

General Assembly Machiavelli – 19th September 2018

Present:

Isabelle Auersch
Ruya Aysu Erdogan
Thijs Barendrecht
Tommy Blomvliet
Tessa Boumans
Casper J. Colenbrander
Lucy Cowper
Evi de Rover
Ana Dorscheidt
Maaïke Dudink
Fievos Georgakopoulos
Jasper Groot
Walker Haskins
Emil Hiddema
Jonas Jeunink
Mees Kraaijenbrink
Lise Lathouwers
Maya Nieplocha
Maddy Pennington
Nikol Pardava
Dana Rentenaar
Linde Reus
Shannon Requin-Delfau
Evguenia Roussel
Nina Salomons
Maureen Schepel
Tiziana Schopper
Piet Seidenberg
Sahel Setorg
Daan Stoop
Thom Ter Borg
Matthew Uy
Gerben van Engelen
Antonie van Hulst
Matthias van Scherpenzeel
Lucas van Straalen
Anouk Verhaegh
Eelke Vlieger
Isabel Willemsen
Isaya Wullings
Emre Yalcin

Agenda:

- 18:30** Walk-in
- 19.00** Opening
- 19.01** Submitted pieces
- 19.02** Agenda
- 19:04** Minutes of last GA
- 19.08** Notices
- 19.25** Action points
- 19.30** Annual finances 2017-2018
- 20.00** Discharge board 2017-2018
- 20.15** Installation board 2018-2019
- 20.20** Break
- 20.35** Policy plan board 2018-2019
- 21.05** Budget plan 2018-2019
- 21.20** Discharge Audit Committee
- 21.22** Installation Audit Committee
- 21.24** A.O.B
- 21.26** Round of questions
- 21.28** Closing

Opening:

Isabel: Welcome everyone. Before we start, I'd like to count some numbers to make sure that we have enough members to continue. So, if you are still a member of Machiavelli, not an extraordinary member and not currently a board member or a going-to-be board member in this GA, please raise your hands. 20 members present, so we can start this GA.

Before we start, I thought it might be a good thing to give out some information about this GA and the process, because it is probably the first time for a lot of you. We are going to have a presentation by Jonas, the treasurer at this point. And after the break

we are going to have the policy presentation of the new board, including the budget plan.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask or be critical. We encourage you to be critical, this is an open space for members to criticise or encourage the board. So please feel free to raise your hand and ask questions at any time.

Submitted pieces:

None.

Agenda:

Isabel: This is the agenda, you were able to see this up front. Any additions?

Minutes of last GA:

Isabel: Does anyone want to change anything?

Jesse: Our names were misspelled, so we are the new advisory board members. I think they weren't in there; my name is Jasper Groot.

Isabel: If you could write down your name correctly on the list then we will change the minutes of last GA.

Notices:

Isabel: There was one authorisation, Mitchel authorised Isaya to vote for him today. Also, there is a free position in the presidium after this GA, so please send us an email if you are interested. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask us or the board members. I am normally not here, the normal presidium chair is Maaïke currently in England for a semester, so you will be with Maaïke and Isabelle if you apply for the position in the presidium. Also, you might have noticed that Saskia is missing, she didn't feel well.

Action points:

None.

Annual finances 2017-2018:

Jonas: Hi everyone, thank you for coming. My presentation is going to be three-fold. First of all, I am going to present the last part of my year report. And for the once of you who didn't know the board that will be discharged today, already presented their year reports at the last GA. This one is about the financial health and the reason I am presenting this now is because the financial year report has been made just now so something can be said about it. First of all, I want to say that the association is financially very healthy at the moment. This year our income is rising in multiple fields. First of all, the contribution, the members' fee has increased. The subsidy of

the college of social science has increased and the book sale profits have increased as well. However, Maaike and I went to see the financial director of the college of social sciences, the body that subsidises us, and the normal rule is, the more political science students, the more subsidies Machiavelli gets. This year we have used less money than we expected in our political activities. However during our conversation with the financial director, she told us that this was about the maximum of subsidies that we can receive. If this is correct and how it works is not completely sure. We will receive more subsidies than last year because of the increase of members. However, the new board should look into this to see if everything is correct and if our subsidies will keep on increasing throughout the next few years. Not all of the subsidies from last year have been used, we still have some left. This was also one of the points of the financial director, we have not used all of it so what exactly do we need? The reason why the subsidies weren't completely used was that in the first place, the social activity post in our budget plan is normally not completely subsidies but there is usually also Machiavelli money in it. Which means that we have used more subsidies covering political activities, however de derde dinsdag only had three editions this year which is why a lot of money that has been budgeted for de derde dinsdag has not been used. This is why we haven't used all of the subsidies. Therefore, the new board should investigate how the subsidies actually work and how we can make sure to spend all of the money we budgeted for the year because we have an increasing income for the first time in a long time, so we should think about how to spend it correctly. The member distribution turned out to be a little less than we budgeted due to the fact that we had a lot of cancellations. And also, there was also an error in the members administrations as well. Antonie and I made a list of all the people that need to be signed off and we are passing it on to our successors to make sure that our members administration will be tightened next year. Furthermore, the book sale profits turned out to be more than expected which evens out part of the losses we made with the contribution. Antonie and I told you during the half year GA that we would investigate the possibility of paying with credit card on our website. This is possible however, there are some downsides to it and the new board will eventually decide what is going to happen. To conclude, we have made a profit this year, of a reasonable amount, which is not our goal, because we should have a net result of 0. However, it is not a disaster as well, we have some ideas how to spend it already. And the board will think about how to spend this correctly.

I am going to walk you through the realisations of the activities and the trips abroad we had this year. There are a few things I want to point out to you, which is the general income...well you can read it right here and then I will point them out. I am going to start off with Riga which is the highlight of perfection in the sense of how close to the 0 you can get. Nothing odd happened here, the only unusual thing was that we had to use a bus to get back to Amsterdam. And this is why members had to pay a bit more of participation fee to get home. If no one has a question, then I would like to go on to the next trip. After every realisation, people can ask questions.

Berlin is kind of the same as Riga however we were left off with some more money than we calculated so attending members got a refund. Any questions? No.

Oman and Dubai, there is a lot of numbers and I combined some of them to make it clearer. The phone costs are quite high for a big trip abroad and eventually we used

the unforeseen costs to cover the phone costs. Eventually, we turned out to be quite close to the 0.

Linde: What is contribution department fee?

Jonas: There was a game for the first years, called game of tag and the winner would receive 100€ discount on one of the Machiavelli trips. So, we received 100€ less in participant fees but the department transferred the money to us.

IAPSS, one thing to look up here, usually we budget around 700 € because it is politically relevant, and we also have 100€ subsidy to cover the membership costs. However, due to an error of mine that I just realised, I paid the 100€ with Machiavelli money but we have used 30€ more to cover the contribution of the students. The point is that 70€ has been paid with Machiavelli money.

Lucas: Maybe it's nice to explain what IAPSS is?

Jonas: Oh yes, for those of you who don't know, it is the International Association for Political Science Students and the members are study associations and we are part of it. Every year there are several congresses and events that people can attend. And this year the world congress was in Paris.

King of the road, we gave a remarkable refund of 600 euros, which is a lot. We expected to have a BBQ together at the day of arrival back in Amsterdam. However, due to a tight time schedule we were not able to host it. The reason why we still have 50 euro left is that we thought that we would still have to refund one participant but eventually that was not the case. And a committee member was supposed to get the name of the winner engraved to the trophy, but the committee member lost the receipt, so we were not able to refund the money. We also had some unforeseen costs because someone thought we were leaving a day later and because of the miscommunication, we agreed that we would cover half of the costs that she would have to pay to get there on her own, which was 50 €.

