

Economic Faculty association Rotterdam

Policy document 59th EFR Board

2022 – 2023



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1. Introduction

With this document, the 59th board of the Economic Faculty association Rotterdam (EFR) presents her policy for the academic year of 2022-2023. This document explains what the ideas and plans are for pillars of EFR, namely study support, inspirational events, and platform to connect and develop. For each pillar, we explain what goals EFR has for next year. We want to thank the 58th board for their time, knowledge, and support in the transition period. This greatly accelerated the transition process and improved our understanding of EFR's operations. Finally, we are grateful for the connection with and support of Erasmus School of Economics, which has lasted for 98 years until now.

2. General

EFR has been organising events for almost 100 years to give students the best experience next to their studies. We value the strong support we get from Erasmus School of Economics with organising these events. This year, we want to focus on the community next to enriching our members' studies. More specifically, we want to focus on getting EFR more sustainable, more diverse, and more involved in Rotterdam. Furthermore, we want to help increase the mental health of our members. By recruiting our members for committees, we hope to give them ample opportunities to develop themselves.

2.1 Sustainability

We want to thank the previous board for their efforts to make EFR CO₂ neutral. Upcoming year we want to strengthen the foundation they laid. We firstly reduce our footprint by only offering vegetarian lunches and making the vegetarian option the default at dinners like Committee Member Gala. Secondly, we actively motivate our committees to opt for green travel solutions by demanding at least one train or bus alternative for trips within Europe. Third, when ordering goodies for promotional purposes the quantity, quality and environmental footprint will be taken into consideration as to limit useless consumption. When we do consider distributing a goody the usefulness will be leading.

2.2 Diversity and Inclusion

The parttime and fulltime committee members should be a good representation of the Economics and IBEB students at the university. Therefore, we will research the student population and make sure we are accessible and interesting for all students, e.g. people with different migration backgrounds and queer people. Also, we want the recruitment marketing to reach a student population as diverse as possible.

EFR is already becoming more and more international, which can be seen in our part-time committee members, of which a great deal consists of international students. Therefore, we want to make sure the fulltime boards are also accessible for international students. We want to actively research which barriers are higher for international students to apply for full-time committees and how we can lower them.

2.3 Community

Giving back to Rotterdam is important to us. To manifest this our MOVE committee will organise a social project with primary school children from an underprivileged neighbourhood in Rotterdam. Next to this there will be room for initiatives that positively impact society or create awareness on contemporary issues.

2.4 Recruitment

2.4.1 Full-time recruitment

It is important to us that we give a clear image during the full-time recruitment process of what every position and function holds. This year we want to expand our information channels by making recruitment videos. In a video, you get to see 'a day in the life of..' or an interview with someone in a current position. We want to give a clear expectation of what each position entails and want to make students excited about applying for a full-time position at EFR. Furthermore, we want to make sure that students are well-prepared for their interview. We will achieve this by sending them an email with all the information they need to be fully prepared and confident for the interview. This document will explain the STARR-method of interviewing and will also give some helpful tips.

It is important that our recruitment process for the next EFR board goes as smoothly as possible for both EFR and the applicants. That is why we want to review the process of the second-round interviews. We want to make sure that the time is used efficiently, and that the applicant is not asked the same questions twice or has to solve two almost identical cases. Furthermore, we think it is important that the module gets appointed to the person most fit for the position. That is why we want to remove the motivation letter for the modules and instead want to appoint modules to applicants based on their interviews, looking at their qualities and points of improvement.

2.4.2 Well-being committee

Due to the high interest for committees, we want to see if there is room to increase the number of committees. This way, EFR can help more students with their personal development and more activities for members can be

organised. After the COVID crisis, mental health issues have gone up. Therefore, we think a well-being committee could be beneficial for our members. Hence, we want to set up and recruit the EFR well-being committee.

2.5 Relationship Erasmus School of Economics

Erasmus School of Economics is a very important partner of EFR. We highly value our collaboration and feel very supported. To make sure our relationship stays strong, we plan on keeping Erasmus School of Economics up to date with our activities. We aim to organise two events with the staff of Erasmus School of Economics to keep them informed and strengthen our bond.

2.6 Data

With a board that switches every year, a lot of knowledge is lost during the transition period. To make sure this loss of knowledge is minimised, we want to collect more data this year. With this data we also hope to improve our strategy, focussing on the marketing strategy and the number of events.

3. Study support

As EFR, we want to help students with getting their degree. We aim to help them in different ways. With the iBuddy program, we hope to help international students to feel welcome in their new city, to start their studies with confidence. By providing high-quality summaries, our members can study more efficiently. For master students we offer different Master Study Boards. This year, we aim to increase the number of events that they organise to enrich the student life of our master students even further.

3.1 Summaries

Our educational pillar is important to us and a large part of our members profit from the summaries that EFR provides them with. This year we want to expand our offer with summaries for major and master courses, starting with the ones that have a lot of participants. As these are for students closer to their graduation, we expect companies to sponsor this project in exchange for exposure.

3.2 iBuddy Program

The iBuddy program is in great demand, with a growing number of international students coming to study at Erasmus School of Economics. The iBuddy program can play a larger role in helping students to settle in Rotterdam, by providing them with information about moving to Rotterdam next to the iBuddy mentor program and other events.

3.3 Master Study Boards (MSBs)

We want to aim for each Master Study Board to organise events every block to enrich the student life of our master students. The MSBs should strive to organise a minimum of one social and one professional event every year. The idea is that the MSBs organise activities for the students of their own masters.

4. Inspirational events

Next to supporting students, we also want to inspire them. This is done via inspirational events such as the EFR Inspiration Days. This year, we aim to bring great speakers to campus from different sectors to talk about their road to success.

4.1 General

EFR organises many events with big differences in popularity. To make sure the events still fit with the wishes of our members, every event should be evaluated. This evaluation will be done via strategic sessions after the event. By doing this, we hope to put all our effort in events that are popular with our members.

4.2 EFR Inspiration Days

The EFR Inspiration Days is a great event, but the number of participating students needs to increase. Therefore, we want to shorten the program so the threshold to participate becomes lower.

5. Platform to connect and develop

We want to ensure that EFR members and committee members have ample opportunities to learn about skills that are not taught in ordinary lectures. Workshops and trainings will be offered via EFR Academy to reach this goal.

5.1 EFR Academy

One of our goals as EFR is to help improve the skills of our committee members. The medium for us to achieve this is the EFR Academy. The EFR Academy offers helpful workshops and trainings, for example a presentation workshop or a writing training. We aim to create an option on the website for committee members to see how many and which trainings and committees they have done in the past, so they have an eye on their progress.