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Preßeu Zespenat



48th Cosa election Special Edition

Table of Contents

Yet another newspaper? 1
BT, ETT or PZ? Which publication to submit to? 3
My last thoughts as PM 5
The 48th Cosa Election Rules and Procedures 6
48th Cosa Election “Guide” 8
the 47th Cosa: a retrospective 13
Manifesto of the Free Democrats 14
The MRPT Manifesto 16
Talossa Socialist Party Platform 18
Progressive Party Manifesto 18
RUMP Manifest 19
6th Clark of the 47th Cosa post-mortem 25
The campaign for the Atatürk Senator Seat heats up 27
Last Month of Wittenberg: April-May 2015 30
Street Profile: E. Hartford Ave 35
Census of the Kingdom of Talossa on May 13th 2015 37
The Moon is a Harsh Mistress 39
Colophon and Copyright 41

Yet another newspaper?

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



Preßeu Zespenat is not like any existing newspaper for several subtle reasons and I hope that over the next few issues, we'll be able to convince you of how different we are just by our structure, if not by our content. We are so different that our goal is not to replace either Beric'ht Talossa or EL TAMLÁLT TALOSSÁN, but rather to complement them.

In fact, we see Preßeu Zespenat more like a magazine than a newspaper as our goal isn't just to cover the news, but also to offer articles meant for future historical review, such as our Post-Clark Analysis or our Clark Commentaries.

Open

First and foremost, we are open, in the sense that we accept articles for first publication by any writer. If you suddenly have something to say which is legal to print, we will publish it without requiring a minimum participation level: no need to write for every issue to be published in one.

While we will have regular features, Preßeu Zespenat welcomes occasional writers, article series, responses to articles published in our articles or to articles from other newspapers, press releases, chronicle from just almost any citizen of Talossa.

We do ask first publication right in general, but we can bend that rule on a case by case basis.

Transparent

Preßeu Zespenat makes the solemn pledge to never publish unsigned articles. It doesn't mean we will never publish interviews with anonymous sources nor that we will not quote anonymous authors in other source, but there is a difference between talking about an anonymous cartoon in another newspaper and participating in its primary distribution.

Official

One of our particular goal is to offer a voice for officials in the Kingdom. You can expect regular chronicle from the Chancery, and we hope ministers, party leaders, Cosa members, senators, provincial leader or heads of other households to write in an official capacity.

We will also publish opinions, surveys, historical research and other traditional journalism articles but we want to allow the officials of Talossa a platform to share their ideas to the population of Talossa.

Balanced

The Editor-in-chief (Marti-Pair Furxheir) of our magazine is not the member of any party or even sitting in the Ziu. Some of our journalists will be members or leaders of parties, but because of our open policy, we hope to have an equilibrium between the various poles of Talossa.

Free

Not just free as in Free Beer, but also as in Free as a Bird. When you submit an article for publication, you grant Preßeu Zespenat a permanent license to your work, but it is clearly a non-exclusive one: you will be free to republish your article in other newspapers, on blogs, on Wittenberg after a minimum delay to be determined (most likely one week). Once our subscriber base will be built, we will also accept articles that were published by you elsewhere in a “review of the month” fashion.

Proportional

Due to our lack of mandatory publication deals and our open policy, Preßeu Zespenat will not have a fixed number of pages and as a result, authors can write short or long articles as they please and even submit multiple articles.

Modern

Preßeu Zespenat is published using WordPress, a content management system typically built for blogging and often used for magazines. EL TAMLÁLT TALOSSÁN is another Talossan magazine published using WordPress. Like them, our readers will be able to comment on articles and link to individual articles in their own blogs or from Wittenberg.

Our difference with ETT is that we will be published by monthly issues instead of being updated in real time. We will also have a PDF version emailed to our subscribers and available for download like Beric’ht Talossan, so that readers will be able to print a clear document and read it offline.

In short, we are sitting comfortably at the technological crossroad between the two other major publications in Talossa, taking advantages from both and learning from their experience.

Direct

Author articles will generally be published as is in the next issue with little editing on our part. We will try to correct major typing errors and perhaps offer a better structure to an author but no article will be

rewritten or edited by our staff without the approval of the original author.

Simmering

Like a real magazine, we hope that instead of opening every issue and reading them from front to finish will not be the default reading mode. That's how a newspaper is read. Instead, we hope that you will slowly go through the articles, reading one or two in each sitting.

In fact, we hope that future citizens who decide to skim through our archives will be able to get an idea of what was happening in the Kingdom during our issues. We want citizens who are absent from Wittenberg to get a grasp of what they are missing, so that they feel in the loop.

In Conclusion

Our goal isn't to replace the other newspapers in Talossa, but rather, simply to make Preßeu Zespenat your monthly go to resource for information about Talossa. To be your loved magazine.

We have a few surprises up our sleeves for the next few issues and we hope that they will convince you to contribute yourself at best, or to keep reading at the least.

BT, ETT or PZ? Which publication to submit to?

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



With the arrival of a 3rd publication in Talossan press, we feel it is our duty to explain the differences between BT, ETT and PZ so we can position ourselves clearly.

First, let's review the 3 options:

Beric'ht Talossan

BT is the closest thing to a professional newspaper Talossa has: it's the only newspaper to have a manual layout, the only magazine with a strictly regular staff of journalists and the longest running newspaper as of now. It is published like clockwork almost every other Sunday (apart from occasional holidays).

Beric'ht Talossan isn't an amateur project so much as a serious enterprise presenting the news the same way traditional newspapers do. It publishes regular columns from journalists who write about anything they want to, with careful editing from the editor-in-chief and typical columns for a newspaper like the Memrise ranking (BT's sport section) and even cartoons.

This excellent newspaper is successfully raising the bar for professional journalism in the Kingdom like, as far as I know, no previous newspapers did. Note: Qator Itrins was in the Republic ;-)

The only drawbacks of BT is that journalists are restricted to a certain length, need to commit to publish an article in almost every issue, and there are journalists who complain that some subjects were rejected or some article not edited to the satisfaction of the author.

To BT's honor, this is typical of many professional newspapers who expect a minimum level of consistency and quality between issues, so it's not so much something that BT needs to fix, as a consequence of BT's attempt to raise the level of quality in their journalism and it is expected from any newspaper providing an editorial staff.

El Tamlalt Talossan

ETT is an instant journalism kind of newspaper since it is, at it's basis, a blog. Don't take it negatively however! ETT is amazing for clearing fresh off the press information and up to date news. ETT can, I am convinced, become the best platform for people to react to the other two newspapers since it doesn't have deadlines or issues.

ETT is the Wiki, in sort, of Talossa: Approve journalists can publish articles in real time, reacting to real life events like none of the other two newspapers can.

It is the modern equivalent to the various newspaper's websites and can become, I am convinced, Talossa's CNN.

The only drawback to ETT is that it is formless, due to its very nature. It is not tied to specific days and multiple articles can arrive on the same day after a week of inactivity. ETT's greatest strength is also, I believe, a drawback.

Of course, the RSS feed will let you follow ETT and there is a Thread on Wittenberg to follow the articles, so it's not like ETT is shooting in the dark.

Preßeu Zespenat

I feel that PZ will be at somewhat of a cross road between BT and ETT. It will have monthly issues (so twice less often than BT) and therefore, will be the slowest newspaper of the three.

I see, in a way, PZ as the Saturday Edition of a newspaper. I hope our journalists who contribute to all three newspapers will write their opinions in BT, their news in ETT, and their in depth articles in PZ.

We hope that we'll get to publish lengthily historical reviews, lessons from the Talossan University, Interviews with Talossans who are less in the spotlight.

I hope that officials who wouldn't dream of becoming a journalists will publish occasional (or regular) updates on their work. I will lobby the next prime-minister for a monthly column on the Senechal's office. I will contact the Senators to get into their mind of how they see the Clark.

We will still see opinions such as those in BT, for the simple reason that several journalists are not comfortable writing for it, either because they dislike the mandatory publications or because of a personal decision.

In short, PZ is more of a magazine than a newspaper.

My last thoughts as PM

By Lüc da Schir | May 2015

As the election for the 48th Cosa is getting closer and closer, I find myself wondering whether the government that is living its last month in office actually brought something good to Talossa - if I look back at the last eight months, do I see a bland period of inactivity or a Government which actually accomplished what it promised to the Cosa and to the Talossan citizenry? To me, it does look like we did quite well, and I can say I'm quite satisfied of what I and my fellow Ministers achieved while in power.

The accomplishments of this government are indeed quite remarkable when compared to those of the previous ones - and if I believe that the last government could be excused if it seemed shaky at times, as most of the ministers were first-timers in the Kingdom (including me, by the way), the previous RUMP-led ones' activeness paled in comparison.

When I accepted to serve as Prime Minister, I knew we had a lot of points to sort out in so little time, including justicial unclogging. I started sorting it out myself when I dismissed the inactive Clerk of Courts within a few weeks from the Government's formation, at the cost of having to fend off a load of criticism from his friends on the Opposition's benches. Another achievement I am quite proud of is the elimination of sinecurae Ministries right from the beginning of the term.

I'm also proud that, compared to the last Government, our troop stayed mostly united from the beginning to the end. It's true I had to replace (or if you prefer, "I had to sack") a minister halfway through the Cosa due to his busy extra-Talossan life, but the transition was painless and I am very happy to have found a more than worthy replacement. We also had a bit of a disagreement with the Senator for Vuode, which I regret to say was completely unannounced as I never got to talk to him before his "last straw" post on Wittenberg and therefore I always assumed everyone in the coalition parties was okay with the Government's policies.

