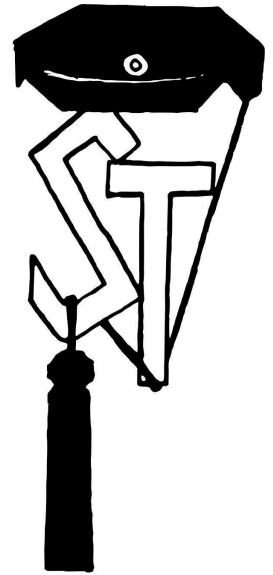


Samfundsmøte

23. april 2025 kl. 18

*Presidential election ISFiT
2027*

Decision protocol



1. The meeting is in session

The meeting is in session at 18:11

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with acclamation.

3. Information from the board

The board wants to inform Storsalen of the following.

We had our last Styresuppe before the easter break, and Birk has selected his board. The new board will formally be approved at the upcoming general meeting for next week.

The board has nothing else to inform you about.

4. Political five

5. Introduction by Aurora Kolstad

Ærede Storsal, my name is Aurora, and I am a member.

Two years ago, I stood right here and was elected President of ISFiT25. It was a scary—but very exciting—day. It marked the beginning of a journey that culminated just about a month ago, when students from all over the world gathered here in Trondheim.

As president, in short, you're responsible for creating an international student festival here at Samfundet. The goal is to promote international student culture and enhance understanding across cultural, political, and academic boundaries.

As you are here today, you probably already know the gist of this, but I want to demystify some aspects of being president, so let's talk a bit about what goes into it, at least to me.

First and foremost, the president leads the Board. The Board, that of ISFiT25 you see here, consists of a vice president or presidents, and the section leaders—each with very different responsibilities tied to the festival.

Together, the Board lays the groundwork that allows all the projects to flourish and run (somewhat) smoothly. This means budgeting, creating guidelines, and making sure we're all moving in the same direction.

The continuous meetings and follow-ups with the Board are, well, probably the only consistent part of the two-year term. But you're also leading a vast, ever-changing, and vibrant organization of amazing volunteers. While there will be challenges, one of the most important parts of my job was to fuel that engagement—to be a door opener.

And that door doesn't just open inward to support your own teams —it also opens outward. Because as president, you don't just lead internally; you represent ISFiT externally, in several important forums and networks.

You're the point of contact for the founders of ISFiT, which you see here, and a gjengsjef at Samfundet. And sometimes being a door opener means going to external meetings, networking, or partaking in a panel discussion with Espen Barth Eide, which was one of my highlights.

A lot of people might believe that this [picture] is primarily what presidents do in terms of representation, but believe me when I say that it more of this [picture]. If you're not feeling warm on stage yet, just know that I wasn't either. But that part can be learned.

Finally, I also want to draw some light onto what makes ISFiT different and what is essentially at the core of the engagement. And that is the international aspect. Yes, that means getting random WhatsApp messages from all over the world - this one I got today. But at its heart, it's about people meeting people.

I believe that in a time of conflict and tensions throughout the world, we have to ask ourselves: why do we do really this? Why do we believe in cross cultural experiences and unity across borders? That is not always clear until you meet the participants during ISFiT, but I hope for this election, as I hope for every gathering here in Storsalen, that we dare to also take the look outwards into the world - with our topics and with our questions today.

Being president also means building the organization almost from scratch. That gives you the chance to explore new directions and projects. I've made quite a few wrong turns—some I'll warn the next president about, others I think everyone should go through. Either way, the festival keeps moving forward, and the president handles new challenges every single week.

And now, here we are - election day.

Some of you have been to many of these elections. For others, it might be your first, or at least first one in English. I want to encourage you to ask questions that bring out the best in the candidates—but also questions that help us see what thoughts and ideas they have now, and how they'll grow into the role.

