

**Studievereniging voor Politicologen In Leiden**

**Study Association for Political Scientists in Leiden**



**XLVth Board  
2025-2026**

**ENGLISH / ENGELS**

**POLICY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**October 9th, 6:30pm**

Table of content	
1. The SPIL Anthem	3
2. Agenda	4
3. Minutes of the Change of Boards GA, d.d. September 11th 2025	5
4. Policy XLVth Board ‘SPILtacular’	
a. Policy	30
b. Year Plan	57
c. Budget	61
5. Policy IXth Lustrum	73

## 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 vloeit 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 Changes of Boards GA, d.d. September 11th 2025
7. Policy XLVth Board 'SPILtacular'
8. Policy IXth Lustrum
9. Nomination College of GA Chairs
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 the Meeting

## MINUTES CHANGE OF BOARDS GA, d.d. 11 SEPTEMBER 2025

### 1. Opening

The Chair of the Ga, Mr. Buijs opens the meeting at 18:47.

Those present at the GA are:

Pieter Mauritz	Tess Berkhout	Hidde Heijerman
Josephine van Os	Jack Vuijk	Moos Stokkers
Nena Vermeiden	Chuiry de Nijs	Miklos Kovacs
Evy Verbrugge	Felien van Oudheusden	Kathrin Brill
Casijn de Haas	Djen-Lynn Veenendaal	Celia Hiver
Eleana Cadet	Nathan Langendoen	Dora Lunardi
Sem van der Voort	Jule Cordes	Cornelius Raff
Judith Hordijk	Inge van Hoek	Lieke Gautier
Janneke Pool	Harm Sellmeijer	Owen Schouten
Ralph Otten	Laurens Goddijn	Martin de Haan
Jules Fockens	Romain Vanhoutte	Emma Haagenaars
Lilli Helin	Jakob Scharfe	Fince van Kampen
Soizic Michotte van den Berck	Emilia Mager	Svea Drose
Jagoda Pluskwa-Dabrowska	Yasin Ilayyan	Ruchi van Zoelen
Barbora Bankova	Johanna Parow	Kasya Hilhorst
Elizabeth O'Mara	Ella Teague	Noor Stuijt
Manon Grondin	Sampsa Ryókkynen	Marijke H Alfarnes
Eva van Rheenen	Aggie Duhoux	Mees Bouman
Maj Jolij	Borre Meskers	Daan Bal
Thijs van Vliet	Carlinho Westerveld	Esmee van Stee
Belle van Ineveld	Mark van Donk	Bastiaan Kuggeleijn
Rikus Doedens	Piotr Leligdowicz	Marie Love Hofstaetter
Annabelle Jung	Juline Cousin	Reka Voros
Remy van Wetter	Job Divendal	Frederika Togtema
Marit van der Heide		

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

### 2. Choosing Voting Committee

The Chair of the GA explains what the Voting Committee entails.

Ms. Hordijk explains the members of the Voting Committee need to stay until the end of the GA.

Mr. Stokkers and Ms. Lunardi are hammered in as Voting Committee.

### **3. Setting the Agenda**

No changes. The agenda is set.

### **4. Announcements**

The Chair of the GA does his announcements. He explains to the GA that they can raise their hand if they want to speak. He also asks the GA to say last names so the Secretary can write them for the minutes.

The Chair of the GA explains to the GA that questions can be asked in both Dutch and English. Dutch questions and answers will be provided with a short translation by him.

The Chair of the GA explains to the GA that the Motion paper can be found in the back and on the SPIL website.

The Chair of the GA announces that spelling or grammar mistakes can be emailed to the Secretary.

Ms. Hordijk announces that there is a round of drinks for everyone who stays until the end of the GA.

No further announcements.

### **5. Received documents**

Vote transfer Mr. Reijans to Mr. Van Wetter.

### **6. Installing Minutes**

The Chair of the GA explains the Minutes are the notes of the previous GA.

No objections, minutes are set.

### **7. End Report**

The Chair of the GA explains what an End Report is.

#### 3.1.4.

Mr. Van Kampen is asking if The Chair of the GA can explain something about the tie he wears.

The Chair of the GA explains the College of GA Chairs is called CALVV and tiny cow is called “kalf” in Dutch so he is wearing a tie with tiny cows.

Ms. Gautier is asking if the Board can elaborate on the whitebook for the trustperson which was firstly used during the Long Trip. She also asks if the whitebook for the trustperson will be continued in the future.

Mr. Van der Voort explains that every trip there are trust persons. Board members are trained to be in this position but a committee member is not experienced. The Board wanted to help committee members who are trust persons and created a whitebook. It is not possible to tell if the committee member needed to use the information in the whitebook since it is confidential. The Board advises to give the whitebook to the trust persons in the future.

### 3.2.

Ms. Van Os gives a speech about the Introduction Committee and tells the year went very well. The committee organised study groups together with CIROS. The committee also organised Freshmen Weekend. A lot of the Freshmen Weekend participants were at the GA. FMW was a big success.

### 4.1.1.

The Chair of the GA is asking if the Secretary can fill in the blanks.

Ms. Hordijk explains SPIL has a total of 873 members. The bachelor consists of 129 international politics students, 131 political science students and 467 international relations and organisations students. There are 44 masters students and 102 members whose programme is unknown.

### 4.1.3.

The Chair of the GA is asking if the Secretary can fill in the blank.

Ms. Hordijk explains SPIL has a total of 69 reunionists.

### 4.1.4

The Chair of the GA is asking if the Secretary can fill in the blank.

Ms.Hordijk explains SPIL has a total of 320 alumni.

### 4.1.5

Ms. Gautier is asking if there will be *bittergarnituur* at this GA.

Ms. Hordijk explains yes.

### 4.2.

Ms. Vermeiden gives a speech about SPIL-weekend. It was a great success. Everyone had fun. They visited abby's did a pub crawl, went minigolfing so it was a success.

### 5.1.7.

Ms. Gautier is asking the Treasurer to elaborate on the success and results of the initiative of 'Support our SPIL'.

Ms. Pool explains 'Support our SPIL' resulted in €365,84 which she finds successful for a low effort initiative. There was an Instagram post and promotion in DEBAT.

## 5.2.

Ms. Van Hoek gives a speech about the Dies week. Dies is the birthday week of SPIL. The week was really fun, there was a lecture by Frans Timmermans, karaoke in a bar with a child, breakfast, and lasergaming.

## 6.1.

Mr. Otten gives the speech about the Education committee. Six activities have been organised. Public Speaking workshop with LeidenMUN, lecture by FNV, world café about Trump when he was just in power, collaboration with ABBA about the war in Ukraine, and the career night.

## 6.2.

Mr. Otten gives a speech about the Excursions committee. The committee went to the talkshow of Eva Jinek, OPCW, Mexican Embassy, South African embassy where they met with the ambassador, the Dutch Parliament where they even met members of Parliament, and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers.

Ms. Stuijt remarks it is very nice that so many excursions have been organised.

## 6.3.

Mr. Otten gives a speech on the activities the Masters committee organised. They did two pub quizzes, two boardgame nights, two borrels and had a lot of fun.

## 6.7.

Ms. Stuijt is asking if more Former Boards members or Alumni connected with the LinkedIn since they told her at the Former Boards Borrel they did not receive an email, so did Mr. Otten use LinkedIn for this more.

Mr. Otten explains they tried to connect with more Alumni but it is not a big increase but he did send the invitation in the LinkedIn former boards groups.

## 7.1.

Mr. Fockens states everything about the Brussels committee is written down clearly in his policy. The trip was organised very clearly.

## 7.2.

Ms. Gautier gives a speech about the Short Trip. It was an intense but great week, great food, good hostel and learned a lot about the Catalonian history. They visited the ombudsman and parliament of Catalonia. It was a great success.

### 7.3.

Ms. Gautier gives a speech about the Long Trip. She was added to the committee later on. Morocco was really hot, but amazing. There was a good balance between cultural and political activities together with free time. They went to the desert, research institutes, Parliament which was interesting and city tours. The bus driver was really good as well.

Ms. Hilhorst is asking if the Commissioner Global Relations got a haircut in Morocco.

Mr. Fockens explains no.

Ms. Hilhorst remarks his hair looks nice.

Mr. Fockens thanks for the compliment.

Ms. Gautier is asking why Oussama is not mentioned in the policy.

Mr. Fockens explains he misses him a lot and it was too painful to write about him. Oussama was the bus driver in Morocco who worked day and night.

Ms. Gautier is asking if Mr. Fockens is in therapy for it.

Mr. Fockens explains he is waiting until SPIL is covering for Board member's therapy.

Ms. Stuijt remarks as a participant of the trip, the itinerary was great and she really wants to go back to Morocco.

### 8.1.1.

Mr. De Haas gives a speech about the DEBAT Committee. He was a member of the DEBAT committee. They published four magazines. Mr. De Haas feels honoured to contribute with four pieces last year. Round of applause for Ms. Helin.

Ms. Van Zoelen is asking what the Head of Social Activities organised this year since it is a new position within the committee.

Ms. Helin explains the Head of Social Activities was introduced since they wanted more bonding within the committee. She also explains they organised a workshop, joint writing sessions and the borrels. She recommends to continue this again next year and organise even more social activities.

Ms. Van Hoek is asking since the social activities were very formal, to organise more fun activities next year. She suggests a game night, so committee members can bond.

Ms. Helin remarks it is good suggestions for her successor, but keep in mind that not too many activities next to the SPIL activities are organised that week.

#### 8.1.4.

Ms. Van Zoelen remarks social media was great and keep it up.

Ms. Gautier remarks she saw Ms. Helin working a lot, also on the trips while everyone was asleep. Take a moment to appreciate all the work she has done.

#### 8.1.6.

Ms. Van Zoelen is asking if Ms. Helin can elaborate on the contact with PerfectBooks

Ms. Helin explains the overall communication was okay, but sometimes they needed to wait for a response for multiple weeks. Calling was possible for urgent questions.

#### 8.2.

Ms. Vermeiden gives a speech about the Festive Committee. So many great activities have been organised. Efteling, padellen, biggest and best thing was the gala which was a great success. Round of applause for Ms. Helin.

#### 8.2.4.

Ms. Gautier remarks she last GA asked if the wine would be better than last gala and it was. She is pleased by this. She also asks the successor to keep this up.

#### 9.1.2.

Ms. Stuijt is asking why there is only one merchandise item. She gets that it decreases the workload, but if you add sign ups why can we not do two merchandise items.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains so many items have been already done, and there are still merchandise items in the common rooms, so to keep merchandise items more special.

Ms. Stuijt is asking if it is then more about lack of possibilities instead of budget.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains if done this way, it is.

Ms. Gautier is asking for SPIL bikini's.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains it is up to her successor, but they try to keep the merchandise items more available to everybody.

#### 9.1.3.

Ms. Alfarnes gives a speech about the Promotion Committee. The committee worked on color pallets and did a lot of bonding. Keep it up for the tiktoks this year and make more next year.

#### 9.1.4.

Ms. Gautier remarks to Ms. Michotte van den Berck the monthly calendar was clear, helpful and useful.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains merchandise is no longer done through the website but through a separate third party which is still on the website but just not done through the website payments themselves.

#### 9.2.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains the Stairs Affairs committee is a committee in collaboration with B.I.L. two events were organised, one about the American elections and one about populism. Both events happened on the Spanish steps.

Ms. Drose is asking if there will be an event about the upcoming Dutch elections.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains this is up to the next Board.

Mr. Van Kampen is asking if somebody has already reached out to Mr. Otjes as he is the expert on Dutch politics and can give new perspectives.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains any questions about future events should wait until the Policy GA or after this GA since this is up to the next Board.

Mr. Van Kampen remarks Mr. Otjes has a busy schedule, so maybe reach out today or tomorrow.

#### Year Plan

Ms. Van Hoek is asking why the Alumni event did not happen.

Ms. Hordijk explains she organised it and only four people signed up so she decided to cancel the event.

Ms. Van Hoek is asking which advise Ms. Hordijk would give to her successor.

Ms. Hordijk explains organising an Alumni event is hard, her predecessor advises to organise an event in Dutch and in Leiden but only had 4 sign ups. It is up to her successor to think about organising it and maybe contact the university for more email addresses. This could be something but Ms. Hordijk does not think it would be helpful.

The GA Chair suspends the meeting at 19:46.

The GA Chair reopens the meeting at 20:03.

### Realisation

Ms. Jung is asking if there is an opportunity for more Support of SPIL

Ms. Pool explains it is a very unstable income source, she would advise to budget very conservative.

Ms. Hilhorst is asking if the remaining money for GAs will be spent tonight.

Ms. Pool explains she just paid *bittergarnituur* and the realisation will be changed in the booklet of the Policy GA.

### Global relations

Ms. Gautier is asking why the medical kit was more expensive than budgeted.

Ms. Pool explains she extended the medical kit and some participants used it as a walk in pharmacy. She recommends the next board to only give one paracetamol, and let people buy more themselves.

### Internal relations

Ms. Hilhorst is asking what the podcast budget was spent on.

Ms. Pool explains the money was spent on a micro sd card, used for the recording of the podcast. It is a one time expense, since it does not need to be replaced.

Ms. Gautier is asking why 3,20 spend on borrels in the realisation

Ms. Pool explains it was one beer for the winner of the hats and bow-tie borrel. She decided to make overall budget cuts, because the financial future is uncertain. Also a lot of borrels have a theme like DEBAT reveal or trip destination reveal. These borrels are not organised by the Festive Committee.

Ms. Gautier remarks the beer was for Ms. Van Hoek.

Ms. Van Hoek remarks she did not have *bittergarnituur* yet.

Ms. Pool explains if Ms. Van Hook looks with sweet eyes to the f.t. Treasurer, she might buy snacks at the end of the GA.

### Reserves

Ms. Pool explains the gift from the XLIVth Board will be probably less because she spend more on *bittergarnituur*, you will see this in the budget of her successor presented during the Policy GA.

Ms. Pool fills in the blanks.

Ms. Pool explains she made a mistake in debtor and creditor, they still need to receive 3.500 euros from CASSA, 500 euros from Scouting Paulus. The yearbook has been paid for.

#### Provisional realisation Long Trip 2024-2025

Ms. Pool is asking if she can make it realisation instead of provisional realisation, because she received the money from CASSA and participants have been paid back.

#### Questions about the final policy, year plan and budget

Ms. Gautier is asking what this Board is most proud of.

Mr. Van der Voort explains he is very proud of cohesion and how the Board did everything with the seven of them. The functioning of the Board was really good. He especially enjoyed the gala and trips.

Ms. Jung remarks that the RvA is very proud. Even though the board faced financial difficulties the board did an amazing job.

### **8. End Report Audit Committee**

Ms. Pool reads the Audit report.

Ms. Pool wants to thank the Audit Committee for all their help.

The final Policy, Year Plan, and Budget of the XLIV'th board are installed by acclamation.

### **9. Nomination Audit Committee**

Ms. Hilhorst gives a speech on why she wants to be in the Audit Committee.

Ms. Stuijt gives a speech on why she wants to be in the Audit Committee.

No objections, Ms. Hilhorst and Ms. Stuijt are elected.

### **10. Presentation Yearbook**

Ms. Helin presents the yearbook.

## **11. Archive Task Force**

Ms. Hordijk explains the Archive Task Force was founded last year to help the Board sorting the Archive of SPIL because a Board does not have time for this.

Ms. Hordijk reads the letter of the Archive Task Force.

Ms. Hilhorst is asking no people in the Archive Task Force what will happen to the archive.

Ms. Hordijk explains the Board can take it up on them or it will just be there. The archive is put into plastic boxes so no mice can reach it. Until new people want to join the Archive Task Force it will be unknown for the future.

Ms. Hilhorst is asking if it is no longer a problem that the university wanted SPIL to stand out the archive.

Ms. Hordijk explains it is still a problem but all the archive is now in the common room, it takes up a large part of the common room but to the university it is not a problem since it is all in our room. So now it is just a SPIL problem.

Ms Stuijt is asking if the Secretary wants to continue the Archive Task Force or if it is fine the way it is right now.

Ms. Hordijk explains it is nice to have an Archive Task force but there is a fine solution for now. She advises in the future to dig through all the archive but this is a big task for a board to take up so they would need help. For now the archive is fine in the common room.

Ms. Hilhorst is asking if the Archive Task Force is written down somewhere so future boards can start it again.

Ms. Hordijk explains it is still noted in the motion register and in the minutes but she will put it in the whitebook as well.

The Chair of the GA is asking if Ms. Hordijk wants to see if there are members interested in becoming part of the Archive Task Force.

