

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



Interim GA
XLIIIrd board 2023-2024

ENGLISH / ENGELS

INTERIM GENERAL ASSEMBLY
March 14th, 6:00pm

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THE SPIL ANTHEM

‘Onze nob’le discipline’

By Max Nederkoorn and Stijn van den Wijngaard

NB: For ceremonial use only the first verse and the refrain are sung.

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
[Rijk’lijk vloei’ de alcohol,
De politieke borrelpraat!
Drinken hoort bij ’t protocol,
Zoveel dat het nergens meer op slaat.
Dit Leidsch superieur instituut,
Eren wij de vereniging,
Die heerst en regeert deze stad:
Wie ons ziet heeft direct
een Minderwaardigheidscomplex!
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. Announcement
5. Received documents
6. Evaluating the minutes of the Policy GA, d.d. 12th of October 2023
7. Interim Policy XLIIIrd board 'SPILocracy'
8. Interim report Audit Committee
9. Election Board of Advisors
10. Discharges and installations
11. Any Other Businesses (W.v.t.t.k.)
12. Round of questions
13. Discharge of the Voting Committee
14. End of meeting

MINUTES OF THE POLICY GA, dated October 12th 2023

1. Opening

The Chair of the GA, Thomas Groenink opens the GA at 18:11.

Those present at the GA are:

Svea Drose	Sofia Ketting	Lara Akande
Noor Stuijt	Lily Hamon	Pieter Mauritz
Kasya Hilhorst	Natasha Falieu-Mamí	Patrick Daamen
Frederika Togtema	Jasmin Adam	Emma Breed
Salomé De Bona	Judith Hordijk	Frits Weyne
Ruchi van Zoelen	Thomas van Loon	Aleksander Chmiel
Gijs Verhoeff	Marjolein Nieuwenhuijsen	Dian Loh
Sjors de Natris	Thirze Wiegiers	Jyoti Verma
Eve Bailey	Jules Fockens	Haitske Pottinga
Nika Verwoert	Sem van der Voort	Nina Joziasse
Josephine van Os	Marit van der Heide	Alfons Hoof
Nathan de Jager	Catrin Böcher	Livi van Overdam
Marvin Lamers	Jokin de Carlos Sola	Rik Manuel
Robin Buijs	Ward Frenken	Evaelle Dhainaut
Elena van der Klok	Margot Ammerlaan	Anna Easton

After singing the SPIL-anthem, the GA Chair welcomes everybody.

2. Choosing Voting Committee

The GA chair instals Sjors de Natris and Thirze Wiegiers into the voting committee.

3. Setting the agenda

The GA chair asks the secretary if there are any changes to the agenda. There are not. The agenda is set.

4. Announcements

The GA Chair asks those who are present to write their name on the attendance list at the door and if they leave to cross out their name. The GA booklet and motion paper can be found online. The booklet is both in Dutch and English. He asks the attendants to state their full name before they speak for the minutes. The GA Chair announces that spelling or grammar mistakes can be emailed to the secretary.

The GA Chair asks the secretary if there are any further announcements. There are not.

5. Received documents

The GA Chair asks the secretary if there are any received documents. There are two nomination letters. There is a vote transfer from Maarten van der Marel to Marvin Lamers, from Milena Schmidt to Jules Fockens, from Fince van Kampen to Emma Breed, from Emily Recke to Thomas van Loon, from Anna Gruber to Robin Buijs and from Maria Lozano to Juliana Beunk.

6. Installing minutes Change of Board GA dated September 14th

Mr. Buijs compliments the secretary on finishing the minutes on time.

There are no further questions. The minutes are set.

7. Policy XLIIIrd board 'SPILocracy'

2.1

Ms. Van der Klok states that she thinks an English-speaking policy is not inclusive. Members should be able to choose which language they want to speak.

Ms. Drose explains that the policy is targeted towards the members and can be applied at their own discretion.

Ms. Van der Klok is asking if the board sees the association still as a bilingual association.

Ms. Drose confirms.

Ms. Van der Heide thinks that the Dutch students might not feel comfortable speaking in English..

Ms. Drose explains that this is the reason why the 'at their own discretion' part was added. The board wants everybody to feel comfortable.

Mr. Buijs asks what the new system of the Committee Cup is.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the check-in is completely digital.

Mr. Buijs suggests doing an explainer on Instagram so members know what the Committee Cup is and how it works.

Mr. Verhoeff likes the idea and will take it into consideration.

Mr. De Natris warns the board of fraud and suggests checking the Google forms for double names.

Ms. Wiegers asks whether there are not going to be any chair booklets.

Mr. Verhoeff confirms that everything will be digital, except for the QR code.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vertelt dat ze het toch even in het Nederlands gaat doen en vraagt zich af wat de meer waarde is van zoveel mogelijk activiteiten in het Engels organiseren als sommige activiteiten beter in het Nederlands georganiseerd zouden kunnen worden.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen is asking what the added value is to organising as many activities in English. She thinks that some activities make more sense in Dutch.

Ms. Drose explains that the board wants the activities to be as inclusive as possible and is organising both Dutch and English events for the Dutch elections.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vraagt zich af of dat daadwerkelijk inclusiever is. Ze vraagt het bestuur daar over na te denken.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen wonders if it really is more inclusive. She wants to give that as a takeaway.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vraagt zich af waarom de RvA niet aan de Committee Cup is toegevoegd.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen asks why the RvA is not included in the QR code for the Committee Cup.

Mr. Verhoeff apologises and will add the RvA to the Committee Cup manually. Next time the RvA will be included.

Ms. Drose explains that the board does think it is more inclusive. This way all the members can join activities. The board also sees it as a way to connect Dutch and international students.

Ms. Ammerlaan wonders how the Waffle Hour went and if the common rooms are more visited.

Ms. Drose explains that new members come to the common rooms, but that it depends on the time and day. The board has more plans to make the common rooms more visible.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks what those plans are.

Ms. Drose explains that the board is looking into making videos for Instagram to show where the common rooms are and is in contact with the university about possible signs.

Ms. Böcher explains that in her year they also looked into placing signs, but that there were some difficulties with the university rules.

Mr. Buijs states that he thinks that the common rooms were a bit more closed than there were activities and advises the board to let the members know on Instagram when the common room will be closed.

Ms. Ammerlaan thinks that just translating the anthem will not get the point across. She advises the board to provide the translation with an explanation of the anthem.

Ms. Drose thinks that that is a good point and will take it into consideration.

2.3

Mr. Buijs asks what the free training entails.

Ms. Drose explains that this means trainings for the committee members provided by the university.

Mr. Weyne vraagt zich af wat de balans tussen de verschillende studies is binnen de vereniging en de commissies.

Mr. Weyne asks what the balance between the programs is within the association and the committee.

Ms. Stuijt explains that the majority of members are IRO students, this is also represented in the committees. 75% of the committee members are IRO students.

Mr. Weyne vraagt zich af of er daadwerkelijk meer IRO studenten zijn of dat het aantal IP en POL studenten afneemt bij de vereniging.

Mr. Weyne asks if there are actually more IRO students or if the number of IP and POL students is declining.

Ms. Stuijt explains that new students from Leiden joined the association this year. She thinks the programs are not out of balance within the association.

Mr. Weyne vraagt zich af het bestuur nadenkt over manieren om Nederlandse studenten te betrekken bij de vereniging.

Mr. Weyne asks if the board is thinking about how to include the Dutch students more.

Ms. Drose explains that the Dutch students are being introduced to English.

Mr. Weyne vertelt dat sommige mensen geen zin hebben om Engels te praten en zegt dat de Nederlanders niet vergeten moeten worden.

Mr. Weyne says that some people do not feel like speaking English. He states that we should not forget the Dutch students

Ms. Joziase explains that she is a Dutch political science student and that her fellow students do not complain about the association being English.

3.1.2

Ms. Van der Klok asks if the board thinks the Interfaculty Gala will have a high attendance.

Ms. Drose explains that it is a new StOP committee targeted towards smaller associations that do not have a big party of their own.

Ms. Van der Klok warns the board that too many interfaculty activities could hinder the attendance of the association's activities.

Ms. Van der Heide is wondering why there is nothing about CIROS in the policy.

Ms. Drose explains that CIROS is in the policy and that it is an association the board wants to collaborate with more.

Ms. Van der Klok asks why there was no SPILxCIROS week this year.

Ms. Drose explains that the week last year was not very successful. The board rather puts their energy towards separate events with CIROS.

Ms. Akande wonders if CIROS is in VerO the Hague

Ms. Drose confirms.

Ms. Akande wonders if the board is afraid of tensions between CIROS and the associations.

Ms. Drose explains that the board is not worried about this, because the two associations have the same goal.

3.1.3

Ms. Akande is wondering if the bank account is still being used.

Ms. Drose confirms since it is more work for the associations to let the money go through an associations.

Ms. Akande asks if the contribution to PvP is still enough to cover all the costs.

Ms. Drose confirms.

Mr. Buijs thinks that if there are not many expenses, one association's bank account might work better.

Ms. Drose explains that she cannot make this decision on her own.

Ms. Böcher asks how the collaboration is going.

Ms. Drose explains that the collaboration is going well.

3.1.4

Ms. Ammerlaan asks if there will be a training session for the committees that open later in the year.

Ms. Drose confirms.

3.1.5

Ms. Van der Klok wonders what at the 'at the discretion of the committee and the board' means.

Ms. Drose explains that this means that the member will be asked to dress appropriately next time.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks that the word neutral is more subjective. She thinks that the dress code might be misunderstood.

Ms. Stuijt explains that it was a conscious decision to change the wording from plain to neutral. The board wants to leave more room for options.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vertelt dat tijdens de Israel Reis, iemand een wit pak droeg en het er niet uitzag.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen explains that on the trip to Isreal, somebody wore a white suit and it looked ridiculous.

Ms. Stuijt explains that the formal dress code will remain the same, which means a dark-coloured suit.

Mr. Mr. Lamers wonders who the dress code manager will be.

Ms. Drose explains it will be someone from the board.

Ms. Lamers thinks that it may be less inclusive to tell somebody that they are dressed wrong.

Ms. Drose explains that the board will guide the members as much as possible with pictures of the correct dress code.

Mr. Lamers vraagt hoe het bestuur het oplost als leden niet de juiste kleding bij zich hebben op een reis.

Mr. Lamers asks what the board will do if members did not bring the right clothing.

Mr. Drose explains that they will be asked to buy the right clothing.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks that this dress code policy is more applied during trips and not so much during excursions.

Ms. Drose explains that the dress code for excursions will be communicated with member via email.

Ms. Akande is wondering if the sale of the merch will go down because of the change in dress code.

Ms. Drose explains that she does not think the sale will go down, because there are still plenty of activities where members need to buy merch for and there are other merch items as well.

Ms. Akande asks if it is correct that more activities will now have a business-casual dress code.

Ms. Drose explains that this is at the discretion of the commissioner and committee.

Ms. Breed wonders why there is a dress code person if the entire board can do it.

Ms. Drose explains it is to divide the tasks clearly.

Mr. Daamen asks if the dress code manager will be somebody from the board.

Ms. Drose confirms.

Mr. De Natris wonders if a turtle neck is included.

Ms. Drose explains that it is not included in the definition, but that it can be discussed.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks why the merch is not included in the business-casual dress code.

Ms. Stuijt explains that the board thinks the merch is not always of added value. It can look awkward on a different coloured shirt.

Mr. Ammerlaan explains that the board should leave the decision of wearing merch up to the members or the activity.

Ms. Stuijt will take it into consideration.

Ms. Akande asks the board to explain when members were not representing the association

Ms. Stuijt names the NCDR Congress.

Ms. Akande thinks that this is a unique occasion and should not be named as a reason to change the dress code.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen thinks that the NCDR Congress was an activity organised by the association and that merch could have been worn.

Ms. Stuijt explains that the association was invited to the congress, but did not organise it.

Mr. Weyne vraagt waarom leden geen merch item konden dragen.

Mr. Weyne asks why members could not wear a merch item.

Ms. Stuijt explains that members could wear a merch item, but that it was not mandatory.

Mr. Weyne asks that if the activity was organised by the association, the merch item would have been mandatory.

Ms. Stuijt confirms.

Mr. Weyne does not see a reason to remove the merch item from the dress code then.

Ms. Van der Heide wonders if a dress code manager might be perceived as controlling.

Ms. Drose explains that it is important to enforce the dress code to reach the aim of a cohesive dress code.

Ms. Van der Heide thinks it is important to have discussions with members about this.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen denkt dat de dresscode ingewikkelder is geworden en will het graag houden zoals die is.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen thinks that the dress code is more complicated and that the board should keep it as it is.

Ms. Drose explains that members have been complaining about the dress code and that the business-casual was not really business-casual.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen denkt dat stemmen in de ruimte iets anders zeggen en dat het bestuur daar naar moet luisteren.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen thinks that the voices of the room state differently and that the board should listen to that.

Ms Drose explains that it is a pilot and can always be changed back.

Ms Wiegiers asks if we can decide per event on the merch.

Ms. Drose explains that there is more to not having merch with the business-casual dress code.

Mr. Buijs asks what the board wants to do with the vote of the policy.

Ms. Drose says the board will discuss it later.

Mr. Daamen is asking if he can still wear a tie with business casual.

Ms. Drose confirms.

3.2

Ms. Böcher asks what is the value to the Stair Affairs Committee if it changes.

Ms. Drose explains that the changes are more targeted toward the type of speakers and content of the event. Not necessarily the concept.

Ms. Böcher asks what would be reevaluated.

Ms. Drose names the speakers and kinds of events.

Ms. Böcher asks what Ms. Drose means with kinds of events.

Ms. Drose explains that the word reevaluation was only used in relation to the university.

Ms. Böcher asks which points Ms. Drose wants to reevaluate.

Ms. Drose explains that working with the university is difficult, that is what is being reevaluated.

Ms. Breed wonders if there are discussions about the money with BIL.

Ms. Dorse explains that it has not been discussed yet.

Ms. Breed asks if it will be discussed.
Ms. Drose confirmed.

Ms. Akande asks if Ms. Drose has spoken with the contact person from the university.

Ms. Drose says she has not.

Ms. Akande asks how the collaboration with the BIL is going since they do not want to speak Dutch.

Ms. Drose explains that the collaboration is going well, and that questions about the language were raised.

Ms Akande asks if the BIL was being difficult.

Ms. Drose explains that there were concerns about BIL members attending English-speaking events.

Mr. Böcher asks what the compromise entails.

Ms. Drose explains that one event will be in Dutch and the others will be in English.

Ms. Van der Klok explains that some events, especially about Dutch politics, make more sense in Dutch.

Ms. Drose explains that the first Stairs Affairs will be in Dutch.

Mr. Hooft wonders if the event can be organised somewhere other than the stairs at Wijnhaven.

Ms. Drose explains that the event will be in Wijnhaven.

Mr. Hooft asks if all the exit polls could please be shown.

Ms. Pottinga explains that they will show all the exit polls. There will only be one anyway.

Mr. Daamen asks if he can drink beer during the Stairs Affairs event in Wijnhaven.

Ms. Drose explains Mr. Daamen cannot since drinking alcohol is not in line with university policy.

Mr. Buijs confirms to Mr. Hooft that all the exit polls will be shown since he asked that during the previous GA as well.

The Chair of the GA adjourns the GA at 19:26

The Chair of the GA reopens the GA at 19:38

Ms. Drose explains that the dress code changes will be a pilot till the interim GA and the GA will vote on the dress code during the interim GA.

4.1.1

Ms. Buijs asks if the blanks could be filled in

Ms. Stuijt explains that SPIL has a total of 1242 members. 137 international politics students, 68 political science students, 649 international relations and organisations students, 29 master students and 359 members of which the programme is unknown. SPIL has 264 Alumni and 60 reunionists.

Mr. Buijs asks what happened to the political science students since the number decreased significantly.

Ms. Stuijt explains that she counted differently than her predecessor, but that they can discuss it after the GA.

Mr. Hooft asks if there are any plans to make the number of master students more accurate.

Ms. Stuijt explains that there is not.

Ms. Böcher asks if the board is happy with the number of Alumni members.

Ms. Stuijt explains that the board is happy with every person who is interested in SPIL. She hopes more people will become interested in becoming an Alumni members once she has organised an Alumni event.

