

MINUTES of the **June Federal Committee meeting**

21-22 June 2025, Brussels

Start of the meeting: Saturday 21 June, 9:18-18h22

End of the meeting: Sunday 22 June, 9:50-13:16

Opening of the Federal Committee meeting Day 1 - Saturday

Presidium composed by Michael Montag and Henrik Söderman opened the Federal Committee meeting at 9:18.

Formalities

Election of the Tellers

Davide Negri, Tomas Carney, Gorkem Baskan and Mathilde Baudouin are appointed Tellers by the Federal Committee.

Election of a Credentials Committee

Ilaria Caria, Antonio Argenziano and Ezster Nagy, are appointed members of the Credentials Committee by the Federal Committee.

Approval of the Resolution Committee

Luca Lionello, Carlo Maria Palermo, Christelle Savall, Daphne Gogou, Francois Mennerat, Roberto Castaldi are appointed members of the Resolution Committee.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved, with a discussion and an agreement at unanimity that the request presented by Michael Montag, as EUD Delegate and Francois Mennerat to have the Congress organized in November this year (2025) will go to the Resolution Committee.

Approval of the Minutes of the Federal Committee Meeting on 6 July 2024

The minutes of the Federal Committee meeting of 16 November 2024 are approved.

Political introduction by Domènec Ruiz Devesa, President of UEF

The President of The Union of European Federalists (UEF) began by expressing gratitude for the gathering. He then focused on the organization's core political tasks since the last Federal Committee in Budapest, emphasizing three main areas:

Reform of EU Treaties: The organization tabled a petition to the European Parliament, urging it to remind the European Council of its obligation to address the Parliament's reform proposals, which have been ignored for two years. The President stressed the importance of institutional cooperation and respect, despite political challenges.

European Defense: In response to geopolitical shifts, especially after the U.S. election and tensions with Ukraine, the organization proposed activating EU defense provisions (Article 42) and pushed for a European defense architecture. The President acknowledged internal debates but defended the urgency and relevance of their proposal, which gained external visibility and support.

EU Budget and Taxation: The President highlighted the upcoming debate on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the need for own resources and European taxation, linking it to the principle of "no debt without taxation." They criticized the lack of progress on repayment plans for EU debt and called for Federalist solutions.

The President also addressed organizational matters, noting the resignation of three bureau members but assuring that the organization remains operationally and financially stable. He encouraged a focus on political resolutions, strategic planning, and collective intelligence to strengthen advocacy, membership, and fundraising.

The President urged the Federal Committee to continue pushing for treaty reform, defense integration, and fiscal solutions, while improving the organization's outreach and internal cohesion.

Political Intervention: The future of European Defense with Lucia Annunziata, MEP S&D

Lucia Annunziata argued that Europe must take responsibility for its own defense, moving beyond reliance on NATO and the U.S. She emphasized the need for a common defense policy, linking it to foreign policy and strategic autonomy.

She highlighted three major obstacles: lack of sufficient funding, lack of consensus among Member States, and time constraints. Current rearmament plans are seen as insufficient for long-term European defense integration.

Immediate funding for Ukraine is critical to counter Russian aggression, but this should not overshadow the need for a broader European defense strategy.

Western Europe (especially Germany) sees defense investment as a way to boost its industrial and technological transition, while Eastern Europe prioritizes immediate military support. The U.S. is also interested in European defense investments, but mainly to serve its own economic and strategic interests.

She stressed the importance of the European Parliament's role in overseeing defense initiatives, warning against bypassing democratic scrutiny in the name of urgency. Transparency and public accountability are essential for building trust and legitimacy.

Voting session

Resolution committee - Report by Christelle Savall

The three political resolutions passed without any issues.

The emergency resolution has reached 10 percent of delegates from 3 sections, but it has to collect a 2/3rd majority regardless of if it is a political resolution or an agenda point.

It was decided that the vote will be to convene a Congress in November.

Emergency resolution is voted with 31 against 35 in favour 2 abstentions - not carried.

