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Newsletter October 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER!

- **15 October 2021:** Roundtable UNESCO/WJEC SUSU conference
- **18-19 November 2021:** Moscow Readings
- **8 December 2021, afternoon:** meeting EUfactcheck + task force meeting data journalism staff, LIVE, Mechelen
- **8 (evening)- 9-10 (midday) December 2021:** EJTA AGM, LIVE, Mechelen
- **25 February 2022**: #EJTAlk5
- **12-13 May 2022:** EJTA Teachers' Conference, LIVE, DMJX Aarhus

Message from the board

The new Board had their very first live meeting in the new EJTA structure in Paris on 9-10 September.
We want to realise quite some steps for the future, which we would like to discuss with you during our next AGM.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021
8-10 DECEMBER LIVE IN MECHELEN, BELGIUM

On 8-10 December we have a LIVE AGM in Mechelen (campus Thomas More Media School & Hotel Van der Valk) to discuss our strategy and goals, main projects, international cooperations: 'EJTA business and strategy, an AGM and conference by and from members.'

We're sure our association will benefit from a LIVE conference and discussions about our strategy and activities, and we hope many members will join three or two days. Underneath a sneak preview on the programme:

- Wednesday 8 December
Venue: [campus Thomas More Media School](), Mechelen.
Travel day + meetings: EUfactcheck (3 pm) and Datajournalism task force (4.30 pm) + reception offered by Thomas More (6 pm). Everybody is very welcome at these premeetings, you don't need to be part of the specific taskforce.

- Thursday 9 and Friday 10 December
Venue: *[Van der Valk Hotel Mechelen]()*

- Thursday: EJTA AGM plenary (9.30 am) + Conference about 'EJTA business and strategy' in break-out sessions (1.30 pm) + meeting mid-career section (5 pm) + EJTA dinner and Council of Europe Prize Award (6.30 pm).
- Friday: Continuation Conference about 'EJTA business and strategy' (9.30 am) + lunch (1 pm).

Please visit the EJTA website for more info about the programme and hotel booking details.

Registrations open today on this link.

- Registration is **required**.
- Moreover, because of practical issues (number of participants and room size in relation to covid19 rules) you will be asked to sign up for each session/activity separately.
- Registrations will open on 4 October and will close on 30 November.

Board elections

After years of 'faithful service' in the Board Alexandra Stark will step down in December 2021.   This means we need a new candidate for the EJTA Board and we'll have an election during the AGM.

There are some characteristics for the candidate's profile:
- The seat is reserved for the **mid-career section** of EJTA.
- The Board favours a **geographical spread.** Since we now have a French president, a Dutch, Finnish and Georgian Board member, it would be good to have other parts of Europe represented too.
- Not only is geographical diversity favoured, but also **gender diversity** will work positively in the Board. So preferably the new member is male.

Candidates will make themselves known **before 25 October 2021** in an email to the EJTA President Eric Nahon and Director Nadia Vissers. They should provide a short biography with a photograph and their motivation (about 100-150 words).

Also President Eric Nahon has already been in function for two years and is quite willing to serve you all for two more years on the EJTA Board. That is why we suggest a **re-election** for him. Of course, if members want to step up for the **position of President** in the Board, they are kindly invited to announce this and send a mail to Nadia Vissers and we will organise a vote according to our statues .

EUFACTCHECK

On 25 October we will start the sixth season at [EUfactcheck](#).

The EJTA project is going strong and is generating a lot of traffic, even in 'low season' (summer holiday). Students and lecturers highly value the project as a good learning environment on fact-based journalism. Many schools have already incorporated fact-checking modules in their curriculum. Our Flowchart and Manual are regularly downloaded from the website by third parties, showing that we are also valued outside our own EJTA community.

A core group of schools participates regularly and thus enables a good flow of publications. New schools have joined, new ideas are on try-out (video fact checks), more cross-national collaboration happens and we all look forward to meeting up at the AGM in Mechelen. Prior to the conference we will organise a 'booster event' for everybody who is already a part of the EUfactcheck community or eager to join! As from September 2021 Carien Touwen has taken over the EUfactcheck project management from Nadia Vissers. If you would like to participate in our wonderful project you can contact [Carien](#).

Finally: at the AGM dinner the Council of Europe Prize for Factchecking 2020-2021 will be rewarded to the school with the best fact check of the previous two seasons.

Data Journalism Teachers Task Force

EJTA staff members who want to build this data journalism task force within EJTA, mentioned their name on the Google Doc and are warmly invited to join the first task force meeting on 8 December 4.30 pm in Mechelen.