Second weekend, especially the amount of losses stands out. Normally we make profit, during the first weekend we did. However, not all places were filled. That means that you have paid for these members and you sell less beer which eventually led to losses. Nevertheless, the social activities budget turned out to be close to what we calculated anyways, so it was not a big problem.

The Masterclasses was a two-day event at CREA which is an education activity, so it was fully subsidised. And we spend the usual amount of money on that.

Eurovision reviewed was a political event we hosted at Studio K. And something that I think was not good and that I think people would agree on is that too much money was spend on that event because not a lot of members attended. Because we had subsidies left from de derde dinsdag, we decided to subsidise it completely so no Machiavelli losses have been made. But I would say that the amount of money that has been spend on it was not the most responsible way to spend it.

Nichocheilla, the ending festival, there is not something that stands out. The amount of losses we made was nearly exactly the amount of losses we were supposed to make here. And nothing odd happened.

The balance is something that doesn't look familiar to anyone, so I am going to explain it. This is the balance of our association, there are four reservation posts, one is continuation international which is used for any unforeseen costs at trips abroad, the reservation inventory in case our laptops break, or we have to buy bigger things. Unforeseen costs for events that happen throughout the year. And lastly, reservation for lustrum, we reserved a 1000 € every year for our lustrum, so we have reserved 5000 € for this year, which also means that this money will be spend during this year on the lustrum activities. Just now, the savings account of Machiavelli is a bit over 2000€. The green number is the profit we made this year. It is not the correct number, but I will explain that in a second. Just keep that number in mind, almost 5000€. To be paid is money that has been paid to a partner we had an acquisition deal with after the ending of the book year of last year, which means that the money has been paid after this realisation was set up. 250€ will still be paid. To be received is money that we still need to receive. That is the domain name, which is also something really annoying which has to be fixed next year. The platform for political scientists is also a body we are associated with that organises events. And at that time, they did not have their own bank account, so we have been paying for the domain name of the website of their congress. However, right now they do, so we will receive it back from them. Then we are still receiving money from Nautus. We have changed to a new website so that means a new webhost. And we have ended the contract preliminary which means that we will get a refund on the costs we paid them this year. And some subsidy, but this is usual. We receive some of the subsidies in October of the next academic year. And we have made an acquisition deal with Amsterdam doctors and we already received that, but it is part of this year. And we also already paid for the first weekend and a trip to Sofia. These are payments we always make up front. I just showed you, we have a profit of 500€, however during this year we reserved 1500€ for the lustrum and because of some book keeping mechanics, the number of 5000€ shows up. However, we have made a profit of 3475,50€. We thought of some ways to invest this money in because we are not supposed to make profit, so this money needs to be spent. It would be better if we spend it and invest it in a way that is good for our association and our members. Two things we wanted to invest this money in, is a new camera because the one we have now is not working very well anymore and we also want to be able to videotape. And we want to buy one more computer, we already have one for the treasurer, however it would be good to have another one that the secretary but also the committee members would be able to use for Machiavelli related business. The rest of the money and how it is going to be spend is not clear yet, but the new board will decide how to spend it. It will show up on the year realisation as well.

Year realisation:

Jonas: I am not going to show you everything. We already talked about most of it. Some things to point out, we had a bit more than a thousand euros less in member contribution. The subsidy of Athenaeum book store is kind of a deception because it was calculated that we would make a profit of 7800€ from the book sales last year. However, because of miscalculation we actually received some less. We actually made 700/800€ more profit than last year. We have expected it to be more this year as well. This is some income from the last financial year due to the fact that one

edition of de derde dinsdag was published later in the year and turned out to be less expensive. The general cost of Machiavelli is somewhat higher than budgeted because we made statutory changes last year which have to be made by a notary. The costs were about 450€ and we had a training with the board to improve our cooperation as well as other skills. We thought it was very good and productive. The investment IT inventory, we bought a new book keeping computer this year. Then we budgeted unforeseen money for the first year of internationalisation, however, we have not used it and that is why we were able to have some more costs over here, so it evens out.

The Amount of acquisition income is a bit higher than budgeted, so that went well also. As you can see we budgeted 4200€ for the derde dinsdag which turned out to be less not only because we had less editions than planned but this was the first year we decided to not send it to member's homes. So, every edition of de derde dinsdag was less expensive. However, the costs of only producing them and not sending them turned out to be even less expensive than we expected so that's why this amount of money is very low in relation to what we budgeted. Otherwise we would have spent around 3500€.

The transmission weekend is something unfortunate which I found out quite late as well. Normally we budgeted 300€ for the transmission weekend, we spent only half of it. This means that the board members attending have spent too much, around 10€ per person and this is because we were to receive a refund of the renter of the accommodation and she gave me the wrong number. So, the amount of money I thought it is going to cost did not turned out to be the actual cost. This is very unfortunate for the members of both boards because we spend too much. Sorry! Then the promotional items, we spent a little less than we expected. We only bought the promotional items we wanted, and the costs of the sweaters turned out to be less. That's why there is a difference of 250€. The rest of the year realisation is about the events and trips abroad. The last thing that's interesting is the total amount of income. We would have been able to receive 11,400€ of subsidies however, we spent less, and the rule is: if you spent less, you receive less. But don't think of it as something unfortunate because we had enough money for all the events. I think it has been a good year. We could've done a little better at coming closer to the net result of 0 but it is not a disaster.

Isabel: Nothings been accepted yet, so you can applaud after. Now I would like the audit committee to give out their advice on the annual financial report.

Mees: Hi, I am part of the audit committee. The rest of the audit committee consists of Laura (former treasurer of Comenius), Jesse, this is his last year in the audit committee, he will be replaced by Lara Hendriks if you agree of course, and lastly Vincenzo. Either way, to be short about Jonas. It was a bumpy ride, but it was a good year and we have faith in Jonas. To explain what we do as an audit committee, we are in charge with the oversight of the financial reporting and disclosure of the association. We consider the financial statement of Machiavelli of this year as reliable and correct. It was a good year, we made a profit but of course we do not intend to have a profit at the end of the year so I encourage all of you to think about what we could do with that money.

We give a positive voting advise. And we would like to thank Jonas for working with us.

Isabel: Thank you Mees. We will vote by acclamation. Applaud now if you agree on the annual finances. Accepted.

Discharge board 2017/2018 and Installation board 2018/2019

Isabel: This means that I will discharge the board of last year. I would also like to install the new board. Congratulations!

Isabel: Thijs would like to say a word to the old board.

Thijs: I'd like to thank the 54th board for making it an amazing year and not just for making it an amazing year for our members and ourselves but also for your thorough transmission period. You made the association flourish even more than it already did. And because it is the lustrum year, we would like to say that this is the beginning of 55 years, but I think you already created the basis for another 56 years, so that we stand in the shoes of giants. So, I would like to thank you for that. Of course, we have a little present for you after this GA. Thank you!

Policy plan board 2018-2019

Isabel: Now we will continue with the policy plan of the new board. First, I would like to welcome Thijs.

