



## Our Topics...

- Management and Advisory Board Meeting, 8th of February, Frankfurt
- Capacity-building workshop, 26th of September, Berlin
- General Assembly of the Members, Management and Advisory Board Meeting, 5th of December, Online
- Virtual Meeting BAN Associations & Alumni Groups, 11.-12. December
- News about the third edition of the Leadership Summer School / LSS21

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### Postponed but not canceled

- 5-Year Anniversary 2021
- Business and Economy Seminar & Regional Activities 2021

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### To become a member

If you are not a member yet, write an email at: [dombi@mummert-alumni.de](mailto:dombi@mummert-alumni.de).

*Dear members, friends and sponsors of the Alumni-Association of Mummert-Foundation,*

*Since the association was founded in October 2014, we can now look back on the sixth full year of activity. With the founding of the association, we have set ourselves the goal of strengthening the social development and competitiveness of the countries of Central and Southeastern Europe and thereby pursuing the goals of the Mummert Foundation and at the same time re-imagining them. Maintaining and expanding our existing alumni network remained in focus. Taking into consideration the current worldwide situation, the main focus of the current year was set on the internal issues:*

- *Further development and training of internal structures, processes and roles / responsibilities with the goal of creating operational excellence*
- *Adoption of the new relevant trends and flexibilization / improvement of the approach (e.g. implementation of digital / hybrid formats)*

*The following report contains a summary of the most important internal developments and events, and gives an outlook for upcoming activities. Established formats such as Regionalization, Leadership Summer School and Business and Economy Seminar remain central means to pursue our vision. Nonetheless, we have used the current situation as a learning opportunity and would like to be more flexible in the design of our program for the next year.*

*At the end of 2020, we are still deeply concerned about the new coronavirus (COVID-19) as an urgent and global challenge. We take the responsibility for the health and wellbeing of our members and friends very seriously. Accordingly, the association's activities in 2021 will be strongly influenced by this situation and the mentioned aspects. Our goal is to continue to make responsible decisions about our program and at the same time to ensure that the exchange on the relevant topics continues.*

*The year 2020 was not an easy year and I would like to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to all the members and friends. Nonetheless the New Year also promises exciting get-togethers that we can all look forward to. We would be glad to have your feedback on our report on the following email address [vorstand@mummert-alumni.de](mailto:vorstand@mummert-alumni.de).*

*On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas! Most of all, stay healthy!*

*Best regards,*

*Nevenka Subakov (Chair), Brigitta Bóka, Dorottya Bérci, Tünde Dombi, Sinziana Elisei // Board of the Alumni Association of the Rochus and Beatrice Mummert Foundation*

## Management and Advisory Board Meeting, 8th of February, Frankfurt

The first management and advisory board meeting of the year took place in Frankfurt on February 8, 2020. The annual plan for 2020 was discussed at the meeting. The status of various events was also reported, such as the regional events, 5-Year Anniversary of the association, Leadership Summer School and Business & Economy Seminar.

Other topics such as the association's finances and the establishment of the board and association management for the next 1-2 years were also considered. The distribution of responsibilities was also an important part of the board and management meeting, in which each board member presented the developments in their own areas.

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Participants at the meeting

## Capacity-building workshop, 26th of September, Berlin

In September 2020 the board of the AVRBM, together with some of our newest members, met in Berlin for a quick capacity-building workshop. Although the gathering touched upon various vital points for our network, its central theme was 'Working with volunteers'.



Participants at the Workshop

The meeting was the culmination of a series of previous online events that aimed at defining innovative solutions for existing challenges that the AVRBM faces in regard to volunteer-based work. All sessions were part of the Organizational development grant provided in the framework of the Civil Society Cluster by the BoschAlumniNetwork and were facilitated externally by [Marta Kanarkiewicz](#) (Project manager at

Move and Develop Foundation, Poland). The whole process was supported by MitOst and iAC Berlin.

'Working with volunteers' is a vast and complex theme that derives from the fact that we are not solely the users of the AVRBM but also its creators. AVRBM is active because of the time and efforts that all of us invest in it voluntarily. Everything that is being carried out within our network is a result of our motivation, beliefs, and good will. When we look back at the past it is impressive how much we have done thus far, but at the same time we must also look forward and come up with more efficient ways and move forward even in the current global conditions. Such a reflection will enable us to grow and develop further.

As we all know motivation is fragile and as fast as it can light up, it can also burn down, so how can we sustain it? How can we inspire our members to participate more actively? How can we bring our network to live and expand our outreach? How can we engage our newest members and make them feel like an organic part of the AVRBM?