Ms. Hordijk explains yes, but there must be a previous board member taking place in the Archive Task Force. Therefore she would suggest to first find a previous board member and then look for other members.

There is no previous board member present at the GA who wants to become part of the Archive Task Force.

## **12. Discharges and Installations**

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Acquisitions Committee: Minou Buiting, Jayesh Karnatac, Givevra Benezoli, Tabea Zimmermann, Emiel Akkerman, Bogdan Bodomoiu and Kathrin Brill.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Brussels Committee: Eleana Cadet.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Excursions committee: Sophia Campfens, Tabea Zimmermann, Nayéli Lechevalier, Venla Turunen, Gladys Barbara, Annamaría Hintosová and Sofia Ketting.

The Chair of the GA discharges from discharges from the Education Committee: Maria Monti, Nika Verwoert, Lisa von Arx, Jokin de Carlos Sola, Barbara Bolyós, Katerina Bilini, Vilija Jackeviciute and Amina Nursadik.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Festive Committee: Hannah Dierke, Sonia Ordoñez, Nena Vermeiden, Maximilian Balsom, Marijke Alfarnes, Erling Gjerde Førland, Summer Knegtman and Mats Blokker.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Introduction Committee: Josephine van Os, Daan Bal, Defne Erkanar, Sabine Silveira Vaucher and Liz Borsboom.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Long Trip Committee: Dante Renes, Sophie Peters, Olivier Backx, Lieke Gautier, Serena Ferrari, Rebecca Vieyra Marcussen and Louise Malherbe.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Masters Committee: Ruben Backx, Cosme Centis and Vilija Jackeviciute.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the PiP-Committee: Tapa Ennoila and Casijn de Haas.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Promotion Committee: Marijke Alfarnes, Tapa Ennoila, Sophie Peters, Sonia Ordoñez and Noor Stuijt.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Short-Trip Committee: Thirze Wiegers, Lieke Gautier, Sarah He, Anastasia Pasok, Liz Borsboom, Roderick Ellens and Adele Bregeon.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the SPIL-Weekend Committee: Daan Bal, Gabriel Reijans, Nena Vermeiden, Rémy van Wetter, Kathrin Brill, Emily Recke and Inge van Hoek.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Stairs-Affairs Committee: Leon Jad El Haddad, Aleksander Leon Chmiel and Sabine Silveira Vaucher.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Yearbook Committee: Lucille Saisse, Thirze Wieggers, Sarah He, Karin Krissáková and Ainhoa Bejer.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Lustrum Committee: Olivier Backx

The Chair of the GA discharges from the DEBAT Committee Jessica Cressy-Jones, Hannah Schmitz, Maria Elisa Catharina Harmeling, Julie Schrooyen, Lena Zentai, Anna Idziak, Sem van der Tang, Sabina Katsaeva, Julius Jönson, Aiden Bennett, Maria Iercosan, Luise Gabbert, Aleksander Leon Chmiel, Noa-Lynn Gilliaert, Hanna van Stekelenborg, Nelli Danner, Carlotta Moscarella, Bartosz Bliski, Lana Kim Denkes, Cosmin Tanasa, Barbara Bolyós, Chloe Orr, Pola Michalek, Esmée Widdershoven, Celia Hiver, Rebecca Marcussen, Maria Monti, Casijn de Haas, Anna Vogt, Famke Akerboom, Lisa von Arx, Summer Knegtmans, Claudio Alvares del Castillo, Marie Spruit, Evy Verbrugge, Ceyda Beysel, Inge van Hoek, Rebecca Schiavo, Anouk Laurian and Mariana Goldsmith.

The Chair of the GA discharges from the Audit Committee: Lara Akande, Margot Ammerlaan and Marvin Lamers

The Chair of the GA discharges as Commissioner External Relations and Stairs Affairs Soizic Michotte van den Berck.

The Chair of the GA discharges as Commissioner Internal Relations and Festive Lilli Helin.

The Chair of the GA discharges as Commissioner Global Relations Jules Fockens.

The Chair of the GA discharges as Commissioner Education and Politics Ralph Otten.

The Chair of the GA discharges as Treasurer and Commissioner Dies Janneke Pool.

The Chair of the GA discharges as Secretary and Commissioner SPIL-Weekend Judith Hordijk.

The Chair of the GA discharges as President and Commissioner Introduction and Commissioner Lustrum Sem van der Voort.

The Chair of the GA installs as President and Commissioner Brussels and Commissioner Lustrum Pieter Mauritz.

The Chair of the GA installs as Secretary and Commissioner Dies Josephine van Os.

The Chair of the GA installs as Treasurer and Commissioner Winter Trip Nena Vermeiden.

The Chair of the GA installs as Commissioner Education and Politics and Commissioner Introduction Evy Verbrugge.

The Chair of the GA installs as Commissioner Internal Relations and Commissioner Festive Casijn de Haas.

The Chair of the GA installs as Commissioner External Relations and Commissioner Summer Trip Eleana Cadet.

Mr. Mauritz explains the XLV'th board will be sitting switched this year because one board member is deaf in one ear and this allows everyone to understand everything.

The GA Chair suspends the meeting at 21:21.

The GA Chair reopens the meeting at 21:38.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Audit Committee: Kasya Hilhorst and Noor Stuijt.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Acquisitions Committee: Tabea Zimmermann, Agnes Duhoux, Jule Cordes, Martin de Haan and Daniel Lukov.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Brussels Committee: Emma Louise Maras and Rémy van Wetter.

The Chair of the Ga installs into the DEBAT Committee: Celia Hiver, Miklos Kovacs, Esmee Widdershoven, Agnes Duhoux, Famke Akerboom, Anna Maria Balaska, Bettina Balc, Aiden Bennett, Leo Blair, Scarlett Boles-Ryan, Noa Bruker, Mark van Donk, Nelli Danner, Leontine Fischer, Leo Gebauer, Laurens Goddijn, Mariana Goldsmith, Emma Hagenaars, Hidde Heijerman, Saoirse Hoitink, Anna Idziak, Maj Jolij, Hanna Juhász, Summer Knegtmans, Anouk Laurian, Piotr Leligdowicz, Dora Lunardi, Emilia Mager, Rebecca Marcussen, Pola Michalek, Zeynep Duru Mangan, Maria Monti, Chiury de Nijs, Elizabeth O'Mara, Rozemarijn van Rijs, Beatriz Santos Mayo, Ella Teague, Mila Trouiller and Romain Vanhoutte.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Education Committee: Elizabeth O'Mara, Lisa Harmeling, Pulkit Bhawsingka, Emma Hagenaars, Manon Grondin, Rian Rijpkema, Ella Teague and Jack Vuijk.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Excursions Committee: Jip Röling, Zeynep Duru Mangan, Belle van Ineveld, Emiel Akkerman, Jonathan van den Beukel, Johanna Parow and Eefje Slenters.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Festive Committee: Tess Berkhout, Felien van Oudheusden, Jack Vuijk, Pulkit Bhawsingka, Noor van Lent and Reka Vervos.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Introduction Committee: Martin de Haan, Kathrin Brill, Yagmur Ece Nisanoglu and Frederique Alders.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Lustrum Committee: Antonina Basarab and Marie Love Hofstaetter.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Masters Committee: Tapa Ennolia, Samyuktha Mahadevan, Borre Masjers and Marieke de Vries.

The Chair of the GA installs into the PiP-Committee: Liudvikas Kazlauskas and Lucie Nordmann

The Chair of the GA installs into the Podcast Committee: Rian Rijpkema, Frederique Alders, Rodrigo Alonso Moura, Mees Bouman, Rikus Doedens, Karl Eker, Jasper Hoogendoorn, Yasin Illiayyan, Corneluis Raff, Moos Stokkers and Djen-Lynn Veenendaal.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Promotion Committee: Mees Bouman, Dahab Kamel, Owen Schouten, Juline Cousin, Cosmin Tanasa and Nolan Vilagarcia.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Summer Trip Committee: Soizic Michotte van den Berck, Jagoda Pluskwa-Dabrowska, Helena Schellhammer, Laura de Baggis, Bettina Balc, Yagmur Ece Nisanoglu and Jakob Scharfe.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Winter Trip Committee: Rose Fantin, Sarah He, Olivia Pappas, Barbora Bankova, Juline Cousin, Leo Gebauer and Karina Stefanova.

The Chair of the GA installs into the Yearbook Committee: Hidde Heijerman, Sarah He, Tess Berkhout, Marco Ferrario, Soizic Michotte van den Berck and Gabriel Reijans.

### **13. Any Other Business**

The Chair of the GA makes a short announcement, because Ms. Lunardi needs to be replaced in the Voting Committee.

Ms. Lunardi gets discharged from the Voting Committee.

Mr. Van der Voort gets installed into the Voting Committee.

Ms. Van Os reads out the first motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulden Kruijk Leiden:*

*Constaterende dat a board year should be enjoyable and the budgets and realisations should be flawless.*

*Constaterende dat translating the budget is unnecessarily time consuming (no AI/DeepL).*

*The GA proposes that the Board breaks with the habit of making a Dutch budget. So all time and effort can be put in making the budget flawless. The budget is about numbers anyways.*

*En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.*

*Janneke Pool, Judith Hordijk, Lilli Helin, Svea Drose at al.*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises positive on this motion.

→ No objections, motion 1 is adopted per acclimation.

Ms. Van Os reads the second motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik Leiden:*

*Constaterende dat some(...) members of the new board have been on other boards and they need to pledge their love for SPIL, the GA proposes that the board brings an informal picture of them as the full board to every GA from now onwards. This picture needs to be of good quality and framed.*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Lilli Helin, Janneke Pool, Marit van der Heide et al.*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises neutral.

Ms. Pool proposes an amendment to bring a different picture every GA.

→ No objections, the amendment is adopted per acclimation.

→ No objections, motion 2 is adopted per acclimation.

Ms. Van Os reads the third motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulden Kruik:*

*Constaterende dat*

- *LSVV 81 is the one and only SPIL suborganisation still present in the Kelderklasse,*
- *The President of the 44th board has made his long awaited transfer to this paradise of the BeNeLux,*
- *Two out of the three well-appreciated CALVV members run in its attack,*
- *They have won two matches in total last season, but this year alone 6 points have already been gathered,*
- *upcoming saturday the 13th of September they play their most crucial match of the year,*

*The GA cannot than to conclude then to show up upcoming saturday at the Kikkerpolder at 14:30.*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Fince van Kampen, Freek van Lierop et al.*

The Chair of the GA suggests to suspend the meeting in order for the Board to discuss the advices on the motions.

The Chair of the GA suspends the meeting at 21:50.

The Chair of the GA reopens the meeting at 21:53.

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises neutral.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck is asking what the motion was.

Ms. Van Os explains motion.

Ms. Gautier proposes an amendment, it should be the duty of the whole Board to come to every match.

Mr. Van der Voort is asking if the whole Board should be there or just some representatives.

Ms. Gautier explains the entire Board should be there, but she is open for suggestions.

Mr. Van der Voort states that a whole Board is a bit too much but representatives are fine.

Ms. Gautier changes the amendment to two representatives from the board who should be present at every match.

Ms. Hordijk is asking to change the amendment to two representatives for the upcoming match and no restrictions for the rest of the year. She says Board members are very busy with SPIL during the week and want to do other things on the weekends.

Ms. Gautier is asking if the XLIVth Board would say the XLV'th Board does not support LSVV'81.

Ms. Hordijk explains she supports the teams and attended matches.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck explains SPIL Board members spend a lot of their time at SPIL events. Also LSVV'81 is not part of SPIL. She suggests 2 members of the GA should go, maybe one of them could be a Board member and no restrictions for the rest of the year.

Ms. Van Hoek suggests to keep the tradition to come to LSVV'81 after the gala since they did it last year as well.

Mr. Van Kampen explains he understands the Board might be occupied this weekend. He would like to see the Board at the match and promotes the match to the whole GA.

Ms. Gautier retracts the amendment.

→ No objections, motion 3 is adopted per acclimation.

Ms. Van Os reads the fourth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Krukká te Liddá:*

*Constaterende dat*

- *Nutritious food is vital*
- *The Newsletter satisfies us with providing fresh and creative monthly recipes*
- *SPIL members here at the Vergulde Krukká doubt whether the people who come up with these recipes actually make them*
- *The GA cannot than to conclude the Newsletter should include a picture of the person who made the food with the food*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Fince van Kampen, Noor Stuijt, Annabelle Jung, Ruchi van Zoelen, Kasya Hilhorst et al.*

Mr. Maurtiz explains the Board advises positive.

Mr. Van Kampen explains Mr. Otten is his housemate and he saw his recipe in the newsletter but did not recognize it.

Mr. Otten explains he made pilav 3 times in his life also for Mr. Van Kampen.

Ms. Gautier proposes an amendment, it should not be obligated but try to achieve it. Sometimes there are circumstances which won't allow you to make the recipe in a short notice.

→ The amendment is adopted with 22 votes in favor, 14 against, 0 neutral, 7 abstentions.

→ No objections, motion 4 is adopted per acclimation.

Ms. Van Os reads the fifth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:*

*Concerned about the length of an assembly or meeting and the malnutrition and the impact this has on concentration levels and cognitive abilities.*

*Calls upon the assembly, to call upon the Board to provide the members present a compensation in the form of the Dutch delicacy known as 'kroketten' takes a minimum of 19 minutes and 81 seconds longer than expected*

*Proceeding to the order of the meeting.*

*Jack Vuijk, Chiury de Nijs, Djen-Lynn Veenendaal, Hidde Heijerman, Freek van Lierop and Rikus Doedens*

Mr. Mauritz explains it is not mandatory to come to the GAs and the Board advises negative taking budget into account.

Ms. Van der Heijde explains the GAs used to be much longer and the budget is a good reason. But she does want to add coming to a GA is not mandatory on paper but in spirit as a good member of SPIL you should be there.

Ms. Pool explains SPIL does not have the money.

Ms. Pluskwa-Dabrowska proposes an amendment for vegetarian options.

Mr. Mauritz explains SPIL is a vegetarian association.

The amendment is retracted.

Mr. Divendal explains there is no end time to a GA so there won't be overtime, but he is in favor of kroketten.

→ Motion 5 is rejected with 6 votes in favor, 29 against, 2 neutral and 9 abstentions.

Mr. Fockens has a point of order he thinks that Mr. Van der Voort does not know how to count votes and proposes choosing a new voting committee.

Ms. Gautier comments Mr. Fockens ego is too big.

→ Point of order is rejected with 3 members supporting.

Ms. Van Os reads the sixth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik to close to The Hague:*

*Constaterende dat,*

- *A profound knowledge of the Dutch Parliamentary system is crucial*
- *Now that Stairs Affairs is no more, but remains in our hearts*

- *Michel Don Michaloliákos is probably occupied with his podcast about Uzbekistan . nu*
- *Only one saviour can grant us the key to our enlightened minds and a prosperous future*
- *we know one guy*

*The GA cannot than to conclude the 45th Board to reach out to Mr. Otjes immediately and serve its mandate!!*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Fince van Kampen, Ruchi van Zoelen, Kasya Hilhorst et al.*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advices positive since this is already the intention of the Commissioner Education and Politics.

Mr. Van Kampen says the name of Michel Don Michaloliákos.

→ No objections, motion 6 is accepted per acclimation.

Ms. Van Os reads the seventh motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulden Kruik Leiden:*

*Constaterende dat LSVV 5, again, is the football team of SPIL.*

*They are on a streak by winning 2 games already.*

*If they keep up with this streak they will win the competition.*

*If they win the league this is an amazing accomplishment.*

*I cannot to conclude that the Board has to organise a champions-party for LSVV'81 and the SPIL members.*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Judith Hordijk, Fince van Kampen, Sem van der Voort, Svea Drose et al.*

Mr. Divendal explains the team does not make a chance, but suggests to vote in favor to give them motivation.

Ms. Gautier is asking who handed in the motion and if this person can elaborate on how big this party should be.

Mr. Van der Voort explains he handed in the motion and the party does not have to be too big.

→ Motion 7 is adopted with 24 votes in favor, 2 against, 3 neutral and 10 abstentions.

Ms. Van Os reads the eighth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik, te Leiden:*

*Constaterende dat*

- *Janneke Pool loves classical music*
- *Janneke Pool loved to keep her promises*
- *Janneke Pool has yet to fulfill the motion which demands a live oboe concert of her*
- *Today is a day*

*The GA cannot than to conclude Ms. Pool should fulfill her promise right away and give us the long-awaited oboe concert. With the absence of the actual instrument, we are satisfied with humming as an alternative.*

*En gaat over op de orde van de dag.*

*Fince van Kampen, Ruchi van Zoelen, Kasya Hilhorst, Svea Droese et al.*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises negative.

