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Conceptnotulen Plenaire Vergadering oktober 2023

	Aanwezig	Angelina Senchi, Noah Benjamins, Ivar Kracht, Hidde Heijnis, Rembrandt Tip, Carlos van Eck, Giovanni Prins, Sean Berg, Thomas van Beersum.
	Afwezig	Teun van Kasteel, Sarah Boll, Huy Le
	Gast	
	Notulist	Liesje Verhave
2		Agenda
3		1. Opening
4		2. Mail and action list (15 min)
5		3. Confirmation minutes (5 mins)
6		4. Confirmation agenda (3 min)
7		5. Announcements (1 min)
8		6. Updates (10 min)
9		Chair, vice-Chair, DB-members, and CSR-delegate share updates.
10 11 12		7. Introduction council assistants (5 min) (verbal update) The FSR introduces the new council assistants.
13 14		8. <u>Deciding CoBo planning and year plan</u> (20 min) (attachment: 1) The FSR discusses the plan for the CoBo and the year plan that will be presented.
15 16		9. Orientating: OV-preparation: speaker division (15 min) (attachment: 1)
17		<i>The FSR the preparation for the OV and speakers for the OV.</i>
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19		10. Deciding: Israel and Palestine conflict (20 min) (attachment: 4)
20		The FSR discusses the potential response from the FSR on the UvA communication.
21		11. PR van de Week (5 min)(<i>mondeling</i>)
22		The FSR discusses what they will share on the social media this week.
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24		12. Final points and closing
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34	1.	Opening
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36 The PV opens at 11:05

37 **2. Mail and action points** (15 min)

39 The council discusses the email list. We have received invitations for different CoBos. The council will 40 discuss internally who will attend. From the CSR we received an email that we can request an additional 41 budget to plan an evaluation weekend. Heijnis, Senchi, and Verhave discussed this and decided to use this 42 weekend as a training weekend for the new council assistants. They discuss it further and plan it 43 [ACTIONPOINT]. Onkostenvergoeding has been arranged for Prins, but for the new council assistants, it still 44 needs to be arranged [ACTIONPOINT]. The council has also received an advice request regarding part-time 45 studies at the CoH. This will be discussed later. The next email is regarding the CSR funding for any student 46 union sign-up costs for students in the FSR. Next week the FSR will have the OV with the faculty board. The 47 OV-prep will happen during the PV on Monday. There has also been more information received regarding 48 WIB. The law of internationalization in balance. This subject will be a larger and an important discussion 49 in the future. We received a document about thesis evaluations, and we need to decide if we want to ask 50 questions about it during the OV. Prins will read the document [ACTIONPOINT].

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52 The council discusses the action list. Van Kasteel will work on the wandkranten soon. The year plan will be 53 discussed this PV. Tip updates that he was not able to schedule a meeting with Casual UvA, so he will have 54 to collect information regarding the issues of the collective labour agreement in a different way. Tip will let 55 the council know when he finds information he will want to discuss. Verhave will send the availability 56 schedule of the council members on Tuesday [ACTIONPOINT]. The council members will write a personal 57 introduction and send it to Heijnis before Thursday [ACTIONPOINT]. The FSR will discuss suggestions for 58 FSR-budget on the PV of the 8th of November. If there are not a lot of suggestions Senchi would like to use 59 the money for the Yoni collaboration to fund free menstruation products on campus.

Prins and Heijnis will discuss internationalization within the faculty but decided to bring this up at the OC
meeting. Prins will attend the meeting for the OC's. A plan for the CoBo will be discussed today.

- 63 The technical meeting about the faculty budget is planned today, Heijnis and Senchi will attend.
- 65 Senchi will set up a general meeting for the OER with the council [ACTIONPOINT].
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- 67 **3. Confirmation minutes** (5 min)
- 68Tip makes a comment that him wanting to join the Decolonial Dialogues @humanities editorial team was69not present in the minutes. Verhave adapts the minutes. The FSR confirms the minutes of the 16th of70October.
- 71 **4. Confirmation agenda** (3 min)
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73 **5.** Announcements

Senchi tells the council that she is feeling a bit unwell, so she apologizes in advance. Secondly, she wants to
wrap up the meeting quickly so the council members can go back to their exams. There are no other
announcements. Verhave explains to the new council assistants what the announcement part of the
meeting is used for.

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79 **6. Updates** (10 min)

80 Chair, vice-Chair, DB-members, and CSR-delegate share updates.

82 Senchi had a meeting with Yoni who are very interested in working together with us. Furthermore, she ran 83 into the Diversity Officer, who was also very interested in organizing this at the faculty. The fDB does not 84 want to invest in this project, but the Diversity officer does. The Diversity office wants to invest their budget 85 in the project and make policy on this subject. So Senchi will work together with them on this subject. Yoni 86 will send us a sample package so we can see if students are interested. Senchi also asked the Allard Pierson 87 Museum if they are willing to give students a discount on their current exhibition during the lecture-free 88 week. The VO meeting was scheduled for the previous Friday, OV preparation will be discussed in this 89 meeting.

