



PROTOCOL

The Baltic University Programme's
Student's Parliament 2019



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1. Opening of the parliamentary session 2019

The Baltic University's Programme's Students' Parliament session was held in Nelijärve, Estonia on 27th of April, 2019. It was declared open by Mirjam Weituschat, University of Greifswald, Germany, the current students' representative.

2. Information and instructions about the parliamentary process

Mirjam Weituschat informed and instructed the Student's Parliament members about the parliamentary session process and made a count of the parliament members present at the current session.

3. Appointing the election board

Mirjam Weituschat announced her nominees for the following positions: 3 vote counters, 1 secretary, 2 adjusters and briefly described their duties and responsibilities. The parliament voted on each nomination separately in an open voting. All nominations have been accepted with the majority of votes.

Election board members:

Adjuster – **Leonid Zhuzha**, Sumy State University, Ukraine

Adjuster – **Khristina Vyshnevskya**, LNU of Ivan Franko, Ukraine

Vote counter – **Björn Lensander**, University of Turku, Finland

Vote counter – **Renat Vahitov**, Euroakadeemia in Tallinn, Estonia

Vote counter – **Marharyta Samus**, Euroakadeemia in Tallinn, Estonia

Secretary – **Martina Šimková**, VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic



4. Motions and proposals

Together three proposals were introduced.

1st proposal by **Anam Malik**, University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

Main points of proposal:

- Regional conference could benefit from global perspective as well. This perspective would include what's being done on a global level.
- Student's ambassadors would take the information home with them. This would be an easy and practical way to maximize the impact.

Main points of discussion:

Question from a parliament member:

- What exactly are we voting on in this proposal? Because one thing is a global perspective, another having ambassadors.

Answer from the speaker:

- This proposal, as a first thing, is to discuss the global perspective. The second thing is that the ambassadors will have rules, for example to make as many liaisons as possible.

Voting results:

- The parliament voted in an open voting with 42 votes for the motion.
- **The motion passed.**

2nd proposal by **Emmy Pater**, Uppsala University & SLU, Sweden and **Mariia Pospelova**, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Main points of proposal:

- As Tatjana said at the beginning, "food is the most important part of any conference". But also the impact of the food production on the environment is great. The production of meat has more CO₂ emissions per day than the production of vegetarian food.
- The proposal is to reduce the impact of the food during the conference.
- This could be achieved by: including fish and chicken in the menu instead of just beef, serving meat only once per day and using more local foods.
- To practice what we preach is the aim.

Main points of discussion:

Question from a parliament member:

- When you talk about meat, do you propose to have beef once per day and then the other times to have chicken and fish as an option?



Answer from the speaker:

- Because of different cultural conventions, we include chicken, fish and beef as meat and we propose to serve one of those per day.

Question from a parliament member:

- Can we add to this proposal, that people who eat meat can also have a vegetarian dish?

Answer from the speaker:

- That is something we can definitely include in the proposal.

Comment from a parliament member:

- If everyone has two options it could lead to food waste.

Proposal from a parliament member:

- There could be a menu to choose from beforehand. That way the kitchen can plan the meals and prevent food waste.

Answer from the speaker:

- Yes, we can include that in the proposal.

Voting results:

- The parliament voted in an open voting with 46 votes for the motion and 7 votes against the motion.
- **The motion passed.**

3rd proposal by **Mirjam Weituschat**, University of Greifswald, Germany.

Main points of proposal:

- To create an office of Ambassador. His responsibility would be to actively promote BUP at the member universities by organizing events, distributing flyers, raising awareness about the BUP and its events, etc.
- Speaker's two questions for the Parliament Members were: What do you think about this proposal? What would you want back from the BUP for this position?

Main points of discussion:

Proposals from the parliament members:

- To get a certificate at the end that would be considered as an internship.
- Reimbursement for the travel expenses, the expenses for organizing events like printing flyers, serving coffee, booking space, etc.

Question from the speaker:

- Would you want reimbursement for your time as well?



Answer from a parliament member:

- Depending on the time spent. For example, if the work will be on a weekly basis, meaning it would take a lot of time, then yes. If it would be an e-mail once in a while, then no.

Question from a parliament member:

- Are we talking about one or more positions per country?

Answer from the speaker:

- One position per country.

Question from a parliament member:

- Does that mean travelling between universities?

Answer from the speaker:

- Yes.

Comment from a parliament member:

- Then the time of the ambassador should definitely be reimbursed.

Comment from a parliament member:

- If every school has its own ambassador, maybe there will be too many ambassadors.

Question from a parliament member:

- When would this position start?

Answer from the speaker:

- The board will vote. After they approve, they would start looking for ambassadors. That means it may be in around one year from now.

Comment from a parliament member:

- Some of the students end their programs by the time the ambassador's position ends and it becomes difficult. That is why it would make sense to have only one ambassador per country, not per university.

Voting results:

- The parliament voted in an open voting with 50 votes for the motion and 3 votes against the motion.
- **The motion passed.**



5. Election of the International BUP Students' Representative

Mirjam Weituschat, University of Greifswald, Germany, the current students' representative, held a short speech, talking about her experience at her position and thanking the BUP for the opportunity. She then informed the parliament about the rules of the election as follows:

- Each candidate will shortly introduce themselves.
- The candidates will present their agenda one by one.
- At the beginning two of the candidates will go outside the room and wait for their turn.
- Each candidate will have 3 minutes for their speech, 3 minutes for questions from the parliament and 1 minute for their closing speech.
- The voting will be closed and will take place after all candidates are finished.