Resolution Towards a political Union PCI

The Resolution is unanimously adopted.
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Resolution by Francois Leray For a Common European Media Space

The Resolution is unanimously adopted.

Resolution Towards a genuine Foreign and Defense Policy within a Federal Europe PC 3

Carlo Maria Palermo proposed to accept the resolution with all comments, proposing a title "towards a genuine foreign and defence policy within a federal Europe".

The Resolution is unanimously approved.

Resolution A federal solution to relaunch Israeli-Palestinian peace process PC3

Carlo Maria Palermo recommended to adopt the resolution as a whole with the amendments

The Resolution is approved with 1 vote against, 50 votes in favour and 6 abstentions.

Opening of the Federal Committee meeting Day 2 - Sunday

Presentation of the budget 2024 by the Treasurer ad-interim, Antonio Argenziano

Antonio Argenziano presented the 2024 budget prepared by the team in the Secretariat and the former Treasurer.

Total Budget: €300,034, with a focus on financial stability and efficient implementation of the operating grant (83% of income).

He noted that the revenues are primarily from the EU operating grant (€320,000, 80% co-funded), membership fees (€33,000, 8.8%), participation fees (€10,000, 3%), and donations.

The main expenditures are in staff costs (52%) and operational/activity costs (48%), including meetings, office rent, accounting, legal expenses, and communication.

He warned of a minor deficit of €3,500 due to repayments for past projects, but overall, the budget was balanced and well-managed.

He raised some challenges: the over-reliance on the EU grant (83%), need for diversified funding, and building reserves for financial security.

He mentioned the way for improvements are better internal controls, multiple signatories for expenses, and a new fundraising strategy.

The budget 2024 is approved unanimously.

Then the vote for Antonio Argenziano to be formally appointed as Treasurer was held.

Vote for Antonio Argenziano as Treasurer approved with 24 abstentions.

Vote internal auditor

Ioanna Radescu was approved as internal auditor unanimously.

Activity Report 2024 and start of 2025 by the Secretary General, Ilaria Caria

Ilaria Caria, Secretary General, gave an overview of 2024 achievements. Indeed, 2024 was marked by effective management, political engagement, and a collaborative environment within the UEF, setting a positive example for organizational governance.

The Budapest Federal Committee and the Bucharest International Conference (November and December 2024) demonstrated the UEF's commitment to empowering Eastern European sections and fostering regional cooperation.

She then had an administrative and financial focus (Early 2025). From November 2024 to February 2025, the Secretariat focused on securing the 2026–2028 EU Framework Grant, submitting the application by the January 2025 deadline. The decision is expected in summer 2025.

The 2024 budget was closed successfully, with the final EU payment (€39,000) pending. Internal audits confirmed no major irregularities, and improvements in financial controls were implemented.

She then presented the 2025 political and advocacy activities:

- Brussels Demonstration (March 2025): Aligned with the Rome pro-EU rally, fostering cross-organizational cooperation.
- Civil Society Week: UEF participated as a board member of the Liaison Group (European Economic and Social Committee), promoting political documents.

- Petition to the European Parliament: Submitted via the Action Committee for the United States of Europe, awaiting review.
- Memorandum on European Defense: Presented to EU institutions, advocating for treaty changes and a United States of Europe, with media outreach to amplify the message.

Ilaria Caria emphasized the communication and outreach successes:

- Social Media Growth: Expanded visibility through partnerships with influencers and the "New Crocodile Club" (a network of pro-federalism content creators), reaching over 500 million potential viewers.
- Focused on simplifying federalist messages for diverse audiences, including younger citizens and non-policymakers.
- Archived federalist documents and promoted multilingual content to broaden engagement.

She mentioned the appointment of a Gender Equality Officer to promote female participation and inclusivity, Mathilde Baudouin in the Secretariat and Gwynn Wettach in the Executive Bureau.

UEF Europe also worked with UEF Spain, Finland, and World Federalist Movement on immigration, multilateralism, and federalist events.

