



Newsletter November 2020

[Join us on Friday 13th of November](#)

[#EJTAiks at 12 o'clock \(CET\)](#)

1. AGM 2020

“There's nowhere you can be
that isn't where you're meant to be
It's easy.
All you need is love.”

Whoever thought that online meetings and emotions could not go hand in hand? If you

were present at the first (and fingers crossed: last) 100% online EJTA AGM of 16 October 2020 you know better now. We're not going to repeat all the thank you's or words of praise, but it seems important to repeat some of the topics of the Report of the President: so continue reading.



2. News about the board

EJTA says hello to three new Board members: Carien Touwen, Anne Leppäjärvi and Tiko Tsomaia and waves goodbye to Nico Drok, Maria Lukina and Nadia Vissers. To refresh your memory: Nadia will continue 'serving' EJTA in the function of Director and she will be responsible for the association's organisation and coordination in close cooperation with the new President Eric Nahon and the Board members (newly elected + Alexandra Stark).

The tasks of Office Manager Leen Van Tolhuysen will remain the same.

3. New members

We warmly welcome six new EJTA-members into our family and hope they quickly find a comfortable seat in our association:

1. [Sciences Po – Ecole de Journalisme](#) (FRANCE)
2. [Institut de Journalisme Bordeaux Aquitaine](#) (FRANCE)
3. [Adam Mickiewicz University Poznan](#) (POLAND)
4. [Far Eastern Federal University Vladivostok](#) (RUSSIA)
5. [Nottingham Trent University](#) (UNITED KINGDOM)
6. [Al-Farabi Kazakh National University Almaty](#) (KAZACHSTAN - associate member)

4. #EJTAlks: new online meetings starting Friday 13th of November, 12 o'clock



We realise it is very important for all of us in these times of physical distance to see, meet and share experiences with each other related to important topics that bind us. That's why we announced during the AGM we're going to start with online chats on a two-monthly basis between the EJTA members: EJTAlks.

There is only one option for the first talk: Teaching journalism in corona times: tips and tricks.

We'd like to meet all interested EJTA staff on Microsoft Teams on Friday 13 November at 12 o'clock (CET) and we think to finish by 1 pm. During our first online brunch meeting you're invited to have your usual coffee and snack (or aperitive).

To participate in the meeting, go to the following [link](#) (MS TEAMS) using your full name and university (so we all know who is who).

Here are some topics we'll discuss together, more questions are in your mailbox:

- How do you communicate and interact with your students in times of distance teaching?
- Tips for making theoretical courses interactive and small scale?
- Can you recommend interesting tools, platforms, methods for giving feedback on assignments?

See you all there!

5. EUfactcheck: state of affairs



The future keeps on looking bright for EJTA's fact-checking project. In autumn 2020 EUfactcheck starts its fourth publication season with new ideas, participants and initiatives such as cross-national collaboration between EJTA schools, new formats (media analysis) and a possibility for staff to publish tips and tricks on how to teach fact checking.

It would be really great if all EJTA members continued paying attention to the project. Even when you're not actively participating right now: do like and share the newly published fact checks or other publications on social media.

If you're interested to join EUfactcheck in spring semester 2021, please send a mail to [Nadia Vissers](mailto:Nadia.Vissers@eufactcheck.eu).

6. Council of Europe Prize for Fact Checking 2019



This Prize is awarded on a yearly basis to the students' publication on www.eufactcheck.eu that shows best EUfactcheck's methodology and approach. It is created with support of the Council of Europe, and not meant to be a financial award, but a honourable mentioning of the title, which the respective winning school can carry with pride all year long.

The 2019 jury (Giuseppe Zaffuto, Council of Europe / Jan Jagers, Belgian professional fact-checker / Nico Drok and Alexandra Stark, EJTA) selected three fact checks as a final top three.

Out of their report:
"The jury is full of praise for all shortlist entries that show the EUfactcheck project is extremely valuable, certainly but not only from a journalistic-didactic point of view. All publications show how seriously and meticulously students checked the facts, but also prove their awareness of the complexity of factual correctness or 'the' reality. All

publications on the short list treated complex topics, used relevant sources in a transparent way. They all followed the EUfactcheck format and illustrated the fact check's content creatively. The final top three was selected on the basis of methodology, with specific stress on relevance and scope."

And here are the finalists:
[NUMBER 1](#) by Utrecht University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht.
[NUMBER 2](#) by University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.
[NUMBER 3](#) by Hochschule der Medien, Stuttgart.

The jury also wants to give a special mention to the [best Behind the Facts-publication](#) in 2019 and this honorary title goes to Artevelde University College Gent.

Congratulations to all!

7. Forum for European Journalism Students

Our student-colleagues from FEJS inevitably had to cancel their Annual Congress in Ljubljana but they creatively and inventively organised an interactive online event instead on Instagram. They discussed 'Covering the Coronavirus' and interviewed journalists, learned about ways to de-stress during a pandemic and even got together during a small digital concert.

The EJTA General Assembly 2020 will be held online from 5 to 10 of November in St. Petersburg, discussing the interesting topic: digital inequality. Participating students are asked to keep all afternoons and evenings free.

8. News from the EJTA Secretariat

And yet another welcome! This time to Ine Walgrave who is joining our EJTA Secretariat this year.

It is important that the EJTA Office has recent and correct contact details of all members, especially in these 'digital' times.

During the upcoming months the EJTA Office will approach all members and ask them to provide the data using a web form.

9. EJTA Conferences

Although we had a well-organised virtual AGM in 2020, we're sure everybody really hopes to have a live AGM and conference in Vienna in May 2021. The director and Board will communicate with the colleagues from Vienna and also Chelyabinsk (Teachers' Conference 2021) and keep you informed, but we need to ask you to be patient. No definite decision will be made before the next Board meeting in March 2021. But you can rest assured there WILL be EJTA conferences in 2021, in whatever form.

The next EJTA AGMs and conferences (2022 and 2023) are planned to take place in Aarhus, Mechelen, Tbilisi and Liverpool, but not necessarily in this chronological order. Let it be a cliff-hanger: where does the EJTA membership travel to in the near future?

10. EJTA Strategy 2020-2025

We had to postpone our Strategy discussion to our next AGM, which will be in May 2021 in Vienna. The main question is simple: what do you expect from EJTA in the next 5 years?

We would like you to send your ideas and suggestions to [Nadia Vissers](#) before December 1st 2020.

If you need inspiration, you can find it in the AGM documents (sent to you in September by the EJTA secretariat).

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

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