

# Euroclassica - COPENHAGEN 2014

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**Minutes of the General Assembly on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2014 N. Zahle Gymnasium**

## **AGENDA**

### **Members present:**

**The Committee:** José Luis Navarro, president (E), assisted by Ramón Martínez (E), Christine Haller, Secretary (CH), Elena Ermolaeva (RU), Nijole Juchneviene (LIT), Francisco Oliveira (P).

**The following delegates:** Alfred Reitermayer + webmasters and those responsible *for European Symbols*, Andreas Thiel, Peter Glatz (A); Fabienne Paternotte, Hubert Maraite (B fr.), Christian Laes (B fl.); Barbara Pokorná + colleagues at the University of Olomouc (CZ), Katri Bügel Jørgensen + organizing committee of the conference (DK), Florence and Jean-Claude Turpin (F), Bärbel Flaig + Helmut Meissner (D); John Bulwer (UK); Franck Colotte (L); Horatio Vella (MA); Henriette van Gelder + Lotte Metz (NL); Gabriela Cretia (RO), Eva Schough Tarandi + Ingvar Nilsson (S).

**Apologies:** Sime Demo (HR), Vesna Dimovska (FYROM).

**Directors of Academiae:** Jadranka Bagarić (Academia Ragusina); Maria-Eleftheria Giatrakou (Academia Homerica) excused.

### **1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**

The President opened the meeting at 9:15, welcomed the meeting and thanked the Danish colleagues for the organisation of the conference.

The agenda is accepted.

### **2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Lisbon 2013**

The minutes were approved.

### **3. Report of the President**

Everyone has seen the presidential report because it was sent by email to all delegates. The President recalled that the Committee's efforts have mainly concentrated on establishing a new constitution that conforms to Luxembourg law which Euroclassica is subject to. It was necessary at the same time to make the required contacts with the Association of Teachers of Latin and Greek which has been newly created in Luxembourg (see below point. 5). The President also referred to the committee meeting held in Brussels during the 50 years celebration of the FPGL, to which the Committee was invited. On occasion of this jubilee, a commemorative book was published. The president would like to publish something similar for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Euroclassica in 2016.

#### 4. Financial Report

##### - Accounts 2013

The 2013 accounts are satisfactory despite the problems created by the associations which have not paid their subscriptions. The accounts were approved, together with special thanks to the Treasurer, Ramón Martínez.

##### - Budget 2015

Member associations are asked to pay their subscriptions before the 2015 GA in Malta, that is to say before the end of the academic year and not the end of the calendar year, so that all accounts can be transferred to Luxembourg by the new committee at the same time as the statutes are officially filed there.

Planned expenditures are not dissimilar from those of previous budgets; the committee proposes that under the point for Lobbying, however, the amount be reduced from 300 to 200 euros and the reserves increased from 100 to 200 euros.

The 2015 budget is not opposed.

#### 5. New Members - Associate Members

We welcome the arrival of the new Luxembourg association within Euroclassica. Its president, Franck Colotte presents the **Luxembourg Association of Latin and Greek Teachers (ALPLG)** and gives some details of the teaching of ancient languages in Luxembourg, where students who complete the full secondary curriculum of Latin receive about 23 hours of instruction in that subject. Franck Colotte is ready to take charge of the administrative tasks related to hosting Euroclassica in Luxembourg.

The **Slovenian Association** seemed ready to submit an application, but the president has not received any news for several months despite a last attempt to make contact with their administration. The president proposes to wait until the end of the year before considering this association as not interested in joining Euroclassica. He had better luck with Finland, as a favourable response has just arrived. The association will be asked to send their constitution in order to be admitted as a full member in Malta. As it is a small organization, it can be admitted and can pay only 150 euros as their contribution initially. The amount of the fee may increase gradually thereafter. Christian Laes who has contacts in **Finland** will be our *legatus*! For members who do not pay their dues, the Committee suggests that we forget the **Hungarian association** which has not paid and has not replied to correspondence for a long time. He offers to wait and see in the case of **Poland** who, having paid for 2012, has not paid its subscription for 2013. Changes have occurred in the Polish association and we'll try one final time to get in touch with them. If unsuccessful, we'll consider this association to be no longer a member of Euroclassica.

The situation with the existing **Greek associations** has not been clarified. A third pathway could be open: M-E. Giatrakou hopes to create an association formed exclusively of classical philologists and to find the necessary subsidies for its operation ... This could take some time. The president will seek to meet M-E. Giatrakou in October.

Hopes had been placed in the **Accademia Vivarium Novum** to find an alternative solution to Academia Latina. But courses offered by our associate member do not at all correspond to our expectations, and furthermore it is not easy to contact L. Miraglia.

The offer of scholarships for a year in Rome (academic year 2014-2015) was sent to us and has been passed on to member associations.

Another associate member, the **Egyptian Association**, has organized a conference devoted to lyric poetry. The president encourages anyone interested to participate in these Egyptian conferences, which are well-organized and well-attended.

