



Agenda Meeting General Assembly

11th September 2013

Invited

- 1) Individual members of IALE-Europe, members of the national chapters with a group membership (Denmark, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia)
- 2) Others can participate as observer

Date and place

- 3) Wednesday 11th September, 18:00 to 19:30
- 4) European Congress, Manchester, room G.36

Participants

Ioannis Vogiatzakis (Cyprus), Kremena Boyanova (Bulgaria), Benjamin Brukhard (Germany), Elena Gissi (Italy), Felix Kienast (Switzerland, president IALE), Thomas Edwards (USA, secretary general IALE), Joao Azevedo (Portugal), Paola Mairota (Italy), Gregor Levin (Denmark), Sabine Bouche-Pillon (France), Isabel Joaquina Ramos (Portugal), Carlos Guerra (Portugal), Ulrich Walz (Germany), Bas Pedroli (The Netherlands), Lone Kristensen (Denmark), Stig Roar Svenningsen (Denmark), Wenche Dramstad (Norway), Sandra Luque (UK), Stefan Schindler (Austria), Marc Metzger (UK), Richard Smithers (UK), Theo van der Sluis (The Netherlands), Maria Kosova (Slovak Republik), Anna Majchrowske (Poland), Andreas Aagaard Christensen (Denmark), José Castro (Portugal), Marc Antrop (Belgium), Jonathan Porter (UK, member EC IALE-Europe), Isabel Loupa Ramos (Portugal, member EC IALE-Europe), Janez Pirnat (Slovenia, member EC IALE-Europe), Hubert Wiggering (Germany, representative Council of IALE), Emilio Padoa-Schioppa (Italy, treasure IALE-Europe), Teresa Pinto Correia (Portugal, President IALE-Europe), Veerle Van Eetvelde (secretary IALE-Europe)

Agenda

- 1) Welcome
 - Chair of the meeting
 - Introduction current EC
 - Adjustments to the agenda of the GA
- 2) Statutes of IALE-Europe
 - Explanation of the process since the foundation of IALE-Europe (the official registration of the organisation)
 - Presentation and approval of the statutes and the specific regulations
- 3) Report of the activities
 - Overview of meetings
 - Overview of activities (working groups, courses, symposia, ...)
 - Status of the memberships
 - Financial status

- 4) Elections [led by the chair of the Nomination Committee]
 - Proposal of the procedure of the elections
 - Election of the new Executive Committee (2013-2017)
 - Election of the new representative of IALE-Europe in de Council of IALE (2013-2017)
- 5) Open discussion about future activities and involvement of members

1. Welcome

- Welcome to all the participants of the meeting of the General Assembly (GA) by the president of IALE-Europe (Teresa Pinto Correia) and the representative of IALE-Europe for the IALE Council (Hubert Wiggering).
- Teresa introduces the European chapter in general and its position with the national chapters and IALE (international level).
- The current members of the Executive Committee (EC) are introduced.
- The GA accepts the proposal of the president of IALE-Europe that this meeting will be chaired the president of IALE-Europe and the representative of IALE-Europe for the IALE Council.
- The members of the GA suggested no adjustments or additional points for the agenda.

2. Statutes of IALE-Europe

1) Explanation of the process since the foundation of IALE-Europe (the official registration of the organisation)

Teresa PC gives an overview of the process for the legal registration of the association and the different actions taken since the foundation meeting 2009.

- On the European congress in Salzburg (July 2009), IALE-Europe was founded and a first GA was held. Therefore, a working group prepared the statutes of the foundation, which was a proper proposal of statutes for IALE-Europe, not in contradiction to the existing statutes of IALE. These statutes were approved on the General Assembly 2009 Salzburg.
- In the starting phase of IALE-Europe, the organisation shifted from a more informal organised organisation (with working groups to prepare the foundation of the association) to a more formal one. Therefore, some pragmatic decisions were taken to organise the administration and management of the association. For example the bank account was an associated account to account of the Portuguese Association (APEP), since the European treasure was also the treasure of APEP.
- Electronic elections for a new EC were held in 2011. So there was a change in the Executive Committee after two year. This newly composed EC pinpointed some structural problems to be solved because some formal issues were not working: the organisation did not have an own bank account and was not officially registered.
- On the EC meeting of 10 February 2012, it was decided to open a separate, own bank account to work fully autonomously. However, to open a bank account, it was necessary to do an official registration of the organisation.
- The EC took the initiative to register the IALE-Europe as an association under the Portuguese law, so it was possible to open the account in Portugal. The mean reason was that the official registration is not a complex issue in Portugal and the experience with the bank administration in Portugal was good (based on the APEP experience). The registration needed to be done by three people (inhabitants) of the country, and two members of the EC (Teresa and Isabel) are living in Portugal, so this seemed to be the best and fastest solution. To get the association registered under the Portuguese law, it was necessary to

