



studievereniging europese studies

### **General Assembly I**

**Date:** 10-09-2019

**Start:** 19:15

**Location:** PCH 1.04

**Attendees Board 2018/2019:** George Bandy (GB), Lieke van Dijk (LvD), Jesse Schipperijn (JS), Julia Gieseck (JG), Job Knobbout (JK)

**Attendees Board 2019/2020:** Sophie Eisenberger (SE), Leonard Kersting (LK), Ruben Wiltgen Georgi (RW), Alexandra Kovalcikova (AK), Viktória Simon (VS).

**Attendees:** Finn McCartney (FM), Cameron Kenneth (CK), Tobias Fisch (TF), Marlon Grützner (MG), Lana Lakovic (LL), Stijn Hoogvorst (SH), Jose Josefina (JJ), Alina Mihaela (AM), Bram Groenteman (BG), Annemarie Zandstra (AZ), Jette Kok (JK), Eszter Radnoty (ER), Lobke Fennema (LF), Myriam Iehl (MI), Maximilian Lehmann (ML), Cliodhna Cotter (CC), Rory Leonard-Morgan (RL), Gregory van Rheenen (GvR), Dario Boot (DB), Jeroen van Osnabrugge (JvO), Charlotte van der Bemen (CvdB).

### AGENDA

#### 1. Opening

GB: Hello everyone. Welcome to the first general assembly of the new year. It's really nice to see you all here again and of course some nice faces which is nice to see to. For the new faces, I am George who will give over my position to Sophie. I hope everyone's settled into their new courses and enjoying everything that goes on at the start of the year. If you haven't yet please put down your name on the attendance list.

#### 2. Setting the Minutes GA III

GB: We will start by setting the minutes from the last general assembly back in June. Were there any comments or questions about the minutes from the last assembly? If not then we can confirm them now.

[HAMMER]

### 3. Setting the Agenda

GB: Then, moving onto the agenda!

GB: The first general assembly of the year is always a big one. After some general announcement we have the realisation of the last year with a wrap up of all the finances so we can see how well the budget worked as well as a small recap over all the events that went on which should also give a taste of everything to look forward to again.

GB: Then we have some of the main events. The discharging of our FCC and advisory board of 18/19, and then the discharging of the old board and the appointment of the new board of 19/20. After all of that we will take a short break. Once we return Sophie will then take this position and then lead the remainder of the assembly. Lieke will also retire from taking the minutes and Leonard will take over.

GB: Then, Sophie will present the policy plan of 2019/2020. If you are new and at the moment unsure what the policy plan is or for, then I am sure Sophie will explain this later when we get to it. We will then vote on the policy plan. Sophie will also explain more on that later. Ruben will then present the budget for 2019/2020. And again then we vote if we agree. After the budget, the candidates for the financial control committee will present themselves and we will then vote on them to form the new FCC. Finally the new advisory board will be appointed.

GB: Are there any questions about the agenda or anything that needs to be added? No, then, the agenda is set.

AZ: Is there going to be a year report?

GB: We had one last GA, nothing is added to that. then if there are no more comments, the agenda is set.

[HAMMER]

### 4. General Announcements

GB: The association has just turned 35! This is then a special year for us as it's our lustrum year. I believe Sophie will speak more about all the special events happening over the course of the year to celebrate this. For those who are not sure what this is, it's a celebration held every five years to celebrate the continuing existence of the association. So the last was all the way back in 2015. Not many current students have seen what goes on in lustrum then so we are looking forward to all that's to come.

Note: Lobke Fennema joins the GA.

GB: The first events of the year are already quickly approaching. There's a boat tour this Friday for all the new members, there's a night for drinks and games at Ton Ton club, a karaoke night which I know several are already very excited for, the introduction weekend, where again we take 60 or so new students to Dwingeloo for a weekend of activities. Then to wrap up the next weeks we have the introduction party in October. There are Facebook events and information on the website if you want to find out more.

GB: The applications for the Committees are open! Note there is a special deadline for the lustrum committee which is the 15th September, so next Monday. For the other committees the deadline is the 29th September.

## 5. Realization

GB: This will also be a bit of a recap of what happened in the past year. Jesse will take over now

JS: Good evening. I am Jesse, the treasurer of last year. Tonight for the last time I'll present the finances of the SES before giving the floor to Ruben. Today I'll present the final realisation of last year. Financially it has been a successful year for SES. Let me quickly explain to the new people that our goal is to break even at the end of the year, we're not trying to make a big profit. For the last time I'll go over the budget and if you have any questions please raise your hand. I'll do my best to answer all your questions.

JS: On your left hand, the blue side, you have the budget I made at the beginning of the year when I became treasurer. On the right side, the green side, we have the final realisation. Of course, many things change during the year, therefore today we will focus on the incomes and expenses of the realisation. I will not repeat everything I'll already explained during the other GA's, but I'll try to give you a clear overview of the financial situation and what has changed in the past year. There are some things I need to comment on.