Ilaria Caria mentioned the challenges ahead:

- Delays in 2025 Activities: Early 2025 was consumed by grant applications and administrative tasks, causing some event delays.
- Ilaria emphasized the need for sustained political will, financial prudence, and member engagement to ensure the UEF's future impact.

Ilaria expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Secretary General, highlighting the UEF's potential and the importance of collective commitment to its mission. She will conclude her tenure in June 2025.

The whole Federal Committee thanked her for her great work in the organisation.

Report on the Fundraising Task Force by EB Member Raphaël Bez

Raphaël Bez provided a brief update on the UEF's fundraising strategy for 2024–2025, which focuses on three tracks:

- Membership and participation fees (currently on hold).
- Foundation grants and corporate sponsorships (active focus, especially on private foundations and EU funds).
- Crowdfunding and individual donors (progress made, including an art-based donation project and email campaigns).

The goal remains €30,000, with ongoing efforts led by the Secretariat and a task force. The next meeting is scheduled for mid-September, and the group welcomes new members, especially those with fundraising experience. Bez thanked the Secretariat and outgoing Secretary General Ilaria for their contributions.

Report on the Development of the Organisation Task Force by EB Member François Leray

The Task Force was created to align the UEF's objectives with actionable strategies in advocacy, communication, policy, and membership. Key points:

- Volunteer Engagement: Aims to move beyond twice-yearly resolutions by involving volunteers in idea generation and decision-making.
- Two-Step Process:

1 - Survey: Collect input from Federal Committee (FC) members and national sections to identify strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.

2 - Proposals: Develop new ideas for the next FC meeting by the end of 2025.

He highlighted successful local initiatives, such as Hungary's TikTok strategy and France's scientific committee, as models for broader organizational adoption. The aim is to foster a more dynamic, inclusive, and innovative approach to UEF's development.

Report on the WFM-UEF Task Force by EB Member Daphne Gogou

Daphne Gogou started by mentioning that the close cooperation with the World Federalist Movement (WFM) began in 2019, strengthened after the 2023 UEF Congress.

- Recent Activities:
 - Organized a webinar on global economic reform (led by Guido Montani).
 - Hosted a joint event on multilateralism (Friday, November 2025).
 - Planned a conference on international justice (pending EU grant confirmation), focusing on Ukraine, Gaza, and Sudan.
- Challenges: UEF-Africa cooperation stalled due to WFM internal issues; reactivation is a priority.
- Future Goals: Expand participation (e.g., Spain, Italy, France) and present concrete proposals at the WFM Congress (October 2025).

Report of National Sections and Affiliated Organisations

Catherine Vieilledent gave a report on the activities of Groupe Europe.
Neophytos Aristomedou gave a report on the activities of UEF Greece
Michael Montag gave a report on the activities of EUD - UEF Germany.
François Mennerat gave a report on the activities of UEF Belgium.
Christelle Savall gave a report on the activities of JEF Europe.
Luisa Trumellini gave a report on the activities of MFE - UEF Italy.
Eszter Nagy gave a report on the activities of UEF Hungary.
François Leray gave a report on the activities of UEF France.
Juuso Järvinen gave a report on the activities of UEF Finland.
Raphael Bez gave a report on the activities of UEF Switzerland.

Closing of the Federal Committee

The President Domenec Devesa thanked the whole Federal Committee and in particular the new members coming this weekend for their commitment. He emphasized the need to work together in dialogue and compromise, and expressed optimism on the success of this approach.

He mentioned very important upcoming milestones, such as the relaunch of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe, for which the first general meeting celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the Committee, will take place in the Maison Jean Monnet in October. He also mentioned the celebration of 9th May 2026, which falls on the 80th Anniversary of the UEF, so a crucial year for the organisation.

As a final word, he thanked the members of the Executive Bureau for their work, JEF and all the delegates joining the meetings, Ilaria Caria, Roland Huhn, and Giulia Rossolillo, for their work and their expertise offered to the organisation. He expressed gratitude for the members of the Secretariat and the Presidium.

13/11/2025

Mathilde Baudouin

Secretary General