reorganise the original statutes (see 2.2). IALE-Europe was officially registered in Évora, 23rd of April 2012 (document is signed by Teresa Pinto Correia, Isabel Loupa Ramos and Isabel Joaquina Ramos).

- After the official registration, the bank account was opened in Lisboa, 3rd of May 2012 (by Isabel Loupa Ramos, Emilio Padoa-Schioppa and Veerle Van Eetvelde).

2) Presentation of the statutes and the specific regulations

- The adapted statutes were sent to all the members of IALE-Europe before the General Assembly (mail by the Secretary General on 6th September 2013). This document “Statutes with Specific Regulations for the European Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE-Europe)” contains the same items as the original statutes, approved on the foundation meeting (2009) but in the structure according to the Portuguese law. Furthermore, some additional items were added, since they were requested according to the Portuguese law. This means that some articles were improved for the overall clarity of the Status. Other articles of the original statutes increased complexity and are therefore regulated by the Specific Regulation, to follow the Status approved in July 2009.
- Therefore, the new statutes contain each necessary article, with a reference to the original statutes as well as a Specific Regulation if necessary. This Specific Regulation is an internal regulation how the association deals with the general articles asked according to the Portuguese law.
- The main ideas like the general purpose and objectives (art. 2 and 3 of the original statutes), definitions (art. 4 of the original statutes) are the same and in the spirit of IALE. The adaptations do not change anything to the original spirit of IALE-Europe or to the democratic principles included into the original statutes.
- What is different?
 - Art. 1: the seat of the association must be specified. This is the formal seat, but in the specific regulation, the functional seat can be decided by the EC (for each mandate period).
 - Art. 19, art. 20, art. 24 and art. 26: beside a General Assembly and the Executive committee (art. 7 and art. 14 of the original statutes), the association need to have to additional bodies: a board of the General Assembly and an Audit Committee. These are added and the specific regulations explain how we will deal with these new bodies.
 - Art. 19 includes also the election need to take place at the meeting of the GA and the meetings of the GA. The specific regulation defines that, also electronic elections are possible and, due to the geographical dispersal of the members, the General Assembly only meets once every four years, in the European Congress of IALE.
 - Art. 25 defines that the EC meets once every three months. The specific regulations clarifies that, due to the geographical dispersal of the members, the Executive Committee, physical meetings are replaced by skype meetings, and that one physical meeting shall take place at least once a year with the majority of the members present.
- The current EC believes that, once the statutes including the specific regulations are approved by the GA, they will secure the straightforward functioning of IALE-Europe according to the Status of IALE and the Status approved internally in July 2009 for IALE-Europe and this will be the single document with all regulating rules for the functioning of IALE Europe.

3) **Discussion and approval of the statutes and the specific regulations**

Hubert W opens the discussion of the proposed document.

The day of the GA, a mail was sent by Jesper Brandt (Denmark) to Teresa PC, Veerle VE, Hubert W and Jonathan P regarding the proposed changes of the statutes and the associated specific regulations. Jesper, as spokesman of the Danish chapter, stated that the inclusion of the internal regulation in the paragraphs of the proposal for statutes made the document easier to read as a whole, but still raised some problems. As a result, the representatives of the Danish chapter (Lone Kristensen, Andreas Aagaard Christensen, Stig Roar Svenningsen) worked on a proposal with new additions. Felix Kienast asked if those additions took into account the comments of Jesper B, so they do to find a solution to the topics that were raised by Jesper B.

Hubert W proposes that the GA discuss article by article, and Andreas AC indicates the new additions raised by the Danish chapter. Andreas AC explains that, in general, the new adaptations take away some inconsistencies in the statutes and internal regulations and makes it possible to accept the statutes also in other countries, for example the Scandinavian countries.

- Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5: no comments or additional points were raised, so these articles are approved
- Article 6 Memberships:
 - In the specific regulation, two additional point (10 and 11) were added regarding the definition of a member of IALE-Europe and the redirection of membership applications
 - Richard Smithers (UK) suggested that we need to add the chapter membership in the document. This is already included in this article (point 6). The regulation of the membership fees is explained in a separate document, published on the website, in agreement with IALE.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 7: no comments or additional points were raised, so this article is approved
- Article 8 Resignation from Membership:
 - In the specific regulation, two additional points (c and d) were added regarding the sanctioning of members.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 9, 10: no comments or additional points were raised, so these articles are approved
- Article 11:
 - Point (2) of the specific regulation regarding the Audit Committee is deleted, since the regulation and functioning of the Audit Committee is included in article 26.
- Article 12: no comments or additional points were raised, so these articles are approved
- Article 13 Length of the Mandates:
 - The original point 2 of this article is moved to a next article 19 (was explaining the electronic elections)
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 14, 15, 16, 17, 18: no comments or additional points were raised, so these articles are approved
- Article 19 General Assembly:
 - In the specific regulations, two additional points (2a and 2b) are added regarding the elections of member of the bodies of IALE-Europe and the organisation of the elections by the nominating committee.

- Points (2i) and (2j) are the replaced points (previously in article 13)
 - Point (n) is added regarding the openness of the elections on the GA
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 20 Board of the General Assembly:
 - Three points are added as specific regulation, specifying the function and election of the Board of the General Assembly
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 21 Call and Functioning of the General Assembly
 - Four additional points were added in the specific regulation, regarding the yearly reports and budget approvals.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 22 Meeting of the General Assembly
 - In the specific regulation, one additional point is added about the formal minutes of the meetings.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 23: no comments or additional points were raised, so this article is approved
- Article 24 Executive Committee
 - In the specific regulation, one additional point is added regarding the communication of minutes and decisions of the EC to the council of IALE.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 25: no comments or additional points were raised, so this article is approved
- Article 26 Audit Committee
 - The inclusion of an audit committee is approved. This means that the GA 2013 should nominate an internal auditor. Something need to be changes in article 11
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 27 and 28
 - In both articles, the point in the specific regulation was deleted since they were redundant.
 - This article is approved after the adaptation.
- Article 29, 30, 31: no comments or additional points were raised, so these articles are approved

4) Official approval of the statutes and the specific regulations

The general assembly approves the statutes and specific regulations, including the adaptations made during the meeting.

Hubert W thanks the Danish chapter and Jesper for their input to make the statutes and specific regulations much better.

3. Report of the activities

Veerle VE explains the aim of the report of the activities. Every four your, at the European congress, the meeting of the General Assembly is hold, which gathers all the members of IALE-Europe, as well as people who are interested in the association. During the General Assembly, the running Executive Committee gives a report of activities and actions since the previous General Assembly. The aim of the report is to give an overview of the past activities and actions to all members, the national chapters and the international IALE as well as the financial report. The reports will be published on the website. Since intermediate elections took place in 2011, the presented report describes only the second term between October 2011 and September 2013, thus the period of the current Executive Committee. The

report of the first term will be published on the website too, to keep an overview of all activities from the foundation meeting onwards.

The activity report has a basic structure, covering all the meetings, administration and communication, financial report and several activities and actions:

1. Members of executive committee
2. Meetings of the executive committee
3. Meeting of the general assembly
4. Administrative issues and statutes
- 5. Membership administration and status**
- 6. Communication with members**
- 7. Financial report**
- 8. Working groups**
9. PhD courses, other events and symposia
10. European congress
11. Applications and publications
12. Elections

During the meeting, only the bold items are presented.

1) Membership administration and status

- On the website of IALE-Europe, the different types of memberships are explained (www.iale-europe.eu/membership) as well as the membership arrangements and fee structure (see document in appendix). There are four types of memberships:
 - Individual membership (in case no national chapter exists). Examples: Austria, Belgium, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Norway, Switzerland ...
 - National chapter + collective European membership: the national chapters pay a collective membership to IALE-Europe, which makes all their members also a member of the European chapter. Examples: Denmark, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia
 - National chapter + no collective membership: the national chapter did not apply for a collective membership, but some of their individual members are a member of the European chapter: UK, Germany, Czech Republic
 - National chapter + only individual membership: someone who has a national chapter but does not want to subscribe it and only want to be a member of the European level. These are only individual case.
- Fee regulations:
 - For an individual membership: 15€ for students (10€ for IALE-International, 5€ for IALE-Europe); 30€ for regular (20€ for IALE-International +10€ for IALE-Europe)
 - The collective membership fee is depending on the number of members of the national chapter: >150 members = 500€; >100 members= 373€; >51 members = 250€; 50 members = 5€ per member. No distinction is made between regular and student memberships, because students gets the reduction from the national chapters
- Currently (date of the meeting of the GA), 86 individual members are registered, together with the national chapters of Denmark, Italy, Portugal and Slovak Republic, this makes a total of 191 members. The complete overview of the membership is included in the appendix.