JS: Let's start with the General Incomes and Expenses. The amount of new members didn't change during the last months of the last year. Also no money for Snelstart this year. However, what did change considerably is the amount that we'll save this year for the Lustrum Year. At the beginning of the year, I'll roughly estimated that we would be able to save around €600 for the Lustrum year, however it ended up being €1600. Let me explain why.

Note: Gregory van Rheenen joins the GA

JS: At the beginning of the year, we made some losses, therefore we decided to play it safe and only have 2 Happy Borrels instead of 3. In addition, we didn't need the memberships cards, we didn't have to spend money on our bookkeeping software, Snelstart, and it only happened once that we had high unforeseen costs. There were mistakes in the realisation of the Introduction Party of 2017, before our year, and we had to give our profit back to Canvas.

JS: Of course, all the events I just explained to you helped us to save some money. However, it was later in the year that some very unexpected events allowed us to save much more money for Lustrum. Let's continue with the committees and you'll see where all the money comes from.

JS: In the last months, Acquisition Committee has been very successful. At the beginning of the year I hoped they would make a profit of €170,- Right now with all the new and old sponsors, especially thanks to all the incomes from Athena Studies, they made a profit of €676.

JS: The Activity Committee organized very nice activities this year. The pub quizzes were sold out in no time and also the City Trip was a very nice weekend, family day and a love borrel. Due to different reasons, for which we cannot blame the committee, the weekend ended up making a loss. I believe this number does not reflect their amazing work of the rest of the year, and together with the rest of the association which balanced these numbers.

JS: The Book Sales also made a bigger profit than initially expected, €495,-.

JS: Next up is the Career Committee. This year the committee organized the Career Dinner and the Futures Market. At the beginning of the year we estimated a loss of €104,- it ended up being €114, which is fine.

JS: Let's continue with the Conference Committee. The Conference is one of the most expensive events and most difficult to organize. This year the committee found an amazing location, the Keizersgrachtkerk, which besides being a really good place to hold the conference, it was cheaper than expected. Especially the catering costs were significantly cheaper than other years. You can't see it here, but we actually made more than €200,- profit, which is quite unique for the conference. However, for this event we depended on subsidies from AUF and College of Humanities, and we are not allowed to make a profit. Therefore we have to transfer the profit back.

JS: Next up is the Debate Committee, which broke even thanks to the College of Humanities and Alpha who covered our costs.

JS: Here we arrive at the Educational Committee, which made a €42,- loss. They organized the Rotterdam Day, a pub lecture about Climate Change and the Hague Day. They made a €35 loss of the Pub Lecture because Alpha did not cover the travel costs, and the food and drinks. However this loss is reasonable.

JS: Now it's an important moment, next up is Eurovisie, our lovely magazine. Every year we make a big loss by printing this magazine, however, we do think that Eurovisie has a great value for the association and we definitely want to keep it. However, very unexpectedly a couple of weeks ago ALPHA send us message that they still had money left and they were in the position to cover part of our costs. Instead of making a €1400 loss now we're only making a €390 loss, which is amazing. The smallest loss maybe in history. This also explains partly why we have so much money reserved for lustrum.

JS: Here we arrive at the Event Committee. We're allowed to make profit with this committee, as we don't receive money from funds. They made a big profit in January with the SESxPPE Party, €283,

and another in April at the party with Aim and PPE again, €331,93. For their last event, the Focus Festival, they made a loss. However, in the end committee still made a profit €721, while they always organized affordable activities for our members. Well done.

JS: The realization of the 2017-2018 Introduction Committee was already discussed last GA. The committee made a bigger profit than expected at the beginning of the year. The main reason we made a bigger profit was the high amount of drinks sold during the weekend, we did not make the weekend more expensive. We used the money to compensate other losses, we discussed this in the previous GA.

JS: The hitchhike committee actually made a unplanned loss. Some were better in hitchhiking than others. We had less participants and therefore we made a loss. Due to Eurovisie and other profits, the loss is not desirable but fine.

JS: The last committee to discuss is the Travel Committee. The committee organized an amazing Study Trip. The locations were amazing, however, financially this trip was a big challenge. We visited four countries, all of them had a different currency. It would have been easier if I would have been in the position to just transfer all the money before the trip, but that was not possible in most of the cases. Most of the hostels, busses, museums, guides etc. only accepted cash. Therefore, our transactions costs were quite higher than expected, and we made a €216 loss. The goal was to break even, however, sometimes that can be difficult with such a big budget.

JS: The next part you can see in the realization is the study trip of the European Studies master. SES does not organize this trip, however, every year UvA transfers us the money and asks us to book their flight, hostels and activities. We'll transfer back their €15,-.

JS: Next up is our merchandise. We still have some, go to the website to buy your sweater. We sold 15 SES sweaters this year, which meant an extra income of €300,-. We didn't have any costs because it was the previous board that bought the sweaters.

