

EURAG General Council Meeting

Histadrut House, Bina Hall, Arlozorov's str., Tel Aviv

September 4th , 2023 from 1.30 pm till 5.30 pm

Draft Minutes

Participants:	Chair: Dirk Jarré (EURAG president-Germany) Board members: Dana Steinova (Secretary General-Czech Rep.), Monique Epstein (vice-president for communication-France) Albania: Ermira Pirdeni, Shpetim Cami, Nora Malaj Austria: Elisabeth Seelmaier, Denmark: Peter Hansen, France: Francoise Pettelat, Denis Massard, Jan Sekal Hungary: Gábor Hegyesi, Eva Orsos-Hegyesi Iceland: Gisli Pal Pallson and Alda Israel: Raziell Zwang, Moti Geller, Lithuania: Gedimidas Kuliešis Switzerland: Elianne Rey
1.Visit of the member of the Israeli parliament Mr.Gilad Kariv	Mr Gilad Kariv found a spare moment in his busy schedule to greet the EURAG members therefore the general council meeting was reduced in time.MP Kariv explained the close connection between the Trade Unions and seniors. Histadrut promotes the rights of the

	<p>elderly, social justice and fair welfare policies in Israel. Histadrut is an independent player which promotes social equality. Nowadays Israel moved due to the political trend to disrespect towards senior citizens. Life expectancy is high in Israel, many seniors came into country as immigrants without any pension. The current government is not developing a positive policy towards the ageing population and not at all a creative approach. In the past the country was a pioneer in developing a modern social policy. Older citizens are not sufficiently represented in the political bodies. Even more, the rights of senior citizens are not properly integrated into the Israeli constitution.</p>
<p>2. Opening of the meeting</p>	<p>EURAG president Dirk Jarré thanked to MP Kariv for his speech and opened officially the general council meeting and thanked to the Israeli organizers for organizing a very attractive program</p>
<p>2. Adoption of the agenda</p>	<p>Agenda was adopted without any objections.</p>
<p>3. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting of the General Council</p>	<p>The minutes of the last General Council meeting, that took place in Prague, Czech Republic, on March 10th, 2023, were adopted.</p>
<p>4. President's request to the Swiss representation</p>	<p>Dirk asked the representative of the Swiss senior council Elianne Rey to deliver an official request to her organisation to represent EURAG in the Council of EUROPE</p>
<p>5. Report of the Vice president of communication</p>	<p>Monique talked about updating the EURAG website and a possibility to offer some on line activities to our members, such as English class. Monique also suggested a prospective topic for</p>

	<p>the next EURAG conference: How to keep seniors in the labour market, how long, retirement age, etc It was agreed upon that the topic will be proposed for the EURAG event in Albania in May 2024</p>
<p>6. Report by the Secretary General</p>	<p>Dana was talking about EURAG Memory Training Center which organized a very successful EURAG conference in Prague in March 2023 with a very high participation of EURAG members. Besides that she mentioned the course for memory trainers in Budapest which took place in June 2023 with enormous result.</p>
<p>7. Prof.Gabor Hegyesi's Report of establishment of a new profession in Hungary</p>	<p>EURAG Memory Training Center is helping to EURAG members to develop a network of certified memory trainers for the benefit of local seniors to keep their brain alert. The outcome of the course can be modified for different target groups , especially for the persons suffering from mild cognitive impairment and dementia. The first course took place in Budapest in September 2021 and it was decided to use the first attendees as translators of the teaching material for trainers from English into Hungarian. The second course was intended mainly for social workers dealing with the elderly. Despite the fact that the course was very demanding, 20 out of 26 who took the final exam reached an excellent result= zero mistakes. Gabor indicated course as a milestone in establishing a new profession in Hungary which will be so beneficial for the Hungarian ageing population. We are planning the next course for 2024.</p>
<p>8. Other business</p>	<p>Raziel Zwang's EURAG manifest postponed to the next GC meeting because of the lack of time</p> <p>Danas's request for more humanitarian aid for</p>

	<p>Ukraine,</p> <p>Promised Galina’s report “Seniors in the battle field”has not arrived in time.</p>
<p>9. Info on the next GC meetings</p>	<p>The dates of the next General council meeting and a conference are May 23rd-27th,2024 in Tirana, Albania. It will be organized by the Tirana University(Shpetim Cami and Nora Malaj) in co-operation with ASAG(Mira Pirdeni).</p> <p>The second EURAG event in 2024 will take place in Slovakia in the spa city of Piestany from August 24- 29th.</p> <p>The originally planned 2024 EURAG event in Paris, France was moved to October 2025.</p>
<p>9. Closing of the General Council meeting by the president</p>	<p>Dirk Jarré expressed big thanks and gratitude to Histadrut and especially to all the organizers such as Raziel Zwang, Motti Geller, Jasmine Wirth and Shany, who covered all the correspondence with EURAG members.The Israeli hospitality was so overwhelming that it is difficult to express our feelings in words. Dirk believes in EURAG’s bright future and its role in the society, strongly and successfully promoting a future of “Not leaving anyone behind in the ageing world” as the UN Fundamental charter of Human rights states.</p>