Thijs: I already thanked you, the 54th board but I would also like to thank Lucas, my predecessor. Firstly, I would like to explain the general policy plan and after that I show you my own policy plan. And later, you will see me again because unfortunately, Saskia is not here so I will present her policy plan. Our association is growing, since last year already, because of the internationalisation. Right now, we have over 1200 members. And in a growing and international association it is important that everyone finds a good spot and that everyone is involved. And to keep everyone involved, we need to change the committee structure. This has already been looked into by previous boards and we are actually going to do that. Every coordinator will discuss it for themselves how they are going to do it later, but I already want to elaborate on why we are doing it. The aim of restructuring the committees is that members get more authority for the events that they will be organising. Right now, coordinators are in the lead and we want to give members the opportunity to be in charge. This gives them the opportunity to learn more and develop themselves. In an international association, as we are, it is also important to have a broad array of events. In the past years, our events were mostly Dutch focused. But right now, we will have to look into events that are internationally relevant. But we are also a Dutch association, so we will continue some events such as the sinterklaas borrel and Machiavelli meets Mokum. Of course, to evaluate on all this, we will continue with the future of Machiavelli, which was done last year, and which gave a lot of input. The future of Machiavelli is a big survey. Then I'd like to go to my next point which is cohesion amongst board members, but also among members themselves. Among board members I jokingly used the slogan: One board, all aboard. I am actually serious with that, it means that I want everyone in the board to feel free to always express their opinion and to say what they think. And this is

important because it creates shared responsibility. When everyone gives input on a certain event or topic and it might go wrong, then it is also a shared mistake. However, we also want to give everyone a lot of autonomy. We are a very capable board and we use this capability to not micromanage too much. We want to stimulate creativity to come up with the best events and the best solutions. Among members, we want to be the social glue with our social events but we are also an international association, so we want to be inclusive. We have a large age range with first years and master students and both of them should be involved in our association. We already have some nice ideas for activities that invites all years. Furthermore, we want that the events stimulate interaction among the members, so it should not only be listening but also debating for example. And these events will also have a common ground between people, internationally relevant or stimulating discussion. In that way, we hope to involve people with each other. Then it is of course a lustrum year, the 11th lustrum, and there has been a lustrum committee formed. There is a couple people present from the lustrum committee which is nice to see and we are looking forward to continue our cooperation.

Personal plan:

I'd like to use the phrase shared autonomy among board members, everyone has their own space where they can develop their autonomy, but they should also speak their minds. And the board room is the ideal place for this of course, but to encourage people to really speak out their thoughts it is also important to have a lot of informal events. We are trying to meet outside the boardroom and Machiavelli events with for example dinners. And then in the past years, there have been allegations that Machiavelli had some sort of inner circle where all the good jobs were divided. We are not necessarily agreeing with that but to take all the doubts away, we have agreed on having an external party to take part in the assessment day, which is part of the application process. And we will have an external party to organise that day and to observe the people that applied but they will not be the ones in charge on that day. There will still be an application committee and they will have the final say in who will be chosen as board member. Then the lustrum of course, it is also a great opportunity for us to get into contact with alumni and I actually had a meeting this morning with the alumni circle and we discussed the chances of inviting alumni to our events. And they were very positive about that. Alumni can offer a great deal of job perspectives to us members, but they can also learn a lot from us and help us to get internships and all kinds of nice stuff. So, we will do events with them. And then there is a lot of external parties that Machiavelli is involved in. Of course, there is the department and Tiziana as our education coordinator has already attended quite some meeting with people and discussed our plans and how we can collaborate. That's going really well. Then there is the faculty association, we are of course not the only study association in our faculty, there is the faculty association of social and behavioural sciences in which all study associations are present. We are organising two activities this year, one is the big party and there will be one more informative activity. Then there is the national body of public administration and the platform for political scientists, both are national bodies that also organise events for our students and they really benefit our association. And in meetings, we can learn from the other associations. We learn best practices and how we can improve our own association. And they probably learn a lot from us as well. The platform for political scientists also organises the PiP congress which will be in Amsterdam this year but because we also have the honour to host the congress of national public administration, we are

going to discuss tomorrow if it is possible to host that in a different city because they are in the same period of time and having two big congresses in a week after each other will not be beneficial. Then I have a couple of long-term goals, my predecessor used the phrase 'one education, one association' and I'd like to stick with that since it is a nice way of phrasing how we want to involve everyone one, all years, internationals and Dutch. And by that, we want to create unity in diversity. A big platform with a lot of age, with a lot of backgrounds to have rich discussions. And I would like to end with the phrase...that I actually just forgot.

Antonie: One question about the external committee that you are going to work with during the assessment day. Are they going to give an advice to the application committee?

Thijs: Yes, the party will give an advice so it is not binding and the application committee will have the final say, also in the rest of the application procedure, but there will be an external party to make sure that the assessment day will be of good quality.

Tessa: Since you have a lot of money left from last year, are you going to invest this in your own training for internal board members?

Jonas: Maybe I can answer this question...The thing is that the year realisation was made at the same time as the budget plan so by the time we figured out what the profit would be, money had already been budgeted by the next board, including the board training, assessment day and such things. And the amount of money that the new board will have for their year is sufficient for the needs, so the money can be invested in something else.

Emil: Welcome everybody. My name is Emil Hiddema, I am the secretary. And I want to start off by saying that the secretary is a hard position to fill sometimes since lot of people don't know what this function entails. I get a lot of questions about what I am doing and sometimes I cannot answer them myself. Sometimes I don't even know what I am doing myself. I want to divide what I am doing into four tasks. Firstly, I am responsible for promotion. In my policy for this year, I want to create a unified and professional approach for promotion. By that, I mean that promotion should be distinguishable and unique and put in a lot of heart in promoting because that makes it even better. Another thing is that there are a lot of promotion channels, and some of them have not been used regularly over the years such as Linked in and twitter.

Those are two platforms that are mainly used by master students or people who have finished their studies and in my opinion, it is a good way to reach these people, since they are not that often on Facebook and just see photos of parties. And they are mostly not really interested, so I would like to use Facebook and Twitter to reach older years and master students. The second task I have is de derde dinsdag. And I will go further into that when I will talk about the de derde dinsdag committee. One thing I can say is that I want to put a lot of effort into using the new website and online tools to create an even bigger platform for people who want to write an article. My third task is an administrative task, which I think is the most labour intensive. Responsibility for administrating members and also for maintaining the website. This year as you have hear from Jonas, we switched webhost providers and it took a lot of time to prepare it but I am very happy to say that it is up and running now in full potential. And I also want to use this website to its full potential. There is a lot of new tools compared to the old one and I would like to explore these tools and use them in their full potential. Lastly, the GA of course. I tried something different this time; normally the GA is hosted in de doelenzaal which is at the university library at Spui. Unfortunately, when I was trying to book the room, it was already booked, and I had to come up with a solution and I thought that it would be nice to host it at Roeterseiland where all of you have exams, tutorial, lectures so you could immediately come here and see how important the GA is. I also want to stress this and use my promotion tools to show people the importance of the GA. I wanted to do an information video, I already created one, it is uploaded on the Facebook event, so check it out. But I want to make more over the years to show people that it is nice to see how the inside of an association works. Then, I already mentioned professionalism and I want to spread this to all of my tasks. So, de derde dinsdag and promotion has to be in a professional way. I would like to restructure my committee for de derde dinsdag as well. I won't be the chief editor anymore, but I am going to appoint one. I will be involved in the whole process, but I will focus more on the design. And I want to use subcommittees inside the committees where the chief editor is overlooking it. So, a social and art committee for example. After this GA, I will be working on forming this committee. Lastly, I want to mention that every lustrum there is an almanac where the past five years of the association will be discussed, and I want to stress that we will be working closely with Piet, who is sitting right over there. He is the head of the almanac committee to make it a really great book.

Gerben: I think it is a good decision to appoint a chief editor. With the almanac I just want to stress that it is of course Piets almanac.