JS: Then, the Introduction Committee 2019-2020. This will not appear on this realisation because it not our year anymore. However, we already made some payments in advance. So far we payed €3410 for the accommodation, the bus and the Karaoke night.

JS: To conclude, the Active Members Weekend. Every year, SES wants to thank its active members for their great committee work. We saved enough money for this event, so it wasn't a problem to make a €940 loss.

JS: We finished the year in healthy financial situation. Because of Alpha, new sponsors and less costs than initially expected, we made some profit, but we'll save that for the Lustrum year. Therefore, at the end of the year we're break even.

JS: To conclude, the closing balance. Today we have €2,800 on our current account, €3454.82 on our savings account, €281 cash. Usually we have more, but we just paid a lot in advance for upcoming activities. In addition, we still expect some money. On the other hand we still need to pay back the

profit of the ES Master Trip and the profit of the SES Conference. All together, we saved €2837.69 for our Lustrum Year. Are there any questions?

JS: No? Then I give the floor to Annemarie of financial Control committee

AZ: The FCC is the committee that checks the treasurer. Together with two others I checked if no money disappeared. Jesse did a good job but some people did not pay for their activities or sweaters yet. There still will be 200/300 euros coming in. So overall Jesse did a really good job. Committees always make a loss so I would advise you to vote in favour on behalf of the Financial Control Committee.

JS: I would really like to slam the hammer once in my SES Career, can I?

GB: The voting procedure is voting pro, against, blank or withholding. so in favour raise your hand.

pro: 22

AGainst: 0

Blank: 0

Withhold: 7

Note: Tobias Fisch joins the GA

GB: With 22 votes this budget passes, congrats Jesse.

[HAMMER}

GB: Hopes this gives a good impression of the SES budget before Ruben comes up. We have big expenses like the travel and difficult people who do not pay their events and Jesse did a great job keeping up with the finances this year.

GB: Then we will now discharge the FCC. Annemarie come up here!

AZ: It was amazing. our last meeting went hand in hand with wine. It is a really nice committee, if you are thinking about applying, go for it, it is an amazing job. Ciao!

GB: Then the advisory board

BG: On behalf of my whole advisory board, thank you for the past year. We had not as many complaints as we would hoped for but had fun anyway. Board, we had fun together cleaning up your messes and giving you advice.

BG: Then we hereby resign.

[HAMMER]

GB: Then it is almost time for us to resign so therefore i would like to give some last words. Thanks to all the committee members, and general members. Anyone who put a lot of time into SES. Also thank you to my board.

GB: Then we will now discharge ourselves and I ask JK and VS to come forward. JK I officially discharge you as the Commissioner of External Affairs of the board, and VS as the new external affairs.

GB: Then hereby JG is officially discharged as the Commissioner of Internal Affairs, and AK is officially appointed as the new Internal Affairs.

GB: Then hereby JS is officially discharged as the Treasurer and RW is officially appointed as Treasurer.

GB: Then hereby LvD is officially discharged as the Secretary of SES and LK is officially appointed new secretary.

GB: Then hereby, I officially appoint SE as chair of 2019/2020.

SE: Hereby, I officially discharge GB as chair of the Board 2018/2019.

## **9. Policy Plan 2019-2020**

SE: Welcome again everyone to the first general assembly of the year. First of all I would like to thank the former Board for all their hard work and dedication the past year to this association. It is an honour for us to take over. We would like to present you a little gift before we start with the official part of this assembly.

[Handing over present]

SE: We would like to send you five all together to Pancake Boat, I hope you will enjoy it.

LvD: We also thought of something, and to make the office a little brighter we got you your very own mugs for the ses office. They have been ordered but unfortunately aren't here yet, you will get them soon.

SE: Once again, thank you so much for everything and we are really looking forward to make this year just as special as the last one.

SE: Speaking of special, we are the 35<sup>th</sup> Board of the SES this year, which means we have a Lustrum to celebrate. This includes even more events organized this year than in the previous once. For us as a Board and for our future newly appointed Lustrum Committee as for all our members this will be a special touch this upcoming year. I will tell a bit more about this topic once we have reached this point in our policy plan. Besides that, the Board has already been busy with the organization of the Introduction events. In the upcoming weeks we have the Boat tour, Karaoke Bar and Introduction Weekend for our new first year members and the new Ton Ton Club event and Introduction Party, which are open for all members. We hope to see as many faces at the events as possible as they mark the start of a great year. Another general announcement is the switch to the new location of the Borrels this year. Unfortunately we had to say goodbye to our beloved Sanders last year, which now

became the ugliest pancake restaurant of Amsterdam. At the moment we are celebrating our weekly get together at Onder de Ooievaar at the Utrechtsestraat. We hope all members feel at home at this new location, since we have tried to keep the cosy and friendly Sanders feeling alive.

SE: It is time now to present our Policy Plan. The whole file was attached to the mail about the GA, so I hope many of you already read through it a bit. Therefore I will not be going over every single point of the Policy Plan since many are either just formalities or really straight forward.