Mr. Van Kampen explains Ms. Pool does not need an instrument as stated in the motion.

Ms. Van der Heide has a point of order and mentions motions should ask the Board to do something, and never members. Therefore it is not possible to consider this motion.

Ms. Helin explains she agrees with Ms. Van der Heide.

Mr. Divendal proposes an amendment to let Ms. Pool's successor implement the motion and to hum at least a minute.

Ms. Pool explains she does not want Ms. Vermeiden to take this over since she has no musical feeling.

Ms. Vermeiden reacts she disagrees with Ms. Pool but does have no understanding of oboe.

Ms. Gautier says the comment towards Ms. Vermeiden is too harsh. The only way to find out if Ms. Vermeiden has any musical feelings is to continue with the motion.

Ms. Van Hoek explains she thinks Ms. Vermeiden has a busy schedule and is tired and tomorrow she will be in the swimming pool so she thinks it's enough for her.

→ The amendment is declined with 14 votes in favor, 12 against, 8 neutral and 8 abstentions.

→ Motion 8 is dismissed since it is not allowed to be handed in by the GA.

Ms. Van Os reads the ninth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:*

*Constaterende dat,*

*It was very fun to 'brak uit' with each other the day after the gala at the LSVV'81 game. I propose that the 45th Board will come to support them the day after the gala again with as many SPIL members as possible. The day after next years gala again, en gaat over tot de orde van de dag.*

*Fince van Kampen et al.*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises neutral.

Ms. Pool explains she had an amazing experience last year so she will vote in favor.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck is asking if this makes it necessary to organise the gala the day before a match.

The Chair of the GA explains the motion says that if there is a match the day after the gala the Board should attend.

Ms. Togtema explains she is in favor of the motion.

→ No objections, motion 9 is accepted per acclamation

Ms. Van Os reads the tenth motion, this is the following:

*The general assembly, gathered here at Vergulde Kruik:*

*Constaterende dat the GA can take up a lot of time and the fact that everybody will get hungry during the evening. I propose to from now on offer cheap schaaltes borrelnootjes to the members of the GA*

*7 unknown submitters*

Mr. Mauritz explains the Board advises neutral.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if the Board knows it is allowed to bring your own to the GA locations.

Ms. Vermeiden explains in most bars they don't care or you have to pay 'schotelgeld' which is money you have to pay for bringing in your own food. She doesn't think the fee will be high, but some bars also have free borrelnootjes.

Mr. Divendal explains he only wants borrelnootjes if it is allowed. If it is not allowed he is fine with that, if it is allowed it would be nice because then they have something to 'snaai'.

Mr. Fockens explains SPIL members are too greedy to be able to share borrelnootjes and not everybody will benefit equally from this.

Ms. Gautier is asking if this replaces the bittergarnituur?

Ms. Pool proposes an amendment to be more original and change the borrelnootjes into zure matten.

Mr. Divendal explains he is in favor of the borrelnootjes since it belongs to the Dutch culture and it is cheap.

Mr. Van der Voort proposes an amendment to have borrelnootjes and zure matten because it is a nice combination of a sour and savory component since not everyone likes zure matten.

Ms. Pool explains she thinks Mr. Van der Voort is once again over complicating life.

Mr. Van der Voort comments he likes borrelnootjes so much.

Ms. Pool comments zure matten are way better because you can lick them from your fingers.

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if it is possible the Board decides on what kind of snack to bring to the GAs but it must be yellow.

Mr. Vuijk proposes an amendment to have stroopwafels instead of borrelnootjes or zure matten.

→ Amendment 1 is rejected.

→ Amendment 2 is adopted with 23 votes in favor, 9 against, 1 neutral and 8 abstentions.

Mr. Divendal explains stroopwafels are just a one time thing and borrelnootjes are there the whole evening.

→ Amendment 3 is rejected

→ Motion 10 is accepted with 28 votes in favor, 6 against, 5 neutral and 6 abstentions.

#### **14. Round of Questions**

Ms. Togtema is asking if the GA knows this is a Lustrum year which is very special and there is a date for the theme reveal which is September 25th and she is very happy with the new Board?

Ms. Van der Heide is asking if the new Board knows she has a lot of trust in them and they are going to do a great job this year and she hopes they will have a lot of fun, and if she can see the socks of the Commissioner Education and Politics?

Ms. Verbrugge shows her socks.

Mr. Bal is asking if the XLV'th Board knows he has the most possible trust in them and they will do as good as the previous board, and if the XLIV'th Board knows they made him feel at home at SPIL?

Ms. Van Zoelen is asking if the CALVV, the GA and the Board know she is really really proud of the XLIV'th Board and she is looking forward to what the XLV'th Board is going to do in their Lustrum year and she is excited, she is also asking if the Commissioner Internal Relations favorite slogan is?

Mr. De Haas explains his favorite slogan is 'Intern is de kern'.

Ms. Drose is asking if the XLV'th Board can reveal their board name?

Mr. Mauritz explains the name of the XLV'th Board is 'SPILtacular'.

Mr. Van Kampen is asking on behalf of Paulus and Mr. De Vries, who is a member of CDA, if Mr. Otten knows he is very proud of having him as housemate and his achievements this year and if Mr. Buijs knows that the CALVV is very proud of his achievements and if the XLV'th board knows he is already very proud of them and he is looking forward to the upcoming year?

Ms. Van Hoek is asking the GA to get out their phones and follow @spillustrum on Instagram where all the Lustrum activities will be promoted?

Mr. Vuijk is asking Mr. De Haas what his favorite colour is?

Mr. De Haas explains his favorite colour is SPIL yellow.

Ms. Michotte van den Berck is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV'th h.t. Board and the XLIV'th e.t. Board know she is proud of what they have done together this year and she is excited to see what the new board is going to do, and thanks to the CALVV for reading out the names because she never laughed harder in her life?

Ms. Helin is asking if the GA, the CALVV, the XLV'th h.t. Board and the XLIV'th e.t. Board know she is extremely excited of what the XLV'th Board will do the upcoming year, especially with her successor and if the XLIV'th e.t. Board knows she is extremely proud of them for making it until this day and she is really looking forward to everything they will do not as colleagues but as friends?

Mr. Fockens is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV'th h.t. Board and the XLIV'th e.t. Board know that he is really proud and he is sure the XLV'th Board will do great and

amazing even though this is not what he said earlier this week, and if the XLIV<sup>th</sup> Board knows he is proud of them and they can now do no SPIL related stuff as well and he wants to go pilsen in Roebels afterwards?

Mr. Otten is asking if the GA, the (cow) CALVV, for XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board, the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board and Mr. Van Kampen know that he is grateful for the year he had and is looking forward to what the new Board is doing and he wishes them the best of luck?

Ms. Pool is asking is the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know that she is obviously very proud of her Board and all the things they have accomplished she loves she now has a little additional family, who she loved most of the time, and she is sure the finances of the association are in the most amazing hands and she cannot wait to be in the swimming pool tomorrow with a hot pink swimming cap?

Ms. Hordijk is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know that she is very proud of her Board and she loves them, and to the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board that she is excited for everything the Board will plan and she is sure the Board will be great?

Mr. Van der Voort is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know he is very proud of the XLIV<sup>th</sup> Board and it is amazing to see they all aged over the year like Ms. Helin said in her quote “This year we all aged like fine wine” and he is proud of the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board and he is excited for the year, and who is going to be the Vice-President of the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board?

Mr. Mauritz announces the Vice-President will be Ms. Cadet.

Ms. Cadet is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know that she is wants to thank the XLIV<sup>th</sup> Board for this year and this opportunity she is grateful of and she is excited to work with her board?

Mr. De Haas is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know that he is thankful everyone is at the GA, he is grateful for the work the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board has put in, especially Ms. Helin who did an amazing job within the DEBAT committee, and he is feeling proud of the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board sitting here together and it will be a great year?

Ms. Verbrugge is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know that she is very happy the XLIV<sup>th</sup> Board made SPIL feel like a second home to her although it is far away from her own home and that she is very much looking forward to the year she will have with the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board and she is excited to start for real?

Ms. Vermeiden is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV<sup>th</sup> h.t. Board and the XLIV<sup>th</sup> e.t. Board know she is very grateful for all the guidance and help the XLIV<sup>th</sup> Board gave us and

she is excited to keep seeing them inside and outside of SPIL, and she is happy to start her Board year and to see what comes out of it?

Ms. Van Os is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV'th h.t. Board and the XLIV'th e.t. Board know that she is happy everybody is here and made an effort to come to the GA and she is really looking forward to her Board year and she wants to thank the XLIV'th Board for the amazing year she had?

Mr. Mauritz is asking if the CALVV, the GA, the XLV'th h.t. Board and the XLIV'th e.t. Board know he is grateful for everyone who came to the GA, he is grateful for the XLIV'th Board for placing their trust in the new Board and making the transition as smooth as possible, they are the best e.t. Board he could have wished for and he is super super excited for this year with the XLVth Board especially with the Lustrum coming up.

### **15. Discharging Voting Committee**

The Chair of the GA thanks the Voting Committee for their services. The Voting Committee is discharged.

### **16. Closing of the General Assembly**

The Chair of the GA remarked that this General Assembly was his last. He saw this as an honour and privilege and wants to thank for the trust that was placed in him.

After the SPIL song has been sung, the Chair of the GA closes the assembly at 23:01

## **POLICY PLAN ‘SPILTACULAR’ 2025-2026**

### **1. LONG TERM POLICY GOALS**

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

The association’s goal is to:

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

These are the foundations upon which the policy goals of the XLVth Board ‘SPILTacular’ are Built.

### **2. ASSOCIATION WIDE POLICY GOALS**

*“How are you supposed to spell out SPIL with your hands? Is it like a gang sign” - Roderick Ellens*

#### **2.1 Integration**

SPIL is an association located in two cities, with students coming from both Dutch and international backgrounds. The association has a rich active member base in both spheres, but due to geographical distance, there is less overlap than the Board would hope for. Integration is therefore one of the XLVth Board's long term policy goals, hoping to continue the efforts of previous Boards to enhance the bilingual character of the association.

It is therefore important that all events take place in English, except for those where it does not make sense to hold them in English, such as visits to Dutch-language talk shows. In addition, the XLVth Board will make an active effort to speak English whenever possible, including taking initiative in speaking English in situations when a group speaks mostly Dutch. The XLVth Board intends to continue the policy of rotating between Leiden and The Hague for recurring events, such as GAs, borrels, and committee meetings, while attempting to keep an even balance wherever possible.

Besides language and geography, it is also important for the XLVth Board to make efforts in cultural integration by organising at least one cross-cultural event. SPIL members come from

a diverse array of backgrounds, it would therefore be of great value to give members an opportunity to share parts of their culture with each other.

The association has a history of collaboration with other associations. The XLVth Board plans to continue this with the hope of integration within the university community, as collaborations can widen the association's reach to new groups of students.

## **2.2 Exploration**

The association has faced financial difficulties in the past few years, such as higher costs due to inflation and lower income. This, along with the fact that the XLVth Board consists of one member fewer, it is of high importance to the Board to explore new ways in which it can live up to its fullest potential.

For one, the XLVth Board intends on making bigger efforts in terms of acquisitions, specifically by reaching out to new sponsors. The XLVth Board sees this as a long term project, with the goal of forming relationships that could turn into sponsorships in the future. While the Board is hoping for more income through acquisitions, it will not take any additional potential sponsorship into account for the sake of budgeting.

Second, the XLVth Board intends to find new ways of carrying out events, specifically with regards to the trips, in which previously existing geographical and time constraints have been lifted by the XLIVth Board to make trips more feasible under a restricted budget. Outside of the trips, the XLVth Board intends to explore how the association can make an impact in wider society by engaging in some kind of charity event. The Board will inform the GA about this at the Interim GA.

Finally, the XLVth Board would also like to explore how we can increase our visibility through our common rooms. The Board has already successfully implemented this through the Toasty Friday and Waffle Hour held in the common rooms during the first weeks of university.

## **2.3 Modernisation**

The XLVth Board intends to continue the efforts of previous Boards by modernising the social media, and being engaged in multiple domains: the website, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, and the SPIL app. This year the XLVth Board intends to make more reels, in addition to the regular Instagram content. On top of social media content, the Board has established a Podcast Committee, as a way to expand the association's reach across media platforms.

Finally, it is of high importance for the XLVth Board to update the policies surrounding social safety. This is something the Boards of other associations have already undertaken, and something that other associations are also doing this year. One example of the Board's efforts in this regard is a planned workshop with 'Stichting door het Geluid,' a foundation aimed at improving the mental health of students.

In addition, the Board will be following a track with GGD Hollands Midden, with the intention of creating clear and tailored policies with regards to various issues surrounding social safety within the association. Members of the Board will participate in working groups facilitated by the GGD, aimed at creating these policies. Eventually these policies will be presented in an interactive PDF (available on the website), outlining the roles and responsibilities of key members within the association and how to contact them. This policy will also include protocols for, amongst others, alcohol and drugs use, as well as protocols handling different sensitive situations including misconduct. This track is expected to be complete by December 2025, and the GA will be given an update regarding this matter at the Interim GA.

### **3. PRESIDENT & COMMISSIONER BRUSSELS & COMMISSIONER LUSTRUM**

#### **3.1 President**

*“What even is a chargé d’affaires?”* - Pieter Mauritz

*“In charge of the affairs”* - Noa-Lynn Gilleart

##### **3.1.1 Internal Affairs**

It is of utmost importance that the internal dynamics of the Board function well in order for the association to function properly. The President will ensure that everyone within the Board can communicate and collaborate clearly. This is very important during Board meetings which are a place where everyone's opinions are listened to and respected. During these meetings, the President will not only coordinate but also actively ask for opinions. This open environment is not only vital during Board meetings, but also outside of them. The President will frequently check-in with the other Board members to ensure their physical and mental well-being.

Besides regular check-ins, the President will also have personal talks after each block, or more when it is deemed necessary. These have also already taken place during policy weekend. These personal talks function as a safe place where Board members can share anything they want. The President acknowledges that a Board year can be intense, especially in light of the smaller size of the Board this year, and therefore encourages all Board members to not sit on things but openly share their thoughts and feelings with him or the group, ensuring everyone is aware of each other's feelings. Furthermore, the President will strive to be as accessible as possible. This entails being there to listen and to provide guidance and assistance. The President believes that with these actions, the internal well-being of the Board is maintained.

In addition to the personal talks, the President believes that having sufficient leisure time together is crucial to the internal well-being of the Board. This was accomplished during the policy weekend in Vleuten, where the Board enjoyed crackers and brie while watching the Golden Globe nominated Bee Movie together after a day of productive meetings. To ensure bonding within the Board outside of SPIL activities, the President created a Board bonding

schedule. Board bondings will take place every month, with each Board member coming up with a bonding activity in turns.

The President recognises the Advisory Board (RvA) as an integral part of the association. Seven former Board members are eager to assist the XLVth Board this year by offering their advice and support. The President therefore believes it is important the Board maintains a strong relationship with the RvA. To accomplish this, the Board had a first meeting in the middle of September to get to know each other and to share expectations.

### **3.1.2 External Representation**

One of the President's tasks is to represent the association in several external bodies. First of all, he serves on the Board of the Platform for Political Scientists (PvP). Secondly, the President participates in the Association Deliberations (Verenigingen Overleg - VerO) organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences in both Leiden and The Hague, in which different associations take part. Thirdly, he is part of the Big Association Deliberation (Grote Verenigingen Overleg - GroVer). Finally, the President will take part in the general meetings of the Study Association Deliberation Platform (Studieverenigingen Overleg Platform - StOP).

Besides formal meetings, it is the goal of the President to bond with other associations and student initiatives additionally in informal settings as he sees significant potential in working together. These associations in particular include the hallway associations in Leiden and The Hague, the sister associations and CIROS, an association with whom SPIL shares some of the same student body. Ultimately, all associations are run by students, and by being transparent and having open communication, we can learn a great deal from one another. The President is therefore pleased that collaborations with other associations and student initiatives have already taken place, such as the SPILxCIROS Prinsjesdag borrel and the HOP association evening. Additionally, informal drinks have been organised with the Boards of the associations to get to know each other better on a personal level.

Besides other associations and student initiatives, maintaining strong relationships with university staff is essential. From the Student Service Desk to the Institute Board, all university personnel can be helpful to the association in various ways. This open approach towards university personnel applies not only to the President, but to the entire XLVth Board. The President specifically emphasises the importance of maintaining good contact with the study advisors both in Leiden and in The Hague as they have the closest connection to the student body. To strengthen this relationship, the President aims to swing by their offices regularly to update them about the activities of the association and welcome them to these events.