The outcomes of the capacity-building workshop are currently being summarized in 'The AVRBM Volunteer Policy Handbook'. The publication will soon be available on the website of the AVRBM and will take on the important task to bring our members closer to each other and to motivate them to participate even more actively in next year's projects. The Handbook will serve both as an introduction to our newest members and as informational material for our previous members. It will present a neat and easy-to-

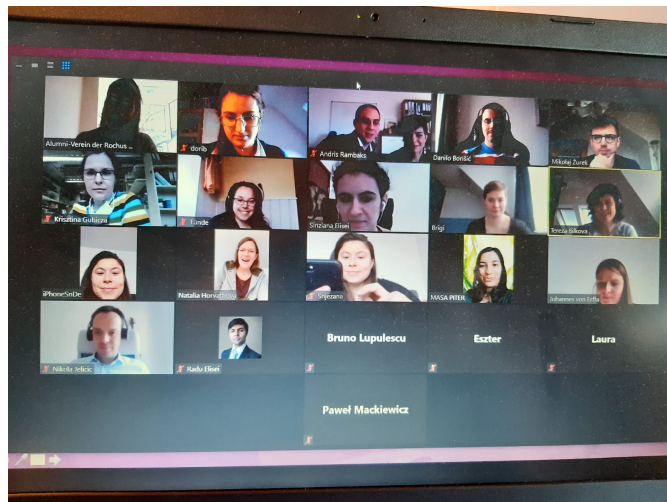
understand snapshot of the AVRBMS and will suggest how, why, and when a member can volunteer. [Back to top](#)

## General Assembly of the Members, Management and Advisory Board Meeting, 5th of December, Online

On December 5th the Assembly of the Members took place in a virtual format on the Zoom Platform. A total of 24 members took part. The board of directors reported on developments in the areas of Vision & Mission, Membership Management, Finance, Event Management, Marketing & Communication.

After the event, the members had the opportunity to influence the future of the association through an online survey and Brigitta Bóka was re-elected as a board member for the next two years, Yoana Stefanova has joined the management team and Natalia Horwathova and Mikolaj Zurek will take care of the internal audit.

Afterwards, the management and advisory board meeting took place in virtual format. All the topics that have been discussed were in connection with COVID-19 and the current situation. Ideas about how the association's activities can be carried out virtually as well as in hybrid formats in the future were presented.



Participants at the General Assembly

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## Virtual Meeting BAN Associations & Alumni Groups, 11.-12. December

The meeting started on Friday afternoon with the introduction of the participating associations and with the set-up of the expectations for the one-and-a-half-day workshop. The purposes of the meeting were to receive updates and news from the overall network and other alumni groups, to participate in BarCamps and training sessions to address common issues and challenges and to discover potential for synergies and collaboration.

There were nine associations present with up to two representants each. The Mummert Alumni-Association was represented by Brigitta Bóka and Sinziana Elisei.

The focus of the sessions on Saturday was fundraising as well as governance & members' engagement. The first capacity building workshop was moderated by Brigitta Bóka. At the end of the first half of the day, after a healthy mix of open discussions, brainstorming, case studies and working in teams, the participants were more aware of the various sustainable financing models and were able to gain some new ideas for their own associations.



Participants at the meeting

The second slot of the workshop was moderated by two members of a young organization with a vision to fully engage society in promoting and encouraging community culture. We learned about the challenges of building an organization in other countries, about their innovative methods of engaging their members,

keeping them active nowadays and about giving something back to the communities.

With the Bosch Alumni Network constantly growing, this virtual meeting was a great opportunity to re-

connect with each other and address some of the key challenges the organizations and alumni groups are facing today.

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## News about the third edition of the Leadership Summer School / LSS21

The Leadership Summer School (LSS) is a vital event in our portfolio of projects. It is not only a way for us to reach out to new members, but also a chance to inspire students from Central and Eastern Europe and to support their future professional development. Although LSS20 was postponed, we are now more than happy to announce that the LSS team met online in the middle of December to discuss LSS21.

The brainstorming session was led by Dorottya Bérci and Yoana Stefanova. Both online and offline ele-

ments and educational tools were discussed. The third edition of the LSS will take place in summer 2021 and the central theme will be leadership and entrepreneurship. Its target audience will again be students in their last year of study.

The next team meeting will be held in the beginning of 2021. If you would like to participate in the organisation feel free to get in touch with us at [stefanova@mummert-alumni.de](mailto:stefanova@mummert-alumni.de).

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## Upcoming Events - Postponed but not canceled

### 5-Year Anniversary 2021

After carefully examining the situation in 2020, it was decided that the anniversary event will be postponed to the next year. The current situation with COVID-19 is still characterized by great uncertainty and this is being constantly monitored by our organization team. Further information on the new date is expected to be communicated in early 2021.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact / write to the organizers at [events@mummert-alumni.de](mailto:events@mummert-alumni.de).

### Business and Economy Seminar & Regional Activities 2021

The Seminar was also postponed due to the global situation. Further information on the new date is expected to be communicated in early 2021.

If you have questions, please contact Sinziana Elisei at [elisei@mummert-alumni.de](mailto:elisei@mummert-alumni.de).

Further regional activities are included in the already defined regional roadmap, which will soon be adapted to the current situation in terms of format, content and timeline.

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