- In addition, we aim good collaboration also with the national chapter that are not officially affiliated¹ with a national chapter membership. On Monday 9th of September, an informal meeting was organised with the representatives of the national chapters, where 18 representatives of 10 national countries participated. Furthermore, it is important for the EC to have a good contact person in each country to increase a good communication, collaboration and interaction between the chapters and the European chapter.

2) Communication with the members

- The main ways to communicate with the members are the website, the mailing list of individual members, the contact persons of the national chapters and the IALE Bulletin.
- In the future, the (next) EC wants to explore much more the possibilities of the website, which will be coordinated by Jonathan P.
- The communication to the members of the national chapters is done in agreement with that national chapter. Some national chapters ask to send the information to someone of their EC and forward the information to their members, others prefer that the information of IALE-Europe is directly sent to the members. For example ialeUK will send the information to the members; other chapters might agree that IALE-Europe send the information immediately to the individual members. Veerle VE will contact the individual countries to confirm this agreement.

3) Financial report

- As the treasure of IALE-Europe, Emilio PS gives the financial report. The table with the overview is added as appendix of the minutes.
- The final overview of 2013 is not included, because some membership fees are still being paid and the balance of the PhD course 2013 can only be finalised after the course.

4) Working groups

With the foundation of IALE-Europe, three working groups were launched:

- WG 1 Europe's Stakeholders - Shaping future policy and science [Teresa Pinto Correia].
- WG 2 Education in landscape ecology – Sharing knowledge and experience [Janez Pirnat]. This WG organised a symposium during the European congress and will launch a survey about landscape ecology and teaching. Furthermore, IALE-Europe organised two PhD courses (see next point).
- WG 3 Landscape Ecology and Practice – Bridging science and society. Jürgen Breuste coordinated this WG. Since he stepped down in the EC, no further actions were taken.

If the current EC is re-elected, they are proposing to continue with WG1 and 2 and are looking for members to continue WG3 or starting new WG.

The members of the General Assembly rose following points:

- Wenche D also want do become a member of education and ask to re-establish WG3
- The EC also explains that there is a link with international working groups (if they exist), for example LE Net at the international level.
- When members want to start a new working group, they can contact the EC. The next EC will set up a procedure for a WG. There exist already a form to explain the aim, description of the WG, as well as the objectives and planned activities for the next years and budget and resources. The mean idea was to put this information on the website of IALE-Europe.

¹ By an affiliated national chapter we mean a national chapter membership, thus a national chapter who paid the collective membership fee according to their number of memberships.

4. Elections [led by the chair of the Nomination Committee]

1) Proposal of the procedure of the elections

- The elections are under the coordination of the Nomination Committee, chaired by the IALE-Europe representative in the Council (Hubert Wiggering). The GA need to elect a new EC and a new representative in the Council
- The members did receive the announcement of the election, as well as the normal procedure. Normally, this document needs to be sending at least 3 months before the elections.

The announcement and call for lists was sent to the members on 28th of August 2013. So Hubert is proposing two options: (1) the GA decides to accept this exception and continue with the elections today during the Manchester 2013 GA; or (2) the GA decides to postpone the elections, in that case the elections can only take place after 28th of November 2013 and will need be organised electronically.

- The GA agrees to continue with the elections procedure during the Manchester 2013 GA.

2) Election of the new Executive Committee (2013-2017)

- Only one list was given to the chair of the committee before the GA, this list presented (see appendix 6)
 - President: Teresa Pinto-Correia
 - Secretary General: Veerle Van Eetvelde
 - Treasure: Emilio Padoa-Schioppa
 - 4th member: Janez Pirnat
 - 5th (additional) member: Isabel Loupa Ramos
 - 6th (additional) member: Lone S. Kristensen
 - 7th (additional) member: Jonathan Porter
- GA decide to elect by raising hands
- Result: 25 yes, 0 no, 0 obtain. The list of the EC is elected for the period of 2013-2017.

