



## Draft Minutes of the online 38<sup>th</sup> EGP Congress

Saturday, 2nd December 2023

### Session: Opening

10:00 – 10:15

Speakers: **Mélanie Vogel**, co-chair of the European Green Party

**Mélanie Vogel** welcomes the participants to the 38th Congress, acknowledging the importance of the Congress despite being held online. She expresses regret at not meeting in person but notes that resources saved from not hosting a physical event will be invested in the extraordinary electoral congress in Lyon February 2nd to 4th 2024.

**Mélanie** pays tribute to Michèle Rivasi, longstanding member of the European Green family, who had passed away very suddenly, just one week before the Online Congress. **Mélanie** highlights Michèle's unique qualities, her passion, determination, and ability to connect with people. She shares Michele's belief on how important it is to use campaign times to connect to people and spread ones determination and passion for building a better world.

**Mélanie** continues by stressing the importance of mobilising citizens in the European Union before the upcoming European Elections. She acknowledges the challenges posed by far-right movements and global conflicts while at the same time drawing inspiration from the latest national elections in Spain and in Poland. **Mélanie** highlights that with a strong common campaign that mobilises citizens all over the European Union a better future for all is possible: Autocrats can be defeated; fundamental rights can be upheld. The climate, the biodiversity crisis can be tackled. A green and social plan, that put social justice as the goal of the green transition is possible.

**Mélanie** shares her strong conviction that a common campaign can make this necessary change possible, emphasising that we need to change the majorities in the European Parliament.

**Mélanie** closes with a short run-through of the day ahead:

- (1) Presentation of the EGP Campaign Plan
- (2) Presentation of the four Leading Candidates contenders
- (3) Presentation of the draft Manifesto
- (4) Voting Session

## **Session: Presentation of EGP Campaign Plan**

**10:15 – 11:15**

Speakers: **Thomas Waitz, Sybren Kooistra**

### ***Introduction by Thomas Waitz, Co-chair European Green Party***

**Thomas Waitz** opens the presentation of the Common Campaign plan by emphasising the significance of the EGP campaign plan in replicating the 2019 success amidst a challenging climate of rising populism and far-right movements in Europe, posing a threat to democracy. He stresses the importance of gaining public support by intertwining climate policies with social justice, acknowledging the multiple crises impacting people's lives. **Thomas** continues by highlighting that especially in times like this it needs courage to stand up and fight for a better future for all.

**Thomas** underlines the collaborative nature of the campaign plan process and the important role of the leading candidates in representing the common campaign across European countries. He emphasises the EGP priorities '24 as well as the importance of mobilisation in order to increase voters' turnout as much as possible. The advanced digital campaign strategies of the EGP can be an important contribution to the campaign efforts of the member parties. **Thomas** states the strong commitment of the Committee to work very closely together with all member parties will ensure the success of the common campaign.

### ***2024 Common EGP Elections Campaign presentation by Sybren Kooistra, EGP Campaign Manager***

The presentation outlines the comprehensive campaign plan for the upcoming elections, drawing on the successful elements from the 2019 Greens campaign. The upcoming 2024 campaign emphasises a unified approach with a common manifesto and priorities, shared content, and digital strategy focusing on amplification, organising, mobilising, and engaging voters.

The campaign will intertwine climate and social issues, facing current challenges and right-wing backsliding with courage. Key components of the campaign include:

- Theme and Branding:** Emphasising courage and distinctive branding.
- Manifesto and Priorities:** Collaborative approach, showcasing our strong common proposals for a better future for all
- Leading Candidates (LCs):** Representing the face of the campaign.

- Events:** Organising rallies and events across Europe, including the Extended Congress in Lyon.
- Training and Tools:** Providing digital training, a campaign handbook, an adjustments platform, and resources to counter attacks.
- Volunteers:** Establishing a sharing circle and a Green team of 100-200 volunteers.
- Amplifiers:** Engaging influencers, celebrities, and activists to share messages.
- Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Strategies:** Target our key audience through relevant social media channels like TikTok, through targeted ads, and leveraging the Tilt community.

