**HDCA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**November 16, 2021**

**5:00 pm UK**

**Present:** Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Melis Cin, Tom de Herdt, Jay Drydyk, Giulia Greco, Carmen Martinez Vargas, Ann Mitchell, Sophie Mitra, Sammia Poveda, Ingrid Robeyns, Jack Simpson, Graciela Tonon, Elaine Unterhalter, Melanie Walker

**Chair:** Jay Drydyk

1. **2022 conference**
   1. The call for proposals was distributed. Parallel sessions will be either in person or online, not both; in-person parallel sessions will be held Sept. 21-22 and online parallel sessions on Sept. 22. Those attending in Antwerp can participate in the online sessions. Plenaries will be offered both in person and online. On Sept. 22, there will be plenaries and a general meeting, plus a closing session in person. When submitting a paper, people will indicate whether they want to present in person or online.
   2. Registration fees are pretty much fixed, with possible minor modifications. Deadlines remain the same.
   3. Thematic group and regional network meetings will be organized by the groups and could happen either online or in person.
   4. The issue of sustainability and environmental impact was discussed. Those who can afford it could be encouraged to offset carbon emissions. Ingrid will initiate a discussion on Timber about how one should reason if one wants to attend a conference in person. We will include a link to the blog post in the HDCA newsletter and keep discussion going for a week.
   5. The call for proposals was approved unanimously.
2. **2023 Conference**
   1. Prospective hosts for the 2023 conference were discussed. A proposal from an organization in Bulgaria is expected and will be discussed at the January EC meeting.
3. **Report on Ethical investing**
   1. Issue of ethical investing was raised at the last EC meeting and subsequently the HDCA Finance Committee met with our investment manager at First Republic.
   2. Many more options are now available for ethical fund investments than in 2016 when we first invested. First Republic suggests a shift to Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) funds, which use criteria to evaluate the companies they invest in, such as a company’s energy use, waste, and pollution. Social covers topics such as gender and diversity, community relations, human rights, and labor standards. Governance refers to ethical standards for running a company. A variety of metrics are used to evaluate the extent of ESG of those funds. The change should not be too detrimental to returns.
   3. All are broadly in favor of shifting investments to ESG funds. Decision to defer further discussion to a future meeting when Ann can bring back additional information on options.
4. **Proposal for Global Dialogue video recordings**
   1. A proposal was made to contact all organizers of Global Dialogue sessions to ask if it’s okay to make recordings available to the public on YouTube. All agreed to proceed with this plan.
5. **Proposal for podcast/films**
   1. A proposal was presented to create short introductory podcasts and videos about the capability approach and human development approach, as well repurpose some of the webinars that HDCA groups have done in the past. Consensus that having more accessible resources is good and that there is a need balance between dissemination of concepts and providing a clear understanding of the topics. Important to include references to articles and other sources for further learning.
   2. It was agreed to authorize up to US$1000 to do some trial podcasts.
6. **Regional Network and Thematic Group issues**
   1. Discussion deferred to next meeting.
7. **AOB–** 
   1. None
8. **Next meeting**
   1. Will be held the tweek of Jan. 17

Minutes submitted by Kathy Rosenblum