Also all other interested EJTA members are very welcome!

Please contact Eric Nahon and Alexandra Stark if you have any questions.

#EJTAlks

About 30 interested EJTA staff participated in the highly motivating #EJTAlk4 on 23 September about 'How to create media diversity through journalism teaching'. We were very happy to see new faces and actively involved EJTA staff for this extremely important topic. Maybe another task force is growing? If you missed #EJTAlk4 and you want a recording from the presentations and discussions, you can send a mail to our Director.

#EJTAlk5 will take place on **25 February 2022** with the theme '**How can we coach students better to find their own profile**?' If you have any suggestions for future topics to discuss in the #EJTAlks, please let us know.

Roundtable UNESCO/WJEC, SUSU Conference, powered by ETJA

On **Friday 15 October 2021** the colleagues from South Ural State University host an **online conference** on '**Journalism education in the era of social**

networks and artificial intelligence: digital technologies and ethical values.' This conference is one of the 15 UNESCO and WJEC Round Tables in 2021, which are organised in different regions of the world.

EJTA is powering the conference and our members are actively participating in panels and discussions.

More info is to be found on the [conference's website](#).

Moscow Readings: EJTA section

On **Thursday 18 November 4 pm – 5.30 pm Moscow Time**, EJTA is represented in a special online section to illustrate its projects within the conference's theme '**Journalism education in the insecure digital age**'. In the digital age, journalism is confronted with severe problems in the field of Representation, Reliability, Relevance and Renewal (the 4 R's). How should we prepare our students to tackle these problems? In the EJTA-section of the conference, we will focus on four specific **EJTA-projects that deal with the four R's**.

- **Representation** – The DIALOGUE Project: Annette Bruun Holm
- **Reliability** – The EUFACTCHECK Project: Carien Touwen
- **Relevance** – The DATAJOURNALISM Project: Frederik Marain
- **Renewal** – The TARTU Project: Nico Drok

Click [here](#) for more information and registration.

Arena seminars

On **October 19, 20 and 21** from 10 am to 1 pm Arena for Journalism in Europe organises three **half-day online seminars** '**Data dilemmas: Challenges for journalists in digital Europe**' (in cooperation with the Panelfit Consortium,

OBC Transeuropa, and the European Data Journalism Network).

These three days of knowledge-sharing are aimed at journalists, but open for all and free of charge.

For more information see the EJTA website and the Data Dilemmas website or write to media@journalismarena.eu

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FEJS

We hope to meet representatives from our partner organisation FEJS (The Forum for European Journalism Students) to join us in our AGM in Mechelen in December. FEJS was able to have its own annual conference in April 2021 on Zoom.
An already traditional and constructive meeting with EJTA board member and director was still possible even in online circumstances.

News from the secretariat

If you want a **news item to be published on the EJTA website**, please send a clear and short text (max. 250 words) to info@ejta.eu and director@ejta.eu. Make sure all dates and info are clearly mentioned in this text, so we don't have to search for more info before publication.

UNESCO HANDBOOK: 'Educators: Reporting on Migrants and Refugees'

This handbook addresses one of the challenges of the 21st century: migration

and forced displacement, and their coverage in the media. It is published by the UNESCO and researched and edited by the Erich Brost Institute for International Journalism at EJTA member TU Dortmund University.   It addresses amongst others journalism educators, and covers all aspects needed to train analysis, research, presentation, marketing, and ethics of migration coverage.

For all interested, here is the link to the open access document.

Future EJTA Conferences

The pandemic forced us to change the order of the EJTA conferences and move our Annual General Meeting from spring to autumn and the Teachers' Conference from autumn to spring.
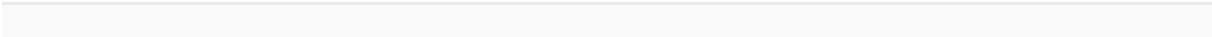
Together with you, we are eagerly looking forward to these live meetings and hope you'll all be present with big smiles and enthusiastic contributions.

- AGM 2021: 8-10 December in Mechelen
- TC 2022: 12-13 May in Aarhus
- AGM 2022: 13-14 October in Tbilisi
- TC 2023: mid-May in Liverpool
- AGM 2023: mid-October in Vienna

** Future e-mails and GDPR

*If you wish to no longer receive our e-mails or would like to be removed from our database, please send a message to our **EJTA Secretariat***

Link to our previous newsletters