The EGP campaign plan focuses on adapting to the changing political landscape. It leverages digital tools and community engagement to ensure a powerful and cohesive campaign.

### **Q&A from the audience:**

The questions refer to various aspects of the campaign strategy, focusing on influencer engagement, expat mobilisation, digital volunteering, and messaging approaches:

- Funding Strategy
- Influencer Engagement
- Non-EU Country Participation
- Expat Mobilisation
- Digital Volunteers
- Messaging and Platforms
- Targeted Voter Groups

Overall, the campaign is gearing up with digital tools, influencer engagement, and targeted strategies for voter mobilisation, particularly among expats and young people.

## **Session: Presentation of the Contenders for Leading Candidates**

**11:15 – 12:15**

Speakers: **Thomas Waitz, Benedetta Scuderi, Terry Reintke, Elina Pinto, Bas Eickhout**

**Thomas Waitz** introduces the contenders and highlights the importance of Leading Candidate process to give EU citizens a transparent and democratic choice regarding the next President of the EU Commission.

He outlines again the guidelines and process for the lead candidates to be elected at the 37<sup>th</sup> EGP Congress in Vienna:

- 8 November 2023: Call for contenders
- 2nd December 2023: Presentation of contenders at the Online Congress
- 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2023: Contenders need to receive the endorsement of at least 5 member parties (EU-full and EU-associate)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2024: Election of the EGP leading candidates at the Extraordinary Extended Congress in Lyon

Four contenders will present themselves today. Each contender has 7 minutes, followed by questions. Questions need to be sent to Thomas' email address until the end of the presentation session.

**Thomas** invites the first contender to the stage: **Benedetta Scuderi**, nominated by FYEG. She is the co-spokesperson of FYEG.

**Benedetta Scuderi** gives her speech.

Thomas reads the questions sent by Member Parties:

- How would you make sure that smaller Green Parties also feel like an important part of the campaign?
- How do you plan on involving the youth climate movement in the campaign?
- We are seeing a rise of the far-right and normalisation of this by parts of the centre-right and liberals. What experience do you have in countering the far-right? As Lead Candidate, how would you counter the far-right?
- As our top candidate, you will need to be the most credible defender of Green values in all of Europe to a very wide audience. You will need to get the votes in, to convince people to vote Green. Can you give us your 1min sales-pitch to convince a person to vote Green?

**Benedetta Scuderi** replies to the questions.

**Thomas** thanks **Benedetta Scuderi** and introduces **Terry Reintke**, nominated by Bündnis 90/Die Grünen. She is the Co-Chair of Green Group in the European Parliament and was elected as MEP for the first time in 2014.

**Terry Reintke** gives her speech.

**Thomas** reads the questions sent by member parties:

- Given the economic and social inequalities between the EU countries (the so-called centre-periphery divide), what policies would you promote to reach more economic and social convergence?
- We are seeing a rise of the far-right and normalisation of this by parts of the centre-right and liberals. What experience do you have in countering the far-right? As Lead Candidate, how would you counter the far-right?

**Terry Reintke** replies to the questions.

**Thomas** thanks **Terry Reintke** and introduces **Bas Eickhout**, nominated by GroenLinks. He is vice-chair of Green Group in the European Parliament and was elected the first time as MEP in 2009. He was leading candidate of European Greens in 2019. He joins online from COP 28.

**Bas Eickhout** gives his speech.

**Thomas** reads the questions sent by Member Parties:

- How would you make sure that smaller Green Parties also feel like an important part of the campaign? How will you make sure you will represent the Green European movement in its entire diversity?
- How do you plan on involving the youth climate movement in the campaign?
- As our top candidate, you will need the most credible defender of Green values in all of Europe to a very wide audience. You will need to get the votes in, to convince people to vote Green. Can you give us your 1min sales-pitch to convince a person to vote Green?

**Bas Eickhout** replies to the questions.

**Thomas** thanks **Bas** and invites **Elīna Pinto** to the stage, nominated by Progresīvie. She was the candidate of Progresīvie at the last presidential elections in Latvia.