Emil: Yes, we already discussed this, and I will work with writers and Piet will work with writers and we need to be careful that we will not be picking out of the same pool. And I will also try to transfer people to Piet if there are too many writers for de derde dinsdag. So, he will also be there for the first committee meeting.

Linde: Will Machavelli use snapchat again?

Emil: Yes, we will. I am not capable of doing them both and I personally don't know a lot about Snapchat, but Tommy does. So, Tommy will be doing Snapchat and I will handle the Instagram stories.

Maaïke: Hi, so I am Maaïke, I am the treasurer of the 55th board of Machiavelli. I want to thank Jonas for the transmission process and his help in getting me to where I am now. I divided my policy plan into four parts, the financial health and administration, acquisition, book emission and the lustrum. The financial administration is of course a very important task for a treasurer. And in order to do this task as good as possible I will have a weekly moment to do book keeping, make sure that everything gets paid and that all documents are there and are kept in order. Something that is very important in the financial health is something that Jonas has already said is that we have a growing income and I want to make sure that this is spent wisely and that we invest the money we have in things that all students can benefit from. And that the members are interested in the events. Something that is also in the administration part is that through the internationalisation, it is possible that we will have an international treasurer in the future, so I want to look into in how that would work if that would happen so that you would not have to translate everything at the end of the year and how the book keeping process would work. And we have to see if that is actually a possibility for our association. I also want to mention the communication that I have with the rest of the board which is that I want to work close with the coordinators on the budgets and realisations for their events to make sure that the money they plan is used in the way they intended to use it and that there is no large unexpected loss or gain. So, I want to sit down with them regularly to see how their overall budget is looking and to see if we need to move money from one place to another because there is more or less spent than expected. The next point is acquisitions, I will also restructure my committee. I will be in the committee, I will be the coordinator between the board and the committee, but I will be forming a daily board that I will be a part of. Taking some of the burden off me, it will be very stressful to complete all the acquisitions and to be able to focus on that while you are studying so I want to make sure that I can focus on all the tasks I need to focus on the association and get the acquisitions running. And I hope that I will be able to spread my tasks more evenly by forming a daily board. The target we have set for acquisitions this year is 3000€, this is because we already start the year with 1050€ because of the committee last year and I want to continue that and try to get 3000€ for the association through acquisitions. One big change within my function has been the book emission, we have a new contract with Athenaeum which includes Machiavelli and five other associations of the faculty of social and behavioural science. There is a more centralised process of book emissions and we work together with Athenaeum through three contact people which is me, the chair of Pegasus and the treasurer of SEC. And we have contact with Athenaeum and the other associations, but these other associations do not have direct contact with Athenaeum. This working method means that Athenaeum can focus more on what we need. The first semester book emissions are already over, and we are currently getting the last books to people. We are only missing one or two books. This is a very good improvement. Last year there was some titles that were missing due to the fact that the publishers did not have enough, and this problem did not occur this time. Lastly, the lustrum is obviously a very important part of this year and I will be working

closely with the lustrum treasurer, Linde, because they do not have their own bank account, so I will be making all payments for them but of course, they will be autonomous, and the decisions will lay with the lustrum committee.

Tessa: You talked about that you want to invest in translating documents but since there is a lot of money left, it might be an idea to not spend your time doing that but invest in someone doing it for you?

Maaïke: That is the extra money that we have left...that is one of the ideas that we have with the money already. That is one of the things we are looking into.

Piet: About the acquisition, problems with the acquisition in the last few years have been continuity and professionalism. Do you have any plans regarding that? Do you have any plans for that and if so, what are these plans?

Maaïke: Continuity is quite hard because the only member left right now is Jonas. He will be in the committee with me and we hope that this will create some professionalism since he knows more about acquisition than I do at this point. So, he will be in the committee and he will be on the daily board of the committee. And together we will form a new committee within the next few weeks and try to create some continuity and have more invested people which we are trying to get by an application letter and a talk to see how people would fit into the committee.

Gerben: I may have a suggestion, it might not help this year but it might help your successor. Maybe start working on a transmission document for the acquisition committee as well, maybe some tips and tricks. I think that could also help with continuity and professionalism.

(?): Isn't there already such a document?

Jasper: I wrote it ten years ago...

Mees: I know that this white paper does exist, it is in the storage room (3rd floor?), but you will also find lots of stuff in the google drive.

Tessa: Are you going to the acquisition training this year?

Maaïke: We are trying to find the one from last year, but the company does not exist anymore, so we are going to look for a new one.

Gerben: Could you make it an action point for the next GA if these documents have been found?

→ ACTION POINT

Tiziana: Thank you all for being here. My name is Tiziana, I will be the new education coordinator of Machiavelli. Before I present my policy plane, I want to thank the board for the transmission, but especially Daan. I am very thankful for the help and I don't think we could be prepared any better. I am going to start with the committees that I will be the head of, and that is three: the first year's council, the education committee and the career events or formerly called master classes. About the first year's council I want to keep that up and I am aiming to have at least one member of each tutorial group in the first year's council in order to achieve diverse feedback. I am currently visiting tutorial groups to recruit members. Secondly, I am also going to restructure one of my committees, or rather two. One of them is going to be the education committee. People can now sign up for two different parts of the education committee, the part that is responsible for events and the part that is responsible for the quality of the education. That is supposed to help me approach the right people for each job. The last committee that I am the head of is the master classes committee, but I will be talking about that later. And there is a new committee, I am also the head of the new second year's council which I am forming right now. The second year has changed a lot and the department and Machiavelli would like to get feedback on that, so I am currently also visiting the second-year tutorial groups in order to get members for the second year's council. And then the quality of education, I am aiming to put an education message feed on the website of Machiavelli to increase the communication with the students. I also want to write a report with the education committee on many of the courses given by the department of political science in order to improve the quality of education and increase the feedback from the students to the teachers and the department. Then the internationalisation, I definitely want to monitor the new first year in regard to the last first year in order to make sure that the year continuously improves. I think that that is very important and already going well. Then I also want to help students to better understand Dutch academic culture because in the last year, there have been students that were not really sure what to expect or how it is going to look like, so I am trying to help students understand that better. And I am mainly doing that through communication in different ways, not only the first year's council but also the education committee and just general communication. Then I want to create voluntary study groups where students from both tracks can sign up for, in order to mix Dutch and international students and to increase the cohesion. I would also like to make sure that the Dutch students don't feel left out because the focus has been on the internationalisation. So, I want them to know that they are very important and that they are not forgotten. Then the exam trainings, we have a new partner it is tentamentraining.nl and we are trying to have a training for each course given in the first and second year. And the possibility of extending that partnership to the distribution of summaries is currently being discussed. Next, the events. I want to hold a minimum of one bachelor education dialogue and one master education dialogue. For the in-house days, I want to keep up the pub lectures and the open evening, but I would like to make it more inclusive so that international students' friends and parents can also attend. Then the older years and master students. I would like to increase the possibilities for master students to be part of Machiavelli and I want to do that by giving them more opportunities to network. I would do that in cooperation with different partners such as the alumni partners. I am also working on a lustrum alumni event that I hope will increase the participation of older years and master students. And lastly, as mentioned before, I will restructure the master classes committee. The structure is not 100% clear yet, but we have a vision

because the committee has not been formed yet. We renamed it (career classes) because I want students to know that this is an inclusive event, this is not only for master students but for everyone. Lastly, my personal goals. I know that I am an international, but I want students to know that I am open for everyone and it is important for me that students know that language is not a barrier. So, students can approach me in Dutch or in English. The rest of my board is helping me, I am working on myself and my language skills. I am also the first international board member, so I want to minimise the barriers for internationals to be on the board of Machiavelli. Overall, I just aim to set a good example of internationals. And then I want to be open to everyone and for everyone to have good communication with the department. I want to make sure that the quality of the education stays as high as it can possibly be.