Ms. Böcher asks if there are any plans to increase the number of Alumni members

Ms. Stuijt explains that there are no concrete plans, but that she hopes that more Alumni will join once they know about the event.

Ms. Böcher asks if the board is still in contact with the university in relation to organising an alumni activity.

Ms. Stuijt confirms she will make use of the alumni fund.

4.1.2

Mr. Lamers asks what the plans for the newsletter are.

Ms. Stuijt explains that it can become more of a platform where members can reach out to each other.

4.1.5

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen denkt dat veel dingen al geprobeerd zijn en dat eten en drinken het beste werken om leden naar de ALV te krijgen.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen thinks that a number of these have already been done and that food and drinks can make the GA more appealing.

Ms. Stuijt explains that she will further develop the ideas that have previously been done before.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that there is no money for this since the budget is not the same as a few years ago. But the board will consider it later in the year.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen ziet kansen voor de acquisitie commissie.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen thinks free food and drinks can be looked into by the acquisitions committee.

Ms. Hilhorst will take it into consideration.

Mr. Verhoeff will take it into consideration.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks why there was no extra promotion for this GA.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that it will be picked up for the next GA.

4.1.6

Mr. Buijs advises to announce it two or three months in advance.

Ms. Stuijt states that she will take it into consideration.

4.2.1

Ms. Van der Heide asks if there will be two Friends and Family Days.

Ms. Stuijt confirms.

4.2.2

Ms. Van der Klok warns the board of a breach of contract if the board provides official summaries during the study groups.

Ms. Stuijt explains that it will be an informal exchange of summaries and overviews between students.

Ms. Van der Klok asks if there will be a partnership with a company that provides summaries.

Ms. Stuijt says that there will be no partnership.

Ms. Van der Heide suggests inviting lecturers to the study groups to provide more guidance to students.

Ms. Stuijt will take it into consideration.

Mr. Buijs asks about the study groups that are planned for next week.

Ms. Stuijt explains the study group.

Mr. Buijs advises to promote the study group as soon as possible.

Ms. Stuijt will take it into consideration.

Ms. Van der Heide asks if there will be study groups in Leiden.

Ms. Stuijt confirms.

Mr. De Carlos asks if there will be study groups for master students.

Ms. Stuijt says that there will be no study groups for master students.

Mr. De Natris explains the reasons for no master study groups further.

4.2.3

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vraagt of de data van het Eerstejaarsweekend vaststaan.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen asks if the dates for the Freshmen Weekend are set.

Ms. Stuijt explains that they are not.

4.2.4

Ms. Akande asks the commissioner to elaborate on the members in the committee.

Ms. Stuijt explains that there are two first year students, one second year and one master students in the committee.

5.1.1

Mr. Buijs says that he loves the quote.

Ms. Akande asks if the SPIL contribution for the Brussels Trip will be a trend.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that will probably be the case.

Ms. Akande suggests using the same hostel next year.

Ms. Hilhorst likes the suggestion.

Ms. De Bona explains the Brussels committee will open this year in February, which will make it easier.

Mr. Weyne vraagt of er wordt nagedacht over ideeën om het budget te vergroten.

Mr. Weyne asks if the board is thinking about ideas to increase the budget.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board will reach the same acquisition goal as last year and hopefully reach it with the ideas of Mr. Verhoeff.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he will work hard to reach the acquisition goal.

Mr. Daamen asks how many audit checks there will be.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she is happy with her Audit Committee and states that there will be at least two.

5.1.2

Mr. De Natris asks when the app will go live.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that it will be before the end of this year if the GA approves.

Mr. Hooft asks if an app is necessary when there are already many other channels the association uses.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that we will discuss the app in more detail later in the policy.

Mr. Daamen asks if it is possible to ask questions to the treasurer later on as well.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms.

5.1.3

Ms. Akande asks if the association received the money from the institute yet.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the association did not receive the money yet. And that she sent an email to the institute about it.

Ms. Van der Heide explains that the person responsible is on leave.

Ms. Akande asks if there are any concrete examples of regaining the trust of the students.

Ms. Togtema explains that that will be done through promotion.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that Christiaan is aware of the struggles associations have that come from Study Store.

Mr. Buijs asks if the board thought about paid promotion for the book sale.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board will look into it.

Mr. Daamen asks if the board has reached out to the lecturers to put the book sale in the syllabus.

Ms. Hilhorst likes the suggestion.

Mr. De Natris asks if the 2200 euro compensation covers all the debt.

Ms. Akande explains that the debt from the first semester is covered.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that what is budgeted in August is different than what the association actually receives.

Mr. De Natris asks if there is debt left.

Ms. Akande explains that all the debt from the first semester is covered by the institute and the second semester started with Index books.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she thinks that Mr. De Natris confuses the number 3000 in the budget.

5.2.2

Mr Lamers vraagt waarom er voor is gekozen om de cantus later in het jaar te houden.

Mr. Lamers is asking why the decision was made to have the cantus later in the year.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks why the tradition of the lecture is kept but the cantus is not.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the Dies used to be a day and that the lecture was on that day. The decision to move the cantus was made with the committee.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks how moving the cantus to later in the year deals with the problem of people not feeling well.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the cantus will look a little bit different this year and that the cantus is not suitable to represent the association in the Dies week.

Ms. Akande does not understand that changing the date will make it less scary.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that that is the compromise.

Ms. Akande asks how the cantus will look different.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she is discussing this with the committee. She will emphasize the explanation and make people feel comfortable.

Mr. De Natris explains that the Dies Week can be an introduction to new members and a cantus is not a good impression.

Ms. Akande asks why the revisions were not made for the cantus in the Dies Week.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that this is what the committee and herself decided to do.

Mr. Buijs wonders what the opinion of Mr. Verhoeff is on a cantus.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he fully supports the decision of the commissioner Dies and the committee.

Mr. Buijs states that he would like to know how Mr. Verhoeff feels about the concept of a cantus.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he will be present at the cantus and that his experience last year is an example of why the board is changing it a little bit.

Mr. Lamers vraagt of er meer concrete plannen zijn om de cantus te veranderen.

Mr. Lamers asks if there are more concrete ideas on how the cantus will be reshaped.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that the cantus will be more comfortable. The details she will discuss will the committee.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks that it is not inclusive to move the cantus.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that there are two opposite opinions.

Mr. Buijs asks why there will be no Dies Dive.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that there was no interest in this activity.

Mr. Buijs thinks that there was interest in the Dies Dive.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the committee chose for committee with more interests

Mr. De Natris explains that there were three people at the Dies Dive and that the cantus was discussed a lot.

Mr. Buijs thinks that there were fifteen people at the Dies Dive.

Mr. De Natris explains that the Dies Committee chooses to do other activities

Mr. Hooft is confused about the point being discussed.

Mr. Buijs is disappointed that there is no Dies Dive.

Mr. Van der Voort wonders if we can organise a New Year's dive.

Ms. Hilhorst states that the board will take it into consideration.

Mr. Daamen asks how many Dies Dives there were before last year.

Mr. Buijs explains that there were none.

6.1

Ms. Van der Heide is wondering why the Education Committee will evaluate bachelor courses.

Ms. Togtema explains that the committee was very excited to have this role.

Ms. Van der Heide thinks that it would be nice to organise this with the OLC.

Ms. Togtema states that she will take it into consideration.

Ms. Van der Kolk asks if there is an International Politics student in the Education Committee.

Ms. Togtema confirms.

Ms. Van der Klok suggests being in close contact with that person to better represent IP students

Mr. Buijs asks what the commissioner means by being in close contact for feedback.

Ms. Togtema explains that she means that the Education Committee is a good point of contact for students and can get them in contact with the OLC.

Ms. Van der Klok asks if there are any concrete ideas for the visibility of the OLC.

Ms. Togtema explains that the board will use the association to promote the OLC and combine the OLC and the Education Committee.

Ms. Van der Heide thinks that this was done last year and that something new should be tried.

Ms. Togtema explains that she will promote it more.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks that promoting it more will not help.

6.2

Ms. Van der Heide thinks that students can be interested in both international and Dutch institutions.

Ms. Togtema states that her policy was not meant like that. Students can be interested in both.

Mr. Buijs asks what the board will do about people not attending.

Ms. Togtema explains that the confirmation email from last year will be continued.

Ms. Buijs asks if this helped for the Polish Embassy.

Ms. Togtema confirms.

6.3

Ms. Akande asks how social activities for master students are different from regular master activities.

Ms. Togtema explains that masters students do not want to attend bachelor activities.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks how the master borrel went and if there are other ideas for social activities.

Ms. Togtema confirms and explains that they would like to do more drinks activities.

Ms. Togtema explains that the committee is looking into that.

Mr. Daamen states that the committee is doing really hard work to make the masters more connected, but that it still seems like a different body.

Mr. De Carlos explains that the committee is looking into career, PhD events and the first event was to engage the master students.

Mr. Daamen thinks that the borrel was more a master's borrel and not really a SPIL borrel.

Ms. Togtema explains that the committee advertises SPIL to the masters students.

Ms. Van der Klok advises the board to reach out to the study advisers to promote the event.

Ms. Togtema explains that she invited the study advisers to borrel and asked them to promote SPIL.

Ms. Breed asks if the Commissioner is thinking about working together with other associations.

Ms. Togtema will take it into consideration.

6.4

Ms. Akande asks what was meant with the difference in income between the third and fourth block.

Ms. Togtema explains that there was a bit of confusing, but that it is cleared up now.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms that it was a bit unclear.

Ms. Van der Klok asks if it is worth it to organise a book sale for just a few master students.

Ms. Togtema explains that she thinks it is worth it and multiple master students have asked about it.

Ms. Van der Klok warns that it can be quite a lot of work.

Ms. Van der Heide explains that it also can be difficult to organise it, because there are so many different programmes.

Ms. Togtema explains that the Masters Committee offered to help.

Ms. Van der Heide explains that it will be difficult to organise everything on the website.

Ms. Togtema states that she will discuss it with Christiaan.

Mr. Daamen thinks that it will not be too difficult to organise.

Ms. Van der Klok heard that there will be a borrel with Christiaan and she would like to be invited.

Ms. Togtema confirms.

6.5

Mr. Buijs asks what the slogan of the Commissioners campaign was.

Ms. Togtema explains that the board did not come up with a slogan yet.

Mr. Buijs asks if the board can come up with one for next GA.

7

Mr. Buijs asks how the association wide policy goals will be kept in mind.

Ms. De Bona explains that they will visit universities and the students will have the opportunity to expand their network.

Mr. Weyne vraagt wat the expliciete overeenkomst met de vertrouwenspersoon inhoudt.

Mr. Weyne asks what the explicit agreement with the trust person entails.

Ms. De Bona explains that there will be a talk beforehand to talk about the agreements.

Ms. Ammerlaan is wondering why the dress code manager will be a board member.

Ms. De Bona explains that the committee members are busy during the trip with different things.

7.2

Mr. Buijs asks a question on behalf of Ms. Gruber. She is asking if the Commissioner can explain the destination.

Ms. De Bona explains why Prague was chosen and fits the five criteria.

Mr. Weyne suggests putting the explanation in the policy for next time.

Ms. De Bona will take it into consideration.

Mr. De Carlos asks when the destination will be announced on Instagram and when the applications will open.

Ms. De Bona explains that it will be announced on Instagram soon and that the applications will open in the first week of the second block.

Ms. Breed asks how first-year students would know how to improve the trip even though they have never been on a trip.

Ms. De Bona explains that it is about how they could make the trip better.

Mr. Van der Voort asks why the trip starts on a Saturday.

Ms. De Bona explains that the dates of the resits were kept in mind when booking the trip.

Mr. Van der Klok asks if the association is traveling by train to Prague

Ms. De Bona explains to order train tickets you need to have the names of the participants and the prices fluctuate.

Ms. Van der Voort asks when the IRO resits are.

Ms. De Bona explains that the last IRO resit is on the 26th.

Ms. Adam asks if the waiting list for the short trip will work the same as for the brussels trip.

Ms. De Bona explains that the motivation letters will be graded. These will form the waiting lists.

Ms. Van der Heide asks if the committee looked at buses.

Ms. De Bona states that she will take it into consideration for next year.

Mr. Weyne asks what the point system for the grading of the letters looks like.

Ms. De Bona explains that she will follow the same procedure of last year.

Mr. Weyne explains that last year personal information was kept in.

Ms. De Bona explains that only very specific information that could reveal the identity of the person will be removed.

Mr. Weyne explains that last year it was not really clear when members were receiving points.

Ms. De Bona explains that she will discuss this further with the graders.

Mr. Weyne thinks it should also be clear for the members.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen vertelt dat er een tabel op de j-schijf staat

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen explains that there is a table on the j-disk.

Mr. Weyne vertelt dat hij het eens is met Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen en dat er een duidelijk schema moet zijn.

Ms. Weyne agrees with Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen that there should be a clear table with when you get point.

Ms. Van der Heide suggests that the graders will discuss this with the Commissioner.

7.3

Mr. Buijs asks if there are more options as a result of moving the formation of the committee earlier.

Ms. De Bona confirms.

7.4

Ms. Van der Heide explains that she would like to see a trip to a congress for next year.

Ms. De Bona explains that it is expensive and out of the association's budget and students.

Ms. Van der Heide understands.

The Chair of the GA adjourns the GA at 21:15

The Chair of the GA reopens the GA at 21:32

8.1.1.2

Mr. Lamers vindt dat het beleid goed geschreven is en vraagt hoe de Commissaris van plan is de commissie bij elkaar te houden.

Mr. Lamers gives compliments to Ms. Van Zoelen and he is asking how the commissioner will keep the committee together.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that the committee will write together after the meeting.

Ms. Wiegers explains that she asked the members of DEBAT if they wanted social activities. And she received a positive response.

8.1.1.4

Ms. Akande asks if there is a link to the DEBAT sign up.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that there was one in the newsletter and that there will be an Instagram post.

Ms. Akande asks if there will be a link on the website.

Ms. Van Zoelen will ask the Mr. Verhoeff to take care of this.

Mr. Buijs asks if there will be a note with the DEBATs that are delivered.

Ms. Van Zoelen likes the idea and will take it into consideration.

Ms. Wiegers asks if there will be enough DEBATs if the association is cutting back on the amount printed and promoting members receiving DEBATs.

Ms. Van Zoelen thinks that the amount of printing will be fine. The amount of DEBATs being used, is less than the amount printed.

Ms. Akande asks if the lowered amount printed, means that the fixed price per unit is raised.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that the association has a new contract with a new company and the cost for printing 400 is significantly less than printing 500 units.

8.1.1.5

Mr. De Carlos asks if the DEBAT online articles will be promoted more.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains DEBAT has its own Instagram which will also be shared on the regular Instagram.

Ms. Joziase explains that the promotion of the DEBAT will be further discussed in the committee.

Ms. Wiegers suggests promoting the online DEBAT in the physical DEBAT.

Ms. Ammerlaan wonders if there will be training on managing the DEBAT website.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that the secretary of DEBAT is in charge of the website and she is in contact with the former secretary of DEBAT.

8.1.1.6

Ms. Van der Heide suggests to still look into the podcast.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she meant that she does not have to force anybody to do a podcast.

Mr. Buijs explains that he knows a very interesting guest who could help with the podcast.

Ms. Easton asks if it would be necessary to ask for help, if the committee is so big.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she took that part out of her policy.

Ms. Easton apologises.

8.1.2

Ms. Easton asks what the Commissioner's ideas are on using the word yearbook, instead of the word Almanac.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that everybody knows the word yearbook.

Ms. Van der Heide warns the Commissioner of a confusing invoice from the company.

Ms. Van Zoelen thanks Ms. Van der Heide.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that there is more money budgeted this year.

Ms. Akande warns the board for extra costs for DEBAT

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she has read the emails and is aware of the issues.

Ms. Ammerlaan wonders how the Commissioner will decide which associations will be in the yearbook.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she will have contact with former board members about this.

8.2.1

Ms. Easton is praising the Commissioner for wanting to organise a GSA.

Mr. Buijs states that Niels Park promised to be present at this year's GSA and he asks if there will be committee vests this year.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that the committee did not yet express the need for such item.

Ms. Breed asks if there will be less parties this year.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that it is up to the committee, but that they never discussed less parties.

