

Comité International
des Sciences Historiques



International Committee
of Historical Sciences

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ICHS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

12 APRIL 2021

ZOOM MEETING (Bern)

Registration started at 12.45 CET; 53 delegates registered, representing their national committees and affiliated commissions.

At 1.15 pm CET, President Andrea Giardina opens the meeting explaining first why we had to choose the virtual frame because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This led us also to postpone twice the Congress that was to take place in Poznań in 2020 and will be held on 21–27 August 2022 instead. Prof. Giardina wants to express his thanks to the Organizing Committee which is put under a considerable pressure because of this situation. He recalls that the Congresses were interrupted only once, during World War II, between 1938 and 1950. Now some of the topics that were selected for the Congress seem to reflect the present-day preoccupations, namely the ones related to «man and nature». Time has accelerated due to the pandemic and this is also a question the community of historians has to consider.

Prof. Giardina informs briefly about the last meetings of the Board; the Nomination Commission, as well as about the International Award for History.

1. The moral report by Secretary General Catherine Horel follows.
2. The financial report by Treasurer Sacha Zala is the next presentation. The General Assembly appoints two auditors to survey the balance sheet: Prof. Frank Hadler (Commission for Slavic Historical Studies) and Prof. Markus Furrer (International Society for History Didactics). They are both approved by vote. Prof. Zala present a proposal for a new structure of the membership fees from 2022. The fees should be reduced of CHF 200 but compensate through a voluntary contribution in the Solidarity Fund.

3. Krzysztof Makowski, Board Member and Chairman of the Executive Department of the Organizing Committee shows a PowerPoint presentation to update the General Assembly about the organization of the Congress. As said by Prof. Giardina in his introduction, there have been very few cancellations of panels since the first postponement, but we nevertheless are able to offer some free slots in the categories of Specialized Themes, Joint Sessions and Round Tables: a call for applications will be sent by May 1st. The Board will inform about the selection by September 1st. It is also reminded that the affiliated commissions are entitled to hold their conferences on the two last days (Thursday afternoon, Friday) of the Congress.
The poster session will benefit from the support of the Shandong University as announced at the Jinan Congress.

4. Presentation of the applications for new ICHS membership

- Lorina Repina, Board Member, presents the application of the *National Committee of Serbia*: the representative of the Committee, Vojislav Pavlović, Director of the Institute for Balkan Studies of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts briefly precise the project.

- Catherine Horel, General Secretary, introduces the application of the *International Commission for the history of the Pacific Ocean*: the representative of the Commission, Pierre Journoud, University of Montpellier, briefly presents the project of the commission.

5. Presentation of the candidates for the new Board

The presentation is made by Eliana Dutra, Vice-President, and Tao Wenzhao, Board Member. Five new members have been selected by the Nomination Commission meeting in Rome in November 2019. The new Board will take its functions immediately after the second General Assembly in May 2020 and be officially introduced during the opening ceremony of the Poznań Congress. The CVs have been sent to the members.

- Gunlög Fur (Swedish Historical Association)
- Nuno Gonçalo Monteiro (Académie portugaise d'histoire; ANPUH-Brasil)
- Katalin Szende (Commission for the History of Towns; Hungarian National Committee)
- Edoardo Tortarolo (ICHTH), proposed by the Nomination Commission and the Board as new General Secretary
- Hirotaka Watanabe (Commission for the History of International Relations).

Each of them briefly presents their applications. Prof. Watanabe adds that the Japanese National Committee is willing to organize the 2024 General Assembly in Tokyo together with a scientific conference.

The following Board Members wish to remain for a second term:

- Eliana Dutra, vice-president
- Joel Harrington
- Catherine Horel, proposed by the Nomination Commission and the Board as new President

- Krzysztof Makowski, proposed by the Nomination Commission and the Board as new vice-president
- Matthias Middell
- Sacha Zala, Treasurer, was elected at the General Assembly in Moscow and does not need reelection now.

The following members are leaving the Board:

- Andrea Giardina, becomes Honorary President (one term)
- Pim den Boer, Vice-President
- Lorina Repina
- Lim Jie-Hyun
- Tao Whenzao

6. Communication about the International Award for History.

The application of Prof. **Sanjay Subrahmanyam** (Professor of History and Irving & Jean Stone Chair in Social Sciences at UCLA) presented by the *Giunta centrale per gli studi storici* (Italy) has been chosen by the Board. The Award winner will attend the XXIIIrd Congress in Poznań and deliver a speech at the ceremony taking place on Wednesday 24 August 2022.

7. Presentation of the applications for the XXIVth Congress to be held in 2026 (Centenary of ICHS). The application files have been sent to the members.

- The application of Jerusalem is presented by Prof. Shmuel Feiner, chairman of the Historical Society of Israel, and Prof. Ruth Ginio (Ben Gurion University of the Negev).
- The application of Leipzig is presented by Matthias Middell, Board Member.

8. Update about the Newsletter

Matthias Middell, Board Member, reminds the members that the Newsletter is our common work and invites everyone to contribute to its redaction by sending information and content.

9. Voting Procedures for the General Assembly of May 11

Treasurer Sacha Zala explains the voting procedures for the second GA on May 11th and reminds of the deadline for sending proposals according to the ICHS Statutes (Art. 5): «Counter-proposals may be submitted to the Board between the first and the second Assembly. To be admissible, a counter-proposal has to be signed by the representatives of five National Committees or International Affiliated Organizations.» Thus, counter-proposals for candidatures and other suggestions for points of the Ordre du jour must be submitted until 3rd May 2021 to treasurer@cish.org.

After considering that there are neither questions nor comments on any of the points addressed in the agenda, nor a need to address various questions, the meeting is closed at 4.30 pm CET. Members will receive after May 3rd the agenda of the second GA.