3) Election of the new representative of IALE-Europe in the Council of IALE (2013-2017)

- Only one member is nominated as representative: Hubert Wiggering
- GA decide to elect by raising hands
- Result: 25 yes, 0 no, 1 obtain. Hubert is elected as representative in the Council of IALE for the period of 2013-2017.

4) Auditor

- According to the voted statutes, we have to appoint an internal auditor, who will function as the audit committee.
- Stig Roar Svenningsen (Denmark) is candidate and is appointed as internal auditor for the period of 2013-2017.

5) Proposal of the activity plan

- The new elected EC prepared an activity plan for the period of 2013-2017. This is briefly introduced by Teresa and will be added in the minutes of the meeting and on the website.

5. Other points raised during the meeting

- Before and during the discussion, Paola Mairota and Elena Gissi (Italy) asked why the invitation and documents of their National chapter (Italy) were not to the members, although they are member of the European chapter. Veerle VE answered that the documents were send to the contact person of the Italian chapter and she asked to send the mails to all the members of the Italian chapter. Since it is important for the European chapter to have a good understanding and collaboration with the national chapters, especially those who paid a national chapter membership fee, the EC will takes some action to reinstall a better communication with the Italian members.

6. Open discussion about future activities and involvement of members

- No specific issues were raised during the meeting, but the EC welcomes all members to send ideas and comments for future activities to the EC.

Meeting is closed at: 20.00 – everyone is invited to join a drink and the diner in the congress venue.

Appendix

1. Powerpoint presentation GA (see separate document)
2. Statutes (see separate document)
3. Document regulation membership (see separate document)
4. Overview membership
5. Financial report 2012-2013
6. List of EC + activity plan (see separate document)

Appendix 4 – Membership report 2012-2013

	2011	2012	2013
Europe	43	49	86
Austria	4	4	2
Belarus	-	1	-
Belgium	3	2	5
Bulgaria	-	-	1
Croatia	-	-	2
Estonia	-	-	1
Finland	1	2	8
France	4	3	8
Germany	1	-	1
Greece	-	1	1
Hungary	1	-	-
Ireland	-	1	1
Israel	1	1	1
Italy	-	-	1

Latvia	1	1	2
Norway	3	2	3
Malta	-	-	1
Portugal	-	1	1
Romania	-	3	-
Russia	-	-	1
Serbia	-	-	1
Slovenia	1	1	2
Spain	4	3	9
Switzerland	9	18	20
The Netherlands	8	4	10
Turkey	1	-	2
United Kingdom	-	-	1
United Kingdom+	1	1	1
United States	1	-	-

	2011	2012	2013
Europe	43	49	86
Denmark (DLF)	35	*	59
Germany (IALE Deutschland)	166	-	-
Italy (SIEP)	24	*	25
Portugal (APEP)	30	*	19
Slovak Republic (IALE-SK)	36	*	2*
TOTAL members IALE-EUROPE	378	49	191

* Numbers need to be checked with national chapters

Appendix 5 – Financial report 2012-2013

Overview account IALE-Europe 2012-2013				
Year	Transfer	In	Out	Saldo
2012				
	Saldo 2011	2.020,48 €		
	Individual memberships	790,00 €		
	Chapter memberships	632,50 €		
	Denmark	250,00 €		
	Italy	80,00 €		
	Portugal	157,50 €		
	Slovakia	145,00 €		
	total chapter memberships			
	PhD course 2012 - founding			
	Payments IALE-Europe (individual members) to IALE International		- 565,00 €	
	regular membership (20€)		- 420,00 €	
	student membership (10€)		- 70,00 €	
	journal regular membership (75€)		- 75,00 €	
	Fee registration organisation		- 384,00 €	
	Saldo 2012	3.442,98 €	- 949,00 €	2.493,98 €
2013				
	Saldo 2012	2.493,98 €		
	Individual memberships	1.640,00 €		
	Chapter memberships	708,33 €		
	Denmark	250,00 €		
	Italy	125,00 €		
	Portugal	188,33 €		
	Slovakia	145,00 €		
	Payments IALE-Europe (individual members) to IALE International		- 1.120,00 €	
	regular membership (20€)		- 680,00 €	
	student membership (10€)		- 140,00 €	
	journal regular membership (75€)		- 300,00 €	
	PhD course 2013	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>	
	founding		- 1.500,00 €	
	Saldo 2013	4.842,31 €	- 2.620,00 €	2.222,31 €