### **3.1.3 Platform for Political Scientists**

The President is part of the Platform for Political Scientists (PvP). The PvP has a Board, consisting of the four respective representatives of four study associations of political science in the Netherlands. These include our association, EOS (Free University of Amsterdam -

VU), ismus (Radboud University), and Machiavelli (University of Amsterdam - UVA). The PVP oversees the PiP Committee, which is responsible for organising the annual one-day PiP Congress (Political Scientists in Perspective). This committee consists of eight members, two from each association. The PiP congress this year will be organised in Amsterdam.

At time of writing the previous PVP Board is in the process of restructuring the PVP from its own association with an independent bank account, to a cooperation agreement between the associations, with financial responsibilities rotating between the member associations. Banking fees have been consuming nearly half of the PVP membership contributions, meaning this change will ease the financial situations of all the member associations. Furthermore, because of the efforts of the previous PVP Board, the current Board is in contact with the Nederlandse Kring voor de Wetenschap der Politiek (NKWP). The NKWP organises a variety of activities for political scientists and is effective as a platform for academics as well as for experts in the world of politics. The Board of this association consists of political scientists from various Dutch universities. The President will update his Board and the GA about the PVP regularly, including the functioning of the new format.

### **3.1.4 Other Activities**

The President aims to ensure that all committee chairs feel at ease in their roles and have a clear understanding of their responsibilities. To ensure this, he has scheduled chair training sessions in the beginning of the academic year. Furthermore, the President will strive to organise a mid-year check-in session, to evaluate the first half year and to look forward to the remainder of the year. Additionally, the President will be as accessible as possible, so that the chairs can easily reach out to him. By doing so, the President tries to stimulate open communication.

The XLVth Board acknowledges the importance of the committee members of the association. The Board has already organised a Committee Bonding Activity, where committee members had the opportunity to play games and enjoy pizza together. The Board intends to organise a Committee Thank You Day as well. These activities serve both as an opportunity for committee members to build connections with members from other committees and as a means of expressing the Board's gratitude to them.

StOP has many committees which organise activities for students from all study associations. The XLVth Board aims to participate in additional committees organised by StOP. The Board believes that this could be a pleasant contribution next to a Board member's regular work. The Board prioritises their SPIL work over the StOP committees. The committees that the Board aims to take part in are InFaFe, Internationalisation and the Sports Tournament. The Board also aims to take part in a separate committee organising HSF.

The XLVth Board will continue the policy of the previous two Boards of installing a dress code manager. The dress code manager is responsible for making sure everyone is dressed appropriately according to the dress code at specific activities. Events for which a formal dress code could be applied include excursions to institutions, such as embassy visits, as well

as visits to institutions on trips. The Board aims to upload new pictures, as well as videos to the website in order to clarify the dress code. The Board does not want to change the description of the dress code but instead believes that by uploading media of what to wear, new members will struggle less with successfully complying to the dress code.

Continuing the efforts of the previous Boards, the XLVth Board will continue the Committee Cup System. The check-ins will remain online, to make sure the overall process runs as smoothly as possible. The Board believes the Committee Cup is a great way of encouraging committee members to show up at activities, and will remain committed to keeping a clear check-in procedure through a printed QR code, present at all events.

### **3.1.5 Confidential Contact Persons**

The President believes that the Confidential Contact Persons (CCPs) are an essential part of the association. The CCPs offer a listening ear to members who have had a negative experience, simply need to express themselves, those uncertain about how to handle a situation they have experienced, and members looking to actively address or change a situation that has affected them within the association. In general, the CCPs contribute to helping members feel safe within the association. The CCPs will always treat every topic with utmost confidentiality, anonymity (if this is wished for) and impartiality. The CCPs this year are Rick van den Brink and Marit van der Heide. They have received training from StOP, and their contact information is available on the SPIL website.

## **3.2 Commissioner Brussels**

*“How can you govern a country which has 246 varieties of cheese?” - Charles de Gaulle*

### **3.2.1 General**

The Brussels Committee was formed under the XLIVth Board, as a committee consisting of 7 members. Due to the chair of the committee choosing to step down from the position, and the treasurer leaving the committee to join the Board, the President of the Board will serve as chair, and the Treasurer of the Board will serve as treasurer of the committee. This was also decided with the aim of preventing an overlap in responsibilities and facilitating communication. A secretary has also been appointed as well as general members. Due to the hard work of the committee, the hostel and trains have been booked. The activities will consist of visits to European institutions and organisations.

The trip will take place from the 17th until the 18th of November 2025. The number of participants is 50, including 8 committee members and 6 Board members, meaning that 36 people will be able to join the trip. A first-come-first-serve policy will be maintained for the sign-ups on the 10th of October, as well as a final deadline for cancellation, to prevent unfortunate situations regarding payments. The trip will cost €70,- per participant.

## **3.3 Commissioner Lustrum**

*“I’ve been tooting longer than you’ve been a member of SPIL” - Gijs Verhoeff*

### **3.3.1 General**

This year the association will celebrate its IXth Lustrum. The Lustrum Committee is an independent committee that will organise the celebration of the XLVth birthday of the association this year. The committee was formed under the XLIVth Board and has ever since been working on ideas. The President has regular contact with the chair of the Lustrum Committee. The President wants to give the Lustrum Committee as much freedom as possible, but the President does carry the final responsibility. The committee consists of six members, of which two are former Board members. The President believes this will benefit the committee, as former Board members bring a lot of experience in a committee with many responsibilities. The President is very excited about the plans that the committee has already made. The Lustrum Committee will present its own policy.

## **SECRETARY & COMMISSIONER DIES**

### **4.1 Secretary**

*“She is the Secretary of the Institute Board of Political Science”* - Pieter Mauritz

*“That’s my dream job!”* - Josephine van Os

#### **4.1.1 Membership Account**

The Secretary aims to keep the membership account up-to-date. To do so she will update the membership account weekly, securing timely delivery of official communication to new members following their registration. All membership data will be treated with full confidentiality, adhering to the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

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 ... Masters students and ... members whose programme is unknown.

#### **4.1.2 Newsletter**

On the first Monday of each month the Secretary will send the online newsletter to the members. Members will receive the newsletter by email. The ‘Dutch follows English’ principle will be followed while making the newsletter. Changes introduced by the Secretary's predecessors, like the banner and quote of the month, will be continued while the Secretary looks for new ideas to innovate the newsletter. The Secretary finds member contributions in the newsletter valuable, therefore the new rubric ‘*SPIL’s Spots*’ will be appearing in the newsletters. In this rubric a member can tell about their favorite spots in Leiden and The Hague. These spots could either be restaurants, clubs, shops, or other recommendations the member has. The associations football team LSVV ‘81 will also add a contribution to the newsletter by writing a column every month. Together with the Commissioner External Relations, the Secretary will feature event promotions in the newsletters.

#### **4.1.3 Reunionists**

This year the Secretary and Treasurer will actively manage the reunionist membership. Reunionists pay a membership fee of €10,- to receive DEBAT at home four times a year and a special newsletter about all the activities of the association. They have to manually transfer the membership fee to the association. This creates the problem that most reunionists do not transfer the money and are very difficult to reach via their email, because most email addresses are not up to date anymore. This has not been managed over the years, so there are still many reunionists that receive DEBAT at home while not paying their fees. From this year on, all reunionist members who did not pay their membership fee last year and are still registered to the association will receive an email about their deregistration. Last year they were sent three reminder emails and almost half of the reunionists still did not pay. The Secretary and Treasurer find that this is long overdue and will therefore deregister them. If they wish to continue their reunionist membership they can send a reply to the Secretary. All the reunionist members that did pay last year and new reunionist members will receive three reminders about their membership fee this academic year. If they will not pay their membership fee after three reminders, they will also be deregistered from the association. With the switch to the Rabobank there is a possibility that the reunionists could also register for a direct debit. This would mean that all the reunionists do have to sign a direct debit mandate and could mean that some reunionists will not. Nevertheless, it could help in the future, because reunionists will not have to be reminded to transfer the money manually. However, the Secretary and Treasurer are not fully aware if this is possible and will research this for the XLVIth Board.

The Reunionists newsletter will be sent three times a year. This will be in November, February, and May. Together with the Commissioner Internal Relations, the Secretary will inform the reunionists about the current state of DEBAT magazine and update the reunionists about the association.

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

#### **4.1.4 Alumni**

Following the advice of her predecessor, the Secretary looked into making changes to the alumni policy. In the previous years the alumni event did not take place, or only a few people showed up. Therefore the Secretary is planning on keeping close contact with the Alumni Coordinator of the faculty of Social Sciences, and will ask other associations' recommendations for organising alumni events. The Secretary is open to collaborate with other associations to reach a bigger audience and have more sign-ups to the event. She will also plan the Former Boards Borrel earlier in the year and promote the alumni event at the Former Boards Borrel.

Alumni will receive a newsletter twice a year, in January and in June. The Secretary is planning on promoting the event in the newsletter while she hopes more alumni would be interested in an alumni event.

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

#### **4.1.5 General Assemblies**

Four General Assemblies are held each year, providing members with the opportunity to ask questions and participate in decision-making regarding the association's policies. The Secretary regards the GAs as important events, which makes her excited to organise the GAs.

The Secretary finds it important that everyone is involved during the GAs. She thinks members feel more involved when they understand what the GAs are about. During the GAs the GA Chair (CALVV) will give short explanations about difficult topics so first-years and new committee members will have a better understanding of everything happening during the GAs.

The Secretary aims to send the policy to the members two weeks prior. Also, she finds it important that it is easy for members to attend a GA. Therefore she will continue with a 50/50 division of GAs in Leiden and The Hague, the location will preferably be reachable by public transport. The Secretary will try to plan the GAs in Leiden on Thursdays and the GAs in The Hague on Tuesdays. As the location for the GA the Secretary strives to look for a bar or cafe, to have a borrel afterwards.

All members can speak and ask questions in both English and Dutch during the GAs. The Dutch statements will be put in the minutes in the original language as well as a translation. During the GA, the CALVV will translate Dutch comments into English in order for every member to understand what has been said. The GA booklets will be provided to members via email two weeks prior to the GA, and with a QR code during the GA which allows members to scan.

#### **4.1.6 Former Boards Borrel**

The Secretary deeply values the contributions of the former Board members and regards the Former Boards Borrel as a special occasion to express this appreciation. The Former Boards Borrel will be held on a Friday. The Secretary strives to look for a date in the end of 2025 or the beginning of 2026. To ensure maximum attendance the date will be announced at least one month in advance.

### **4.2 Commissioner Dies**

*"I am not gonna celebrate anything"* – Josephine van Os

#### **4.2.1 General**

This year the applications for the Dies Committee will open in January. The Dies Committee will be responsible for organising the Dies Week next year, this will take place in the week of November 8th 2026. The committee will consist of a chair, secretary, and a treasurer along with general members. The goal of the committee is to organise special activities during the Dies week to celebrate the associations birthday, these activities will be both academic as well as informal.

After the Commissioner formed the committee they will first look for the Dies speaker, as well as some bonding within the committee. The committee can come up with further ideas for the Dies week, but the Commissioner will encourage the f.t. Commissioner to make decisions together with the committee about the planning of the Dies week.

## **5. TREASURER & COMMISSIONER WINTER TRIP**

### **5.1 Treasurer**

*“That is a total of 29.000 euros.”* - Janneke Pool

*“That is a lot of bittergarnituur.”* - (someone at the CoB GA)

#### **5.1.1 Budget**

The Treasurer did her utmost best to distribute the income in a way all Board members have their desired funding while still being able to pay all costs of the association. This year the Board is very grateful to receive €10.000,- from the Institute Board which will give the budget for this year more breathing room. Furthermore, the XLIVth Board has gifted an extra €1.400,- to help the XLVth Board. This money will partly compensate for the decrease in income from contribution.

Last year, the XLIVth Board opened a new business account with the Rabobank, due to ongoing issues with the ABN AMRO (which was the then current bank account). Most of the savings and ongoing transactions are now transferred to the Rabobank, but the ABN AMRO account will not be fully closed till the beginning of 2026. This means that two bank account fees need to be paid. Additionally, there are the extra fees this year to manage the direct debit mandates.

This year will be the XLVth birthday of the SPIL, which is called a Lustrum Year and it will have a fitting celebration. Over the past five Board years the Treasurers have saved up to €6.700,- to spend during this year. This also means that there will not be any costs for our usual Dies Committee, because this is taken over by the Lustrum Committee. However, the Lustrum Committee will take over some extra activities which would normally be organised by another committee. This is why the Treasurer has decided to budget an extra €700,- to Lustrum. The saved-up money for Lustrum gives the budget of this year more money for other activities, but this will not be the case for the next five years.

The Treasurer keeps in mind, for this year but also the upcoming years, that the income from the booksale will continue to decrease. She also sees the effect inflation has on the spending of the association and the strain it will put mainly on the budget of Yearbook, DEBAT, and the trips. Trying to compensate for these many factors, the Treasurer sees the continued opportunity to make money off of parties. Last year this was already done with the Halloween Party and other parties, but also through deals with event organisers like Picasso Events. With the deals with Picasso the association earned a commission– a percentage agreed on beforehand– from every ticket sold through a SPIL ticket sale link. This was a great success, because it made up a big part of the total income from parties of almost

€2.000,-. The Treasurer does acknowledge that most students do not have much money to spend and is aware of the importance of low ticket prices for members for a party organised by the association. This is why she aims to not make money on parties organised by the association (with the exception of the Halloween Party), but only by deals with bigger organisations. The reason that the Halloween Party is an exception to this policy, is because this party has been an opportunity to generate more income while also still having a low entree fee for the past four years.

Keeping all this information in mind, while also thinking of the fact that the Board has a member less than usual the Treasurer has put much effort into making the budget.

### **5.1.2 Membership**

As a result of new banking regulations and increased oversight, the association is required to request a new direct debit mandate from all members. This means that all new and current members have to fill in their personal information and (digitally) sign their approval. Only then can the association directly debit the contribution from members' bank accounts. Members with a Dutch bank account (with the exception of Bunq) are able to sign a digital direct debit mandate via the website. Members who do not have a Dutch bank account need to sign a mandate on paper. The XLIVth Board has already sent three reminder emails as of now to request members to sign a mandate. The mandate request was furthermore mentioned in the summer and September newsletter, in all committee group chats and an Instagram story was posted. However, still not all members have signed a new mandate at this time. Additionally, the emails about having to sign a mandate, gave some members the incentive to discontinue their membership. This is why the Treasurer expects approximately 420 paying members this year, which almost makes up a loss of more than 60% of the annual income through contribution. However, this is a rough estimate and it could differ. The Board will continue to put effort into the outreach to members who have not yet signed the direct debit mandate, by promoting the mandates during events, borrels and in the common rooms. The Secretary will furthermore send additional emails.

Nevertheless, the Treasurer expects to receive more income from contribution every year. All members had to sign a new mandate this year and because of this the Treasurer considers it a 'ground zero' for the association. She expects that next year, the same amount of people will sign up and sign a mandate directly, but less will sign out than this year, because of no reminder emails. That means that the Treasurer expects an increase of members in the upcoming years. This is why the Treasurer will not save as much money for upcoming Boards as the past Treasures have done. However, she predicts that the association might never get back to the amount of members there were before.

The Treasurer and the Secretary are working hard to collect the membership fee by the end of November. They are working closely to prepare for a smooth collection of the fee, with as few defaulters as possible. They do expect less defaulters than the past few years, because members are explicitly aware of their membership by having to sign a mandate again.

### **5.1.3 ‘Support Our SPIL’**

The Treasurer will continue ‘Support Our SPIL’, an initiative started by the XLIVth Treasurer. It offers members, alumni, reunionists, family members and other individuals the chance to donate to our association and become a ‘Supporter of SPIL’. They will receive a personal thank you from the XLVth Board when donating. There is a minimum of a donation of €5,-, because of administration fees. Donors who give a donation between €5,- and €15,- euros will receive a personal digital thank-you letter. For a donation between €15,- and €50,- donors will receive a handwritten thank-you card from the Board. If the donation is above €50,- donors will receive a personal message from the Board. Due to the success of this initiative during the past year the Treasurer hopes to generate an extra income of €250,-. ‘Support our SPIL’ will be promoted on the website, on social media, in DEBAT and during events.

### **5.1.4 Trips**

The Treasurer was faced with the responsibility of making a decision regarding the trips of the association for this year. Since the Board has a member fewer, the Treasurer will be responsible for organising a trip. That being either the Short trip, SPIL-Weekend or something completely new.