Ms. Breed asks if Niels Park is the only reason the Commissioner is organising the GSA this year.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she likes the concept of the GSA and looks forward to organising it with the committee.

Mr. Lamers asks what the plans are to get Niels Park to GSA.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that she will personally invite him at his work.

Mr. Hooft asks what the attendance at the last GSA was.

Ms. Van Zoelen detters this question to Mr. Verhoeff

Mr. Verhoeff explains the GSA had a 100% attendance satisfaction gate.

Ms. Easton suggests the GSA to feel school trippy.

Mr. Daamen asks if last year was the first year that the GSA was organised.

Ms. Nieuwenhuijsen explains that it is a very old tradition.

8.2.2

Mr. Weyne vindt de stamkroegen en gratis vegahapjes erg leuk en vraagt zich af of er een deal is met de stamkroegen over de drank.

Mr. Weyne expresses he likes the bars and free snacks and asks if there are deal with the bars on drinks.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that there is a deal for the beers with the bar in The Hague. We get a lot of free stuff from the bar in Leiden.

Mr. Weyne raadt het bestuur aan om gedurende het jaar te blijven onderhandelen en bij andere kroegen binnen te stappen.

Mr. Weyne recommends to keep negotiating during the year, also with other bars.

Ms. Van Zoelen states she will take it into consideration

Ms. Easton thinks that announcements at borrels should also be made on Instagram.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that this is something for Mr. Verhoeff.

Mr. Verhoeff agrees. He states that the post will be out shortly.

Mr. De Natris states that he thinks Mr. Verhoeff, Mr. Van der Voort and Mr. Hooft should express their gratitude for the hospitality L'Espérance has shown them.

Mr. Verhoeff thinks that this is most appropriate after the GA.

8.2.3

Ms. Akande asks if there is a date for the Halloween Party

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that there is not, but she will hopefully get the confirmation tomorrow.

Ms. Akande asks if the Haags Studenten Feest will take place this year.

Ms. Van Zoelen confirms and explains that Ms. Hilhorst is a part of the committee.

Ms. Akande asks what will the theme of the gala be.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains the theme of the gala will be up to the committee, but that there will be a theme.

Mr. Frenken asks about the date of the Halloween Party.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the promo is ready, but the date is not confirmed yet.

8.2.4

Ms. Akande asks if there will be an Efteling Trip

Ms. Van Zoelen confirms

9.1.1

Ms. Ammerlaan asks what happened to the deal with Toastable.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he forgot to put the toastable deal in his policy.

Ms. Dhainaut explains that the deal with Toatable is not really in place anymore, because they re-evaluated their entire business.

Ms. Akande asks what the situation with partnerships is.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that there is a focus on deals that bring in money.

Ms. Easton asks why the target is not in the policy.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the target is in the policy, but that it makes more sense in the budget part.

Ms. Easton recommends putting in the policy.

Mr. Verhoeff will take it into consideration.

Mr. Van der Klok advises Mr. Verhoeff to work together with the commissioner Education and politics.

9.1.2

Mr. Ammerlaan asks if there will only be items that can be worn.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that this is up to the committee.

Ms. Akande asks what the Commissioner means with a broader audience.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he means the more casual members and people outside of SPIL.

Ms. Akande asks if the SPIL logo will still be there.

Mr. Verhoeff confirms.

Ms. Akande asks what the reasons are for changing the committee item to short-sleeved shirts.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that it is cheaper for the committee members.

Ms. Akande explains that there were only two people that did not pay.

Ms. Wieggers explains that she likes t-shirts.

Ms. Aknade explains to the GA that the item is not just for trips.

Ms. Breed asks if the back will be the same.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the board is still discussing this.

Ms. Easton asks how many people ordered the committee item.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the committee item was not ordered yet, so there are no numbers on that yet.

Ms. Pottinga asks if she could have a stairs affairs t-shirt this year.

Mr. Verhoeff confirms.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks if the merchandise market will be organised this year.

Ms. Verhoeff confirms.

9.1.4

Mr. Akande asks what the posting schedule is.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the goal is to post two weeks in advance.

Ms. Easton thinks it is smart to post a save the date in advance.

Mr. Verhoeff states he will take it into consideration.

Ms. Easton tells the Commissioner to be strict with his board members.

Ms. Van der Klok wonders if the monthly wrap-ups will be done.

Mr. Verhoeff will take it into consideration.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks when something is posted in the story.

Ms. Verhoeff will take it into consideration.

9.1.4.2

Ms. Easton thinks that the app is a gimmick and that she does not see the added value and that the money can be used otherwise.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that there is added value because everything will be in one place.

Ms. Easton asks for a number to determine when the app is successful.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the app is a pilot and does not have such numbers rights now

Ms. Easton thinks it is important to have a clear plan to evaluate the plan.

Mr. Hooft wonders if the commissioner has reached out to other associations on the use of an app.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he did not reach out to the associations themselves, but he knows about the success of the Socie App system.

Mr. Buijs likes the idea of the app, but he is not sure if it is worth the money. He suggests reaching out to other associations.

Mr Verhoeff will take it into consideration.

Mr. De Natris wonders if the Commissioner considered using WhatsApp Community.

Mr Verhoeff explains that the board will not make use of this. The app will be a better option.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks it is a lot of double work.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he can do this work with the committee

Ms. Easton asks if the Commissioner has looked into the former SPIL App.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he was not aware of this app.

Ms. Easton thinks that it is not wise to use the money like this without looking into the old app and other associations.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he did look into the use of the Socie App by other associations and has looked into the WhatsApp Community.

Ms. Van der Heide wonders what the app has that SPIL is missing.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the app has more features that SPIL currently does not have.

Ms. Van der Heide thinks that other free places can provide those features.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the app will bring all the features together and will improve the overall experience of the members.

Ms. Van der Heide explains that she does not think it is worth the money.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he thinks it is worth the money.

Ms. Easton thinks that there should be a clear plan for how to evaluate the app and since that is not here right now, she does not want to vote in favour.

Mr. Verhoeff agrees that an evaluation is very important and understands Ms. Easton's point.

Ms. Joziasse asks if there was a request by members for an app.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the reactions to an app were positive.

Ms. Easton explains that she does not want to vote against the policy and would like to vote on the app separately.

Ms. Easton asks if she understands correctly that the money for the app will be saved till next GA.

Mr. Buijs asks if the board could decide on whether to keep the app in the budget or not.

Mr. De Natris asks if there could be clarification from the board on the vote for the dress code.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms.

Mr. Buijs explains that the dress code and the app are different because you cannot pilot the app without spending money.

Mr. Van der Heide explains that she understood the dress code differently, but is in favour of a pilot.

Mr. De Natris asks what the GA will vote about.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board cannot pilot the app without spending money.

Mr. Weyne stelt voor om de app ook door te schuiven naar volgende ALV.
Mr. Weyne suggests moving the app to the interim GA.

Ms. Akande thinks that we then have to trust the Treasurer to allocate the money elsewhere.

Ms. Hilhorst suggests to have two separate budgets, one with the app and one without the app.

Ms. Easton is curious to know what the board will do with the voting and agrees with the Treasurer on the budget.

Ms. Wiegers asks the board to speak on both issues, the app and the dress code.

9.2.1

Ms. Ammerlaan thinks that the sign-up forms should be on the homepage because not everybody uses social media.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that a lot of the sign-ups were filled pretty fast. In the future, he will put the sign-up forms on the website.

Ms. Ammerlaan thinks it is a shame that the Brussels Trip sign-ups were not on the website.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the Brussels Trip sign-ups were full within 5 minutes, so he could not put them on the website.

Ms. Ammerlaan does not agree with this since she had the same situation last year with SPIL-Weekend.

Mr. Verhoeff states that he will make sure to have the sign-ups on the website as well.

Ms. Akande asks why the Committee Cup ranking is not on the homepage anymore.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the Committee Cup makes more sense on the activities page and it has freed up space for more things on the homepage.

Ms. Akande thinks that it has to do with personal preference.

Ms. Ammerlaan states that she would like to see the committee page updated.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that it is at the top of his priority list.

9.3

Ms. Akande asks if the Commissioner is reconsidering his integrity issues.

Mr. Verhoeff explains he is always reconsidering his integrity issues.

Ms. Akande asks Mr. Verhoeff about his quote from SPIL-Weekend.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that he does not remember the quote.

Ms. Akande reminds Mr. Verhoeff of his integrity quote.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that that was a sarcastic comment.

Ms. Akande asks if the use of public transport is taken into account when choosing the destination.

Mr. Verhoeff confirms.

Yearplan

Ms. Easton asks if there will be an election event.

Mr. Buijs explains it is on the 22nd.

Ms. Easton asks if it is in Dutch or English.

Ms. Drose explains that the event most likely be in Dutch.

Ms. Easton asks if there are any clue on what the event will look like.

Ms. Drose explains that details are yet to be discussed with the committee.

Mr. Buijs suggests not revealing the destination of the Long Trip in the policy.

Ms. Stuijt will take it into consideration.

Ms. Easton asks why the Freshmen Weekend is in the yearplan when the date has not been evaluated yet.

Ms. Stuijt explains that she is seeking out the information whether this is the correct date.

Ms. Easton asks if the date might change.

Ms. Stuijt confirms, but also adds that it is unlikely.

Mr. Daamen asks about the dates of EL CID 2024.

Ms. Stuijt explains that that is a typo.

Mr. Daamen asks where the cantus is in the year plan.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that it is in February, week 7.

The Chair of the GA adjourns the GA at 22:57

The Chair of the GA reopens the GA at 23:11

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board would like to vote on the policy without the app. The money for the app will be frozen till the next GA. At the interim GA, the GA will vote on the app again, there will be two separate budgets one with and one without the app.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board would like to amend the policy and make the dress code a pilot till the next GA and then re-evaluate the dress code.

Ms. Easton asks if the dress code might be scraped at the interim GA.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms. She explains it is the same dress code, just a pilot till the next GA.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks how the pilot will practically look.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that it will be on the website.

Ms. Ammerlaan explains that a pilot will be unclear for first years and wonders how the board can actually test this.

Ms. Easton explains that you should see it as a postponed vote.

Ms. Hilhorst asks if the board would change the dress code on the website.

Ms. Easton confirms.

Mr. Daamen asks if the option of the merch will be included.

Ms. Stuijt explains that it will be on the website as it is right now.

Mr. Daamen asks if the board has enough time to pilot the app till the next GA.

Mr. Verhoeff explains that the board is not piloting the app. He explains that he will implement the GA's feedback and make an elaborate plan for the next GA.

Mr. Daamen asks if there will be a separate budget.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms.

Ms. Easton asks if the Commissioner External Relations is set on preposing the app again or if he might change his mind.

Mr. Weyne advises the board to put everything that was discussed today into the policy.

Budget

Ms. Akande asks if the board started looking into the collection the membership fee.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board will start after this GA.

Ms. Easton asks why the budget for GAs is lowered.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the two venues are free and we are not printing booklets.

Ms. Easton asks if all the budget is for food and drinks.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the money might be used for last-minute venues.

Ms. Easton asks if the Treasurer plans on spending no money on GAs

Ms. Hilhorst explains that later in the year the budget can be used for food and drinks.

Ms. Easton asks when the Treasurer will decide that.

Ms. Hilhorst explains at the interim GA.

Ms. Easton explains that food and drinks help increase attendance.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that this has been advised to her during this GA already.

Mr. Buijs asks which venue the board will be using in the Hague.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board will be using Roots.

Mr. Buijs explains that Roots has a 75 euro renting fee.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that the board was unaware of this.

Mr. Buijs thinks that there might have been some miscommunication.

Ms. Akande asks if the Van Bergen Scriptie Prize has been realised yet.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms.

Mr. Buijs explains that it was 96,98 euros.

Ms. Akande asks if the lunch with the institute is still happening.

Ms. Stuijt confirms. She explains that she has sent two emails, but the institute did not reply yet.

Ms. Akande asks why the budget is higher than the realization.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she based the budget on last year and some things have become more expensive.

Ms. Akande asks why the budget for master activities has increased since the university is quite generous towards the Masters Committee.

Ms. Togtema explains that the study advisers explained that money from the university can only be used for academic purposes and she would like the committee to have more freedom.

Ms. Van der Heide explains that the contribution has increased so that the university might give less money to the Masters Committee.

Ms. Akande explains that the money last year did not always come from the institute. She also explains that last year they added a borrel after a formal activity.

Ms. Hilhorst will take it into consideration.

Ms. Van der Klok thinks you can increase attendance by combining formal and social. She thinks it would have been nice to allocate more money towards education instead.

Ms. Akande asks why the social activities budget was increased.

Ms. Hilhorst explains she was not aware of the Efteling issue and is not sure what the budget was used for last year.

Ms. Akande explains that Ms. Hilhorst can always reconsider.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she heard more things about the Festive budget and will reconsider.

Ms. Easton asks why the board chose to get the InDesign license when you can use it on the university computers for free.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that InDesign is used for both DEBAT and the yearbook. The design process of yearbook happens in June and July, some international members are not in the Netherlands anymore. She explains that she does not want to exclude these members from the design process.

Ms. Easton asks if only Yearbook Committee members more use of it.

Ms. Van Zoelen explains that both committees make use of it and that they are in contact with each other.

Ms. Easton asks why it all comes from the yearbook budget. She thinks that that is unfair.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that it does not have an effect, she gave extra money to the yearbook for the license.

Ms. Akande asks if there is any money for the merchandise market.

Ms. Hilhorst confirms.

Ms. Akande asks if there is some extra money if the market costs more money.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she did not have time to discuss this with the Commissioner External Relations.

Ms. Akande asks if stickers will be bought this year.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she kept in mind that the board will buy less stickers.

Ms. Akande asks the Treasurer to fill in the blanks.

Ms. Hilhorst fills in the blanks in the balance sheets.

Ms. Akande asks if BASIS already paid.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that they did not pay yet and that their treasurer quit. She will wait a few weeks before contacting them again.

Ms. Akande asks if the Treasurer received an invoice from HOP yet.

Ms. Hilhorst explains that she did not receive an invoice yet and that she has reminded them.

Ms. Buijs asks if the GA will also vote on the Short Trip budget.

Ms. Stuijt explains that if no one objects to voting on it, the GA can vote on it.

- *The policy with the dress code as a pilot and without the app, year plan, and budget are installed with 20 votes favour, 6 against, 0 neutral, and 7 abstentions.*

8. Nomination College of GA Chairs

Mr. Buijs announces his candidacy for the College of GA Chairs

Ms. Stuijs reads a letter from Mr. Van Kampen about his candidacy for the College of GA Chairs.

- *Both candidates are accepted per acclimation.*

9. Discharges and installations

The GA Chair discharges as members of the CALVV: Marit van der Heide and Anna Easton.

The GA Chair installs as members of the CALVV: Fince van Kampen and Robin Buijs.

The GA Chair installs into the DEBAT Committee: Nora Schütz, Erato Vaitisi and Daria Ermolina

The GA Chair installs into the Yearbook Committee: Stephan Krul

10. Any other business

Ms. Stuijt reads out the first motion. This is the following:

The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:

Constaterende dat Patrick Daamen en Alfons Hooft al sinds het jaar 0 bij de vereniging betrokken zijn.

Constaterende dat de nieuwsbroef mooie nieuwe rubrieken behoeft.

Overwegende dat zij perfect het ontstane bovengenoemde gat zouden kunnen vullen.

Is van mening dat zij prima een vaste rubriek in de nieuwsbrief zouden moeten krijgen, waarin zij mogen schrijven over een onderwerp naar keuze, waarbij het stuk gecheckt zal worden door de secretaris der SPIL, waarin de rubriek “SPIL’s oude rotten” zal heten.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Elena van der Klok, Emma Breed, Marvin Lamers, Lara Akande, Judith Hordijk et al.

[Patrick Daamen and Alfons Hooft should have their own column in the newsletter called old people]

- *Motion 1 is adopted per acclimation.*

Ms. Stuijt reads out the second motion. This is the following:

The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:

Constaterende dat er een gebrek aan een cantus gaat zijn tijdens de Dies.

Overwegende dat dit bij Mr. Verhoeff ontwenningsverschijnselen teweeg kan brengen.