Each candidate introduced himself, stated the name of their university and their field of study. The current students' representative then let the candidates draw their speaking order. The results were as follows:

1st candidate **Jerzy Litwinow**, University of Warsaw & Warsaw School of Economics, Poland

2nd candidate **Marilind Reemann**, Tallinn University, Estonia

3rd candidate **Ellen Chkhitadze**, Marii Curie Skłodowska University, Poland

The second and the third candidate left the room, the vote counter has been assigned to measure the time of each segment and the first candidate proceeded to his speech.

1st candidate: **Jerzy Litwinow**

Main points of the speech:

- We came here to discuss the challenges of circular economy. We've received various statistics and data.
- The last workshop with Pontus showed us we need to do so much more to achieve the UN forum goals.
- Circular economy is becoming more popular in Warsaw. That's how I found out about the BUP forum and got interested in this topic.
- I want to become a new young voice of the Student's Parliament and to help make Earth green again.

Main points of discussion:

- Question: How can we make sure you are going to put forward the parliament's decisions and not your own?
- Answer: I personally have no opinion about the goals. I listen what people think and then I represent it.
- Question: Do you have a specific idea for change?



- Answer: Limiting the amount of paper sheets and plastic dishes at the conference because we don't need it. This would be the first step.
- Question: What are your circular economy strategies?
- Answer: As I said, I do not have an opinion. It is a new subject so my intent is to study more, listen to you and make an opinion.

Main points of the closing speech:

- I have the experience in being a representative.
- I've been a vice-president of a student organization "The Law and the East" for the past two years, I am on board of a Student Catholic organization "Soli Deo" so I have been representing many people already.

2nd candidate: **Marilind Reemann**

Main points of the speech:

- I will not say why I should be chosen and not someone else. I will also not put down the other candidates.
- During the lunch break I have decided why it is important to me to have this position.
- I study environmental management, I have experience in running projects, seminars, I am currently running a social enterprise in the field of circular economy.
- I have been a president of a student's council two years ago, so I also have an experience as a team member.
- I can't say no, that is why I came here and try to apply for this position.
- I have been interested in these subjects for the past three years, I think all topics are connected and it would be a great opportunity for me to hold this position.

Main points of discussion:

- Question: Can you tell us more about your enterprise?
- Answer: In Estonia many car tires per year are just left outside. We are taking this source and create chairs for students out of it. We also design furniture out of these tires, creating it sustainably and circularly.
- Question: It is very hard for you to say no. How are you going to represent us with the things that do not match your agenda?
- Answer: I can't say no to projects like this. In case of representing the others and following my agenda I am fully devoted to make their voice loud and heard. Now I see what it means to represent so many people.



Main points of the closing speech:

- I will not give you more reasons why you should vote for me. I am just thankful for being here and that you gave me an idea for wanting to be engaged.
- To be a representative for BUP would be a way to achieve what I wrote in my slogan.

3rd candidate: **Ellen Chkhitadze**

Main points of the speech:

- I am interested in topics of human rights.
- The 2030 UN agenda is not legally binding, but all the countries should work to achieve it together.
- I want to create a better future, to spread equality across the world.
- I prefer practice from theoretical knowledge. I suggest practical events, going to places.
- We could make a change about the deforestation for example, make school projects, talk to people who don't have access to the clean water.
- I've done lots of jobs at school, etc.
- I advise you to calculate how many planets you would need to sustain you. I calculated it myself and for me it would be 2,2 planets.

Main points of discussion:

- Question: You mentioned a lot of experience in diplomacy and international relations. What are your plans for this topic?
- Answer: Agenda connected to the ambassador's position and to spread ideas locally, go to the universities, schools and ask for volunteers, etc.
- Question: You mentioned you wanted to spread equality. What equality did you have in mind?
- Answer: All kind of equality – racial, gender, access to water, ensuring the basic human rights in an equal society.
- Question: What specific global problems do you find most pressing?
- Answer: The problem of justice, etc.

Main points of the closing speech:

- I will do my best to work in BUP.
- I will implement circular economy in my university.
- I will be happy to cooperate with you and your representatives.

Summary

All students' representative candidates were given an opportunity to deliver speech, to introduce themselves, their visions and their potential role as the international BUP students' representative.



6. Voting for the International BUP Students' Representative

All members of the BUP Students' Parliament were given an opportunity to vote in a closed voting. The election board received **62** ballot papers in total, all of which were filled and valid.

The voting results were as follows:

Jerzy Litwinow, University of Warsaw & Warsaw School of Economics, Poland, received **14** valid votes.

Marilind Reemann, Tallinn University, Estonia, received **16** valid votes.

Ellen Chkhitadze, Marii Curie Skłodowska University, Poland, received **32** valid votes.

7. Presenting the elected International BUP Students' Representative

The candidate, new elected Baltic University Programme's International Student Representative for period spring 2019 to spring 2021, was **Ellen Chkhitadze**, Marii Curie Skłodowska University, Poland.

8. Closing of the parliamentary session 2019

The Baltic University Programme's Students' Parliament session 2019 was declared closed by Mirjam Weituschat, University of Greifswald, Germany.

Secretary

Martina Šimková

06. 06. 2019, Czech Republic

Adjuster

Leonid Zhuzha

Ukraine

Adjuster

Khristina Vyshnevskya

Ukraine