Still, this Government - my Government - has without any doubts been the best government in years. We have shown the electors we are a party to be trusted when it comes to leading a government. We

outlined a very detailed Action Plan before the Cosa and I'm very proud to say that at the end of the day most of it has been delivered.

I'm personally very positive about the upcoming General Election. As it always has, the MRPT once again presents itself as the only party with a very detailed Manifesto, clear principles and a single, united course of action to follow, the one of progressist yet reasonable reforms, constitutional monarchism, defense of individual freedom, support to Talossan companies and reform of provincial catchment areas. We are very clear on where we stand.

We'll push for mandatory Cosa candidates lists for parties, so that you as a voter will always know who are you going to vote for, while allowing parties a degree of flexibility to deal with any (un)expected events regarding MCs. We'll complete the Provincial Catchment Area Reform as a priority. We plan to set up limited, small-scale public funding of Talossan companies to stimulate the creation of more companies and the development of new services and offers by existing ones.

This compares to what our main challengers have to offer. The first one effectively decided to bring its opposition to the Government outside of the Ziu and inside the pencils of anonymous cartoonists - instead of challenging our policies as any decent opposition would do. Why would any voter want to be represented in this way? Why would any voter choose a party with no clear plans to get back into power?

The other party is composed of liberals and socialists; monarchists, republicans and neutrals; strong dirigist state and weak liberal state followers - it doesn't matter whether they are running on a common manifesto: will the voters actually get what it's written there or will a liberal-leaning voter get socialist bits, or a monarchist voter a set of laws which will bring Talossa closer to a republic? To me, as I said on Wittenberg, it looks increasingly like the umpteenth Talossan pot-pie-blob running on loose platforms.

That said, I'm sure the next one is going to be an exciting election. I do hope that the MRPT's record as a successful party of government in the last eight months will be acknowledged by the voters - nevertheless, I'll always remember these months at the helm of Talossa's government as a happy period of proficuous collaboration with my fellow Ministers and of a number of invaluable contributions to the nation.

The 48th Cosa Election Rules and Procedures

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



One of the new features of the [Database System](#), is that the Chancery is now [publishing the election rules](#) on it instead of making them up during each election.

You most likely saw on [Wittenberg the election procedure](#), but in case you didn't, here are the relevant parts:

On Balloting day

On the morning of Balloting day, every voter should receive an email from the SoS office with the ballot and a secret code (PSC).

That Ballot email might be sent in advance of the election, or a little late. Only votes received during the election will count, but rejected votes will be communicated, such as "Try again tomorrow, the election hasn't started yet".

Between Balloting Day and the Election Deadline

Between Balloting Day (which starts on the 15th of the election month), and the Election Deadline (15 days later, on the evening of the 1st of the next month), all citizens will be able to vote **once** and only **once**.

As per the Organic Law, all votes are final, and cannot be retracted, modified or altered in any way: if multiple votes are sent, only the first one is counted.

You should receive one or two ballot reminders during the election should you have not voted by then. If you do not receive any emails from the Chancery on the 15th, it is your responsibility to contact the Secretary of State to have your email address fixed.

Here are the best ways to contact the Secretary of State to update your email address:

- By replying to the official Election Vote Thread informing him that you emailed sos[at]talossa.ca with your new email, so that he can validate your email address and tie it to your Wittenberg Account.
- By [sending a private Wittenberg message](#) to the Secretary of State

Ways to vote

Here are the approved method for voting:

- 1) Voters can reply to their Ballot email with their votes, provided the PSC code is in the email. Those votes will be entered manually into the Database system.
- 2) Voters will also be able to write a different email (to sos@talossa.ca), provided the code is in it. Those votes will be entered manually into the Database system.
- 3) Voters will also be able to vote using the [online form](#) using only their citizen number (available online and in the email) and the code from the email. Those votes will be entered automatically into the Database system.
- 4) Voters will be able to vote on Wittenberg publicly A single vote thread will be created for casting votes on Wittenberg. If you have received your vote code (PSC), you should cast your vote in that thread WITH your code. If you have NOT received a code (perhaps we didn't have your email), announce so and vote anyway. The SoS office will attempt to validate your vote.

After the Election Deadline

The election will close at 7h30PM Talossan Time (CST/CDT) on the 1st day of the Month following Balloting day and votes received after that time will be rejected

The preliminary results will be available as soon as the election is over, but the Election Commission will still need to validate it

48th Cosa Election “Guide”

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



The 48th Cosa Election is starting on the same day as this issue is published and Preşeu Zespenat would like to provide a analysis of the various options.

Please note that we are trying to be as objective as possible and that errors might occur. We have included in the following pages the published Manifestos so this summary isn't a full review of the various promises of the several parties but rather a quick overview.

Let's go down by the number of votes received in the last election, with the new parties at the end.

RUMP - 41 votes in the last election

The Rexhalistaes Unificheshti pr'iensa Monarc'hà Parciloqua (Royalists United for a Monarchy of Parsimonious-language) is once again lead by Alexandreu Davinescu and has notably positioned itself as the party for the protection of the Monarchy. Here is their 50 word statement:

One party stands firmest on protecting role of the monarchy in Talossa: the RUMP. We also lead for positive change, done responsibly: TalossaWiki, the complete new legal code, stamp sales, the census, and separation of public and private Wittenberg. It's time to end the politics of hatred: vote for the RUMP.

Here is a list of the RUMP Cosa members for the 6th Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- Alexandreu Davinescu
- Danihel Txechescu
- Iustì Carlüs Canun
- Ián da Bitoûr
- Cresti Matáiwos Siervicül
- Eovart Xhorxh
- Tráveç Dun

In the 47th Cosa, the RUMP was the biggest opposition party.

Here is the Team list of the RUMP, which appears to be their candidate list except for the fact that Senators are also listed:

- Ma la Mha, Count of Thord and Baron Hooligan [Florençia]
- Sir Cresti Siervicül, UrN [Maricopa]

- Sir Iustì Carlüs Canun, UrGP [Maricopa]
- Dame Erschéveþ (Litz) Cjantscheir LL.B, ChRTB, UrN [Cézembre]
- Sir Mick Preston, UrN [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]
- Sir Trotxâ Betiñéir, UrN [Vuode]
- Sir Alexandreu Davinescu, UrN [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]
- Danihel Txechescu [Maricopa]
- Éovart Xhorxh [Maricopa]
- Ian da Bitour [Cézembre]
- Senator Brad Holmes [Atatürk]
- Pol d’Auribuerg [Florenzia]
- Audrada d’Auribuerg [Florenzia]
- Cesli da Chisleu [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]
- Tráveç Dun [Maricopa]
- Senator Éovart Grischun [Vuode]

MRPT - 23 Votes in the last election

The Moderate Radical Party of Talossa is lead by Senator Lüc da Schir, the current Prime-Minister of Talossa and positions itself as a reliable and ethical party. The MRPT is also pro-monarchy. Here is their 50-word statement:

The MRPT has proven to be a reliable party, proudly standing by its Manifesto all through the last term in government and delivering what it promised. Our mandate is clear and our ethics are sound. A vote for us is a vote for democratic reform, constitutional monarchism and individual freedom.

Here is the list of their Cosa members in the last Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- Sevestáin Pinátsch
- Lupulüc da Fhöglha
- Tric’hard Carschaleir

And here is their candidate list for the 48th Cosa Election:

- Breneir Itravilatx (Party Whip)
- Ian Plätschisch
- Lupulüc “Lupüc” da Fhöglha
- Erschéveþ da Schir
- Sevestáin Pinátsch
- Glüc da Dhi

ZRT - 16 votes in the last election

The ZRT isn’t running in the 48th Cosa election, since it has formed a coalition with the LIB party. See the FreeDem party for more info.

Here is the list of their Cosa members in the last Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- Moritz Iesu Preiria Fernaodescu
- Óin D. Ursüm
- Mximo Carbonel

LIB - 10 votes in the last election

The LIB isn't running in the 48th Cosa election, since it has formed a coalition with the ZRT party. See the FreeDem party for more info.

Here is the list of their Cosa members in the last Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- C. Carlüs Xheraltescù
- Txosuè Éiric Rôibeardescù

PROG - 7 votes in the last election

The Progressive Party is led by Owen Edwards and positions itself as the party of Candidate List and of original ideas. Here is their 50 word statement:

Candidate lists, Reunision, Cabinet reform - the Progressive Party has always been ahead of the curve in Talossa. We are the second oldest party in the Kingdom, and have always been the party of ideas. Vote for us for more active provinces, the Humanitarian Aid Fund, and a Literary Competition.

Here is the list of their Cosa members in the last Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- Owen Christopher Edwards
- Danihel A. Forestal
- Txec Rôibeard dal Nordselva

The Candidate list for the PROG is:

- Owen Edwards
- Txec Nordselva
- Danihel Forestal
- Eiric Bianceu

PC - 6 votes in the last election

The PC party isn't running in the 48th Cosa election and was disbanded by it's two members.

Here is the list of their Cosa members in the last Clark of the 47th Cosa:

- Ieremiac'h Ventrutx
- Marti-Paír Furxhéir

TWP - 1 vote in the last election

The TWP isn't running in the 48th Cosa and never assumed its seats for the 47th Cosa, merging with another party.

New parties

FreeDem - merger of the ZRT and the LIB party, which together had 26 votes

The FreeDem party is led by C. Carlüs Xheraltescù and positions itself as the party of democracy and liberty.

Here is their 50 word statement:

Talossa's liberals and republicans have come together to form the Free Democratic Alliance: for transparent, competent and accountable government. We want a simplified OrgLaw; a streamlined Royal Household; a smaller, competitive Cosâ; a truly secret ballot; és pü da utzil del glheþ Talossán. Our candidate for Seneschál is Carlüs Xheraltescu.

