



ISKCON

REGIONAL GOVERNING BODY

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

Euro RGB online meeting October 4, 2021

Total number of members: 21

Voting members: 17

Quorum: 9

Voting members present: 15

Non-voting members present: 1

PRESENT – VOTING MEMBERS

1. Bhaktivaibhava Swami (GBC for Albania, Czech Republic, Finland, Macedonia, Slovakia, Co-GBC for Bulgaria and Romania)
2. Dina-sharana devi dasi (GBC of Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Dole)
3. Doyal Govinda dasa (Zonal Supervisor for Germany and Austria; Euro RGB 2nd Vice-Chairman)
4. Hrdaya Caitanya dasa (GBC of Andorra, Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, New Mayapur; co-GBC of Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France, except New Mayapur and Dole; Euro RGB Secretary for Benelux)
5. Jai Nitai das (Zonal supervisor of UK)
6. Janesvara dasa (Euro RGB Chairman; Almviks Board; Euro RGB Secretary in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark)
7. Jara Mara Hari das (National Secretary for Spain, a representative)
8. Krsna Premarupa Dasa (Euro RGB 1st vice-chairman; Zonal supervisor for Switzerland and Lichtenstein)
9. Lalitanatha dasa (Euro RGB Secretary for Denmark)



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10. Madhu Sevita dasa (GBC of Cyprus, Greece, Villaggio Hare Krishna, Milano Area, South Umbria, southern Italy, Rome Area, Malta, San Marino; Co-GBC of Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France (except Dole))
11. Mahaprabhu dasa (Director of IC Benelux; Minister of ISKCON Communications Europe)
12. Prahladananda Swami (GBC for Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, and Serbia; Co-GBC for Slovenia; Sannyasa Minister)
13. Radha Krishna dasa (GBC for Hungary, Romania, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey)
14. Tapas dasa (TP Stockholm; Euro RGB Secretary in Sweden)
15. Trilokatma dasa (Zonal supervisor for Slovakia, Albania, and Macedonia)

PRESENT – NON-VOTING MEMBERS

1. Krsna Ksetra Swami (Minister of the Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture)

NOT PRESENT – VOTING MEMBERS:

1. Bir Krishna Goswami (Co-GBC of Slovenia)
2. Praghosa dasa (GBC of Channel Island, Denmark, England, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, and Wales)

NOT PRESENT – NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

1. Nrsimha Krsna das (zonal supervisor of Turkey)
2. Parabhakti das (TP Villa Vrindavana, Italy)
3. Trisama das (Chair of the Polish National Council)



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Janesvara d is Euro RGB Chairman.

Krsna Premarupa d is Euro RGB First Vice-Chairman.

Doyal Govinda dasa is Euro RGB Second Vice-Chairman.

Members voted in favour of the new Euro RGB EC convocation. Doyal Govinda d will serve on the EC body until May as he doesn't have time to invest substantial time in it.

Krsna Ksetra Swami was accepted as an acting member of the Euro RGB body, while Mahendra d, chair of the Bulgarian National Council, was accepted as a new member.

MINUTES

Srimad Bhagavatam verse was read for the inspiration of the assembled members.

1. European Youth Ministry

Jara Mara Hari d and Manorama d, minister for the global ISKCON Youth ministry (who attended this part of the meeting as a guest) gave a presentation of a proposal to form the Youth Ministry on the European level which would serve under the umbrella of the ISKCON Youth Ministry. A proposal was also made that Prema Rasarnava d (Spain), who is already very active in the field of youth work in Europe, enters the training period of one year under Manorama d in order to prepare him for accepting the role of a minister of the European Youth Ministry.

Euro RGB body accepts the formation of the European Youth Ministry and nomination of Prema Rasarnava d as a minister in training which will last for 1 year. After one year, his full acceptance as a minister will be discussed.

2. The question of succession of existing GBCs was again discussed and some members shared the steps they are taking in their respective places to address this issue. It was suggested that more trainings need to be conducted in Europe.



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3. Update on the plan to provide ahimsa milk for the Deities till 2022

Krsna Ksetra Swami gave a report on the initiatives taken in order to fulfil the GBC recommendation that all temples with deities should have plans to provide all their dairy from protected cows by Janmastami 2022. The main activity at the moment is to create teams in each country and/or region to design specific plans to produce the needed dairy. Maharaj presented the analysis of the anticipated challenges, as well as the next steps that need to be done.

The question of taking care of cows in case the individual projects fail was raised which was partially answered by the idea that the development would be gradual as the capacities of local devotees grow.

Mahaprabhu d also gave an update on producing a leaflet on milk consumption which is still underway.

AP: A ppt file containing the key points from Maharaja's presentation should be distributed to Euro RGB members.

4. Area changes proposal

A proposal for the change of position of Bulgaria and North Macedonia from the red to the yellow European GBC areas was made by Mahendra d. The arguments given were that Bulgaria and North Macedonia have many similarities with other countries from the yellow area – they share common Slavic ethnic origins; they have very similar languages; there are a lot of similarities in the culture and mentality; and they have developed relationships between themselves. These similarities do not exist with the countries from the red area while the point of GBC areas is to have cohesive areas of territories with physical proximity but also with common characteristics.

Euro RGB body and present relevant GBC secretaries accept the proposal to move Bulgaria and North Macedonia to the yellow GBC area.



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5. Budget for 2021/22

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, many yatras found themselves in a not ideal financial situation.

Euro RGB body accepts the proposal that the regular budget for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 is halved and that yatras are asked to pay half of the amount they are regularly paying.

AP: Organize a separate Euro RGB meeting as early as possible where the new budget division will be discussed.

AP: Radha Krsna d will discuss the new budget division with Praghosa d and Dina Sarana dd as the main changes are to happen with the amounts UK and Germany are paying.

AP: Secretary will send new budgeting system principles immediately and a few weeks before the next meeting so devotees can go through it and raise any concerns.

6. An ISKCON European Temple Pilgrimage Network

Krsna Ksetra Swami gave a proposal on starting an initiative that will inspire devotees to visit temples in Europe. The idea is to create passports where devotees would be collecting stamps marking their visits to temples while being inspired to collect all the stamps that would ideally increase the number of devotees visiting temples.

Euro RGB body supports the formation of the ISKCON European Temple Pilgrimage Network initiative under the guidance of Krsna Ksetra Swami.

AP: A research on the exact resources needed to start and maintain this initiative will be conducted by Krsna Ksetra Swami and the team he gathered. The results will be presented at the next Euro RGB meeting.



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7. ISKCON Environmental Initiative (IEI) – Anuttama d and Kamala Priya dd

Anuttama d (Program Lead; also, Global GBC and Minister of Communications) and Kamala Priya dd (Sweden) gave a presentation on IEI – ISKCON Environmental Initiative. IEI was formed by the international team of devotees and was endorsed by the global GBC. The idea of IEI is to have a platform where devotees will have tangible ways to put into practice their values related to the understanding that material nature comes from Supreme Personality of Godhead and that we have a duty to live in harmony with it.

Euro RGB body endorses the IEI initiative and appoints Kamala Priya dd as a regional Green Team coordinator for Europe.

AP: Secretary will send ppt file with the key points from their presentation to all Euro RGB members.