Note: Rory Leonard-Morgan enters the GA

#### 2.4 Transparency

*2.4.1 Three General Assemblies will be organised during the academic year. The assemblies will be open to all members. The purpose of the assemblies is to present any developments and how the association is being managed. The General Assemblies are also a platform to present the Policy Plan, the (Semi-) Annual Report, and the year's budget plan.*

*2.4.2 The official documents of the association, comprised of the Policy Plan, (Semi-) Annual Report, and the minutes from each of the General assemblies will be published on the website of the association. Links to the documents will also be included in the newsletter where relevant.*

SE: One of the main points in order to explain why we are all here and why the Policy Plan is being produced every year is all because of transparency. We as an association want to be as open and transparent as possible. Therefore the GA's are held three times per academic year. Everyone who is present will vote upon all official documents, including this one. The documents of the association will be published on the website and are accessible for everyone.

*2.4.3 In order to maintain the transparency and inclusive character of the association towards our members, three Think Tanks will be organized this academic year. The first and newly added Think Tank will function as an opportunity for members at the beginning of the year to express their ideas and expectations towards both the Board and the upcoming Lustrum year.*

SE: Secondly the Board is proposing three Think Tanks this year instead of the original two. The Board felt like especially with the upcoming Lustrum year it is important to already organize a Think Tank in the beginning of the academic year, right after the Committees are formed. This is in order to give our members a say in what they want to see and expect the upcoming year instead of only giving them an opportunity to give feedback afterwards. Additionally, the Board proposes that the Second and Third Think Tank of the year will be mandatory for all chairs of the Committees in order to stimulate internal communication.

#### 2.1 Recruitment and integration of new members

*2.1.1 Considering the lower number of first-year students expected for the coming academic year, 2019/2020, the Board will strive to ensure that the SES maintains its accessibility. Therefore, effort should be placed on the recruitment and integration of new SES members. This applies to both Dutch and international first-year students.*

*2.1.4 It is important that the SES remains an attractive association for all members. Therefore, the focus of the activities and committees should not solely be concentrated on new members but also on current members. It is important to actively involve the current members in the association at the beginning of the year as well. The introduction period will serve this aim because there will be more events focused on integrating the first-years with the old members.*

SE: As in all years, the recruitment of new members remains a priority of the Board. With the Introduction Period and its related events and the presence of the Board during events like Intreeweek and Introduction Days, we are all trying to include first years in our association. By promoting the Committees and their function we also strive to ensure the integration of these new members. Nonetheless, the Board feels like it is important to focus on new members but also make sure events, especially in the beginning of the academic year, remain interesting and accessible for all members both Dutch and international.

### 2.3 Promotion/Communication

*2.3.2 This year the Board will increasingly focus on maintaining their social media platforms well structured and informative. This includes more regular posts about all events and activities. More importantly, this will be translated through the redesign of the website. It is user-friendlier and highlights the priorities of the association, for example, the Eurovisie Magazine or upcoming events.*

*2.3.3 The Commissioner of Internal Affairs functions as the Social Media Manager. The task related to this role is ensuring the correct and regular usage of the social media platforms used by the SES. At every board meeting, a list will be made of the content that should be posted the following week.*

SE: This year our Commissioner of Internal Affairs Alex will function as the Social Media Manager. In this way, social media posts and promotions stay as structured and efficient as possible. The content for the posts will be discussed weekly at every Board meeting. The increased focus on social media is mainly due to the fact that it one of the most efficient ways to reach our members. Besides that the Board thought a redesign of the website was necessary for a bit more professional look of the association.

More instagram and website

*2.3.7 The Board will continue the sale of the SES merchandise. As the current stock is almost finished, the board is considering redesigning the sweater, most probably with a connection to the Lustrum year.*

SE: Next up we have the SES merchandise. The Board will continue the sale of the current stock because there are quite some sweaters left. The sale will be promoted mainly in the newsletters. In cooperation with the Lustrum Committee, there might be room for expansion of the merchandise in the form of a Lustrum related article. The current merchandise was introduced 2 years ago there still a lot left, we will continue sale and consider our financial opportunities to create a new merchandise.

### 2.5 Internationalisation

*2.5.2 The SES will remain a bilingual association. However, this year the newsletter will only be provided in English. Additionally, official documents and Facebook posts will mainly be provided in*

*English as most Dutch students are considered to have a good understanding of the English language. Posts that are only applicable to Dutch-speaking students will be provided in Dutch.*

*2.5.4 The Chairwoman, being the only native Dutch speaker, will be the main contact person for Dutch students.*

SE: Due to the composition of the Board, which includes for the first time an international Secretary, we decided that this year all newsletters would only be provided in English. We believe this is justifiable because all our members study either completely or partially in English and will therefore have a proper understanding of the language. Moreover, in contradiction to previous years the Board consists of only one Dutch member. Therefore I as the Chairwoman of the association will be functioning as the main contact person for Dutch students in general.