Please note that the FreeDem is an election coalition. In the words of the leader of the ZRT, Mistrâ Schivâ:

The Alliance will be led by a 4-person Executive of which Carlüs will be Leader; and this Executive will decide after the next Election whether the Alliance should be dissolved or turned into a permanent merger.

TSP - new party

The Talossa Socialist party is led by Galen Zavala-Sherby and by prospective citizen Galen Zavala and positions itself as the party for more direct democracy and active citizenship drives.

Here is their 50 words statement:

The TSP will be running for the first time this election. We stand for the needs of the people, if voted for we will support the formation of stronger membership drives, a Talossan Youtube Channel, a people's council and a more direct democracy. A new Party for a new Talossa.

PRESENT

You ALWAYS have the option of voting PRESENT which is a way of voiding your vote. You will be counted as having voted, but will not be counted for Cosa seat distribution.

A New Party?

There are many precedents in Talossa allowing you to vote for a new party during the election, but if

you do, make sure to register it with the Chancery and by paying the \$20 fee to the burgermeister of inland revenue or you risk it being hijacked by another citizen registering it before you.

Since the election results are not published until the end of the election now, the risk of hijacking are lowered, but still present if you announce your vote.

the 47th Cosa: a retrospective

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015

Bills for the 47th Cosa (46 in total)

RZ1 - Fixing the electoral commission +
RZ2 - The Move like Jagger Act +
RZ3 - The Wittenberg Pre-Privatisation bill +
RZ4 - The Articulate Amendment +
RZ5 - The Anti-Espionage Act +
RZ6 - The Election Guidance Act and Amendment +
RZ7 - The 47th Cosa Budget Act +

Now that we are preparing to elect the 48th Cosa, let's review let's 47th Cosa.

First, it was a very active active one compared to recent ones with a total of 46 Bills clarked, compared to 29 and 30 for the last two Cosas. Of the 46 Bills, 32 were adopted or almost 70%!

The 5 Ziu members who proposed or co-sponsored the most bills were, in descending order:

- Marti-Pair Furxhéir (MC PC) and Miestrâ Schivâ (Senator of Fiova) each with 14 bills
- C. Carlüs Xheraltescù (MC LIB), with 9 bills
- Cresti Matáiwos Siervicül (MC RUMP) with 7 bills
- Txec Róibeard dal Nordselva (MC RUMP, then MC PP) with 6 bills

We also have what is most likely a record number of amendments with 12 referendums scheduled for the current election.

The 47th Cosa was numerous in people too: We had 23 Cosa members from 6 different parties, which is 4 more Cosa members and 2 new parties (the PP and the PC).

Interestingly, only 3 Cosa members lost their seats: Renalt da Fhamulm of the MRPT in the 2nd Clark, Gödafriëu Válcadác'h of the ZRT, in the 4th Clark, and Davíu Éovart (Éöväd) Andrinescu of the LIB party in the 5th Clark.

Another surprise was the stability in the Cosa: only 1 Cosa member changed party during the Cosa: Txec Róibeard dal Nordselva who changed his 11 RUMP seats for 5 PP seats.

Many Cosa members voted on all of the Clarks for which they were a Cosa member:

- Alexandreu Davinescu, RUMP
- C. Carlüs Xheraltescù, LIB
- Eovart Xhorxh, RUMP
- Ieremiac'h Ventrutx, PC
- Marti-Pair Furxhéir, PC
- Moritz Iesu Preiria Fernaodescu, ZRT
- Mximo Carbonel, ZRT
- Óin D. Ursüm, ZRT
- Owen Christopher Edwards, PP
- Sevastáin Pinátsch, MRPT
- Tric'hard Carschaleir, MRPT
- Txec Róibeard dal Nordselva, RUMP and later PP
- Txosuè Éiric Rôibeardescù, LIB

The Chancery would like to thank them for their service

As for the Senate, Pôl d'Auribuérg, from Florencià, Magniloqueu Épiqueu da Lhiun from Maritiimi-Maxhestic and Bradley Collin Holmes from Atatürk each missed 1 Clark, while the other 5 had perfect attendance records.

The 47th Ziu saw also a lot of improvements in the [database system](#) used to manage the Clarks, including collapsible bills, a pending list of referendum page, improvement on the tacking of bill status, the \\ being finally fixed and improvements to the Clark voting results which made them easier to read.

Finally, since the 46th Cosa was dissolved, 25 new citizens joined the Kingdom or 25% of the number of voters in the last election!

Manifesto of the Free Democrats

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015

On April 25th, the Free Democrats [published on Wittenberg](#) their Manifesto for the current election. Preßeu Zespenat republishes it for the interest of our readers:

Competence:

The FREE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE formed by the Liberal Congress and the ZRT will strive to optimise governmental competence.

All representatives of the Alliance in the government will perform their administrative duties in a timely and efficient manner.

They will be granted positions based on dignity and merit, and will be held accountable for their words and actions (in merit or scrutiny).

Constitutional Reform:

We aim to reorganize and rewrite the Organic Law. It should be simplified only to reflect the outline of our government's duties. Any other law passed not in complete accordance with the basic outline of our government's functions shall be classified under the country's Statutes.

Free Democrats will fight for the adoption of a privacy law for information used on private and public sites relating to Talossa.

Our judicial system is also far too complicated to be truly accessible. As such, we support a reformed judicial system for simple disputes

The Monarchy and the Royal Household:

The Free Democrats strictly adhere to the principle of constitutional agnosticism on the issue of the monarchy, and therefore take no official position on it. However, the Alliance aims to remove the ties between the Head of State and the private ownership of the Talossa's governmental infrastructure.

The Free Democrats push for the offices of the Royal Household to be limited to the Royal College of Arms, the National Archives, and the Civil Service. The University of Talossa will be regionalized and regulated under the discretion of each provincial government as part of a liberal commitment to decentralised government.

The Ziu:

The Free Democratic Alliance aims to reduce the number of seats in the Cosâ so that it serves its purpose as a chamber of representative, not direct, democracy - where we can begin to build an electoral system which looks to encourage competition of ideas in our political marketplace.

The Alliance will also agitate to balance the representation of provinces by reform of the Senate chamber.

Free Democratic Members of the Cosa will also push for a truly secret option when casting your vote, so that you can cast it without four citizens (one of whom could be a party leader) knowing how you voted.

Cabinet:

a. Stuff:

The Alliance aims to improve Talossa's web presence. We will establish policies that will promote the kingdom more effectively to the world population. The Alliance is in support of authorised "ambassadors" to various social media sites, forums, and the likes. They will act as conduits of the kingdom's interests and will be ready to answer, in an official capacity, any questions about Talossa, its history, the citizenship process, and so on.

b. Culture:

The Alliance will encourage the Ministry of Culture to continue working with the Ladîntsch Naziunál to create a strategy to teach every Talossan the basics of the national language, or at least "aliquand moct" (a few words) they can use in daily life.

c. Foreign Affairs:

The Alliance supports the repeal of the Semi-Permeable Wall Act and will take a 'Live and Let Live' attitude to other micronations and Talossa-like entities. We will engage in courteous dialogue with representatives of other micronations and Talossa-like entities (as opposed to isolationism) on a case by case basis.

Federalism:

Free Democrats will aim to revitalise the provincial governments of Talossa. Provincial representatives of the Alliance will strive to resuscitate and increase provincial activity, and national representatives of the Alliance will strive to pass relevant legislation that will complement the Free Democratic goal of increasing provincial activity.

The MRPT Manifesto

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



On micronations:

No diplomatic relations with "bug-micronations". The government should not abuse its diplomatic powers.

The Foreign Ministry should try to investigate what serious, "like minded" "micronations" are currently active and the potential risks and benefits associated with various forms of diplomatic contacts with such nations, within the limits of the Afaes Utphätseshti Act.

On political reform:

Party endorsement should not count in any way for Senatorial elections.

Provinces should be in charge of electing Senators.

Use of a preferential voting method for senatorial elections conducted by the Chancery.

Only 50% of the votes in the Senäts is needed for approval of an act or amendment to the OrgLaw.

Introducing mandatory and binding candidate lists for the Cosâ.

An elected Seneschal, either direct or indirect (via the Cosâ) is an option the MRPT will on the long term consider.

On separation of power:

The MRPT believes that on the long term further separation of power is needed.

Too many offices should not be held by too few people. This can however only be achieved alongside a growth of the population.

When Talossa has more than 1000 citizens full separation of power between the judiciary, executive and legislative should, at least on a national level, be realistic.

On the long term Talossa needs a Real Cosâ, which will be achieved by a combination of population growth and a decrease in the size of the Cosâ to sixty seats.

On the secret ballot:

The MRPT is happy with the current amendment to introduce a semi-secret ballot, but would like to go one step further and introduce a full automated secret ballot for Cosâ and Senatorial elections, under the condition that a diverse independent committee has access to the admin account to monitor the elections.

On citizenship and privacy:

The MRPT does not support plans to make immigration laws stricter in the sense that more activity or knowledge from the prospective citizen is required than under the current rules. Any contact information received from the prospective by the Immigration Ministry or the Chancery is strictly private and may not be shared with third parties outside the Ministry of Immigration or the Chancery, with the exception of email addresses, which may be shared with the committee to monitor secret ballot elections, and provincial institutions that have tasks similar to that of the Chancery. The list of email addresses should be regularly updated by the chancery. The MRPT believes that Talossan citizenship should not prevent Talossans from pursuing their own interests outside Talossa and will protect the right of Talossans to do so. This includes joining micronations.

