



EGU Newsletter 1/2022

April 2022

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Editors note

On the EGU website <http://www.glidingunion.eu> you find a lot of useful information. If you have forgotten the password to the internal section, please contact EGU.

A report by the President

Arild Solbakken



The 2022 EGU annual conference was planned to be held, courtesy of the Norwegian Gliding Federation, in Oslo 26th February. However, due to the continued Covid situation, with the uncertainties in relation to the Omicron development, it was decided to hold a virtual MS Teams meeting also this time. The System worked well and there were no connection problems. The agenda was completed smoothly, and we had a good attendance also this year.

Patrick Naegeli had announced his resignation from his position as EGU President by the end of the EGU General Meeting 2022. He retired from the Executive Board after having served for 10 years as president. Patrick has led the EGU in a particularly critical time for the gliding community, a period where the most basic legislation and regulations for our activities,

airworthiness and maintenance, safety, training, licensing and operation have been defined and implemented.

The efforts made by EAS and EGU during this period have been imperative for the results, and I take this opportunity to thank Patrick for managing the efforts by EGU this period. We are very grateful for the efforts laid down by him and the results achieved by EGU under his leadership. EGU has a tradition for honoring persons who have served the organization well and demonstrated good results, and at the end of the Congress, Patrick Naegeli was appointed Honorary President.

I was elected new president for the term 2022-2024. Let me be clear that my motivation is highly influenced indeed, by the results the EGU have achieved so far, and that there are more issues to be dealt with to secure the future of the gliding community and its activities. It should be recognised that, if it had not been for the EAS and EGU, the new regulations would have been less favourable for the gliding community than what was implemented recently.

The work in EGU has for many years principally been focused on airworthiness, licensing, and operational regulations. Now the focus has shifted and there will be more emphasis on future airspace and interoperability, safety, medical regulations, environment, diversity, and inclusion. The EGU members have endorsed work

programmes in each area, which will form the basis for our work going forward. I see no reason to change policy here.

Where we see the need for strengthening our position is the interaction with our member states, who have agreed to support the EGU Executive Board by providing dedicated points of contact and expertise. We are very grateful for the support we have received, but all work streams are reporting difficulties to get the desired attention and support when it comes to specific expertise. We strongly believe, that in this period of implementation of new regulations and development of new areas, both the EGU and the member states would benefit from even closer cooperation. I would therefore challenge each representative to assist in finding Point of Contacts with the relevant expertise for the respective work streams.

My EGU Board colleagues and I would like to express our gratitude to all EGU members for their continued support, input, and counsel. In cooperation with you, we have established a work programme for EGU, and we look forward to working closely with all EGU members on each item, and any other issues which needs to be added to the EGU's task list in the future.

We sincerely hope the pandemic now is coming to its end. We also hope that the conflict in the Eastern Europe will come to an end soon, and that it will not impact directly on the activities of EGU members.

Stay healthy, stay safe.



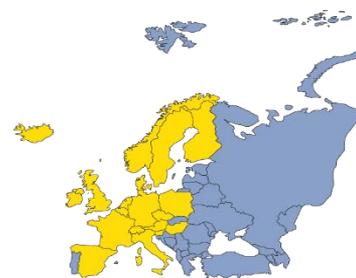
EGU Congress 2022

Mika Mutru, Gen Sec



It was second time we were forced to cancel our initial plan for having the Annual General Meeting of EGU - Congress 2022 - in Oslo, Norway due to long lasted Covid-19 pandemic. A virtual meeting hosted by EGU was held instead, with a very good attendance by 19 Full Member nations present by 18 delegates and 1 observer, and by 2 Associate Members: Soaring Association of Canada and the Vintage Glider Club. In addition to concentrating on those compulsory annual administrative items of our Union, Presidential Elections took place. Mr. Arild Solbakken from Norway was elected as the new EGU President for the next three years term-of-office (2022-24). Patrick Naegeli (UK), after his 10 years excellent service as President of EGU, was nominated as a Honorary President.

As mentioned to Delegates and attendees at the Congress, the EGU has a plan for organizing a physical technical seminar for considering technical gliding topics by EGU's key work streams later in 2022. Exact date and place not yet fixed. For the next year, EGU Congress was scheduled - for a face-to-face meeting - on Saturday 25th February 2023 in Oslo, Norway.



EGU members (yellow)

Part-66L recency issues

TO AW&M Henrik Svensson



In due time I will invite all Point-of-Contacts (PoC) for EGU Workstream Airworthiness and Maintenance to a first virtual meeting.

We though still lack several potential members in this group, so I kindly remind once again to nominate PoC's for this group.

One of our ongoing tasks in A&M is about 66L recency. We still need to gain more information how many valid 66L license holders we have among our EGU members so we can inform EASA that there are many 66L holders that may lose the validity of their licenses in a short time which will affect our community in a negative way. Therefore, I wish to collect more information regarding 66L and reports on how many glider technicians that have converted to a 66L license in various EU countries.

I look forward to seeing more members of A&W, send an email to me for nomination.

Airspace & Interoperability

TO A&I Andreas Peus & Claus Cordes



For the Airspace & Interoperability workstream, the highest priority remains the task of monitoring the development of U-Space rulemaking and minimising possible negative impacts on gliding. To this purpose, we will maintain our cooperation with EAS.

