



Newsletter March 2021

NEXT EVENT

Online Teachers' Conference

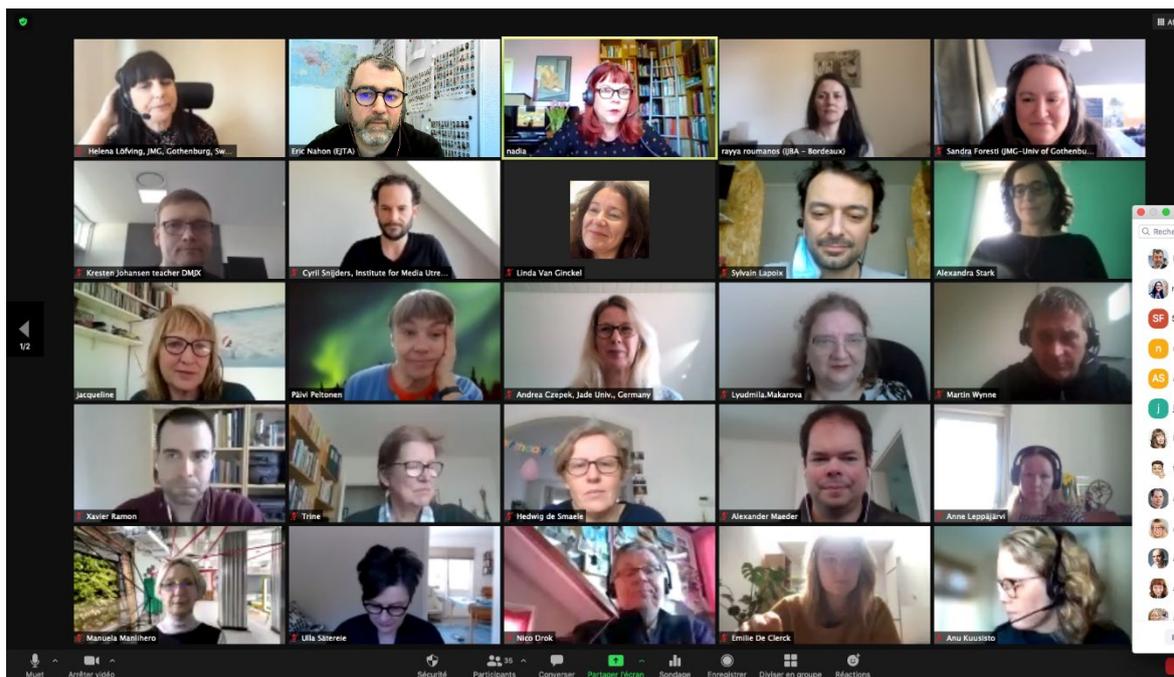
May 20-21, 2021

1. News from the board

During these difficult months in which all of us seem to seesaw like a yoyo, moving up and down together with the fluctuating covid figures, we want to strengthen the connections with and amongst our members. To make sure EJTA continues being well-organised and future-proof, the Board had a very constructive online meeting with a full (if not loaded) agenda on 11 March 2021. We discussed the future conferences, finances, membership, projects, EJTAIks, communication strategy and secretarial

affairs. In this Newsletter we give you, our members, more information on most of these topics.

2. #EJTALKs



The two-monthly online meetings on Friday lunchtime, #EJTALKs, succeed wonderfully in bridging the current physical distance between EJTA members. #EJTALK1 in November 2020 (Tips and tricks on teaching journalism in corona times), #EJTALK2 in January 2021 (The future of international exchanges) and #EJTALK3 in March 2021 (How to teach data journalism?) managed to gather many interested and enthusiastic EJTA staff. (During the last EJTALK we were with 56 participants!).

That's why we decided to continue with this third form of EJTA meetings (next to the yearly AGM and Teachers' Conference), also in the following months.

Save the date for

[#EJTALK 4](#)

[How to activate journalism students in online courses?](#)

[Friday 24 September, 12 am CET.](#)

This doesn't mean though this is EJTA's first upcoming online meeting: see next topic.

3. Teachers' Conference 2021 - 20 and 21 May 2021

For the 2021 Teachers' Conference, EJTA is going to cooperate with [Arena](#), the foundation to stimulate and support cross-border collaborative and investigative journalism in Europe and their conference [Dataharvest](#).

The joint venture results in an online conference on 20 May (afternoon + evening) and 21 May (morning), embedding the EJTA Teachers' Conference in the Dataharvest conference of May-June 2021. The theme is 'How to teach data journalism, data journalism in the curriculum and inspirational practices'. Our colleague from EJTA member University of Gothenburg, Brigitte Alfter, coordinates Dataharvest, together with Trine Smistrup and they are both so kind as to organise this Teachers' Conference together with us.

During inspiring panel sessions, lightening talks and online meetings we hope to attract and motivate all EJTA members who are interested in data journalism teaching: experienced experts as well as staff interested in (starting with) data journalism. There is the choice to enjoy the full menu of the two days or to pick out just one or two course(s).

With this cooperation EJTA and Arena / Dataharvest hope to share info and expertise, also in the future.

All EJTA members will be able to join the two-day Teachers' Conference for free and will be offered to register for the full Dataharvest Conference 2021 for a fair fee.