Isaya: How do you see your relationship with the programme committee?

Tiziana: Good, I hope.

Isaya: Will you also invite them to all your meetings?

Tiziana: All of my meetings?

Isaya: Yeah, like your first years, second years councils and the education committee? Because that does not happen all the time.

Tiziana: I am very happy to invite the programme committee to these meetings. I technically had my first meeting today, sadly the turnout was a bit low, but I am hoping to increase that. But yes, generally, the programme committee is very welcome because I aim to work with them very closely.

Isabel: As said before, Saskia cannot be here today, so Thijs will present her policy plan.

Saskia (presented by Thijs): Luckily, we look a lot like each other. So before I start with the policy plan of our political activities coordinator, I'd first like to mention that Saskia is also our vice chair, and in her role as vice chair, she wants to be a very approachable person for all board members about any problems they might have, severe and not severe and serious and not serious. And then she is of course the political activities coordinator and as a political activity's coordinator in an international association, a wide array of events is necessary. And to stimulate that, she had the idea of an idea box in which all members can put their ideas for events. Based on the reactions and amount of people interested in the PAC committee, this is going to work out really well. In her committee, she is also going to make some changes. In the general committee she will still have the lead but in the subcommittees, she will have an auxiliary person who will inform her about everything that happens inside the committees and is basically her helping hand. And she also wants to create autonomy in her committees because that also creates and

incentive to become active. There have been some problems in the past, in which people did not show up after a couple of meeting with the PAC committee. And by creating a lot of space for people to follow their own plans, this can be avoided. Talk about her events, she wants to create internationally relevant events, so not just Dutch focused but interesting for everyone. The aim is to organise one activity per month but not just listening to a speaker but also doing debates and field trips. There is actually a debate coming up soon. And the older years are used to a De Hague trip in the beginning of the year and we also tried to organise one this year but on the one day in September where it was possible, it was already fully booked, and they didn't accept any tours anymore. There will also be Machiavelli meets, and we are currently discussing with a very big name which is still going to be a secret. And it is going to be an extra big Machiavelli meets, there will be several speakers, internationally relevant and also relevant in the country. And then of course theme nights, for example there was one about North Korea last year which was very interesting. And there will also be theme nights this year. This was my presentation for Saskia. Are there any questions? I might not know the answer because she knows all the details, but I will try to answer them.

Isabel: You can also always send Saskia an email.

Tommy: Hi guys. I would like to thank all of you for being here. It is a huge honour for me to stand here and present my policy plan as the social activities coordinator for the 55th board of Machiavelli. Before I continue with my policy plan, I want to thank Lise, my predecessor. She organised a lot of fun events and borrels last year and I am very eager to level up to you. I would also like to thank you for the transmission. As I said, I am very proud and honoured to stay here and that's because our association is a place where all members can meet up from all years, nationalities and cultures. This is also the main reason for my first policy goal which is to create the biggest possible cohesion between those groups. Of course, we cannot force people to mingle and talk to each other, but we can create the possibilities with activities and events. Last year, there was unfortunately a clear drop out of active members, there were multiple reasons for that, but I think it is more important to talk about how we are going to prevent this. That leads me to my second point, the committee structure. I will also restructure the social activities committee.

Before this year, there was not really a clear or written structure of the committee. And therefore, the members of the subcommittees who were organising the events, didn't really have a clear job and the coordinator ended up doing all the work behind the scenes, the promotion, the location and the artists. I want to give more responsibility to the members who are organising the events. Machiavelli is also a place where members can develop themselves and more responsibility in committees will support that. Of course, I as the coordinator will still oversee everything and have the final word, and nothing will happen without my permission but I do want to give more responsibility to the members. To maintain our professional attitude, I created a transmission document for the social activities committee. It contains everything they need to know in order to keep a professional attitude if they for example contact artists. I have two aims for the lustrum. Firstly, I want to prevent that the regular SAC events become less attractive due to the lustrum events. And secondly, I would like to maintain a good and healthy relationship with the lustrum committee when we are organising events together. Then lastly, the events. I am not going to discuss all of them because there are many, if you want to look them up, they are all included in my policy plan. However, I want to point out two things. The first one is the borrel. As some of you may know, we don't borrel at Havelaar anymore. The last three borrels were at De Heeren van Amstel and the upcoming for borrels will also be there. After seven weeks, we will change the location to Woody's. This is because De Heeren van Amstel will be a bit too big for us over the year and Woody's is a perfect solution. We also noticed that it became more of a place to go out instead of having a borrel so I want to encourage members to come earlier and have a beer and a good conversation instead of just partying. Last but not least, I would like to introduce a new sporting event because we only have two at the moment and I would like to introduce a sporting event between other associations from the FMG. If they are open to this of course. To round up, there will be some changes of my positions, but I am sure that this year, just as the last years will be an excellent year for the social activities. And I am looking forward to see all the members having fun at our events.

Gerben: I have a question about the lustrum. It sounds like you feel a bit threatened by the lustrum but keep in mind that we set aside 1000€ each year for it and the lustrum is of course very important. So, I think it is important that the lustrum gets its own space too.

Tommy: Yes, we discussed this with them in the beginning of the first two weeks and we came to the agreement that they will have the lustrum pubquiz, the second pubquiz, and we will organise the ending festival together. And with that I mean that it will actually be 50/50, we will both give some budget and ideas. So that it is really a combined event.

Tessa: First of all, I want to say that I am pretty excited about policy plan and I am also curious to see how you are going to structure the committee because that is something we looked into in my year as well. For everyone that does not know me, I am Tessa Boumans, the social activities coordinator of the 53rd board. But there is also one sentence in your policy plan which I want to have removed because I am actually really offended by it personally and I also think that it is a bit naive. And I am going to explain why and what this sentence is about. I will quote it, so everyone knows because you already touched upon it by saying that the older years did not

really attend this much and you said that the reasons for that are not important for now and that we are looking for solutions.

Tommy: I didn't say they weren't important.

Tessa: I don't want to discuss this right now because it is quite literally stated in your policy plan. You are saying 'ast year there was a clear decline of active elder members. Of course, elder members are always less active due to work, internships or other study - related things but last year also second - years weren't that active. According to the survey made for The Future of Machiavelli this was due to a lack of the bonding between first - year students and the 53th board, not having the *borrel* at De Havelaar anymore and the internationalization.' So, first of all I would like to talk about not having the *borrel* at the Havelaar anymore, which was our decision as the 53rd board. We made this decision because we knew that due to the internationalization, we won't fit into the Havelaar anymore. And there were also other problems with the Havelaar, which you can see know because it is closed. Also, you moved the *borrel* to another location for exactly the same reasons, so if you really disagree with that than you might want to look into this decision you made. But mostly, I want to talk about how you are saying that the 53rd board did not bond enough with first year students which is why they weren't there. First of all, this came out of the Future of Machiavelli and I want to say that this is not the first time it was organized but we as the 53rd board actually discussed how Machiavelli would look like with the internationalization. Also, I never saw the outcome of The Future of Machiavelli of last year, so I am not sure what result says that the 53rd board lacked bonding with the first-year students. I also want to say that it is logical that there are less second year students, because it was one of the smallest first-years in the history of Machiavelli, so obviously with the internationalization, there will be a lot more first-year students and a lot less second-year students. I also don't believe that first-year students came to our events the whole year and then stopped because of our lack of bonding with them? Because we weren't board anymore in their second year, so it would be weird to me why they decided to stop coming because we didn't bond with them. Also, I want to hear more about what you think that the 53rd board could have done to increase participation of second year students I think it is hard to believe that an entire year will stop coming for an entire year. And I also want you to think about what the actual problems were, so if this was the reason then how you are going to bond more closely with first-year students. And if you find that these are not actually the reasons, then I want you to change it in your policy plan. And if you think these are the reasons, then I would like you to add how you are going to solve it. And I also want to see the results of the future of Machiavelli.

