IATC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting

5 October 2024
07 :00 Central USA Zone, 14:00 CET
Venue: Online

1) **Call to order:** 07:02 Central USA time on 5 October 2024

2) **Present:**
President (Jeffrey Eric JENKINS), General Secretary (Natalia TVALTCHRELIDZE), General Treasurer (Stéphane GILBART)

Members of the Executive Committee: Canada (Sophie POUILOT), Czechia (Hana STREJČKOVÁ), France (Jean-Pierre HAN), Greece (Eirini MOUNTRAKI, joined on 08:43), Japan (Manabu NODA, joined on 08:04), Romania (Oana Cristea GRIGORESCU), Serbia (Ivan MEDENICA, joined on 07:38), Slovakia (Dária FOJTÍKOVÁ FEHÉROVÁ), Sweden (Cecilia DJURBERG, joined on 07:07), Thailand (Pawit MAHASARINAND)

Editor-in-Chief of *Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques* (Savas PATSALIDIS), Special Advisor to the ExCom (Michel VAÏS)

3) **Agenda:** approved by unanimous consent.

4) **Minutes:** 20 July 2024 minutes were approved. It was decided to add Thailand's proposal to hold Young Critics Workshop in March 2025 to these minutes.

5) **General Treasurer's report**
The General Treasurer reported that the travel expenses of the young critics to the Workshop in Brno, Czechia were reimbursed. He also mentioned that the payments of the membership dues will be asked from November 2024.

6) **The General Secretary's Report**
The General Secretary mentioned that the update of the website is necessary and the changes are discussed with the President and the Webmaster. She also spoke about the certificates that some of the young critics demanded as a justification of their travel to Brno, Czechia.

7) **The President's Report**
The President spoke about the letter of support of a playwright Svetlana Petriychuk and a director Yevgeniya Berkovich who were convicted for the production of *Finist, the Brave Falcon* in Russia. Discussion followed about the general tensions in the world due to elections and states of war in the fall.

8) **Future World Congress (2026):**

The possibility of holding the world congress in Craiova during Shakespeare Festival was discussed with the organisers. Oana Cristea GRIGORESCU (Romania) mentioned that the Festival is willing to host the event, yet the problem is the renovation works planned in the National Theatre of Craiova in 2026. The discussions are now underway for the possibilities of other venues for the Congress. The Festival organizers also consider a possibility of postponing the renovations until after the Festival and the Congress.

The discussion also followed that Bratislava may be an option for hosting the Congress, yet the proposal will be made for the 2028 to avoid competition with Craiova Festival.

9) **Future Executive Committee Meeting**

- Future meetings – November 2, online; December 7, online
- Greece Proposal – 4-7 April 2025 in National Theatre of Greece during the Annual Showcase in Athens
- Thailand proposal – 12-17 March 2025. ExCom member Pawit MAHASARINAND (Thailand) spoke about the planned meeting with the representatives of the Embassy of France to secure funding.

ExCom members discussed holding a meeting in Athens in April 2025 and organizing Young Critics Workshop and/or Conference in Thailand

- Tbilisi, end of September 2025 – The Tbilisi International Festival of Theatre proposes to host the ExCom in the fall of 2025

10) **Conferences:**

ExCom members had a discussion on the possibilities and challenges of having online conferences.

11) **Young Critics' Workshops:**

ExCom member Jean-Pierre HAN (FRANCE) spoke about the possibilities of future workshops for Young Critics. He mentioned that unlike conferences, these workshops cannot be held online. In the past AICT-IATC had 2 workshops per year. Hence, there should be a choice made between hosting workshops in Bangkok and Greece. If a choice is made in favor of Bangkok, next workshop can only be organized in 3 months. He underlined the importance of doing a workshop in Thailand as it will offer a geographical diversity allowing more participants from Asian countries. He also mentioned about a possibility of holding such workshop in Montpellier, France.

Proposals of hosting workshops for Young Critics include:

a) Bangkok in March 2025
b) Athens and Epidaurus in June-July 2025
c) Istanbul in spring 2025
d) Bratislava in June 2025
e) Montpellier in summer 2025

12) Thalia Prize

Chairperson of the Thalia Prize Committee, member of ExCom Manabu NODA (Japan) mentioned that the work to finalize a call for nominations is underway. He spoke about the importance of including more members to the Thalia Prize Committee allowing for the geographical diversity. A lengthy discussion followed about the need for Thalia Committee expansion as well as candidates to be included in the committee.

13) *Critical Stages* report:

Editor-in-Chief of *Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques* Savas PATSALIDIS informed the ExCom that the work on the winter issue of the magazine is underway. The issue has a special topic on Franz Kafka and shall include papers from the conference held during the Congress in Brno, Czechia.

He also spoke about future possibilities of having a special issue on puppetry in 2028 suggested by Honorary President Margareta SORENSON as UNIMA will be celebrating an anniversary in 2029.

He mentioned that the magazine is working on a special section "Critics on Criticism." ExCom member Ivan MEDENICA (Serbia) will be the editor of this section.

A discussion followed on potential new editors of the journal and members of the Editorial Board. The ExCom agreed that the Editor-in-Chief of *Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques* will circulate a special memo for the members of the ExCom with potential names for the Board.

14) Adjournment: 10:14 Central USA Time