think so...” - Ms. Benli

3.2.1 Dies Committee

Next year’s Dies Committee will be formed this academic year. Sign-ups will open probably around May, at the same time as the Brussels Committee.

3.2.2 Diesweek

In the week of the birthday of SPIL (8th of November) the Dies Committee successfully organised a full week of activities. It was quite a busy week for the committee and the board, so the next committee could look into organising less than seven activities if they want to make it a bit more relaxed. The committee got a lot of positive feedback on the activities and it was definitely a festive week overall. The President feels like a new tradition has risen to do a Dies Dive every year on the 8th of November!

4. SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER STAIRS AFFAIRS

4.1 Secretary

“If Robin is satisfied, the world is going alright” - Evaelle

4.1.1 Membership account

At present, SPIL has a total of ... members. The bachelor consists of ... international politics students, ... political science students and ... international relations and organisation students. There are ... master students and ... members whose programme is unknown.

The Secretary has strived to keep the membership account as up to date as possible. The number of members is somewhat lower than during the last GA. This is because members that have not paid the membership fee after three reminders have been deregistered, in line with the motion that was accepted during the continuation of the policy GA of the XL1st board. The Secretary is aware this difference in members might seem important, but recognises that members that don’t pay the fee do not belong in the system. He is therefore confident these de-registrations have no practical or visible effect on the association.

The Secretary has noticed in the communication with members that a lot of members are not aware of the general provisions connected to membership. He has, in cooperation with the Commissioner External Relations, added the most important provisions to the registration form for new members on the website. He believes this will lead to less problems in this regard in the future.

4.1.2 Newsletter

The Secretary has tried to make the newsletter more appealing to read with some changes. He used a less formal tone, added some new segments (like ‘experience from members’, ‘quote of the month’, ‘roomservice’) and restyled the layout to a more modern format. The Secretary has, in close cooperation with the Commissioner Education and Politics and the Commissioner External Relations, tried to promote the book sale and activities the best way possible. The hallway associations, Institute and study advisors also receive the newsletter.

4.1.3 Reunionists

The reunionists received their first newsletter at the beginning of February. The Secretary still strives to send them three newsletters in total: in February, June and September.

4.1.4 Alumni

The Secretary has mentioned in his previous policy that the alumni are fully the responsibility of the association, since the LAP (Leids Alumni Platform) has been dissolved. This was incorrect. The university has a database containing the contact information of 4431 political science (all specialisations) bachelor-

alumni and 938 master-alumni. These are not SPIL-alumni, but alumni from the programmes. The Secretary cannot directly get access to their information due to the General Data Protection Regulation, but he can reach them via the faculty of social sciences.

The Secretary has contacted multiple other associations about their Alumni Committees. He decided that the most efficient way to organise alumni-events is by doing it himself (without a committee). He is currently in the process of organising network borrel and dinner in cooperation with the hallway associations and the faculty of social sciences. He is also in contact with the Marketing and Student Recruitment Office and the Institute of Political Science about ways to improve relations with alumni.

Currently, SPIL has a total of ... alumni.

4.1.5 General Assemblies

As stated in his previous policy, the Secretary sees the General Assemblies as the backbone of the association. He has experimented with a 'how does the GA work' -post on Instagram, where he explained the rights and duties of members. He also included the topics that will be discussed in the promotion and invitation. Despite these attempts to make GA's more accessible, he unfortunately did not notice a big difference in attendance. The Secretary has discussed the GA with various other associations to get some insights on how to improve (e.g. powerpoints instead of physical booklets, mandatory sign-ups and hosting GA's at the university). Nevertheless, he still believes the current GA-format is the most accessible and appealing for members. He will however experiment with a sign up for physical booklets, to reduce the environmental effect of printing. Members that didn't request said booklet, can read the discussed documents online. He will communicate earlier to members when a GA will take place, in the form of a 'save the date' mail or post.

The Secretary is happy with the introduction of the board's advice on motions and believes this will make members more aware of the XLIInd boards motivations and policy.

4.1.6 Former boards file

In his previous policy, the Secretary mentioned the intention to update the former boards file. Unfortunately, he has at time of writing not yet had the chance to do so. This is not because he deems them not important, but due to time constraints.

4.1.7 Former boards borrel

The Secretary has sent out the invitation around two months before the borrel, following the advice of the GA. He is very much looking forward to this event and believes it is the perfect opportunity to thank former board members and to keep them involved within the association.

4.2 Commissioner Stairs Affairs

"They always say that it's a mistake to hire your friends. And they are right. So, I hired my best friends" - Michael Scott

4.2.1 Committee

The Secretary was very optimistic about the potential of this committee at the beginning of the year. He still is, but he has also realised this project is more difficult than expected. Although the committee has organised a first event, is really close and has a great time together, this has not resulted in many activities overall. The fact that the committee consists of more experienced members of B.I.L. and SPIL has also resulted in difficulties, due to everyone's busy schedule and priorities. Leiden University has also not proved to be as enthusiastic about Stairs Affairs as previously thought, meaning they spend less time and effort on the project than expected. The Secretary believes the committee might function better in the future if treated like a regular committee with the normal application procedure (although it can remain a cooperation with B.I.L.). He will further evaluate the format of the committee in the coming months, in cooperation with the overseeing Commissioner of the B.I.L..

5. TREASURER & COMMISSIONER SPIL WEEKEND

5.1 Treasurer

“Ik heb een wat Zuid-Europese penningmeester stijl” - K. (oud-penningmeester Jonge Socialisten)

5.1.1 Re-budgeting

The Treasurer together with the Secretary has been able to collect the membership fee of this year at the end of December. The total amount collected ended up slightly higher than originally budgeted, therefore the Treasurer is satisfied with this income post. As per accordance with the GA, all three reminders have been sent out by the Secretary. Therefore the Treasurer does not expect any substantial increase in membership fee income.

Unfortunately, the Treasurer is experiencing severe insecurities regarding the StudyStore income. At the moment of writing, the Treasurer has not received any provisions from either block 1 or 2. Following the news of StudyStore's bankruptcy the Treasurer is concerned whether or not SPIL will still receive their money at all. Nonetheless she still re-budgeted money for it, due to a previous email indicating SPIL's payment was already processed and should be transferred to our bank.

On top of that the NPO contribution has not been able to be fully realised, the main reason for this was the time constraints SPIL had to work with. The announcement of the funding was done well after the start of the academic year, and paired with the restraint on certain types of activities that could be applicable for the grant it was not feasible for the committees to organise so many events.

Like last year the Festive committee has made a small profit from the high attendance of the Halloween party. Normally the Treasurer would make a reservation specifically for the Festive committee's activities, however due to uncertainties in income the Treasurer is forced to use the money to substitute income.

5.1.2 Membership fee

As per the decision of the GA at the 3rd of October 2022, the membership fee has increased this year onwards from €16,- to €17,50. The collection of the membership fee this year was planned for the end of November. Unfortunately the Treasurer and Secretary did not succeed to collect it around that time, despite having started preparations early. The unexpected reason for this was that the direct-debit contract SPIL had with the ABN AMRO had to be renegotiated due to a cap of €16,- on the collection per member. After many phone calls with the bank, the issue was resolved and SPIL received a new contract.

Afterwards, the Treasurer and Secretary went to work again and are happy to announce they managed to deduct the membership fee at the end of December, before the change of the year and big events like the short trip. The Treasurer and Secretary have sent reminders to members with whom the direct debit withdrawal failed. Members that didn't comply with this request, have been deregistered. Recognising how important the membership fee deduction is, and realising how much time and effort it took to get everything properly set up, the Treasurer and Secretary are planning on writing a shared whitepaper for their successors, with step-to-step guidance and tips for a smooth direct debit withdrawal.

5.1.3 Audit Committee

The Treasurer and the Audit Committee decided upon three audit checks for this year. The first audit check happened on the 14th of December, while the second audit check happened on the 23rd of February. The report of the check can be found printed out at the GA, and will be presented by the Audit Committee themselves, or the Treasurer in case of their absence. The third audit check will happen before the Change of Boards GA. The Treasurer is extremely pleased with her Audit Committee, and very grateful for the clear communication, advice and fast replies they give. The Treasurer is convinced this beneficial relationship will continue for the rest of the year.

5.1.4 Mollie

After recommendation by her predecessors, the Treasurer has looked into opening a second Mollie account, one for merchandise sale and the other for ticket sales and remaining income. After getting into contact with Mollie, the Treasurer was informed SPIL needed to make some updates to the website before the second account could be fully functioning. To get this endeavour done, the Treasurer has been in close contact with the Commissioner External Relations. After getting everything working, another problem unfortunately arose, currently the website can only use one API key, therefore only one Mollie account, to receive payments. Currently the Commissioner External Relations is investigating whether or not this is changeable with word press.

5.2 Commissioner SPIL Weekend

“Oliebollen with or without raisins?” - Lara’s first message in the SPIL Weekend whatsapp group

5.2.1. Committee

The SPIL Weekend Committee was formed in the beginning of December. The committee consists of 6 members in total with a chair, secretary, treasurer and 3 general members. The committee is diverse, with members across all years and specialisations and an even divide of Dutch and international members.

The meetings with the committee began in early December as well, and the Treasurer is very proud of their hard work and enthusiasm towards the trip. The committee works very independently, but the Treasurer still tries to be at every meeting to form a connection between the board and committee, and be there for any questions or guidance if needed. However, the committee does an excellent job at keeping the purpose of the trip in their minds.