On the role of the government:

The government should not try to do what Talossans can do themselves, but instead stimulate private initiative. In most cases, the Government should facilitate and support cultural projects, rather than lead or own them. The Ziu should in most cases refrain from endorsing cultural practices as being “Talossan” when there is no evidence the practice is in fact strongly related to Talossan culture.

On the Monarchy:

The MRPT is fundamentally monarchist, and supports the hereditary Monarchy. However, we are also committed to taking measures to make the Monarchy more acceptable to the Republican segment of the population if a compromise can be reached with broad support. These measures may on the long term include reducing the political powers of the Monarch and making it easier to remove a Monarch in a democratic way.

On finance:

Reduce the registration fee for the Cosa and introduce a small fee for accepting seats in the Senate. The Talossan government should start paying for its own web presence.

On provincial assignment:

Provincial assignment should remain based on actual geographical location. Closure of provinces to immigration should be abolished. Citizens currently assigned to the “wrong” province will be given the choice to change province. Moving permanently across provincial assignment borders should result in a change of province. The MRPT is committed to keep pushing forward its own already Hoppered proposals regarding province catchment area reform.

On other issues:

Promoting and protecting Talossan culture, language and traditions.
Increasing provincial activity.

Talossa Socialist Party Platform

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015

On April 25th, the Talossan Socialist Party announced [their platform on Wittenberg](#) as follows:

We the members of the Talossan Socialist Party hereby present our platform for the coming elections:

1. Sustain the Integrity of Talossan Democracy- through the defense against radical monarchists and fascists.
2. Maintain the Integrity of the Talossan State- through the spread of Talossan Culture, Ideas, and Organic Law.
3. Put the People in front of Bureaucratic Procedure- Simplify election procedures and the decision making process
4. Encourage foreign Policy with other Micro States- Provided that they have a sufficient population and sustainable government.
5. Encourage membership drives and publicize Talossa- While maintaining the group atmosphere and cultural cohesion.
6. Seek a more open relationship among other Parties- By looking for more bipartisan solutions to Talossa's problems and conflicts.

We pledge to expand and edit this platform through popular support and the vote of the people within the party.

Progressive Party Manifesto

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015

The progressive party [posted their manifesto on Wittenberg](#) and it is reprinted here

The Progressive Party is the 2nd oldest party in the Kingdom, and has always been the party of ideas. Cosa candidate lists, Kingdom/Republic reunion, a more generous attitude to micronations, Cabinet reform - we've always been ahead of the curve when it comes to the important ideas. Last Cosa we spearheaded the slimming down of our bloated and ineffective Cabinet and much-needed judicial

reform, as well as starting the conversation about better provincial cachment areas. We would love for you to consider voting for us for the next Cosa so we can continue to be a influential voice for generosity, culture, and healthy provinces.

Our Three Planks this time are:

THE HUMANITARIAN AID FUND: Talossa is a nation, and its actions as a nation matter. A Progressive Talossa would show its priorities as a nation by offering contributions to charities which represent the Talossan tradition. The first charity we would donate to - on behalf of the People and Government of the Kingdom of Talossa - would be the American Red Cross, with a minimum donation target of 50USD.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION AND CACHEMENT REFORM: Provinces have always functioned erratically. We believe more natural geographical links for provincial assignment would improve things, and would make face-to-face Talossan political activity a lot easier. A Progressive Talossa would hold a "straw" Cezembre Moot, open to all European Talossans, where the priority would be social but political debate and motions would also happen. However, provinces need a holistic solution - including a reassessment of how they are represented in the Senate. We would push for a solution to the issues of the Senate this term - and we are open to any solution, from more proportional representation to outright abolition.

THE TALOSSAN LITERARY PRIZE: A Progressive Talossa would also show its priorities by encouraging Talossan culture in every way possible, because Talossa shining "like a city on a hill" includes contributing to the world with beauty and civilization. As an outworking of that, we will aim to establish a Talossan Literary Prize, with a small prize (20USD) for the winner.

A Progressive Talossa is a more generous, more beautiful, and more equitable Talossa. Please help us accomplish that with your vote.

Our manifesto was put together by a group of Talossan peculiarists, both within the Progressive Party and beyond. We welcome questions and contributions.

RUMP Manifest

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



The RUMP published its manifest on Wittenberg, and we have reproduced it here:

We would use our assets! Thousands of stamps - literally *thousands of stamps* have been sitting on a shelf gathering dust. They've been sitting there for years, with no attempt to sell them. Even after this was brought to the Government's attention months ago, nothing was done. It's an almost criminal waste of assets. We raised a lot of money in the stamps Kickstarter, and we could have been earning a return for years by promoting our stamps to Talossa and to the wider philatelist community. Most of the proceeds should be set aside in a special fund to buy a second issue, someday.

We would actually solicit donations! This is an official part of our budgeting approach, but again... nothing! If it's a good idea, then why haven't we done it? In the same way, if appointing social media ambassadors is a good idea, then why haven't we done it? Parties in Government have proposed these changes to the law and then just abandoned them.

We would post mandatory reports and speak to the people! The Talossan Government Transparency Act passed with universal support, but now it just gets ignored because the Seneschal is not much of a presence. Every two months, the government is supposed to report on what his ministers have done... we should have had three reports by now, and we have none!

We would resume issuing ID cards to interested citizens! This would be part of our continued campaign to bring Talossa off of Witt, and by charging a nominal cost for postage and production we could give all interested citizens a real and physical example of their citizenship to show off!

Lower registration fees without just slashing income! Financial responsibility is important, and it would be irresponsible to simultaneously call for slashing registration fees and increasing our outlays! But if we charge small fees for IDs, solicit donations, and sell stamps, we could probably cut registration fees by half for the next election. We should actually keep track of the math and lower those fees!

Our candidate list gives a very good idea of where seats will go. We were happy to give two seats to Tra, who did a tremendous job, because we had confidence he would fight for the principles of our party. We don't believe in an ironclad voting list, though our party was the first party to publish voting lists at all.

Here is another version of their Manifest, with actual images:



<http://rump.boards.net/>

Our Priorities

ID Cards - We should resume issuing ID cards to interested citizens, charging a nominal amount to cover the cost of postage and production.

TalossaWare - We should open and restock TalossaWare, and take steps to promote Talossa-themed goods on social media and Wittenberg.

MONARCHY

Talossa has flourished with a strong and independent monarchy for an important reason: we're very small. Our size makes us vulnerable during times of change, discontent, or lethargy. The best bulwark



during those times is an institution that has independent power. Zefençetz el Regeu!

Use Our Assets - We should begin promoting the sale of stamps to Talossa and to the wider philatelist community, and set aside the proceeds in a separate fund for a second issue someday. There's thousands of stamps that could be raising money and spreading the word about the country.

Donations - We should publicly solicit patriotic donations once per year for the span of a week (or on a similar non-annoying schedule), now that that approach is an official part of our budget. Laws should not be passed and ignored... if it's too hard, then don't promise to do it!

Lower Fees - All of these methods of financing the country should enable us to lower the cost of party registration fees, which will make it easier for more Talossans to organize themselves and express their democratic will.

Accountability - A public Civil Service Committee, with parties held accountable when their members delay the process with absences.

- Ma la Mha, Count of Thord and Baron Hooligan [Florenca]
- Sir Cresti Siervicül, UrN [Maricopa]
- Sir Iustì Carlüs Canun, UrGP [Maricopa]
- Dame Erschéveþ (Litz) Cjantscheir LL.B, ChRTB, UrN [Cézembre]
- Sir Mick Preston, UrN [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]
- Sir Trotxâ Betiñéir, UrN [Vuode]
- Sir Alexandreu Davinescu, UrN [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]

PRACTICALITY

We're in favor of what works, and that usually means small government and careful planning. Empty offices, blank mandatory reports, and vast schemes of government make the



country look cobwebby and unused. We have problems? Let's find plausible solutions, not pie in the sky.

DERIVATISM

The Kingdom of Talossa is a nation and a state. It is a real nation and a real state, even though it is different from most others. This is both a fact and a goal. It is not a club, not a cloud, not an undefinable "thing" of



unmeasurable character and eldritch horror. We are a nation and a state.

- Danihel Txechescu [Maricopa]
- Éovart Xhorxh [Maricopa]
- Ian da Bitour [Cézembre]
- Senator Brad Holmes [Atatürk]

- Pol d'Auribuerg [Florenca]
- Audrada d'Auribuerg [Florenca]
- Cesli da Chisleu [Maritiimi-Maxhestic]
- Tráveç Dun [Maricopa]
- Senator Éovart Grischun [Vuode]

Our Successes

COMMUNITY

We believe in fostering a welcoming community where everyone has a say and no viewpoint is excluded, and in treating each other like good neighbors, with charity and friendship. We support the freedom of

Talossans to pursue their own interests, from the bottom up.



TalossaWiki - This useful modern public archive of our history, culture, and laws was conceived and constructed by the RUMP. It's become an indispensable asset in only a few years.

El Lexhatx - The former system of scattered and half-remembered laws was impenetrable to everyone but experts. Some statutes contradicted each other and some were lost to history. It was difficult and unfair. It has been replaced by a single legal code, thanks to the RUMP.

Stamps - Stamp legislation was passed and the stamps were Kickstarted and issued successfully under RUMP administrations.

Reunision that preserved the Organic Law and monarchy - For years, the Republic of Talossa said that the only way they'd accept any sort of reunion

would be if the Organic Law and the monarchy were offered up as chips for the bargaining table. Reunision happened thanks to the joint efforts of people from many parties, but the RUMP avoided the easy quick solution, and held the line until we were all ready.

