

Personal Statement by Fabienne Hansen for the Secretary position

Dear BIEN Members,

My name is Fabienne Hansen, and I'm currently a PhD student in social/cultural anthropology at the University of Freiburg, Germany and also associated with the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niterói, Brazil. I'm writing to ask your support for my candidacy for the position of BIEN Secretary for the next three years.

I became interested in basic income in the early 2020s and have maintained that interest ever since. My PhD project explores the making of municipal basic income social policies in the city of Niterói, Brazil. I'm well-connected to the Brazilian *renda básica* community and can often be found deeply engaged in research debates around the topic. This involvement has allowed me to contribute to and learn from discussions and initiatives that aim to advance basic income research both locally and globally.

There are many things I could say about basic income, the debates surrounding it, and the advocacy efforts on its behalf, which would make this statement very long and wordy. Therefore, I will mention only two things I have learned through my work on the topic that also emphasize what I believe in: first, basic income is and should be about community; and second, we can all learn from each other if we listen to other positions and engage with them. When both things come together, basic income stands a chance to create real change.

On a more practical side, why am I a good choice for the position of BIEN Secretary? I bring strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and a commitment to transparency. Since 2021, I have organized various events focusing on basic income online, hybrid, and in-person. In my capacity as the event manager at the Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies, I organized three annual conferences, ran a public lecture series from 2021 to 2024, and was centrally involved in the planning of a broad variety of workshops in Freiburg, other places in Germany, and abroad. For example, I organized two workshops in Brazil with a variety of local and international contributors: one in August 2023 and one in June 2024, both focused on the lessons from the Maricá basic income policy for other contexts. Furthermore, I'm currently facilitating the foundation of the UBI PhD network, managing their daily correspondence and email list. In general, I am accustomed to ensuring that administrative processes run as smoothly as possible and accommodating special requests when feasible. Additionally, through my experience of living and working on two continents, I enjoy creating environments that facilitate communication and collaboration among people globally.

Finally, I am committed to advancing the mission of BIEN and would be honored to serve as your Secretary. I ask for your support in this election to help us build a stronger, more united, and diverse network.

Thank you for your consideration.