5.2.2. Location

The location of the SPIL Weekend has been decided, and this year the weekend will take place in Antwerp. The location was chosen after each member presented locations that they found appealing for the trip and gave a small presentation about. The locations were a mix of cities and countryside, after picking favourites, research began about which places were financially feasible and still exciting. The final contender ended up being Antwerp and the committee is currently in the process of finalising the hostel booking.

6. COMMISSIONER EDUCATION & POLITICS

“Ja, reuze leuk!” - Christiaan van Minnen (owner INDEX Books)

6.1 Education Committee

The Education Committee succeeded in organising two formal activities so far. The first activity was titled ‘Russia and its neighbours.’ The Commissioner considered the event successful. This was especially due to the high turnout. The Commissioner believes the high turnout was because the event was very relevant and because the event was open to SPIL’ers and non-SPIL’ers. The committee specifically invited students from the study association for Russian studies (MOST).

The second event organised by the Education Committee was an interactive Purple Friday themed lecture. A professor and a member from the LGBTQ+ community were invited to come to speak. Unfortunately, the professor cancelled at the last minute. Yet, this did not necessarily have a negative impact on the quality of the event. The lecture of the member of the LGBTQ+ community was still considered very impactful. The turnout of the event was neither high nor low. Again, SPIL’ers and non-SPIL’ers were welcome. To introduce SPIL activities to potential future SPIL members, the board invited high school students from the "meestudeer" dag. On top of that, the Commissioner invited students from gender studies and the study association for linguistics (TWIST) to come to the lecture. Moreover, a great effort was put into the promotion of the event. The Commissioner contacted the Social Sciences social media webeditor to promote the lecture on the Leiden social sciences instagram. Furthermore, professors from gender studies promoted the event on their given brightspace pages.

At time of writing, the Education Committee is organising the Career Night. This career event will take place in the first week of March. A variety of guests are invited to come to speak about their career path. Also, an old SPIL'er is invited. The format of the event will be similar to previous years.

The Education Committee has been unable to take part in the evaluation of the Political Science bachelor's degree. The reason for this is because the Commissioner has noticed that the committee simply does not have the time to perform this task. Right now, the workload of the committee is considered doable, but with adding this extra task of evaluating the bachelor's programme the workload would be too heavy. On top of that, delegating this extra task to the Education Committee would be inefficient since the main task of the Programme Committee is to evaluate the bachelor's degree. The Commissioner, just like her predecessor, therefore concludes that it is not desirable for the Education Committee to evaluate the bachelor's programme on top of organising formal activities for SPIL'ers.

6.2 Excursions Committee

The Excursions Committee has organised a total of three excursions in the first semester. The first excursion was to the Dutch Parliament. This excursion was organised together with ProDemos. What was noticeable about the evaluation of this visit was that whether you enjoyed the excursion depended mainly on whether you were a Dutch student or an international student. For Dutch students the information given during the tour was considered basic knowledge. Yet, for international students the information was considered very interesting.

The second excursion organised by the Excursions Committee was a visit to an ad hoc criminal court; the Kosovo chamber. For this event limited spots were available. Therefore, signing up was required. However, turnout was lower than expected. Reasons for this low turnout vary. Some students simply did not attend and others cancelled at the last minute.

Besides that, another problem was noticed during the Kosovo chamber excursion. Not every attendee took the given dress code, business casual, as seriously. Thus, the Commissioner wishes to be stricter on the dress code policy as well. Yet, overall the quality of the excursion itself was high.

The third excursion organised by the Excursions Committee was a visit to the Red Cross. SPIL'ers found it informative. Furthermore, SPIL'ers were motivated after the excursion, therefore some networking was done with Red Cross employees and volunteers at the end of the excursion. This visit was also the first one to work with a new registration system for excursions. The Commissioner noticed some improvement. Less people cancelled last minute.

The next excursion planned by the Excursions Committee is a visit to Eurojust. This visit is in collaboration with the study association of criminal law (SOS). On top of that, the Commissioner has organised an extra excursion with her chair to the headquarters of Google NL.

Because the Commissioner noticed that not everyone that signs up for an excursion actually attends, she has devised a new registration system for SPIL excursions. For future excursions, students need to confirm their attendance by email within a certain number of days. If no confirmation email has been received, a second reminder via Whatsapp or text will be sent. When a student then still doesn't reply, students on the waiting list will get a chance to attend the excursion with the same conditions. The Commissioner hopes that with this new registration system a cancellation for attending an excursion is discouraged.

6.3 Master activities

At the time of writing, the new Masters Activities Committee is being formed. Prior to this committee formation, the Commissioner tried to stimulate as many students as possible to join this committee. This was done in multiple ways. The main way was advertising through mouth-to-mouth referrals. Moreover, the Commissioner and her committee joined an informal welcome event organised by the Institute dedicated to master students starting in February. Right now, interviews with the potential candidates for the new committee are being held and the Commissioner hopes to form the new committee by the end of February.

6.4 Book sale

The Commissioner has ended the contract with the online book supplier Studystore and started a new contract with a local bookstore in Leiden called INDEX Books. With the help of the book sale taskforce and the Treasurer, pro's and con's regarding different book suppliers were thoroughly weighed, and in the end the decision has been made to continue the book sale with a new partner. The main reason why this decision was made was because the Commissioner found that Studystore was unable to meet the essential needs of students regarding the book sale. These needs include but are not limited to; delivering books (on time) and basic customer service. The Commissioner believes that the new book supplier, INDEX Books, is able to meet these essential needs of students. Furthermore, the Commissioner believes that INDEX Books is even able to provide more. This new book supplier has the qualities to encourage students to buy study books due to its friendly and sympathetic appearance.

To celebrate this new partnership the Commissioner Education and Politics and the Commissioner External Relations came up with the idea to organise a welcoming event in the bookstore of INDEX Books. This event took place mid February, just when the new semester started. There was live music and a borrel. Besides that, professor Arjen Boin was invited to give a lecture in the bookstore since he introduced SPIL to INDEX Books. The event was considered successful. Active SPIL'ers joined the event and some even bought a few study books whilst being there.

6.5 Programme Committee

The Commissioner has tried to be actively involved in the tasks of the Programme Committee. With an open demeanour she has listened to the experiences that SPIL'ers shared regarding the courses that they follow. These experiences were included and taken into consideration in the OLC meetings.

On top of that, the Commissioner and her fellow OLC members have successfully written a student chapter by request of the Programme Director Nikoleta Yordanova. This chapter is a detailed and thorough evaluation of the entire Bachelor's programme. The student chapter will be included in the Programme Board's self-evaluation of the Bachelor degree.

Moreover, the Programme Committee and the Institute Board will be organising 'OLC coffee hour sessions' the second semester of the academic year. Student members of the Programme Committee will be sitting and chatting with students about the Bachelor's programme in the café in both Wijnhaven and Pieter de la Court. Free drinks and snacks will be provided. These sessions will serve as an extra opportunity for students to share their views on the Bachelor's degree.

The first OLC coffee hour sessions have already taken place. The Commissioner and her predecessor, who is also a member of the OLC, made the decision to organise this first session for the Leiden specialisations in the SPIL common room. This was in order to stimulate a higher turnout and greater visibility. The session was considered informative and all gathered feedback was included in the following OLC meeting.

Lastly, the Commissioner also helped during the 'FSW NSE Actiedag.' During this day the Commissioner stimulated multiple social science students to fill in the 'Nationale Studenten Enquête.'

6.6 FLO

On the 7th and 8th of February the Faculty Career Orientation Days took place. Just like all other hallway associations within the Pieter de la Court building, SPIL was involved in the organisation of the event in multiple ways. One SPIL'er was part of the FLO Committee. Also, board members volunteered to help during the FLO days. Thus, great time and effort was put into the organisation of the event. As a result, the content of the event was of great quality. There were a variety of insightful panels and workshops. On top of that, all guest speakers were considered to be very motivational, and snacks and drinks were provided for all FLO participants, volunteers and committee members.

However, the organisation of the FLO days can be improved in some ways. There was regular and clear communication between the SPIL delegate within the FLO Committee and the Commissioner, but during the event there wasn't a clear delegation of tasks. Hallway associations were encouraged to collect volunteers for FLO, but some did not understand in what way the organisers of FLO needed to help. That's why, especially during day one of the event, volunteers were a bit discouraged whilst helping out. Yet, what exactly went wrong and right during the FLO days will be discussed in an evaluation meeting organised by the FLO Committee. In addition to that, an extra evaluation will be held between board members of all hallway associations who have the FLO days under their portfolio.

6.7 Student Sounding Board

Just like her predecessor, the Commissioner has decided to take part in the Student Sounding Board. The meetings of the Student Sounding Board are organised by the social sciences faculty assessor. The board had a total of two meetings in the first semester. The Commissioner was present at one of them. This meeting was about sustainability at the faculty. As SPIL representative the Commissioner tried her best to represent the association's interest. Therefore, she participated actively in brainstorming about how to make the faculty as sustainable as possible. On top of that, the Commissioner talked about SPIL's new sustainability taskforce.