### 2.9 Methods of payment

*2.9.1 The method of pre-authorized debit will be completely replaced by payments through iDeal and the portable pin machine. For larger amounts, bank transfers will also be possible, as it can be more suitable for some members.*

*2.9.2 The method of cash payments will be maintained throughout the introduction period as it is more suitable for some international students during their first weeks in Amsterdam. However, the method of online payment is preferable. After the introductory period, the treasurer will strive to reduce the number of cash payments.*

SE: Just like last year, the method of pre-authorized debit will be completely replaced by payments through iDeal and the portable pin machine. For larger amounts, in case for example with payments for the study trip, we will be working with bank transfers since these amounts are too high. Cash is in any way not preferable. Only during the Introduction Period mainly related to the boat tour, there sometimes will be the possibility to pay in cash. Afterwards this will hardly be the case.

### 2.11 Agenda/Calendar

*The Board will create an agenda for the SES events in the academic year 2019/2020 with the anticipated time frame in which the events will take place. There will be room for new ideas by the committees and the agenda will not restrict the committees in their work. Henceforth the yearly calendar will not have exact dates but will rather serve as a general framework for further planning. This is supposed to create a balance of events organized by the SES throughout the academic year and prevent overabundance in certain periods. As soon as an event date is set the Secretary will update the homepage. Thus, all members will stay informed of the SES events throughout the year.*

SE: Point 2.11 includes our aim considering the agenda of SES events for the upcoming year. A provisional agenda has been prepared in order to make sure all SES events are planned in the best time frame. This will serve as a general framework for further planning. In this way the Board is striving to create a balance of events organized by the SES throughout the academic year and prevent overabundance. As soon as a certain event has a set date, the Secretary will update the SES homepage so dates will be available for all members.

### 2.12 Environmental policy

*2.12.1 In light of the ever-growing awareness about climate change, the Board will strive to adopt more environmentally friendly measures in order to contribute to a more ecologically conscious association. Therefore, the Board will strive to establish cooperation between the SES and the UvA Green Office to organise educational events.*

*2.12.2 The financial affairs of the SES will be transferred to Triodos Bank. Triodos Bank seeks to support projects and businesses with social, environmental or cultural added value through their clients' deposit. The SES aims at contributing to these goals through the transfer.*

SE: This year the Board decided to go a bit greener. Not only will the Board be implementing these measures considering their own affairs like the reduction of plastic and prints within the office, moreover, the Board wants to create awareness for this subject among all members. The Board is currently in contact with the UvA Green Office in order to see if together we can arrange an informative and educational event. Secondly, the financial affairs of the SES have been transferred to the Triodos Bank, which is one of the most sustainable banks in the world. The contact with the Green Office has been established already and certain events are in planning.

*3.3 Activity Committee In this year, the Board has decided to dissolve the Activity Committee. The Board has made this decision due to the restructuring of the roles of certain committees. The events organized by last year's Activity Committee will be taken over by the Event and Educational Committee (see Article 3.7 and 3.9)*

SE: The Board proposes to dissolve the Activity Committee this year. This decision has been made because of the restructuring of the committees. The events, which were organized by the Activity Committee, will be taken over by the Educational and Event Committee. Next to a study-related day trip and the Hague Day, the Educational Committee will organize the Family Day and two pub-quizzes the upcoming year. The Event Committee on the other hand will be organizing three SES parties and themed Happy Borrels. They are also encouraged to continue with new events such as the festival or establish an event of their own. Even though the workload of these committees will be increasing, the Board believes that this is doable. This decision has been made due to the insufficient workload of the former Activity Committee and the establishment of the Lustrum Committee, which will also be organizing new events. The Event Committee will continue with its usual events plus the and add certain events such as the Valentines Borrel to its agenda while other events such as the Pub Quiz will be hosted by the Educational Committee.

### 3.12 Lustrum Committee

*3.12.1 This year the SES will celebrate its 35th year of existence. For this occasion, the Lustrum Committee will be formed, whose task will be to organize a series of events throughout the year. The framework of these events will be decided by the committee and has to be approved by the board.*

*3.12.2 Within the current SES agenda, Lustrum events will start from the beginning of October onwards. As the Board encourages new ideas from the committees, the type of events will not be determined beforehand. Thus, the committee is able to develop its own concept for the Lustrum year.*

SE: New this year is the Lustrum Committee due to the 35<sup>th</sup> celebration of the SES. SES has existed longer but we are the 35th board. The Committee will preferably consist of members of all years, both

Dutch and international so they represent the total body of members as good as possible. The Lustrum Committee will have a budget (so they do not have to break even) and a lot of freedom to develop events this year for all members – including the alumni. Lustrum events will take shape directly after the Introduction Period comes to an end.