- Heijnis updates that all the council assistants have been selected, and Van Beersum and Berg are alsopresent today.
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 94 Benjamins updates that the FSR received emails about two budget supplements from the CSR; one about
 95 the evaluation weekend and the other about the student union sign-ups. Furthermore, the CSR voted to
 96 support the two petitions for Palestine that have been going around.
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- 98 Tip was present at multiple protests last week and has been working on a response from the FSR to the99 Israel-Palestine conflict. This response will be discussed again during this PV.
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101 **7.** Introduction council assistants (5 min) (verbal update)

- 102 The FSR introduces the new council assistants.
- 104The council introduces themselves to the new council assistants. Van Beersum and Berg introduce105themselves to the council.
- 107 [ACTIONPOINT] Senchi sets up a meeting with the new council assistants for general training.
- 108 [ACTIONPOINT] Senchi will send the new council assistants the *inwerkmap*.
- 110 The council takes a break at 11:52.

112 8. <u>Deciding</u>: CoBo planning and year plan (20 min) (attachment: 1)

- 113 The FSR discusses the plan for the CoBo and the year plan that will be presented.
- 115 The council resumes the meeting at 12:05
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117 Senchi asks Van Eck for an update regarding the CoBo. Van Eck notes that there has not been any progress 118 regarding the planning of the CoBo. The draft for the RSVP email has been made. Van Eck also wants to 119 invite all the students from FGw through our social media [ACTIONPOINT]. Van Eck says the council will 120 also need to decide on the plan of action during the borrel and if we want more "traditional" elements of a 121 CoBo, the alcohol policy needs to be decided on. Senchi suggests writing two or three options on how the 122 evening can go and presenting that to the council for discussion on November 8th [ACTIONPOINT]. The 123 location should be decided before the 30th of October. Benjamins will work together with Van Eck on the 124 plan for the evening. Senchi and Heijnis will work together on the Instagram invitation post 125 [ACTIONPOINT]. There can be two posts, a Save The Date post and the actual detailed invite.

127 Van Eck wonders if Café Diep is a proper location if we want to present the year plan. Senchi responds that 128 she thinks it is not necessary to do a formal presentation regarding the year plan but that we can have a 129 small introduction. She suggests sending the year plan as a document before the start of the CoBo. So that 130 during the CoBo guests can ask questions or discuss it together with the council members. Combining the 131 year plan and the CoBo is also good because then there is a deadline for the year plan. Verhave will send 132 out the CoBo RSVP on Tuesday. Furthermore, she suggests printing out the year plan and bringing some 133 physical copies to the CoBo for guests to read. Van Eck asks if we want to use the information screens in 134 the FGw buildings to share the invitation of the CoBo. Senchi responds that if we want to share the invite 135 on the screens, we will need to contact Bart Gijswijt in advance and make a visual invitation that fits on the screens [ACTIONPOINT]. Van Eck will contact Bart Gijswijt before the 8th of November, and Heijnis will help 136 137 with the visual.

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139 Tip introduces the year plan to the council. He explains that the council wanted to formulate a 140 communication strategy and that led him to conclude we need a more holistic approach and idea of how 141 we want to relate ourselves to the student body and what achievable goals we could set. Tip has written up 142 an analysis of the student body at our faculty, including social and economic conditions. Tip also wrote 143 about the participatory organs that exist. Including failings and the power dynamics of the organizations. 144 Kracht has expanded on this thematically. Tip explains that this document can be used as a reference in 145 organizing future activities. Senchi asks Kracht and Tip what the council can give input on and what still 146 needs to happen for this document to be finished. Kracht responds that there are two parts to this 147 document. Tip wrote up the analytical frame. The goal from this frame is to a certain extent restructure the 148 university, this implies the council needs to engage with elements from outside of the university. Kracht 149 goes over the different points mentioned in the document. For the point of mental well-being, there is room 150 for discussion on how we understand it. Kracht sees what we call mental well-being is always mediated to 151 some extent in how far people can conform to a social hegemony. Senchi suggests scheduling the final form of the document for discussion on the 8th of November. Senchi asks Kracht which points he and Tip need 152 153 input on from the council. Tip asks the council if they agree with the thematic approach they took in writing 154 the year plan, instead of putting deadlines on potential FSR plans. Senchi responds that she really likes this 155 approach because this focuses on the year as a whole. Tip elaborates that it has an element of practicality 156 as well because as the FSR we must be reactive to a certain degree, sometimes we do not get to make the 157 discourse or decide the important discussion topics. Senchi adds that we can also not predict when certain 158 topics will be important. For example, when it's Black History Month or Pride Month, we know it can be a 159 good time to focus on diversity- but other subjects cannot be taken into consideration similarly. Kracht asks 160 the council to give more input on the subject of unions in the year plan, besides inventorying what unions 161 there are and how to contact them. Kracht already came up with an idea of looking at small projects that 162 the FSR can organize where we can collaborate with the unions. Kracht also asks for more input on the