7. COMMISSIONER GLOBAL RELATIONS

Uber driver: *"what have you been up to whilst being here"*

Noor: *"we picked up Portuguese trash"*

The Commissioner is content with the work of her four committees: Brussels Excursion, Short Trip, Congress and Long Trip Committee. While the Brussels Excursion and Short Trip have already taken place, the other committees are still enthusiastically working on preparing the congress and the annual Long Trip. The communication between the Commissioner and chairs remains very effective: the Commissioner is reachable at all times and also tries to follow-up on the personal well-being of all her chairs. The committees consist of very proactive and efficient members, therefore there is good cooperation within the committees and between the Commissioner and the committees.

The committees are very independent in nature, however the Commissioner monitors and approves every decision made by her committees. For trips committees, the chair and the Commissioner worked out a division of tasks based on the preferences of committee members: every member is assigned to a specific task including accommodation, public transport, political activities, cultural activities and COVID and safety. Developments of each category are discussed during meetings, where the Commissioner tries to be present as frequently as possible. If the presence is not possible, the chair informs the Commissioner privately about the content of the meeting. Additionally, the Commissioner together with the Treasurer is in charge of arranging aeroplane tickets, as it involves close coordination between the board and the committee. Overall, the Commissioner is very pleased with the work of all her committees and encourages them to keep up the good work.

7.1 Brussels excursion

On the 14th and 15th of November, 48 participants travelled to Brussels for the yearly Brussels Excursion. The group departed very early in the morning to maximise the time spent in one of the capitals of the European Union. Afterwards, arriving participants had the chance to leave their luggage. Then, the group started the official excursion with a visit to NATO headquarters. During the visit, the participants were provided by lunch and an interesting presentation about the history and current mission of NATO. Later, the trip continued to the European External Action Service, where we had the chance to get more information about the political priorities of the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell by Steven Everts (Senior Communication and Strategy Adviser of the HR/VP an alumni of Leiden University). The evening was closed with a dinner at Wolf Food Court, where due to the variety of the food, everyone could find something to enjoy. We started our next morning at the Czech representation to the European Council, as they have previously held the rotating presidency. Later, we continued our journey with a visit to the European Commission and the House of European History.

The Commissioner is very satisfied with the work of the committee, as most of the details were settled by the beginning of September. All the political and cultural activities have been confirmed 2 months prior to the trip, as well as the accommodation and transport have been booked in advance. With a combination of an invested and precise chair and social and pro-active committee members, they managed to organise a memorable Brussels Excursion.

On the trip itself, the Commissioner experienced minor setbacks, as there were problems with buying the public transport tickets. This year there were no major problems with COVID and cancellations. However, the Commissioner still found it very useful to include a sub-part about coronavirus protocol and cancellation policy in the participation contract.

7.2 Short Trip

The selection procedure for Short Trip happened in the traditional way, with the Commissioner, an old board member and an employee of Leiden University evaluating the letters. However, the change in the Rules of Procedure has been passed by the previous GA, therefore the procedure will be different for the Long Trip.

Prior to the trip, the committee has organised two pre-activities for the participants to get to know each other. Firstly, the Portuguese Ambassador to the Netherlands presented an overview about Portugal and Portuguese-Dutch relations, which was ended by a board game night with snacks. Secondly, there has been an online quiz night about Lisbon followed by an informal discussion.

From the 27th of January to the 3rd of February, 40 SPIL members (including 7 committee and 7 board members) travelled to Lisbon, Portugal. The Short Trip Committee has organised an interesting programme with five cultural, nine political, one sustainable and many social elements. The trip started with Crazy 42, followed by a day of city tour and visit to the Museum of Ancient Art. The weekend continued with a day-trip to Sintra including a visit to the Sintra National Palace and the Palace of Monserrate. After a cultural weekend, the political programme started with a visit to the Portuguese Parliament. Further, the programme included meetings with the regional office of the International Labour Organization and International Organization for Migration, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, European Union Representation in Portugal, Community of Portuguese Language Speaking Countries, Dutch Embassy, Portuguese Institute of International Relations and professors from the Faculty of Law at Universidade NOVA de Lisboa. Social activities consisted of final dinner and a karaoke night.

The participation fee was set at 250 euros, which was slightly higher than in the previous years. However, due to inflation and growing gas prices a lower fee was not possible. Additionally, to the participation fee and the contribution from SPIL, the committee received 997 euros additional funds from CASSA that was dedicated specifically to the Sintra day trip. From the budget, all the mandatory and optional programmes, transport, accommodations and final dinner were covered.

The Commissioner is very pleased with the work of the committee as they have put together an academically engaging and interesting programme for the participants. Specifically, the Commissioner is content with the atmosphere of the trip: there was a big amount of integration between Dutch and international students, that allowed for new friendships and unforgettable SPIL memories.

7.3 Long Trip

7.3.1 Destination

The Commissioner Global Relations, together with the Long Trip Committee has chosen Amman (Jordan) as the destination of the Long Trip. The destination has been set based on the following criteria:

a. Political relevance:

- i. Domestic: Officially, Jordan is a constitutional monarchy trying on the path of democratisation, however the reality remains different. In practice, Jordan is an absolute monarchy where the king predominantly controls politics and administration. The lower house of the parliament is elected, although the voting process disadvantages the opposition, and the legislature actually has little real power. Government pressure and limiting regulations make it difficult for the media and civil society organisations to operate. Additionally, Jordan has 30 registered parties, but only two of them are significant in politics: Islamic Action Front and Jordanian National Youth Party. Therefore, party identities are quite strong and polarisation is present in every area of life. As the Netherlands is also considered to be a constitutional monarchy, it would be interesting for political science students to compare the possible differences and similarities of the two systems.
- ii. International: Historically, Jordan's foreign policy has consistently been one that is pro-Western, including the US and the UK as allies. However, Jordan's declaration of neutrality during the Gulf War and continued connections with Iraq harmed these ties. After the war, Jordan's participation in the Middle East conflict process and implementation of UN sanctions against Iraq have helped to substantially repair its relations with Western nations. Today, Jordan keeps a close relationship with the European Union and participates in many international organisations. Therefore, visiting Jordan is intriguing for political science students as its role remains important in the regional changes and peace processes of the Middle East, as well as it is one of the main destinations for refugees from Syria.
- iii. Cultural relevance: Jordan's culture is largely influenced by Arabic and Islamic influences. Due to its location at the meeting point of the ancient world's three continents, Jordan has a diverse geographic landscape and population. By travelling to Jordan, participants will be able to discover Islamic culture, while visiting one of the seven world wonders, Petra.
- iv. Scientific relevance: As Jordan is a Middle Eastern country, politics and religion are correlated. For political science students, it will be insightful to understand how secularism is present in an Islamic country.
- v. Financial feasibility: One of the reasons why Jordan has been chosen is its financial feasibility. Compared to Amsterdam Amman is 70 % cheaper in terms of transport, eating out and entertainment. With the low prices of Jordan, one or two day trips from Amman are also possible. However, to maximise the budget and reduce the cost for participants the Commissioner and the Treasurer are working together to request a CASSA subsidy. Additionally, the Commissioner and the committee are working on organising a special team building activity aiming at specifically integrating Dutch and international students, so they can submit a request for Van Bergen Fund.
- vi. Safety assurance: According to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jordan is considered to be mostly in the yellow zone, except for the borders with Syria and Iraq that are orange. Yellow travel advice means that the security risks are different than the Netherlands, but still a safe choice for tourism purposes.
- vii. Sustainability: As the Long Trip has to travel outside of Europe, the possibility to travel by train or bus is limited. Therefore, the Commissioner tries to organise at least one sustainable activity on the trip.

7.3.2 Alternative destinations

The Commissioner is very pleased with the research that has been done by the committee. When the committee was formed every member prepared a very detailed presentation about their preferred destination, however the Commissioner and committee soon realised that options in South America, Africa and Asia are not financially feasible as the transportation alone would have cost at least 900 euros. This development made the Commissioner realise that inflation and rising gas prices will be a problem in the upcoming years due to external circumstances.

In conclusion, the Commissioner and the committee looked into alternative options to make the trip appealing to members. These options were visiting multiple cities within one country by train or bus, or visiting two countries. Therefore, the committee has chosen Amman and the possibility to visit multiple cities in Jordan to attract more participants to sign up.

7.3.3 Cover letters

Members who intend to join the trip will be able to hand their motivation in from the 3rd to the 10th of March in the common rooms both in Leiden and the Hague. The cover letters are required to be handed in physically in a printed format. The cover letters must include the participant's motivation to join the journey, their contribution to improve the trip and their justification on why they think the destination is politically relevant, as well as a suggested political or cultural activity. The word count must not exceed 400 words.

Due to the amended Rules of Procedure, letters will be anonymised by the current Commissioner Global Relations, only by crossing out the name of the applicants. Further, the letters will be checked by a neutral committee consisting of a combination of 3 three members, who are either former board members or academic staff members affiliated with Leiden University. The number of participants will be 35, including 7 board members and 7 committee members, therefore 21 members will be able to join.

7.4 Congress

After having to realise that most of the political science congresses were still being held online, the committee and the Commissioner decided to organise its own congress in Leiden and in the Hague. The committee is currently working on finalising the details of the two-day long congress titled as "Migration in the equation", focused on approaching migration from the perspective of history, law, advocacy, global governance, gender studies and environment. The committee aims to organise five lectures on the first day, one panel discussion and four workshops. The preliminary date of the Congress is the 6th and 7th of May, however further details will follow soon.

The Commissioner together with the Treasurer is working on getting multiple subsidies to make the Congress as accessible for participants as possible. Since, it is an interdisciplinary congress, open to all students of the university, the subsidies not only include Cassa Funds, but also Interfaculty Fund (IFI) and Commissie SOS Fund.

