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**INTERNATIONAL POLITCS WG**

**IPWG-BOARD-L@LISTS.AEGEE.ORG**

<http://www.wg.aegee.org/ipwg/>

**Number of members: total number 71, since Agora Skopje 17**

***Speaker – Armenak Minasyants –*** minasyanc@gmail.com

**Topic**

* ***New logo discussion***

In general through our mailing list the members of our WG expressed their opinion regarding the logo reform. We managed to make a broad discussion during which there were expressed some critical opinions regarding the topic.

As a result or agreement we may point out that on the basis of the proposals made by the Board, the members of WG voted for options and as a result we have got new logo.

* ***Elections discussion***

Starting from October 2011, when our former Speaker suddenly resigned, our WG got in a bit critical situation, as there was a big necessity of consolidated work implemented by the Board, but the Board was not full, which mostly slows down the activities of the WG. So it was decided to make elections of new speaker as soon as possible. After some consultations with the CD representative it was decided to hold just new general elections of the Board. The proposal was presented to the IPWG members by 15th of December 2011 and it was planned to make the elections before the New Year celebration but that proposal became a hot topic for discussion within the members of the WG, as some people were supporting the idea and some did not.

As a result of multilateral consultations and discussions, it was jointly decided to prolong the elections sessions and elections were held on January 15th, 2012.

* ***Armenian-Turkish Rapprochement***

As IPWG is a relevant place for any type of international political discussions, the Board decided to make an open discussion of Armenian-Turkish current relations. During the discussion through mailing list, the members of WG exchanged their ideas and positions regarding the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and expressed their opinions on its international recognition.

 **Activities**

* ***Model European Union Conference by AEGEE-Yerevan and Local IPWG of AEGEE-Yerevan***

During the Conference the participants undertook the roles of Heads of State and Government of the 27 EU Member States as well as the EU high-level officials. The delegates made their decisions in the context of the current political forces and pressures within the EU member states, taking into account the national interests of the states they were representing. The conference was organized on October 22, 2011 in Yerevan at the Best Western Congress’s conference hall. Around 35 Armenian students were selected to participate in the event through competitive procedure from various regions of Armenia. The aim of the conference was to stimulate civic activism and improve EU knowledge among young people. The event was fully supported by the EU Delegation to Armenia. IPWG contribution to this event was mainly connected with the project’s concept development and coordination at place, as two members of the current board were directly in charge of action and were moderating the whole conference.

Armenak Minasyants – at that time Secretary of IPWG, minasyanc@gmail.com

Julietta Beglaryan – Current Projects Responsible of IPWG, julietta.beglaryan@yahoo.com

**Collaborations**

* ***Environmental WG***

The cooperation was officially established by the end of January 2012 after online Skype meetings of the Speakers of the WGs. It is planned to make this spring and autumn joint actions days which will focus on international environmental politics and also on Rio+20 process. It is also planned to organize blog article competitions.

* ***AEGEE Eastern Partnership Project***

The cooperation was officially initiated in the beginning of February 2012. IPWG highly appreciates the undertaken activities of EaP team and its strong commitment to promote European integration and enlargement. The partners have agreed to develop joint events (probably Model EU project) and also to cooperate within the frames of Youth in Action projects, by providing to each other necessary information and finding good partners for events.

* ***Strong Europe***

Strong Europe is a informational new portal, which is focusing on NGO news, youth policy, European success stories, funding opportunities, trainings and much more! We have agreed that time by time IPWG will bring to their web page some interesting articles and also would promote its projects through their web page. The cooperation was established in December 2011.

**Improvements**

* ***Logo improvements***

As it has been stated above, in our WG we have logo change/amendment which has been done through public open discussion and by the voting in the end. Mainly the logo has not been changed a lot, but some new breath has been brought to it. Our PR Responsible was main person in charge for this improvement.

* ***HR campaign***

By the help of our HR Responsible, after EBM Izmir 2012, we initiated HR campaign which was focused on people, who expressed interest to our WG during EBM. To all interested persons there have been send a letter with general info about activities of IPWG and possibilities to get involved.

**Attendance**

* ***EBM Izmir 2012***

IPWG has fully participated in this statutory event with 3 participants (envoys). Our WG actively participated in the Fair and presented our WG and its activities during it. Besides that, the Speaker of our WG made an article about the South Caucasian international political situation for the EBM Booklet for panel discussions, which was published and delivered to all participants of EBM.