



## **Newsletter No. 6, August 2021**

EACP Addresses .....	2
Message from the Newsletter Editor.....	2
Report from the President.....	3
Invitation to the Online General Assembly of the EACP, 01 September 2021.....	5
EACP Board Elections, 01 September 2021.....	5
4 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the EACP, Macerata, Italy Postponed to Summer 2023.....	6
EACP Membership Payment.....	7

## EACP ADDRESSES

---

### *President*

Ralph Weber  
Institute for European Global Studies  
University of Basel, Switzerland  
E-mail: [ralph.weber@unibas.ch](mailto:ralph.weber@unibas.ch)

### *Vice-President*

Selusi Ambrogio  
Department of Humanities  
University of Macerata, Italy  
E-Mail: [aselusi@yahoo.it](mailto:aselusi@yahoo.it)

### *Secretary*

Christian Soffel  
Institute of Sinology  
Trier University  
Trier, Germany  
E-Mail: [soffel@uni-trier.de](mailto:soffel@uni-trier.de)

### *Treasurer*

Helena Motoh  
Faculty of Humanities  
University of Primorska  
Koper, Slovenia  
E-mail: [helena.motoh@guest.arnes.si](mailto:helena.motoh@guest.arnes.si)

## MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

---

Since the beginning of the pandemic, scholarly activities have been largely affected. This includes also the events of our society. Fortunately, the light at the end of the tunnel is growing stronger, but in 2021 we will still not be able to physically meet for our bi-annual conference as usual.

Nevertheless, our organization has to deal with important formal matters, such as the regular General Assembly, which—according to our statute—shall convene once every two years, including the election of a new Board. This year, the **General Assembly will take place online on 01 September 2021, 2-5 pm**. You shall find the corresponding information and announcements in this newsletter. I do hope that a great many of you will be able to participate in the General Assembly and the election of the next Board. Also, you are very welcome to make nominations for the new Board.

The EACP now provides a new way to **pay the membership fees via PayPal**. You can find the details on the last page of this newsletter. Please make sure to pay your membership fees regularly.

Fostering the scholarly discussion on Chinese philosophy is the cornerstone of our association. Therefore, the EACP has already organized several online events, and the Board currently

plans to schedule more activities to take place later this year, such as an **upcoming EACP online conference in November or December**. If you know of more events in the field of Chinese philosophy, feel free to inform the Board, so that we can spread the information via the EACP mailing list.

Wish you all a nice summer, looking forward to meeting you at the general assembly.

*Christian Soffel*  
Newsletter Editor  
Trier University  
Institute of Sinology  
Trier, Germany  
E-Mail: [soffel@uni-trier.de](mailto:soffel@uni-trier.de)

**NEXT NEWSLETTER ISSUE:  
Summer 2022**

**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:  
April 15 2022**

---

## **REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT**

---

Dear EACP members!

Right around this time, we were supposed to meet for our fourth biennial conference, as it were in beautiful Macerata, Italy. How interesting it would have been to sit in a bar by morning, try reading the local newspaper and drink an espresso while contemplating about the many news that have reached us in recent years about

some saddening events in the city, which certainly have a specific locally-bound story to it, but also – and as importantly – reflect some of the largest political challenges of Italy and Europe on pluralist democracy, migration and the hideous face of far-right extremism. Then, at the conference, I fancy how Mattheus Riccius Maceratensis might or might not have shown up more prominently in the participants' contributions, before heading for lunch at a restaurant on a piazza (or better that one street behind the piazza) to find out about the local culinary specialties (although if it comes to Italian food in Italy, almost everything seems special...). And then, again, discussions in the lecture halls, perhaps a keynote in the university's impressive aula magna, and so on and so forth.

What a spectacular place Macerata would have been! And add to that the mere excitement of just meeting again face-to-face without first having to ask “can you hear me?” and “can you see me now?” and continuing the discussions well beyond an asserted time-slot to a good glass of red wine. I should not want to delve further into this strange kind of nostalgia about an event that did not (yet) happen. Alas, we all know the reasons why it did not yet happen. Let me just assure all of you that the board had many discussions about whether and how to stage the conference, to go entirely digital, hybrid or postpone. In the end, we felt the best way forward would be to postpone until 2023, to keep our events as globally accessible as possible without privileging those who were lucky enough to have access to vaccinations,

to follow our rhythm of alternating years with the conferences of the European Association of Chinese Studies (EACS) and to avoid further traffic jam in the pent-up supply of other postponed conferences.

While physical meetings were out of the question, we have been far from standing by idly and have convened far more board meetings than in any previous year that I can remember. Many of us participated in online initiatives launched by colleagues such as in the wonderful series on “Conversations on Chinese Philosophy – A Virtual Symposium,” organized by Chiara Luna Ghidini, Lisa Indraccolo and Federico Brusadelli. We have also initiated our very own digital formats and have staged two EACP Online Events, one on a “Digital Humanities approach to Chinese philosophy” and one on “Comparative, post-comparative, or transcultural? – Chinese philosophy and new methodologies,” which were both well attended. This is a format we want to continue even after physical events (hopefully) soon become possible again. This autumn, we will also hold a one-day online-conference to keep our association’s activities high and offer a platform for interested scholars to present their latest research. Finally, we have also given our homepage a reworking, and I am very happy to announce that it will be up and going this autumn. It will also include a new and easier way to pay membership dues, which has been somewhat of a hassle in the past. I want to thank the various board members who have worked on this project. Of course, our hope is to increase our (fee-paying...)

membership base and work towards making our association an ever-more attractive tool for advancing our shared interests and scholarly aims.

