



**Rapport du Président Alumni Europae ASBL,
Monsieur Reinhold Ziegler**

Assemblée Générale - Samedi 11 Décembre 2021, 16H CET

1. Welcome to all of you

À vous tous, Alumni et Alumnae Europae, actuellement plus de 5.300 de nos éparpillés partout en Europe, de plus en plus aux USA et autour du Monde entier: Bienvenue à notre, votre Assemblée Générale.

To all of you, more than 5.300 fellows, wherever you are, in Europe, increasing in the USA and around the world: a very warm welcome to our, your AGM.

This is our second digital AGM. Covid stimulates us even more to be united, to stand up for our goals and to be a dynamic community of Europeans.

2. Alumni Europae, why?

We are delighted, that you have joined Alumni Europae. We, the board, sincerely hope to meet your expectations. Tell us please where we missed your expectations and help us to improve what we deliver. It's our duty to get better year by year.

And first of all, let me address the greetings from our Honorary Member Ursula von der Leyen to our network. She is proud, herself, to belong to this unique community.

What do we do? What are we struggling for ? Why joining us?

First of all, we take care of our friends and contacts we gained while staying at the European School. Time goes by, friendships remain.

We keep the contacts alive. We share the same values, we are committed Europeans. The seniors among us support the juniors when the bacheliers leave their schools and start to study. We love to meet. A good reason for our local chapters in Paris, Frankfurt, London, Luxemburg and Brussels to organise a „pot de l’amitié“ and to share an evening together.

Great things start while sharing memories and a glass together.

The more we grow, the more alumni and alumnae from all the European Schools meet, the more we share the feeling to attend a very unique community. Though growing, we feel to belong to a solid community.

Our network covers an impressive range of experiences, of competencies and most of all: the readiness to share these resources with the members of the network.

A terrific argument for Alumni Europae is double:

1. To preserve long-year friendships first.

AND

2. To gain new ones, from other European Schools, from other shores, with new priorities - but still communicating openly, trustfully and friendly as we all are used to communicate.

This is unique.

I can’t insist enough on it: we all share the same values for a better, European future. And we want it in our daily life.

3. What did we do in 2021?

It was a roaring year! Covid did not help us - but it could not harm our performance. Let me mention our key successes:

1.

We grew significantly from 4.000 members to 5.300.

2.

We now are present in various places in Europe - AND more and more in the USA. Some of us now even live, work and study in Far East. The world gets more and more a village. We call these places where we meet „Local Chapters“.

Let me mention some of them: London of course, still the most attractive city who attracts many of our bacheliers. Paris, Frankfurt and even Athens. Madrid and Brussels are starting.

3.

We are further increasing our presence in the USA. Max Likin, our head in the USA, is operating from Seattle. Diana Agostini, our key to American universities, lives in San Diego. We are present in Florida, Virginia. We are inviting our not yet alumnus Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck in Los Angeles to join us. It was not easy to find him, but we traced him.

4.

The „Conseil Supérieur des Elèves (CoSup)“ is the Student Union of the European Schools. They represent the interests of the pupils on the highest level of European School management.

We are very proud to state: It's done, it works ! CoSup and AE are united! Two Board members of CoSup are automatically Board Members of Alumni Europae: Giulia Stancanelli and Jason Hart, two CoSup Board members are now with us. We are proud to have them with us.

We merged our efforts and objectives: to invite, inform and support S6 and S7 for „The life after School“ and to join naturally and automatically the old-boys-and-old-girls-Network.

We secure a natural transition from School to our network avoiding the cut after the Bac. CoSup and AE now is complementary. The Conseil Supérieur and AE started a friendly and constructive cooperation after a very long time of silence.

5.

Mr. Andreas Beckmann is now the Secretary General and he confirmed us, that the Conseil Supérieur needs us. We are most happy to cooperate. Let me mention a site: www.eursc.eu/documents/2021-02-D-6-en-3.pdf with important infos. This link will be published within the 'Rapport du Président' on our Website.

6.

We trust and believe in the cooperation overcoming generations. Doing so is a must and a matter of honour. This means for us to support S6 and S7, to assist the future students to find their way once they leave school. Should I study ? Should I opt for other issues? Peers will answer, in time, and up to date.

We set up an ambitious programme of webinars telling what it means to study! They will be produced by beginners, by students in the midst of their studies, by finishers. We will set up further programmes for young professionals. It of course means too, that objectives outside the university option could and should be discussed.

7.