I hope we get some questions that touch on the big-picture vision for the festival. Because the nitty-gritty of how to lead an organization or run a festival - that can be learned. What we're really electing is a direction, a mindset, and a person that is willing to guide both.

And of course, this election is special because we also choose a theme. From my experience, the theme will not be fully defined today—it's shaped by hundreds of volunteers who'll leave their mark on it in the years to come. But the direction starts right here today.

So in conclusion, you have the power to shape the future of ISFiT.

I'm already deeply moved by the volunteers who have stepped forward to announce their candidacy today. Just having the courage to stand up here speaks volumes about your passion and commitment. Wishing both of you the very best of luck!

And with that, I wish you all: godt valg.

6. Opening speech

Adina:

Ærede Storsal,

I've been thinking a lot about the word *resilience*.

It's one of those words that sounds strong — unshakeable, almost heroic. But in real life? It often looks more like showing up tired. Holding on. Saying "I'm fine" when you're not. Sometimes, resilience isn't loud at all. Sometimes it's just... surviving. And surviving can be messy. Boring. Exhausting.

But it's also powerful. Because there's something quietly radical about choosing to keep going — especially when the world around you is falling apart. And still — surviving is not the end goal, is it? We're not meant to just exist in crisis mode forever. So at some point we have to ask: *When do we move from surviving... to actually thriving?*

We live in a time where crisis has become background noise.

But for millions, crisis is not a moment. It's not a breaking point.

It's the entire landscape of their lives. And yet... They continue. They resist. They *survive*. That's resilience. But is resilience enough?

They tried to bury us, but they didn't know we were seeds.

That quote has lived with me as I've prepared for this. Because it reminds me that

surviving is not passive. It's not weakness. It's power. But even seeds — resilient as they are — deserve sunlight. So let's ask: When do we move from surviving... to thriving? From holding our breath... to breathing deeply again? From being reactive... to being revolutionary?

During the pandemic, we all got a taste of what it means to shrink our lives down to survival. To live in waiting. To adapt. Some of us had the privilege of bouncing back. Others are still trying.

And in the middle of all that, a different kind of resilience emerged.
Not heroic. Not perfect.
But honest. Human. Shared.

Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good.

That's the kind of resilience I believe ISFiT can hold space for.
Not just individual strength, but collective resistance.
A space where we don't ask: "How do we go back?"
But instead: "How do we grow forward?"

Because ISFiT is not a bubble. It's not a retreat.
It's a meeting place — for truth. For voices that are often ignored.
For connection, even when the world feels broken.

My name is Adina Wattum, and this is my candidacy for President of ISFiT 27 because I believe in creating that kind of space. A space where young people can speak, organize, create.

A space that doesn't just mirror the world as it is — but insists on imagining the world as it *should* be. We may not be able to stop every war. Or heal every wound, but we *can* build something bold and brave — together. Because surviving isn't the end of the story. It's just the seed. Thriving — that's the revolution. And it starts here. With ISFiT 27. With this theme: Resilience – surviving and thriving in crisis.

Tusen takk og godt valg

Jon:

Ærede Storsal, My name is Jon and I am a member.

The world is changing. We can see it all around us. Superpowers are once again openly competing; old alliances are showing cracks and democracies are eroding. New technology is not only revolutionizing the way we work but also how we think and the very media we consume. The climate is growing increasingly more unpredictable and unstable, with more and more people being affected and displaced by it. With the theme "Changing Winds", I want ISFiT to focus on the changes that are happening around us now and look forwards to the ones that will happen in the future.

Because there will be changes in the future. It is an inevitable part of life. Changes - be they political, technological, or environmental - that will affect people around the globe. And, as is so often the case, those most vulnerable will bear the brunt of these "changing winds." These are the individuals who lose their homes when the global average temperature incrementally rises, or whose livelihoods vanish in the wake of a trade war. Tragically, these are often the very voices and perspectives that are most frequently overlooked in broader discussions about global change.

