



ISKCON

REGIONAL GOVERNING BODY

Founder-acarya His Divine Grace

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada

Euro RGB meeting Radhadesh, September 22-23, 2022

Total number of members: 19

Voting members: 16

Quorum: 8

Voting members present: 10 (+1)

Non-voting members present: 1

Attendance

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 Germany-Austria-Liechtenstein + Switzerland-Dole) – present online for the whole duration of the meeting
3. 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. Janesvara dasa (Euro RGB Chairman; Almviks Board; Euro RGB Secretary in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark)
1. Krsna Ksetra Swami (Minister of the Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture)
7. Krsna Premarupa Dasa (Euro RGB 1st vice-chairman; Zonal supervisor for Switzerland and Lichtenstein)
9. 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) – present online for the part of the meeting)
10. Mahaprabhu dasa (Director of IC Benelux; Minister of ISKCON Communications Europe)



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11. Prahladananda Swami (GBC for Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, and Serbia; Co-GBC for Slovenia; Sannyasa Minister)

12. Tapas dasa (TP Stockholm; Euro RGB Secretary in Sweden)

13. Trilokatma dasa (Zonal supervisor for Slovakia, Albania, and Macedonia)

PRESENT – NON-VOTING MEMBERS

1. Mahendra dasa (Chair of Bulgarian National Council)

NOT PRESENT – VOTING MEMBERS:

1. Bir Krishna Goswami (Co-GBC of Slovenia)

2. Jai Nitai das (Zonal supervisor of UK)

3. Lalitanatha dasa (Euro RGB Secretary for Denmark)

4. Radha Krishna dasa (GBC for Hungary, Romania, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey)

5. Trisama das (Chair of the Polish National Council)

NOT PRESENT – NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

1. Nrsimha Krsna dasa (zonal supervisor of Turkey)

2. Parabhakti das (TP Villa Vrindavana, Italy)



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MINUTES

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

1. Membership

Janesvara d is Euro RGB Chairman.

Krsna Premarupa d is Euro RGB First Vice-Chairman.

Jai Nitai dasa is Euro RGB Second Vice-Chairman.

Members voted in favour of the present Euro RGB EC convocation. The new Euro RGB EC convocation was also voted for in favour, starting after the current meeting, where Krsna Premarupa d will become a chairman, Jai Nitai d a first vice-chairman, and Trilokatma d a second vice-chairman.

Krsna Ksetra Swami was accepted as a full voting member. Mahendra das was accepted into the acting position.

A comment was made, and unanimously supported by the Euro RGB body, that it is important for devotees taking positions in EC to be present for all Euro RGB meetings unless there are unavoidable circumstances.

Resolution 22/09/01

The membership of the Euro RGB is defined in the following way:

Fully-voting members

- Global GBCs (with European Responsibilities)
- Zonal Supervisors / Euro RGB Secretary
- Chairmen of National Councils (if there is no Zonal Supervisor for that country)
- Euro Ministers



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Guests - fully participating in meetings without voting rights

- Invited guests such as resident sannyasis, gurus, and senior preachers spending at least 8 months in Europe

Topic Presenters

- Devotees invited for the specific topic only

To become a fully-voting member, everyone has to go through the procedure of first holding the Assisting position for one year, then holding the Acting position for one year, and then becoming a Fully voting member. This rule will be applied equally to chairs of National Councils.

-end-

All GBCs are invited to nominate chairs of National Councils in their zone to become members of the Euro RGB (in case no Zonal Supervisor is covering that country) in order to have a more complete representation of European countries on the Euro RGB.

Action points:

- The secretary will remind GBCs to make nominations for chairs of National Councils from their zones to become members of the Euro RGB during the next General meeting.
- Prahladananda Swami will invite Divya-prabandha d, as a chair of the Croatian National Council, to become a member of the Euro RGB starting from the next scheduled meeting.
- Trilokatma d will invite Tapo Divyam d, as a chair of the Finnish National Council, to become a member of the Euro RGB starting from the next scheduled meeting.



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2. Nomination of Krsna Premarupa d as a GBC for Germanic countries

Rasa Krida Parayana d, director of the ISKCON Succession Committee, presented the necessity and importance of the succession process. Mother Dina Sarana encouraged everyone to invite Rasa Krida Parayana d to help with the process of succession.

Resolution 22/09/02

The Euro RGB body supports the nomination of Krsna Premarupa d to go through the nomination process for becoming a GBC for the Germanic yatra.

-end-

Action Point:

- The secretary will send the letter written by mother Dina Sarana where she is proposing he becomes a GBC for the Germanic yatra, as well as the presentation of Rasa Krida Parayana d

3. Approving the budget for the year 2022/23

The new basic budget for the year 2022/23 was approved. The new budget division, where the new way of calculating fees paid by individual countries is applied, was discussed.

Action point:

- EC takes the responsibility to finalize the new budget division within a reasonable amount of time and possibly start with the new budget division from 2022-23. The EC is also asked to discuss a possible increase in the budget.



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4. Reports

- Devotee care

A video presentation was played, made by Jai Nitai d (video available upon request). All leaders were encouraged to reach out to Jai Nitai d and arrange for teaching the course on Devotee Care.