Tommy: First of all, thank you for your questions and your remarks. There were a lot, to start with the first one, I think you emphasise to much the quote that the 53rd board didn't bond enough with the first years. Obviously, I was not there because I am a second year now and I only took this information from the Future of Machiavelli which you obviously haven't seen yet. So sorry for that. But there were some answers in the Future of Machiavelli that stated that that was the reason. I am not saying that every respondent said that, that's why there are multiple reasons that you quoted, such as not going to the Havelaar or the internationalisation. Then your second point about what the 54th board could have done to keep second years moer active, I personally wouldn't know, and I think that there was a drop out of second

years in the last year because of the internationalisation. Personally, I find this the most logical reason, but we cannot ask everyone up front and say, 'hey why didn't you show up anymore?'. And I will look into that, to see if there are any further reasons. And I will definitely look into how I can do this better myself and I can add it to my policy plan.

Tessa: I hope you realise that this is a very harsh statement that it really sweeps away everything that we have done as a board. And I hope that you realise that for us it is a bit disrespectful since nothing is mentioned about what we have done. And I would like to have this removed in order to accept this policy plan.

Jonas: Can I say something about the results of the Future of Machiavelli. There was a question about why this situation has occurred but the statement that the 53rd board did not connect with the first-years was a specific broad answer from one or two single students. It was not a percentage of students who said this or a possible answer. It was only mentioned by one or two of all the respondents. And taking this up in your policy plan is in my opinion very unjust. And you say that there were multiple reasons which you state in your policy plan which is something critical and crucial for an association, so please explain all the reasons. Because now it is too vague, and the people don't know what the future of Machiavelli is, how many percent of people said this. You have to emphasise how many people said this if you want to add it to your policy plan.

Antonie: What if we make it an action point that this report is going to be published online because the reason that it has not happened yet is because we got a new website a week ago, so we can upload it now. But yeah just as Jonas said, it is hard to base such things on just one or two respondents.

Jonas: Also, you are saying that a larger reason for the decline in first-year activities was the internationalization and that is actually a point that kept coming up in the result. So, that was really a big reason for a lower turnout. And I think it is something that we all see, so do emphasise the scale of what matters the most.

Tessa: And finally, if you want to use this, obviously it was mentioned one or two times, so if you want to use it it's fine but I want you to make a concrete plan about how you are going to do it differently than we did. And how are you going to make sure that these one or two people don't feel like that.

Gerben: Yeah and I just want to add that we are political scientists, we have research methods and even when you take these two answers...

Isabel: Okay, but what can we do with that information? I think the best idea is it to make it an action point to put the future of Machiavelli results online and Tommy do you want to remove the statement, because it is obviously not a representation of the Future of Machiavelli, from your policy plan or not?

Tommy: I do not want to remove it but I will change the phrase to the internationalisation and the other reasons pretty upfront and make this the main reason because obviously it is not clear right now but I think it should be mentioned that maybe not the 53rd board in particular but previous boards did not bond well enough with first years.

Tessa: But if we would do the Future of Machiavelli again this year, maybe they would say that the 54th board didn't bond enough with the first-years, maybe they wouldn't. But we don't really know, it was one or two people. And if you want to include this statement then I want you to include all the answers that were given about why they weren't active, so I want to have every reason listed to make it representative.

Tommy: Okay, I'll look into that then.

Antonie: Yeah, so it should be an action point that we will talk to Emil so that it will be published within a week on the website

→ ACTION POINT

Jonas: The last thing I want to say is, do you want to phrase the answer of two people as the reason for such a critical thing. Do you want to quote them for your own explanation while you weren't even there? If I were you, I would delete that sentence because it makes no sense.

Tommy: I will look into that then. And just to be sure, I see that it affects all of you from the 53rd board and I really didn't mean it as a harm to you. We all know what you have done in your board year, which was a lot. You prepared the internationalisation very well but the only reason why I put it in my policy plan is that it was quoted in an official survey and if it is really a big problem for you and if it is hurting you I will definitely look into it and consider deleting it.

Jonas: It is not about hurting them but about yourself and if you want to put it in.

Tommy: Yeah, I know but it was one of the points that Tessa mentioned.

Gerben: Just for the record, we don't want you to change it because it hurts us but because it is not depicting reality. You say that you might change it into all the previous boards didn't bond with the first years but there is no base at all except for two people complaining about it. It would just swipe away all the good and hard work that everyone has done. I feel like every board has a bit of a feeling that second years leave because they form their groups of friends in the first year and then do not attend the activities as much anymore. So, there is always a drop-off. And there were three times as much first years this year. There will always be more first years than second years. So, I just don't think there is any basis in reality.

Tessa: I want to conclude that it is not necessarily hurting our feelings because I know what year we had, and it was great. I just feel a bit like all hard work we did is just ignored in one sentence in a policy plan also because there is no documentation at all about the good things we did. So, I feel like it really sweeps away all the work we did in one sentence. And I think it is something you should be careful about because it is something that has been there for quite some time and obviously, not everything we did was perfect, but I think you should be careful about pointing out what was really bad. Especially, when it was such a minor thing. I can think of things

that were way worse than our bonding with first-year students. So be a bit careful with that and maybe think about what is really going on in the future.

Isabel: Yes, I think it is clear now.

Daan: Could I have an overview of the action points we added so far?

Isabel: The only action point we added on this issue is that the results of the Future of Machiavelli will be online within a week. And Tommy will look into that. We can make it an action point if you want, but we can also come back to it next GA.

Jonas: I think that until the next GA quite a long time will pass, and I think that Tommy won't need three months. So, maybe it is an idea that you can already put it online if you know what you want to change and when you have done so. We could make it an action point that if you change something, then it will be notified.

→ ACTION POINT

Isabel: Tessa is that agreeable for you?

Tessa: Yes, I don't want an upload until this is changes but it is okay for now.

Isabel: Any other remarks or questions?

Gerben: To end on a positive note, I think that restructuring your committee is a good idea.

Jonas: I actually do have one more question. You also said that you set up a transmission document for your own committee? Is that like a rephrasing of your personal transmission document?

Tommy: It contains some expectations, what I expect of them and what they can expect from me. How I want them to behave, it's not like I am giving a behavioural code, but it is something they should read before attending.

Jonas: I think that is a really good idea.