However, a wind does not necessarily have to be a cold northern wind, bringing hardship and difficulty. It can also be a warmer, southern wind, carrying with it the promise of renewal and growth. Similarly, change is not a solely negative concept. Change can also represent hope. A hope for a better world and a more equitable future. It is through change that we can strive to create a world that serves everyone. And to envision and build such a world, we must seek out and value a multitude of perspectives.

I have chosen "Changing Winds" in part due to my many thoughts about the topic. I want ISFiT to include discussions about shifting political tides, emerging technological trends and in a very literal sense, the changing winds that come due to climate change, to name a few.

But I have also chosen "Changing Winds" because it can cast a wide net. Let's not kid ourselves. It is limited how much a white male from Oslo can bring to the table with regards to the changes that are happening around us and how people are affected by it. With a broad theme for ISFiT, it can open for more perspectives and focus on some of the things I believe lies at the core of the festival: discussion and collaboration. Thank you.

7. Questioning of the candidates

The candidates are asked four quick statements where they will answer by holding up a red or a green paper.

- ISFiT27 should actively recruit more volunteers than ISFiT25
- ISFiT is primarily for the international participants traveling to Trondheim
- ISFiT27 should have fewer participants to be able to facilitate more travel support

Question that the candidates have been able to prepared for:

- What is your motivation when running for president of ISFiT27?

Questions from the audience

1. Lea: Who will you give the next student piece price?
2. Amel: How are you and in what way are you gonna make ISFiT for Trondheim?
3. Theo: What have you done wrong? Looking back at your time in ISFiT, have you done something wrong?

4. Rebekka: If you have to work with the other person's theme, what will you include?
5. Fredrik William: What are the biggest challenges the world sees today?
6. Julie: Do you have any idea of what kind of actions that you want to see in ISFiT27?
7. Frida: How do you plan to balance your responsibility as a president and with your study and personal life?
8. Mikkel: What changes do you want to improve that weren't there in ISFiT25, do you have any examples?
9. Kaia: If money wasn't the problem what project would you like to initiate?
10. Milda: What would you do for isfit27, how your characteristics might make it shine?

8. Break

9. Questioning of the candidates

Questions from the audience

1. Eivind: Time is a big concern. How much time in hours are you willing to dedicate in general?
2. Vilja: Do you have any thoughts of inviting participants from countries from Rusland or Israel?

Kasper: I will bench a new candidate: Ronja Smedby.

Ronja Smedby accepts the benching.

Ronja Smedby: Thank Kasper for benching me, of course very sudden. But I have, however, been a member twice. Loved my experience. It's been giving me a lot, that is why I accept the benching. I want to present my theme, which is under development. It is pride. How people see pride, love who you want. Pride symbolize respect, say what you want. What you want to do with that, Nice to share another side of pride as well. I appreciate the gay movement, and use it as something more also. It goes deeper that we take from it now.

3. Erika: The hosting situation can be stressful and chaotic. What concrete step will you take to improve the hosting arrangements, for the participants, host and for the volunteers?
4. Fredrik William: What political message of concern do you wish the participant will talk about, what is your political passion?
5. Amel: What does ISFiT bring to the world?

Frida: I would like to bench Julie Rose Godal

Julie Godal accepts the benching

Aurora: 5 extra questions!!

The board accepts

Julie Godal: I had other plans. But sitting here I could feel the ISFiT energy. So here I am. I will present my theme: Interconnections. It is a world that shows what ISFiT is, across countries, wars and big conflicts. Two times in ISFiT. I have seen this big way to come

together. People that never would be friends are now best friends. All of this is how ISFiT gathers everyone here in Trondheim. Still, we manage to come together and change things. We want to change something, learn. This is what ISFiT means to me, after three years. I have grown a lot and I think it is a big honour to have the opportunities to be here, and think what the next ISFiT could be. How can I, with other people, build something and give it to the world. Than you, godt valg!