As decided during the EGU Airspace Group meeting, we recently held a virtual meeting where we were able to inform the participants

about current developments. Likewise, the participants were able to report on their ongoing work. They also exchanged advice on how to deal with certain challenges. As hoped, this format seems to be well suited to support the work of the airspace experts of the member associations with little time and effort. Therefore, after three months - in July - we will offer another meeting for this purpose

Flight Safety

TO Safety Bernard Hautesserres & Ted Richards



The safety workstream has continued with its early plan which is focused on two main activities. The first activity, which underpins our programme of work, has been to build the network of contacts within the EGU member states and with other important groups and entities involved in safety. The second is to gather ideas on how to promote safety, together with an understanding of what are the most important themes on which there should be an initial focus. Several meetings of the slowly expanding group have taken place on-line and we would welcome representatives from many more member and affiliates so that we can expand the range of discussion. Those discussions, and associated ideas and themes, have ranged widely from what might be considered theory, in terms of accurately categorizing accidents and incidents, to very practical activities associated with national safety initiatives. As a first step it is intended to bring these together via a page on the EGU's own website to provide a growing database of links to these many and varied safety-related initiatives throughout the EGU.

In addition to this planned work, we unexpectedly received an invitation from EASA to participate in a series of events they are running under the general theme of "Season Openers". The time to plan our input was quite short and a relatively simple format for a one-hour on-line session was

developed. It consisted of a structured discussion between four members of the EGU Board against a backdrop of relevant slides. In the discussion we briefly introduced and commented on a very wide range of considerations which all pilots should think about as the season gets underway. These included preparing the glider and its ground equipment, preparing the pilot, and reflecting on the various phases of flight and associated safety implications. The session was broadcast live on the evening of Wednesday 23 March and a recording is available via EASA's You Tube channel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_3Ogd--3U&t=3219s. We believe that this presentation was well received by the several hundred people who had registered for the event and there was a large number of very positive and relevant comments posted in the various chats. We very much look forward to continuing this important engagement with EASA into the future. It opens up very important access to spreading the safety message with a particular emphasis on the challenges of gliding, but it also acts as very useful publicity for the EGU itself.

Part SFCL

Mika Mutru & Ole Gellert Anderssen



In early December 2021 Members of EGU were requested to nominate their specialists (i.e. national Point-of-Contacts, PoC) for creating a network to support the work stream for glider pilot licensing and training topics. By now 9 nations have joined to this WS by nominating their PoC, namely: BE, DE, DK, ES, FI, IT, LX, NO and SE. The work stream is led by Ole Gellert Andersen and Mika Mutru from the Executive Board and first meeting (a virtual one) was held in early April. After fruitful discussions round the table, the first target was set for collecting more precise information on how theory examinations for SPL are arranged/available in practice. Next meeting is planned for mid-May for comparing national theory examination system practices and seeking if there are well functioning

European Gliding Union

c/o FFVP – Aérodrôme de Château-Arnoux Saint-Auban – F-04600 CHATEAU-ARNOUX – France

examples that could be copied by others too. EGU Members who have not yet nominated their PoC for this WS are welcomed to do so by contacting to General Secretary.

Environment

Robert Danewid



The future for gliding is for sure electrical! Electrical SSG/SLG, winches and tugs and towing cars.

And the manufacturers are fast turning out electrical equipment. Look here for a summary of electrical gliders:

<https://www.e-segelflug.de/?fbclid=IwAR2mkcdfDXF5pmZRckApN42lQtlKmAdyydmrB-Na7bSFNPD9mmoASgQ6rKU>

EGU started a project last year about designing an electrical winch. This project has now been overtaken by the industry. We are instead monitoring the market, as an example the German winch

<http://www.startwinde.de/startseite.html>

And Skylaunch in the UK is also working on a similar winch.

EGU is trying to collect information on the development and establish contact with el manufacturers. The Nordic Gliding Magazine is in the forefront of this. It contains so far 70 articles on the subject of el gliding, even towing cars for glider trailers

<https://nordicgliding.com/category/elektro/>

We are also working on a strategy for gliding, "A Net-zero Footprint Gliding". Inputs are welcome!

EGU is trying to establish a list of "point of contacts" that can help collect, spread information and give inputs.

Do you have someone in your “ranks” that are interested and/or has knowledge about this – you do not have to be an expert as long as you are interested? Please send contact details to EGU.

Diversity

Robert Danewid

One of the workstreams in EGU is about diversity, equality and club development. This is for sure a crucial area for the future and the survival of our sport. I also realize that this is an extremely difficult topic. We always discuss it at club level, but never seem to be able to do anything about it.

However, when EGU ran its club development in 2012-2015 a lot of useful information emerged. And they can be found in the two proceedings from the 2012 and 2013 workshops, which can be found on the EGU website.

My opinion is that EGU at the European level can not run specific projects on this matter, but we can try to collect information on good and successful examples and make them available to all our members.

One such example is the upcoming Womens World Gliding Championships in the UK this upcoming August.

<https://wwgc2022.co.uk/>

<https://wwgc2022.co.uk/stem/>

<https://womengliding.co.uk/>



On the EGU website you can find the proceedings from the Club Development project we ran in 2012-2014. Here you can find a lot of interesting stuff. Highly recommended!

<https://glidingunion.eu/index.php/internal-section/> and click on EGU workshop reports.



We need “point of contacts” among our members to set up a network that can help us collect good ideas!

Do you have someone in your “ranks” that are interested and/or has knowledge about this – you do not need to be an expert as long as you are interested? Please send contact details to EGU.

EGU website

Have you visited our website?

<https://glidingunion.eu/>

A lot of information.



The EGU is the association of European Gliding Federations or Gliding Sections of National Aero Clubs.

Its aim is to represent the interests of all glider pilots in Europe with respect to regulatory affairs.

EGU monitors the developments in European aviation regulation and when necessary, takes action to prevent unfavourable or even dangerous rules affecting our sport from being set up.

The EGU currently counts 21 full members and represents more than 80,000 glider pilot