

## **EAPS 18<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 2022 and PopTalks**

The 18<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of EAPS was a virtual event that took place on 7 December 2022 from 15.00 – 16.30 hrs CET. The Assembly was attended by some 55 members and was chaired by EAPS President Hill Kulu. All members had received for information a Letter from the President as well as a Report on EAPS Activities in the 2020-2022 period.

Immediately following the General Assembly, 2 PopTalks were held by 2022 EAPS Laureates Tomas Sobotka and Melinda Mills respectively.

In his Opening and Welcome, Hill reiterated the very successful European Population Conference 2022 in Groningen, The Netherlands, thanking the organizers. He also stated that the Council would continue to work on priorities like promoting diversity and inclusion, and added that also training the next generation of demographers would be a priority, as well as supporting our Ukrainian colleagues.

Secretary-General and Treasurer Anna Matysiak then presented some highlights of the preceding 2 years. Anna mentioned among others the recently launched new Working Groups Infertility and Medically Assisted Reproduction and the EAPS Parent Network. Of special interest was the announcement that as of January 2023 the European Journal of Population, which is published by Springer Nature under the auspices of EAPS, will be fully Open Access. Kudos were for the EJP editorial team led by Editor-in-chief Trude Lappegård. Promoting equal access to the Journal for all members is a Council priority. Anna also confirmed that the next European Population Conference will convene in Edinburgh in 2024, the exact dates to be determined shortly.

### **Honorary President**

Mentioning her many contributions to EAPS over a long period of time and culminating in her 2020-2022 Presidency, Hill then proposed on behalf of the EAPS Council to elect Helga de Valk as new EAPS Honorary President; the General Assembly elected Helga by acclamation.

### **Nominating Committee**

To prepare the Council elections of 2024, the General Assembly also elected a new Nominating Committee. Executive Director Nico van Nimwegen explained that this committee consists of 5 members whose task is to propose a slate of candidates who will run in the elections. The newly elected 2022-2024 Nominating Committee will be chaired by outgoing EAPS President Helga de Valk (The Netherlands) and will further consist of Francesco Billari (Italy), Jane Falkingham (United Kingdom), Irena Kotowska (Poland) and Mariona Lozano (Spain).

### **Auditors**

Nico then thanked the 2020-2022 Auditors Clara Cortina (Spain) and Jasmin Passet-Wittig (Germany) for having audited the financial accounts of EAPS, noting that Jasmin kindly stepped in for her colleague Robert Naderi who for health reasons was not able to do the audit, and wishing Robert all the best. At the proposal of the Council, the General Assembly then appointed Jasmin Passet-Wittig and Frank Heins (Italy) as new Auditors.

## **Closing and PopTalks**

After closing the General Assembly, Hill introduced the 2 keynote speakers of the EAPS PopTalks.

Tomas Sobotka, 2022 laureate of the Dirk J. van de Kaa Award for Social Demography, spoke on **“Fertility Shifts and Surprises in the last Decade: Putting the Pieces Together”**.

Melinda Mills, 2022 laureate of the James W. Vaupel Trailblazer Award for Demographic Analysis spoke on **“Blazing the Trail on the study of the Biodemography of Fertility, and getting burnt along the way”**.

EAPS Secretariat, December 2022