

Cambridge conference 2001

Minutes

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS (EASR), SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

AT THE FACULTY OF DIVINITY, CAMBRIDGE

Agenda:

1. Adoption of final agenda
2. Reports by the President and the General Secretary
3. Treasurer's report
4. Correction of Constitution according to Article 10, iv (Enabling Measure)
5. Nominations of designated officers
6. Proposals for EASR-conference 2002
7. Any other business

ad 1. Adoption of final agenda:

It was established that no proposals for the agenda had been received before the deadline (August 21st). Furthermore it was established that the General Assembly had been called in due time according to the constitution (article 5) and that the quorum (20, cf. article 5) was achieved. 41 members were present.

ad 2. Reports by the President and the General Secretary:

The reports (available at the the website (<http://www.easr.de>) read by the President as well as the General Secretary were both approved by the General Assembly.

With regard to future applicants for membership the committee was asked to discuss its definition of Europe.

ad 3: Treasurers report (cf. <http://www.easr.de>)

Debet: The registration of EASR in the Hague had cost 933,4 euro.

The money for this had been borrowed from IAHR.

The rest of the deficit was due to xerocopies, transfer costs et al.

Credit: Finland, Great Britain, Italy, France and Denmark had so far paid their dues.

Netherland, Spain, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland have promised to pay before Christmas 2001.

Just a reminder: Bank account: 53.23.58.015. ABN-AMRO, The Haque, NL.
Please, if needed, remember to apply for a reduced fee or respite with payment.

ad 4. Correction of Constitution according to Article 10, iv (Enabling Measure):

Since EASR as planned has become an affiliate to IAHR, Article 2 accordingly reads: "The European Association for The Study of Religions (hereafter EASR) shall manitain etc.", and Article 6, iii reads: "...or by decision of the committee. Voting Rights on etc." The General Assembly established the correction.

ad 5. Nominations of designated officers :

The General Secretary had received nominations for the following positions:

1. President: Giulia Gasparro (Italy)
- 2/3. Vicepresidents: Halina Grzymala-Mosczcinska (Poland) & Helena Helve (Finland)
4. General Secretary: Tim Jensen (Denmark)
5. Deputy General Secretary: Emilio Suarez de la Torre (Spain)
6. Treasurer: Willem Hofstee (The Netherlands)
7. Deputy Treasurer: Philippe Borgeaud (Switzerland)
8. Membership Secretary: Kim Knott (United Kingdom)
9. Publications Officer: Giovanni Casadio (Italy)
10. Internet Officer: Michael Pye (Germany)

Taking account of the fact that these candidates were unopposed the General Asse m bly, with reference to Article 7, ii ruled (unanimously) that there should be no elections by postal ballot, and that the nominated officers, accordingly, were all elected unopposed for the period of three calendar years running from January 1st 2002.

The General Assembly asked the committee to prepare for a specific amendment ("The General Assembly rules that in cases where a candidate is unopposed there should be no postal ballot").

ad 6. Proposals for EASR-conference 2002 :

It was proposed that decisions about the location of the annual conferences and the annual General Assembly should as far as possible alternate amongst member association located in the North, South, East and West of Europe. Accordingly, the General Secretary was asked to continue negotiations with the Société Ernest Renan to host the 2002 conference in France, and in case this did not work out, the Spanish Association should be contacted with regard to locating it in Spain. As for 2003, Bergen (Norway) had been suggested because the IAHR had decided to locate its international committee meeting there. An alternative to this location was suggested by Hans Kippenberg who was ready to ask the DVRG to host the EASR at the annual meeting of the DVRG in Erfurt 2003.

The committee was asked to make a 5 year scheme for conferences, locations et al.

ad 7. Any other business :

The possibility of amending the constitution in order to hold a General Assembly not every year but only every third year was discussed. A majority of the members present, however, signalled their wish that the General Assembly should be called every year.

The committee will propose an amendment of Article 6i in order to replace “IAHR” with “EASR”, so that Article 6i(b) would read as follows: “one member each delegated by the European affiliate associations of the EASR in accordance with their own electoral provisions”. Besides, the “§” in Article 7iii should be replaced by “article”.

Other things mentioned:

Hans Kippenberg presented a book by DVRG on the German field of study of religions and proposed that all the national associations make a similar documentation.

John Sawyer remembered the late professor Ninan Smart and informed about the establishment of a Ninian smart Memorial Lecture in Lancaster. The first lecture will be given by Mary Douglas on Wednesday January 31st 2002.

The publications officer, Giovanni Casadiogave information about various publications and periodicals of interest to the members of the EASR.

Rapporteur

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September 19, 2001