163points regarding decolonization. It is a slippery concept, also taking into account the current situation in164Palestine and Israel. Kracht would like the council to think about the definition of the concept and how we165can implement it. Hybrid education is another point the FSR could do something material for. Kracht, Tip,166Heijnis, and Senchi will set up a separate meeting to look at the year plan more in-depth [ACTIONPOINT].

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168 9. Orientating: OV-preparation: speaker division (15 min) (attachment: 1)

The FSR the preparation for the OV and speakers for the OV.

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171 Senchi explains that the official preparation for the OV will be next week. Before this official preparation it 172 is good to divide speaker roles so they can come prepared to the next PV. Our technical chair for the OV will 173 be Zazie van Dorp. The minutes of the previous OV are already in the folder. Senchi will be the speaker on 174 the minutes. The council will inform Senchi and Verhave of their presence at the OV by next week 175 [ACTIONPOINT]. Heijnis will be a speaker on the budget advice request. Benjamins will be the second 176 speaker for the agenda point on the budget. Senchi suggests this so he can input his knowledge of the central 177 level budget. Senchi will set up an OV-prep document [ACTIONPOINT]. Furthermore, we need two speakers 178 regarding the CoH part-time studies advice. Heijnis will be the second speaker. Kracht asks what point this 179 is about. Heijnis responds that it is the advice about part time bachelor studies. Senchi adds that the faculty 180 wants to scrap a lot of part time studies and they're not sure if they will want to bring them back. Kracht 181 offers to be the speaker, but he is not sure if he can be present during the OV. Senchi suggests for him to 182 write the critique and communicate that to Van Kasteel [ACTIONPOINT]. On the agenda point of social 183 safety Senchi will be the first speaker and Benjamins will be the second speaker. Benjamins asks Senchi if 184 it's still a good idea for him to be a second speaker on the budget agenda point as he does not have time to 185 formulate questions. Heijnis responds that the deadline for the budget is later, but they already scheduled 186 the discussion for the OV. So, we will discuss what we can discuss because the timeline is very tight. Senchi 187 says that she will also be a shadow speaker during the budget agenda point and will help formulating 188 questions as she will be present for the budget meeting later today. She thinks having Benjamins as a second 189 speaker on the budget is a good idea because if the board starts referring to the central budget he will know 190 how to respond. Van Eck offers to plan a separate meeting to discuss the budget of the last two years. As he 191 things the budget will be quite similar. Senchi asks if he can then also prepare some input for the 192 preparation during next week's PV. The next agenda point is the bestuurlijke agenda which includes all the 193 topics that we will be discussing this year. Senchi suggests Tip to take this subject as it is like a year plan of 194 the board. During this we can suggest adding topics to the agenda or skipping topics. Then there are the 195 updates on CoH, GSH and WIB. Senchi will be the speaker on these points. They do not have a stance on 196 WIB yet because they do not know what will happen yet. Once they will put out communication about this 197 the council can start giving their input.

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199 **10.** Deciding: Israel and Palestine conflict (20 min) (attachment: 4)

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Kracht and Tip prepared three different statements. Kracht introduces the three different statements and
the different levels of critique. As the standard time of the meeting has run out, Heijnis suggests extending
the meeting. Heijnis takes over as the chair of the meeting and Senchi leaves the meeting,

The FSR discusses the potential response from the FSR on the UvA communication.

205Tip and Kracht will refine the draft and there will be an email vote sent out. Tip explains that the current206statements are all drafts, and they will still need to be finalized. The first statement is the most critical,207where we ask for an explicit denunciation of the State of Israel as a colonial settler state, considering the