**Elīna Pinto** gives her speech.

**Thomas** reads the questions sent by member parties:

- Given the economic and social inequalities between the EU countries (the so-called centre-periphery divide), what policies would you promote to reach more economic and social convergence?
- As our top candidate, you will need the most credible defender of Green values in all of Europe to a very wide audience. You will need to get the votes in, to convince people to vote Green. Can you give us your 1min sales-pitch to convince a person to vote Green?

**Elīna Pinto** replies to the question.

**Thomas** thanks **Elīna Pinto** and reminds that all 4 contenders need to secure the support of 5 member parties (EU-full and EU-associate) by 7 January.

## Session: Membership & Activity Report

14:00 – 14:30

Speaker: **Benedetta De Marte**, Secretary General of the European Green Party

**Benedetta De Marte** presents the Membership & Activity report, outlining the different activities EGP has conducted and meetings that were held with member parties. She mentions joint activities with the Greens/EFA group in EP such as the communications network meeting and the Green Social Summit, as well as with FYEG. **Benedetta** highlights the high number of EGP activities with member parties. In addition, she emphasises the EGP efforts with regards to growing the Green family more explicitly two fact finding missions in autumn 2024 to Croatia and Lithuania.

She outlines the activities planned for 2024, with a focus on the joint European elections campaign. The draft activity plan 2024 will be voted on during the online congress.

## Session: Financial Reporting

**14:30 – 14:45**

Speaker: **Ute Michel**, Treasurer European Green Party

Ute presents the draft budget for 2024.

Unlike in 2018/2019, there was only a comparatively small increase in 2024 compared to 2023 (46 to 50 million EUR for all EUPPs). We expect a substantial carry-over from 2023 to 2024 of 1,55 million EUR. We are going into the election campaign with a much higher staffing level than in 2018 and will only add a few additional campaign staff posts. There is still uncertainty over legal requirements/guidance regarding some elements of election campaign expenditure.

The reporting period of the election campaign will start from the beginning of December.

The EP budget is 5.478.054 EUR, while the carry-over budget is 1.750.500. The total budget is 7.228.554 EUR.

The carry over budget has primarily gone into the election campaign.

Comparing 2023 budget (6.278.600 EUR) with 2024 budget (7.228.554 EUR), infrastructure and operating costs as well as administrative expenditure are going down. Personnel costs have gone up, while meeting and representation costs have gone down.

The grant application we applied for as EP budget is 4.8 million EUR. There is a minus figure in the carry-over budget as there was a dispute over whether an MEP was still a legitimate EGP member at the deadline: we argued yes, but the authority ruled he wasn't, so we can expect - 75.000 EUR.

For the grant budget we will not need to dissolve money from the fund, but we would need to for the carry-over (200.000 EUR).

In terms of membership fees, the total to be invoiced from EU member parties is 531.612 EUR, of which from full members 513.365 EUR and from associate members 18.247 EUR (accounted as donations as per legal requirements).

Ute presents the two proposals from EGP Committee that require the vote of the delegates:

1. Congress adopts the balanced draft total budget 2024 of 7.228.554 EUR
2. Congress adopts the draft membership fees for 2024 as per the membership fee table for EU countries only, with a total of 531.612 EUR.

Membership fees will only be raised from EU member parties in line with current legal requirements. The voting rights of the non-EU member parties at Congress remain unaffected.

Christian Kmiotek writes on behalf of FAB the recommendation to accept the 2024 budget and campaign budget.

Ute presents the campaign budget. In comparison to previous election campaigns, the campaign budget 2024 is 2.215.500 EUR, while in 2019 it was 1.698.706 EUR and in 2014 it was 571.971 EUR.

The draft campaign budget follows the same structure as our usual budget, with the same 5 categories.

## Voting Session

**15:15 - (16:30) 18:45**

**Chairs: Benedetta De Marte, Sibylle Steffan**

Benedetta welcomes everyone and presents majorities for the voting session today. She calls the delegates to cast a test vote.

Due to technical issues the voting session is considerably delayed. Benedetta and Sibylle apologise on behalf of the Committee for the technical inconvenience. Following several breaks and more test votes, the issues were managed and the voting session started.