Oppert dat Mr. Verhoeff een bak trekt vlak voor het sluiten van de ALV, enkel om het zekere voor het onzekere te nemen.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Emma Breed, Marvin Lamers, Lara Akande, Sem van der Voort et al.

[Mr. Verhoeff should chug a beer before the end of the GA]

Ms. Drose explains the board advises against this motion since it encourages forced drinking.

Mr. Buijs asks if Mr. Verhoeff would like to chug a beer.

Mr. Verhoeff does not want to comment.

- *Motion 2 is adopted with 15 votes in favour, 4 against, 10 neutral, and 7 abstaining.*

Ms. Stuijt reads out the third motion. This is the following:

The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:

Constaterende dat het 42ste bestuur der SPIL een ontzettende bijdrage heeft geleverd aan de vereniging uit de ALV graag haar dank betuiging aan deze bestuursleden.

Daarom nogmaals een applaus voor dit bestuur plus niet te vergeten de inzet van het 39ste bestuur der SPIL and het 41ste bestuur der SPIL.

Vo voor de leden.

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

Emma Breed, Pieter et al.

[Applaus for the 42nd, 41st, and 39th board of SPIL for their incredible work]

- *Motion 1 is adopted per acclimation.*

11. Round of questions

Ms. Breed asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know she is very excited for the year and to be Audit Committee.

Mr. Daamen wants to make sure all the exit polls will be shown during the Stairs Affairs event.

Ms. Drose confirms.

Ms. Ammerlaan asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know she would like to do shots with her and that she is excited about social master activities.

Mr. De Carlos thinks the board is doing a good job.

Ms. Van der Heide asks if the Commissioner Education and Politics is wearing any special socks.

Ms. Togtema explains she is wearing socks with Ruchi's cat on it.

Mr. Buijs asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board if they know that he is very proud of the board and think the GA went really well. And that he will have many bonding activities with the board.

Mr. Lamers asks with there is a topic for the first old people column.

Mr. Daamen explains that he will have to wait patiently.

Mr Verhoeff asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that he is happy that the policy went through and that Obi-Wan Kenobi is here.

Ms. Van Zoelen asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is very excited for the year, happy that the policy went through and thankful for Mr. Daamen for providing her with drinks.

Ms. De Bona if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is very happy the policy went through and would like to point out her socks and shoe combination.

Ms. Togtema asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is very proud the policy made it.

Ms. Hilhorst asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is very happy with the feedback and criticism of the GA.

Ms. Stuijt asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is proud of the board for working on the policy and thanks the members for coming.

Ms. Drose asks if the GA, the CALVV and the XLIIIrd board know that she is proud of the board and the GA for asking questions.

12. Discharge of Voting Committee

The GA Chair thanks them for their service and discharges Sjors de Natris and Thirze Wiegers as members of the voting committee.

13. Closing

After the SPIL anthem has been sung, the GA Chair closes the meeting at 00:14

INTERIM POLICY PLAN SPILOCRACY 2023-2024

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:

1.
 - 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 XLIIIrd board 'SPILocracy' are built.

2. ASSOCIATION WIDE POLICY GOALS

"When the gavel hits your head" - Svea Droese

2.1 Proximity

Proximity describes a nearness within aspects such as relationships and space. However, proximity stands for so much more within the association. With the association's unique identity of containing both Dutch and English studies and being present in two different cities, Leiden and The Hague, it is really important to create that bridge. The XLIIIrd board is happy to see that there is a mix of students at every event. The number of master students attending events has also increased. It remains difficult to increase the number of international students coming to Leiden. The association was also represented at multiple open days, sometimes by former board members.

To enhance proximity between all students, the board organised multiple activities in the common rooms, such as waffle hour, 'Schoentje zetten', OLC coffee hours and the Dies hot chocolate morning. The board also welcomed student mentor groups in the common room. The board also cleaned up both of the common rooms to make them more approachable and have more space for members to sit. The board thinks that the common rooms are generally well-visited and is excited to welcome more members into the common room.

Moreover, the XLIIIrd board implemented its English-speaking policy. This means that the board speaks English during activities. This inclusivity ensures that everyone can join in on interaction, allowing international students to fully integrate into the association. The board received positive feedback on the English-speaking policy and noticed that especially Dutch first-year students were open to speaking English. The board organises events in English whenever feasible, this resulted in one event being in Dutch, the Stairs Affairs Election Night. Furthermore, the translated version of the SPIL anthem is up on the website, including an explanation.

To ensure closeness within the committee, the board motivates the committees to organise committee bonding days. Also, the digitalised committee cup helped with connections between members. This concept motivates participation in activities by promoting common attendance at each other's events. Scanning the QR code is an easy method for the members to use and for keeping track of the scores.

2.2 Creativity

Creativity describes the use of imagination and original ideas to create something. Creativity is a broad term that can come into practice within various aspects of the association. There are multiple committees that

stimulate creative working, such as the DEBAT, Promotion and Yearbook committees. This year creativity has been enhanced for these committees by offering workshops. The DEBAT committee, for example, has done a workshop about creative writing with confidence by psychologist Susie Oerlemans. Furthermore, an Indesign workshop was given by experienced yearbook members to designers from other committees.

Not only does creativity come into place concerning the process of design, but it is also needed for organising different interesting excursions. A rather new concept was visiting a community farm during the Short Trip to Prague. In this way members could engage with the local people about their culture, while engaging in practical activities. Moreover, there have also been plenty of informal excursions where all members could run free with their creativity. For example, by designing their own shoe for 'Schoentje zetten', and during the gingerbread decorating competition organised by the Introduction Committee.

Creativity also comes into place when collaborating with other associations and organisations. In this way, the board tries to diversify the activities the association has to offer and also lets members get to know people outside of their own association. Some collaborations have almost become traditions and have again proven to be successful this year. Examples are the Purple Friday event together with the hallway associations, Stairs Affairs with the BIL and a crash course on Dutch politics with representatives from political youth parties. There have also been new collaborations, such as the Picasso party, an upcoming exchange with students from Fontainebleau, and a sports tournament for charity which is currently being planned.

Furthermore, the board has been trying to find new ways to make the association more sustainable. For instance, by using sustainable materials for products such as the committee items and paper. Another very successful improvement has been for members to bring their own mugs to common room events like the Waffle Hour and during the Dies Week. Especially after making it a competition on the Instagram story to bring the most fun mug, there was a rise in members bringing personal mugs. Moreover, the board is using a single printed QR code for the Committee Cup at every event, instead of using paper books. The board will reach out to the Green Office of Leiden University to get more information on sustainability.

2.3 Development

Within the association, constant development is omnipresent; this is not only visible on a large scale but also on various smaller levels.

Starting off, with the starting of committees in the first semester, the chairs, secretaries, as well as treasurers have received work-in sessions by the respective board members. This was repeated with the formation of new committees in the second semester. Not only has it bonded and familiarised the committees with each other, but it also serves as a platform to share ideas and pose questions.

The XLIIIrd board set out to attend trainings which are valuable to the association at the start of their board year. Since the offer of such through the university has been piloted this year and is still being developed, the board has been able to start partaking in them in semester two. The board will work on ensuring their successors have a comprehensive overview of such opportunities at the start of their board year. The members of committees have benefitted from sharing applicable knowledge amongst one another, such as the DEBAT design team with technical program skills. Further, the Commissioner External Relations and the chair of the Acquisitions Committee have visited an insightful workshop sparking new ideas in this area.

To guarantee safety at events, especially where alcohol is being served, the association has jointly co-signed a guideline protocol on the use of alcohol and other intoxicating substances. This collaboration with other study associations and Leiden University further demonstrates the commitment to ensuring a secure and enjoyable environment for all activities and the development of such.

3. PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONER STAIRS AFFAIRS

3.1 President

“It’s funny, sometimes you walk into a place, you know you’re exactly where you’re supposed to be.” - Ted Mosby in HIMYM

3.1.1 Internal Affairs

It is with a heavy heart that the XLIIIrd board had to announce the departure of its Commissioner of Global Relations at the beginning of the second semester. After taking a step back from the board in November to focus on private matters, she has now made the decision to formally resign due to personal circumstances.

In the past semester, the Global Relations committees have been temporarily taken care of by other members of the board; Short Trip by the Commissioner Education and Politics, Congress by the Secretary and Long Trip by the Treasurer. With the start of the second semester, the positions of the commissioners were reestablished. The Long Trip Committee is now jointly led by the Secretary and Treasurer and the Congress Committee by the Commissioner Internal Relations. Further, the newly opened Brussels Committee is headed by the Commissioner External Relations, who will hand it over to the f.t. Commissioner Global Relations this summer. This of course entails an additional workload on all six board members in the following semester. But it is not only the committee work that makes the members of the XLIIIrd board busier in the upcoming months. The general increased workload with one Commissioner leaving, the additional common room shifts and set events put considerable strain on the six board members. Therefore, the President encourages the members of her board to speak openly on their well-being. Such is being prioritised by measures such as reevaluating the expectation of full board attendance at all SPIL events, thus creating more room for their personal time.

During the previous semester, the President held a confidential personal evaluation with each board member after every academic block. She has found this to be highly useful in gaining insight into everyone's work within their position as well as their personal life. She also asked for feedback on her own work to further improve the running of the board. The board meetings are structured in a way to give space for everyone to share honestly about how they are doing both personally as well as in their positions

Further, after the first semester, the President organised a ‘Let’s-talk-about-SPIL’ day in which the board reflected on the past semester, reevaluated the year plan and set priorities and expectations for the upcoming second half of the year. The XLIIIrd board has greatly bonded since the start of their board year through association and board-related events. The Vice-President has now taken on the portfolio of organising board bonding activities outside of the association.

3.1.2 External representation

The President has been representing the association within different platforms and organisations. She has regularly met with the chairs of the study associations of the Faculty of Social Sciences - Labyrinth, Emile, and Itiwana - at the Association Deliberation (Verenigen Overleg - VerO) in Leiden. This has proven to be the most fruitful platform for the association to take part in since it is the main contact point for the faculty and institute. There, important issues are able to be discussed and the associations receive information on upcoming university events. On the other hand, the Association Deliberation in Den Haag (VerO DH) has only taken place once in the past semester, which has been a great chance to meet all study associations at the university’s The Hague Campus. Furthermore, the President participates in the Big Associations Deliberation (GroVer) held by the Study Association Deliberation Platform (StOP) which offers valuable insight into issues that all big associations experience and updates on events and internal and external workshop opportunities. The President is now also part of the newly formed Beehive Community which aims to bring together the parties working at and using the Beehive building in The Hague. The partnership involves regular meetings and combined with board bonding activities.

So far the Board has been present at two Bachelor Open Days as well as one Master Open Day in Leiden and one Bachelor Open Day in Den Haag.

3.1.3 Platform for Political Scientists

The President has been regularly meeting with her three fellow members of the PvP-board (Platform voor Politicologen) from EOS (Free University of Amsterdam), Ismus (Radboud University) and Machiavelli (University of Amsterdam). The goal of hosting the meetings in person has been proven successful, leading to closer bonding and more efficient communication. It is the board's main task to organise the annual PiP-Congress (Politics in Perspective) with the support of its committee consisting of six members - two per association. SPIL's representatives both serve in the position of Internal Affairs. In light of the upcoming European elections, the congress is set to take place under the theme of the Future of the European Union, on April 22nd. Further, the board members are able to discuss current issues and get advice from their peers.

3.1.4 Other activities

To make all committee chairs familiar and comfortable with their tasks and have the committees function to their fullest potential, the President held multiple work-in sessions with them at the beginning of the first semester. This was a great success since chairs being unfamiliar with committee work could ask questions and bond amongst each other.

With the (re-)opening of four committees - Dies, Brussels, Introduction, and Masters - the President offered to hold additional chair training sessions. Furthermore, a chair evaluation of the first semester took place at the beginning of the second half of the academic year in order to provide a platform for questions, reflection and discourse amongst each other. Due to its success, the President hopes to organise a chair reflection session in the third block. This year's committee chairs are enthused to bond more with one another, so the President hopes to organise a chair bonding activity throughout the third block.

The association's greatly attended pizza and board game Committee Bonding Activity took place at the beginning of December. Further, the Commissioners have been encouraging their committees to attend other activities together, which is driven by the reworked concept of this year's Committee Cup as described in the board's pillars. The board is planning on hosting a Committee Thank You Day at the end of the year.

According to one of the association-wide pillars the board has organised collaborative events and continued the tradition of organising a Purple Friday activity together with the three other study associations of the Faculty of Social Sciences, in which students participated in a fun themed quiz afternoon.

Lastly, the board dedicated two entire days to cleaning up the common rooms both in Leiden and The Hague. This established an improved organisational system and overview of SPIL property. The feedback on the common rooms' cleanliness and slightly changed layouts has been through and through positive, so the board recommends its successors to keep up these habits.

3.1.4 Dress Code

The amended business-casual dress code has been successfully piloted in the first semester. Therefore, the XLIIIrd board is fully institutionalising the dress code with its Interim Policy.

The board is dedicated to representing the association with utmost respect towards external parties. Hence, the organisations visited, both on trips and during education activities or excursions, are always contacted to ask about the appropriate dress code beforehand. The board has overall received very positive feedback on this change from the association's members. They especially appreciate the cohesive and appropriate look, as well as the feeling of being suitably dressed.

A point voiced in the discussion regarding the change in definition has been a concern about vanishing association merchandise. When planning the association's trips the Commissioner ensures to include formal activities in which a tie or bow tie pin has to be worn. Further, almost all excursions organised this year required a formal dress code in which participants wear the association's merchandise.

Due to the dress code's implementation being at the discretion of the dress code manager or the respective commissioner, situational edits, such as adjusting to weather conditions, can be made. Participants of day-events are informed of those beforehand through an email. On trips participants receive this information in the reader, through messages or announcements, and through the dress code manager.

The dress code manager was well-perceived by participants of the trips and at other activities. The dress code manager was made visible to the participants in the reader of the trip, in the trip Whatsapp group and also during the trip itself. This visibility is evident through her receiving multiple questions before and during the trip regarding appropriate clothing. The dress code manager was helpful because it was clear to members who to pose specific questions to. The board advises the next board to continue appointing a dress code manager.

3.2 Commissioner Stairs Affairs

"Everything is better than the B.I.L." - Harm Verheij of the 39th B.I.L. board

3.2.1 General

The Stairs Affairs Committee has been a great success since its formation in the summer. After overcoming the first decision of choosing the three events' languages - the first one having been held in Dutch and the following ones taking place in English - the committee has worked smoothly together. Further, the committee has been able to achieve an increase in their available budget by applying to the B.I.L. committee fund and by freed up finances on SPIL's side. As for the contact with Leiden University regarding a possible continuing collaboration, the committee, unfortunately, can affirm the difficulty in working together. The committee now has a new contact person to aid in the organisational side of the events. It is however still unknown whether the university will be able to provide any of the outstanding events with financial support or by providing refreshments.

3.2.2 Events

As it has been planned at the beginning of the academic year, the Stairs Affairs committee is still set on organising a total of three events this year. The committee's first event successfully took place on November 22nd, the night of the Dutch elections, and was attended by around one hundred international and Dutch students from both associations. The panel, formed by two university professors specialising in the Dutch politics sector, informatively put both the election and the later results into perspective. The committee has been busy planning for its second event focusing on the BRICS states on February 27th.

4. SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTION

4.1 Secretary

"Who of you two is in charge?" - Noor Stuijt to Alfons Hoof

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 Organisations students. There are ... master students and ... members whose programme is unknown.

The Secretary strived to keep the membership account as up-to-date as possible. The number of members is lower than during the Policy GA. This is because members who did not pay the membership fee after three reminders have been deregistered.

The Secretary has noticed that the communication about the deregistration process to members has improved since the general provisions were added to the registration form on the website last year. She will keep members updated on the deregistration period via the newsletter to prevent problems in the future.

4.1.2 Newsletter

The Secretary has kept the general style and layout of the newsletter which was created by her predecessor. She also kept the segments “Experience from Members” and “Quote of the Month”. The Secretary did not add any new segments to the newsletters, but she is still open to additions from members mentioned in the Policy GA. The Secretary is content with the addition of the column ‘Old Hands / Oude Rotten’ to the newsletter, created by a motion at the Policy GA. She thinks a column is a great way to include the members in the newsletter.