7.4 Haagsch Studenten Feest

The Commissioner has been representing SPIL in the HSF committee, where together with B.I.L., HSV, Pelargos, SIM and Trinitas the organisation of the "Haagsch Studenten Feest" started. The Haagsch Studenten Feest is a big party aimed at students specifically studying in the Hague. The idea is similar to the Interfaculty Party in Leiden. The preliminary date is the 6th of April and the location is PIP in the Hague. The Commissioner is very pleased with cooperating together with the associations and looking forward to building closer relations and making the Haagsch Studenten Feest a tradition.

8. COMMISSIONER INTERNAL RELATIONS AND FESTIVITIES

8.1 Commissioner Internal Relations

Marvin: *"I have a Yearbook meeting"*

Robin: *"Personally, I wouldn't dab for that"*

(translated)

8.1.1 DEBAT

So far, the committee has produced and physically delivered two editions of DEBAT to the members who signed up. The Commissioner is pleased with how the process is going so far and is more than satisfied with the first two magazines. 500 copies of each edition will be printed. As in previous years, this is done at DrukwerkMax, an Arnhem-based company. The Commissioner notes that the 70/30 target in regard to English-Dutch standards is achievable. In the Commissioner's opinion, the committee is trying hard enough

to meet the quota. However, it is difficult to find translators for the written articles, and the Commissioner sees possible improvements here, and is currently thinking together with the DEBAT-board what would be good solutions for this.

8.1.1.1 Committee

The Commissioner could not be happier with the work the DEBAT Committee has delivered so far. The chairman sets hard deadlines, and makes sure they are met on time. This way, the creative team has more than enough time to get the InDesign process right. There are many members on the committee, so structure is needed to make sure everything is finished on time. After each edition, the chairman has a review with the Commissioner to talk through any areas for improvement.

The committee is known for, because it is so big, bonding is more difficult in relation to other committees. So far, the vice-president of the committee has ensured that two activities have taken place where DEBAT members could get to know each other better. A workshop also took place where a journalist explained her work and gave tips on how to put a great piece on paper.

Several meetings take place in the process. There are meetings where the theme, distribution and further details of the magazine are discussed, editor-meetings and meetings of the executive board of DEBAT itself. Finally, editors discuss the work done by the writers in a small subgroup and there is a meeting of the creative team. These all take place online or in The Hague. This was chosen because there are not that many meetings, and the vast majority of the committee lives in The Hague. In addition, members from Leiden generally have a free public transport card. The Commissioner notes that the meetings are useful, particularly because of the constructive character that applies here.

Lastly, the DEBAT Committee aims to split the online from the print meetings in order to increase the publication rate on the website. Furthermore, the committee will aim to expand the online committee to include people who are going to solely write for online to increase the publication rate. Both these changes are part of a road-map to increase the readership in DEBAT over the coming years and improve the internal structure of the committee.

8.1.1.2 DEBAT online

DEBAT online -like previous years- strives to publish at least one article a week. This weekly nature ensures that articles are very relevant and topical, which in the eyes of the Commissioner enhances the quality. The committee ensures that website articles are promoted on every platform on which the committee is active. This year, DEBAT is working with a separate subcommittee that focuses solely on the online articles. After some problems at the beginning of the year with the frequency of published articles, this improved after a few weeks. This is also due to written pieces from guest writers and writers who normally specialise in the printed edition of DEBAT itself. DEBAT's site was down for several weeks in January. This was because there were problems with licence renewal. Communication with the hosting company was not smooth and because of this it took a while to get back online. The articles that were written but could not get online for this reason got published in the week after extending the licence.

8.1.1.3 DEBAT sending issue

After last year's problems with sending DEBAT, a new procedure was put in place by the Commissioner. This meant that not all members of the SPIL received the magazine at home anymore. However, there was the possibility for members to register to still receive the magazine at home, or to pick it up at one of the two common rooms in Leiden or The Hague. The addresses of the members who wish to have DEBAT sent to them are manually written on the stickers and then these are put in the mail. For the Commissioner, this method works fine for now. There are currently 111 members who would like to receive the association magazine at home, including reunionists. There are about 200-225 per edition left from the past editions. These will be used to recruit any new members at open days or school visits.

8.1.2 Yearbook

8.1.2.1 Printer

The choice of where the yearbooks will be printed this year has once again fallen on Perfectbook. This company from Vught has delivered good quality for years and the predecessors of the Commissioner Internal Relations were very satisfied with the work delivered. The committee has already visited Vught to see what is possible in terms of material, design and paper. The Commissioner is going to choose to print about 100 yearbooks this year. This is because he has noticed that in past years there were too many yearbooks left over (66 out of 130 for example in the 2018-2019 year). From last year, there are 53 yearbooks remaining. The money saved by doing this will benefit the quality of the yearbooks in the making. Remaining yearbooks will be used to promote SPIL at events.

8.1.2.2 Committee

The Commissioner believes that there is a good atmosphere on the committee. There is room for everyone to express his/her opinion. This is best reflected in the choice of theme and the visit at Perfectbook, where most things were decided by consensus. For example, the design of the yearbook completely fits the theme, as do the materials. Deadlines are met and have been brought slightly forward from last year to reduce the committee's time-pressure. The chair ensures that pieces are in on time and sends several reminders to committee members to meet this. Because the yearbook has a lot of chapters, these are divided among committee members.

The InDesign process starts this semester. Three committee members have been designated who have an affinity for the creative part of the process and will get to work on this at first glance. Should they need help, it has been agreed that the rest of the committee will assist. On the advice of previous committees, an InDesign course will not be taken. The DEBAT Committee has an excellent creative team and they have indicated that they are willing to help where needed. The theme is secret to date and will remain secret until the beginning of May. The Commissioner is confident that the committee will deliver a yearbook at the end of the year that both members and the entire association can be proud of.

8.2 Commissioner Festivities

Donna: *“Jonges ik ben oz dteringffronken”*
(untranslatable)

8.2.1 Committee

The functioning of the Festive Committee is going well. The committee is very active and interacts regularly (even outside of SPIL). For example, there are several "bonding activities" and parties of other associations are attended by the committee members. The committee tries as much as possible to give everyone from SPIL a good time at the activities it organises.

8.2.2 Borrels

At the beginning of the year, the Festive Committee started a busy search for two pubs that would like to welcome the SPIL. The choice fell on 't Praethuys in Leiden and the Pakschuit in The Hague. The Commissioner is so far very satisfied with this. Borrels are a success so far and many active members enjoy attending them. The specially negotiated prices contribute to this. The pubs have their own characteristics, but both are seen as a nice place with lots of fun. Also, the committee has negotiated several discounts for SPIL-members at both pubs. For example, members can get beer at 't Praethuys for 2,80 euros instead of 3,30. Soda's can be bought for a discount of 30 cents as well (2,50 instead of 2,80). At de Pakschuit, soda's cost 2,50 instead of 2,70, wine 4,20 instead of 4,50 and tequila and dropshot can be bought for 3 euros instead of 3,50.

8.2.3 Parties and Gala

Two parties, organised by the Festive Committee, were planned to take place until now. The turnout for the Halloween party was great. The second party was rescheduled, due to lack of sign-ups. At the time of writing, the party is still upcoming and will take place after the Great Social Activity (GSA).

The Gala took place on Friday, February 17th at Koetshuis de Burcht, Leiden. There were 84 tickets sold. Snacks and drinks such as nachos and appetiser platters were extensively served, the DJ created a cosy atmosphere and the "Valentine's Day-theme" came to life through a decorated room. The Commissioner is sure that everyone had a great time socialising with each other, and making some epic memories.

A plan for the SPILxBIL party was in the works, but the two associations had problems with finding gaps in both yearplans. SPIL has invited BIL to come to the last party at the 2nd of June, since the B.I.L. has an after-exam borrel. In this way, the party will be SPILxBIL with rather an informal character.

8.2.4 Social Activities

The Festive Committee aims to organise at least one social activity each month whether or not during a get-together. The secret Santa get-together is an example of this. At time of writing, the committee is organising a trip to the Efteling, which will take place on the 6th of March.

The committee takes care of the so-called "social activities" during the borrels. So far, for example, activities such as a "SPINGO" and a "Secret Santa party" have been organised. In addition, the Festive Committee leaves room for DEBAT to be presented during borrels. This has a mutually positive effect. Not only does this increase attendance at the borrels themselves, but DEBAT writers also get more recognition for the work done. The Commissioner is very pleased with this.

In the second semester, the Grand Social Activity (GSA) will take place as well. The committee is currently looking into what the GSA should look like, but the aim is a day with some fun activities, for example sports and a party as ending of the day.

9. COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INTRODUCTION

9.1 Commissioner External Relations

Margot: *"I still don't have a quote for my policy"*

Robin: *"I will pick one for you"*

9.1.1 Partnerships

Next to upholding contact with SPIL's existing partners, new deals with Toastable The Hague and Magnet.Me have been made. The Commissioner has noticed that many companies and organisations are interested in promotion, but do not necessarily want to pay for it. This has made it difficult to get deals with other companies, but the Commissioner will work together with the committee to get more promotional deals with companies. Furthermore, a new promotion flyer has been made and printed physically so the committee can visit companies to promote SPIL. The Commissioner is hopeful that this will make companies more excited to work with SPIL.