6. Jenny: What is the weakness you have in yourself and that you also see in your theme?
7. Jens: How will you make sure that the festival is for great for us here, working at Samfundet everyday to make your festival come alive?
8. Kasper: Fuck marry kill culture, communication or participants?
9. Aurora: What values do you think are important for ISFiT27?
10. Henrik: Did you get any crazy ideas during ISFiT25, and how do you want to work with crazy ideas?
11. Fredrik William: Dilemma: You have to choose between: you have concern of the quality of the festival or you are concerned that the volunteers are being overworked. What do you prioritize?
12. Leif: What do you think of punching more in getting VISAs and what do you want to do?
13. Amel: What makes you different as a leader, compared to others in this election?
14. Mari Charlotte: How will you collaborate with Styret 15/26 or during the festival like politically, or through communication?
15. Mikkel: How would you approach a situation where a certain student group could not participate in ISFiT27 because some of the aspects of the festival would make them a target after the festival or because the country would deny them participation because of these chosen aspects?

10. Closing speech

Julie: Incredible opportunity and I'm feeling honoured to be here. From the last few ISFiTs I have been a part of, I have grown a lot as a person, as a leader, and a part of a global organisation changing the world. To face issues, to hear stories I never would hear otherwise. I would like to give these opportunities to others. Each and every person in an organisation is important and building the biggest international festival in the world. For that to come together with all of you, really is an honor. The things I have learned I am prepared to take the challenges and my study aside to get in this huge adventure that I think ISFiT and the presidency is. Thank you, and godt valg!

Ronja: Even though I was benched for this, and did not have the courage like others. With accepting the benching I would say that I take this with much respect as I think it should. Even though I am here alone, with my theme, I am not planning to do ISFiT27 by myself. I do think my theme is open, all of the incredible 500 volunteers and will shape the festival together. This will be something we do together. I also do hope that ISFiT27 will bring ISFiT even closer to samfundet, I think isfit has a lot of things to learn from samfundet, and samfundet from isfit. That is my fire torch. I am of course very motivated to do this, and I feel safe to say that if I am not elected, I think the three candidates will make wonderful presidents. I hope to be a participant in isfit27. Godt valg!

Jon:

First, I would like to thank you for your questions. I hope I have been able to answer them with the thoughtfulness and respect that they deserve. I also want to thank you for showing up to this election. It is really inspiring to see so many of you here wanting to contribute to the future of ISFiT.

As I finished in my opening speech, I believe that discussion and collaboration lie at the heart of ISFiT. We are here today to shape what ISFiT is going to look like in 2027 and, in a similar way, ISFiT is a gathering to find out how the world should be shaped. With "Changing Winds" I want ISFiT to be a place where discussing change is placed at the forefront of the agenda. Not only in the descriptive sense as in discussing the changes that are happening around us, but also in an active sense, as in what we can do to change for the better. Because while it is important to talk about the breeze of today, we should remind ourselves that there is a potential storm looming on the horizon.

As much as I want to keep using the wind-metaphor, we must remember that these winds are not actual winds. They are made up of people. People we can talk to. People we can discuss with. People who themselves want change. In a world that might feel increasingly hopeless, let ISFiT be a place where we can discuss the changes needed in the future and regain the hope for a better world. Thank you and godt valg!

Adina:

When we talk about resilience, we often think of strength. But what I've learned — from people, from stories, from being here — is that true resilience is not just about strength. It's about care. It's about listening. It's about building spaces where people can grow, even in the middle of a storm.

ISFiT is one of those spaces. It's a festival, yes — but more than that, it's a meeting place. It's where voices that have survived crisis are not just heard, but *honored*. It's where we come together to learn, to challenge each other, to imagine what it means to *thrive* — not just alone, but *together*.

And that's what I want to create. Not a perfect festival. But a brave one. One that holds space for pain, but also for joy. One that asks difficult questions — and still believes in answers. A festival where resilience is not a theme on paper, but something we live, breathe, and build into every conversation.