One of the most important values of the association is that it organises social and educational events; to be the link between having fun with peers and connecting real life places and experiences with our studies. This is why the Treasurer has found that when having to decide between an educational *and* a social trip or a purely social trip, she believes that the former aligns more closely with these core values. This consequently means that there will not be a SPIL-Weekend organised this year. Instead a Winter trip will be organised. Additionally, it is not possible to have both trips in the budget this year. The Treasurer has therefore reallocated the budget needed for SPIL-Weekend and a part of the old Short trip budget to other activities and obligations, leaving only €1.900,- to spend on the Winter trip, instead of the original total of €3.400,-. Moreover, being able to go on a trip outside of the Benelux is a chance not everybody has. Therefore it is a great opportunity to go on such a trip with the association, because of the reduced price. Furthermore, when organising a trip with educational events the association is able to apply for a subsidy from CASSA. This enables the trip to be organised on a larger scale than would be possible with only the association's contribution. The Treasurer would like to remind the GA that this is a decision made for this year and she will encourage her successor to reintroduce SPIL-Weekend, if feasible.

Secondly, the XLVth Board proposes to reformat the Short trip and the Long trip. For the past years the association had an annual Short trip and Long trip. The Board wants to rename the trips to give the current and future Board(s) the flexibility to construct their trips in the way they see fit and financially feasible. The new format also gives the Board more leeway with planning the trips without a Commissioner Global Relations. From this year onward, the Board offers that the trips will be referred to as the Winter trip and the Summer trip.

Lastly, the Treasurer has decided that this year there will be no SPIL-contribution for the Brussels trip. With a participant fee of €70,-, it is not necessary for the association to contribute to it, as was customary previous to the 2023 Brussels trip.

### **5.1.5 Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee plays a vital role in overseeing the work of the Treasurer. Understanding the significance of the Audit Committee's function, the Treasurer acknowledges their shared responsibility in maintaining the financial health of the association. The Treasurer recognises that the purpose of the committee extends beyond merely monitoring expenses, as they also provide valuable advice and assistance. Therefore, the Audit Committee and the Treasurer will meet at least three times this year. The Treasurer is committed to maintaining close contact and clear communication with the Audit Committee.

### **5.2 Commissioner Winter trip**

*“I want to go to the Zara afterwa-OH there’s the Sagrada Familia.” - Janneke Pool*

This year there will be a Winter trip held in Europe. The trip will have educational and social events planned by the Winter trip Committee. The committee, formed in September, will consist of seven people, including a chair, secretary, and treasurer. The trip will be overseen by both the Treasurer as well as the Commissioner External Relations, due to the amount of work not being able to be done only by the Treasurer. The Commissioner External Relations will be more involved in the committee and will guide them with organising activities, while the Treasurer will manage all the background work e.g. communicating with and booking transport and the hostel. They will be in close contact to keep the communication strong between them and the committee. The Winter trip will be organised the week after the resits and before the start of the second semester. It will be a five day trip from Monday the 26th of January until Friday the 30th of January 2026.

When choosing the destination, the following criteria must be met:

- Political relevance;
- Scientific relevance;
- Cultural relevance;
- Financial feasibility;
- Safety assurance.

The Commissioners and the Winter trip Committee will make sure that these criteria will be met. Members that intend to join the trip can do so by writing a motivation letter. The selection procedure of the letters will be the same as in previous years for the Short trip and Long trip, respecting the Statutes & Rules of Procedure. This means that members will hand in their motivation letters in one of the common rooms. These will be anonymised by the Board, and checked by a previous Board member and an employee of the Institute of Political Science of Leiden University. The criteria of the motivation letter will be revealed later. The group will consist of 40 people, including seven committee members and six Board members,

with 27 remaining spots for other members. The participant fee of the trip will be €215,- per person. Furthermore, the Commissioners will request a CASSA subsidy at LUF.

## **6. COMMISSIONER EDUCATION AND POLITICS & COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTION**

### **6.1 Commissioner Education and Politics**

*“Can somebody scare me please?” - Anna Idziak*

*“Tim Mickler went bald” - Renske de Groot*

#### **6.1.1 Education Committee**

The Education Committee is responsible for organising formal as well as informal activities that take place inside of the university. Concerning the activities, the Commissioner intends to organise various educational activities. The strategy from the previous years to base events around current news topics has proven to be successful, which is why the Commissioner will continue this policy. The events will take place in different formats like panel discussions, lectures and other formats that the committee will come up with.

The typical activities of the Education Committee, such as the Career Night will be organised by the Commissioner and the Committee. Since the Career Night of the university and the Career Night from SPIL were held in a similar time period last year and based on advice of the Commissioner’s predecessor, the Commissioner plans to look into the option to organise Career Night in collaboration with the university. A collaboration will allow for more resources and one clear event for students. The Commissioner and the committee will look together for different kinds of formats in which lectures can be given, such as the Pub lecture last year. The Education Committee will consist of eight members this year.

The Commissioner will host the traditional collaboration, Stairs Affairs, with B.I.L.'s Commissioner of Education about the upcoming Dutch elections, this will be the only event organised by Stairs Affairs. A separate committee will not be established due to the fact that the elections will be on the 29th of October, which leaves a short time frame for establishing a separate committee. Additionally, not creating a separate committee decreases the workload for the XLVth Board, which is needed because the Board consists of six Board members, as opposed to the regular seven. For these reasons the Stairs Affairs collaboration will be organised by the Commissioners from SPIL and B.I.L..

#### **6.1.2 Excursions Committee**

The Excursions Committee organises formal activities that are politically relevant and take place outside of the university. This year the Excursions Committee consists of seven members. The Commissioner will endeavour to organise excursions to various institutions, such as ministries, non-governmental organisations, embassies and other politically relevant institutions. Through these excursions members will get a perspective on all the different fields that are relevant in political science. Furthermore the Commissioner will keep a close eye on the current news to make sure the excursions will be related to the news. Due to the efforts of her predecessor an excursion to the talk show Eva Jinek was organised last year.

This was a great success and the Commissioner plans to go again this year and looks at how talk shows and other television recordings fit in the Excursion Committee schedule.

### **6.1.3 Masters Committee**

The task of the Masters Committee is to organise activities specifically catered towards masters students. The committee will organise informal and formal activities. All activities will be accessible for every member of the association, masters and bachelor students alike. However the activities are catered towards the masters' year plan and interests. The masters students are excited about the committee, which consists of six people.

Last year the Masters Committee tried several new events, one of them being the Pub Quiz that was very popular. The Commissioner strives to organise one in the upcoming year. The 'SPIL the drinks' event, a special borrel for masters students, will be continued. An event based around PhD candidates will also take place this year to ensure that masters students have an understanding of what choices they have after the completion of their masters. The committee will have a lot of freedom to decide what kind of activities masters students want to organise, the Commissioner looks forward to their ideas.

### **6.1.4 Booksale**

The current supplier for the book sale is INDEX Books. Due to the Commissioner's predecessor's efforts to offer all the books of the first semester from the beginning of the year, the book sale has seen an increase in sales. The Commissioner will start negotiations with INDEX Books about the continuation of the contract, which ends in December 2025. To ensure that the success of the book sale from last year continues, the Commissioner will continue to offer the books for the whole first semester, as well as separating the first block and the second block. The Commissioner will be in contact with the professors for each course to ensure that the correct books are known.

### **6.1.5 Programme Committee**

The Commissioner applied for a position on the Bachelor's Programme Committee (OLC) for the academic year. The voting period will take place from the first until the third of October, the winners will be announced on the sixth of October. The Commissioner looks forward to this position on the OLC and wants to ensure that she is approachable for students from all the three bachelor specialisations. She is open for feedback about the programme and able to raise these points during the OLC meetings.

### **6.1.6 LinkedIn**

The LinkedIn network of the association is extensive thanks to the efforts of the predecessors of the Commissioner. Due to the fact that the trip committees have been reassigned under the Board, one of them going to the Commissioner of External Relations, and the educational character of the posts as well as the networking opportunities the LinkedIn portfolio will stay with the Commissioner Education and Politics. She will post about formal events that the association organises, educational and cultural activities of trips and new podcasts that come out so that the associations network will know about the activities of the new Podcast Committee. Furthermore the LinkedIn profile will be used to contact potential organisations and speakers as well as to promote the Former Boards Borrel. The Commissioner hopes to

have informed people well at the end of the year about the activities of the association and broaden the network of the association.

## **6.2 Commissioner Introduction**

*“If this can win a prize, Pieter de la Court still has a chance” - Gijs Verhoeff*

### **6.2.1 General**

Starting your first year of university and experiencing a new city for many can seem difficult to manage. The Introduction Committee will help first-year students settle into university life by offering both social and academic related activities. Freshmen Weekend and Friends and Family day being the main social activities the committee will organise. Additionally, the committee will help new students academically by offering study groups. One of the events organised by the Introduction Committee will be a cross-cultural event to help students explore each other's cultures.

### **6.2.2 Study Groups**

The study groups are a core part of the Introduction Committee. The attendance of the study groups is something that the Commissioner and committee will keep working on this upcoming year. To raise the attendance this year the study groups will continue to be promoted during lectures, to make sure all new students know that there are study groups available, as well as holding the study groups shortly after lectures. The Commissioner will continue the collaboration with CIROS for the study groups in The Hague this upcoming year, as it was successful in the previous year.

### **6.2.3 Friends & Family Day**

Last year Friends & Family Day were hosted separately to attract more people and create unique activities specific for the intended audience. With the advice of her predecessor, the Commissioner will change the format of the Friends Day in Leiden. The Friends Day in Leiden will be renamed Vvv'tjes Day, which stands for vrienden van vroeger (friends from the past), to reach the intended audience for this event. Due to the Dutch concept of Vvv'tjes Day, the name for the Friends Day in the Hague will remain the same to ensure that the event is accessible for all IRO students. The format will stay the same with the Friends Day focusing on the student life and the Family day focusing on the university life. The Commissioner hopes that with these changes the attendance will increase and looks forward to working with the committee on Friends and Family Day.

### **6.2.4 Freshmen Weekend**

Last year's Freshmen Weekend was very successful. First-year students got the chance to get to know each other and the association. The date for Freshmen Weekend will be after EL CID and HOP Week as this gives the opportunity to promote the event during the introduction weeks and gives students the chance to get to know each other before classes start. The Commissioner gives the committee the creative freedom to plan the best possible Freshmen Weekend, while keeping in mind the traditional activities, such as the 'drugs game'. The previous Freshmen Weekend took place at Scouting Paulus. Although this is a possible location, the Commissioner will also explore other locations.

### **6.2.5 Committee**

The Introduction Committee looks forward to helping first-year students feel welcome. The committee consists of four members. The Commissioner is excited for the events the committee will organise. In the beginning of the second semester the applications for the Introduction Committee will reopen. The reopening ensures that the Commissioner has the chance to expand the committee.

## **7. COMMISSIONER INTERNAL RELATIONS & COMMISSIONER FESTIVE**

### **7.1 Commissioner Internal Relations**

*“Ik ben een uitgever, ze boeken mij”* - Boef

[*“I’m a publisher, they book me”*] - Crook

#### **7.1.1 DEBAT**

The DEBAT Committee gives students the opportunity to grow in their academic writing skills, enhance their editing capabilities and express themselves creatively. As in recent years, the committee aims to publish four printed magazines in November, February, March and May. Furthermore, the committee aims to publish weekly articles on the DEBAT magazine website in both English and Dutch.

##### **7.1.1.1 Main Goal**

The objective of the DEBAT Committee is to publish semi-scientific magazines for a broad audience. The semi-scientific nature of DEBAT is best expressed through the use of academic and non-academic sources. A diverse range of articles, ranging from opinion pieces to minutely researched essays, also contributes to this goal. The Commissioner will foster an environment in which committee members dare to explore unique topics and introduce novel article types.

##### **7.1.1.2 Committee**

As has been the case for the past six years, the DEBAT Committee will be led by an appointed chair. The Commissioner and the committee chair will be co-editors-in-chief of the DEBAT magazine. As recommended by his predecessor, the Commissioner will discontinue the role of vice-chair in the DEBAT board. The tasks of the vice-chair will be divided among the rest of the DEBAT board. The secretary of the committee is in charge of taking minutes during committee meetings, as well as handling the DEBAT online website and the social media platforms of DEBAT, including Instagram, and LinkedIn. The role of head of design will remain. The head of design, being part of the executive board, oversees the designing team. The head of design delegates tasks within the design process and can help designers with any technical issues they might be facing.

The Commissioner has experienced the benefits of a head of social activities, and will therefore reestablish this role, which was introduced by his predecessor. The head of social activities will organise bonding activities such as joint writing sessions. The Commissioner and head of social activities will organise a writing workshop for the committee in the beginning of the year.

The Commissioner will update the committee about upcoming events and encourage them to attend some together. The Commissioner hopes this will increase the cohesion of the committee, alongside the activities organised by the head of social activities. All issues of the printed magazine will be revealed during a borrel. The Commissioner has let all committee members know they are expected to attend these borrels, and actively partake in discussing the content of the new issue of DEBAT. The Commissioner believes this dialogue is of utmost importance to assure the following issue of DEBAT will be even better than the previous.

The executive board of DEBAT will consist of four people: the chair, the secretary, the head of design and the head of social activities. In addition to the executive board, DEBAT has an editorial board consisting of the executive board, plus seven editors, totalling eleven members. The editorial board is a mix of seven first-year students, one second-year student, and three third-year students. Moreover, two members of the editorial board are able to edit both Dutch and English pieces.

Every writer, including writers from both the printed magazine and the online team, will be paired with a member of the editorial board. The editors provide writers with feedback related to language, structure and content and can help with brainstorming if needed. This peer-reviewing process takes place to ensure every article is of high quality.

The DEBAT Committee consists of forty members in total. All writers will be given the opportunity to write for the printed DEBAT as well as the online articles.

### **7.1.1.3 Content and Design**

The content of the printed DEBAT is up to the committee. The Commissioner can object to choices made by the committee, but only with good reason. The general theme of the printed issues are to be decided by the committee in a democratic manner. Every committee member will get the chance to suggest themes, after which the committee chooses their preferred theme. The Commissioner and the executive board will aid in broadening or adjusting the theme, if needed. Because of the Lustrum year, one of the issues of DEBAT will be dedicated to the Lustrum year in one way or another. It is up to the committee to decide how this will be implemented.

Each issue of DEBAT includes scientific columns such as Political Science Worldwide, Research at Leiden or Why Political Science Matters. This year, the Commissioner aims to reinvigorate the magazine by reintroducing elements from previous issues such as but not limited to the Profile and the Interview. This is to enable more variety in article types and increased reading pleasure. Moreover, the Commissioner believes a lively debate contributes to the goal of a semi-scientific magazine, and would therefore be open to reintroduce elements such as Polemic, in which two writers defend opposing sides of a proposition, and Book Reviews. The committee will establish which sections will be adopted into the magazine per issue, and the Commissioner encourages the committee members to explore

new article types. The Commissioner will ensure a balance between scientific columns and more opinion-style articles.

DEBAT is a bilingual magazine. The Commissioner will not impose a quota on the division between Dutch and English, as he believes writers should always be able to write in the language they feel most comfortable in. However, he encourages Dutch writers to write in English to reach a wider audience. All Dutch-speaking writers are asked to translate their pieces into English in order to publish the piece in both languages on the DEBAT Online website. A small subcommittee has been formed that translates articles from both languages into the other. As previously, the language requirements will remain British English for English articles and general Dutch standards apply for the Dutch articles.

In terms of graphic design and lay-out, the Commissioner is pleased with the quality and continuity of last volume's issues. The Commissioner will encourage the designing team to seek a uniform look, both externally and internally.

#### **7.1.1.4 DEBAT sending and pick-up**

All members have the opportunity to get a DEBAT delivered to their house. This can be done by registering for the delivery sign-up list throughout the year, after which they will remain on the list until the end of the academic year, unless they decide to sign off. The sign-up list will be promoted two weeks before the release of a new printed issue by the Commissioner External Relations. At the start of the academic year, members on the sign-up list will receive an email asking them to re-register for the home-delivery of DEBAT. All reunionists of the association and the predecessors of the Commissioner will automatically receive a physical issue of the magazine. The Commissioner aims to increase the readership of DEBAT by handing out the issues of the DEBAT to members in the common rooms.

Each issue will have a circulation of 350 magazines, as established by the Commissioner's predecessor. Remaining DEBATs will be used to hand out at open days, university events, and introduction weeks. The Commissioner strongly believes in the role DEBAT plays in attracting incoming, and still orienting, students to become a member of the association. This interest is reflected in the size of the committee, and the high amount of first-years in the committee.