Census - The 2009/XXIX census remains the only broad snapshot of Talossans as a people, offering current and future Talossans a view of what kind of person is a citizen at this point in time. It was a difficult affair to make happen while also safeguarding everyone's privacy, but a RUMP government did it.

Shiny Objects - The official Seal of the Chancery and the official Chain of the Seneschal exist thanks to the ideas and budgeting of the RUMP, to be treasured and passed on through office-holders.

TRADITION

As a small country, relatively young, and mostly composed of immigrants, the Kingdom of Talossa has to guard its character and spirit very closely. This does not mean we oppose all change, as

any witness of our leadership on Reunision or el Lexhatx can tell you. But change must be carefully considered, not hastily made.



Our Legislation

FUN

Talossa should be fun. This means taking the time to be silly every now and then. This means quietly inserting a vulgar acrostic into your party platform.



This means making sure that Talossans enjoy being Talossan. Oddly, that's harder than you might expect. Other folks have other priorities.

Terpelaziuns - One of the most important ways for opposition and small parties to challenge the ruling hegemony, in the grand tradition of parliaments everywhere.

MIBII financial accountability acts - Keeping the country accountable for where our money is kept and how it is spent.

Secret ballot option bill - The introduction of the secret ballot for voters.

Royal Talossan Bar acts - Created the modern legal system.

Civil Service bill - A compromise that allowed the expansion of a future bureaucracy, without mandating a

host of new empty offices that would still be sitting idle today.

Wittenberg transition bill- Separating the public and private aspects of Wittenberg, without abandoning its historic role.

Numismatic Naming acts- Laying the groundwork and vision for coins and establishing our monetary system.

Election Guidance bill - A compromise that will ensure smoother and better elections.

Corporations - Revised and effective laws for incorporation, to allow enforceable contracts and business charters.

The defeat of the Republican Sentiment bill- Voters have time and time again overwhelmingly endorsed the monarchy.

The defeat of Almost Real Amendment - Would have sacrificed small parties and new ideas for little benefit.

The defeat of Electoral Reform Amendment - Avoided, through a hard fight, an entrenchment of old parties and reduction of representation.

BOLDNESS



Sometimes the best way is the big way. And at those times, we should not be afraid to be bold and shake up the system. We've done it before, and if the nation needs us, we'll do it again.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY



Citizenship should be free. No price can purchase it except a good character and friendly attitude. No taxation!

Cabinet Refinishing acts - Laid the structure for the modern government.

Home Improvement acts- Laid the structure for the modern Royal Household.

Repeal of the House Law of Robert I - Clipping away the old trimmings of autocracy.

6th Clark of the 47th Cosa post-mortem

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015

Summary

47th Cosa, Clark #6 results		Amendment?	Ziu	Cosa			Senäts				
Bill	Title		Result	Për	Conträ	Abstain	Result	Për	Conträ	Abstain	Result
RZ31	Allowing the SoS to be apolitical amendment	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Pass	117	0	52	Pass	6	0	1	Pass
RZ32	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part I - The Senate Ballot	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, 2/3 Senäts)	Pass	117	37	15	Pass	4	1	2	Pass
RZ33	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part II - The two step ballot	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, 2/3 Senäts)	Pass	145	24	0	Pass	4	2	1	Pass
RZ34	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part III - The seats	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Fail	17	133	19	Fail	0	4	3	Fail
RZ35	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part IV - The Hopper	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Fail	92	64	13	Fail	3	4	0	Fail
RZ36	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part V - The election rules	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Pass	119	32	18	Pass	4	1	2	Pass
RZ37	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part VI - The Cleanup	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Pass	137	32	0	Pass	4	3	0	Pass
RZ38	The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part VII - The Political parties	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Pass	132	26	11	Pass	4	1	2	Pass
RZ39	The Judicial Merry-Go-Round Amendment	Yes (2/3 Cosa needed, Majority Senäts)	Pass	164	0	5	Pass	6	0	1	Pass

Last April, the 6th Clark of the 47th Cosa concluded with 116 votes against 53 in the vote of confidence, a moot point since this was the last Clark of the Cosa.

16 Bills were Clarked, including 11 amendments (two of which even required 2/3 of the Senate) and all of them save 2 were adopted by both the Cosa and the Senate.

The two failed bills, 47RZ34 [The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part III - The seats](#), and 47RZ35 [The Election Mega-constitutional amendment Part IV - The Hopper](#) both failed in both the Cosa and the Senate, RZ34 didn't get a single Senate vote in favor of the bill!

That 47R34 failed was no surprise as the author of the Bill, Secretary of State Marti-Pair Furxheir no longer even fully believed in it. He had also resigned himself to 47RZ35's failure, but was happy that the other 5 parts of his Election amendment passed, as well as his bill (47RZ31) solving the issue once

and for all on the relationship between the Secretary of State and legislative duties.

One of the issues in the Clark was that Secretary of State, in his reforms, had introduced a contradictory clause between 47RZ35 and 47RZ37, a fact put to the light by the Interior Minister, C. Carlüs Xheraltescù. Both amendments, born from the split of the failed 47RZ27 from the 5th Clark, included by mistake almost the same amendment to the Organic Law (changing the word “will”) to either “can” for 47RZ35 or “may” for 47RZ37...

Fortunately, with the failure of 47RZ35, that issue is solved. That also solves an apparent contradiction between 47RZ31 and 47RZ35. All in all, not a great Clark for consistency on the part of the Secretary of State.

What is even more interesting is that 4 bills passed without a single Contra Vote in either Chambers. These are:

- 47RZ31 - [Allowing the SoS to be apolitical amendment](#)
- 47RZ39 - [The Judicial Merry-Go-Round Amendment](#)
- 47RZ43 - [The Delicious Burritos Act](#)
- 47RZ45 - [The Sartorello Immigration Act](#)

On the other bills, Sir Alexandreu Davinescu posted a few very interesting comments, as he always does while voting:

He notably opposed 47RZ32 which restricts Senators from only being elected in their own province with the very appropriate comment:

No reason to eliminate this possibility, when it's already set to only work if there's no resident running. It saved our bacon in the past.

He did also object to 47RZ41:

I vote an extremely emphatic contra, but with regret. As I have previously said, I would be delighted for Txec to return to the bench, but I cannot in good conscience vote to put the currently serving A-G in that position!

This quickly prompted Txec to resign as Attorney General, causing AD to change his vote to Per.

In the Senate, only Munditenens Tresplet did similar comments.

Of interest are his comments on his abstaining on 47RZ32:

Although I do support what this does, I'm holding true to my resolve not to vote on any of these election amendments. Are our elections really so messed up we need seven different amendments (or one single amendment/bill that is so large it had to be split into seven) to fix it?

He also opposed changing the ceremonial “will” mentioned above with a quite interesting note:

I will also note that the ceremonial MC portion was in fact resolved by statute. This is, once again, an example of how we can resolve problems without amending Organic Law all the time. Quite frankly, it was never really a problem to begin with, and it especially isn't one now. Given that no one claims any ceremonial status currently, and it's already been resolved by statute, is this really necessary?

47RZ38 prompted from him another interesting comment:

I don't like bulleted points in what is basically our Constitution, especially given that this should (and I'm like a broken record here) be in El Lexhatx rather than OrgLaw. We shouldn't need to come back and amend Organic Law (which, FYI, is supposed to be rather difficult to do) every time we need to add, remove, or change something that a registered party needs to provide the Chancery with before every General Election. If we wanted to change 50 words to 75, why is it necessary to have such a proposal approved by 2/3rds of the Ziu, then voted on by the citizens as a referendum? Yes, it was already in there to begin with, but once again, see generally the comments made above.

Preßeu Zespenat would like to report other comments from Ziu members but these were the only 2 commenters for the last Clark.

Since this is the first article in this series, I would like to comment on the fact that the Post-Clark Analysis articles are about the results of the Clarks, and not the content of the bills themselves.

The campaign for the Atatürk Senator Seat heats up

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



With the 48th Cosa Selection comes the Senate electoral campaign in Atatürk in which the current longest serving member of Senate, Bradley Collin Holmes is being challenged by the current Minister of Stuff, Sevastáin Pinátsch.

Both men couldn't more different...

Sevastáin Pinátsch is one of the very active citizens of Talossa having posted 687 posts on Wittenberg since August 14 2013. He is the man responsible for the new <http://talossa.com/> website and is the webmaster/hoster behind the sites hosted on talossan.ca, such as the Talossan Media Aggregator, the Talossan Press Association and the Talossan Privacy Information. He also hosts ETT. Sevastáin Pinátsch has been a Cosa Member for the MRTP in the last Cosa and didn't skip any votes. He is also active on the Atatürk forum and posted several episodes of Late Night with Sevastáin Pinátsch. 6 of the most recent 20 threads were created by him on the Atatürk forum.

Bradley Collin Holmes has been the Senator for Atatürk for the past record setting 10 Cosâ or 59 Clarks! He has posted more messages than Sevastáin, with a total of 956 posts, but that's since March 2006! In reality, the last thread created by Bradley on the Atatürk forum was created in 2013... when he was running for his current Senate seat. If we take a look, in the last 6 months, Bradley has posted on Wittenberg only 3 times... to vote on 3 of the Clarks.

Bradley is aware he is up for election but didn't come yet on Wittenberg to post, so we can't report on his campaign, but Sevastáin is active [in a thread he created](#). Here are some of his comments:

It's probably time to elect someone for Senator who actually gets things done in Talossa.

As Minister of STUFF, I oversaw [TalossaWiki](#) through a difficult but critically essential software upgrade, then repaired the appearance to restore it to its former glory.