9.1.2 Merchandise

Due to a late delivery of the SPIL socks, the committee has not yet been able to reveal their own merchandise item. There are multiple ideas about merchandise, of which one is in production, so in the second half of the year members can be expecting new merchandise items.

The Commissioner has taken new pictures of current merchandise items for the website and will continue to do so in order to keep the pictures up to date and attractive for promotion.

Furthermore, the committee has organised a Merchandise Market in the Leiden common room. This event was a success so there are plans to perhaps organise another Merchandise Market in the The Hague common room after the launch of the committee's first merchandise item.

9.1.3 Committee

Despite not being able to release their first merchandise item yet, the committee remains hard working and enthusiastic since the beginning of the year. The committee is creative contacting companies for partnership deals.

9.1.4 Promotion

9.1.4.1 Social Media

Instagram and Facebook remain the main ways of promoting events. LinkedIn is being used more often to showcase SPIL's formal events, yet this platform could be used even more actively for promotion. TikTok has been a good and informal addition to the SPIL social media and the Commissioner has received nice feedback about this account. Yet, it is at times difficult to combine taking pictures and sufficient video footage at events so the TikTok account is now only for bigger events organised by SPIL. Another goal of the Commissioner for the second half of the year is to use the Instagram stories to be more interactive with members and so members have an informal platform where they can share their views and ideas.

9.1.4.2 Posters

Not many posters have been printed this year, because the Commissioner has noticed it is easier to have contact with Wijnhaven and FSW about promoting events on the screens at the entrances. Contact with the print shop has been very difficult and takes a lot of time, so the Commissioner prefers to use the digital option of using the screens. The only downfall to this option is that the faculties have told the Commissioner that they can only promote events that are open to all students from all studies at the faculty the event is being held at. The Commissioner seeks to find a solution to printing posters for informal and/or SPIL only events.

9.1.4.3 Photos

The Commissioner is uploading pictures taken at events on the website, categorised per month. This way there is a clear overview of the year on the website, instead of uploading pictures per event. At the end of the year, the pictures can all be put under one link for that year. This way the photos page of the website remains somewhat organised. Furthermore, the Commissioner has noticed that posting pictures of events on Instagram is a great addition, because those posts are often liked more than others and also receive more interaction.

9.1.5 ICT

The Commissioner has been putting all events for which members need to sign up or buy tickets for on the homepage of the website. This way members that don't have social media can still see what events the SPIL has going on. Furthermore, the Commissioner has been making small edits to the website to keep it updated. Not everything has been updated yet, but the Commissioner will keep working on the website over time so sooner rather than later the website will be completely updated. One of the big changes to the website is the format of the Committee Cup. It is now designed to have progress bars, rather than a table with numbers. The bars are structured so the committee with the most points comes first and the committee with the least points is last on the list. Because the home page of the website takes a long time to edit and the points for the Committee Cup need to be summed up and calculated, the Committee Cup will be edited every few months.

9.2 Commissioner Introduction

“Overleven is echt een spel, maar dit is een soort mindfuck” - Michella Kox (Echte Meisjes in de Jungle, 2023)

9.2.1 Activities

The Introduction Committee has organised many events, such as a game night, a crazy 42, a pub crawl and the Friends & Family day in Leiden. Some events were more popular than others, but the committee remains excited to organise the upcoming Friends & Family day in The Hague and the Freshmen Weekend. There are also plans to organise some events in September and October to give the, at that time, new Introduction Committee some time to get to know each other and to organise events.

9.2.2 Freshmen Weekend

For the Freshmen Weekend we will be returning to the scouting location in Delft. This location is close to The Hague and Leiden and thus does not result in high travel costs for members and has a nice location with a balance between the city being close by and room for indoor and outdoor activities. Furthermore the dates for the Freshmen Weekend have been set between the HOP week and the beginning of the academic year. The Commissioner has read through documents indicating when study associations may do their Freshmen Weekends and has concluded that this week is a possibility for the weekend. By planning the weekend this week the committee hopes that more internationals and Dutch students will be able to join, as most will already be in the Netherlands after El Cid and HOP week.

9.2.3 Committee

Due to some members of the committee quitting for multiple and personal reasons, the applications for the committee have been re-opened. The new committee members are excited to have joined the committee and glad they got the opportunity to join a committee and be active within SPIL in the second half of the academic year. The Commissioner is also glad that these members, who missed the opportunity to join a committee in September, did get this opportunity now. The committee and the Commissioner are once again excited to organise activities and the Freshmen Weekend.

YEARPLAN SPILIBUSTER 2022-2023

Month	Week	Date	Event
August	Week 33	15/08/22 - 19/08/22	EL CID Week Leiden
	Week 34	22/08/22 - 26/08/22	HOP Week The Hague
September	Week 35	01/09/22	IRO Orientation Day The Hague
	Week 36	07/09/22	Committee interviews day 1
		08/09/22	Committee interviews day 2
	Week 37	12/09/22	American Embassy visit
		13/09/22	Introduction activity: Freshman Borrel
		15/09/22	Change of Boards GA
		17/09/22	Committee Thank You Day
	Week 38	19/09/22	SPIL x CIROS week: Royalty lecture
		20/09/22	SPIL x CIROS week: Prinsjesdag borrel
		21/09/22	Waffle Morning
		21/09/22	SPIL x CIROS week: Georgian Embassy visit
		23/09/22	SPIL x CIROS week: Football match
October	Week 39	26/09/22	Masters event: Networking event
		29/09/22	Education event: Walking tour Leiden
		01/10/22	SPIL x CIROS Party
	Week 40	05/10/22	Introduction activity: board games
		06/10/22	Additional GA Festive borrel Leiden
		08/10/22	Brussels Trip Application Opens
	Week 41	12/10/22 - 16/10/22	Sustainability taskforce applications
		12/10/22	Excursions event: Tweede Kamer (with ProDemos)
		12/10/22	Payment deadline for Brussels Trip
		13/10/22	Short Trip destination announcement Borrel
		14/10/22	Committee Thank You Day (41st)
	Week 42		Introduction: Study Group
		22/10/22	Open Day
	Week 43	24/10/22 - 28/10/22	Exam Week
		25/10/22	Books block 2 online

		28/10/22	After Exam Borrel (The Hague)
November	Week 44	31/10/22 - 04/11/22	Short-trip cover letters
		31/10/22	Halloween Party (Leiden)
		1/11/22	Education event: Russia & its neighbours
		02/11/22	Introduction activity: crazy 42
		03/11/22	Policy GA (Leiden)
	Week 45	07/11/22 - 12/11/22	DIES Week
		07/11/22	Music night (Praethuys)
		08/11/22	Dies Dive (Scheveningen) Dies Lecture (Wijnhaven)
		09/11/22	Worldcafé (Pakschuit)
		10/11/22	Biercantus (Augustinus)
		11/11/22	Skating Di(e)sco party (Club Gwoon)
	Week 46		Excursions event
		14/11/22 - 20/11/22	Long Trip and SPIL Weekend Committee applications
		14/11/22 - 15/11/22	Brussels Trip
		16/11/22	CoBo SPIL
	Week 47		DEBAT editie 1
		21/11/22	Festive activity: World Cup Viewing Event
		22/11/22	Masters event: Career simulation
		24/11/22	Continuation Policy GA Festive Borrel The Hague (DEBAT reveal)
December	Week 48	29/11/2022	Acquisitions committee: merchandise market
		30/11/2022	Lunch with 5th floor
		01/12/22	Introduction activity: pub crawl TH
		02/12/2022	UNI x SPIL x CIROS: Internship event
		03/12/22	Committee Bonding Day
	Week 49		Introduction activity
		5/12/22	Sinterklaas: Schoentje zetten
		06/12/22	Stairs Affairs Event
		08/12/22	Education event: Purple Friday lecture (with Pol. Inside) Festive Borrel Leiden (Purple theme, fund raising)
		09/12/22	Tote bag painting Short Trip pre-activity

	Week 50	12/12/22	Excursions event: Kosovo chamber
		12/12/22	Introduction activity: study group 2
		14/12/22	Books block 3 online
		15/12/22	Festive Borrel The Hague + secret santa
	Week 51	19/12/22 - 23/12/22	Exam Week
January	Week 52		
	Week 1	05/01/23	New Year's Borrel Leiden
	Week 2		
		09/01/23	Books block 3 online
	Week 3	22/01/23	Short Trip Pre-activity
	Week 4	27/01/23- 29/02/23	Short Trip
Februari	Week 5	30/01/23-03/02/23	Short Trip
		04/02/23	Friends & Family Day Leiden
	Week 6	06/02/23	Reunionist Newsletter Alumni Newsletter
		07/02/23 - 08/02/23	FLO Career event
		09/02/23	Festive Borrel Leiden (DEBAT reveal)
	Week 7	13/02/23	INDEX Books event
		15/02/23	Excursions event: Redcross
		17/02/23	SPIL Gala
	Week 8	21/02/23	Google NL
		22/02/23	Leidsch Debat
		23/02/23	Festive Borrel The Hague
		25/02/23	Open Day
March	Week 9		Masters event
		01/03/23	International Food Festival
		02/03/23	Long Trip Announcement Borrel
		03/03/23-10/03/23	Long Trip Application period
		04/03/23	Friends and Family Day The Hague
	Week 10	06/03/23	Efteling
		07/03/23	Education event: Career Night
	Week 11	13/3/23 - 17/3/23	Books block 4 online
		14/03/23	Excursions event: Eurojust