More info follows by mid-April.

4. CALL for active participation in the Teachers' Conference - deadline 2 April 2021

No EJTA Teachers' Conference without the active participation of EJTA members.

This is an urgent call to all EJTA driving forces in data journalism teaching who want to play an active role in the Teachers' Conference of 20-21 May 2021:

- 1) as a moderator of an interactive panel session or
- 2) as a member of a panel session with a presentation on a didactical subtheme of teaching data journalism

(Why do we teach data journalism? How do we teach data journalism? How to tell the stories in the classroom? ...) or

- 3) as a presenter of (a) good practice(s) / cases with tips and tricks .

Send a mail to director@ejta.eu to show your interest before 2 April 2021 and tell us clearly which role you suggest to play, what your suggestions are and what your expertise in data journalism is. We'll contact you soon after 2 April to talk about your possible commitment.

5. EJTAik XL - South Ural State University (SUSU) conference powered by EJTA - 15 October 2021

The SUSU Teachers' Conference in Chelyabinsk was originally planned for autumn 2020 but needed to be postponed to 14 and 15 October 2021. Because we know now it can still not be a live meeting with many EJTA participants present, the colleagues from SUSU constructively agreed to go for a 100% online conference in autumn 2021 with the theme 'Journalism education in the era of social networks and artificial intelligence: digital technologies and ethical values'. Consequently, this cannot be a regular EJTA Teachers' Conference or AGM but it will be an #EJTAik XL, powered by EJTA.

More info on [the conference's website](#) soon.

6. EJTA AGM 2021 - 9 and 10 December 2021

Also the colleagues from FH Wien needed to postpone the EJTA AGM. The Board realised it would be impossible for any EJTA school to organise an international conference in autumn 2021 and that EJTA itself should take the responsibility. Obviously, we realise how badly EJTA members want a live conference and that the association needs a 'real' event after nearly two years of online meetings. Moreover, we think EJTA will benefit from a conference to discuss and rethink its strategy, organisational activities, main projects, competencies list (Tartu Declaration), cooperations etc.

That is why we'll organise a **two-day meeting: EJTA AGM + Conference about 'EJTA business and strategy' in Mechelen, Belgium** (not at a journalism school campus but in a hotel with conference rooms) on 9 and 10 December 2021.

7. Future Conferences

"When shall we [~~three~~] meet again? In thunder, lightning, or in rain? When the hurlyburly's done, When the battle's lost and won. "(Shakespeare, Macbeth, Act 1, Scene 1).

You can all be sure: the next EJTA AGMs and conferences are planned to take place LIVE (with lots of time to meet, talk, laugh, discuss and reunite) in Aarhus, Tbilisi, Vienna, Liverpool and Mechelen, but not necessarily in this chronological order.

Together with you, we are eagerly looking forward to these meetings and hope you'll all be present with big smiles and enthusiastic contributions.

8. WJEC - UNESCO call : deadline 26 March 2021

The World Journalism Education Council (WJEC), in cooperation UNESCO, invites EJTA members to express their interest in editing one of two handbooks.

These handbooks are: 'Teaching journalism online' and "Reporting Artificial Intelligence: a handbook for journalism teachers."

You are invited to submit proposals by 26 March 2021 to: contact@wjec.net . If yours is accepted, the editor(s) will be contacted before or on 1 May 2021.

Click [here](#) for more information.

9. EUFACTCHECK

In March 2021 we start publication season FIVE: 18 EJTA schools from 12 different countries are eager to participate in this educational fact-checking project and we keep on attracting new EJTA participants. With lots of enthusiasm we welcome Sofia University and are happy to see some 'old tigers' from previous seasons return.

Also the new collaboration possibility: one claim being checked by two participating schools, is a success. In autumn semester 2020 we had seven pioneers with five cross-national publications. In spring 2021 we have more than ten interested schools which will be 'coupled' to each other in order to pursue a fruitful cooperation.

To all EJTA members: do like and share the [newly published fact checks or other publications](#) on social media.

10. News from the secretariat

- If you want a **news item to be published on the EJTA website**, please send a clear and short text (max. 250 words) to info@ejta.eu and director@ejta.eu.

Make sure all dates and info are clearly mentioned in this text, so we don't have to search for more info before publication.

- Can we ask your kind attention for the fact that the **EJTA Office** is not a 24/7 service and only '(wo)manned' **two half days a week**, so it might be quite possible that you'll have to wait a couple of days before you receive a reply to your mails or before the Office managers have time to take action to solve your problem. Do consider this when contacting the EJTA office and have some patience. Thank you!

11. Upcoming EJTA events and deadlines

You'll all understand we unfortunately can't put any certain dates of associated organisations' events here at this moment. But we can offer you a recap of all upcoming EJTA events and deadlines:

- **26 March 2021**: deadline WJEC-UNESCO call
- **2 April 2021**: deadline call for active participation in Teachers' Conference on data journalism
- **20-21 May 2021**: online Teachers' Conference
- **24 September 2021**: #EJTAik4
- **15 October 2021**: online conference powered by EJTA: EJTAik XL / SUSU conference
- **9-10 December 2021**: LIVE EJTA AGM and conference in Mechelen, Belgium

** 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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