



ISKCON

REGIONAL GOVERNING BODY

Founder-acarya His Divine Grace
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Euro RGB meeting (online) September 23-24, 2024

Total number of members: 27

Voting members: 16

Quorum: 8

Voting members present: 15

Global GBCs present: 5 (out of 6)

Non-voting members present: 7

Attendance

PRESENT – VOTING MEMBERS

GBCs

1. Bhaktivaibhava Swami (GBC for Albania, Czech Republic, Finland, Macedonia, Slovakia, Co-GBC for Bulgaria)
2. Hridaya Caitanya dasa (GBC of Andorra, Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, New Mayapur; coGBC of Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France except Dole)
3. Madhu Sevita dasa (GBC of Cyprus, Italy except Villa Vrndavana and Prabhupadadesh; Malta; San Marino; Co-GBC of Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France except Dole; Villa Vrndavana and Prabhupadadesh; and Greece)
4. Radha Krsna dasa (GBC for Hungary, Romania, Cyprus, Turkey; Co-GBC for Greece)
5. Prahladananda Swami (GBC for Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, and Slovenia; Co-GBC for Bulgaria; Sannyasa Minister)

OTHER MEMBERS

1. Janesvara dasa (Almviks Board; Regional Secretary for Sweden, Norway, and Denmark)
2. Krsna Ksetra Swami (Minister of the Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture)



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3. Krsna Premarupa dasa (Euro RGB Chairman, Zonal supervisor for Switzerland and Lichtenstein, chairman of National Councils of Switzerland and Germany/Austria)
4. Lalitanatha dasa (Regional Secretary for Denmark)
5. Mahaprabhu dasa (Minister of ISKCON Communications Europe)
6. Mahendra dasa (Euro RGB 1st vice-chairman, Chair of Bulgarian National Council)
7. Parabhakti dasa (Euro RGB 2nd vice-chairman, IGPO Continental Officer for Europe)
8. Tapas dasa (Regional Secretary for Sweden)
9. Trilokatma dasa (Euro RGB chairman, Zonal supervisor for Slovakia, Albania, and Macedonia)
10. Trisama dasa (Chair of the Polish National Council)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

1. Citrarupini devi dasi (Regional Director for Europe - International Child Protection Office)
2. Devasri Radhika devi dasi (Head of Legal Department)
3. Divya-prabandha dasa (Chair of the Croatian National Council)
4. Madhava das (Regional Secretary for Spain)
5. Nrsima Krsna das (Zonal supervisor for Turkey)
6. Praghosa das (Euro RGB Emeritus)
7. Sankirtan das (Representative of the Czech National Council)

GUESTS

1. Visvavasu d, Germany (on Dina-sarana dd's recommendation)
2. Kamlesh Krsna d, UK (on Praghosa d's recommendation)

NOT PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS

1. Dina Sarana devi dasi (GBC of Germany-Austria-Liechtenstein + Switzerland-Dole)



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NON-VOTING MEMBERS

1. Dayananda Swami (Zonal supervisor for UK)
2. Dayanidhi das (Chairman of the Greece National Council)
3. Svayam Bhagavan Keshava Maharaja (Zonal supervisor for UK)
4. Tapo-divyam dasa (Chair of the Finnish National Council)
5. Tarakanatha dasa (Zonal supervisor for UK)

MINUTES

1. Membership

Trilokatma das is Euro RGB Chairman.

Mahendra d is Euro RGB First Vice-Chairman.

Parabhakti d is Euro RGB Second Vice-Chairman.

One devotee acquired the acting position: Devasri Radhika dd, head of the legal department.

Two devotees were welcomed as guests for the meeting, Visvvasu d (Germany) and Kamalesh Krsna d (UK).

2. Minutes from the previous meeting and EC report

The report was sent in advance in written form to all RGB members. During the previous period, the Euro RGB EC, besides working on running administrative tasks, focused on clarifying the role of the Ombud's office, drafting a proposal for the new division of European zones, adding updates to the Rules and Regulations document, drafting a new budget proposal for 2024/25, and following up on the work of the Internal Communications Committee (ICC), which has concluded its activities. A separate report on the work of the ICC has also been sent.



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3. Rules and Regulations paper

The Euro RGB members discussed an important consideration that has been submitted for inclusion in the paper regarding how complaints are handled. A proposal to form a standing committee, which would be educated, trained, and mandated to manage complaints reaching Euro RGB, has been accepted. The proposal was particularly welcomed by the members of the Euro RGB Executive Committee, who spend a significant portion of their time addressing complaints, which at times hinders their ability to focus on other important tasks.