S1: Election of two EGP members from the member parties to the General Assembly of the Green European Foundation takes place.

2 candidates: Benjamin Bibas, EELV, France and Emma Nohrén, mp, Sweden

First, a vote on validating the late candidacy of Benjamin Bibas takes place. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 105
- Against: 0
- Abstention: 7

The candidacy of Benjamin Bibas to run in the election for GEF GA member is validated. (He excused himself, had to leave for another meeting).

Emma Nohrén who is running for a second mandate is invited to make a short presentation.

As there are two candidates for two positions, Benedetta proposes an acceptance vote for both candidates. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 117
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 1

Benjamin Bibas and Emma Nohrén are elected to be GEF GA members for a period of three years, December 2023 – December 2026. (GEF will be notified for the purpose of their own internal procedure.)

S2: Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> EGP Congress in Vienna.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 112

- Against: 0
- Abstain: 3

The Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> EGP Congress are adopted.

S3: Updated Annex B to the EGP Statutes – EGP Membership List.

Votes cast:

- In Favour: 114
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

The updated EGP Membership List - Annex B to the EGP Statutes is adopted.

S4: Proposal disciplinary measures on Oikologoi Prasinoi, Greece

No amendments tabled.

Benedetta De Marte gives the floor to Thomas Waitz, Co-chair EGP who explains the reasoning about the Committee's proposal for disciplinary measures.

Benedetta De Marte gives the floor to Thomas Bezirgiannis, delegate from Greek Greens. Thomas Bezirgiannis presents the line of the Greek Greens against the measures.

Votes cast:

- In Favour: 97
- Against: 6
- Abstain: 11

The disciplinary measures against Oikologoi Prasinoi are adopted.

S5.1: Changes to the EGP Rulebook - wording on the relationship of EGP and GEF adjusted according to the rules of the Authority for European Political Parties.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 115
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

Amended Rulebook articles 14-2 to 14-6 relating to GEF are adopted.

S5.2: Changes to the EGP Rulebook - proposal to add the definition of votes cast to Annex C.

Votes cast:

- In Favour: 112
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 1

The addition of the definition of Votes Cast to Annex C is adopted.



S6: Budget 2024 and Membership Fees 2024.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 113
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

The Budget and Membership Fees 2024 are adopted.

S7: Vote on the Campaign Plan 2024, including the Campaign Budget 2024 takes place.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 109
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

The Campaign Plan 2024 and the Campaign Budget 2024 are adopted.

Sibylle Steffan, EGP Committee, proposes to continue the voting session after 17:45 as the Congress was foreseen to end at 17:45 and we are running out of time.

The vote on the continuing the voting session takes place.

- In Favour: 89
- Against: 20
- Abstain: 4

The voting session continues until all is voted.

S8: Priorities '24 – proposal for citizens' participation in the EGP Common Campaign.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast

- In Favour: 108
- Against: 0
- Abstain 2

The Proposal for a Tilt campaign to come up with one of the EGP Priorities '24 is adopted.

S9: EGP Activity Plan 2024

Two amendments tabled. The Committee accepted the amendment from Verdes Equo to mention the Mediterranean Network in the point on Networks. The amendment tabled by Os Verdes is presented as compromised with the Committee, as announced in a previous CAS session.

Votes cast on the two compromised amendments:

- In Favour: 106
- Against: 0
- Abstain:1

The amendments are adopted as presented.

Then the vote on the EGP Activity Plan 2024 as amended takes place; 2/3 majority is needed.

- In Favour: 105
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

The EGP Activity Plan 2024 is adopted as amended.

S10: Proposal regarding the Congress Presidium for the Electoral Congress in Lyon. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 108
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 1

The Proposal regarding the Congress Presidium is adopted.

Benedetta concludes the statutory part of the voting session.

Sibylle Steffan chairs the voting on the two resolutions. She reminds that for amendments a simple majority is needed. For the resolution a 2/3 majority is needed.