#### **7.1.1.5 DEBAT Online**

The DEBAT Committee aims to publish weekly articles on the DEBAT magazine website, in both English and Dutch. DEBAT online aids in reaching a larger audience, and allowing more freedom to writers in terms of topics and word limit. The website, as well as DEBAT in general, will be promoted throughout the year on the social media platforms of DEBAT and in cooperation with the Commissioner External Relations and the Commissioner Education and Politics on the social media platforms of the association. The most effort will go into the Instagram, LinkedIn and TikTok as these platforms reach the largest audience. The secretary of the committee is in charge of the social media accounts, and they will be assisted by the social media subcommittee.

The Commissioner will accept articles from guest writers for both the printed and online version of DEBAT. However, committee members will always have priority. All articles from guest writers and committee members will be peer-reviewed by the committee and approved by the Commissioner and the chair.

### **7.1.2 Podcast Committee**

In 2021 the first SPIL podcast episodes were published under the name SPILcast. For the SPILcast episodes, Dutch politicians were interviewed. In 2024 the SPIL podcast was revived under the name Politics Unpacked. The aim was to “uncover a topic related to politics that you may have heard of, but do not really have a clear understanding of”. Episodes for both series can be found on Spotify, and the Commissioner greatly enjoyed listening to them. For this year, the Commissioner aims to publish podcast episodes more frequently, and in general more consistently. Since the Commissioner believes in the added value of a podcast to the association, he has decided to create the Podcast Committee, in accordance with his predecessor's recommendation.

The Commissioner considers the creation of the Podcast Committee to be a leading example of how the XLVth Board aims to modernise our association. Podcasts have gained incredible popularity in recent years. On top of that, the Commissioner believes podcasts offer a unique opportunity to inform and divert our members. The XLVth Board has decided to put the Podcast Committee in the portfolio of the Commissioner Internal Relations for the following reasons: the podcast used to be created by the DEBAT Committee, the podcast can contribute to updating member about the ins and outs of the association, as well as the Commissioners personal affinity with podcasts.

#### **7.1.2.1 Goal**

The main goal of the Podcast Committee is to inform listeners about political issues, in the broadest sense of the word. Additionally, the podcast could be an instrument used to update (future) members about the ins and outs of the association. The primary intended audience for the podcast is political science students.

The content of the podcast episodes is to be decided on by the committee based on their own interests, while keeping the interests of the intended audience in mind. The committee is encouraged to explore all possible podcast formats. The Commissioner will give an update about these initial trials at the Interim General Assembly. The Commissioner envisions working on multiple episodes, or series, at the same time, by partly splitting up the committee.

#### **7.1.2.2. Committee**

The committee will consist of a chair, a secretary, and general members. The production of a podcast episode starts with deciding on a format and topic. Then, the committee will start searching for guests or do research. What follows is the recording itself, during which one or multiple committee members will host the podcast. Afterwards, the audio recordings have to

be edited, after which the podcast can be published. Even though the committee members each have their own preferences and/or speciality within the production of a podcast episode, the Commissioner wants to stress that producing podcast episodes is a team effort in which all committee members can take up multiple roles at different times. The committee will consist of eleven members, including the chair and the secretary. Ten committee members are first-years, and one committee member is a second-year student.

The Podcast Committee is bigger than most committees since it is not limited by a budget or lack of work, since work can be created by producing another episode. The Commissioner and the committee currently do not have a publishing schedule because there is still a lot to discover, since the Podcast Committee is a newly formed committee.

### **7.1.3 Yearbook**

The yearbook preserves incredible memories from the past year and allows our members to reminisce about them. As in previous years, the Yearbook Committee strives to be present at activities and events all throughout the year. The committee is invited to explore replacing, scrapping or adding sections while respecting the long-standing traditions of the association. The theme of the yearbook will be revealed during one of the monthly borrels in cooperation with the Festive Committee, as has happened in recent years. The 2024/2025 yearbook was revealed during the Change of Boards GA. The yearbook will also be available at the common rooms in Leiden and The Hague. The committee will try its hardest to finish this year's edition of the yearbook in time for the next Change of Boards GA. The Commissioner has decided to continue publishing the yearbook in English, to keep the yearbook accessible for every member. As in previous editions, exceptions can be made for quotes and submissions from other associations, although they will be highly encouraged to submit their pieces in English.

As this is a Lustrum year, the aim is to make the yearbook even more special. However, normally this coincides with a higher budget for the yearbook. This year, however, there is less budget for the yearbook. The committee will explore ways in which it can still make this edition of the yearbook special.

The Commissioner appreciates the collaboration with PerfectBooks in previous years. However, due to budgetary constraints, the Commissioner is looking into collaborating with other printing houses. The Commissioner will give an update about this exploration at the Interim General Assembly. Additionally, the Commissioner considers reducing the amount of printed books. Partly because of the budgetary constraints, but also because of the relatively high amount of leftover yearbooks from previous years.

#### **7.1.3.1. Committee**

This year, the committee will consist of six members, including two first-years, two second-years, and two third-year students. The Commissioner believes it is important to make a clear task-division within the committee. Additionally, the Commissioner recommends all committee members to partake in both the writing and designing work, to explore new

processes they have yet to experience. The chair of the committee will be in charge of dividing the tasks and making sure all committee members keep to their deadlines, and that external parties hand in their pieces on time.

To ensure an enjoyable atmosphere in the committee, the Commissioner will work closely with the chair to organise bonding activities from the beginning of the year onwards. The committee members are furthermore encouraged to actively participate in as many activities as possible. This hopefully leads to a greater cohesion within the committee, as well as guaranteeing moments from activities will be captured in the yearbook.

## **7.2 Commissioner Festivities**

*“Best wel grappig dat je mij nu op je feest boekt*

*Want ik had al tjdlines, maar niemand keek toen” - Boef*

*[“Pretty funny that you book me for your party now*

*Because I always had timelines, but nobody would look”] - Crook*

### **7.2.1 Festive Committee**

The Festive Committee is responsible for organising all sorts of social and informal activities. The committee is not only responsible for the parties and borrels, but also for other social activities, such as ice skating or a beach day. Because of the Lustrum year, the Gala and the Cantus will be organised by the Lustrum Committee. The activities organised by the Festive Committee allow members to get to know each other and forge friendships. The Festive Committee contributes crucially to the ‘Integration’ pillar of the XLVth Board by organising activities that foster connections between international and Dutch students. The aim of integration is also reinforced by hosting events in diverse locations in both Leiden and The Hague.

The Commissioner is in charge of overseeing the committee and guaranteeing everything runs smoothly at the activities organised by the Festive Committee. This year, the committee consists of six members, including five first-years, and one second-year student. It is the duty of the chair to plan and guide the committee meetings. During these meetings, the chair sets deadlines for the committee members and checks whether they are being met. The Commissioner and the chair will be in regular contact throughout the year in order for the committee to work efficiently. The Commissioner entrusts the chair with making sure the communication within the committee is satisfactory for all committee members. The Commissioner stresses the importance of committee members being present at their own activities. The Commissioner has made this clear to all committee members from the start. The preliminary year plan will be shared with the committee members for them to take note of.

### **7.2.2 Borrels**

Two monthly borrels will be organised by the committee, one being held in Leiden and the other in the Hague. Upon recommendation from his predecessor, the Commissioner has continued the collaboration with “Café l’Espérance”, which will function as the regular bar in

Leiden. “Café l’Espérance” has been an adequate borrel location for the previous two years. Furthermore, they offer free vegetarian snacks to members during the borrel. In The Hague “De Corner” will be the regular bar again. “De Corner” is fortunately located close to The Hague Central Station and Plein, as well as offering a good deal with discounts on drinks and free snacks. Therefore, the Commissioner sees “De Corner” fit to stay as the regular bar. Additionally, “De Corner” offers the possibility of organising activities during the borrels.

In recent years, borrels in both cities have taken place on Thursdays. After a successful try-out last year, the Commissioner is keeping the borrels in The Hague on Tuesdays. The change allows members of the association to participate in at least one borrel per month, even if they would not be available on Thursdays. Another point to add is that the nightlife in The Hague is focused on Thursday, which could have diminished attendance at borrels. The Festive Committee intends to organise wonderful borrels for our members to stay in close contact.

### **7.2.3 Parties**

Parties are considered to be the most exciting activities of the association by many. Thus, the Commissioner and the Festive Committee will work hard to organise parties that are enjoyed by as many members as possible. The Commissioner aims to balance the number of parties throughout the year, while taking the year plan of the association into account. Likewise, the Commissioner is greatly in favour of organising parties together with other associations. This enables members to broaden their social circle by meeting members of other associations. Additionally, co-organised parties are usually financially more feasible. Due to the success of Halloween parties in recent years, the Commissioner recommended the committee to organise one again this year. Moreover, the Board will be open to participating in the organisation of the FSW Party together with the Leiden hallway associations Labyrinth, Itiwana and Emile, as well as StOP’s InterFacultyParty (InFaFe).

After delightful collaborations with Picasso Events in the past, the Commissioner has decided to intensify the partnership with Picasso Events. The Commissioner negotiated a semester-long contract in which the association promises exclusivity with regards to organising parties with third parties (this only applies to commercial partners, and not to events hosted by the association itself), and binds itself to collaborate on at least two parties in the first semester. The contract comes with the option of renewal for the second semester. In return, the association gets to sell tickets for a discounted price, and gets a commission per ticket sold. This collaboration earns money for the association, and the Commissioner aims to earn money from the Halloween party, organised by the committee.

### **7.2.4 Social Activities**

Apart from the borrels and parties, the committee is in charge of organising social activities for members to partake in. The committee will strive to organise around one social activity per month. The activities can range from playing tennis to adding a twist to one of the borrels. The day-trip to the Efteling is a gem every year, which is why the Commissioner recommends the committee to organise it again this year. On top of that, the Commissioner

advises the committee to arrange the Grand Social Activity (GSA) again this year, after the resounding success of last year's edition. For all other activities throughout the year, the Commissioner urges the committee to explore entertaining and modern activities.

## **8. COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL RELATIONS & COMMISSIONER SUMMER TRIP**

### **8. Commissioner External Relations**

*"If they can have the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a partner, so can we!" - Nena Vermeiden*

#### **8.1 Partnerships**

Currently, the association has active partnerships with Can't Dutch This, Helprr, GENTS, Nocto, and Joor It. The collaboration with Joor It has been particularly beneficial, as both the XLIVth and XLVth Boards have successfully worked with them on several textile items, including this year's committee item. The partnership with Poke Perfect will be revisited. A tryout was already conducted in Leiden, but the Commissioner sees greater potential in the Poke Perfect located in The Hague, which is very popular and conveniently close to the university. Strengthening this collaboration could allow the association to secure attractive discounts and meal deals for members. Beyond this, the Commissioner's focus will be on expanding partnerships in the food and restaurant sector, ensuring members can benefit from more affordable and accessible dining options in Leiden and in the Hague.

At the same time, the Commissioner will continue exploring partnerships with companies and institutions that can provide career-related opportunities for members during and after their studies. Furthermore, advertisements may be added to the DEBAT magazine. Collaborations with sponsors such as ministries will also be pursued.

#### **8.1.2 Merchandise**

The Commissioner's goal this year is to design merchandise that appeals to a wider audience and can be used casually. In cooperation with the Acquisitions Committee, she will aim to create one item that reflects this vision while leaving room for creative input from the committee. Merchandise items will continue to be revealed at special borrels in collaboration with DEBAT, and existing items will be promoted more actively across all available channels.

In line with the approach of the XLIVth Board, which reduced the merchandise policy from two items to one, the Commissioner will also pursue a single committee item. The XLIVth Board additionally introduced the concept of a uniform SPIL shirt complemented by differentiated pins for each committee. This year, the Commissioner intends to continue this system, as it strengthens community spirit and contributes to sustainability: members who were part of a committee last year will not need to purchase a new shirt, but only a new pin for each committee. This ensures that the costs remain significantly lower for members active in multiple committees, while also fostering a sense of shared identity across the association.

### **8.1.3 Acquisitions Committee**

This year, the Acquisitions Committee will consist of five members, including a chair and a secretary. This slightly larger structure compared to last year will allow for more ambitious goals while keeping responsibilities clear. Each member will be specialised in a specific industry, ensuring that the committee covers a wide range of opportunities and that no member feels underutilised. The suggested industries are:

1. Food & Restaurants – focus on meal deals and discounts.
2. Culture & Events – partnerships with cinemas, theatres, museums, and local initiatives.
3. Student Services – deals on housing, transport, printing, or other practical services.
4. Career & Internships – partnerships with companies, NGOs, and institutions to create professional opportunities.
5. Merchandise & Retail – collaborations on clothing, accessories, and items relevant for students.

The committee's main goals are to develop and maintain partnerships and deals that are relevant to members, promote both new and existing merchandise, and diversify the association's income streams in order to strengthen the association's overall financial position. Regular brainstorming and check-in meetings will be held to share progress and to align strategies, with the Commissioner encouraging collaboration, motivation, and creativity.

### **8.1.4 Promotion**

This year, the Promotion Committee will consist of eight members, including a chair and a secretary. The committee will be divided into two specialised teams to improve efficiency and creativity. The Design Team (four members), will be responsible for creating visually appealing posts. They will define a colour palette and design standard in collaboration with the Commissioner to ensure consistency. The Video Team (four members), will be specialised in short-form video production (Reels, TikToks and YouTube Shorts). Their goal is to make engaging, creative, and catchy content that can both promote events and showcase the association's community spirit. Regular meetings will be held to track trends and brainstorm creative ways to attract and motivate members. The Commissioner will also explore the production of flyers and brochures to be distributed during Open Days, introduction weeks, and in the common rooms.

#### **8.1.4.2 Social Media**

Instagram remains the main platform for promoting activities and events. The design group will ensure consistency by developing a new colour palette and design standard. More photos will be included for promotional purposes, as this is highly appreciated by active members and can also serve as an attractive feature for potential new members. In addition, Instagram statistics show that posts including photos consistently receive more likes, underlining the effectiveness of this approach, while the video editing team will focus on producing engaging reels and short videos.

The Commissioner also plans to expand the association's presence on TikTok and YouTube by focusing on informative and accessible content, such as explanations of General Assemblies and dress codes. TikTok content will be reposted on Instagram Reels, while the association's YouTube channel will be revived with introductory material that will also be added to the website. In addition, the Commissioner will maintain the policy of no more than two Instagram posts per day, while allowing unlimited stories, and will publish a monthly calendar of events on Instagram in collaboration with the Secretary's newsletter.

The YouTube codes are currently being recovered, if they remain unrecoverable, a new account will be created using the same procedure applied to the other accounts.

The promotion form will remain in use but will be expanded to include requests for short advertisement videos. A shared calendar will be used so secretaries of all committees can select their preferred posting dates. In addition, DEBAT and the podcast will continue to receive dedicated promotion.

#### **8.1.4.3 App**

The SPIL app is already an established platform that has proven popular with active members, providing access to key information, event updates, and the common room schedule. It also features photos from past events, allowing members to relive activities and see the association's community in action. This year, the Commissioner aims to ensure that a wider range of members are aware of its features. She plans to maintain it in the same way as her predecessor while exploring ways to improve usability and visibility, so that all members can benefit from the app.

#### **8.1.4.4 External Promotion**

The Commissioner remains open to promoting external initiatives, but only under strict conditions. Promotional material must be relevant to political science students, clearly beneficial to members, and must not concern controversial or divisive issues. It should also avoid overlapping with the association's own events or daily promotion schedule, while always maintaining political neutrality.

#### **8.1.5 Website**

The website remains one of most important platforms, serving not only for information and promotion but also for member registrations. Photos from past events are also posted in the website's photo gallery, allowing members to relive activities and see the association's community in action. In addition, partnerships and collaborations will be highlighted more visibly on the website, showcasing connections and opportunities for members.

The Commissioner plans to continue using the website in the same way as her predecessor, maintaining current features while ensuring accessibility and clarity. Following her predecessor's recommendation, she will also explore the possibility of finding a more efficient and higher-performing website for future Boards.

## **8.2 Commissioner Summer trip**

*“I haven’t been everywhere, but it’s on my list.” - Susan Sontag*

This year, the Long trip will be organised under a revised format as mentioned by the Treasurer. The Summer trip Committee will consist of seven members, including a chair, secretary, and treasurer. The trip is scheduled to take place after the second semester resits and before the start of the introduction weeks.

When choosing the destination, the following criteria must be met:

- Political relevance;
- Scientific relevance;
- Cultural relevance;
- Financial feasibility;
- Safety assurance.

The Commissioner will oversee the process to ensure the chosen destination meets these criteria. Participation will follow the established procedure: members submit anonymised motivation letters in the common room, which are then evaluated by a previous Board member and an Institute of Political Science staff member.

