

MINUTES

EUCDW BOARD MEETING

4 February 2026
17:00 – 18:00
Brussels, EPP HQ

1. Welcome & introduction by EUCDW President Dennis Radtke.

Attendees: Newly welcoming Julie Hendrickx Devos (chair of beweging.net), Jan Pieter Daems, Margo Molkenboer, Cees Bremmer, Dennis Radtke, Liesbet Sommen, Gilbert Pex, Elmar Brok, Elena Cocos, Sergiu Cocos, Ria Oomen, Fransisco Dominguez, Javier Morillas, José Ignacio Argote Vea-Murguia, Michael Schediwy-Klusek, Online: Luc Van Den brande, Ana Valente, Pedro Roque

Excused: Cindy Franssen, Pavel Matoušek, Reiner Meie, David Agius, Sigrid Schraml (arrived later)

2. Political Current Affairs and the work in the Parliament by Dennis Radtke and Liesbet Sommen

- A majority of the European parliament voted to send Mercosur to the European Court of Justice.
- Extreme and anti-European parties are winning ground in several countries (eg Poland).
- Several important files in the pipeline:
 - o ESF+: one of the most important EU files. It is the main instrument for investing in people. With a budget of €142.7 billion for the period 2021-

2027, we hope to pursue with a big budget to invest in employment, social, education and skills policies, including structural reforms in these areas.

- Subcontracting: Directive for improving the working conditions and protection of trainees, with a strong emphasis on equal treatment and the prevention of abuse (goal: prevent unpaid traineeships besides studies). Currently in Trilogue negotiations.
- Labour mobility package: of great importance as this legislation provides a new mandate to ELA. This will help secure workers' rights and fair competitiveness. We saw several events where this new legislation could have been useful eg truck drivers strike in Germany would not cooperate with ELA. In the context of the labour mobility package, upcoming tax legislation plays an essential role and should be carefully considered.
- MEPs asked to hear the insights from the different member organisations on the EU policies being taken.

3. WG EPP topics

EUCDW advocates for social funds to be a priority in the MFF, given their importance for local communities and our member organisations. Specifically for the EPP working group on MFF, fill in this questionnaire and send the written answers (in English) at latest 11 February 2026 (cob) to adroussiotou@mof.gov.cy; cmasonos@mof.gov.cy; ckattami@mof.gov.cy; shajispyrou@mof.gov.cy; NPavlidou@mfa.gov.cy; Mff@consilium.europa.eu.

For the EPP working group on competitiveness I would like you to give input on the topics through this form before : [EPP working group on competitiveness – Fill out form](#)

4. Approval of the annual activity report 2025

We received approval of the board for the activity report 2025.

5. Approval of the action plan for 2026

Luc Van den Brande social progression should be included in the mission statement as this is very important. We have adopted this reformulation of the action plan and have now approval of the board for the action plan 2026.

6. Approval of accounts 2025 by Ria Oomen.

Overview of accounts and balance sheets. Some questions on the subvention and the expenses were brought up. Ria answered them. Afterwards the board approved the accounts of 2025.

7. Approval of Budget 2026 by Ria Oomen

Ria describes the budget for 2026. She explains why the personnel costs are so high and thus there is a discrepancy in expenses and revenues. Therefore EUCDW should be frugal with money. The new general rules for reimbursement are therefore explained and will soon be send out to all board members. Afterwards the discussion and description, the budget of 2026 was approved.

8. Any other business

Calendar

Activities 2026	Date	Place
EPP Associations & Associated Entities Forum + celebration 50Y	Wednesday 18 March	Brussels
Board meeting	Thursday 9th of April 11:30-13:00	Valencia
Board meeting	Friday 3rd of July	ONLINE
Board meeting	Thursday 12th and Friday 13th of November	Belgium (TBC)

We thank Gilbert for all his work for EUCDW the past year and a half. Although he will still be with us until April, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank him with our board members in the room.