Eelke: Hello everyone, my name is Eelke Vlieger and it is with pride and pleasure that I stand here in front of you as the new international coordinator of Machiavelli. I would not be standing here without the previous board and an excellent period of transmission. I would like to thank them, especially Maureen. Our beloved association is growing, and this provides us with plenty of challenges, how are we going to keep the character of Machiavelli and how will the growth influence the cohesion within Machiavelli. We as a board will face these challenges and my part will rest on three pillars: continuity, creativity and cohesion. In the last years, it has become a tradition for Machiavelli to go on two small trips, a Brussels trip, one big trip and a king of the road road trip. Last year, Maureen implemented some changes so make the trips more accessible because we are a growing association. I think these changes were successful, we are now going on two Brussels trips and she transformed the second small trip into two parallel trips. I want to keep these

changes. However, I have decided to not expand the first trip or the big trip, because it would be too much, and I might have trouble to fill it up. I also want to be creative in my board year, I want to visit places where Machiavelli has never gone before and that's why I am very happy to announce that we are Sofia for the first trip, from the 30th of October to the 4th of November. I also want to make the most out of our lustrum year and that's why we will be organising two lustrum themed trips which will be the parallel trips. Of course, I won't be able to attend both trips so that's where my committee structure comes in. I will appoint a trip coordinator to take my place as international coordinator on one of these trips. Probably quite soon, I will set up a challenge or something where people can send me an idea for a trip, with details how they are going to organise it etc. And the person with the best idea will get to appoint their own committee and will be able to set up this trip by him or herself. Of course, I will be cooperating with them very closely and I will tell them how to do everything, but they will have a lot of autonomy. I want to experiment with this idea because I think it is a great way to promote active membership and offer members a way of developing themselves. If the IAPSS world congress will intervene with our big trip again, like it did in recent years, then I will also appoint a trip coordinator for that. So, I will make sure that Machiavelli is still present at IAPSS. I think it is important that a delegation of Machiavelli attends, because you can learn a lot from visiting IAPSS. Last but certainly not least point is cohesion, as a growing association cohesion is of course one of our main tasks. And I think that improving cohesion is very doable on a trip, because you bond and form a cohesive association. Of course, that is a lot of work. In the end, I want everyone to be able to go. Last year, that was not always the case. On the first trip, there was only one international student. This can be explained by a lack of money or a lack of information. I cannot do anything about the money issue, but I can make them as informed as possible and I will therefore, organise informational evenings about the trips and destinations before registration opens. The first one is next week. I am incredibly excited to start my board year and I want to thank you all.

Lucas: Thank you for your presentation, I would also like to add on the last point that Isabelle was the only international student that attended the first trip and we found that one of the reasons was also that international students only get settled in the first few weeks and months and going on a trip already then is a bit stressful for them.

Eelke: Yes, I get that but with that information evening I would still like to encourage them to go because I want to show them how much fun it is, how educational it is and how much you can learn from it.

Jonas: I have got too questions, first of all I have heard about the information evening that it was the idea to organise it but before they have signed up?

Eelke: Yes, the first one will be next Thursday and the next day, registrations will open.

Jonas: Yes, I think that is a great idea. And the other question is about someone organising their own trip. I think that really shows courage. I think that's an awesome idea

Eelke: Thank you.

Thijs: Yeah, I would like to say something small about this. Of course, the information evening is a nice idea and actually going on a trip is also a good way to help you settle here in Amsterdam because you will get to know new people that will also help you settle when you come back home.

Isabel: Then we will go on to voting procedure if there are no general questions?

Jonas: A general thing to say: what we saw during the transmission process and also at this GA is the restructuring of the committees which is something crucial. Opening up the association for more activity of members, more input, more responsibility. I think you tackled that problem very well as a team because it shows up in all of your policy plans. I am really proud of you and I encourage you to proceed with this and make it work.

Jasper: We of the advisory board would also like to make a remark. I think we have a group of very talented young people here and we have confidence in them that they will make this a great year.

Tessa: I want to make a final comment on behalf of the lustrum committee. So, regarding the policy plan, I would like to stress that there are no hard feelings and I am also really excited that we have the base down and that we made some agreements and I am really looking forward to work together for the rest of the year.

Isabel: Then we will go on to the voting procedure of the policy plan. We will do this the same way as earlier, if you agree you may clap. Hereby the policy plan is officially accepted.

Budget plan 2018-2019:

Maaïke: So, to start off, the general income of the association is growing, it increased to 11,000€ from income of contributions because we now have over 1200 members. And we still expect some people to sign off, which is why it is not exactly represented by the amount of money. The book sales are also increasing. More students also means more sold books. The general costs of Machiavelli are increasing. The board training is the same as last year because we expect the same type of costs. There is only one cost that is increasing which is the contribution for the platform of political scientists but other than that we are expecting very similar costs. General promotions are added, this is for things such as Facebook promotions for events such as the General Assembly. Printing costs go up a bit but only 10€ difference. Investment IT is the same. Cost payment traffic is up by a hundred because more members means

more payments through the website. Representation costs have increased. This is for two reasons. Firstly, the CoBo will be more expensive this year because we are hosting it at De Heeren van Amstel and we need to pay 40 euro for a guard per hour outside. Also, we have now an international board member who cannot travel for free within the Netherlands, so we have decided that we will budget money for that so that Tiziana can also attend the meeting/activities with us and does not have to pay excessive amounts more than we do. The assessment day is something Thijs mentioned earlier, we are not entirely sure yet how much it will cost because it is a very new addition to the budget. But we have budgeted at this amount, so we hope to stay within that budget and see how much it costs later in the year when we will choose a partner for that. Board training is now included in a separate post rather than the general costs, this is based on the costs made last year. The book keeping training has also been added, because it could be very beneficial due to the complex system. This was also suggested by the advisory council. And I would also like to take Eelke to that training since he will be a backup treasurer. The secretary cost has increase because of the new board room, we are buying new things because it is larger, and we need to fill it. And reservation lustrum and unforeseen costs are the same as always, a thousand euros. The committed members activity has increased a bit because we are expecting more committed members, so we also want to include more in the activity. Last year, the alumni activity was done in combination with the alumni circle but they paid all of it and they were not too happy about that, so we decided to budget some as well, so we can split the costs. Acquisition as I mentioned earlier has increased. The audit committee was budgeted with 50€ because every committee gets a small budget. De derde dinsdag is based on five editions, so on last years costs. Policy and transmission weekends are the same. Promotion items is also something that we have increased quite a bit. This is because last year they have started with quite a lot of promotion articles left meaning there was less purchase and no promotion articles we had to buy again. The sweaters will also cost more but we are hoping to sell them for the same so we are expecting to make a loss there. Then going to the lustrum, their budget is included in ours but as you can see, the reservation here is 5000€ which has been saved by the last five boards. They budgeted 1000€ for promotion and 500€ for unforeseen in case an event is more expensive than expected. The lustrum borrel was the event last week, that is around the amount that we ended up spending as well so that was budgeted correctly. Alumni borrel is budgeted at 350€. Pub quizzes, as Tommy mentioned the second pubquiz will not cost as much. Pub lecture is an event for 300€, this is an average cost for a pub lecture. The board dinner is a traditional event, also 500€ from the lustrum budget, the rest will be from the income. The ending party is as Tommy said earlier as well, an event that will be organised together. The almanac is a very big cost. One of the reasons for putting 1500€ from Machiavelli money into this is because during the last lustrum, there was a very big loss made because they produced too many and they also cost a lot. So, we are hoping to not make them too expensive for the members but also create a very good product. The trips are very self-explanatory. Education, we budgeted for three pub lectures. The career event is the former master classes, and this is very much based on what was done last year but we hope to make it a bit bigger. The open evening has been budgeted more because we want to make it accessible for international parents as well, so it is going to be a bit bigger than last year. Education dialogue, as already said, we are hoping to do one for masters and one for bachelor students. And other political activities are regarding other events, we are not sure yet what they are going to be but there might be some more that have not been planned yet.

Political activities, there is a few that are already planned. Tweede kamer visit is a traditional activity that we organise based on what was spent last year. Israel decoded is an event that will be hosted somewhere in December with some other parties, so this will not cost too much. Machiavelli meets is quite a large event, so there is quite a lot of money budgeted for that.