The Secretary worked together with the Commissioner Education and Politics to promote the book sale and with the Commissioner Internal Relations to promote the release of DEBAT. Both the physical DEBAT and online articles were promoted in the newsletter.

4.1.3 Reunionists

Currently, SPIL has a total of ... reunionist members.

Unfortunately, many reunionists failed to pay the membership fee. In discussion with the Treasurer and former board members, the board has decided to not remove these members from the membership file. Removing the members that did not pay the membership would result in a cut of more than 50% of reunionists.

The reunionist membership fee has to be transferred to the SPIL bank account manually, this results in many members not transferring the money despite several reminders. The Treasurer is looking into ways of including the reunionist membership in the direct debit withdrawal.

The reunionists received their first newsletter in November and the second one at the beginning of February.

4.1.4 Alumni

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

The Secretary reached out to the university to ask if they are organising an alumni event. Unfortunately, they are not. They did tell her that an Alumni Officer will start their position shortly. The Secretary will ask to collaborate on an alumni event once the Alumni Officer has taken office.

Furthermore, the Secretary reached out to the alumni members via the newsletter to see what kind of event the alumni members would like to attend. The Secretary received few replies but believes it did help her. The alumni members that replied, asked for an informative event with a borrel afterwards. The Secretary is currently working on an Alumni event in collaboration with the Masters Committee. The Secretary will take the suggestions of the alumni members into account.

The alumni members also received two newsletters. The first in October and the second in November.

4.1.5 General Assemblies

The Secretary has noticed that the understanding of the GA is important to members and to the association. She was glad to see that understanding and participation by members was improved at the Policy GA, by having the CALVV explain the GA structure and topics. The Secretary thinks it is important to keep thinking about ways to make the GA more approachable for members. She did so by talking to members about the GA and encouraging her fellow board members to do the same.

The Secretary also noticed the importance of the correct promotion of the GA. The Secretary promoted the GA earlier in the newsletter and worked together with the Commissioner External Relations to make an explainer video about the GA.

4.1.6 Former Boards Borrel

The Secretary moved the date of the Former Boards Borrel since there was no available Friday in April anymore, following the old board members' advice to organise the borrel on a Friday. The new date is the 31st of May. The Secretary will send out the invitation two months before the borrel.

4.2 Commissioner Introduction

“The Freshmen Weekend is also a kind of after school daycare.” - Gijs Verhoeff

4.2.1 General

The Introduction Committee is geared towards first years, but all students are welcome. This was reflected in the turnout of events: first years, but also master students and third-year students joined. The committee has organised a Potluck lunch, a gingerbread decorating competition and Friends and Family Days. Some events were more popular than others, but all had their own charm. The committee will organise more events in the second semester and at the beginning of the next academic year. These events will be focussed on connecting new students.

4.2.2 Study Groups

The Committee organised two study groups for every block. Three took place in The Hague and one in Leiden. The Committee prepared exercises and a Kahoot for the students. The turnout for the study groups in The Hague was high. The Commissioner thinks this was the result of planning the study group right after the lecture and promoting it in the IRO group chat just before the study group. Students have even asked for a study group for every course. The study group in Leiden had a lower turnout. The Commissioner will promote the next study group in Leiden more.

4.2.3 Freshmen Weekend

Currently, there is no location for the Freshmen Weekend yet. The location in Delft, which was used in previous years, is unfortunately not available. The Introduction Committee and the Commissioner are working hard to find a location.

Furthermore, the date of the Freshmen Weekend has been set for the week after HOP Week, just before the start of the academic year. This week has been chosen after deliberation with the board and the committee and after talks with other members. This week allows both Dutch and international students to join the weekend.

4.2.4 Committee

The applications for the Introduction Committee were opened again at the beginning of the second semester. Two new members joined the committee. These members will also be able to organise activities in September for the new students. The committee has a total of 6 members, 1 master student, 2 IP students and 3 IRO students.

5. TREASURER & COMMISSIONER DIES

5.1 Treasurer

“The last time I tried begging Kasya for something, my app was taken away.” - Gijs Verhoeff

5.1.1 Re-budget

The membership fee for this year was collected at the end of November. Together with the Secretary, the Treasurer followed the whitebook that was created by the XLIInd board's Secretary and Treasurer. This was very helpful and made the process smooth and without problems. As was done last year, the Treasurer and Secretary sent three reminders to members with whom the direct debit withdrawal failed. Members that didn't comply with this request, have been deregistered. Unfortunately, the income from the membership fee is lower than budgeted. The Treasurer, after soliciting advice from her predecessor, decided to take into account a share of 7% defaulters, as opposed to the usual 10%. Last year, the e.t. Secretary deregistered a backlog of defaulters after multiple years of not paying. The Treasurer had estimated that this would result in a lower percentage of defaulters in the coming years. However, there was again a share of nearly 10% defaulters, which has led to

an income shortage for this post. The Treasurer acknowledges this error of judgement and will recommend her successor to return to calculating with a 10% share of defaulters.

The income from the book sale from block 2 has not yet been received, leading to a low realised income from the book sale. However, the Commissioner Education and Politics remains in good contact with Index Books and thus the book sale provision is expected to be received soon.

The Treasurer has decided no longer to budget money for the sending of DEBATs. The XLIInd board's Treasurer and Commissioner Internal Relations worked very hard last year to bring to the University's attention that SPIL does not pay postal costs to the university for the sending of DEBATs. No agreement with the university about postal costs can be found, nor has any board in the past years, since at least 2006, budgeted for or paid for postal costs. The XLIInd board's Treasurer and Commissioner Internal Relations lowered the amount of DEBATs being sent to members and decided to budget money for postal costs, as they had reason to expect an invoice from the university due to their efforts to ask for this. However, no invoice was received from the university. The Treasurer does not have reason to expect an invoice this year. Furthermore, the Treasurer does not believe it is wise to budget money, only for it to be left over at the end of the year, instead of using it towards ends that will benefit the association. Therefore, there will no longer be money budgeted for the sending of DEBATs.

Lastly, the Treasurer has reviewed the yearly reserves. The association's income has changed over the years, and it is important for the yearly reserves to change accordingly. Each year, €1.500 is reserved for the Lustrum year. This has been the case since 2011, before which €1.000 was reserved each year. However, the income from acquisitions and from the book sale have made a steep decline in the last decade. Both income sources used to bring in more than €10.000 each year. These amounts are however no longer realistic. Therefore, the Treasurer has decided to reserve €1.000 for the next Lustrum. In addition, €100 will be reserved for the SPIL common rooms. The Treasurer will also continue to reserve €150 for the Lustrum DEBAT.

5.1.2 Studystore

After many failed attempts by the XLIInd board to contact Studystore with regards to their outstanding debt to our association, Studystore seemed to be a closed chapter. However, Studystore has reached out through their attorneys, claiming they are owed reimbursement of unjustly paid VAT. With the assistance of the Audit Committee, her five predecessors, and a senior legal advisor of the university, the Treasurer is in the process of ascertaining the validity of the claims made by Studystore. At the current time, no payment toward Studystore has been made, as no proof for the claim has been provided by Studystore. However, the situation remains uncertain for the future and the Treasurer will continue to monitor developments.

5.1.3 Socie App

In the initial policy of the XLIIIInd board, the idea of a SPIL app was proposed. Through a Socie licence, the Commissioner of External Relations proposed launching this app. Unfortunately, budget cuts have had to be made due to lower-than-expected realised income. This has resulted in the funding for the Socie App being withdrawn.

5.1.4 Audit Committee

The Treasurer and the Audit Committee decided upon three official audits this year. The first audit took place on the 27th of February. The report of the Audit Committee can be found in the reminder invitation received for the Interim GA and will be presented by the Audit Committee themselves, or by the Treasurer in their absence. The second audit will take place before the Affirmation GA and the third will take place before the Change of Boards GA. Besides official audits, the Treasurer is in close contact with the Audit Committee and has held meetings with the committee on multiple occasions to discuss different matters. The Treasurer is very pleased with the Audit Committee and the support they provide her. The Treasurer looks forward to the continuation of this beneficial relationship throughout the year.

5.2 Commissioner Dies

“Tequila!” - Csongor Győriványi

5.2.1 Committee

Applications for next year’s Dies Committee opened up on January 29th. Interested members had until February 9th to hand in their motivation letters. The Commissioner hoped that the opening of sign-ups in January, as opposed to May, would lead to more sign-ups from members. The h.t. Commissioner will, together with the committee, start the search for a Dies Lecturer. The f.t. Commissioner will then take over the committee in June.

5.2.2 Dies Week

The Dies Week took place between the 6th and the 10th of November. The Commissioner is very proud of the committee for the work they put into making the Dies Week a great success.

This year, the Dies Week revolved around a theme: Elections. This theme was present throughout the week. There was an activity dedicated to learning about Dutch politics, in the lead-up to the Dutch national elections. The Dies Speaker, European Parliament member Sophie in ‘t Veld, dedicated her guest lecture to the importance of European politics and European elections. The theme was also present during other activities, where participants could cast ballots and win prizes. The Commissioner is very happy with how the theme was incorporated and recommends the next Commissioner Dies to try incorporating a theme as well.

The Commissioner is overall very pleased with turnout during the Dies Week. However, the turnout at the closing party in the Next in Leiden, was quite low. The committee was hesitant to organise a party, due to low turnout during the previous Dies Week. This is mainly due to the Dies Week taking place the week after the yearly Halloween party. Since this is an issue that arises each year, the Commissioner will advise the next Commissioner Dies to evaluate the benefits of having a closing party. The Commissioner believes a karaoke night could also serve as a fun closing event, which also allows the Dies Week closing to be set apart from the Halloween party.

The committee’s choice to not organise a Beer Cantus left the committee with a larger remaining budget for other activities. This made it possible to make all but one event free and offer free snacks at multiple activities, which led to much positive feedback from members. The Commissioner is very pleased with the feedback from the Dies Week, and is excited to hear the ideas of the new Dies Committee.

6. COMMISSIONER EDUCATION AND POLITICS

Milena Schimdt: *“What if a deputy votes wrong?”*

Tour guide: *“He should raise his hand and say i done goofed.”*

6.1. Education Committee

The Education Committee has organised one activity so far. It was a “Crash Course on Dutch Politics” directed at international students, in collaboration with Leiden United. After a presentation by two university professors, participants had the chance to get in contact with multiple young members of the different parties. Unfortunately, the event did not last very long, as Wijnhaven closed earlier that day. However, the Commissioner considers it a very successful event, with a high turnout and very positive feedback.

A second event was scheduled to take place in the first block, but it did not take place. The Committee wanted to organise a workshop in collaboration with AIESEC, but communication was very difficult and the contract was not finalised in due time. Furthermore, at this time the Commissioner took over the Short Trip Committee and was unable to dedicate enough time to the Education Committee. This is also the reason Career Night had to be postponed.

The committee is currently organising a world café with students from the French Political Institute of Fontainebleau, that will take place on March 8th.

The Education Committee is working together with the Masters Activities Committee to organise Career Night, which will take place later on in the year. Different institutions will be invited to come give students an insight into what a career in Political Science might look like and present internship opportunities. The committees are looking to introduce a space for other students to share their experiences in different programmes and traineeships.

6.2. Excursions Committee

The Excursions Committee has organised two activities in the first semester. The first excursion was a visit to the Polish Embassy. It took place during the time the Ukraine-Russia trial was taking place at the ICJ. Poland had filed a declaration of intervention in this case, so the visit focused mainly on this and how embassies can play a role in these procedures.

The second excursion was to the Save the Children office in the Hague. Save the Children is a humanitarian organisation for children. Participants were given a presentation by different professionals in the different areas that such an organisation involves, namely lobbying, legal matters and resource management.

Lastly, there was a visit to the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) at the end of February. The focus lay on migration crises and wars and how the ICMP is involved in these. The participants were also given a tour of the lab, where they learned about the different processes involved in looking for missing persons.

The next excursion will be a visit to the Dutch Parliament, on March 7th.

Attendance has not been an issue for excursions. The Commissioner continued using the confirmation system implemented by her predecessor and up until now everyone who signed up has been present at the excursions, with the exception of extraordinary cases in which the Commissioner was made aware someone would be missing.

6.3. Masters Activities

Until the time of writing, the Masters Activities Committee has organised two activities. The first one consisted of informal drinks directed at master students. The Commissioner noticed that, by making the event specifically for master students, attendance was much higher by this group. Participants were glad that there was something specifically tailored for them and were enthusiastic about having another event.

The second activity was a borrel with PhD candidates. It was meant to give master students the opportunity to network and ask questions regarding PhD prospects. The event had a good turnout, despite having ended earlier than supposed to, due to an unfortunate miscommunication with the Faculty Club. However, some participants, both master's students and PhD candidates, were very enthusiastic and decided to move to a bar to continue their talks.

Lastly, the committee organised a second informal borrel for master students. Attendance was lower than the first time, but a lot of new February starters were present.

The committee was also present at the beginning of the semester reception to master students. Together with the study advisers, the committee prepared a presentation with general information for new students, as well as information about SPIL.

There were no new applications for this committee.

6.4. Booksale

The partnership with INDEX remains successful and has worked smoothly.

6.5. Programme Committee

Similarly to last year, the student members of the Programme Committee have implemented the “OLC coffee hours”. In the Hague, no students of IRO joined the first feedback session. During the second feedback session, several members of the education committee were present, as well as a couple of other IRO students.

Since visibility and active student participation seem to be an issue across the OLC’s of Political Science, the Commissioner contacted the study advisers to help advertise the OLC and its activities. She suggested the OLC could be presented to bachelor students during the Peer Mentoring sessions at the beginning of the year, and to master students at the beginning of the semester, during the “Welcome (back) reception”.

6.6. FLO

The Faculty Career Orientation Days will take place on the 7th and 8th of February. SPIL’s involvement in the organisation was achieved through a representative chosen by the Commissioner. Communication was very effective, with the representative regularly updating the Commissioner on the developments in the organisation of the event.

The biggest challenge faced was finding alumni to take part in the event on behalf of political science students. The representative asked for SPIL’s alumni network. Unfortunately, due to the privacy policy, the Commissioner was not allowed to share it. The initial solution to this issue was to post about the FLO days in the alumni newsletter. However, there were no reactions to it. Ultimately, the representative did find alumni willing to be present at the FLO days, but not through the SPIL network.

6.7. Student Sounding Board

The Student Sounding Board (SKG) had two meetings over the first semester. The Commissioner was unable to be present at either. The first meeting was attended by the President instead, at the request of the faculty assessor. In the future, the Commissioner will try to be present at all meetings.

The SKG is currently discussing student support systems, such as POPcorner, and how to improve them and their visibility.

7. COMMISSIONER GLOBAL RELATIONS

7.1 Brussels Trip

On the 20th and 21st of November, 50 participants travelled to Brussels for the yearly Brussels Trip. The group departed very early in the morning to maximise the time spent in the capital of the European Union. The group started the excursion with a meeting at Oxfam, engaging with poverty eradication, humanitarian aid and the role of advocacy in the EU. Later, the trip continued at the Dutch Permanent Representation to the EU, where participants had the chance to get more information about several aspects of policy coordination and the role of The Netherlands within the EU. The evening was closed with a dinner at Wolf Food Court, where thanks to the variety of the cuisines, everyone could find something to enjoy. The next morning started at the European Commission, where the topics of Employment and Social Affairs, alongside Foreign Affairs and Security, were discussed.

Finally, a visit to the NATO headquarters took place, where participants learned about the themes of international security and defence cooperation in the context of the war in Ukraine. The Commissioner is extremely happy with the committee's efforts, since most of the details were settled by the end of September. Two months before the trip, all political events, accommodation and transportation had been confirmed. The association was able to plan an unforgettable Brussels trip thanks to the involvement of the chair as well as the proactive committee members.

7.2 Short Trip

“You are such a great! You are queen of the farm. Queen of the dung!” - Farm guy to Fizza Iqbal

Prior to the trip, the committee organised a pre-activity for the participants to get to know each other. There was a short quiz about Czech culture and politics, after which there was a movie screening with Czech snacks.

From January 27th to February 3rd, 38 SPIL members (including 6 committee members and 6 board members) joined the trip to Prague, Czech Republic. The Short Trip Committee organised a programme with five cultural events, eight political events, one community activity, one sustainable activity and many social elements.