- GBC College

A video presentation was played, made by Jai Nitai d (video available upon request). It was the updated version of the presentation given at the Euro RGB meeting in October 2019 when the further development of the initiative was stopped by the global pandemic.

Action point:

- Mahendra d will discuss the topic with Jai Nitai d and bring the initiative forward.

- Plan for providing ahimsa milk

A report was given by Krsna Ksetra Swami. Progress is visible in many countries around Europe – Spain, Sweden, France, Greece, Italy, the UK, etc. In the Czech Republic, a new 100-ha farm has been bought with a goshala that can house 100 cows. As the deadline given for coming up with the plan for providing ahimsa milk for the Deities has passed (Janmastami 2022, GBC Resolution 406.2), the discussion on further steps will continue.

- ISKCON European Pilgrimage network

Krsna Ksetra Swami gave an update on the initiative. The need for having a good information database on all European temples that would be involved in this network was conveyed. The Euro RGB members expressed their support for Maharaja's plan to fundraise for the activities done within this initiative.



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- **European Leaders Meeting (ELM)**

After 3 years pause, the next ELM will take place in the autumn of 2023. A better connection of ELM with Euro RGB was discussed regarding topics presented at ELM.

Action point:

- Within the next 2-3 weeks, the ELM team will write an email to the Leader's conference and Euro RGB body to ask for suggestions on topics for discussion for the ELM. The ELM team will meet to discuss and choose the most noteworthy topics for the discussion, and then send them to the Euro RGB to select those they consider most important to be discussed at ELM.

- **ISKCON Communications Ministry**

Mahaprabhu d, the minister for ISKCON Communications Europe ministry, gave a report on his activities: started a steady weekly meeting with International Communications Leaders and Anuttama dasa, global Communications minister; helped to create a global communications website (<https://www.iskconcommunications.org/>); helped to start IC Conferences held over Zoom; relaunched the ISKCON Communications Journal (2021 and 2022 Issues).

5. Statement on Lokanath Swami

The discussion on the recent GBC decision on Lokanath Swami took place with a brief overview of the history of the case.

Resolution 22/09/03

Based on the 'GBC decision regarding Lokanath Swami' approved on July 20th, 2022, the Euro RGB body is requesting Lokanath Swami not to visit, preach or initiate in ISKCON projects and communities in Europe.

-end-



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6. Vaisnavi Diksa Gurus

Resolution 22/09/04

Euro RGB will receive possible requests by the National Councils of individual countries to opt-out from applying the resolution for further consideration.

-end-

7. Status of Praghosa d

As a response to the resignation of Praghosa das, the Euro RGB decided that Euro RGB EC, as an interim solution, will take up the authority in Praghosa das' zones.

8. ISKCON Global Property Office (IGPO)

A presentation on the functioning of the ISKCON Global Property Office (IGPO) was made by Siva Sankara d, CEO of the office.

The IGPO is responsible for governance, oversight, and development of professional standards relating to property matters as set out in His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada's Declaration of Will. It fulfils a monitoring role to ensure compliance with the IGPO requirements for effective ISKCON property management. It does not replace any local Property Trustee's and local management's duties and legal responsibility vis à vis property management and protection.

Action point:

- The Euro RGB will find a suitable person who can serve in the role of continental officer for Europe. (service description available upon request)



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9. GBC Succession

The Euro RGB members discussed the ongoing concern for the continuity of GBC service. Some of the points raised:

- This question needs to be approached in a more organized way, geographically sensitive (as not everything works everywhere). A presentation during the ELM could be made to support the initiative and inspire devotees to serve Srila Prabhupada's mission in that capacity.
- Devotees who would be willing and qualified to take up the service might be concerned for their livelihood as to offer substantial time for this service one has to have free time to do it and, typically, they don't have financial support from donors or disciples.

10. Guru Training

Prahladananda Swami gave a short presentation on the GBC's initiative to have more gurus in the future and the education that will be provided to those who wish to do the service of mentoring and guiding others. (presentation available on request)

11. ISKCON Bhagavad Mahavidyalaya

The presentation on the project was made by Braja Sundar d, director of ISKCON Bhagavata Mahavidyalaya (IBMV) with headquarters situated at Govardhana, and Govindadev d, the president of Nrsimha Ksetra temple. (presentation available upon request)

All the present Euro RGB members were satisfied with the proposed initiative and gave their full support for further development.



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12. Preaching strategy for Europe

The importance of having effective preaching in Europe has been discussed. Yatras across Europe make different preaching efforts so there can be the exchange of success stories and strategies on how to spread KC, as well as obstacles and solutions to them.

Action points:

- Preaching strategy for Europe is declared a permanent point for every upcoming RGB meeting.
- EC is requested to take this point further, including the possible involvement of ELM, and present it at the next Euro RGB meeting.

13. Book distribution strategy for Europe

The importance of having effective preaching in Europe has been discussed. The example of dynamic book distributors who are able to inspire devotees for this service was given.

Action points:

- Book distribution strategy for Europe is declared a permanent point for every upcoming RGB meeting.
- EC is requested to try to find a suitable person who could take up the service of inspiring devotees in this important service.