		15/03/23	Stairs Affairs Election Night
		16/03/23	Interim GA (The Hague)
	Week 12		
April	Week 13	27/03/23 - 31/03/23	Exam week
		30/03/23	Alumni Dinner (with hallway associations)
		31/03/23	Festive Borrel (After Exams & DEBAT edition 3) The Hague
	Week 14		Education event
			Excursion event
		06/04/23	Haagsch studenten feest
	Week 15		Masters event
		13/04/23	Board interest Borrel Leiden Festive borrel Leiden
		14/04/23	Former boards Borrel
	Week 16		Excursions event
		18/04/23	Board interest Borrel Hague
		19/04/23	Great Social Activity (GSA) Festive party
	Week 17		Education event
		25/04/23	Interfaculty Congress
		28/04/23 - 30/04/23	SPIL Weekend
May	Week 18	05/05/23	Board application deadline
		06/05/23- 07/05/23	Congress
	Week 19		Interviews 43rd board
			Long Trip Pre-activity
		08/05/23	PiP Congress
		10/05/23	Interfaculty party
	Week 20		
	Week 21	22/05/23 - 26/05/23	Exam week
		26/05/23	Festive Borrel: After Exam The Hague & DEBAT edition 4
June	Week 22		Committee Thank You Day
		31/05/23	Board Announcement Day Board Announcement Borrel
		02/06/23	Board training day 1 Festive Party

	Week 23		Reunionist Newsletter Alumni Newsletter
		05/06/23	FSW Party
		08/06/23	Affirmation GA Leiden
		09/06/23	Board training day 2
	Week 24		
	Week 25		
July	Week 26		Long Trip Pre-activity
		30/06/23 - 02/07/23	Long Trip (+/- 1 day)
	Week 27	03/07/23 - 09/07/23	Long Trip
	Week 28	10/07/23 - 14/07/23	Long Trip (+/- 1 day)
	Week 29		
	Week 30		
August	Week 31		
	Week 32		
	Week 33	14/08/23 - 18/08/23	ELCID week
	Week 34	22/08/23 - 26/08/23	HOP week
September	Week 35		Freshmen Week/ Weekend
	Week 36		Education/Excursions event
		04/09/23	Start of the Academic Year Reunionist Newsletter Alumni Newsletter
	Week 37	14/09/23	Change of Boards GA
	Week 38		

RE-BUDGET SPILIBUSTER 2022-2023

Income			
	Budget 22-23	Realisation 22-23	Re-budget 22-23
Membership fee¹	€ 19.922,40	€ 20.771,01	€ 20.771,01
Acquisitions committee	€ 2.000,00	€ 940,00	€ 2.000,00
General Contribution Department	€ 1.600,00	€ -	€ 1.600,00
StudyStore²	€ 3.000,00	€ -	€ 1.500,00
Index books	€ -	€ -	€ 1.000,00
Withdrawal equity³	€ 497,83	€ -	€ 1.293,88
Withdrawal festive reservation	€ 1.006,41	€ 1.006,41	€ 1.006,41
'Vrienden van de SPIL'	€ 150,00	€ 50,45	€ 150,00
Other income⁴	€ 30,00	€ 0	€ 30,00
Gift XXXIXth board	€ 750,00	€ 750,00	€ 750,00
Leids Alumni Platform (LAP)	€ 820,79	€ 320,79	€ 820,79
NPO Contribution University⁵	€ 3.000,00	€ 1.535,13	€ 1.535,13
Withdrawal travel allowance int. board member⁶	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Profit Halloween party⁷	€ -	€325,59	€325,59
Total	€ 33.027,43	€ 25,699,38	€ 33.032,81

¹ Membership fee was collected at the end of December with a total percentage of ...% defaulters.

² The revenue of StudyStore of the first and second block has not yet been received, the total amount StudyStore owes SPIL for the first block can be found under Debtors.

³ Withdrawal of equity is increased to partially compensate the unfulfillment of the entire NPO grant.

⁴ €30 remain budgeted due to several 'statiegeld' beer crates and bottles present in the common room.

⁵ Out of the €3.000 available through the NPO grant SPIL has been able to spend a little over half. This is mainly due to time constraint and the restricted guidelines of the events that were able to fall under NPO.

⁶ The XLIInd Board has one international board member who has a claim on coverage for travel expenses. For this purpose €250,00 will be withdrawn.

⁷ The festive committee was able to sell a higher number of tickets which resulted in a small profit, the money will be used to lower amount of equity needed to be withdrawn.

Expenses⁸			
	Budget 22-23	Realisation 22-23	Re-Budget 22-23
Board	€ 4.420,00	€ 3.125,87	€ 4.370,00
President	€ 500,00	€ 517,01	€ 517,01
<i>Dies</i>	€ 500,00	€ 517,01	€ 517,01
Secretary	€ 1.346,00	€ 75,00	€ 1.346,00
Treasurer	€ 750,00	€ -	€ 750,00
<i>SPIIL Weekend</i>	€ 700,00	€ -	€ 700,00
<i>Interfaculty Congress</i>	€ 50,00	€ -	€ 50,00
Education & Politics	€ 750,00	€ 136,18	€ 750,00
<i>Education</i>	€ 300,00	€ 10,05	€ 300,00
<i>Master activities</i>	€ 150,00	€ 47,43	€ 150,00
<i>Excursions</i>	€ 200,00	€ 78,70	€ 200,00
<i>Interfaculty party</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Global Relations	€ 8.266,80	€ 7.645,21	€ 8.266,80
<i>Long trip</i>	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00
<i>Short trip</i>	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80
<i>Congress</i>	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
<i>Pre-activities</i>	€ 200,00	€ 78,41	€ 200,00
Internal Relations	€ 11.380,00	€ 2.294,87	€ 11.380,00
<i>DEBAT</i>	€ 5.200,00	€ 84,94	€ 5.200,00
<i>Yearbook</i>	€ 2.630,00	€ -	€ 2.630,00
<i>Festive</i>	€ 3.400,00	€ 2.209,93	€ 3.400,00
<i>Leidsch debat</i>	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
External Relations	€ 2.352,47	€ 950,92	€ 2.391,04
<i>ICT</i>	€ 782,47	€ 256,37	€ 821,04
<i>Promotion</i>	€ 800,00	€ 238,35	€ 800,00
<i>Acquisition</i>	€ 70,00	€ -	€ 70,00
<i>Introduction</i>	€ 700,00	€ 456,20	€ 700,00
PvP	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Investments	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
Contingencies	€ 961,96	€ -	€ 961,96
Reserves	€ 1.800,00	€ 1.800,00	€ 1.800,00
Travel allowance int. Board member	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Total	€ 33.027,43	€ 16.545,06	€ 33.032,81

⁸ Any additional comments about changes in budget or realisation can be found under the specific tables of each post.

Board	Budget 22-23	Realisation 22-23	Re-budget 22-23
Committee thank-you day	€ 500,00	€ 250,00	€ 500,00
ABN-Amro Expenses Business Account ⁹	€ 500,00	€ 687,97	€ 1.000,00
Expenses General Assembly ¹⁰	€ 800,00	€ 184,20	€ 500,00
Van den Berg-Bachelor thesis award	€ 75,40	€ 75,40	€ 75,40
'Constitutieborrel' presents ¹¹	€ 80,00	€ 22,71	€ 40,00
'Constitutieborrel' SPIL	€ 1.700,00	€ 1.420,10	€ 1.420,10
Office supplies	€ 150,00	€ 50,74	€ 150,00
StOP-Contribution	€ 10,00	€ 10,00	€ 10,00
Provisions of SPIL common rooms	€ 150,00	€ 34,38	€ 150,00
Free round of drinks after Change of Boards GA	€ 109,50	€ 109,50	€ 109,50
Staff lunch with the institute ¹²	€ 80,00	€ -	€ -
General Board Expenses ¹³	€ 100,00	€ 160,40	€ 200,00
Applications board 2022-2023	€ 65,10	€ -	€ 65,00
Board activities ¹⁴	€ 100,00	€ 120,02	€ 150,00
Total	€ 4.420,00	€ 3.125,87	€ 4.370,00

⁹ The costs for the business account are significantly higher than previous years, this can mainly be accounted for due to the Treasurer having to make extensive calls to renegotiate a contract. The Audit Committee discovered that ABN AMRO charges extensively for customer service, which includes calling.

¹⁰ The GA costs are lowered due to the booklets costing less than expected.

¹¹ Less presents were needed to be purchased than expected because the President had a box full of gifts which could be used as CoBo presents.

¹² The final realisation of the lunch with the institute is €0 because although we had a meeting, it was without lunch due to the restricted time the institute had.

¹³ The General Board Expenses are higher than expected due to the XLIInd board having received the task of making a 'biermeter' by the GA.

¹⁴ The XLIInd board organised a tote bag painting session for Purple Friday which had higher costs than expected.

