



# Newsletter – Special Edition March 2026

## Candidate presentation for the board of directors

In this special edition of the EBBD newsletter we present the candidates who are running for the positions of secretary and second vice chairperson of the board of directors of EBBD e.V. You will also find some additional information about the training event (programme on page 5).

We are looking forward to meeting many of you in Mainz soon. Should you have any questions about the event please reach out to Holger Räth ([holger.raeth@gsw-mainz.de](mailto:holger.raeth@gsw-mainz.de)).

Best regards

Grit Arnold, Kaisu Luukka, Nereba Peña, Holger Räth and Cynthia Woolderink



Hilla Helasaari



Tim Woytczak

Read on pages 2 and 3

## Speed-dating and Cooperation Padlet

*You will be able to promote your cooperation offers and pursue collaboration opportunities with other colleges.*

*You can bring paper copies of your offers to Mainz Training Event and share them with the other participants. Skive College offering is an example.*

*We will also provide training on how to add your offers to our Padlet template.*

Read on page 4



## Join WhatsApp group



*We will provide additional on time information, and you will have a possibility to share your thoughts and photos in our Training Event WhatsApp group.*

*Please join the group via this link:*

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/lpkxI3cQ2Jj9i1Wg5A4xeT>



# Application for the Position of Second Vice Chairperson

*Dear EBBB members,*

may I present myself to you. My name is Hilla Helasaari and I work in Helsinki, Finland in Business College Helsinki as Head of International Affairs. I joined BC three years ago and have been getting familiar with EBBB ever since. Ms Kaisu Luukka has been an excellent mentor in this as she has many years of experience in EBBB.

I have been active part of our team in the EBBB GRACE project ever since it kicked off in the fall of 2024. It has allowed me to learn even more about EBBB and get to know people within EBBB. I would be happy to become an active board member of EBBB and I believe I could bring new ideas and fresh thoughts. I have been working within VET for 16 years, so I have a long experience in the field. EBBB presents to me a network full of opportunities yet to be discovered and explored. We are already in very many countries and we potential to spread the network even broader.

I believe I could be the right person to take responsibility for marketing and communications as I already worked on EBBB newsletter for some time and I also took the initiative to establish Instagram account for EBBB and update it. Much more could be done if I get the mandate. I hope to see you all in Mainz and keep up the great work and atmosphere that we have in this network.

*BR,*

*Hilla Helasaari*



# Application for the Position of Secretary

*Dear EBBD-Board,  
dear EBBD-Members,*

my name is **Tim Woytczak**, and I am a teacher of **English, Economics, and Business Administration** at Berufliches Schulzentrum 1 der Stadt Leipzig in Saxony, Germany. European cooperation in education has been a central motivation in my professional life, and this is why I am enthusiastic to apply for the position of Secretary of EBBD e.V.

What motivates me most—both as a teacher and as an active European—is connecting people, ideas, and structures. In my daily work, I combine clear organisation with creativity: designing learning projects, coordinating teams, communicating complex information in an accessible way, and documenting results so that they are usable for others. These skills translate naturally into the role of Secretary within EBBD e.V.

I have extensive experience in preparing agendas, managing communication flows, and maintaining documentation. Whether it is meeting minutes, newsletters, or official correspondence, I aim to communicate in a way that is precise, respectful, and engaging.

Working within the German education system has also given me a strong command of formal German administrative language. I am confident in producing documents that meet the requirements of German association law and in communicating reliably with authorities such as the association register or notaries.



Creativity plays a key role in how I work. I enjoy finding clear structures for complex discussions, making information visually and linguistically accessible, and supporting collaborative processes with well-prepared documentation. I see the Secretary not just as a recorder of decisions, but as a facilitator of continuity and transparency within the board.

I am very motivated to actively participate in regular meetings, projects and visits.

Together with the other board members, I would like to contribute constructively to the strategic development and visibility of EBBD e.V. I strongly believe in a European perspective on education—one that values cooperation, diversity, professionalism, and innovation.

I would be honoured to bring my organisational skills, creativity, and commitment to the EBBD e.V. board and to support the Association in achieving its objectives.

*Tim Woytczak*



# ANNUAL TRAINING EVENT

Mainz, Germany

Gustav-Stresemann Wirtschaftsschule Mainz

March 19 - 20, 2026

# EBBD

Certificate of Excellence in  
EUROPEAN  
BUSINESS  
BEHAVIOUR  
DEMOCRACY

Business Competence in Europe

**GSW**  
GUSTAV-STRESEMANN-WIRTSCHAFTSSCHULE

## Programme EBBD Annual Training 2026

Location: Gutenberg Digital Hub Mainz, Taunusstraße 59-61, 55118 Mainz;

[CoWorking Space in Mainz – Gutenberg Digital Hub](#)

	Time	Activity
<b>Wednesday 18th March 2026</b> "Eisgrub Bräu", Weißliliegasse 1a, 55116 Mainz	19:30	<b>Informal Welcome Gathering</b> Get together and welcome drinks
<b>Thursday 19 March 2026,</b> Gutenberg Digital Hub, Taunusstraße 59-61	8:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
	9:00 – 9:15	Opening of EBBD Training Event by headmaster of Gustav-Stresemann-Wirtschaftsschule Mainz, Mr. Volker Wolff
	9:15 – 10:15	Annual General Meeting EBBD History of EBBD
	10:15 – 10:45	Welcoming of alumni and presentation of alumni challenge
	10:45 – 11:15	Formal opening of the EBBD event in Mainz by Major of the City of Mainz, Mr. Nino Haase
	11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break,
	11:30 – 12:30	Mrs. Nathalie Schlimm (Advisor on sustainability management at Werner und Mertz GmbH): "Sustainability in Action: From Corporate Practice to Classroom Competences"
	12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
	13:30 – 15:00	EBBD Training Workshop: "From Sustainability to Business Practice: Designing Green EBBD Activities in the Age of AI – Session 1"
	15:00 – 15:30	Update on Micro-Credential (short and graphs)
16:00 – 18:00	City walk with wine tasting	
"Zum Grünen Kakadu", Gutenbergplatz 3-5, 55116 Mainz	19:00	Dinner
<b>Friday 20 March 2026,</b> Gutenberg Digital Hub, Taunusstraße 59-61	9:00	Welcoming of participants
	9:15 – 10:00	Market Café: Padlet presentation: Connecting EBBD schools
	10:00 – 10:45	Lea Reitmeier (Associate, Deutsche Bank, Investmentbank, ESG Solutions & EBBD alumni): "From classroom to the workplace: The role of sustainability skills and knowledge"
	10:45 – 11:30	Prof. Dr. Markus Böhner, "Assessment of Students Performance in the Age of AI"
	11:30 – 12:30	EBBD Training Workshop: "From Sustainability to Business Practice: Designing Green EBBD Activities in the Age of AI – Session 2"
	12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
	13:30 – 14:30	Sharing of workshop results
	14:30 – 15:00	Alumni challenge outcome
	15:00 – 15:15	Feedback and formal ending of the conference
	16:00 – 17:00	Cultural activity: <a href="#">Guided Tours / Marc Chagall St. Stephan Mainz</a>



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