The other activities are budgeted but we are not sure where they will go yet. The last aspect is social activities, the special borrel is 600€ just like last year. The first weekend is based on 100 people for 53€ each and these tickets have already sold out, so this money will be reached. The first party is more than last year, this is because it will be bigger, and we will have a 300 people venue. Second weekend is going to be based on last year. Political Science got talent is a bit more, this is because it was very successful, and it is culturally relevant. The gala/prom is also more. Last year, there was a dinner included and we thought this was a big success, so we would like to make that cheaper since it was a quite expensive dinner. The FMG party is the same as always. Live music night was also a new event last year and we thought it was very successful, so we put more money into that. The ending party, which will be shared with the lustrum, has been budgeted to 1000€ from ourselves. Machiavelli dines is 300€. And then other cultural activities are budgeted because we want to give the committee room to plan these activities. Then with sports, Studovo and Machialympics are both a little bit more than last year because we are trying to make them cheaper and popular. Lastly, other sports activities to be filled in by the committee.

Tessa: I have a proposal: for some reason it is an unwritten thing that the board pays exactly the same amount that members do for the events. But I think that it is maybe a bit of a silly rule because it hasn't been written down anywhere and secondly, they attend a lot of events. So, it might be an idea to give the board discount on all the events. Especially for the people who organise the events themselves. approval. And since there is a lot of money available this year, it is possible to do it. And I want to use the GA to get the general approval for this.

Antonie: Maybe not all events but event above 5 or 7€?

Walker: I think it's a good idea and it comes from a good place, but it is a slippery slope. A very fine line, because when you look at it, it doesn't look good and while we could sit down and explain it to everybody that hears 'Oh Machiavelli board members are subsidising themselves', it almost seems a bit like embezzlement. So, I am saying that it is fine line and that we should keep in mind that it is not exactly something that looks good. This is my first year, and this is what almost an outsider would say.

Tessa: Yes, I understand but I also think that the budget is presented to us, so we can look if they did that properly and it is also about very small amounts. I understand your viewpoint, but on the other hand, I have also met first year students who were actually really surprised that the board has to pay. I don't think it is a lot to ask for since they have to go to these events that they are organising for other people.

Walker: Yeah, I am not entirely opposed, I just want to point out that it is a slippery slope.

Mees: I kind of agree with Walker. We have had this discussion for ages, maybe not in the GA. The general conclusion, every time was that the board member is just like

every other member and it didn't feel right to put yourself above the other members. It is a slippery slope to where are the lines. If you are going to do this, I do not completely reject this proposal, you need to have very clear rules about this.

Isabel: Is it maybe a solution to make this an action point and look into it because of this year's budget?

Mees: I do want to add on that. The fact that we have extra money now is no argument for this proposal. If this is going to pass than it will have to stay the same over the next years and you never know what is going to happen in the following years.

Gerben: I agree to that, I don't think it is right that the board places themselves above anyone else because they have an obligation to attend all events and that is quite expensive. And I know that it is a slippery slope but that's why we are here, and we can set boundaries.

Mees: What I also wanted to say is that if you want to do this you cannot approve it at this GA. Maaïke has to think about this...

Tessa: No, I at least wanted to raise a discussion.

Mees: Raise a discussion is in my opinion very healthy but let Maaïke think about it.

Thijs: We already looked into doing this, having a discount. But like you (Walker) said we as association do not want to spend too much money on ourselves. I also want to comment on this, at least when I think of myself, I am at the lowest financial point I have ever been in my life, because you cannot do a side job. But we decided not to do that yet because we don't know where to draw the line because there is also the committees organising the events and then we didn't know if the discount would also count for them.

Isabel: Gerben, final word.

Gerben: It would be fair if the committee members would also get a discount...

Isabel: Okay, so maybe we can...

Jonas: Can I add one thing? I think it is really important that there is too ways in which this discussion can be going. Board members are obliged to attend activities and therefore should not pay for everything or people who organise it should not have to pay. And those are two different kinds of discussions. So, depending on the reason it will be difficult to implements the other proposal.

Daan: I'm curious, it might be an idea for the board to formulate three different scenarios that everyone can vote on at the next GA.

Walker: I like that proposal.

Jonas: Maybe it is a good idea that Maaïke, the entire board and the audit committee will talk about this and after that formulate the scenarios.

Mees: Whatever idea you might have, please run it through the audit committee first.

Jonas: If you want to do that, please fill in a motion.

Isabel: We will make it an action point, so it can always be voted at the next GA. So, I suggest the board and the audit committee will look into that.

→ ACTION POINT

Jonas: Final word, it might be an idea to ask what the members think.

Lise: Yeah, I have got a question about something else. I hope this will not bring up a discussion, it is a very brief question. You explained that you budgeted more money for the dinner. So, the extra money is being used to pay for people's dinner?

Maaïke: We try to make the tickets for our members cheaper. The exact way we would do this is not known yet.

Lise: Because not all members join the dinner or the party, so you would use their member fee to pay for other people's dinner.

Maaïke: Yeah, but then we could also... this is not something that has been completely...

Lise: Yes, I just wanted to add that.

Jonas: Regarding the budget plan in general, good job, I am proud of you. This note is also in the transmission report but there is always the option to make a second budget plan next to the half year realisation. It is something that I would maybe advise because of the rising income and uncertainty in some points. So, we make sure that we do not end up with a surplus.

Jasper: So, with regard to the alumni borrel, I am in the board and we were very happy to pay for everything last year and we are doing it again this year. With the money we have left at the end of the year, we always host a borrel and you guys are invited.

Isabel: Thank you, then no more questions. And I would like to ask Mees on behalf of the audit committee to give his advice.

Mees: We will give a positive voting advise. We are looking very much forward to word with Maaïke, she is doing a good job.

Isabel: Then we will go to the voting procedure. If you agree, please applaud.

Discharge Audit Committee/ Installation Audit Committee:

Isabel: There is a change in the audit committee. This is Jesse's last GA and unfortunately, he isn't here, but we would still like to thank him and he is hereby, discharged from his duties. And we also have a new member of the committee, her name is Lara Hendrikx, she was treasurer in the 53rd board, unfortunately she was ill today so she couldn't be here but we are looking forward to working with her. Congratulations Lara.

A.O.B:

Isabel: We would once again like to remind you that there is an opening in the presidium, so if you have any questions, we will be attending the borrel. And also, if you haven't signed the attendance list, please to do so before you leave. On behalf of the board, I would like to say: please come to the borrel afterwards, there will be one free beer for everyone that was here.

Antonie: Are we already in the round of questions?

Round of questions:

Antonie: So, we have some money left, what is going to happen with that money? Is it up to the members or are we going to have a vote about it?

Jonas: I said with the board already. But it is very short notice and I didn't want them to feel responsible to know all the answers right now. So, it is kind of left open.

Maike: We have some ideas already but none that are concrete enough. We are looking into several options and we also want to have the members involved. But the main goal is to do something with it that beneficial to the association over a longer period of time.

Antonie: Will there be a vote about it?

Isabel: Do we want to make this an action point?

Thijs: We are still looking into how to arrange this so, we are first going to discuss this within the board. And then we can notify you.

Antonie: Sounds like an action point.

Isabel: It will be noted as an action point.

→ **ACTION POINT**

Action Points:

- Transition documents for the acquisition committee
- Changes about the policy plan should be published on the website
- the board and audit committee will look into the possibility of giving the board a discount on events (or no charge at all)
- the board will look into possibilities on how to spend the money that is left