I don't have every solution.

But I have a deep belief in this community.

In what happens when we meet across differences.

In what's possible when we don't turn away from crisis — but face it with compassion, creativity and courage.

Because this theme — *Resilience: surviving and thriving in crisis* — isn't just a headline. It's a promise. And if you choose me to lead ISFiT 27,

I will carry that promise — with all the strength, care, and collaboration it deserves.

11. Voting

12. Break

13. Results of the election

The election has following results:

NAME	NUMBER OF VOTES	PERCENTAGE
Adina Wattum	14	16,47%
Jon Bergland	33	38,82%
Ronja Smedby	14	16,47%
Julie Rose Godal	22	25,88%
Blanc	2	2,35%
TOTAL	85	100%

A new round between Jon and Julie

14. Round two of the election: Questioning

1. Kasper: What's the best way to fight climate change?
2. Astri: Who are you? Age, study? What do you do for fun?
3. Kaia: How do you feel about working with external companies and who are the coolest to work with?
4. Amel: What's one experience in your life that you can take with you as a leader, and how do you think it makes you a better leader?
5. Astrid: What do you think about including more international students as volunteers and do you have any strategies of how you would do that?
6. Gargi: How will you make ISFiT27 more accessible to people's disabilities?
7. Frida: What qualities do you look for choosing board members and how will you make your board a strong and collaborative one?
8. Fredrik William: Two alternatives: What's your proudest memory, or what is your favourite memory from your time here in Trondheim?
9. Morten: What component are you in a train?
10. Birk: Do you have a dream project and do you want to add something to the festival?

15. Round two of the election: Voting

16. Round two of the election: Results

NAME	NUMBER OF VOTES	PERCENTAGE
Jon Bergland	50	60,98 %

Julie Rose Godal	32	39,02%
Blanc	0	0%
TOTAL	82	100%

Congratulations to the President of ISFiT 2027, Jon Bergland!

17. Singalong: Nu klinger

18. Any other business

ISFiT25: Congratulations, this is a big day. We will support you always. Thank you to Styret, Thank you!

BIG: Congratulations, we believe this will be amazing. On behalf of the student piece price we congratulate you

Stiftelsen: On behalf of Stiftelsen and all of the prievies board from 1990, this is the best position in Trondheim. There is so much willingness, you don't have to do this alone.

ISFiT23: We are so happy! Good luck!

UKA25: We would like to congratulate you, ask us about anything in the future!

Styret 25/26: Congratulations, we look forward to our collaboration!

Viljar: KSG will congratulate you!

Styret 24/25: Congratulations, ask us about anything! And thank you Aurora and the rest of your board for the collaboration!

Julie: Congratulations so much!

Political section: Thank you for the candidates, and congratulations to Jon. I can't wait to see what you manage!

VK: On behalf of FK, VK og Regi we congratulate you!

Admin: On behalf of admin we congratulate you, and the sustainability team - stay humble

Velferdstinget: We want to congratulate you! Right now, you have become a political figure, If we work together we can make big things happen,

Eric: Congratulations are in order, and I look forward to see what you manage to do with ISFiT27

Andreas: Congratulations to you Jon, and all the candidates!

Communications: We want to congratulate you, even though you wanted to kill us, we are looking forward to seeing how you can make the festival without us;)

Fredrik William: Congratulations!

Amel: All the best luck to you!

Kasper & Fredrik William: Congratulations to you, it's gonna be glorious!

Oda: Congratulations from the bar in Storsalen syd

Daniel & Per: Congratulations from the bar in Storsalen nord

Reine: On behalf of FG we congratulate Jon. We have taken some nice photos of you, so check it out.

19. Meeting critics

20. The meeting is adjourned

Rami is thanking everyone who has made this election possible, especially the candidates! Thank you to the audience and everyone who has asked a question or said something today.

The meeting is set at 22:33