



Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of the EASR held in Gothenburg on the 24th of August 2025

The President, Kim Knott, presiding. The General Secretary, Jenny Berglund, is taking the minutes.

1. A) The President welcomes all persons present and officially opens the meeting.

B) Verification of the attendee list and the right to vote:

The following EASR officers are present: Kim Knott (President), Jenny Berglund (General Secretary), Abraham Kovac (Vice President), Joseph Verheyden (Vice President), Kim Knibbe (Treasurer), Jenny Buttler (Publications Officer), Carmen Becker (Internet Officer), Chiara Tommasi (Vice General Secretary).

The following member associations are represented:

Austria (ÖGWR):

Belgium (BABEL): Niels De Nutte

Czech Republic (CSPS): David Zbirqal

Denmark (DASR): Karna Kjeldsen

Estonia (EAUS): Inderek Peedu

Finland (SUS): Essi Mäkelä

France (SER): Charles Guittard

Germany (DVRW): Wanda Alberts

Greece:

Hungary: Bulcu Hoppal

Ireland (ISASR): James Kapalo

Italy (SISR): Giovanni Casadio

Latvia (LRPB):

Lithuania (LSSR): Eglė Aleknaitė-Škarubskė

Netherlands (NGG): Ernst van den Hemel

Norway (NRF): Janeh Skjodli

Poland (PSSR): Pawel Kusiak

Romania (RAHR), Eugen Curtin

Slovenia (SASR): Igor Jurekovič

Spain (SECR): Mar Marcos

Sweden (SSRF): Katarina Plank

Switzerland:

Turkey:

Ukraine (UARP): Liudmyla Fylypovych

United Kingdom (BASR): Susanne Owen

The following two delegates also have voting rights:

Igor Mikeshin, the representative of the individual members, and Satoko Fujiwara, the general secretary of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR).

On top of this, the following delegates are present in roles without voting rights: Karna Kjeldsen represents the working group Religion in Public Education, Milda Ališauskienė represents the IAHR-Women Scholars Network, Marco Pasi represents the Honorary Members Committee, Rasa Pranskevičiūtė-Amoson represents the audit committee, and Giuseppe Maiello is present as a nominee.



The General Secretary confirms that the meeting has been called in due form according to the EASR regulations, i.e., at least 30 days before the meeting's date. She further notes that the meeting has a quorum, as stipulated by the EASR constitution.

2. The agenda is approved with an addition from Liudmyla Philipova.
3. The minutes of the previous EC meeting (Gothenburg 2024) are approved.
4. The President reads her report that will be presented at the General Assembly (annex 1).
5. The General Secretary reads her report that will also be presented at the GA (annex 2).
6. The Treasurer reads her report about the financial situation (see annex 3). The report has been compiled by Kim Knibbe, treasurer of the EASR, with the help of William Arfman, deputy treasurer. The report will be presented at the GA as well. The report concludes that the financial situation of the EASR is stable and that most associations have paid their fees. Gothenburg University donated the surplus from last year's conference, 6000€, to the EASR. This donation will be used for future bursaries.
7. The Audit Committee presents its report and thanks the Treasurers for all the information, and concludes that the finances are in good condition. Some of the officers in the Audit Committee has asked to be replaced. The president asks the EC if this can be handed over to the officers. The request is approved.
8. The Budget for the next financial year is presented and approved (see annex 3)
9. Reports from other designated officers and members:
 - a. Since the membership secretary is not present, Jenny Berglund read Anne Kubai's report. There has been no alteration in the status of individual memberships.
 - b. The Internet Officer, since Carmen Becker reads her report, has regularly updated the EASR website. Subscription numbers have been stable in the last year. There have been no incidents involving the code of conduct for the EASR mailing lists, but activity on the lists varies considerably. The Facebook group is moderated by Jenny Berglund, Jenny Butler, and Carmen Becker. We regularly check membership requests and posted content. The content needs to be approved by one of the moderators. The group currently has 5169 members.
 - c. The publication officer, Jenny Butler reports on publication issues.
 - a. The Women Scholars Network represented by Milda Ališauskienė who reports on their activities over the year. The present coordinators are Amy L. Allocco and Milda Ališauskienė. The IAHR WSN also invites those present to join the WSN meeting during on IAHR 2025.
 - b. Karna Kjeldsen reports on the activities of the Working Group on Religion in Secular Education. The group has had a workshop in Koper, Slovenia in March.
10. The nominating committee for the 2025 election put forward the following names for election: President: Marco Pasi (Netherlands), Vice-Presidents: Chiara Tommasi (Italy) & Wanda Alberts (Germany), General Secretary: Jenny Butler (Ireland), Deputy