R1: The European Greens Stand for a Lasting End to Violence in Israel and Palestine

We received many amendments on this resolution, but the majority was compromised upon in block and agreed upon in the CAS sessions. Six amendments remain to be voted separately.

Sibylle welcomes Mélanie Vogel, Co-chair EGP, to present the resolution.

Point of order: due to the delay, delegates propose to skip the speeches for the alternative options of the amendments. Sibylle presents this to a vote. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 54
- Against: 39
- Abstain: 16

The proposal is rejected and we will continue with the presentations of the options.

R1.1 Vote en block on all amendments accepted in CAS. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 94
- Against: 8
- Abstain: 4

CAS amendments are adopted.

R1.2 Amendment on Civilian cost:

Sibylle opens the discussion on two alternative wordings for the AM on civilian cost.

- Rikke Lauritsen (SF) speaks in favour of option one.

- Andie Woerle (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: The civilian cost of Israel's use of force in Gaza is unacceptable.
- Option 2: The civilian cost of the current conflict escalation in Israel and Gaza unacceptable.

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 51
- Option 2: 52
- Abstain: 11

None of the options received needed majority. Second round on option 2 which received most of the votes in round one. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 67
- Against: 27
- Abstain: 18

Option 2 is carried.

### R1.3 Amendment on the relocation order

Two alternative wordings on the relocation order are presented.

- Jan Steurs (Groen) speaks in favour of option one.

- Mélanie Vogel (EGP Co-chair) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: We condemn the Israeli military's order for over 1 million civilians to relocate amid ongoing fighting with insufficient notice and in precarious conditions.
- Option 2: We deplore the unbearable and tragic humanitarian consequences caused by the Israeli's military's order for over 1 million civilians to relocate in precarious conditions and amid ongoing fighting.

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 47
- Option 2: 61
- Abstain: 3

Option 2 is carried.

R1.4: Sibylle presents the next vote on the location of the compromised wording for Palestinian prisoners in the resolution.

- Rodolfo Coloma (Verdes Equo) speaks in favour of option one.

- Katrin Fallmann (Die Grünen) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: All remaining hostages must be released immediately and without further conditions. [wording on Palestinian prisoners] We urge all conflict parties to ensure the flow of humanitarian aid and essential supplies to civilians in Gaza.
- Option 2: All remaining hostages must be released immediately and without further conditions. We urge all conflict parties to ensure the flow of humanitarian aid and essential supplies to civilians in Gaza. [wording on Palestinian prisoners]

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 57
- Option 2: 55
- Abstain: 2

None of the options received the needed simple majority. A second round is voted on option 1 which has the most votes in round one. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 70
- Against: 31
- Abstain: 5

Option 1 is carried.

#### R1.5 Amendment on Prisoners (text)

- Rodolfo Coloma (Verde Equo) speaks in favour of option one.

- Katrin Fallmann (Die Grünen) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: Palestinians who have been arbitrarily detained such as those in administrative detention without charge nor trial and in particular minors, must be immediately released.
- Option 2: The Israeli government must restrict and reduce administrative detention without charge nor trial. Palestinians, and in particular minors, must receive fair and speedy trials.

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 73
- Option 2: 37
- Abstain: 0

Option 1 is carried.

#### R1.6 Amendment on ICC

- Lynn Hagin Meade (Irish Greens) speaks in favour of option one.

- Emily Büning (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: We support all initiatives to uphold accountability for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, notably through supporting the work of the International Criminal Court in investigating potential violations of the Rome Statute in the Palestinian territories and that of the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel.
- Option 2: We call for those responsible for terrorist acts and violations of international law to be held to account and reiterate the EU's strong support for the International Criminal Court's work.

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 69
- Option 2: 40
- Abstain: 1

Option 1 is carried.

#### R1.7 Amendment on Settler's violence / Israeli military

- Julius Nebel (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) speaks in favour of option one.

- Rikke Lauritsen (SF) speaks in favour of option two.