The trip started on Saturday evening with a Crazy 43. On Sunday activities included a city tour through the Old Town and the Jewish Quarter of Prague and a visit to the Prague Castle. Political activities were meant to start with a visit to the Ministry of Justice on Monday, but this was cancelled on the day of. The day progressed with a visit to Amnesty International by fifteen participants while the remainder engaged in the trip's community activity, an afternoon helping at a community farm. The programme also included a lecture at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University; meetings at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dutch Embassy, Organisation for Aid to Refugees and Europeum; and a visit to the Chamber of Deputies and Parliament. Further cultural activities took place on Wednesday and Thursday, with visits to the National Museum, Mucha Museum, Kafka Museum and Communism Museum and an evening boat tour on the Vltava River.

The Commissioner is very pleased with the work of the committee, for putting together an academically, culturally and politically relevant programme. The committee's good work was especially visible during the trip when newly arisen problems were promptly solved.

7.3 Long Trip

"Are we going to the Taj Mahal?" - Everyone

The Long Trip Committee was taken over by the Treasurer during the first semester. As of the second semester, the committee is being headed by both the Secretary and the Treasurer. The following text was written by the Treasurer.

7.3.1 Destination

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

1. Political relevance:

- a. **Domestics:** India is a federal parliamentary democratic republic. The President of India is the ceremonial head of state, while the Prime Minister is the head of government. The Prime Minister is elected by the members of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of Parliament. India is the largest democracy in the world. Studying such a country, and visiting its institutions would be a great way for participants to learn about the workings of democracy in such a diverse and populous country. It would also allow participants to learn more about federalism, regional autonomy and decentralisation. India's central government and many of its institutions are situated in New Delhi. Thus, Delhi is a great destination for the Long Trip. In addition, India has a history marked by colonialism and a struggle for independence. Visiting organisations and monuments related to this history, would allow participants to gain a deeper understanding of the influence of colonialism and imperialism on current India, and more broadly, on our current world.
- b. **International:** India is one of the fastest-growing economies and a rising superpower in the global system. It has an important position within South Asian politics and is one of the leading states of the BRICS. In addition, India has close relations with the United States, as well as with Russia. India's trajectory and its foreign policy are thus of great significance to global politics. The study and understanding of rising superpowers is essential for students of political science to get a better grasp of global politics. A visit to India can provide students with an amazing opportunity to gain these insights.

2. Cultural relevance:

India is a very culturally and socially diverse country. India's society encompasses various ethnicities, languages and religions. Daily life and social structures in India are largely influenced by religious practices, related to the many major religions in the country, such as Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism. India also has a rich diversity of languages spoken across the country and has a great tradition of philosophy and spirituality. Qutub Minar, Red Fort (Lal Qila), the Jama Masjid mosque, Nahargarh Fort and Jantar Mantar are among many monuments and sites in Delhi and Jaipur, where participants can learn about different aspects of India's diverse culture. There are of course also many organisations that can be visited to provide further education about these areas. The committee is planning a day trip to Agra, for a visit to the Taj Mahal.

3. Scientific relevance:

As India is the largest democracy in the world, the interplay between politics, culture and religion in such a diverse and populous country will be very interesting for students of political science to study.

4. Financial feasibility:

Finding a destination that is within budget for the Long Trip has become increasingly difficult over the past years. Fortunately, accommodation and transport within India are affordable, and many cultural sites and museums can be visited for free by students. Additionally, the Long Trip will take place during the low season for tourists, guaranteeing more affordable prices. Thus, despite the increased costs of flying outside of Europe, India is a financially feasible destination. Furthermore, CASSA has increased the maximum subsidy per participant for trips outside of Europe. The Secretary and the Treasurer are working together to request a subsidy from CASSA.

- a. Accommodation: The average price for a decent hostel in Delhi is eight to fourteen euros. The average price for a hostel in Jaipur is lower. The hostels that have been booked in Delhi and Jaipur are part of the same chain of hostels. Therefore, the committee and the Treasurer were able to negotiate a deal with the hostel, granting a relatively low price for our stay.
- b. Transport: Inspired by the positive feedback from the 2023 Long Trip to Jordan, the committee aimed to find a private, air-conditioned bus for the duration of the full trip to India. During their free time, participants can make use of public transport, mainly metro, buses, and auto rickshaws, to get around the city. The cost of public transport in India is very low, with fares ranging from 10 to 50 euro cents per trip.
- c. Food: Prices for meals differ within India. Street food can be bought for relatively cheap. The price for a meal in a restaurant ranges from three to eight euros.

5. Safety assurance:

According to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, India is considered to be mostly in the yellow zone. Exceptions are border areas with Pakistan, China and Myanmar; some Northern and Eastern Union Territories; and the regions which are under Pakistani or Chinese control. Yellow travel advice means that the security risks are different than the Netherlands, but still a safe choice for tourism purposes.

6. Sustainability:

As the Long Trip has to travel outside of Europe, the possibility to travel by train or bus is limited. To still create awareness for the issue of sustainability, the committee will organise a sustainable activity during the trip.

7.3.2 Alternative destinations

The experiences of the previous year showed that it has become increasingly difficult to find an affordable destination for the Long Trip. Inflation and rising gas prices have made many destinations outside of Europe

out of reach. To counter this, the Commissioner decided to have the Long Trip Committee start their work in September this year, as opposed to November. The Commissioner hoped that looking for a destination further in advance of the trip would lead to lower prices for transportation. When the committee was formed, each member prepared a detailed presentation about their preferred destination. However, many destinations, in South America and Sub-Saharan Africa in particular, were unfortunately still not affordable. Transport alone to such destinations would have cost nearly 90% of the budget. Fortunately, the committee was still able to find a great destination within the given budget.

7.3.3 Cover letters

Members who intend to join the trip will be able to hand in their motivation letter from the 11th to the 15th of March in the common rooms both in Leiden and the Hague. The letters are required to be handed in physically, in a written or printed format. The motivation letters must include the participant's motivation to join the journey, their justification on why they think the destination is politically relevant, as well as two suggested political or cultural activities. The word count must not exceed 400 words. Letters will be anonymised by the Secretary and Treasurer, only by crossing out the name of the applicants. Further, the letters will be checked by a neutral committee consisting of a combination of three members, who are either former board members or academic staff members affiliated with Leiden University. The number of participants will be 35, including 6 board members and 6 committee members, therefore 23 members will be able to join.

7.4 Congress

The Congress Committee was taken over by the Secretary during the first semester. As of the second semester the committee was taken over by the Commissioner Internal Relations. The following text was written by the Secretary.

The Congress Committee is working on organising a one-day congress. As mentioned at the previous GA, the committee worked on remodelling the Congress. The brainstorming sessions resulted in the committee deciding to organise a one-day congress divided into two parts. Each part of the day will focus on a certain topic and will contain a lecture and a panel discussion. Dividing the day into two parts allows students to participate in one half of the day, without missing information and while still being able to attend their lectures.

The Commissioner Internal Relations will invite all students of Leiden University and also students of The Hague University of Applied Sciences. She will also personally invite other associations. The goal of this is to increase the number of participants and improve relations with other associations.

8. COMMISSIONER INTERNAL RELATIONS AND FESTIVITIES

8.1 Commissioner Internal Relations

"I'll return that DEBAT after I read it anyway." - Lars Reinhofer

8.1.1 DEBAT

The committee has produced two physical editions of DEBAT so far, and delivered them to the 48 members who signed up and the 62 reunionists. The Commissioner is pleased with how the process is going so far and is more than satisfied with the two magazines. 400 copies of each edition will be printed. This year this is done at Damen Drukkers, the company that took over DrukwerkMax which printed the magazines in previous years. The Commissioner is very satisfied with their services.

The English-Dutch target of 70/30 has proven to be achievable. Translating the articles has been more of a challenge due to the workload and difficulty with finding translators. The Commissioner sees room for improvement here and is currently thinking together with the DEBAT board what would be a good solution for this.

8.1.1.1 Committee

For such a big committee as DEBAT, bonding is more difficult in comparison to other committees. So far, a workshop and a borrel have been organised by the vice-president in order for DEBAT members to get to know each other. During the workshop, members got tips and advice on how to write with more fun and confidence. Another workshop will take place later this year. Unfortunately, no writing sessions have taken place yet, because of exam schedules. The Commissioner and the chair will make sure that the next writing sessions will take place at more convenient times.

Members of DEBAT have several meetings. 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. Editors communicate individually with their writers and there are meetings with the creative team. These all take place online or in The Hague. This is because there are not many meetings, and the vast majority of the committee lives in The Hague. Moreover, members from Leiden generally have a free public transport card.

The committee is split up between online and print writers. This was done to have more regular online writers and it also allowed the committee to expand in members. However, when there is space it is possible to write for the other edition.

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 online articles. There was a slight problem with the social media and communication which resulted in a temporary publishing stop. These problems are now resolved and the committee will upload the articles that have not been published yet. Furthermore, the committee also had some guest writers who published articles, making the website even more diverse.

8.1.1.3 DEBAT podcast

As the committee was full of new members, it was mainly focused on the print magazine and the online articles. Interested members of DEBAT have been able to join the podcast subgroup and brainstorm their ideas. Meetings for these are taking place and the Commissioner is hoping that the ideas can be translated into an actual podcast. She will support the committee, however, no strict deadlines are enforced as it is all still a new concept and she wants to give the committee as much freedom as possible. This could also be a project that can be worked out more in detail in the coming years.

8.1.2 Yearbook

8.1.2.1 Printer

This year the Yearbook Committee will work with Perfectbooks again. This company from Vught has delivered good quality for years and the predecessors of the Commissioner Internal Relations have all been very satisfied with the work delivered. The committee has already visited Vught to see what is possible in terms of material, design and paper. Similar to last year, 100 copies will be printed again. Seeing that there are still a couple of yearbooks left from last year, but not too many, the Commissioner considers this to be a good amount. The remaining yearbooks will be used to promote the association at events, such as open days and introduction weeks.

8.1.2.2 Committee

The Commissioner is very satisfied with the work done by the committee so far. There is also a good atmosphere and communication which allows everyone to express their opinions and ideas. Deadlines are met and the committee started early with the design, to relieve the workload at the end of the year. 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 has already started. Two committee members who have an affinity for the creative part of the process have been assigned to this part of the process. Should they need help, it has been agreed that the rest of the committee will assist. The chair of the committee already had InDesign experience, which has been really helpful for the rest of the committee. The theme of the yearbook is still a secret and will be revealed at 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

“Little people don’t drink, you know.” - Kasya Hilhorst

8.2.1 Committee

The functioning of the Festive Committee is going well. The committee tries to meet every week and also attends numerous SPIL activities. There have also been several ‘bonding activities’ and for events organised by the committee, the members regularly meet up beforehand. 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, two pubs were chosen for borrels during the rest of the year. These are L’Espérance in Leiden and the Pakschuit in The Hague. The pubs have their own characteristics, but both are seen as nice places with lots of fun. The Commissioner is very satisfied with this. Borrels are a success so far and many active members enjoy attending them. The specially negotiated deals contribute to this. At L’Espérance members are provided with free vegetarian snacks and at the Pakschuit there is a 10 percent discount on drinks.

8.2.3 Parties and Gala

There have been two parties organised by the Festive Committee so far. The turnout for the Halloween party in The Hague was great. The second party was organised in collaboration with the Picasso Group at PIP. The Picasso Group is an organisation led by students, with the aim to organise more student parties in The Hague.

The gala will take place in April. At the time of writing, the committee is busy with the preparations and very excited for what is to come. The theme will be revealed in March.

The committee is having meetings with other associations to collaborate on a party. They seem very enthusiastic and are planning on making this happen near the end of the year.

8.2.4 Social Activities

The Festive Committee aims to organise at least one social activity each month and sometimes during a borrel. At the time of writing, the committee is organising a cantus for February and a trip to the Efteling, which will take place in March.

The committee has organised activities at borrels, such as ‘Secret Sinterklaas’ and a ‘Christmas sweater party’. 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 Great 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 relaxing day at the beach with some nice food and beverages.

9. COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND SPIL WEEKEND

9.1 Commissioner External Relations

Gijs Verhoeff: *“Have you looked at the new photo gallery yet?”*

Donna Dekker: *“I’m not in there, why would I?”*
Study Ambassador Borrel in De Kroeg

9.1.1 Partnerships

Current deals have been upheld with SPIL’s partners, but the Commissioner and the Acquisitions Committee have worked on acquiring new partners as well. Joor It, a previous printing and textile partner, has signed a new contract with the association, and the deal with Helprr (previously Huurbuur) has also been re-evaluated and updated accordingly. The Commissioner is running into the same issues as their predecessor regarding companies being interested but not wanting to pay for promotion. However, he is hopeful about acquiring new partners in the future through more financially attractive ‘package deals’ on promotion.

The Commissioner also attended a workshop on Acquisitions organised by StOP and PLNT Leiden. The Chair of the Acquisitions Committee was unfortunately not able to attend this workshop but was updated about the different topics and tips discussed during the workshop. The Commissioner definitely recommends his successors to attend these kinds of workshops, as they are not only educational but also a good moment to talk to other associations about their acquisition strategies.

9.1.2 Merchandise

The new SPIL merchandise item, the SPIL Playing Cards, has been released. The timeline for the release during the Merch Reveal Borrel has unfortunately not been met due to production delays, but the Commissioner is content with the alternative release event through the means of a short-form video. The video was received positively and remains the best-performing Instagram Reel released as of the writing of this policy.

Furthermore, the SPIL umbrellas have been added to the merchandise store again, and the Commissioner encourages all members to buy one to keep their heads dry during these rainy months. In addition to this ‘new’ release, existing merchandise items have also been promoted on the SPIL Instagram, in accordance with the previous policy.

The Committee is also working hard on the second merchandise item of the year, with some ideas already having been discussed during meetings. In light of the new deal with Joor It, the new merchandise item will be produced in collaboration with this new partner.

The Commissioner and the Committee still aim to organise a Merchandise Market before the end of the year.

Due to production and communication issues with the supplier of the Committee Item - RET BV - the item took longer than expected to produce and deliver. In this optic the Commissioner is happy with the new deal with Joor It, as they allow for easier communication regarding future Committee Items due to their close location in Leiden. Possibilities regarding future collaborations have already been discussed with the partner, and the Commissioner recommends his successor to make use of this partnership to the fullest extent.

9.1.3 Acquisitions Committee

The committee is happy with the release of the new merchandise item and looks forward to working on the new item in the upcoming half of the year. The committee is also still working hard on acquiring new partners and deals for the association and its members. The committee has struggled to organise bonding activities together, but extra focus is being put on this issue by both the Commissioner and the Chair of the committee in the upcoming semester.

9.1.4 Promotion

9.1.4.1 Social Media

Instagram has kept its place as the main way for SPIL to promote events, and the Commissioner is content with the current course taken with the account. The TikTok account and Instagram Reels have been used

successfully thus far to explain certain parts of the association, such as the Short Trip motivation letter and the Committee Cup. The goal remains the same for all social media accounts, and the Commissioner has several other content ideas for the association's social media.

The Commissioner has noticed it is sometimes not as easy to stick to the goal of posting promotion two weeks in advance as stated before in his policy. However, he has noticed improvement since the beginning of the year, as all the moving parts of the social media production chain run smoother, and as the different people involved become more used to the system. The Commissioner does recommend his successor to look at using a more formalised internal posting schedule, to prevent overlaps and assure a clear overview of deadlines - both for committee members making promotion requests and for the Promotion Committee and its Commissioner.

9.1.4.2 Posters

The Commissioner has been able to easily print posters for select events using the new printer in The Hague, doing so for a low cost and using sustainable paper. The Commissioner has also made use of the different display options at the two buildings of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Wijnhaven and Pieter de la Court. Due to the limitations upheld by the university regarding promotion - only events that are open to all students can be promoted - the Commissioner does recognise the need for posters, but will definitely make use of the screens as much as possible in the second semester.