Action point: Prahladananda Swami, who proposed the formation of the committee, will work on incorporating the suggestions from the meeting into the proposal. Within two weeks, he will send the final version to the Euro RGB members, who will have a two-week deadline to review it. After that, the Rules and Regulations paper will be sent to European leaders for their feedback, with a three-week deadline.

4. Statement on Vipula Krsna d

A statement on restrictions to be imposed upon Vipula Krsna d (Poland/Germany) has been proposed and discussed at length. As compared to the proposed text, an additional restriction on doing any visible and leadership services (such as leading kirtan, giving lectures, etc.) was requested to be incorporated.

Action point: The draft of the statement will be uploaded to Google Drive and sent to all RGB members for their feedback, with a particular focus on native English speakers for edits to improve readability.

5. Vaisnavi Diksa gurus – proposal by ISKCON Communications Europe

A proposal of a resolution has been submitted by the ISKCON Communications Europe with the following text:

“The Euro RGB, European area of ISKCON, strongly urges and recommends the GBC to uphold the previous resolution from December 2021 on VDG and put it into immediate practice with no more delays as soon as the moratorium is over.”

The present GBCs explained that the procedure is underway and that the committee tasked with exploring the subject is actively working, with a legitimate deadline set for



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October 2024. In their view, there is no need to pressure the GBC with such requests, as everything is progressing according to the agreed timeline.

6. Dealing with matters of justice

A seminar with Campakalata dd, the Minister in ISKCON's Ministry of Justice, on handling matters of justice was proposed to educate devotees on relevant ISKCON laws and procedures. The idea was accepted, and the training will be organized with the assistance of the Euro RGB EC, separately from regular meetings. It was suggested that a handbook or written materials be distributed in advance to help participants prepare, that the session be recorded and made available on the Members' platform for future access, and that training be developed for a wider group of devotees and leaders.

Action point: The Euro RGB EC will organize the training with Campakalata dd and ensure that the suggestions from the meeting are implemented as much as possible.

7. ISKCON Communications Journal and ISKCON Communication Ministry's Conferences

A closer collaboration between the Euro RGB and ISKCON Communications Ministry regarding the content of publications under the ISKCON banner and the topics presented and discussed at conferences was proposed. During the discussion, it was emphasized that the European Communications Ministry operates under the Global Communications Ministry, and that concerns about overarching policies should be directed to the global minister, while more detailed feedback should be addressed to the European minister. The importance of considering multiple viewpoints and avoiding hasty conclusions or criticisms was highlighted, underscoring the responsibility that comes with publishing content, particularly in a scholarly context.

8. Euro RGB Budget

The new budget allocation proposal was presented and accepted, which included slight increases to some of the existing budget lines and the addition of new ones to support the following offices: the Child Protection Office, the Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture, the European Property Office, and the Legal Department. The budget is available upon request.



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Lalitanath d invited present devotees to think about the possibilities to acquire additional funds for the work of the RGB. A proposal was made to make a fundraising team that will deal with this ongoing issue.

Action point: All RGB members are invited to contact Lalitanath d if they have concrete ideas on how funds could be raised, so that a more substantial discussion can take place at the next RGB meeting.

9. European Leaders Mela

The devotees present were reminded of the issue regarding the organization of the European Leaders Mela 2024, which was ultimately cancelled due to a series of unfortunate circumstances. The primary reason was a scheduling conflict with the GBC meeting set for early October, which made the dates too close to those of the ELM. The present global GBCs were asked to help raise this issue during the scheduling of meetings at the GBC level in order to protect the traditional dates for the European Leaders Mela – the last weekend of September – which have been reserved for the event for the past 20 years.

Action point: Praghosa d will write to Ananda-tirtha d, global GBC secretary, to mention this issue and ask for his help.

10. TOVP fund-raising tour

Praghosa d informed the Euro RGB about the upcoming TOVP fundraising tour in Europe, which is scheduled to take place in 2025. As in the past, Sukanti Radha dd will be organizing the tour. All members present expressed their support for this initiative.

Action point: Praghosa d will obtain a report detailing the funds that were pledged, received, and spent following their previous tour.

11. Scheduling the next meeting

Action point: The Euro RGB EC will determine the most suitable dates for the next in-person RGB meeting, which is set to take place in early May. They will also communicate with potential hosts for the meeting and identify the most appropriate location.