General, Secretary: Rasa Pranskevičiūtė-Amoson (Lithuania), Treasurer: William Arfman (Netherlands), Deputy Treasurer: Philippe Bornet (Switzerland), Membership Officer: Anne Kubai (Sweden)*, Publications Officer: Giuseppe Maiello (Czech Republic)*, Internet Officer: Léo Bernard (France). The names were sent out to the national associations by the General Secretary on the 23rd of May 2025. The president thanks the nominating committee for their great work. All unopposed positions are elected for office.

The positions of Membership Officer and Publication Officer has got alternate nominations: Eugen Curtin for Membership Officer and Bulcsú Hoppál for Publication Officer. The president informs the EC about the election rules. Rasa Pranskevičiūtė-Amoson and Milda Ališauskienė are elected as tellers.

The General Secretary has prepared ballots and hand them out to members with voting rights. Members vote and counters leave the room for counting the votes while the EC takes a pause and drinks coffee. The vote counters return and announce the result: For the position of publication's officer, there were 28 bulletins with votes and two with an abstention. Giuseppe Maiello received 17 votes, Bulcsu Hoppal received 11 votes. For the position of the membership secretary, there were 29 bulletins with votes and one with an abstention. Anne Kubai received 15 votes and Eugen Curtin received 14 votes. The President announces that Giuseppe Maiello has been elected publication's officer and Anne Kubai membership secretary.

11. Marco Pasi, as the chair of the Honorary Membership Committee presents their nomination: Professor Tim Jensen. Pasi reads the nomination which will be published at the EASR website. The EC congratulates Tim Jensen (who is not present) with a round of applause.
12. The President announces that some members need to be replaced in the Honorary Member Nomination committee. She asks if the EC can hand this matter over to the officers. The request is approved.
13. The General Secretary informs that a new working group is in the making. The group is called Theorizing Religion's. Discussions are taking place between the officers and the working group since EASR Working Groups are officially established on the initiative of the EASR Executive Committee: <https://www.easr.eu/easr-working-groups/>
14. Future Conferences:
 - 2026: Romanian Association, Bucharest, 20-25th of September. Eugen Curtin reports about the plans for the next conference but also about the challenges that are related to the present political situation.
 - 2027: the Dutch Association, Amsterdam. Ernst van den Hemel reports on the preparation of the conference.

A statement on the scholasticide in Gaza that has been brought forward by the officers' committee is presented. The statement was sent out to all delegates for national associations with the agenda on the 7th of August 2025. The president asks for comments and questions. Several representatives think the statement could be strengthened, and ask for the inclusion of further information on the general situation in Gaza and the genocidal actions, plus updated numbers of Palestinians killed and injured. The opinion that the EASR should refrain from such statements is also raised. The president asks the delegates for a vote on the statement with the additions mentioned above. A clear



majority of the delegates votes for the statement including the proposed additions. The officers' committee receives the mandate to revise and issue the statement accordingly. The president thanks the delegates for the discussion.

15. Any Other Business:

- a. Liudmyla Philipova from the Ukrainian Association of Researchers of Religious Studies (UARR) reads a letter of Appreciation for the solidarity, support and active stance of defence for the Ukrainian academic community during the full-scale invasion by the Russian Federation (see annex 4).
- b. The General Secretary reminds the delegates of the EASR panel taking place later in the conference week, plus the celebration at the General Assembly.

The President thanks the delegates and closes the meeting.