President	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
President	€ 500,00	€ 517,01	€ 517,01
<i>Dies</i>	€ 500,00	€ 517,01	€ 517,01
Total	€ 500,00	€ 517,01	€ 517,01

Secretary	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
Former boards borrel	€ 450,21	€ -	€ 450,21
Alumni activities	€ 820,79	€ -	€ 820,79
Conscribo workshop	€ 75,00	€ 75,00	€ 75,00
Total	€ 1.346,00	€ 75,00	€ 1.346,00

Treasurer	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
Contribution SPIL-weekend	€ 700,00	€ -	€ 700,00
Contribution Interfaculty Congress	€ 50,00	€ -	€ 50,00
Total	€ 750,00	€ -	€ 750,00

Education & Politics	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
Excursions	€ 200,00	€ 78,70	€ 200,00

Education ¹⁵	€ 300,00	€ 10,05	€ 300,00
<i>Activities & workshops</i>	€ 200,00	€ 10,05	€ 200,00
<i>Career</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Master activities	€150,00	€ 47,43	€150,00
<i>Workshops</i>	€ 50,00	€ 5,43	€ 50,00
<i>Career</i>	€ 100,00	€ 42,00	€ 100,00
Contribution Interfaculty Party	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Total	€ 750,00	€ 136,18	€ 750,00

Global Relations	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
Short Trip ¹⁶	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80
Long Trip ¹⁷	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00
Pre-activities	€ 200,00	€ 78,41	€ 200,00
Congress	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
Total	€ 8.266,80	€ 7.645,21	€ 8.267,00

¹⁵ Education has a low realisation due to one event having to be cancelled and another event could not be reimbursed due to loss of receipts by a member. €300 is remains budgeted for it, taking into account that the traditional boat lecture still has to be held.

¹⁶ The realisation of Short Trip can be found at the end of the Budget.

¹⁷ Long Trip has already been realised due to the down-payment of the flight tickets.

Internal Relations	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
DEBAT	€ 5.200,00	€ 84,94	€ 5.200,00
<i>4x DEBAT¹⁸</i>	€ 5.000,00	€ 6,50	€ 5.000,00
<i>Workshops</i>	€ 50,00	€ 0	€ 50,00
<i>Digital DEBAT</i>	€ 150,00	€ 78,44	€ 150,00
Yearbook ¹⁹	€ 2.630,00	€ -	€ 2.630,00
<i>Indesign Licence</i>	€ 130,00	€ -	€ -
<i>Yearbook</i>	€ 2.500,00	€ -	€ 2.630,00
Festive	€ 3.400,00	€ 2.209,93	€ 3.400,00
<i>Borrels</i>	€ 600,00	€ 108,70	€ 400,00
<i>Parties²⁰</i>	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 289,77
<i>Gala²¹</i>	€ 1.500,00	€ 1.910,23	€ 1.910,23
<i>Social activities</i>	€ 800,00	€ 191,00	€ 800,00
SPIIL Contribution Leidsch debat	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
Total	€ 11.380,00	€ 2.294,87	€ 11.380,00

¹⁸ The current realisation for DEBAT is so low due to the Treasurer not having received an invoice for the first or second edition of the magazine, the Commissioner Internal Relations is working on acquiring it. The cost thus far are for stickering DEBAT to send them out.

¹⁹ The Yearbook committee decided that they would rather have the money for the personal InDesign license go to financing the yearbook.

²⁰ No party expenses have been made as of yet due to the Halloween party receiving more income than expenses.

²¹ The cost of the gala are higher than expected due to a slightly lower ticket sale income and additional costs on the final invoice.

External Relations	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
Acquisition ²²	€ 70,00	€ -	€ 70,00
ICT	€ 782,47	€ 256,37	€ 821,04
<i>Licence Snelstart</i>	€ 180,00	€ -	€ 180,00
<i>Conscribo</i>	€ 289,67	€ -	€ 289,67
<i>Hosting www.spilplaats.nl</i> ²³	€ 217,80	€ 256,37	€ 256,37
<i>Website</i>	€ 95,00	€ -	€ 95,00
Promotion	€ 800,00	€ 238,35	€ 800,00
<i>General expenses</i>	€ 500,00	€ 238,35	€ 500,00
<i>ELCID and HOP Week stand</i>	€ 300,00	€ -	€ 300,00
Introduction	€ 700,00	€ 456,20	€ 700,00
<i>General expenses</i>	€ 300,00	€ 112,50	€ 300,00
<i>Parents day (Leiden & Den Haag)</i> ²⁴	€ 400,00	€ 343,70	€ 400,00
Total	€ 2.352,47	€ 950,92	€ 2.391,04

Reserves	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	22-23	22-23	22-23
9 th Lustrum der SPIL	€ 1.500,00	€ 1.500,00	€ 1.500,00

²² The Acquisition committee has expressed interest in attending a training again this year, despite not having done so yet the Treasurer is continuing to enable the opportunity.

²³ The final costs of hosting the SPIL website for another year are slightly higher than expected.

²⁴ Parent's day in The Hague will be able to be organised for almost free, so no major extra expenses are expected, therefore the same amount of many is budgeted for it.

SPIL common room Leiden ²⁵	€ 150,00	€ 150,00	€ 150,00
Lustrum DEBAT	€ 150,00	€ 150,00	€ 150,00
Total	€ 1.800,00	€ 1.800,00	€ 1.800,00

Travel allowance Int. board member	Budget 22-23	Realisation 22-23	Re-budget 22-23
Travel reimbursement	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Total	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00

Contingencies	Budget 22-23	Realisation 22-23	Budget 22-23
General expenses ²⁶	€ 961,96	€ -	€ 961,96
Total	€ 961,96	€ -	€ 961,96

Balance sheet			
Debit		Credit	
ABN business account	€ ...	<i>Equity</i>	€ ...
ABN savings account	€ ...	Lustrum reserve	€ 3.000,00
Ties (85)	€ 510,00	SPIL common room Leiden reserve	€ 1.500,00
Bows (0)	€ 0,00	Lustrum DEBAT	€ 1.400,00
Pair of braces (94)	€ 1.880,00	Reservation travel allowance int. board members	€ 1.750,00

²⁵ Because all assets in the SPIL common room in Leiden have already been depreciated, an amount is set aside each year to still absorb future investment costs.

²⁶ Contingencies amount to about 3% of the general expenditure.

Bowties (94)	€ 564,00	Gift XXXIX th board	€ 1.500,00
Doppers (40)	€ 400,00		
Former-board pin (41)	€ 84,05		
Umbrellas (8)	€ 44,58		
Bike packages (27)	€ 270,00		
Card holders (4)	€ 14,34		
Scarfs (11)	€ 55,00		
Mugs (27)	€ 162,00		
Socks (36)	€ 396,00		
Beer glass (15)	€ 112,50		
Bottle opener (34)	€ 128,80		
Kas bestuur	€ 0,00		
Total	€ ...	Total	€ ...

Debtors		Creditors	
StudyStore	€ 1.158,71		
Total	€ 1.158,71	Total	€ -

Realisation Brussel trip 2022-2023

Income				Expenses			
	Estimated budget p.p.	Estimated budget	Realisation		Estimated budget p.p.	Estimated budget	Realisation
Participation contribution	€ 60,00	€ 3.000,00	€ 3.000,00	Accommodation			
				<i>Hostel Meiniger</i>	€ 20,80	€ 1.040,00	€ 1.025,85
				Transportation	€ 29,00	€ 1.450,00	€ 1.450,00
				Public transport	€ 8,10	€ 405,00	€ 407,80
				Unforeseen costs	€ 2,10	€ 105,00	€ 0,00
				Restitution			€ 116,35
Total	€ 60,00	€ 3.000,00	€ 3.000,00	Total	€ 60,00	€ 3.000,00	€ 3.000,00

Realisation Short Trip Lisbon 2022-2023

Income				Expenses			
	Estimated budget p.p.	Estimated budget	Realisation		Estimated budget p.p.	Estimated budget	Realisation
Participation contribution	€ 250,00	€ 10.000,00	€ 10,000	Accommodation			
					€ 115,56	€ 4.622,20	€ 4.607,40
				Flights	€ 160,50	€ 6.420,00	€ 6.420,00
SPIL contribution	€ 66,67	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80	Transportation			
				<i>Airport – Hostel</i>	€ 2,00	€ 80,00	€ 8,60
				<i>Hostel – Airport</i>	€ 2,00	€ 80,00	€ 66,00
				<i>Public transport within Lisbon</i>	€ 19,65	€ 786,00	€ 528,00
				<i>Daytrip to Sintra</i>			
				<i>Lisbon – Sintra</i>	€ 3,95	€ 158,00	€ 100,00
				<i>Hop bus Sintra</i>	€ 5,50	€ 220,00	€ 220,00
				<i>Sintra - Lisbon</i>	€ 3,95	€ 158,00	€ 100,00
CASSA	€ 24,93	€ 997,00	€ 997,00	Cultural activities			
				<i>Castles in Sintra</i>			
					€ 5,00	€ 200,00	€ 217,65
				<i>Museums</i>			
					€ 3,00	€ 120,00	€ 120,00
				<i>City Tour</i>			
					€ 8,00	€ 320,00	€ 320,00
				<i>Sustainable Activity</i>			
					€ -	€ 11,00	€ 8,14
				Final Dinner	€ 3,60	€ 144,00	€ 750,00
				Unforeseen costs	€ 8,54	€ 341,60	€ 1,65
				Restitution	€ -	€ -	€ 196,36
Total	€ 341,62	€ 13.663,80	€ 13.663,80	Total	€ 341,25	€ 13.660,80	€ 13.663,80

INTERIM REPORT AUDIT COMMITTEE

Dear GA, CALVV, and 42nd Board of SPIL,

On 14 December 2022, the members of the Audit Committee were warmly welcomed to the SPIL common room in Leiden to audit the treasurer's financial records. It pleased the Audit Committee to be received with a fresh lemon cake, baked by the Commissioner External Relations. This pleased the Audit Committee about the togetherness and solidarity within this board. Despite this warm entry into the SPIL common room, no doubt tidied up especially for this meeting, the Audit Committee did not let it affect its objectivity, although a glass of Port might have changed that. Anyway, after the members of the Audit Committee had eaten their fill, the audit could begin.