## 6. 2015 Newsletter

Contributions to the newsletter in 2015 - reports, event announcements, book reviews (400 words for the online section edited by John Bulwer) - should be addressed to the secretary by November 20, 2014. The publication is scheduled for January under the same conditions as the last two years.

## 7. Academiae

Two Academiae took place this summer. **Academia Homerica** had some success with many participants, who were mainly Greek; with few, very few students. Concern exists about the future of the AH: the health of M-E. Gitrakou is not good and Greece continues to feel the effects of the crisis. It is unfortunate that almost 20 years of efforts are being erased. The AH was designed to cater for students of ancient Greek; we know they are fewer and fewer in number, but we must let them know that we are doing everything to fit in with their knowledge and skills, so everyone can get something out of it.

Gabriela Cretia who attended **Academia Saguntina** 2014 is pleased to give an account of the enriching activities that take place there. The programme is proving to be a good mix of Roman daily life and Greek tragedy under the Spanish sun. The next summer school will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The representative of the Croatian association is absent, and so we do not know whether it is organizing a possible next **Academia Ragusina**.

## 8 Website

Andreas Thiel says that nothing has fundamentally changed for the Euroclassica website. Our association is also on Facebook. The papers presented during the Copenhagen conference could be quickly put online.

## 9 European Symbols

The European Symbols project has come to an end. It consists of 20 contributions and 90 pages. The final presentation should have taken place in Copenhagen; it will not happen for reasons of time available to the designers in the past year and for money reasons. So far only about a quarter of the budget has been reached ... New approaches must be undertaken to find both the rest of the money and a publisher willing to provide a quality product. The presentation will take place in Malta. We will contact the associations to make them an interesting promotional offer. John Bulwer offers to review and edit all English texts. Andreas Thiel asks Euroclassica for a new subsidy of 500 euros. – This depends on the associations paying their contributions ...

## **10. Future Euroclassica Conferences**

The 2015 Annual Conference will take place from 27<sup>th</sup> (arrival) to 30<sup>th</sup> August in Valletta; Horatio Vella gives a brief outline of the programme.

In 2016, we will celebrate 25 years of Euroclassica, perhaps in Greece - but it is necessary for a Greek association to be a member of Euroclassica. Alternatively it could be in the Netherlands - the Dutch association was indeed among the founding members, or even in Great Britain, as John Thorley was the first president of our association.

## **11. European Curricula / ELEX - EGEX**

First Alfred Reitermayer recalls the creation of Nutricula programme developed in collaboration with John Bulwer and sent to delegates earlier this year; only Jose Navarro and Christine Haller made any remarks or reservations. He therefore considers the project as approved.

He then passes on to ECFRCL to mention, certificate to hand, that at the moment, the Council of Europe has no precedence over Euroclassica: our seal is as important and as recognized as that of the Council of Europe.

Thirdly he comes to the results of tests and EGEX ELEX for 2013 and is pleased to announce that entries are becoming more and more numerous every year. He also notes the increasing exchanges between him and the various national representatives. Problems remain regarding the printing of the certificates ...

He also briefly discusses the Erasmus + project (and its 300 pages of presentation) to say that we have had nothing to do with its conception and ends with the ECCL website presenting among other things some of the many links to sites of institutional interest.

## **12. The Constitution of Euroclassica**

The President recalled the reasons that led to a revision of the statutes. This was to be in accordance with the Luxembourg law, which requires that the committee has a Luxembourg member able to assume the administrative tasks linked to our entry in the register of foundations and associations.

As no substantive comment was received by the President, there is no discussion and the articles are approved, with thanks to those who have devoted many hours to their writing, correction and translation.

## **13 Miscellaneous**

Francisco Oliveira outlines the *Europatrida* project initiated last year. This is a brief presentation of each country to form an anthology of ancient Greek texts related to the region concerned, or else to set out the reception of ancient Greece in each country, in 10 to 12 pages with no more than 4 illustrations which may be in colour. Translations of the introduction and commentary in English or French should be of professional quality. Delivery of texts needed by 2016. We must find money ... The published will be the same as for *Europatria: Digitalia Classica*, which will mean the volume can be viewed online also. A description will be sent to delegates shortly.

Jet van Gelder asked if Olympics exist for ancient languages and if so, asked if they need to be expanded. José Navarro mentions the *Certamen Ciceronianum* on a European level. He recalled that ODEG had established a Greek contest, recovered and then abandoned by the Hellenic Ministry of Education. The differences between the different subjects in different countries make it difficult. It is better to develop our concept ELEX / EGEX and to think about extending to *Ianua* do soon. Lena Ermolaeva participated with her students in a competition of ancient Greek in the outskirts of Rome.

John Bulwer recommended everyone to register on Twitter; an account is open: **@Euroclassica**. Followers can find and pass on interesting information to each other.

Before thanking everyone for their presence, the President reminded everyone that the next AG will include the election of a new committee. **Nominations for the various positions must be made at least six weeks before the date of the AGM.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Peseux on 1 September 2014

Christine Haller

(Trans: John Bulwer)