



## **Minutes of European Forum (Virtual) Committee Meeting**

**Thursday January 13<sup>th</sup>.2022**

### **Members taking part;-**

Ewa Johansson (SWE) Chair)

Pia Nyman (FIN)

Marika Heimbach (GER)

Evelyn Goodsell (GB) Minute taker

Gudrun Edda Bengtsdottir (ICE)

Marie—Antoinette de Wolf (NED) Treasurer

Astrid Helen Bie Skaaland (NOR)

Margarita Hanschmidt (ERD)

1. Ewa introduced two members from New Orleans, USA, who came to promote the International Conference to be held in that city in July 12<sup>th</sup>.- 16<sup>th</sup>. They gave us ten helpful tips to keep in mind before we travel there.
2. Ewa then welcomed members to the meeting and enquired about the situation of Covid in each State. The results were varied ranging from being still rather restricted to beginning to return to 'normal'.
3. Marika reported on Germany's lecture on 'Democracy'. It had been well received but she was disappointed that so few of the German members had 'tuned' in. She emphasized how important it was that democracy is upheld.
4. There followed a discussion on attendance at meetings. The pandemic had badly affected attendance and members seemed reluctant to attend now. Reasons given for this were- fear of catching the virus (in spite of being jabbed), out of the habit of going out, too busy etc. Margarita said that information should be forwarded from state presidents to all members to encourage them to attend.
5. The passing of two of our dear, long-standing members, Mary Wardrop and Cor Wolff Heins as discussed and agreed that we should recognize

our deceased members in some way. It was suggested that a special place should be on our Website where a photograph and memories of our members could be written and placed. A special form was to be designed to be used.

6. Ewa was decided that we would discuss our goal – how to encourage members to take leading positions next time as time was getting short.
7. Margarita reminded us to contribute our State's news to Euforia. The next edition would be produced in the Spring.
8. Gudrun reminded us that they would be presenting their lecture on January 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Finland would be holding their Conference in May and the theme is 'Well-being'.  
A Forum Committee meeting is to be held, hopefully, in the Netherlands on April29th-May1st
9. Marie- Antoinette reminded members about the Emergency Fund. The States who have not yet sent their contribution will take it personally to the next 'live' meeting.  
She is also going to ask HQ for money towards the cost of Zoom meetings and the Website. We aren't broke but we could do with more money.
10. Margarita reported that she still hadn't got a successor in spite of asking several members. She 'suggested' Marie-Antoinette would be a good candidate. This was enthusiastically received by all and Marie-Antoinette said she would think about it and talk to her family.
11. The European Achievement Award was discussed. A Swedish member is to be this year's recipient but we have not got an Award to give!! Marika volunteered to investigate a design. It was decided that the Award should be the same each time so that it is easily recognized Once approved it will be made in time to be awarded at the International Conference.
12. The next Forum committee meeting will be on March 10<sup>th</sup>.-times variable.

Evelyn Goodsell

Ewa then welcomed everyone to the meeting