

Minutes from the first meeting of the ESPM

During the first conference of the ESPM (London, 5-7 September 2023) we had the first meeting of the ESPM. The meeting happened in a hybrid format. A link was sent to the members.

The meeting started with a brief introduction of Øystein Linnebo, who described the path that led to the creation of the ESPM and the organization of its first conference. After that Giorgio Venturi gave a brief presentation of the activities of the ESPM, of the website, and reported that, at that date, the ESPM counted 87 members. After that Matteo Plebani presented the financial balance of the ESPM, which, at that date, had 6.234,37 EUR in its bank account.

Then, Leon Horsten presented the Journal for the Philosophy of Mathematics (JPM) . It is a fully open access journal, owned by the ESPM, that will be launched in 2024. The aim of the JPM is to publish high-quality papers in all areas of the philosophy of mathematics. The need for a new journal was motivated by the presence of only one top-journal in this field, namely Philosophia Mathematica (PM). Leon Horsten, explained that the JPM will be complementary and not in competition with PM and other journals such as the new Annals of Mathematics and Philosophy (AMP) and the more established Review of Symbolic Logic. The JPM will be inclusive and open to all styles and traditions in the philosophy of mathematics: from foundational topics to practice oriented approaches, from logical to quantitative methods. The first issue of the JPM is upon invitation but the contributions will be nonetheless refereed.

The presentation of the journal was welcomed by members of PM and the AMP who attended the meeting and who stressed how the JPM will be complementary and different from these journals.

Leon Horsten continued the presentation of the JPM explaining its relationship with the ESPM. The cost of the journal will be approximately 2500 euros per year that will cover the costs of the publishing services of the Florencia University Press (FUP). Papers will be published only in English. The FUP will publish, only in electronic form, 1 issue per year, up to 200 pages and will handle the technical aspects of the submission process, together with the indexation process in the international journal databases. However, the JPM will be completely Open Access and completely owned by the ESPM. Therefore, the JPM will need to be funded by the ESPM and this is why the two projects were born together.

Then, Øystein Linnebo presented and discussed the statutes of the ESPM, highlighting the structures and procedures of the Society. The ESPM has been registered under Italian law as a legal non-profit organization and its statutes could be modified in the future, if needed. The president stays in charge for 4 years, while the board only for 2. The elections of a new president and board are organized and structured by the previous president and board of the ESPM. Consequently, Øystein Linnebo explained the peculiarity of the choice of the first president and board, that will only be approved by the members in the first conference.

After the presentation of the statutes Øystein Linnebo asked the members of the ESPM if they had objections to the first president or board. In absence of these, the president and board were approved unanimously and thanked by the members.

The meeting continued with Øystein Linnebo presenting the activities of the ESPM.

In 2024 we will have a Summer School in Vienna, organized by Georg Schiemer. Georg Schiemer, online, gave an update about its organization. The plan for the Summer School is to invite 20-30 students and have three main lecturers. The working dates are September 9-13, 2024. In the coming months a call will be sent, possibly around November 2023.

Then, Øystein Linnebo said that the ESPM is open for proposals to organize the 2025 conference. Øystein Linnebo explained that the first conference was funded by the local organizers Carlo Nicolai and Salvatore Florio and that it received only a small contribution from the ESPM. A similar model is sought for the next conferences.

In discussion the possibility was raised of funding other conferences. This possibility will depend on the balance of the ESPM (considering that ESPM needs to sustain the JPM) and on the implementation of general rules. One proposal, by Øystein Linnebo, was that we can support conferences of associations that are members of the ESPM. This topic will be discussed by the board.

With respect to other activities of the ESPM it has been suggested a media presence and a list of distribution or a newsletter (about events, PhD positions or postdoc positions, and job openings). Another suggestion was to circulate among the members preprints and papers.

Other suggestions have been advanced in discussion: the possibility that the ESPM subscribes to the Barcelona principles for linguistic justice and the creation of prizes for students and young scholars.