The Commissioner aims to provide committee members with room for personal and professional development, granting them freedom and responsibility while still offering guidance. During the trip, committee members are expected to help participants respect the schedule, engage enthusiastically in the program, and feel comfortable and safe. The Commissioner will ensure the trip is well-organised, enjoyable, and enriching for all participants.

## YEAR PLAN 'SPILTACULAR' 2025-2026

Month	Week	Date	Event	
August	33	11/08/2025 - 15/08/2025	EL CID Week Leiden	
	34	18/08/2025 - 22/08/2025	HOP Week The Hague	
	35	25/08/2025 - 27/08/2025	Freshmen Weekend	
		20/08/2025	IROrientation Day The Hague	
September	36	01/09/2025	Start of the academic year 25/26	
		01/09/2025	Committee applications close	
		01/09/2025	Glitter party The Hague	
		01/09/2025	Committee motivation letters deadline	
		04/09/2025	Welcome back borrel Leiden	
		05/09/2025	Toasty friday in the common rooms	
	37	11/09/2025	Change of Boards GA	
		12/09/2025	Picasso party	
	38	15/09/2025	Waffle hour common room	
		16/09/2025	SPIL x CIROS Prinsjesdagborrel The Hague	
	39	22/09/2025	Committee bonding day	
		24/09/2025	<del>Excursion: Indonesian Embassy</del>	
		25/09/2025	Lustrum theme reveal borrel	
	October	40	30/09/2025	Excursion: House of Europe
			01/10/2025	Introduction event: movie night
02/10/2025 - 03/10/2025			"Leidens Ontzet"	
41		06/10/2025	Masters borrel	
		09/10/2025	Policy GA	
		10/10/2025	Brussels applications open	
42		13/10/2025	Study group block 1 The Hague	
		14/10/2025	Winter trip reveal borrel The Hague	

		14/10/2025	Study group block 1 Leiden
		15/10/2025	Education event: Dutch politics 101
	43	20/10/2025 - 24/10/2025	Exam week 1
November	44	27/10/2025	Talkshow visit: Eva Jinek
		29/10/2025	SPIL x B.I.L. Election event
		30/10/2025	Deadline cover letters Winter trip
		30/10/2025	Festive event
	45	03/11/2025	Halloween party
		04/11/2025	Introduction event: Stichting door het Geluid
		05/11/2025	CoBo SPIL
		07/11/2025	Dies activity
		08/11/2025	Dies Natalis SPIL
	46	11/11/2025	Borrel The Hague
			Excursion event
	47	17/11/2025 - 18/11/2025	Brussels trip
			Masters event
		21/11/2025	Picasso party
	48		Education event
		27/11/2025	DEBAT 1 reveal borrel Leiden
28/11/2025		Former Boards borrel	
December	49	01/12/2025 - 05/12/2025	Schoenzetten common room
			Festive event
	50		Study groups block 2
		12/12/2025	Purple Friday event
	51	15/12/2025 - 19/12/2025	Exam week 2
52			
January	1		

	2		
	3		
	4	19/01/2026	Applications open for Brussels, Dies and Introduction committee
February	5	26/01/2026 - 30/01/2026	Winter trip
	6	03/02/2026	DEBAT 2 reveal borrel The Hague
			Education event
		08/02/2026	Committee applications close for Brussels, Dies and Introduction committee
	7		Masters event
			Family day
	8		Talkshow visit: Pauw & De Wit
		19/02/2026	Summer trip reveal borrel Leiden
March	9		Friends day
			Efteling
	10	03/03/2026	Interim GA
			Excursion event
		05/03/2026	Deadline cover letter Summer trip
	11		Masters event
	12		Study groups block 3
		17/03/2026	DEBAT 3 reveal borrel The Hague
13	23/03/2026 - 27/03/2026	Exam week 3	
April	14	31/03/2026	Board Interest borrel The Hague
			Excursion event
			Introduction event
	15		Masters event
		09/04/2026	Board Interest borrel Leiden
	16	13/04/2026 - 19/04/2026	Lustrum

	17	20/04/2026 - 24/04/2026	Lustrum
May	18		Education event
			Committee thank you day
	19		Excursion event
			Masters event
		04/05/2026	Board applications close
		07/05/2026	DEBAT 4 reveal borrel Leiden
	20		Study groups block 4
			GSA
	21	18/05/2026 - 22/05/2026	Exam week 4
	22		Board reveal borrel
		End of year party	
June	23	02/06/2026	Affirmation GA
	24		
	25		
	26		Summer trip
July	27		Summer trip
	28		
	29		
	30		
August	31		
	32		
	33	10/08/2026 - 14/08/2026	EL CID week Leiden
	34	17/08/2026 - 21/08/2026	HOP week The Hague
	35		
September	36	31/08/2026	Start of the academic year 26/27
	37	10/09/2026	Change of Boards GA

## BUDGET 'SPILTACULAR' 2025-2026

Income			
	Budget 24-25	Realisation 24-25	Budget 25-26
<b>Membership fee<sup>1</sup></b>	€ 19.230,30	€ 20.279,51	€ 7.914,80
<b>Acquisitions committee</b>	€ 2.000,00	€ 959,50	€ 1.500,00
<b>General contribution Institute</b>	€ 5.000,00	€ 5.000,00	€ 10.000,00
<b>Interest<sup>2</sup></b>	€ 150,00	€ 310,81	€ 150,00
<b>Index books</b>	€ 500,00	€ 1.104,08	€ 1,000,00
<b>'Vrienden van de SPIL'</b>	€ 140,00	€ 140,33	€ 143,40
<b>'Support Our SPIL'</b>	€ 200,00	€ 365,84	€ 250,00
<b>Other income<sup>3</sup></b>	€ 30,00	€ 77,91	€ 30,00
<b>Gift XXXIX<sup>th</sup> board</b>	€ 750,00	€ 750,00	€ -
<b>Gift XLIII<sup>th</sup> board</b>	€ 841,20	€ 841,20	€ -
<b>Gift XLIV<sup>th</sup> board</b>	€ -	€ -	€ 1.400,00
<b>Open day compensation Faculty<sup>4</sup></b>	€ 750,00	€ 750,00	€ 750,00
<b>Withdrawal reserve travel allowance int. board member<sup>5</sup></b>	€ 250,00	€ 250,00	€ -
<b>Withdrawal Lustrum reservation</b>	€ -	€ -	€ 6.700,00
<b>Withdrawal Committee Cup reservation<sup>6</sup></b>	€ -	€ 96,82	€ 80,22
<b>Withdrawal lens SPIL-camera</b>	€ 250,00	€ 249,00	€ -

<sup>1</sup> The contribution is calculated with a total of 420 members, where a percentage of 8% defaulters has been taken into account and 40 reunionists, with 5% defaulters.

<sup>2</sup> The Lustrum reserve will be taken out of SPIL's savings, this is why the Treasurer expects to receive less interest.

<sup>3</sup> Examples of other income are deposits for plastic bottles and cans, or found cash money.

<sup>4</sup> The Faculty will compensate each Social Sciences study association for being present at open days.

<sup>5</sup> The University has promised to cover the travel costs of international board members. It is not yet known how much they will cover.

<sup>6</sup> The XLIV<sup>th</sup> board did not fully withdraw the reserve for the Committee Cup last year, so the XLV<sup>th</sup> Board will take out the remaining money and use it for the Committee Cup Price.

<b>Withdrawal FSW activity</b>	€ 93,57	€ 93,57	€ -
<b>Profit parties</b>	€ 750,00	€ 1.921,28	€ -
<b>Income parties<sup>7</sup></b>	€ -	€ -	€ 1.300,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 30.185,07</b>	<b>€ 33.189,85</b>	<b>€ 31.228,42</b>

<b>Expenses<sup>8</sup></b>			
	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Board	€ 5.259,68	€ 4.783,02	€ 4.878,52
President	€ 475,00	€ 617,55	€ 6.395,00
<i>Brussels trip</i>	€ -	€ -	€ -
<i>Lustrum</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 6.395,00
<i>Introduction</i>	€ 475,00	€ 617,55	€ -
Secretary	€ 1.350,00	€ 971,40	€ 350,00
<i>General<sup>9</sup></i>	€ 600,00	€ 247,10	€ 350,00
<i>SPIL-Weekend</i>	€ 750,00	€ 724,30	€ -
Treasurer	€ 450,00	€ 425,86	€ 2.000,00
<i>Winter Trip</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 2.000,00
<i>Dies<sup>10</sup></i>	€ 450,00	€ 425,86	€ -
Education & Politics	€ 600,00	€ 532,84	€ 1.150,00
<i>Education</i>	€ 250,00	€ 168,90	€ 200,00
<i>Master activities</i>	€ 250,00	€ 227,19	€ 200,00
<i>Excursions</i>	€ 150,00	€ 106,05	€ 150,00
<i>Stairs Affairs</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 50,00
<i>Introduction</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 550,00
<i>Contribution InFaFe</i>	€ -	€ 30,70	€ -
Global Relations <sup>11</sup>	€ 8.066,80	€ 8.062,71	€ -
<i>Long trip</i>	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00	€ -
<i>Short trip</i>	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,72	€ -
<i>Pre-activities</i>	€ 200,00	€ 154,16	€ -
<i>Brussels trip</i>	€ 300,00	€ 299,89	€ -
<i>General</i>	€ -	€ 41,94	€ -
Internal Relations	€ 9.357,86	€ 8.817,91	€ 6.715,00
<i>DEBAT</i>	€ 3.420,86	€ 3.093,38	€ 3.125,00
<i>Podcast</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 50,00
<i>Yearbook</i>	€ 3.137,00	€ 3.030,95	€ 2.490,00

<sup>7</sup> This will consist of money made from parties like the Halloween Party, HSF and deals with Picasso Events.

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

<sup>9</sup> The General Expenses include an Alumni event and a Former boards borrel.

<sup>10</sup> There will be no activities organised by the Dies Committee this year, this responsibility is taken over by the Lustrum Committee.

<sup>11</sup> There is no Commissioner Global Relations this year. The tasks of this portfolio will be taken over by other Board members and the costs for the trips will be found in their respective budget.

<i>Festive</i>	€ 2.800,00	€ 2.693,58	€ 1.050,00
External Relations	€ 1.970,18	€ 3.277,92	€ 7.602,96
<i>Acquisitions</i>	€ 20,00	€ 173,52	€ 150,00
<i>ICT</i>	€ 875,18	€ 1.557,46	€ 1.397,96
<i>Promotion</i>	€ 1.025,00	€ 1.527,53	€ 1.100,00
<i>Summer Trip</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 5.005,00
<i>Stairs Affairs</i>	€ 50,00	€ 19,41	€ -
PvP <sup>12</sup>	€ 100,00	€ -	€ 100,00
Investments	€ 150,00	€ 99,95	€ 100,00
Reserves	€ 1.250,00	€ 4.940,73	€ 1.000,00
Travel allowance int. board member	€ 250,00	€ 250,00	€ -
Contingencies	€ 905,55	€ 409,96	€ 936,94
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 30.185,07</b>	<b>€ 33.189,85</b>	<b>€ 31.228,42</b>

<b>Board</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Expenses General Assembly	€ 400,00	€ 416,40	€ 400,00
Free round of drinks after Change of Boards GA <sup>13</sup>	€ 72,30	€ 72,30	€ 109,40
‘Constitutieborrel’ SPIL	€ 1.400,00	€ 1.326,97	€ 1.400,00
‘Constitutieborrel’ presents	€ 40,00	€ 28,88	€ 35,00
General Board Expenses <sup>14</sup>	€ 252,04	€ 297,22	€ 284,12
Office supplies	€ 120,00	€ 308,81	€ 200,00
Provisions of SPIL common rooms <sup>15</sup>	€ 150,00	€ 188,40	€ 200,00
Applications board 2026-2027	€ 61,77	€ 77,03	€ 70,00
Board activities <sup>16</sup>	€ 150,00	€ 410,72	€ 400,00
Committee thank-you days <sup>17</sup>	€ 400,00	€ 345,78	€ 450,00

<sup>12</sup> The costs for the PvP is still unsure, but the Treasurer rather has unexpected income than unexpected expenses so she has still budgeted the usual amount.

<sup>13</sup> This amount has already been spent, so this is a realised number.

<sup>14</sup> The General Board Expenses include the Committee Cup, board pictures and the Christmas cards.

<sup>15</sup> This is spent on cookies, coffee, thee and more for the common rooms.

<sup>16</sup> Board activities will include the expenses for Tosti Friday, Waffle Hour, Schoentje zetten, and more activities that will promote the common rooms.

<sup>17</sup> This budget is for a Committee Bonding Day and a Committee Thank-you Day.

StOP-Contribution	€ 15,00	€ 15,00	€ 15,00
ABN-AMRO Business Account Expenses	€ 1.200,00	€ -	€ -
Business Account Expenses <sup>18</sup>	€ -	€ 1.218,58	€ 1.200,00
General expenses for trips <sup>19</sup>	€ -	€ -	€ 40,00
Van den Berg-Bachelor thesis award	€ 75,00	€ 76,93	€ 75,00
Activities open day compensation Faculty	€ 843,57	€ -	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 5.259,68</b>	<b>€ 4.783,02</b>	<b>€ 4.878,52</b>

<b>President</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Lustrum	€ -	€ -	€ 6.395,00
<i>Lustrum reserve<sup>20</sup></i>	€ -	€ -	€ 5.695,00
<i>SPIL-contribution<sup>21</sup></i>	€ -	€ -	€ 700,00
Introduction	€ 475,00	€ 617,55	€ -
<i>General expenses</i>	€ 75,00	€ 115,74	€ -
<i>Friends &amp; Family Day (Leiden &amp; The Hague)</i>	€ 400,00	€ -	€ -
<i>Friends Day</i>	€ -	€ 350,70	€ -
<i>Family Day</i>	€ -	€ 151,11	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 475,00</b>	<b>€ 617,55</b>	<b>€ 6.395,00</b>

<sup>18</sup> Monthly fees will have to be paid for both the ABN AMRO and Rabobank business accounts until the beginning of 2026. Following the termination of the ABN AMRO business account, only the monthly fees with the Rabobank business account will remain.

<sup>19</sup> Because there is no Commissioner Global Relations, the general expenses for the trips will be included into the board budget. This mostly includes the cost to replenish the medical kit.

<sup>20</sup> 15% (€ 1.005,-) of the total Lustrum reserve (€ 6.700,-) will go to the Trips.

<sup>21</sup> The Lustrum Committee will be allocated additional funding by the XLVth Board, as it will assume responsibility for the gala and the beer cantus.

<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Former boards borrel <sup>22</sup>	€ 400,00	€ 247,10	€ 250,00
Alumni activities <sup>23</sup>	€ 200,00	€ -	€ 100,00
SPIIL-Weekend	€ 750,00	€ 724,30	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 1.350,00</b>	<b>€ 971,40</b>	<b>€ 350,00</b>

<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Winter Trip	€ -	€ -	€ 1.900,00
Pre-activities	€ -	€ -	€ 100,00
Dies	€ 450,00	€ 425,86	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 450,00</b>	<b>€ 425,86</b>	<b>€ 2.000,00</b>

<sup>22</sup> The Former Boards Borrel will still be organised this year. However, since the expenses do not directly flow back to paying members, the Treasurer has decided to reduce the bar budget.

<sup>23</sup> Because of the low response of alumni the past two years, the Treasurer decided together with the Secretary to lower the budget for an alumni activity.

<b>Education &amp; Politics</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Education	€ 250,00	€ 168,90	€ 200,00
<i>Activities &amp; workshops</i>	€ 200,00	€ 138,64	€ 150,00
<i>Career night</i>	€ 50,00	€ 30,26	€ 50,00
Master activities	€ 200,00	€ 227,19	€ 200,00
<i>Activities &amp; workshops</i>	€ 150,00	€ 165,09,85	€ 150,00
<i>Career night</i>	€ 500,00	€ 62,10	€ 50,00
Excursions	€ 150,00	€ 106,05	€ 150,00
Stairs Affairs	€ -	€ -	€ 50,00
Introduction	€ -	€ -	€ 550,00
<i>General expenses<sup>24</sup></i>	€ -	€ -	€ 100,00
<i>Friends Day<sup>25</sup></i>	€ -	€ -	€ 300,00
<i>Family Day</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 150,00
Contribution InFaFe	€ -	€ 30,70	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 600,00</b>	<b>€ 532,84</b>	<b>€ 1.150,00</b>

<b>Global Relations</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Long Trip	€ 4.900,00	€ 4.900,00	€ -
Short Trip	€ 2.666,80	€ 2.666,72	€ -
Pre-activities	€ 200,00	€ 154,16	€ -

<sup>24</sup> General expenses will cover the costs of study groups and other activities organised by the Introduction Committee.