- Option 1: Strongly condemn the instances of settlers' violence that have arisen in the occupied West Bank leading to killings, injuries, displacements and increased movement restrictions and call for immediate action to make them stop.
- Option 2: Strongly condemn the instances of settlers' violence and use of force by the Israeli military in the West Bank, leading to killings, injuries, displacements and increased movement restrictions and call for immediate action to make them stop.

Votes cast:

- Option 1: 40
- Option 2: 70
- Abstain: 1

Option 2 is carried.

R.1.8 Vote on the full text as amended. 2/3 majority needed. Votes cast:

- In Favour: 67
- Against: 17
- Abstain: 0

The resolution is accepted.

#### **PROTOCOL NOTES**

Wanja Kaufmann (Swedish Greens) asks in the chat to put an official reservation in the protocol for the Israel-Palestine resolution.

We received per email "*Miljöpartiet de Gröna (Sweden)* distances themselves from this resolution, with the motivation that it lacks historical and political context, as well as nuance, when it comes to describing the current situation."

Pegah Edalatian (German Greens) asks for the floor. She asks to add protocol note to the minutes on Ceasefire, ICC and the West Bank.

### **German Greens' protocol note**

#### Ceasefire

*For BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN, ensuring the security of Israel and its citizens is part of Germany's Raison d'état. This special relationship with Israel is based on our country's historical responsibility. Following the brutal terrorist attack by Hamas, Israel has the right to defend itself in accordance with international law and international humanitarian law. Part of that same law is that civilians need to be protected during conflict. We welcome the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2712 to uphold humanitarian law and ensure the protection of the civilian population through extended humanitarian pauses. We call for humanitarian pauses and unhindered humanitarian access to enable life-saving assistance to reach all those in need and to facilitate the release of all hostages. We will continue to do our utmost to help alleviate the suffering of the civilian population in Gaza including by supporting humanitarian relief efforts. But we can not demand a „humanitarian ceasefire“, while attacks by Hamas continue. A ceasefire is only possible if and when Israel's security is guaranteed and if it is reached in mutual agreement with all involved parties especially the Israeli government.*

#### ICC

*International law, international humanitarian and human rights law and accountability for violations of these are vital achievements by the international community. Those responsible for violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, must be held to account. The application of that law must be impartial. We do not support the reference to the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, since its members have repeatedly taken one-sided positions.*

#### West Bank

*BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN opposes the ongoing Israeli settlement construction, plans for annexation in violation of international law and settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank. They cause human suffering and are obstacles to peace.*

*Cases of disproportionate use of force by the Israeli military in the West Bank have to be investigated. Israel's right to self-defense, however, has to be upheld. Israel has a responsibility to protect its citizens. Demanding a stop to the use of force in general would mean that Israel's military would need to withdraw from the West Bank before reaching a negotiated political solution that respects both the rights and security interests of Israel and Palestinians. Furthermore, only condemning instances of Israel's military use of force without condemning terror attacks by Palestinian groups in the West bank is one-sided.*

*These are the main reasons why we, as German Greens, could not support the proposed resolution.”*

Note from Committee: On 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, EGP received an email from Groen (Belgium) asking to explain in the minutes their position against the resolution as well as an email from Ecolo (Belgium) asking to note in the minutes their will to distance themselves from the resolution.

The Committee will be in touch with both parties to define the precise formulation of these protocol notes and will add it to these minutes as soon as possible.

R2: European Greens stand in solidarity with Belarusian Greens and the Belarusian civil society.

No amendments tabled. Votes cast

- In Favour: 101
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 0

The resolution is accepted unanimously.

Sibylle concludes the voting session. She thanks all for the constructive cooperation. She thanks staff and AMC members. And announces that the presentation of the Manifesto is postponed to the beginning of next year.

## Closing

### Speaker: Benedetta De Marte

Benedetta concludes the online congress and thanks the rest of Committee and the EGP staff for their work. She apologises once again for the technical inconvenience and thanks the delegates for their patience and will to finalise the voting session. She reminds them of the next in-person **Extended Congress in Lyon, 2-4 February 2024**. And she invites everyone to **save the date for the autumn congress from 6 to 8 December 2024**, for which the location is yet to be announced. With these announcements she formally closes the congress.