It has been difficult for many of us these days to focus exclusively on the scholarly aims of one’s work on Chinese philosophy. There are several reasons for this. The lingering Covid-19-pandemic, ever-more manifest climate change impact and increasing tensions among the great powers continue to keep their grip on most of us. As an association, we had to deal with these challenges nolens volens. For instance, among the board, we had long debates about whether and how to react to the counter-sanctions of the People’s Republic of China against scholars working within the broad field of Chinese studies. Instead of making up a long statement of our own, we came to the conclusion that it would be easier to issue a short endorsement in which we would declare our support for the statement published by the EACS. Our short text reads as follows: “The Board of the EACP wishes to announce its full and unanimous support and endorsement of the statement (<http://chinesestudies.eu/?p=4435>) issued on 9 April 2021 by the European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS) regarding the recent sanctions issued by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs against European China researchers.” We are aware that not all of our members agree with this decision of the board and respect such disagreement. However, we hope that our members understand that it is difficult to find a good scholarly standpoint in the midst of political controversy – and

that not taking a position would not have isolated and possibly exculpated us from the messiness of political ambivalence, but instead amounted to taking up a political standpoint, too. Indeed, we have endorsed the EACS statement precisely because it struck us as balanced in terms of political controversy, but unambiguous when it comes to defending the basic value of academic freedom that also underlies our manifold scholarly endeavors in the realm of Chinese philosophy.

In closing—and this is the last time I have the joy of addressing you as your president, a position which I had the honor of taking over in 2017—let me once more thank all of you for your support and contributions, particularly our friends at the headquarters in Slovenia, our wonderful Secretary Christian Soffel and the many older and newer colleagues on the Board and among the members. I am confident that we have succeeded in bringing a new generation to the association and their energy and ideas are already showing in so many exciting ways. I wish my successor all the best and look forward to the espresso, the discussions about Matteo Ricci and other topics, and that glass of red wine in Macerata in 2023!

Ralph Weber, EACP president

---

## **INVITATION TO THE ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EACP**

**01 SEPTEMBER 2021**

---

Even though the (physical) biannual EACP conference has been postponed to 2023, we will still hold an online General Assembly of the EACP on Wednesday, 01 September 2021, 2pm–5pm CEST (UTC+2). All members of the EACP are cordially invited to participate. The provisional agenda and the web-link to the online meeting will be made available to you on time.

Feel free to communicate items that should be put on the agenda to the EACP secretary at <[soffel@uni-trier.de](mailto:soffel@uni-trier.de)> or a board member of your choice, preferably until August 23 noon, but no later than one day before the date of the General Assembly.

---

## **EACP BOARD ELECTIONS**

**01 SEPTEMBER 2021**

---

During the online General Assembly on 01 September 2021, the next Board for the EACP will be elected, which will serve during the upcoming term

(2021–2023). The Board consists of the Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) and regular Board members.

Please communicate nominations for the Board elections to the current EACP secretary at <[soffel@uni-trier.de](mailto:soffel@uni-trier.de)>, preferably until August 23 noon, but no later than one day before the assembly.

The current Board would especially welcome nominations from young academics to run in the next EACP Board elections.

---

## **4th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE EACP**

**MACERATA , ITALY**

**POSTPONED TO  
SUMMER 2023**

---

As has been announced in March this year, the EACP Board has unanimously arrived at the – very difficult – decision to postpone the 4th EACP Conference in Macerata (Italy), which was scheduled for September 2021, to be held two years later, in summer 2023. The full statement can be found here: <https://ea-cp.eu/announcements/postponement-of-the-2021-eacp-biennial-conference-in-macerata>

# EACP Membership Payment

## *New Payment Method Effective Since 2021*

### **Registration (For New Members):**

If you would like to become a member of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy, please:

1. Send to <[eacp.members@gmail.com](mailto:eacp.members@gmail.com)> an email with all your contact information, including Name, First name, Email and Institutional Affiliation.
2. The payment of the membership fees should be done to the EACP account according to the instructions below.
3. You will become an active member after the payment of the membership fee.

### **Payment of Membership Fees (For New and Existing Members):**

If you would like to remain or become a member of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy, you should pay the membership fees regularly. To do so, go to our Paypal.Me page: <https://www.paypal.me/eacpmembership>. Here you can send us the membership fee. The EACP yearly membership fee currently is €20.00 for individual and corporate members. The reduced rate (for student members) is €10.00. It is possible to pay the membership fee for several consecutive years together. Please send us the appropriate amount according to your situation. Within a few days, you should receive an email confirming that your membership has been approved for the ongoing calendar year. The membership is effective from January 1 to December 31.