9.1.4.3 Photos

The Commissioner has worked extensively on updating the Photo Gallery on the website. The work has been a partial success, with the page now both being more enjoyable to use and quicker to load images. The uploading of pictures has also become more streamlined as the website now no longer crashes when uploading a lot of pictures, due to a new plugin being used for this purpose. The new plugin does however make the process of adding pictures a little more complex, but the Commissioner will make sure to correctly pass on all his knowledge to his successor on this matter. The Commissioner has not yet been able to improve the general loading time of the Photo Gallery page but suspects deeper technical knowledge is needed to solve this issue.

Migration of the pictures between the new and old Photo Gallery has been a laborious task for the Commissioner, and he has therefore decided to use the old gallery as an archive page. To this purpose, a small text with a link to the archive page has been added to the bottom of the new Photo Gallery for all pictures of events before September 2022.

9.1.5 ICT

The overall performance of the website has been improved using a low-maintenance caching solution implemented by the Commissioner. Additionally, small improvements and changes have been made to the website, such as adding a counter to relevant events on the homepage or adding a ticker at the top of the homepage to inform members of recent changes within the association. The new system for the Committee Cup means the entire experience has been digitised. Members can register at eligible events using a QR code, and fill out a form indicating the committees they are in. This form is then linked to an online spreadsheet where the points are automatically calculated. This has allowed the Commissioner to easily tally up the scores of the different committees and add them to the website. The new English translation of the SPIL anthem has also been added to the website, with contextual remarks to explain both when the song is meant to be sung and that the translation is meant as an explanation, and not as a replacement.

9.1.6 SPIL App

“That’s a big risk you’re taking, but not as big of a risk as an app.” - Jules Fockens

Due to budgetary restrictions, the Socie app system with a Plus licence as initially envisioned is no longer an option for the realisation of a SPIL app. This means the Commissioner had to look at cheaper alternatives, keeping in mind the different functions that would be useful for the app. After thoughtful consideration, the

Commissioner believes the best option is to still use the Socie app, but with the Start licence. This licence is free but limited in functionality. Other options for an app system were also considered.

The Socie start licence poses the opportunity to build an app for free, and still with the advantages of a more streamlined experience for (new) members at the association. Functionalities such as News, Push-notifications, a shared Calendar, Events, Groups, and Photo Albums are still included. It however does not allow for Sponsors and Advertisement, sharing Documents, and more detailed functionalities regarding administration and moderation, something the Commissioner believes could still be useful for the association in the future. Using the Socie system in this way will allow the association to have an app where members can find pictures from trips, find the year calendar more easily, and share their experiences in the groups. This will also allow the board and committees to send news, updates and notifications to the members more easily.

The Commissioner External believes that this course of rolling out the SPIL app allows for a more entry-level pilot. This would allow the Commissioner to more easily answer the questions posed during the Policy GA regarding the app, but also experiment with the different functionalities of the app system and see which works best. The Commissioner will run a survey after the Freshmen Weekend of this year to gauge the viability and usefulness of the SPIL app. However, the Commissioner still strongly believes the association could benefit from the added functionalities of the paid licence.

9.2 COMMISSIONER SPIL WEEKEND

“I have no integrity, I don’t care.” - Gijs Verhoeff, SPIL Weekend general member during scavenger hunt prize distribution

9.2.1 SPIL Weekend Committee

The SPIL Weekend Committee was formed around December. The Commissioner noticed it was hard to find people around this time of year but nevertheless managed to form a balanced committee. The committee consists of 6 persons, with a chair, secretary, treasurer, and three general members.

The Commissioner believes that the committee is balanced and well-rounded, with a mix of first, second, and third years. The committee has already started meeting and is working hard towards finalising the trip as soon as possible, and the Commissioner has installed a Bonding Taskforce to ensure the committee stays well-functioning and fun.

9.2.2 Destination

As of the writing of this policy the destination of SPIL Weekend has been set but has not yet been revealed. The Commissioner and the Committee however are looking forward to the trip and believe the members will be equally as excited about the weekend as they are.

Yearplan SPILOCRAZY 2023-2024

Month	Week	Date	Event
August	Week 33	14/08/23 – 18/08/23	EL CID Week Leiden
	Week 34	21/08/23 – 25/08/23	HOP Week The Hague
September	Week 35	28/08/23 – 30/08/23	Freshmen Weekend
		28/08/23 - 01/09/23	Summer OWL
		31/08/23	IRO Orientation Day The Hague
	Week 36	04/09/23	Start of the Academic Year
		05/09/23	Committee Applications Deadline
		07/09/23	Welcome Back Borrel Leiden
	Week 37	12/09/23	Excursion: Ministry of Health
		14/09/23	Change of Boards GA
		15/09/23	Waffle Hour
	Week 38	19/09/23	SPILEXCIROS: Prinsjesdag Borrel The Hague
		22/09/23	Excursion: Portuguese Embassy Visit
	Week 39	28/09/23	Excursion: Discrimination and Racism Congress, NCDR
October	Week 40	05/10/23	Short Trip Reveal Borrel Leiden
		05/10/23	Introduction: Back to School Lunch
		06/10/23	Master's Borrel SPIL the Drinks
		07/10/23	Brussels Trip applications open
	Week 41	10/10/23	Excursion: Polish Embassy
		12/10/23	Policy GA
	Week 42	19/10/23	Festive Borrel The Hague
		20/10/23	Study Groups Block 1
	Week 43	23/10/23 – 27/10/23	Exam Week Block 1
November	Week 44		Education Event
		30/10/23	Halloween Party
		30/10/23	Alumni Newsletter
		02/11/23	Festive Borrel Leiden
		30/10/23 - 10/11/23	Short Trip Cover Letters
	Week 45	06/11/23 – 10/11/23	Dies Week
		06/11/23	Dies Hot Chocolate in the Common Rooms
		06/11/23	Dies World Cafe
		07/11/23	Dies Karaoke
		08/11/23	Dies Bowling

		09/11/23	Dies Breakfast and Elections Crash Course
		09/11/23	Dies Lecture
		10/11/23	Dies Party
		11/11/23	Master's Borrel
		06/11/23 - 17/11/23	SPIIL-Weekend Committee applications
	Week 46	16/11/23	SPIIL CoBo
		15/11/23	Leidsch Debat PJO Borrel (StOP)
		17/11/23	Education: Dutch Politics Crash Course
	Week 47	20/11/23	Reunionist Newsletter
		20/11/23 – 21/11/23	Brussels Trip
		22/11/23	Stairs Affairs Election Night
		23/11/23	DEBAT 1 Reveal and Social Activity (Christmas sweater) Borrel The Hague
December	Week 48	27/11/23	Alumni Newsletter
		27/11/23	Excursion: Save the Children
		28/11/23	Introduction: Gingerbread Decorating Gameshow
		01/12/23	Committee Bonding Day: Game Night
		27/11/23 – 01/12/23	Sinterklaas Activity: ' Schoenzetten'
	Week 49	07/12/23	Festive and Social Activity (Gift Exchange) Borrel Leiden
		08/12/23	Purple Friday: Quiz
	Week 50	11/12/23	Study Groups Block 2
		12/12/23	Long Trip Reveal Activity
		13/12/23	Short Trip Pre-Activity
		15/12/23	Master's PhD Borrel
	Week 51	18/12/23 – 22/22/23	Exam Week Block 2
	Week 52		
January	Week 1		
	Week 2		
	Week 3		
	Week 4	27/01/24 - 04/02/24	Short Trip
February	Week 5	27/01/24 - 04/02/24	Short Trip
		30/01/24 - 02/02/24	Winter OWL
		29/01/24 - 09/02/24	Masters Activities, Dies, Brussels and Introduction Committees applications
	Week 6	29/01/24 - 09/02/24	Masters Activities, Dies, Brussels and Introduction Committees applications
		06/02/24	Master's Borrel SPIIL the Drinks

		07/02/24 - 08/02/24	FLO Career Event
		08/02/24	Picasso Party The Hague
	Week 7	12/02/24	Reunionist Newsletter
		13/02/24	Excursion: ICMP
	Week 8	22/02/24	DEBAT 2 Reveal Borrel The Hague
		23/02/24	Friends and Family Day Leiden
March	Week 9	27/02/24	Stairs Affairs Event
		29/02/24	Cantus
	Week 10	06/03/24	Interfaculty Party (StOP)
		07/03/24	Excursion: Parliament
		07/03/24	Festive Borrel Leiden
		08/03/24	Education: Guest Students
		09/03/24	Friends and Family Day The Hague
	Week 11	11/03/24	Efteling
		12/03/24 - 15/03/24	Long Trip Cover Letters
		14/03/24	Interim GA
		15/03/24	Interfaculty Food Festival (StOP)
	Week 12		Study Groups Block 4
			Education Event
		21/03/24	Festive Borrel The Hague
	Week 13	25/03/24 – 28/03/24	Exam Week Block 3
		28/03/24	Haagsch Studenten Feest
April	Week 14	04/04/24	Board Interest Borrel Leiden Festive Borrel Leiden
		05/04/24	SPIL Gala
	Week 15	09/04/24	Board Interest Borrel The Hague
		11/04/24	Excursion: Taipei Office
		12/04/24	Sports Tournament (StOP)
		12/04/24	SPIL Congress
	Week 16	16/04/24	FSW Party
		18/04/24	DEBAT 3 Reveal Borrel The Hague
		19/04/24 – 21/04/24	SPIL-Weekend
	Week 17		Long Trip Pre-activity
		22/04/24	PiP-Congress
		23/04/24	Interfaculty Congress (StOP)
		23/04/24	Master's SPILxBIL Pub Crawl
May	Week 18		Introduction Event

			Stairs Affairs Event
		30/05/24	Career Night
		02/05/24	Festive Borrel Leiden
		03/05/24	Board Applications close
	Week 19		Board interviews
			Great Social Activity (GSA)
			Committee Thank You Day
	Week 20		Study Groups Block 4
			Excursion
		16/05/24	Merch Reveal and DEBAT 4 Borrel The Hague
	Week 21	21/05/24 - 24/05/24	Exam Week Block 4
	Week 22		End of Year Party
		27/05/24	Board Reveal Borrel
		30/05/23	Leidsch Debat European Elections (StOP)
		31/05/23	Former Boards Borrel
June	Week 23	06/06/24	Affirmation GA
		07/06/24	Interfaculty Gala (StOP)
			Alumni Event
	Week 24	10/06/24	Reunionist Newsletter
		10/06/24	Alumni Newsletter
	Week 25		Long Trip Pre-Activity
	Week 26	25/06/24 - 11/07/24	Long Trip
July	Week 27	25/06/24 - 11/07/24	Long Trip
	Week 28	25/06/24 - 11/07/24	Long Trip
	Week 29		
	Week 30		
August	Week 31		
	Week 32		
	Week 33	12/08/24 - 16/08/24	ELCID Week Leiden
	Week 34	19/08/24 - 23/08/24	HOP Week The Hague
September	Week 35	26/08/24 - 30/08/24	Summer OWL
	Week 35		Freshmen Weekend
	Week 36	02/09/24	Start of the Academic Year
	Week 37	12/09/24	Change of Boards GA
	Week 38		
	Week 39		

INTERIM BUDGET 'SPILOCRACY' 2023-2024

Income			
	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Membership fee¹	€ 19.550,93	€ 19.093,27	€ 19.093,27
Acquisitions Committee²	€ 2.000,00	€ 837,00	€ 1.400,00
General Contribution Department³	€ 5.000,00	€ -	€ 5.000,00
Interest	€ 4,78	€ -	€ 4,78
Index books⁴	€ 2.000,00	€ 236,21	€ 1.000,00
Contribution Department Studystore⁵	€ 2.200,00	€ 2.200,00	€ 2.200,00
Withdrawal Committee Cup reservation⁶	€ 177,04	€ -	€ 177,04
'Vrienden van de SPIL'	€ 130,00	€ 77,63	€ 130,00
Other income⁷	€ 55,00	€ 10,50	€ 55,00
Gift XXXIXth board	€ 750,00	€ 750,00	€ 750,00
Leids Alumni Platform (LAP)	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
Withdrawal travel allowance int. board member⁸	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Total	€ 32.617,75	€ 23.204,61	€ 30.560,09

¹ The membership fee was collected at the end of November, with a total share of 9,2% defaulters. The share of defaulters is higher than expected, resulting in a lower than expected realised income.

² The income from acquisitions has been declining for many years. Acquiring sponsors has this year again proven to be increasingly difficult. Therefore, the expected income from acquisitions has been lowered accordingly.

³ The General Contribution from the Department has not yet been received. A meeting with the Institute Board has been scheduled for March 7th.

⁴ The income from the book sale for block two of the first semester has not yet been received. The Treasurer and the Commissioner Education and Politics expect to receive this income shortly. The income from the book sale is re-budgeted to be lower, based on the realised income during the first block.

⁵ The XLIInd board negotiated a one-time €2.200,- contribution from the institute to compensate for the loss of income due to the bankruptcy of Studystore.

⁶ The reservation made by the XLIInd board for the purpose of the Committee Cup has not yet been used.

⁷ This realised income consists of deposits on cans and bottles from the common rooms.

⁸ The XLIIIrd board includes one international board member who has a claim on coverage for travel expenses. For this purpose, €250,- will be made available at the end of the year.

Expenses⁹

	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Board	€ 4.340,52	€ 2.703,97	€ 4.243,56
President	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
<i>Stairs Affairs</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 100,00
<i>Interfaculty Gala</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ -
Secretary	€ 1.550,00	€ 24,84	€ 1.550,00
<i>General¹⁰</i>	€ 950,00	€ -	€ 950,00
<i>Introduction</i>	€ 600,00	€ 24,84	€ 600,00
Treasurer	€ 480,00	€ 437,88	€ 437,88
<i>Dies</i>	€ 450,00	€ 437,88	€ 437,88
<i>Interfaculty Congress</i>	€ 30,00	€ -	€ -
Education & Politics	€ 820,00	€ 185,54	€ 840,00
<i>Education</i>	€ 300,00	€ 41,58	€ 300,00
<i>Master activities</i>	€ 250,00	€ 121,90	€ 300,00
<i>Excursions</i>	€ 150,00	€ 22,06	€ 120,00
<i>Interfaculty party</i>	€ 120,00	€ -	€ 120,00
Global Relations	€ 8.466,80	€ 7.881,85	€ 8.466,80
<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>Pre-activities</i>	€ 200,00	€ 115,05	€ 200,00
<i>Congress</i>	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
<i>Brussels trip</i>	€ 200,00	€ 200,00	€ 200,00
Internal Relations	€ 10.465,88	€ 1.739,24	€ 9.685,38
<i>DEBAT</i>	€ 3.935,88	€ 1.551,69	€ 3.153,38
<i>Yearbook</i>	€ 3.130,00	€ 132,00	€ 3.132,00
<i>Festive</i>	€ 3.400,00	€ 55,55	€ 3.400,00
External Relations	€ 2.966,01	€ 428,18	€ 2.507,94
<i>Acquisition</i>	€ 20,00	€ -	€ 20,00
<i>ICT</i>	€ 822,06	€ 272,25	€ 837,94
<i>Promotion</i>	€ 1.273,95	€ 155,93	€ 800,00
<i>SPIL-weekend</i>	€ 700,00	€ -	€ 700,00
<i>Leidsch Debat</i>	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
PvP	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Investments	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
Reserves	€ 1.950,00	€ 1.250,00	€ 1.250,00
Travel allowance int. board member	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Contingencies	€ 978,53	€ -	€ 978,53
Total	€ 32.617,74	€ 14.651,50	€ 30.560,09

⁹Any additional comments about the re-budget or the realisation can be found under the specific tables of each post.

¹⁰This includes the Former Boards Borrel and Alumni activities.