I built the [Talossa.com](#) portal that other governments talked about but never got around to actually doing.

As a local businessman, I've also been providing the technological infrastructure for other organizations to host and run their own websites in Talossa free of charge: The [Talossan Press Association](#), [The Talossan Gazelle](#) (ETT) and the soon-to-relaunch [PengoTimes](#), to name just a few.

Elect me, and I'll ask your opinion about the upcoming bills. I will listen to your concerns. I will represent this province in the Ziu in a way that represents your interests, not just my own.

What has the alternative choice done for you lately?

In response to questions about his promises, Sevastáin had this to reply:

I can promise three things: Accessibility, accountability, and progress.

In all the time I've been a citizen, the current senator has never asked us what we think, nor replied to anything we've ever written to him, and he's certainly never reported on his activities. He doesn't believe he should. Look at his last campaign:

[Feb 3, 2013 at 10:42pm Brad Holmes](#) said:

No, I do not post threads or emails soliciting input during Clark votes. And I have yet to receive any input on business before the Ziu. So far, I have not had any complaints, so I continue to operate under the assumption that I've been adequately representing the people of Atatürk.

And I have absolutely no plans for the next term. I intend only on showing up, participating, and enjoying currency. I have no idea what more can be done.

As for what I would like to see across Talossa: less drama. But that is more of a personality issue than a legislative one.

I'd always like to see more activity in Atatürk. But the Senator is not the focal point of provincial activity.

"No plans for the next term." In that, Senator Holmes has been very successful.

"No complaints" is an outright lie. I've been a vocal critic, but, as I said, nothing I've ever written him has been answered.

In addition to actually being here, listening to what Ataurkers have to say, responding, and considering wide perspectives I promise to vote on every Clark. Our current Senator has missed votes on 3 of the last 12 Clarks Clark or 33%! As an MC, I have a perfect voting record.

I'd like to know what your priorities are for the coming year. Engagement? Tourism? Constitutional reform?

Preßeu Zespenat was able to independently confirm Sevastáin claims about his and Bradley's voting records.

We asked Atatürk Elder and former Atatürk Senator Marti-Pair Furxheir his comments and he had this to reply:

Sevastáin should know that the residents of Atatürk are not Ataurkers but rather Turkeys. If he wants my vote, he will need to learn the proper term for his constituents.

In a shocking twist however, it was discovered by Preßeu Zespenat that the residents of Atatürk were only ever referred as Turkeys by Marti-Pair himself and former Secretary of State Daviu Focteir. Marti-Pair refused to comment on this discovery and asked us to let him work in peace on the upcoming election, "I am the Secretary of State, you know? Now get out of my office".

Who will win the Senate election in Atatürk? Will the nickname Turkeys for the residents of Atatürk finally catch on? Will Bradley start campaigning? Stay tuned to the Atatürk Message board for updates.

Preßeu Zespenat will of course inform you when the time comes.

Last Month of Wittenberg: April-May 2015

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



On April 16th, Txosuè Éiric Rôibeardescù [created a civil service thread](#) reminding people that there is a post in the Royal Household section of Witt.

On April 19th, like almost every other Sunday, [Beric'th Talossan was published](#), this time Issue 26. The next morning, Secretary of State Marti-Pair Furxheir, after reading an article which highlighted errors in the Clark calculations frantically posted 4 consecutive messages first expressing confusion on the matter, then 8 minutes later showing he had understood the error, and 5 mire minutes later, that the technical issue was fixed. 6 more minutes later, he completed rejected culpability over the error, instead blaming the author of those parts of the organic law:

So I guess the author of Section 11 of Article V should have intervned to warn me that my form was wrong, or perhaps he should have written that section better. It's his fault, NOT MINE. I reject ALL responsibility on this error and blames the author of that Section. It's all HIS fault.

Oh, but then again, that was so many years ago, so perhaps that author isn't a citizen anymore... Let's check... (looks up the database).

Oh... shit. Sorry, let's move along, DO NOT go check who the [author of that part of the Organic Law is](#). He is an asshole anyway, no need to mention anything.

In summary, once again, Marti-Pair Furxheir, in 2013-2015, had badly interpreted a law he had himself authored back in 2001-2004.

On April 23th, Owen Edwards [posted an exciting thread](#) announcing that the coin project would soon have an important announcement, and asking if citizens preferred 0.8" or 1" coins. The unanimous decision was to go for 1 inch. There is still no update however on an indiegogo campaign.

On April 25th, C. Carlüs Xheraltescù posted the [Manifesto of the Free Democrats](#), a new alliance between the ZRT and the Liberals.

Also in April 25th, [Françal Ian Lux asked](#) if there was an interest in starting a new Historian's Guild, since the previous one had failed. 5 Citizens or prospectives expressed interest in joining. In chronological order they are Marti-Pair Furxheir, Daniel Candee (a prospective), Galen Zavala-Sherby, Riley Miller and Ian Plätschisch.

On April 26th, the Talossan Periodic Table of Element thread from March picked up steam when Ceváglh Scurznicol suggested:

If you want to be esoteric, instead of transliterating the scientific names into Talossan, you could translate the Chinese names of the elements into Talossan, based on the meaning of the Chinese character used to symbolise the element. Maybe you could call it the Talossan periodico-alchemic table.

Which led, on May 2nd the question, from Ian Plätschisch as to the signification of the Ben symbol and if we had a connection with China like with the Berbers.

In Summary, as Lüc da Schir and C. M. Siervicül both later explained in the thread: There is a character in Chinese for "Ben", which is also the name of our founder, so he adopted it as a symbol of Talossa.

On April 30th, Roibeardet dal Riesta posted a [very interesting summary](#) of the presence of Talossa in Wikipedia, offering a table of the 3 main articles which may be found: on the Kingdom itself, on the Talossan Language and on the Comità per l'Útzil del Glheþ, in each of the main languages.

On May 3rd, the Fourth MRPT Congress announcement thread [got a revival](#) when Miestra Schiva, Leader of ZRT, urged the MRPT "to exclude the possibility that they will allow the RUMP into government next time."

Both Glüc da Dhi, former leader of the MRPT and Lüc da Schir, current leader of the MRPT and Seneschal pretty much replied that a vote for the MRPT is simply a vote for Lüc da Schir as Seneschal until the results of the elections are known which prompted Miestra Schivâ to reply in no uncertain terms:

So you're both saying that you might go into government with the RUMP next time. Well, hope you let all the voters know this.

*If I have any say in the matter, and I do, the Free Democrats will **definitely not do so**. I ideally want a repeat of the current Coalition in the next Cosâ, and I'm shocked and appalled that one of our partner parties wants to cut loose to see if the A. Davinescù Ego Gratification Party will offer them a better deal.*

This raised an interesting point from C. M. Siervicül regarding Miestrâ Schivâ's attitude:

You see, alternance in government was only an important political principle when the ZRT was out of government. Now that the ZRT is in government, the new important political principle is keeping those treacherous oppositionists as far away from power as possible.

Which, of course, once again derailed the conversation in a typical Republican VS Monarchist point of view. PZ gives it a rating of only 1 scoop of popcorn, because Miestrâ quickly returned to the main topic of whether the MRPT would or not form a coalition with the RUMP.

In the End, Lüc brought back the spotlight on the newly formed FreeDem alliance of Miestâ and C. Carlüs.:

we can start talking about serious issues for example, whether a FDA voter is voting for liberals or socialists; a monarchist, republican or agnostic stance on the head of state; a strong dirigist state or a weak liberal state. The FDA looks increasingly like the umpteenth Talossan pot-pie-blob running on loose platforms and attacking potential coalition partners at every whim of its party leaders.

C. Carlüs replied to only part of that question in those words:

The Free Democrats are actually very clear on the issues we stand on: reform of our current laws in order to increase transparency, openness and accountability. We are in favour of political competition, civil and political liberties, slimming down government and the Royal Household. These are things held in common between the Liberals and the Republicans and those are the things we'll campaign on. A pot-pie blob we are not.

On May 3rd, [a discussion started earlier in April](#) between Alexandreu Davinescu, as publisher of Beric'ht Talossan and Sevastáin Pinátsch, as publisher of the [Talossan Media Aggregator](#) resumed. The core of the issue is that Alexandreu feels that articles in the TMA are reprinted without enough credit to the original publications.

In short, Alexandreu's point of view is that the TMA, instead of just listing the various RSS feeds with links to the original articles, actually republishes the original article:

the archive just grabs stories from an RSS feed, takes all the content and metadata, and makes a copy for itself - which the authors have lost control over - with no clickthrough or attribution to source.

Sevastáin Pinátsch replied as follows:

With any decent CMS software (i.e., not Blogger), the account used to post a story is the same as the author account. The same quality software (i.e., not Blogger) can also be used by the admin to post stories but still attribute authorship to the actual writer, without having to use the article title kludge that BT does.

The terms of service promises attribution to the original author, provided that the source material is correctly attributed. That's what it does.

Owing to the frequent complaints, BT has been removed from the aggregate per the terms of service. Old material has been deleted and new material will not be polled by the software. Should other author wish their material removed, I'm happy to comply.

Sadly, that's pretty much where that story goes. PZ will update you if it picks up in the future, perhaps when PZ will be added to the TMA.

On May 5th, Ian Plätschisch asked a [few interesting questions](#) about citizenship petitions:

With a new round of applicants approaching a fortnight of activity, I wanted to ask a few questions about how petitioning works

1. Being a new citizen, should I wait until I have been around longer myself before petitioning for someone?

Assuming the answer to question 1 is no...

