

Secretary General:

Prof. Dr. Sabine R. HUEBNER

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## **The Secretary General's report from January 1 to December 31, 2021**

### **1. Reminder: contact between FIEC and affiliated associations**

There are currently 75 associations of Classical studies affiliated to FIEC. In order to enable us to stay in touch with all of you, please send us a regular update of your contact address (postal, e-mail and URL of website if available, to be sent to: [sabine.huebner@unibas.ch](mailto:sabine.huebner@unibas.ch)).

### **2. Payment of yearly fee**

All affiliated associations are reminded that the annual membership fee is € 110.-, to be paid as soon as possible. The resources of FIEC are very scarce; any contribution above the minimal amount of € 110.- will be deeply appreciated. FIEC is entirely dependent on its membership fees, so we kindly ask all associations to make sure that the fee is indeed paid. If there are any difficulties with the payment, please contact the treasurer. FIEC's bank account is based in Switzerland (labelled in euros). Instructions for payment are to be found on the Treasurer's invoice. Please DO NOT send a check!

### **3. FIEC website**

FIEC's website has been overhauled, tidied up and given a more modern design by Victoria Landau (Basel): [www.fiecnet.org](http://www.fiecnet.org). If the information displayed needs any changes, please let us know. Please also follow FIEC on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FIECnews/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/FIECnews>). FIEC's social media profiles have been maintained this year with the help of Audric Wannaz (Basel) and Lisa Brunet (Basel), who deserve our warmest thanks for the work. Please send any relevant information that would be useful for colleagues around the world to Sabine Huebner, FIEC secretary general ([sabine.huebner@unibas.ch](mailto:sabine.huebner@unibas.ch)).

### **4. Recent FIEC activities**

For the second year in a row, the pandemic has placed a heavy toll on all scholarly activities worldwide. Library closings and home office obligations have hampered scholarly productivity, classroom presence has been suspended for many months, academic meetings, and conferences were and continue to be cancelled. The psychological wellbeing of many members of the Classics community has suffered. The

FIEC Board met on September 10, 2021 on Zoom to discuss the ongoing challenges that the pandemic poses for Classical studies and also for our next FIEC Congress & General Assembly planned for Mexico City in August 2022.

Over the course of 2021, the FIEC Board has been making efforts to **support Classical studies in several parts of the world**. FIEC has offered for example their support to the Classics community in Halle (Germany) when the news spread that the chairs of Latin and Greek at the University of Halle ran the risk of not being renewed after the retirement of the present chairholders and encouraged the university leadership to keep the Latin and Greek chairs and remain an important contributor to the scholarly world of classical studies.

FIEC also formally supported the first **UNESCO World Logic Day**, proclaimed by the 40th General Conference of UNESCO, which was celebrated on January 14, 2021. CIPSH was charged with the coordination of these global celebrations of logic, critical thinking, and rationality to which FIEC contributed a public recognition (<http://wld.cipsh.international>). FIEC also supports this year's second UNESCO World Logic Day, celebrated on January 14, 2022.

Jesús de la Villa (FIEC Vice-President), the FIEC delegate to **CIPSH (Conseil International de la Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines)** and member of the CIPSH executive committee attended several international conferences co-organized by CIPSH. FIEC is one of the six founding associations of CIPSH, together with the international associations of Anthropology, Philosophy, History, Linguistics and the Union Académique Internationale and plays an active part in all of CIPSH ongoing and planned activities and projects, such as a) the journal *Diogenes* (an interdisciplinary platform for reflections and projects in the field of Philosophy and Humanities); b) the *HAS Magazine. The magazine of Humanities, Arts and Society* (a new periodical on line publication for the exchange of opinions and ideas on the Humanities); c) the CIPSH Chairs program (following the model of UNESCO's chairs, since 2019, a number of international chairs are awarded every year with the support of CIPSH. Applicants must be universities or research centers from around the world); d) *Global History of Humanity* (an ambitious international project, directed by Prof. Laurent Tissot, University of Neuchâtel); and finally, e) the World Humanities Report (a global database on Humanities study centers, projects and resources).

Jesús de la Villa attended the European Humanities Conference co-organized by the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH), the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Program. It was coordinated from Lisbon and took place from 5-7 May 2021 as an on-line meeting. He also participated in the 35th General Assembly of CIPSH and the International Conference on 'Sustainability, Social Relevance and Humanities' at the University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark on 13/14 December 2021.

FIEC also endorsed '**The Jena Declaration (TJD): Humanities and Social Sciences for Sustainability Cultural and regional dimensions of global sustainability**' in defense of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the crucial role that Humanities should play in that initiative. The Jena Declaration provides guidelines for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Fausto Montana (FIEC Board member) represented the FIEC at the General Assembly of the **SIBC – Société Internationale de Bibliographie Classique**, which was held in Lausanne (Swiss) on November

6, 2021. Members attended partly in presence and partly remotely, due to the pandemic. The Comité de Direction of the SIBC confirmed that the Société and its core project, the *Année Philologique*, were doing well financially and editorially (the milestone of 1,5 million total bibliographic records has been reached). Past contacts with both Chinese and Japanese correspondents developed positively into respective formal agreements, and concrete collaborations to bibliographical recording are now underway. The Assembly was preceded, on November 5, by a *Colloque anniversaire des 100 ans de la SIBC*, focusing on the roles played by Jules Marouzeau and Juliette Ernst for the foundation and early history of this institution and of the *Année Philologique*. The 2022 SIBC General Assembly will take place in Lille (France).