## 2.7 Committees

*2.7.1 The committees, excluding the Hitchhike Committee, Introduction Committee and the Board Selection Committee, should be formed as soon as possible. In line with this, the applications for the various positions within the committees can be submitted from the start of the Intreeweek. The application period ends on the 29th of September at midnight, since this marks the end of the Introduction Weekend. This does not apply to the Lustrum Committee. This committee will be formed earlier. (see 3.12.2) This gives sufficient time for the new committee members to be familiarised with what being in a committee entails before they start operating and for the committee functions to be assigned.*

SE: Like every year, all committees - excluding the Hitchhike, Introduction and Board Selection Committee – are preferably formed as soon as possible. Therefore the application deadline for these committees will be on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September at midnight, right after the end of the Introduction Weekend. This will give first year students also sufficient time to integrate within the SES and make a proper decision if they want to sign up as well. However, the Lustrum Committee will be formed earlier in the year and the application deadline will already end on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September. This way the Lustrum Committee can start meeting and brainstorming as soon as possible in order to provide us with an even more festive and special year. We do not necessarily need a lot of first years to form this committee, so we are confident to have enough sign ups at the 15th.

LvD: We have been looking at the policy plan already, we think they did a really good job. We, as the advisory board, recommend voting in favour.

SE: Hereby the official Policy Plan part of this GA comes to an end. I would like to formally invite everyone to vote upon this policy plan. Who is in favour?

GvR: Sorry, I have just one question, what are your exact plans to include the dutch track more in the association?

SE: It's because of the events of last year, we had the feeling some of them were not appealing to Dutch students. We will try to change that and are brainstorming on it, that's why we included it in the policy plan.

GVR: Okay, I'm asking because it was a bit sad that all of the people in my seminar are not in SES and I really like the association.

BG: It's easy, just take the people from your seminar to the borrel next time.

SE: We do not want to make an event that is nice and interesting for dutch people, but still remain attractivity of events for all nationalities. Besides our duty as Board it is also up to dutch members to

include the dutch track students. European Studies itself is becoming more international so this inevitably results in SES going in the same direction as well.

AZ: A complete internationalisation of ES is relevant in one or two years.

Voting on the Policy Plan:

Pro: 24

Against:0

Withhold:7

Blank:0

SE: With 24 votes in favour, the policy plan has been approved  
[Hammer slamming]

SE: I would like to give to floor now to our treasurer Ruben who is going to present this years' budget.

## **10. Budget 2019-2020**

RW: Hello, Thank you that you are here and I am very pleased to stand here in front of you.

RW: First of all, I want to emphasize on the fact that most incomes and expenses are estimations, which are based on the past years and our expectations for the coming year. As a student association, is it not our aim to make a profit, this year we will also make a deficit because it is our Lustrum year, but I will get back to that later. I will not explain every detail of the budget, because many things are similar to last year. If you have a question, please raise your hand, I will happily answer them.

RW: Before we discuss every single committee, let me explain some points of the General incomes and expenses. Our goal is to recruit 110 new members. This year we raised the price from 25€ to 30€, but we did it on the 1. of August, so all the people who signed up before that day paid 25€, which were exactly 12. Furthermore, we estimate around 20 older members to extend their membership. I also would like to clarify that every year we give €160 to Alpha for their emergency fund. If an association goes bankrupt, this fund should aim to avoid that. That rarely happens within Alpha, therefore we expect the money to be given back by the end of the year. Furthermore, we changed our bank to Triodos, Triodos charges per year 108 euros, another two expenses are the iZettle charges, which will be around 50€ and the ASVA fee, which is 12,50€.

DB: I would like to take a moment and emphasise the award for being at the most borrels, the Gouden Borrelar. It is a great honour, Finn for example had it last year. You'll be really drunk and remembered in SES for ever.

RW: The first committee is the Acquisition Committee. The goal of this year is to make a profit of 260.65€. However, of course, we hope that the profit will be bigger.

RW: From the Booksale we expect a profit of 350€. For this number, we also hope that it will be bigger in the end than expected.

RW: Next up is the Career Committee. The Career Committee will first organize the Career Dinner. We expect a loss since we do not want our members to pay too much. By finding enough sponsors we will try to avoid a loss, but for now, we expect a small loss of 32€. Another activity that the Career Committee will organize a workshop, but for this event, we aim not to make a loss.

RW: The next committee is the Conference Committee. The Conference Committee is organizing our yearly SES conference, which is also an expensive event. For this event, we depend on private and public sponsorship and also expect to find them as it is always a very attractive event to sponsor. We expect 50 participants and no profit and no loss for the conference. We want to break even. Come to the Conference!

RW: The budget of the Debate Committee is based on the previous year's Debate budget and also on the previous year's Pub Lecture budget, because as already mentioned the Debate Committee took over the Pub Lecture from the Educational Committee. The good thing about this committee is the fact that normally funds cover the costs.