2. Are there general guidelines for whether or not a prospective is ready, or is it all personal judgment?

3. I don't know Talossan, and petitions are issued in both Talossan and English. Should I just use L'oversteir?

which were promptly (less than 25 minutes later) replied by the Senator of Cézembre. Glüc da Dhi:

1. No. If you feel like someone deserves Talossan citizenship, go ahead.

2. Not really. I mean obviously its preferable if the prospective has recently been active, but there arent any official rules for judging that.

3. Not all petitions are in Talossan, so you can just use English. I used to petition for citizens as well a while ago and Ive always just used English. If you think its nice to add Talossan, you could try to translate it all yourself, or you could ask Sir Iusti or Sir Cresti or someone else to translate the petition for you. My guess is that most of the time, there will be someone willing to help.

And now, we all know!

On May 8th, 17 days since the end of the 6th Clark, Dr. Txec Róibeard dal Nordselvã, who was the target of [47RZ41 - The Bouncing Txec Act](#) which sought to bring him back to the Magistrate Court had to [resort to Wittenberg](#) to get the King to confirm his appointment. Fortunately, a little more than 5 hours later, the King complied.

On May 12th, Alexandreu Davinescu, leader of the RUMP [registered his party for the election](#). The RUMP's 50 word statement began the words:

There's only one party that stands firm on protecting the monarchy: the RUMP

And finished with the words:

It's time to end the politics of hatred: vote for the RUMP.

Which triggered an avalanche of criticism! It began just 58 minutes later when Glüc da Dhi, Senator for Cézembre and former leader of the MRPT [replied](#) to the first part:

This is not true. There are three. I suggest you change this. Otherwise you'd be deliberately proclaiming things you know are not true in your 50 word statement.

and this, to the last part:

How would a vote for the RUMP end the politics of hatred? What are you talking about?

Alexandrey, 10 minutes later, invited Glüc to open a new thread as follows:

Actually, I think it's pretty clearly true. The RUMP has been by far the most firm, since the MRPT just recently approved a manifesto which says they are "committed to taking measures to make the Monarchy more acceptable to the Republican segment of the population if a compromise can be reached with broad support. These measures may on the long term include reducing the political powers of the Monarch and making it easier to remove a Monarch in a democratic way." Saying you want to reduce the political powers of the monarch and make it easier to dethrone the monarch is not a very strong defense... it's not any sort of defense at all. You do want to move away from monarchy somewhat less than quickly than other parties, that's true!

But really, this isn't the time or place for such a discussion. This is a pre-registration thread for the Chancery, and it would be a bad idea to clutter it up with any sort of debate on whether reducing the monarchy's power makes you a defender of the monarchy.

If you want to discuss it, maybe open a new thread, and I'd love to chat about it.

A mere 13 minutes later, or only 23 minutes after his initial response, Glüc followed suit and created the thread "[Dishonest RUMP statement.](#)", which triggered 40 replies so far, from people across the party ranks, including, in addition to our initial 2 debaters:

- Owen Edward, leader of the Progressive Party, who reminds that not only is Alex dishonest, but that his party is lead by an ACTUAL macronational monarchist
- Lüc da Schir, leader of the MRPT and current Seneschal, who reminds us that "His cartoonist harrassed Miestra and the government for months, she reacted, and he cried wolf. He perhaps means

that he's going to end the politics of hate, because he started it in the first place."

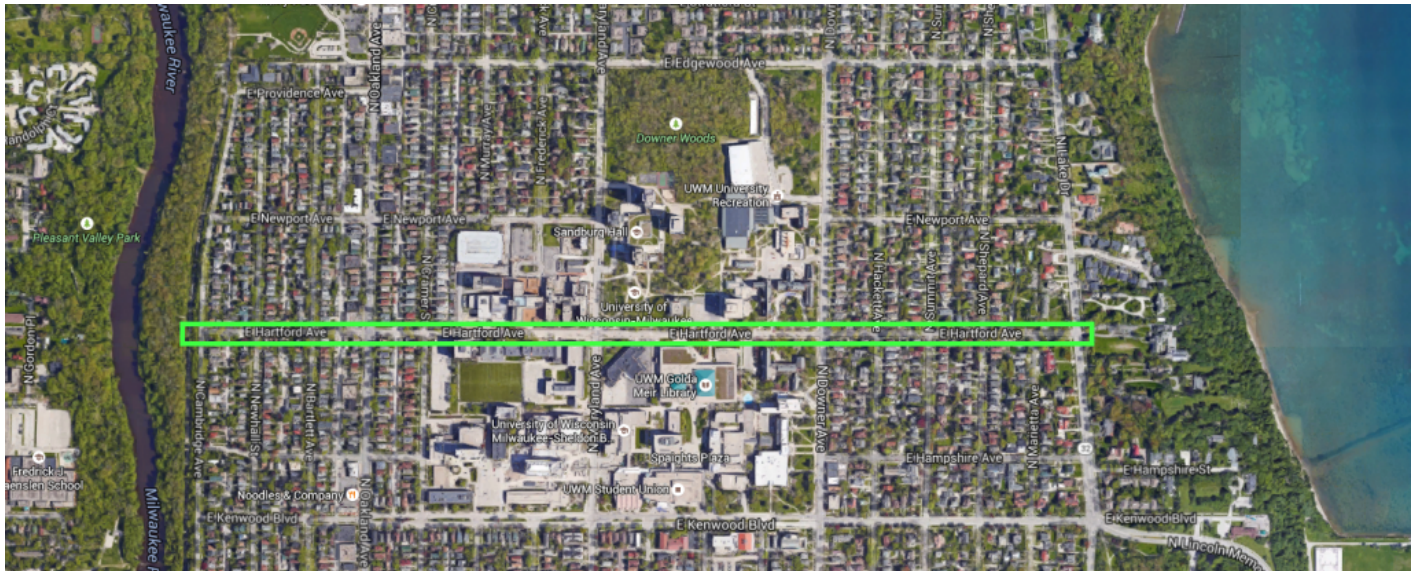
- Txec dal Nordselvã, of the Progressive Party (and previous RUMP leader), asks specifically what "defending the Monarchy looks like", asking notably the question "Allowing the monarch to be absent from Talossa and step in only when repeatedly asked to by loyal subjects? "
- C. Carlüs Xheraltescù, leader of the FreeDem sarcastically rephrases the RUMP's statement to "There's one party that stands for changing absolutely nothing to do with the monarchy: the RUMP"
- Ian Plätschisch, MRPT member asks "whether we are loyal to the monarch as a person or to the monarchy as a concept" in a very calm argument
- Miestrã Schivã, leader of the ZRT, simply posted an animated gif of Stephen Colbert eating popcorn...
- Vitxalmour Conductour, reminded us wisely that "Sometimes supporting something does include finding compromises that might make it less of a target."
- Eiric S. Bornatfiglheu reminds us of our own history, pointing out that King Robert II and King Florence were " both placed on the throne as opposed to merely inheriting it from their predecessor. Indeed, our current king was chosen as well." and that "They also seem to conflate supporting the current monarch with supporting the monarchy."

Of course, both Glüc and Alexandreu had multiple exchanges which are indeed rather popcorn worthy and which cannot be easily surmised.

On May 13th, Sevastáin Pinátsch [posted the call](#) for the Talossan Press Association Awards of 2015.

Street Profile: E. Hartford Ave

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



Street Profile is a series of short articles providing a quick overview of one of the streets of the Kingdom of Talossa.

In this issue, we talk about E. Hartford Ave, a street in the province of Ataturk is in a East-West orientation and covers almost the whole width Ataturk province, between N. Cambridge Avenue, right next to the Milwaukee River which divides the Kingdom from the city of Milwaukee, to N. Lake Drive which, in Ataturk, is the East-Most street, right on the shore of the lake.

E. Hartford avenue is interesting because it is the only street to cover the entire width of Ataturk while being entirely in the province.

The only other two streets which allow you to drive or walk across the province as E. Kenwood Blvd, which divides Ataturk from Benito, west of N. Maryland, and Vuode, east of N. Maryland, and E. Edgewood is the northern frontier of Talossa.

Three streets allow you to get further East: E Newport Court, E. Hampshire Street, not to be confused with E. Hampshire Street and E. Kenwood boulevard.

For most of it's length, E. Hartford Ave is a quiet typical semi-urban residential street with a 25 mph speed limit.

The street had 2 lanes, one in each direction and allows parking on the south-side most of the time and restricts parking on its North side to specific hours or, in some areas, at all times.

There is a sidewalk separated from the street by a good foot of grass, with trees planted in the separation.

There are light signals at the corner of N. Downer, N. Oakland Ave, and tiny roundabouts at N Bartlett and N. Newhall.

At the corner of N. Oakland Ave, on Oakland, is a 7 Eleven and a Papa Johh's Pizza.



Apart from that, the only non-residential presence is between N. Downer and N. Oakland Ave where the avenue crosses right in the middle of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

E. Hartford Ave is particularly important since it is where the Cosa resides!



Do you have suggestions on which street to do next? Don't hesitate to leave a comment to this article on the Zespenat.ca website

Census of the Kingdom of Talossa on May 13th 2015

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



A few days prior to each issue of Preßeu Zespenat, we compile the census information on the Kingdom of Talossa using the same format for statisticians of the Kingdom. We can provide more statistics in the

future, if so desired. Just leave a comment to this article, but keep in mind we can only include automated information.

There are currently 264 active citizens in the Kingdom of Talossa, out of 456 real historical citizens.

233 of them are of voting age, and 31 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Recent Citizens

The most recent 5 citizens are:

- Ian Luiç del Cautéu Baptiçistà, Fiova (2015-05-11)
- Dixhet Fira, Maricopa (2015-05-08)
- Galen Zavala-Sherby, Maritiimi-Maxhestic (2015-04-23)
- Massimiliano Sartorello, Benito (2015-04-22)
- Zachary Walker, Atatürk (2015-04-01)

We wish them welcome and a lot of happiness as citizens of the Kingdom of Talossa!

