



Newsletter December 2017

EJTA AGM and Conference 17 - 18 May 2018 in Barcelona

1. Teachers' Conference Moscow

Our 2017 Teachers' Conference was held on October 19 & 20 in Moscow, together with the Moscow Readings and the autumn meeting of the Forum of European Journalism Students (FEJS). More than 150 participants and a unprecedented high number of papers/presentations have made it a unique experience. All papers are bundled in a book. Many aspects of the theme 'Journalism Education Across Borders' were discussed: geographical borders, political borders, borders between academia and the industry, socio-cultural borders, and so on. It has been very difficult to give room to all the papers and speakers, but the excellent Local Organizing Committee succeeded, and we really want to thank them again for the wonderful job they did.



2. AGM/Conference Barcelona

Our 2018 Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held on May 17 & 18 at UPF Barcelona. On the agenda of the AGM will be the President's Report, the EJTA Strategy, the EUcheck project, the Research project, New members, the Mobility Catalogue, election of Board members and the future of the Board.

Special guest will be Folker Hanusch who will inform us about the outcomes of the Journalism Students around the Globe study. The Barcelona Conference is under construction. The working title is 'Fast and Slow Journalism; differences and consequences for journalism education' and it will focus on several related issues that are in the center of the discussion about the future of professional journalism.

3. EJTA Research project

The questionnaire that is made for the EJTA Research on *'Journalistic Roles, Values and Qualifications in the 21st century; how journalism teachers view the future of a profession in transition'* is finalized. On Thursday 11th of January the link to the online questionnaire will be mailed to the contact persons of all our members. These contact persons will send this link to their colleagues. In total 78 institutes from 28 countries are involved, which means that all EJTA-members (100%) participate. In the course of 2018 first outcomes are expected and will be shared.

4. EU Check

The EJTA fact-checking project will be focusing on its core goals:

1. To build a sustainable curriculum unit on fact checking within a network of EJTA J-schools and
2. To publish checked claims / statements /... about EU elections on a pan-European platform.

In Moscow, we had a very constructive and inspiring workshop in which we discussed four practical themes for a sustainable methodology:

- How and where do we find the claims, facts, statements, reports, images, ... that we want our students to check?
- What kind of facts are we able to check?
- What do the checks we publish look like?
- What kind of techniques / tools do we need?

All project participants were sent the results of the discussions in the document 'Guidelines from the EUcheck workshop' and are asked to implement the output as guidelines for the national fact-checking projects.

At the moment the 16 participating EJTA schools are being asked to communicate the timing of their fact-checking projects, in order to prepare the collective methodology and approach for the European Parliamentary elections. Deadline: 30 December 2017.

A concept note on the development of the digital platform will follow later. In the next Train the trainer in Barcelona (16 May 2018) we'll discuss best practices and finetune the guidelines.

In December EJTA will receive €5000 from the Council of Europe to support the coordination and organization of the project.



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5. Report from the World Forum of Democracy

At the [World Forum for Democracy](#) from 8-10 November in Strasbourg our EUcheck project was one of the Lab-presentations.

The WFD consisted of a number of plenary sessions and panel discussions around the main theme: Is populism a problem? Apart from democracy, related topics were gender and ethnic equality, policy making, science and research, citizen participation and the role of media -with an emphasis on [fact-checking and fake news](#). In a series of 9 Lab sessions examples, initiatives and projects were presented. The best initiative (by votes from the participants) was awarded with the Democracy Innovation Award 2017. The daring Russian investigative newspaper The Insider won the prize.

Kate Shanahan (Dublin Institute of Technology) and Carien Touwen (HU

Applied Sciences Utrecht) presented our EUcheck project in [Lab9](#). Georgia Oost and Eva Craane, two students from the Utrecht WFact project, in addition showed their website and fact-checks to a full house in Room 1 of the Council of Europe building in Strasbourg.

Although our project was not commended for the innovation award, the rapporteur of the fact-checking panel discussions and labs, Andries du Toit, mentioned EUcheck in his [rapportage](#) at the closing session.





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6. FEJS

At their General Assembly in Moscow, the FEJS members voted on new structures and regulations. Important is the change of the time period for the executive bodies: from now on, the executive board will stay on for 2 years, the secretariat for 3 years. Sofia Brontvein from Russia was elected FEJS president and the secretariat is in Slovenian hands. The Forum also intends to be more transparent and will publish a Newsletter on a regular basis.

In order to help FEJS with the organization of their meeting in Moscow, EJTA funded €1000 which was used to logistically support the 36 participants present.

The next Annual Conference will be organized in Krakow, from 19 until 24 April 2018.

7. Invoices Fee 2018

The invoices for the 2018 fee will go out in the beginning of December. If a member prefers to pay the 2018 fee in December 2017: that is possible. The fee stays at the level of the past ten years; 750 Euro. Please see to it that the fee is paid before March 15th.

8. Communication

Social Media

We created a new Facebook Page. You can follow our new activities on this [page](#). Soon the old Facebook Page will be deleted. We will still be active on all other social media networks.

Mobility Catalogue

In Munich it was decided to change the nature of the EJTA Mobility Catalogue. It appeared to be very difficult for the Secretariat to get updated information from the members about their international courses each year. Therefore it was decided to put another kind of information in the Mobility Catalogue: the web address where information about international courses and student or staff exchange can be found. In January 2018 the secretariat will approach all EJTA members to give them the precise link to that information. We hope we can present the result of this huge effort at the AGM in Barcelona.

9. Upcoming Events

EJTA Conferences

- **EJTA AGM and Annual Conference**
Barcelona, 17 - 18 May 2018
- **EJTA Teacher's Conference Autumn 2018**
Thessaloniki, Greece

Events from member institutions and other organisations

- **International Journalism Festival 2018**
Perugia, 11-15 April 2018
- **FEJS Annual Conference**
Krakow, 19-24 April 2018
- **Anadolu University, Communication in the Millenium**
Eskisehir, 25 - 28 April 2018