<sup>25</sup> This budget is to be spent on the Friends Day in both Leiden (Vvv'tjes dag) and the one in The Hague.

Brussels trip	€ 300,00	€ 299,89	€ -
General expenses	€ -	€ 41,94	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 8.066,80</b>	<b>€ 8.062,71</b>	<b>€ -</b>

<b>Internal Relations</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
DEBAT	€ 3.420,86	€ 3.093,38	€ 3.125,00
<i>4x DEBAT<sup>26</sup></i>	<i>€ 3.300,00</i>	<i>€ 2.969,16</i>	<i>€ 3.000,00</i>
<i>Workshops</i>	<i>€ 50,00</i>	<i>€ 15,31</i>	<i>€ 30,00</i>
<i>Digital DEBAT</i>	<i>€ 70,86</i>	<i>€ 91,92</i>	<i>€ 95,00</i>
<i>DEBAT Podcast</i>	<i>€ -</i>	<i>€ 16,99</i>	<i>€ -</i>
Podcast <sup>27</sup>	€ -	€ -	€ 50,00
Yearbook	€ 3.137,00	€ 3.030,95	€ 2.490,00
<i>Yearbook<sup>28</sup></i>	<i>€ 3.000,00</i>	<i>€ 2.893,95</i>	<i>€ 2.350,00</i>
<i>Indesign Licence</i>	<i>€ 137,00</i>	<i>€ 137,00</i>	<i>€ 140,00</i>
Festive	€ 2.800,00	€ 2.693,58	€ 1.050,00
<i>Borrels</i>	<i>€ 150,00</i>	<i>€ 3,20</i>	<i>€ 50,00</i>
<i>Parties</i>	<i>€ 150,00</i>	<i>€ 120,53</i>	<i>€ 150,00</i>
<i>Social activities<sup>29</sup></i>	<i>€ 600,00</i>	<i>€ 924,77</i>	<i>€ 850,00</i>
<i>Gala<sup>30</sup></i>	<i>€ 1.650,00</i>	<i>€ 1.456,40</i>	<i>€ -</i>
<i>Beer Cantus<sup>31</sup></i>	<i>€ 250,00</i>	<i>€ 188,68</i>	<i>€ -</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 9.357,86</b>	<b>€ 8.817,91</b>	<b>€ 6.715,00</b>

<b>External Relations</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Realisation</b>	<b>Budget</b>
---------------------------	---------------	--------------------	---------------

<sup>26</sup> Of every issue of DEBAT 350 copies will be printed.

<sup>27</sup> The Podcast Committee can use this money for gifts for speakers.

<sup>28</sup> The decision to cut expenses for the yearbook has been made based off of results from a survey that was conducted last year.

<sup>29</sup> This money will be spent on activities such as Efteling, sports tournaments, and more.

<sup>30</sup> This activity will be organised by the Lustrum Committee.

<sup>31</sup> This activity will be organised by the Lustrum Committee.

	24-25	24-25	25-26
Acquisition <sup>32</sup>	€ 20,00	€ 173,52	€ 100,00
ICT <sup>33</sup>	€ 875,18	€ 1.557,46	€ 1.397,96
<i>General Expenses</i>	€ -	€ 75,81	€ -
<i>Licence Snelstart</i>	€ 213,44	€ 258,11	€ 266,00
<i>Conscribo</i>	€ 333,23	€ 333,23	€ 371,95
<i>Hosting <a href="http://www.spilplaats.nl">www.spilplaats.nl</a></i>	€ 272,25	€ 296,45	€ 305,00
<i>Licence Elementor</i>	€ 56,26	€ 72,45	€ 75,00
<i>Bluem<sup>34</sup></i>	€ -	€ 521,41	€ 380,00
Promotion	€ 1.025,00	€ 1.527,53	€ 1.100,00
<i>General expenses<sup>35</sup></i>	€ 350,00	€ 571,84	€ 450,00
<i>EL CID and HOP Week stands<sup>36</sup></i>	€ 350,00	€ 187,55	€ 250,00
<i>EL CID activity and HOP Week activity</i>	€ -	€ 519,14	€ 400,00
<i>HOP Week activity</i>	€ 75,00	€ -	€ -
Lens SPIL-camera	€ 250,00	€ 249,00	€ -
Summer Trip	€ -	€ -	€ 5.005,00
<i>Lustrum reserve</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 1.005,00
<i>SPIL-Contribution</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 3.900,00
<i>Pre-activities</i>	€ -	€ -	€ 100,00
Stairs Affairs	€ 50,00	€ 19,41	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 1.970,18</b>	<b>€ 3.277,92</b>	<b>€ 7.602,96</b>

<sup>32</sup> This will be spent on

<sup>33</sup> All of the costs for ICT have increased due to inflation.

<sup>34</sup> Bluem is a software company used for collecting digital direct debit mandates from our members. The starting fee has already been paid; going forward, only the monthly fee and the fee per mandate will be charged.

<sup>35</sup> General expenses consist of costs for flyers, SPIL stickers and tote bags that can be given to students at Open days, introduction weeks and at other activities.

<sup>36</sup> Not all the expenses of last HOP Week and EL CID have been realised yet.

<b>Investments</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
General expenses	€ 150,00	€ -	€ -
Investments common rooms <sup>37</sup>	€ -	€ 99,95	€ 100,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 150,00</b>	<b>€ 99,95</b>	<b>€ 100,00</b>

<b>Reserves</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
9th Lustrum of SPIL	€ 1.000,00	€ 1.150,00	€ -
10th Lustrum of SPIL	€ -	€ -	€ 1.000,00
Lustrum DEBAT	€ 150,00	€ -	€ -
SPIL common rooms	€ 100,00	€ -	€ -
Equity <sup>38</sup>	€ -	€ 1.500,00	€ -
Gift XLIVth Board	€ -	€ 2.290,73	€ -
<i>For the XLVth Board</i>	€ -	€ 1.400,00	€ -
<i>For the XLVIth Board</i>	€ -	€ 890,73	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 1.250,00</b>	<b>€ 4.940,73</b>	<b>€ 1.000,00</b>

<b>Travel allowance Int. Board member</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Travel Reimbursement	€ 250,00	€ 250,00	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 250,00</b>	<b>€ 250,00</b>	<b>€ -</b>

<sup>37</sup>This money can be used for items in the common rooms.

<sup>38</sup> The association's available savings fell below the recommended threshold of 25% to 50% saved up equity of annual income. The XLIVth Treasurer saved extra money so that the equity of the association is in the recommended amount. Now that the amount is sufficient the Treasurer will not save any more money.

<b>Contingencies</b>	<b>Budget 24-25</b>	<b>Realisation 24-25</b>	<b>Budget 25-26</b>
Contingencies <sup>39</sup>	€ 905,55	€ -	€ 936,94
Restitution membership fee	€ -	€ 70,50	€ -
Settlement photo DEBAT online article	€ -	€ 333,52	€ -
Freshmen Weekend	€ -	€ 5,94	€ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 905,55</b>	<b>€ 409,96</b>	<b>€ 936,94</b>

---

<sup>39</sup> Contingencies amount to 3% of the general expenditure.

### Balance sheet

Debit		Credit	
ABN-AMRO business account	€ ...	<i>Equity</i>	€ ...
ABN-AMRO savings account	€ ...	Lustrum reserve	€ -
Rabobank business account	€ ...	Reserve travel allowance int. board members	€ 1.500,00
Rabobank savings account	€ ...	Committee Cup reserve	€ -
Ties (114)	€ 998,64	Gift XLIVth Board	€ 890,73
Bows (118)	€ 890,90	<i>Creditors</i>	
Pair of braces (93)	€ 1.860,00	- HOP Week	€ 121,00
Bowties (83)	€ 498,00		
Doppers (24)	€ 240,00		
Former-board pin (28)	€ 57,40		
Umbrellas (7)	€ 35,00		
Bike packages (24)	€ 240,00		
Card holders (4)	€ 14,34		
Scarfs (0)	€ 0		
Socks (19)	€ 209,00		
Beer glass (0)	€ 0		
Shot glasses (79)	€ 395,00		
Playing cards (49)	€ 289,59		
Quarterzip sweaters (9)	€ 350,55		
Kas bestuur	€ 250,00		
<i>Debtors</i>			
- Deposit Scouting Paulus (location of FMW)	€ 500,00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ ...</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>€ ...</b>

### Budget Brussels trip 2025-2026

Income			Expenses		
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>		<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>
<b>Participant contribution<sup>40</sup></b>	€ 70,00	€ 3.500,00	<b>Accommodation</b> <i>Hostel Meininger</i>	€ 26,52	€ 1.325,88
<b>SPIL contribution</b>	€ -	€ -	<b>Transportation</b> <i>Train</i>	€ 33,54	€ 1.677,00
			<b>Public transport</b>	€ 8,34	€ 417,12
			<b>Unforeseen costs</b>	€ 1,60	€ 80,00
<b>Total</b>	€ 70,00	€ 3.500,00	<b>Total</b>	€ 70,00	€ 3.500,00

### Budget Winter trip 2025-2026

Income			Expenses		
	<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>		<i>Estimated budget p.p.</i>	<i>Estimated budget</i>
<b>Participant contribution<sup>41</sup></b>	€ 215,00	€ 6.800,00	<b>Accommodation</b> <i>Generator Hostel</i>	€ 155,00	€ 6.200,00
<b>SPIL contribution</b>	€ 47,50	€ 1.900,00	<b>Transportation</b> <i>Train</i>	€ 100,00	€ 4.000,00
<b>CASSA</b>	€ 40,00	€ 1.600,00	<b>Public transport</b>	€ 20,00	€ 800,00
			<b>Activities</b>	€ 18,75	€ 750,00
			<b>Unforeseen costs</b>	€ 8,75	€ 350,00
<b>Total</b>	€ 302,50	€12.100,00	<b>Total</b>	€ 302,50	€12.100,00

<sup>40</sup> There will be 50 spots available.

<sup>41</sup> There will be 40 spots available.

## **IXth LUSTRUM POLICY**

### **Committee**

The committee consists of six members, one chair, one secretary, one treasurer, and three general members. Gijs Verhoeff has taken on the role of chair, Inge van Hoek is the secretary, Anastasia Pasok is the treasurer, and Frederika Togtema, Marie-Love Hofstaetter, and Antonina Basarab are the general members, with the latter two having joined the committee in September. Olivier Backx was a general member as well, from the creation of the committee until his departure on exchange in August. The committee members have also taken on smaller sub-roles, mainly consisting of vice-chair (Frederika Togtema), Promotion (Gijs Verhoeff), and Speaker-finders (Olivier Backx before his departure and Frederika Togtema). This allows everyone on the committee to have a clear overview of who is responsible for what, and distributes the workload evenly. The vice-chair will support the chair and take over their tasks when the chair is encumbered. The Promotion member will take charge of the social media aspects of the committee and the Lustrum year in general. The Speaker-finders are tasked with finding speaker(s) for the Lustrum-lecture that will be organised this year. The committee has already been working closely together with the XLIVth Board of the association since its formation in March of 2025, and will be working with the new XLVth Board as well leading up to and throughout the upcoming Lustrum year.

### **Goal**

The goal of this Lustrum is to celebrate SPIL's IXth Lustrum. During this Lustrum year, it is of high importance that every member, alumnus or currently actively participating student, will be able to enjoy the 45th birthday of the study association. This committee is aiming to organise two weeks of intense and joyful celebrations in the spring of 2026, starting on the 13th of April until the 24th of April 2026.

The motivation for this two-week period is to match the uniqueness of the event and provide opportunities for every student to celebrate this anniversary. It will also create the opportunity to truly start and end the celebrational period, instead of maintaining this sense of joyfulness over the span of the academic year. Every member will thereby be aware of the intense Lustrum program that happens during these two weeks, instead of a slightly higher number of celebrational activities spread out over the year. Moreover, this is two weeks after the exams of the third block, due to which most students will be able to celebrate the Lustrum, without the stress of dealing with new exams or other study obligations. The two weeks of celebration in April of 2026 will therefore form a great window of opportunity for students to celebrate the Lustrum of SPIL, whereby the potential turnout is maximised for our members.

The theme that this committee decided upon is "On Cloud 9: Finding the silver lining". As it is the association's IXth Lustrum, as well as an unforgettable event, a theme related that matches these basic principles, is a theme that expresses how the association is 'On Cloud 9'. The addition of 'Finding the silver lining' characterises how the aim of this lustrum is to celebrate the anniversary to the fullest, whereby everyone experiences a sense of utmost joy even in turbulent times.

## **Activities**

Since the members of the association are divided among two cities, The Hague and Leiden, the Lustrum Committee strives to organise a combination of formal, educational, and informal activities in both cities. We will start off the year with a theme reveal borrel in September, hoping to get people to look forward to our activities. The committee is also planning on organising a game that will be played throughout the Lustrum weeks, to try and keep members engaged to come to activities. The annual Dies lecture will not be taking place in November, but in April, which gives the committee more time to find an extraordinary speaker. To make sure the Dies is still celebrated, the committee will still organise an activity during the actual Dies week of the association. Besides the lecture, the committee will be organising activities such as excursions and a charity event, but also more casual activities such as the cantus, and the annual gala at the end of the Lustrum weeks. In total, the Lustrum weeks will consist of 12 activities - changes in schedule notwithstanding - spread over the two Lustrum weeks. The committee chose to make some of the activities that have a limited amount of spots for SPIL-members only. For some of the activities, an extra contribution from the people that are joining will be needed. The committee strives to maintain this contribution as low as possible.

## **Alumni**

As a Lustrum year is a big reason to celebrate at SPIL, the Lustrum Committee wants to make sure that alumni are also included. All activities will be open to any former SPIL-members who would like to join them and the committee will put in great effort trying to make the activities visible to them. This will be done in collaboration with the Secretary, through the reunionist and alumni newsletters, the Commissioner Education & Politics, through SPIL's LinkedIn, the Commissioner Internal, through advertising it on the physical copies of DEBAT, and through social media means available, namely the different instagram and LinkedIn accounts of the university.

## **Budget**

The committee has been given a tighter budget than the last Lustrum committee due to the rise of inflation over the years. This requires careful and intentional spending that will be overseen by the treasurer of the committee, as well as the Treasurer of the association. The committee has decided to spend the money between formal, and educational activities, as well as informal activities, since it wants to achieve a thoughtful balance between the number of various activities. Additionally, the committee aims to make the ticket-fee as low as possible for the members so that the activities are accessible for all to attend. Therefore, the chair will be in contact with CASSA from the LUF, which will be used to cover part of the costs of most events. The committee anticipates that some level of re-budgeting may be necessary to ensure that the best possible events can be organised for SPIL members. Accordingly, the treasurer will be in close contact with the Treasurer of the association, and present a revised budget during the Interim GA, which will be adjusted to reflect the accurate price developments.

## **Promotion**

Making sure the Lustrum activities reach all the members (and soon-to-be members) of the association correctly is one of the most important parts of the committee's work. To this effect, the committee has set up an extensive promotion plan. Leading up to the Lustrum, the committee has already posted an explanation of what a Lustrum is, a video of members guessing the theme, and two of the recurring formats, the Countdown and the Member Monday. The Countdown is a simple post counting down the weeks until the Lustrum weeks accompanied by a fun fact about the association, and Member Monday is an interview consisting of the same three questions asked to different members of the association. Both are posted once a month, leading up to the Lustrum.

The committee has also decided to look into collaborating with DEBAT, and working together with the Secretary of the Board to make sure activities are included in all the newsletters sent out by the association. The committee will also make sure to have an active Lustrum social media presence, through posts but also reels and stories in different formats on the Lustrum and SPIL Instagram accounts. This will be done in close collaboration with the Commissioner External Relations, to make sure there is no interference between promotion and to ensure the biggest outreach possible.

## **Acquisitions**

During this Lustrum year, the Lustrum committee will not be taking over part of the acquisitions tasks of the main association. The committee felt this could best be filled in by the Acquisitions committee itself. The Lustrum committee does however want to emphasise that it is always open to collaborating on acquisitions, and feels the Lustrum year is a great perk for the association to use during negotiations with third parties.

## Lustrum Budget 2025-2026

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
9th Lustrum reserve	€ 6.700,00	Educational events	€ 500,00
CASSA	€ 900,00	Social events	€ 1.625,00
Additional SPIL funding	€ 700,00	Museums	€ 600,00
		Gala	€ 3.600,00
		Cantus	€ 270,00
		Charity event	€ 200,00
		Lustrum contribution	
		SPIL trips	€ 1.005,00
		Unforeseen costs	€ 500,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 8.300,00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 8.300,00</b>