208 conflict that has been ongoing for the past 70 years. In this statement there is criticism of how the university 209 is presenting this conflict, making a reference to how they engaged in the Ukraine/Russia conflict. The 210 second statement is less critical. The statement is denouncing the violence on both sides. The third 211 statement is the most centrist according to Kracht. It basically copies the statement made by the CvB which 212 says we mourn the losses of life and wish for the violence not to continue. This statement does not take on 213 any political position. Heijnis asks the council if they want to make a statement in general. Tip finds it hard 214 to say because there is a conflict between acting as a political party and acting as the student council. He is 215 not against a statement in any case. Van Eck thinks that the statement is necessary now. Especially because 216 the fDB has now sent an email to all students regarding the conflict, the faculty has made a statement, so it 217 has become a faculty issue. Prins finds it difficult because he read the minutes of last week and saw that 218 there is a feeling of unsafety among students who study Hebrew and Arabic. Politically he is for a statement 219 but as a faculty-student council, he thinks student well-being and social safety should be our main priority. 220 Therefore, Prins says we should be careful with the statement if we want to have one. He suggests that 221 instead of making our own statement we can announce support for a certain statement or denounce a 222 certain statement. Van Beersum says if we take into account safety, this is actually an argument for having 223 a statement as the FSR. This is because Israel is committing genocide and the UvA is supportive of that 224 because it has ties with Israeli universities that have a big hand in the occupation and other institutions. 225 Van Beersum says the CvB has come out against the BDS movement and has said that the pro-Palestinian 226 chants are dangerous, anti-Semitic, and calling for violence. Furthermore, they have asked security to be on 227 the lookout for pro-Palestinian students. Van Beersum concluded that if we are in favour of student safety, 228 we should demand the faculty to speak out but ask them to cut their ties. Krach agrees with the points made 229 by Van Beersum. He also responds to Prins that the second statement, explicitly calls for assuring student 230 safety. Kracht, Benjamins, Heijnis, and Berg are all in favour of making a statement. Prins responds to an 231 earlier point of Kracht and says that we could include in the statement that students should be respectful 232 to each other. Jewish or Israeli students also could have lost family members, which does not mean we are 233 pro-Israel or anti-Palestine, but to emphasize the respectfulness of the students among each other. Kracht 234 responds that he feels that Prins is aiming at the idea that Jewish students might feel unsafe because they 235 attach anti-Semitic potentiality to the critique of the State of Israel. He continues that we can be very explicit 236 in the statement that any critique of the State of Israel is not on par with any form of anti-Semitism. Tip 237 adds that the nature of the conflict is not religious perse, and it's usually framed that way to employ 238 equivalency between the groups and their "irreconcilable differences", and thus explain the violence. Even 239 though this is not the cause of this conflict. Prins responds to both Kracht and Tip that religion does play an 240 important part in this conflict, and it is hard to take away the religious connotations in the conflict. He 241 elaborates that he thinks it is important to emphasize that students have lost family members or friends, 242 on both sides of the conflict. Thus, the statement should emphasize respectfulness to individuals who have 243 lost friend or family.

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245 Verhave asks if the discussion can be concluded with a decision as she needs to leave soon. Kracht suggests 246 the council to choose between the different statements and then they will make an edited version including 247 the comments of the council. Tip chooses version one and would like to work together with Kracht on 248 reworking the statement. Van Eck is in favour of the most critical statement. Prins is in favour of the first 249 statement, or in between the first and the second - taking into account his earlier comments. Kracht says 250 he is veering off into position two as he finds it difficult not to denounce the violence that happened on the 251 7th of October. Van Beersum is in favour of the first statement. He suggests adding the concrete demand of 252 the university cutting ties with Israeli universities and institutions that support the occupation. He is not in 253 favour of using frames like "the conflict" or "feelings of unsafety" as it is an occupation and as the university

254	has mainly acted on Pro-Palestine students. There also have not been any concrete antisemitic incidents
255	happening at the university, but the pro-Palestine protest was already considered unsafe by the university
256	Benjamins is also in favour of the first statement. He would also like to add a part about the protest that
257	took place last Friday, as the police were called, and the doors were closed. Berg is also more aligned with
258	the critical approach and the statement being critical of the university as an institution. He adds that the
259	university should be a safe space to have these conversations. Heijnis is in favour of a statement in betweer
260	statements one and two. He wants to make a clear statement that anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism. He
261	also says that making a very radical statement might create a situation of high tension at the faculty. As we
262	have both Arabic studies and Hebrew studies at our faculty. Heijnis says we should condemn mostly Israe
263	both also condemn Hamas even though he does think Israel is the main offender in this conflict. Var
264	Beersum responds that once the university starts to have relations with Hamas, we can say something
265	about it, but the university does have relations with a country that is actively committing genocide. Heijnis
266	summarizes the arguments made by all council members. Kracht says that he will probably make two or
267	three concept drafts again including these points so the council can vote on them. Heijnis thanks the counci
268	for staying longer.
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270	11. PR of the Week (5 min)
271	The FSR discusses what they want to share on social media this week.
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273	12. Final points and closing
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275	The PV closes at 13:24.
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