RW: Let's continue with the Educational Committee. The Hague Day is always a free event, without income and costs. The committee will also organize a day trip to a Dutch City, for which we expect no loss and no profit. As the Educational Committee takes over the Pub Quizzes and the Family Day from the Activity Committee, those events are now also included in the Educational Committee budget, here we expect a loss of together 45€, for prizes and speaker presents. So in general, the Educational Committee will end up with a small loss of 45€.

RW: Next up is Eurovisie. This committee is an expensive one. Every year we make a big loss, which is also partly covered by ALPHA. Here we hope to receive a fund of 800€, which is possible if we look to the previous year. However, we think that the magazine has a great value for the association and we are in the position to afford these costs.

GB: What do you mean with 'unforeseen costs' on the budget?

RW: That is in case the magazine or any other costs related to it will be more expensive than last year.

BG: There are always unforeseen costs in Eurovisie.

RW: Next up is the Event Committee. We can not predict the parties, but we hope to be able to make a small profit, especially after making a profit in the previous years. Decoration for happy borrels and festival might cause a slight loss. Christmas GALA profit of 250€. Love Borrel goes to Event, we expect in the end 290 profit

BG: Will the event committee take over the charity event?

RW: Yes, and we plan on breaking even on this event, this is why so far it is not included in the budget.

RW: For the Introduction Committee, we also hope to make a small profit. Our boat tour will happen on Friday, where we do not expect any profit. The Introduction Weekend will take in a few weeks, therefore, most of the expenses have been paid already. Besides the events I just mentioned, the committee will also organize the Introduction Party (40€ profit), the Karaoke Bar evening next week, which will cost 220€ and the TonTon Club night, which will also have no costs at all. For the Introduction Party, we do not expect a profit, but in general, we expect a profit of 368 € for the Introduction Committee.

AZ: Why is it only 9x15€ discount for Board for Introduction Weekend?

RW: One former board member is not joining.

RW: For the HitchHike Committee, we can not make any prediction, because the price depends on the location. But we also expect to make no loss and no profit here.

RW: Furthermore, we have our biggest committee, the Lustrum Committee. For the Lustrum Committee, we expect a loss of 3337,69 €. Here, there is also no predictions, which can be made, because the Lustrum Committee, will be completely free to decide by themselves, what events they want to organize so we can not give any specific numbers for events. 500€ from us, the rest from.

JK: Is there going to be a participation fee for lustrum events?

RW: We are not sure, it depends on the committee and the price of the activities.

RW: Finally, last but not least, the Travel Committee. The same counts here as for HitchHike. The numbers depend on the location and no predictions can be made. I based this budget also in the previous years. It is up to the committee to decide almost everything. We also expect no loss and no profit for this Committee and also hope here that funds can cover a bit.

RW: To conclude, for the total, we hope to receive 38685,65€ and spend €41523,34, which will let us finish with a loss of 2837.69 euros. Before you ask yourself, why do we have such a loss and how the loss is covered. I will explain it. The loss will be made because of our Lustrum Events because they will cost a lot. Over the last 5 years, SES always saved up money for the Lustrum Year, the amount of the money is 2837.69, and so the loss is covered by the SES lustrum savings from the last 5 years.

SE: Are there any questions?

AZ: I think Jesse, as the old treasurer, should give a recommendation on this budget.

JS: It is a good budget, even with taking the loss into account, I would recommend voting in favour.

SE: Now I would like to invite everyone again to vote upon the Budget of 2019/2020. Who is in favour?

Voting on the Budget 2019/2020:

Pro: 25  
Against:0  
Withhold:6  
Blank:0

SE: The budget has been approved with 25 people in favour.  
[Hammer slamming]

## 11. Financial Control Committee

SE: Now we go over to the Financial Control Committee. We have to my knowledge three candidates who will all have the opportunity to give us a little motivation why they want to be in this year's Financial Control Committee. The Financial Control Committee is a very important aspect of the transparency of the association since the members of this committee will be checking all the expenses of the Board and the treasurer. Faas Wijn is not present so he will be represented by AK. First of all, I would like to give the floor to our first applicant:

Faas Wijn (represented by Alexandra Kovalcikova):

My name is Faas Wijn, I am 20 years old and I'm from Amsterdam.

Right now, I'm in my second year of the BA Media & Culture. Next to doing my studies, I'm in this year's board of Study Association Off-Screen. I'll be the Treasurer the coming academic year.

I'd like to be in the Financial Control Committee for a number of reasons. First, I think it's important that the financial state of a study association (and in this case SES of course) remains stable throughout the year and for the following years as well. To sustain this stability I feel like it's of the utmost importance that a Treasurer's budget and the financial flow are thoroughly checked.

Also, I want to work towards better connections and cooperation between Off-Screen and SES. Great contacts lead to great events. For example, as a result of this cooperation, Kleio, Off-Screen and SES organised the 'FOCUS Festival' last year, which for me was one of the highlights of last year. Hopefully we can work towards an event like this again.

