



## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of

### Utopian Studies Society / Europe

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026, University of Bucharest, Romania**

Present: **Chair:** Gregory Claeys, **Secretary:** Zsolt Czigányik, **Treasurer:** Kenneth Hanshew, **EDI Officer:** Marta Komsta, **ECR Officer:** Iva Dimovska **Committee Members:** Barnita Bagchi, Burcu Kayışçı Akkoyun, Sorin Antohi, Susanna Layh, Maria Varsam, Urszula Terentowicz-Fotyga, Joana Caetano, Liam Benison, Philipp Thapa, and ca. 40 ordinary members in person and online.

1. Gregory Claeys opens the USS/E 2026 AGM. The agenda is accepted unanimously.
2. **Treasurer's Report** is presented by Kenneth Hanshew. The society has 5159,11 EUR in bank accounts. It is planned that most of the funds will be used for increased bursaries for the 2027 conference. The report is accepted unanimously.
3. The chair thanks the organisers, Sorin Antohi and his team for their work in organising the present conference.
4. Zsolt Czigányik resigns as **secretary** due to his increased workload, though he emphasises that he intends to remain a member of the society. Justyna Galant stands for election as secretary of the society. The following positions are due to be renewed this year: Kenneth Hanshew as **treasurer** and Marta Komsta as **EDI officer**. They both run for re-election. Phillip Thapa has been co-opted by the committee as a committee member, now his membership is confirmed by the society's vote. Diane Morgan runs for committee membership. The elections are held online, the results announced at the closing ceremony of the conference.
5. The results of the elections: all candidates (see above) are elected with a vast majority of the members, with only a very few abstentions and votes against. The election process (through OpaVote) has been overseen by the outgoing secretary and Iva Dimovska as election officer.
6. The AGM in 2025 decided that the **2027 conference** will be held in Joensuu, Finland. The head of the organising team, Teppo Eskelinen gives the presentation after which

the members of the society could discuss important details. The conference will be held between 21-24 June, as it is not possible to hold a conference in Finland after 25 June. The AGM approved of this change and thanked the organiser for his work. From now on, Teppo is a member of the committee for 3 years.

7. Ondřej Váša presents his plan of organising the **2028 Conference** at the University of Prague in the Czech Republic. The plan is unanimously accepted by the AGM.
8. The chair closes the meeting.