We will launch „Euroalliance“ for young professionals starting their career or trying to start it . The objective is clear: help for internships, infos for starting the careers, mentorship while climbing the scales. The launching is scheduled for March 2022.

8.

Alumni Europae is a champion of economic survival. Truly said, we should be in bankruptcy - but we survive thanks to the donations of the board members.

4. Outlook

First of all I must thank board members who step down due to our statutes.

My deep gratitude goes to Thomas Fairhurst, the founder of Alumni Europae who managed the EURESCO-Exit and the new start with Alumni Europae. If we are here today, it's because of him.

Let me add immediately Olivier Brissaud, the ex chairman for so many years, the captain on board guiding the young network.

My thanks go to Alba Morganti, board member since so many years, with her great reliability and professional help, for her know how in communication all that though her numerous professional activities and travel times.

Let me thank Cam and Hendrik Schuler for their advise.

Let me thank Carlo Giudice for his enthusiasm.

I am most grateful to Alexander Zammit and the very first steps to create our local chapters.

I thank specifically Martine and her wise advice for amongst other things how to manage our contacts to the Commission.

They all, sadly, will not be candidate anymore due to workload. My very best wishes for their next objectives and who knows, maybe you will come back again as candidates for the board in some years. Our arms anyway are open.

And now let me ask for your support, trust and help: Michael Stenger is a key member of our board:

The treasurer, supporter, animator, host in his company of our network and much more of our network. Michael delivers a tremendous contribution to our association, a contribution which is vital. He too should step down because of our rules. I asked him not to do so.

I ask you to allow him, to allow me, to go on for two more years with his invaluable work and support. I will ask for your vote to allow it as an exceptional measure of vital importance for our network.

We however could avoid this problem if you allow us thanks to your vote to adapt maybe in an exceptional way our statutes. Thank you. It's up to you.

I am ready to be candidate again as chairman for these two next years. I will step down after this period.

Alumni Europae needs new and younger board members and a new Chairman. I did what I could, I did my very best, but I ask you to encourage a new, younger chairperson.

This is the reason why I encourage the constitution of an ‚Advisory Board‘, open to ex-executive Board Members, being then non-executives - but helping, serving and advising the executive board.

We could define it as „Conseil des sages“.

Let me submit the intention to ask for membership fees.

Our objective to reach out for 10.000 members, soon, is clear. AE cannot survive without money. Money is not a goal, but without money we can't operate and survive.

We submit to your vote our intention to ask professionals, those among our network who work, to contribute per annum with 15,00 EURO. Students and pupils are welcome and free of membership fees. Each member is free of course to donate. Today we are immobilised with our empty pockets. This is more than challenging for a fast growing organisation.

5. New round

An impressive number of Alumni are keen to be elected as new board members. Let me thank each of them for their readiness.

They know what it means: time, readiness of frustration, optimism to start again and again, to repeat good arguments again and again. But it's so rewarding to see this network of friends growing, working and delivering services.

To help each other, to help to build Europe through painful times. It's good to see young members as candidates. The network depends on them. The elder ones will be on their side to help and to support them. Ildiko und Katrin will reach out to them.

6. Conclusion

Our network has grown significantly. We are known in all the European Schools, type 1 and type 2. The Parents Associations of all the ES know us and we hope to gain one day their significant support as a whole. The Parents Association of the European School Varese helped us a bit. The ES Frankfurt was more generous and took over the IT costs for one whole year. The support we gained from these two ES was a one-time-action. It certainly helped - but it is far away from the amount we would need.

To say the truth: our lack of money immobilises us. We have an office with the ES Brussels 1. It is empty, we can't use it though we would love to have an operational Headquarter in our ES.

We now must secure our growth and that means to deliver a communication among ourselves, securing the flow of continuous information among ourselves.

We have to improve our organisation, we have to tackle routine and secure day-to-day-business.

We definitely must optimise our internal communication and give the awareness of being a dynamic organisation.

We have to be able to organise the famous „Euro Alumni Day“ - which is essential to our network: we MUST meet, all together, we have to invite our members for a great come-together. Doing all this is just normal, but it costs money.

We have to secure first of all our will to be united, to preserve our friendships, to be able to care of all our contacts. We have to experience „on the ground“ that we are a terrific community. Doing this will help us to overcome any problem.

Our network has a tremendous and unique potential in terms of contacts, experiences, knowledge and first of all: it's due to friendship, mutual trust.

We will do our best to raise it, to give all of us the chance to use it. And being connected, we will promote European Values.

Let's start the job! Thank you.

Alumni Europae ASBL

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