The committee soon noticed that a number of unfinished businesses from the previous board had fallen on this treasurer's plate, so she was soon behind the times. It did not cheer the Audit Committee that some invoices from the previous year had not yet been paid, such as the sock merchandise item and the yearbooks. The Audit Committee also noted that important aspects of orderly accounting had not been conveyed during the preparation period, which meant that, among other things, a large number of SPIL-bankcard expenses lacked a corresponding declaration form. Nonetheless, the treasurer did not let this put her off and was sympathetic to improving this quickly. Fortunately, the treasurer showed us that the rest of the accounts were in order, although some bank statements still needed to be supplemented with the correct receipt. As a result, the Audit Committee together with the treasurer decided to schedule a second audit on 23 February so that the accounts could be perfected and checked before the Policy GA. We are pleased to report that the Audit Committee's recommendations during the first audit had been taken to heart, resulting in almost perfect accounts.

During this second audit, after consuming a delicious Schwarzwaldler Kirsch, we were also able to see the contribution income. This had been somewhat delayed because the collection contract had been changed in the previous year, which had not been communicated to the treasurer. Fortunately, after intensive contact with ABN Amro, this was resolved and the Audit Committee could see with satisfaction that the income was higher than budgeted. The committee is also very pleased with this board's initiatives to tackle the high number of defaulters.

Unlike the board year of the Audit Committee members, there are now plenty of activities that can be organised again. As seen in the intermediate ranking of the Committee Cup, this therefore makes the SPIL yellow hearts of the Audit Committee beat faster. In terms of diversity, the committee does want to recommend the board to encourage committees to vary the gifts for speakers more, where at the moment they largely consist of chocolate presents. In addition, the Finance Committee hopes that in future, the board will propagate our great fondness for Port more, also because it is our undisputed association drink.

The Audit Committee looks back on the audits with a positive feeling, which were concluded by counting the merchandise. The committee encourages the board to increase sales of the high number of items, because although the committee loves to count them, it will benefit the space in the SPIL common room if more merchandise is sold. Full of confidence, the Audit Committee looks ahead to the next six months, with the committee hoping that the treasurer will continue with her clear communication to the committee and end her board year with a well-ordered set of accounts.

With 40 SPIL-yellow greetings,

The 2022-2023 Audit Committee "Port'O'money" (*Jette Boonstra & Jurgen van der Zwet*)

LETTER SUSTAINABILITY TASKFORCE

Dear General Assembly,

We are all aware that urgent action on climate change is needed and that we are confronted with several important sustainability challenges. While as an association we cannot change the world alone, we do think it is important that we take our responsibility and contribute to the transition towards more sustainability.

This is why we deem it important to investigate the question: What is the environmental impact of the choices that are made within our association, and are there domains in which SPIL could become more sustainable? To look into possible answers to this question, the members decided to create a Sustainability Taskforce during the General Assembly.

As the Sustainability Taskforce, we have decided to write this letter to give advice to the General Assembly on various possibilities to move towards a more sustainable future of the association. We believe sustainability is a value that plays a role in many choices the association makes. SPIL is a very multifaceted association. Sustainability should be taken into account in decisions in all these different components of our association. This means that the transition should also consist of different aspects that reflect the diversity of activities taking place within our association. Our starting point is that we want to take responsibility and become more sustainable as an association, but that we also want to ensure that the transition is realistic and that all members feel included in this process. But what does this mean in practice? We have identified a few main themes within which we, as an association, could make other choices that are more sustainable. These themes are: trips, merchandise, printing and food.

Trips

Trips are an exciting part of SPIL's activities. They provide an opportunity for members to bond, learn, and experience new cultures. However, in recent times, the environmental impact of trips has become a concern and therefore we suggest limiting air transportation. This is in line with our commitment to environmental sustainability. Additionally, we should avoid flying within a country, as was the case of our last long trip to Thailand. This will not only reduce our carbon footprint but also enable us to explore the country more deeply and authentically.

We recognize that short trips may sometimes require flying, but we think that considering other options should always be the first step. Therefore, we encourage exploring alternative options, such as sleeping in other places along the road, which will make the journey part of the trip.

Furthermore, we think that we should also use the trips to educate ourselves and propose for every trip we undertake, to aim to do at least one sustainability-related activity. For example, a beach or a park clean-up or visiting NGOs. These activities will enable us to contribute positively to the communities we visit and make a positive impact on the environment.

We recommend that these proposals be put forward for a vote at the General Assembly. As a study association for Political Scientists, we recognize the importance of environmental sustainability and the need to set an example for others to follow.

Merchandise

The association is heavily promoted through merchandise. We are confident that every SPILler wears the sweaters with pride and enjoys seeing the stickers throughout Leiden, The Hague, and beyond. But, we should also consider sustainability regarding merchandise. We have a few ideas in mind. Pens, for example, are a long-lasting option that can be used to promote the SPIL among (new) students. Moreover, we propose the idea of a general SPIL sweater, with only the logo and in wearable colors, instead of yearly committee sweaters. Members are then encouraged to keep wearing it for multiple years. Like other associations, the SPIL can design a different sweater each year.

We advise the Acquisition Committee to put the emphasis on quality over quantity. Reusable coffee cups, pens, water bottles, and other items are a few examples. Making a sign-up form is an alternative to ordering a set quantity, so that the committee knows approximately how many items to order, which will ensure that fewer products are wasted. A similar survey can be sent about the Yearbook. The Taskforce agrees that it is an essential part of the association, but a survey could be helpful to estimate the number of people who want to pick it up so that no paper or money is wasted.

Printing

Across SPIL activities, printing and the use of print-outs has an important role. However, in light of the environmental impact of printing, we would like to suggest more mindful use of print outs in line with the commitment to sustainability that has come up this year.

Across SPIL activities and committees we would like to implement the use of recycled paper, whether that be by printing companies SPIL has partnerships with or other instances of printing. For promotion, an option being taken into consideration and in some cases already in action is putting posters on the screens across FSW and Wijnhaven rather than printing out promotion on physical posters.

We are aware that some activities and events almost wholly depend on printed out documents, but have some recommendations for these as well. For the General Assemblies, we suggest a sign-up to receive a printed out booklet, reducing any unnecessary printing. Anyone who did not sign up for a booklet can instead use a QR code to open the same booklet digitally on their phone. DEBAT has already implemented a sign-up for receiving a printed copy, and the amount of issues ordered this year was already less than previously, reducing the amount that are unnecessarily printed. However, because DEBAT is a big part of SPIL, we acknowledge that printing issues cannot be completely stopped, so for the future we support the sign-ups for receiving a printed out copy. The yearbook is another important component of the association which requires a significant amount of printing. Again, we understand that it cannot be reduced or stopped as a whole, and would thus recommend counting how many yearbooks were ordered and picked up in past years to tailor the amount ordered and printed in the future. Additionally, it is worth considering making partnerships with printing companies that make use of recycled paper or otherwise account for sustainability.

Finally, we would like to recommend reusing and recycling paper used at SPIL events as often as possible to ensure that what paper is used for printing is disposed of sustainably, reducing negative environmental impacts where possible.

Food

The choice between different kinds of food can have a significant environmental impact. Animal agriculture is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and water pollution, and a shift toward vegetarian or vegan diets can reduce these negative impacts on the environment. During a lot of SPIL activities food is served to the members. Of course, the circumstances are not always the same when food is included in activities. We think it is useful to distinguish the instances when food is served by an organization SPIL is visiting or by SPIL itself. We suggest beginning with a transition to vegetarian food if it is served by SPIL itself. If it is possible, serving vegan food would be preferable. However, it is important to recognize that dietary choices are a personal matter, and members should always be given the freedom to make their own choices about what they eat. Therefore, while promoting plant-based diets can be a positive step towards sustainability, it should be done in a respectful and non-judgmental way.

Besides the choice to serve vegetarian or vegan food, avoiding plastic packaging as much as possible is an important step towards reducing waste and minimizing our impact on the environment. While it can be challenging to eliminate plastic packaging entirely, making a conscious effort to reduce our use of plastic can have a significant impact. By choosing products with minimal or no plastic packaging, or by opting for reusable alternatives, we can reduce the amount of plastic waste that ends up in landfills or pollutes our oceans. While it may require more time and effort to seek out plastic-free options, it is a worthwhile investment in the health of our planet. It is also important to remember that avoiding plastic packaging does not necessarily mean spending more money. In many cases, choosing products with minimal packaging or opting for reusable

alternatives can be a cost-effective solution. By making a commitment to reduce our use of plastic packaging, even when it is difficult with the budget and time, we can contribute to a more sustainable future.

The themes mentioned in this letter are of course not the only domains in which more sustainable decisions could be made, but we hope that the actions that are proposed in this letter can be a starting point of the transition to a more sustainable association. We hope that this letter will not be the end but rather the start of the conversation about sustainability within our association, and can guide the first steps of becoming more sustainable.

Kind regards,

The Sustainability Taskforce