



Newsletter March 2020

We are all living in strange times and under unfamiliar conditions, we do hope you and your beloved ones are still in good health and we wish all EJTA members courage, creativity and wisdom to cope with the new reality.

1. Conferences 2020

The EJTA Board decided in complete agreement with the organising colleagues to cancel the AGM in May in Vienna and to postpone the Euro-Asian Teachers' Conference in Chelyabinsk to October 2021.

As mentioned in the mail sent to all of you on 20 March 2020, we're quite sure there won't be an **AGM** before summer. The first option is October and we hope that it will be possible to use the dates that were chosen for the Teachers' Conference (**14 - 16 October 2020**), **but this will remain uncertain for a while**. As soon as the dates are certain, the Board will inform you through the EJTA website. The final "GO or NO GO"-

decision will be taken at the end of August. We expect to have a better view on the virus-situation by then.

2. Board member elections

At our next AGM we will have elections for new board members. Nico Drok, Nadia Vissers and Maria Lukina are stepping down. They have served for three terms of two years, which is the maximum that is allowed by our statutes . (Nadia Vissers will continue 'serving' EJTA in the function of Director from September 2020 onwards.) Alexandra Stark has come to the end of her second term, and she can and wants to serve for a new term of two years. So there are three vacancies, for which we have received three applications :

- Carien Touwen, HU University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht, The Netherlands ;
- Anne Leppäjärvi, Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki, Finland;
- Tiko Tsomaia, Caucasus School of Journalism and Media Management of Georgian Institute of Public Affairs, Tbilisi, Georgia.

We will postpone the election of new Board members until we can have an AGM (we expect to have our next AGM in October in Vienna, cf. above). For now, the current Board will take care of the situation; the new Board will take over as soon as the situation gets normalized.

3. New members

The Faculty of Journalism at al-Farabi Kazakh National University (Almaty Kazakhstan) wants to become an associate member of EJTA. The Board members have read their application and had a mail exchange with them. Our proposal is to support this application and to ask you to do the same. If you object to this admission, please send a mail to Nico Drok no later than Friday 3th of April.

In the mail of 20/3/20 we mention five new members in Paris (Sciences Po), Bordeaux, Poznan, Vladivostok and Nottingham.

Because we received no objections to their admission, we like to welcome them all to the EJTA network and hope to see them and the presentation of their journalism schools in October 2020.

4. EUfactcheck



Underneath a short state of affairs of EJTA's fact-checking project since November 2019 (previous Newsletter).

In autumn semester we continued publishing on www.eufactcheck.eu and we hope the corona virus won't disturb the spring publications too much.



At the **train the trainer in Ljubljana** on 13-14 February 2020 we welcomed 43 participants out of 17 countries with NEW participants from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Macedonia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

A sincere 'thank you' goes out to the colleagues from the University of Ljubljana who did a fantastic job in organising the two training days and to the EUfactcheck production team and the present experienced participants who were indispensable (as always). We hope lots of the 'new' journalism schools will join EUfactcheck and use our methodology to start publishing on

the platform in 2020.

In February we also published the project's guidelines 'EUfactcheck: A pan-European project. Methodology and lessons learned.' 121 pages full of practical takeaways and concrete process and project descriptions. Since it is impossible to give the EJTA members a hard copy soon, we suggest you download the pdf-file in the meantime on <https://eufactcheck.eu/about-us/eufactcheck-guidelines/>

Both the Train the trainer in Ljubljana and the manual were funded by the [Evens Foundation](#).

At the next AGM the Council of Europe will award a prize for the EUfactcheck publications that show best the analytic methodology and critical approach. We also intend to have a new EUfactcheck meeting for all interested colleagues on the day preceding the next AGM, more news will follow later.

picture: Participants to EUfactcheck train the trainer, Ljubljana, 13-14 February 2020, © Carien Touwen

5. Mobility Catalogue

The [EJTA Mobility Catalogue](#) is meant to help informing journalism students that are thinking of studying abroad about the **international** programmes of EJTA members. To fulfil this role properly, the information should be updated regularly.

The Board would like all members to have a look at the information about their institute on the Mobility Catalogue and to see if updates are needed. If so, please use [this form](#) .

6. FEJS

The Forum for European Journalism Students also had to cancel their Annual Congress 2020.

Meetings between the EJTA and FEJS Board take place in Antwerp nowadays. EJTA contact person for FEJS: Nadia Vissers, FEJS contact persons for EJTA: Félicia Van Goethem.

If you want to be informed about the FEJS activities or if you have any questions, you can reach the FEJS Executive Board on their [website](#) or via their social networks: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) or by sending an [email](#).

7. Upcoming Events

You'll all understand we unfortunately can't put any certain dates here at this moment. We sincerely hope together with all of you we'll be moving to 'normal' mode soon and can look forward to upcoming events for EJTA members.

**** Future e-mails and GDPR**

If you wish to no longer receive our e-mails or would like to be removed from our database, please send a message to our [EJTA Secretariat](#)



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