Board	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	23-24	23-24	23-24
Committee thank-you days ¹¹	€ 500,00	€ 168,90	€ 400,00
ABN-AMRO Business Account Expenses ¹²	€ 800,00	€ 753,13	€ 1.200,00
Expenses General Assembly ¹³	€ 400,00	€ -	€ 400,00
Van den Berg-Bachelor thesis award	€ 100,00	€ 94,98	€ 94,98
‘Constitutieborrel’ presents	€ 50,00	€ 38,41	€ 50,00
‘Constitutieborrel’ SPIL ¹⁴	€ 1.500,00	€ 1.167,07	€ 1.167,07
Office supplies	€ 150,00	€ 113,10	€ 150,00
StOP-Contribution	€ 15,00	€ 15,00	€ 15,00
Provisions of SPIL common rooms ¹⁵	€ 150,00	€ 45,74	€ 100,00
Free round of drinks after Change of Boards GA	€ 78,75	€ 78,75	€ 78,75
Staff lunch with the institute ¹⁶	€ 80,00	€ -	€ 80,00
General Board Expenses ¹⁷	€ 350,00	€ 164,22	€ 350,00
Applications board 2024-2025	€ 66,77	€ -	€ 57,76
Board activities ¹⁸	€ 100,00	€ 64,67	€ 100,00
Total	€ 4.340,52	€ 2.703,97	€ 4.243,56

¹¹ The budget for the Committee Thank-You Days has been lowered, due to the first edition being realised against lower than expected expenses.

¹² The budget for the ABN-AMRO business account expenses has been increased, due to expenses being higher than expected. ABN-AMRO charges a lot for the execution of the direct debit withdrawal of the membership fee, as well as charging excessively for customer service.

¹³ No expenses for the General Assemblies have been made, due to the venues for the Policy and Interim General Assemblies being free of charge. The remaining budget will be spent on venues for future General Assemblies, and if possible on drinks or snacks for attending members.

¹⁴ The realisation from the SPIL ‘Constitutieborrel’ was lower than budgeted, due to less guests showing up than expected.

¹⁵ The budget for the provisions for the SPIL common rooms has been lowered, due to there often being many snacks and drinks from other activities left over and brought to the common room. Therefore, less than expected expenses are made toward this end.

¹⁶ The staff lunch with the Institute has not yet taken place, but the Secretary is in the process of organising it.

¹⁷ The Committee Cup reserve will fall under General Board Expenses. Other expenses include board photos and the Christmas cards.

¹⁸ Board activities include activities organised by the board, such as Waffle Hour and ‘Schoentje zetten’.

President	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	23-24	23-24	23-24
Stairs Affairs ¹⁹	€ -	€ -	€ 100,00
Interfaculty Gala ²⁰	€ 100,00	€ -	€ -
Total	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00

Secretary	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	23-24	23-24	23-24
Former boards borrel	€ 450,00	€ -	€ 450,00
Alumni activities	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
Introduction	€ 600,00	€ 24,84	€ 600,00
<i>General expenses</i>	€ 200,00	€ 24,84	€ 200,00
<i>Friends & Family Day (Leiden & The Hague)²¹</i>	€ 400,00	€ -	€ 400,00
Total	€ 1.550,00	€ 24,84	€ 1.550,00

Treasurer	Budget	Realisation	Re-budget
	23-24	23-24	23-24
Dies	€ 450,00	€ 437,88	€ 437,88
Contribution Interfaculty Congress ²²	€ 30,00	€ -	€ -
Total	€ 480,00	€ 437,88	€ 437,88

¹⁹ The Stairs Affairs committee did not have budget allocated during the first semester, due to the plans for the committee being unclear to the Treasurer. The Treasurer has since had talks with the treasurer of the B.I.L. to decide on the budget allocated by both associations.

²⁰ There is no longer any budget made available for the Interfaculty Gala, due to the plans for the event having been altered by StOP.

²¹ Although Friends & Family Day Leiden has taken place already, not all expenses and income for the Friends & Family Days have been realised. The realised expenses for the Friends & Family Days will be included in the Budget at the Change of Boards GA.

²² There is no longer any budget made available for the Interfaculty Congress, due to the plans for the event having been altered by StOP.

Education & Politics	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Education	€ 300,00	€ 41,58	€ 300,00
<i>Activities & workshops²³</i>	€ 200,00	€ 41,58	€ 200,00
<i>Career</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Master activities	€ 250,00	€ 121,90	€ 300,00
<i>Activities & workshops²⁴</i>	€ 150,00	€ 121,90	€ 200,00
<i>Career</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Excursions ²⁵	€ 150,00	€ 22,06	€ 120,00
Contribution Interfaculty Party	€ 120,00	€ -	€ 120,00
Total	€ 820,00	€ 185,54	€ 840,00

Global Relations	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Long Trip ²⁶	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00
Short Trip ²⁷	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80
Pre-activities	€ 200,00	€ 115,05	€ 200,00
Congress	€ 500,00	€ -	€ 500,00
Brussels trip ²⁸	€ 200,00	€ 200,00	€ 200,00
Total	€ 8.466,80	€ 7.881,85	€ 8.466,80

²³ The realisation is low, due to one Education activity falling through during the first semester.

²⁴ Due to a miscommunication with the Leiden Faculty Club, the costs for one of the Masters events of the first semester were higher than expected. The Treasurer has decided to make more funding available for Masters activities and workshops, to allow the committee to continue to organise events during the second semester.

²⁵ The budget for excursions is spent mainly on gifts for institutions and speakers. Due to the realisation being lower than expected, the Treasurer had talks with the committee treasurer. The Treasurer concluded that the needs of the committee can be met with a lower budget, and has adjusted the budget accordingly.

²⁶ The budget for the Long Trip has been realised due to the down-payment for the flight tickets and the hostels. The budget for the Long Trip can be found at the end of the Budget.

²⁷ The provisional realisation of the Short Trip can be found at the end of the Budget.

²⁸ The realisation of the Brussels Trip can be found at the end of the Budget.

Internal Relations	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
DEBAT	€ 3.935,88	€ 1.551,69	€ 3.153,38
<i>4x DEBAT²⁹</i>	€ 3.800,00	€ 1.498,31	€ 3.000,00
<i>Workshops</i>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
<i>Digital DEBAT³⁰</i>	€ 35,88	€ 53,38	€ 53,38
Yearbook	€ 3.130,00	€ 132,00	€ 3.132,00
<i>Yearbook</i>	€ 3.000,00	€ -	€ 3.000,00
<i>Indesign Licence³¹</i>	€ 130,00	€ 132,00	€ 132,00
Festive	€ 3.400,00	€ 55,55	€ 3.400,00
<i>Borrels</i>	€ 200,00	€ -	€ 200,00
<i>Parties</i>	€ 300,00	€ 55,55	€ 300,00
<i>Gala</i>	€ 1.700,00	€ -	€ 1.700,00
<i>Social activities</i>	€ 900,00	€ -	€ 900,00
<i>Beer Cantus</i>	€ 300,00	€ -	€ 300,00
Total	€ 10.465,88	€ 1.739,24	€ 9.685,38

External Relations	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Acquisition ³²	€ 20,00	€ -	€ 20,00
ICT	€ 822,06	€ 272,25	€ 837,94
<i>Licence Snelstart</i>	€ 185,37	€ -	€ 185,37
<i>Conscribo</i>	€ 333,23	€ -	€ 333,23
<i>Hosting www.spilplaats.nl³³</i>	€ 256,37	€ 272,25	€ 272,25
<i>Licence Elementor</i>	€ 47,09	€ -	€ 47,09

²⁹ The budget for DEBAT has been lowered, due to the Treasurer no longer budgeting for postal costs.

³⁰ The expenses for the Digital DEBAT licence were slightly higher than expected.

³¹ The expenses for the Indesign License were slightly higher than expected.

³² These expenses are meant to be made toward the merchandise market.

³³ The expenses for the hosting of the website were slightly higher than expected.

Promotion	€ 1.273,95	€ 155,93	€ 800,00
General expenses ³⁴	€ 325,00	€ 155,93	€ 450,00
Licence Socie ³⁵	€ 598,95	€ -	€ -
ELCID and HOP Week stands	€ 350,00	€ -	€ 350,00
Contribution SPIL-weekend ³⁶	€ 700,00	€ -	€ 700,00
Contribution Leidsch Debat	€ 150,00	€ -	€ 150,00
Total	€ 2.966,01	€ 428,18	€ 2.507,94

Reserves³⁷	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
9 th Lustrum of SPIL	€ 1.500,00	€ 1.000,00	€ 1.000,00
Lustrum DEBAT	€ 150,00	€ 150,00	€ 150,00
SPIL common room Leiden	€ 150,00	€ -	€ -
SPIL common room The Hague	€ 150,00	€ -	€ -
SPIL common rooms ³⁸	€ -	€ 100,00	€ 100,00
Total	€ 1.950,00	€ 1.250,00	€ 1.250,00

Travel allowance Int. board member	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
Travel reimbursement	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00
Total	€ 250,00	€ -	€ 250,00

Contingencies	Budget 23-24	Realisation 23-24	Re-budget 23-24
General expenses ³⁹	€ 978,53	€ -	€ 978,53
Total	€ 978,53	€ -	€ 978,53

³⁴ The budget for general expenses has been increased, because new SPIL tote bags for the trips had to be ordered, which had not been budgeted for.

³⁵ Due to budgetary restraints, the XLIIIrd board will no longer be investing in a Socie License.

³⁶ The budget for SPIL-weekend can be found at the end of the Budget.

³⁷ As explained in the Interim Policy, the yearly reserves have been adjusted according to the declining income from acquisitions and the book sale.

³⁸ The Common Room reserves were previously separate for Leiden and The Hague. These reserves have been merged into one.

³⁹ Contingencies amount to 3% of the general expenditure

Balans

Debit		Credit	
ABN-AMRO business account	€ ...	<i>Equity</i>	€ ...
ABN-AMRO savings account	€ ...	Lustrum reserve	€ 4.000,00
Ties (28)	€ 168,00	SPIL common rooms reserve	€ 1.750,00
Bows (23)	€ 174,80	Lustrum DEBAT	€ 1.550,00
Pair of braces (93)	€ 1.860,00	Reserve travel allowance int. board members	€ 2.000,00
Bowties (90)	€ 540,00	Gift XXXIX th board	€ 750,00
Doppers (30)	€ 300,00	Committee Cup reserve	€ 177,04
Former-board pin (36)	€ 73,80		
Umbrellas (8)	€ 40,00		
Bike packages (26)	€ 260,00		
Card holders (4)	€ 14,34		
Scarfs (9)	€ 45,00		
Socks (27)	€ 297,00		
Beer glass (10)	€ 75,00		
Bottle opener (15)	€ 21,00		
Shot glasses (85)	€ 425,00		
Playing cards (80)	€ 472,80		
Kas bestuur	€ 250,00		
Total	€ ...	Total	€ ...

Debtors		Creditors	
BASIS ⁴⁰	€ 60,00	Labyrint ⁴¹	€ 20,00
Total	€ 60,00	Total	€ 20,00

⁴⁰ The excursion to the Dutch Parliament of March 7th was organised in collaboration with BASIS. The tickets for the BASIS members were advanced by SPIL.

⁴¹ The Purple Friday activity of December 8th was organised in collaboration with the Leiden hallway associations. The costs were fronted by Labyrint. The Treasurer is in contact with Labyrint, but has not yet received an invoice.

Realisation Brussels Trip 2023-2024

Income			Expenses				
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Realisation</i>		<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Realisation</i>
Participant contribution⁴²	€ 65,00	€ 3.250,00	€ 3.250,00	Accommodation			
SPIL contribution	€ 4,00	€ 200,00	€ 200,00	<i>Hostel Meiniger</i>	€ 23,52	€ 1.175,88	€ 1.180,12
				Transportation (bus)	€ 37,63	€ 1.881,29	€ 1.881,29
				Public transport	€ 6,24	€ 312,00	€ 285,60
				Unforeseen costs	€ 1,61	€ 80,83	€ 0,00
				Restitution			€ 102,99
Total	€ 69,00	€ 3.450,00	€ 3.450,00	Total	€ 69,00	€ 3.450,00	€ 3.450,00

Budget Long Trip 2023-2024

Income			Expenses	
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>
Participant contribution⁴³	€ 750,00	€ 26.250,00		
SPIL contribution	€ 140,00	€ 4.900,00		
CASSA contribution	€ 100,00	€ 3.500,00		
			Accommodation	
			<i>Moustache Hostel Delhi</i>	€ 84,70
			<i>Moustache Hostel Jaipur</i>	€ 38,21
			Flights	€691,23
			Transportation	
			<i>Private bus</i>	€98,57
			Cultural activities	€49,55
			Final dinner	€3,00
			Unforeseen costs	€24,75
Total	€ 990,00	€34.650,00	Total	€ 990,00

⁴² The maximum of 50 participants signed up for the Brussels Trip.

⁴³ A maximum of 35 participants can sign up for the Long Trip.

Provisional realisation Short Trip 2023-2024

Income				Expenses			
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>	<i>Realisation</i>		<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>	<i>Realisation</i>
Participant contribution⁴⁴	€ 250,00	€ 10.000,00	€ 10.000,00	Accommodation			
				<i>PLUS Hostel</i>	€ 70,00	€ 2.800,00	€ 2.800,00
SPIL contribution	€ 66,67	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,80	Flights	€ 149,48	€ 5.979,20	€ 5.980,00
CASSA contribution⁴⁵	€ -	€ -	€ 1.093,76	Public transport	€ 36,90	€ 1.476,00	€ 1.220,82
				Cultural activities	€ 52,37	€ 2.094,93	€ 2.063,43
				<i>Boat tour at night</i>			€ 648,00
				<i>National Museum Communism Museum</i>			€ 303,98
				<i>Prague Castle: Cathedral tower</i>			€ 278,50
				<i>Prague Castle: General entrance</i>			€ 234,77
				<i>City Tour</i>			€ 195,64
				<i>Kafka Museum</i>			€ 158,17
				<i>Mucha Museum</i>			€ 134,56
				Final Dinner	€ -	€ -	€ 1.151,31
				Hostel breakfast	€ -	€ -	€ 480,00
				Unforeseen costs	€ 7,92	€ 316,67	€ 65,00
Total	€ 316,67	€ 12.666,80	€ 13.760,56	Total	€ 316,67	€ 12.666,80	€ 13.760,56

⁴⁴ The maximum of 40 participants signed up for the Short Trip.

⁴⁵ The subsidy application for the Short Trip was approved by CASSA in November. A subsidy of €1.993,00 was granted. However, due to schedule changes and a last-minute activity cancellation, a significant amount of the budget was not spent. The final report was handed in to CASSA in February. At time of writing, no decision by CASSA has been made on the final subsidy amount. The Treasurer expects the left-over budget to be deducted from the subsidy, and therefore expects to receive a subsidy of €1.093,76. If more subsidy is granted, a restitution will be made to the participants. The final realisation will be presented at the Affirmation GA.

Budget SPIL-weekend 2023-2024

Income			Expenses		
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>		<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>
Participant contribution⁴⁶	€ 85,00	€ 2.550,00	Accommodation	€ 66,60	€ 1.998,00
SPIL contribution	€ 23,33	€ 700,00	Transport	€ 31,72	€ 951,56
			Activities	€ 7,31	€ 219,19
			Unforeseen costs	€ 2,71	€ 81,25
Total	€ 108,33	€ 3.250,00	Total	€ 108,33	€ 3.250,00

⁴⁶ A maximum of 30 participants can sign up for SPIL-weekend.

28-02-2024, Leiden

Dear members of the AGM, the 43rd Board and CALVV,

On a day that began with problems with the NS, the audit check could start an hour later than planned. The audit committee was well received with a mocha cake and a delicious cup of tea. After the audit committee explained to the treasurer how to print in SnelStart, the audit check could start.

The audit committee was very satisfied with the treasurer's accounts: all expenses were neatly categorised and the receipts on the declaration forms were complete. The audit committee is also very pleased to see that there is a good record of ticket sales for events via ClubCollect and that the treasurer takes great care to allocate these to the right budget folder. The Brussels and Short Trip realisations looked good and matched the expenses incurred. There is not yet complete certainty on the Short Trip but hopefully this will be the case at the next audit check.

However, the audit committee also sees some room for improvement. During the audit check, we found out that the invoices for income were not in the treasurer's binder. The committee agreed with the treasurer that these will be added to the binder next time. In addition, the committee noticed that many committee items are still unpaid. We hope the 43rd board will work on this to avoid unnecessary costs to the association. When we got to count the merchandise, most items were in order, but there appeared to be a number of ties and bows still left in The Hague that we were unable to count.

Despite some distractions and interference from a fellow board member who came in during the audit check, the audit committee looks back on a successful audit check. The audit committee believes that the treasurer keeps the committee well informed of what is going on. The committee is therefore confident that the association's finances are in good hands.

Signed,

Audit committee *Geld is Leiden(d)*