



# FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

## The International Federation of Photographic Art

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### Minutes of the FIAP Board of Directors

Santo Domingo, April 28-30, 2023

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**PRESENT:** Riccardo BUSI, Joan BURGUES, Freddy VAN GILBERGEN, Herbert GMEINER, Ioannis LYKOURIS, Kurt BATSchINSKI, Romain NERO, Luis FRANKE (BD members).

#### 1. Introduction by the President

President R. Busi welcomes all the members of the Board, expressing delight in gathering for the second time in Latin America.

#### 2. Task Review

*Insurance* – The Board has decided to sign a liability insurance coverage with the company Le Foyer (Abil).

*Upcoming Photo Meeting* – Board members are actively communicating with the organizers to finalize the details.

*World Cup for Clubs* – Joan Burgues will be sending the trophy to Birmingham.

*FIAP Platform Contract* – Ioannis Lykouris will discuss the technical details of the proposed contract with the company responsible for the platform software, along with Br. Brkic, the Director of our Web Service, and our attorney for the legal terms.

*FIAP Logo Registration* – As notifications arrive, it is necessary to continue the procedure to respond to specific requests from certain countries.

*Medals* – K. Batschinski will be assisted by Mr. Karl Swoboda in distributing the medals; Mr. Swoboda also resides in Villach, Austria.

#### 3. Treasurer's Report

*Financial Statement and Current Situation*

H. Gmeiner announces that the financial situation of FIAP is still improving. Currently, FIAP has a total of €1,667,000, including investments. At the moment, there are 20 active members who have not yet paid their membership fees. Among the ILFIAP members, only 59 have paid their annual membership fees.

#### 4. Member Relations

Following the request of the Secretary-General, I. Lykouris, the OM of Montenegro confirmed its support from the majority of ILFIAP members in the country through a letter signed by each of them. Consequently, the issue of representation in Montenegro for the BD has been resolved.

Furthermore, the letter received from our Slovenian Liaison Officer, Vasja Doberlet, concerning FIAP distinctions, was also analyzed. However, since the matter will be subject to further discussions within the Board of Directors and in accordance with the agreements reached with the PSA last December, it was decided not to take further action at this time.

The long-standing problem of non-representation at UNESCO in Paris still persists, despite having established contacts with the French Federation for over a year.

To address concerns regarding the verification of membership applications from different clubs, it was agreed to conduct a comprehensive review of the membership application form. This review will involve the inclusion of additional information to ensure the authenticity and location of the applying club can be verified accurately.

## **5. Biennials Service**

R. Busi requests to explore various offers from multiple countries for the publication of the Biennials Yearbook. The goal is to publish approximately 500 copies.

In an effort to promote the participation of young authors in FIAP events, the BD has made the decision to modify the Youth Biennial by revising the maximum age limit, setting it to 25 years.

Regarding the upcoming biennials, the Nature Biennial will be organized in Germany, with R. Nero as the FIAP judge and H. Gmeiner as his substitute. The Black and White Biennial will take place in India, with D. PC Tay as the FIAP judge and Luis Franke as his substitute.

## **6. Patronage Service**

In 2022, there were 675 salons. For 2023, we expect even more, with the number likely to exceed 700, as there were already 417 salons as of April.

Regarding online juries, it was decided to appoint a committee responsible, on behalf of the Board of Directors, for randomly verifying compliance with FIAP rules by participating as observers in the various final phases of juries under FIAP patronage.

In a bid to attract more young photographers to FIAP, it was decided to promote the development of contests exclusively dedicated to young authors (aged up to 25 years with a maximum of two sections) under FIAP patronage. These contests will be exempt from patronage fees, and FIAP will provide the set of medals. Additionally, all young authors up to the age of 25 will have their applications for FIAP distinctions completely free of charge.

**Artificial Intelligence** – The Board of Directors takes an official stance against accepting photos submitted to FIAP-sponsored contests that incorporate artificial intelligence. The binding text for all participants in FIAP contests will be published as an INFO FIAP as soon as possible.

## **7. FIAP Exhibition Centers**

Currently, there is no information available regarding the opening date of the Panama Center. However, in the near future, new centers will be opened in Toledo, Spain, in Oklahoma, United States, and possibly in Turkey. Unfortunately, the room at the Montevarchi Center in Italy, where we had stored all our documents from the former headquarters in Paris and documents belonging to former President E. Pamies, is no longer available. Therefore, it is essential to find a new storage location for them before the first of August.

Next month, FIAP will sign a new cooperation agreement in Rome with the Chinese government for the establishment of a new FIAP Exhibition Center in Jinan, China.

## **8. Distinctions Service**

F. Van Gilbergen informs the Board of Directors that despite the establishment of the new Coordination Office in China, there have been no requests for distinctions from this country at present. The BD has decided to award the EsFIAP distinction to Mr. Nils-Erik Jerlemar (Sweden). Among the candidates for this year's MFIAP distinctions, out of a total of 16 candidates, Mr. Thigh Wanna from Myanmar has been nominated for MFIAP.

## **9. Medals Service**

The BD has decided to create a new pin for the Board Members (gold-colored) and one for the Service Directors (violet-colored) who have served at least 2 terms.

## **10. World Cup for Clubs Service**

The award ceremony will take place in Birmingham in July and will be organized by the Smethwick Photographic Society at our FIAP Exhibition Center located at the Old Schoolhouse, Churchbridge, Oldbury, West Midlands (United Kingdom).

## **11. Audiovisual Service**

The director of the FIAP Audiovisual Service, Lorenzo De Francesco, will prepare a new projection featuring the award-winning photos from the World Cup for Clubs.

## **12. Photo Meeting 2023**

There are still some important details to address, including data protection for the participants. The BD is expecting approximately 150-180 people to attend this photo meeting in Asturias, Spain. For the FIAP evening, a decision has been made to request 5-6 FIAP authors to prepare a projection showcasing their photographic work.

## **13. FIAP General Assembly 2023**

The 2023 FIAP General Assembly will take place in Armenia at the end of October 2023. The Board of Directors is all set to finalize agreements with the organizers, pending confirmation of details related to prices and hotel accommodations.

## **14. Projects 2023**

a) Project "Immigration, a reality of our time." R. Busi suggests requesting ideas for promoting this project from Mr. Sefa Ulukan, the President of the Turkish Federation.

b) Project "Our Future...in their eyes." R. Busi proposes that each university select 5 students, who could then be given the opportunity to participate in an international exhibition organized by FIAP.

## **15. PSA Agreements**

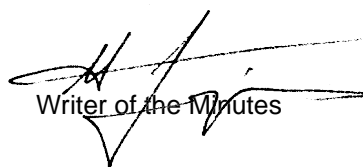
As it was not possible to reach a common definition with the PSA for the "Travel" section despite numerous attempts from both sides, the decision has been made to introduce a new "Tourism" section within FIAP. Its definition will be published soon.

## **16. Miscellaneous**

R. Busi proposes to inaugurate a new project called "Photo Days," focusing on the various photographic workshops organized by our members under FIAP Auspices. The details of this new project will be communicated during the next General Assembly.

Athens, July 18, 2023

Ioannis LYKOURIS



Writer of the Minutes