I feel like I can be a good fit in this year's FCC for SES. Not only will I be able to share my experiences as a Treasurer with Ruben and give him information / tips where needed (and the other way around), but as an 'outsider' I have an objective opinion on matters regarding SES. I feel like this is something that is an important factor in any advisory board.

Having said this, I am looking forward to the upcoming year and the possible cooperation between Off-Screen and SES. I'd love to be in the FCC.

Cameron Kennett:

Goedenavond ladies and gentleman,

I see many familiar faces amongst you although not all, so for those who do not know me, I have the pleasure of welcoming you to the first G.A. of the year for SES and to introduce myself, my name is Cameron. If you cannot already tell by my 'delightful' accent I am from England.

Before I start my brief motivation, I would like to express my gratitude to the old who have helped me along my first-year journey. Also, I would like to reinforce my best wishes to the newly formulated board and look forward to seeing them develop over the duration of the coming academic year.

Right, let us get down to business. Why am I applying to the role of the FCC? Well, I am applying because it will be a new challenge for me which I am looking forward to tackle though more importantly, I, if you decide to vote for me, will have the pleasure to collaborate and work with new like-minded and talented individuals.

Well, those are briefly the reasons as to why I want to apply, but the question at hand is what makes me a 'good' candidate for the role? Well I believe that over the past couple of years of working within the production oriented world I have had the pleasure of naturally training my eye to the extent that I have an 'attention to detail', which is if not the most important credential to have for this role. Also, I have had the pleasure of being the treasurer for the conference committee which was a significant success in all regards, and one which we made a profit (though obviously this was not our aim!). Lastly, and most importantly, I am driven by passion and excitement to be a part of the financial control committee and therefore will utilize the best of my abilities to keep SES off the 'beaten financially bankrupt burdensome track' and aid the one and only Luxembourgish treasurer friend of mine: Ruben.

I hope that you vote for me! Although please do consider the repercussions of your vote very carefully due to the fact that Brexit is looming around the corner....

Enjoy your evening and have a wonderful Borrel.

Finn McCartney:

Dear SES Board & Members,

My name is Finn McCartney and I am a 4th year student and member of SES. I have previously served on 2 committees in SES, both in Chairing roles and most recently as a member of the advisory board where I took a more behind the scenes role. I am a passionate member of this association who is always willing to contribute and aid fellow members when needed and I hope that my previous committee members would agree.

In my role as an Advisory Board member I had to make sure that the Board stuck to their long and short term goals and I had talks with my relevant board member when needed. I have fulfilled a similar position when working for my local MP, back in the UK, when it came to making sure that files were updated regularly. Even now, I have been compiling data for my local MP into a spreadsheet in case there is an election in the UK which needs to be completed in a timely manner and presentable so that a child can understand it.

Given my experience of being an experienced SES member and having worked with sensitive data that needs double and triple checks I think this makes me a viable candidate for the 2019-2020 Financial Control Committee. I really hope that you consider voting me into this position

CK: With the upcoming Brexit, maybe reconsider your choices guys.

SE: Thank you so much. Lets get on to the voting part. As we have three candidates, we will right away be voting for the Financial Control Committee as a whole. So again, pro, against, withhold, blank. Who is in favour?

Pro: 24

Against:0

Withhold:7

Blank:0

SE: With 24 people in favour, I hereby officially appoint the new FCC.

SE: Congratulations to our new Financial Control Committee! I am sure you will do an amazing job.  
[Hammer slamming]

## **12. Appointing Advisory Board 2019/2020**

SE: Now we can move on to officially appointing the Advisory Board of 2019/2020. I would like to ask Tobias and Lieke to step forward please. Unfortunately the chair of the Advisory Board Bela is very sick at the moment so he could not make it here today. The Advisory Board is a very important part of the association since these members will be overseeing everything the Board is doing. They will go through all the minutes of our meetings and will always be available in case the Board has a tough decision to make or if any member needs to discuss something about the Board. I would like to ask the Advisory Board if there is anything else they want to say/add.

TF: We would like to use the opportunity to introduce ourselves. We will be there throughout the year to share our knowledge, experience and 'wisdom' with the new board. Furthermore, all SES members can always reach out to us in case there are any difficulties with the Board. Unfortunately, Bela, the Chair of the Advisory Board cannot be here today.

SE: The Advisory Board 19/20 now officially is appointed.  
[Hammer slamming]

## **13. Any Other Business**

SE: Is there any other business anyone would like to have discussed?

DB: Because you mentioned Environmentalism in your policy plan, Onder de Ooievaar should buy more glasses instead of plastic cups.

SE: Yes, agreed, we will talk about it with the bar.

BG: And stay off the street at the Borrel.

## **14. Questions at the end of the meeting**

SE: We came to the end of the first General Assembly of the year. Before we are heading off to the Borrel I was wondering if there are any questions?

SH: Can we go to the Borrel now?

SE: Yes!

## **15. Closing**

SE: This assembly is officially closed at (time). I want to thank every single one of you for being here tonight and I hope to see you all at the Borrel!

[More hammer slamming]