André Lardinois (FIEC Board member), the FIEC delegate to **The European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities (EASSH)**, reports that the EASSH was closely involved in negotiations about the funding of the Horizon Europe, which will run from 2021 until 2027. This framework programme offers more opportunities for SSH disciplines than ever before: a budget of €2.28 billion has been set aside for Cluster 2 ‘Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society’, the SSH-driven cluster under Pillar 2.

Catherine Steel (FIEC Board member), our delegate to the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae (ThLL)*, attended the Triennial Meeting of the International Committee for the *ThLL*, which was held on Zoom in July 2021, postponed from 2020 because of COVID-19. At this meeting, the future of the project based at the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften (BAW) was discussed. The completion all the way to the letter Z is planned by 2050, however the Internationale Thesaurus-Kommission endorsed the plan by the project leaders in Munich that the current level of depth and detail within the lexicon will not be maintained in order to reach this ambitious goal.

Martha Irigoyen (FIEC Vice-President) is acting as President of the Local Organizing Committee for the **16<sup>th</sup> FIEC Congress** to be held in Mexico City in 2022. She has been updating the FIEC Board about the progress of the congress planning, but also the difficulties the global sanitary crisis entails on the fundraising campaign and for the feasibility of an international congress.

## 5. FIEC Congresses and General Assemblies

2022 will see the **16<sup>th</sup> FIEC Congress & General Assembly**, which are jointly organized by the Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas at UNAM, its Center of Classical Studies and the Asociación Mexicana de Estudios Clásicos (AMEC) in Mexico City from **August 1-5, 2022**. The Congress will be held – due to the ongoing sanitary crisis - in an entirely virtual format. **Registration is now open** on the congress website (<https://www.iifilologicas.unam.mx/congresofiecmexico2022/#>). At the FIEC General Assembly a new FIEC Board (including President, Secretary General and Treasurer) will be elected. The FIEC General Assembly will also take place remotely on Zoom and that there will be an electronic anonymous voting system in place. The 17th FIEC Congress & General Assembly hosted with the support of the Polish Philological Association will take place in Wrocław (Poland) in summer 2025.

## 6. Reelection of the FIEC Board in 2022

The FIEC Board will go through some important changes in 2022: our current President (Gunhild Vidén), the treasurer (Valérie Fromentin), and the Secretary General (Sabine R. Huebner) will be

stepping down. Please see the following table for the 10 spots on the Board and the candidates proposed by the FIEC Board for the next election period (2022 – 2025):

Office on the FIEC Board	Current office holder (2019 – 2022)	Changes in 2022	Candidates proposed by the FIEC Board for 2022 - 2025
President	Gunhild Vidén (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)	Stepping down	<i>Jesús de la Villa (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)</i>
Treasurer	Valérie Fromentin (Université Bordeaux Montaigne, France)	Stepping down	<i>Catherine Steel (University of Glasgow, UK)</i>
Secretary General	Sabine Huebner (University of Basel, Switzerland)	Stepping down	<i>Thomas Schmidt (University of Fribourg, Switzerland)</i>
Vice-President	Jesús de la Villa (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)	Candidate for President	<i>Fausto Montana (University of Pavia, Italy)</i>
Vice-President	Martha Irigoyen (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico)	Remaining on Board	Martha Irigoyen (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico)
Member	Benjamin Acosta-Hughes (Ohio State University, USA)	Remaining on Board	Benjamin Acosta-Hughes (Ohio State University, USA)
Member	Fausto Montana (University of Pavia, Italy)	Candidate for Vice-President	<i>Open slot on the Board</i>
Member	Andreas Fountoulakis (University of Crete, Greece)	Remaining on Board	Andreas Fountoulakis (University of Crete, Greece)
Member	Catherine Steel (University of Glasgow, UK)	Candidate for Treasurer	<i>Open slot on the Board</i>
Member	André Lardinois (Radboud University, The Netherlands)	Remaining on Board	André Lardinois (Radboud University, The Netherlands)

The FIEC Board proposes candidates for the positions of president, treasurer, secretary general, and vice-president. Please note that the secretary general according to the FIEC Constitution needs to be based in Switzerland. Member associations are also encouraged to make nominations for election for all of the open positions on the Board (including the president, treasurer and secretary general). At the General Assembly in Mexico City, all proposals will be considered on an equal footing. Any member association that wishes to propose a candidate for election should write to the Secretary General **no later than Saturday, June 18, 2022**, sending the following documents by email (pdf format):

- Full name of the candidate, e-mail address and URL of institutional webpage.
- A short statement (10 lines) by the representative of the association, indicating the most

important qualifications of the nominated candidate for this mandate.

- Short CV (2 pages).
- A note from the proposed candidate stating that: a) she/he will not be older than 70 years at the time of election; b) she/he will take the position in case of she/he is elected.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sabine Huebner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Secretary General: Sabine Huebner  
Basel, January 15, 2022