Census for Atatürk

There are currently 37 active citizens in the Atatürk, out of 61 real historical citizens.

31 of them are of voting age, and 6 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Cézembre

There are currently 29 active citizens in the Cézembre, out of 54 real historical citizens.

29 of them are of voting age, and 0 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Florencià

There are currently 35 active citizens in the Florencià, out of 52 real historical citizens.

23 of them are of voting age, and 12 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Maricopa

There are currently 41 active citizens in the Maricopa, out of 61 real historical citizens.

40 of them are of voting age, and 1 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Maritiimi-Maxhestic

There are currently 32 active citizens in the Maritiimi-Maxhestic, out of 60 real historical citizens.

32 of them are of voting age, and 0 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Benito

There are currently 45 active citizens in the Benito, out of 69 real historical citizens.

35 of them are of voting age, and 10 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Vuode

There are currently 19 active citizens in the Vuode, out of 53 real historical citizens.

17 of them are of voting age, and 2 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

Census for Fiova

There are currently 26 active citizens in the Fiova, out of 29 real historical citizens.

26 of them are of voting age, and 0 are Dandelions who are not 14 yet.

The Moon is a Harsh Mistress

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



Nothing uses up alcohol faster than political argument

The Science-Fiction and Whiskey Club

Back when I initially joined Talossa, there was the Science-Fiction and Whiskey club dedicated to amateurs of both fine science-fiction and even finer Whiskey.

While I am a major Science-Fiction fan, I am not particularly fond of whiskey and I certainly no longer had the time to read that many books back then with my busy schedule.

That changed recently for me with a new discovery: I love audio books, despite being fundamentally a visual person.

The Sci-Fi ABC

As such, I am now founding the Sci-Fi ABC, or if you prefer, the Sci-Fi Audio Book Club and I inaugurate it by a review of one of my most recent “reads”: *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*, by Robert A. Heinlen and read by Lloyd James. The Audio Book is available on Audible.com and is 14h and 12 minutes long. Published in 1965, It is the winner of the 1967 Hugo Award.

Book Presentation

One of Heinlen’s most thought provoking books, *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress* is set on the Moon of the 21st-century almost 100 years after it was initially colonized as a penal colony and used as a grain greenhouse to alleviate Earth’s hunger. The colony is administered by a warden despite the fact that most Lunies are actually free citizens: they either served their sentence or were born free from criminal parents.

The problem is that the low gravity of Luna makes most trips in excess of a few weeks a one way trip therefore trapping the citizens inside our satellite’s belly.

Mannie, the main character, is a computer technician born free who discovers that the supercomputer (HOLMES IV) which helps administer the complex has become sentient and picks the name Mike, from Sherlock’s brother Mycroft. Mike is now one of my favorite characters from Science-Fiction since he is not only well written as an artificial intelligence with his own quirks and personality, but he realistically presents an AI who is slowly learning what it is to be human.

Initially, Mannie and Mike exchange jokes but soon enough, they are embroiled in the ultimate joke for Mike: a revolution to make Luna an independent country in a war with parallels with the US war of independence as well as many new original ideas on how space battle might actually occur.

Heinlen’s mastery of science in his relatively hard science-fiction story is tantalizing and his theories on the social aspect of a penal lunar colony, including the limited supply of women, the fact that each air and water are expensive commodities and the idea that even if there was a lot of water deep under the surface of the moon, agriculture wouldn’t be sustainable, are completely fascinating. The idea that on the Moon, space is in cubic feels absolutely spot on.

TANSTAAFL: There Ain’t No Such Thing As A Free Lunch!

The Moon is a Harsh Mistress is highly criticized for being pro-libertarian and perhaps, just perhaps, that’s why the buyers in my home town small public library didn’t care to keep it in stock (or I would

have read it as a teenager). Yet, all of the libertarian aspects come from a single character, albeit a very central one: Prof, Manny's mentor, but many of the other characters are communists and Manny himself is more of an agnostic bordering on capitalism.

There is no worse tyranny than to force a man to pay for what he does not want merely because you think it would be good for him.

Critical Review

But enough about the background: is the story any good? Is the Audio Book version interesting?

Like all books read by Lloyd James, each of the characters has his or her own voice so that you are never lost as to whom is speaking. This isn't a Big Finish production and as such, there is no special sound effects added, but I firmly wonder if any would have added to the great experience. Lloyd James beautifully makes you forget you are listening to a book and takes you deep into the action, always using the appropriate tone to make you feel what is happening.

The Moon is a Harsh Mistress is an ode to the inevitable and as such, we would expect not to be surprised by the ending or to expect every plot twists and surprises.

Granted, many of the plot twists are indeed quite predictable, but once you get there, you realize that the book isn't written so much on preventing you from guessing the ending, but in making you care about all of the details which are in themselves quite unpredictable.

For example, it becomes obvious for me that Wyoming, the leading female character, will marry the main character quite early in the story but the suspense of how, why and when remains until it becomes a fact and does occur when we are taken by other events presented so naturally that the revelation of the various details does take us by surprise.

Personally, the Moon is a Harsh Mistress not only instantly joined my top 5 Sci-Fi books of all, but it is possible it actually replaced the Foundation Trilogy as my favorite story, granted, being a computer developer makes this book ring closer to home and your own mileage may vary.

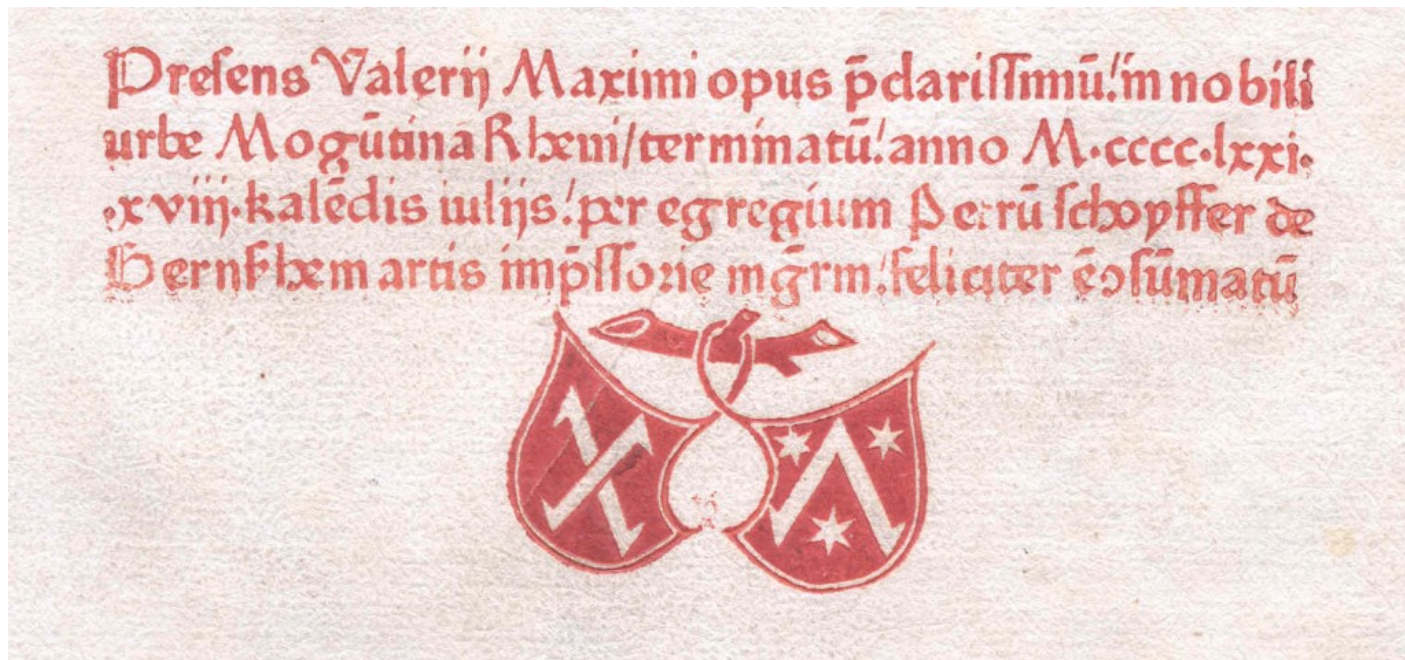
Talossa

I couldn't help but think of Talossa when I read the book. The Lunies are almost all expatriates and have a wide range of political and religious views and yet, form a coherent amicable (even if somewhat brutal) society built on trust and keeping your word.

The way judges work is different than in Talossa but in the end, isn't our justice system closer to on Luna than on the Earth?

Colophon and Copyright

By Marti-Pair Furxheir | May 2015



Preßeu Zespenat is published by Zespenat press and is currently under the sole ownership of Marti-Pair Furxheir.

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The company was planned to have a board of administration but many of the potential co-founders have not yet confirmed their participation and approval in time for the publication of the first issue. We will keep you updated once all members of the administration will have taken their seat.

Our editor-in-chief is Marti-Pair Furxheir in his personal capacity. He is also our webmaster.

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Extracts of "The Miracle Miracle Worker and his downfall" are presented from a draft version and might change in the final copy.

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All articles authored by Marti-Pair Furxheir are written in a personal capacity unless noted as being official chancery communication. The same applies to other officials writing for Preßeu Zespenat

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The WordPress Theme is named Ribbon and was downloaded free of charge from [MyThemeShop](#).