



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

European Forum Committee meeting on July 12, 2024, 4pm

Gaylord Convention centre, National Harbor, Maryland USA.

1. Welcome

Marika Heimbach, the outgoing Chair for the EFC, welcomed all European members present.

2. Minute taker:

Muriel was appointed as secretary to the new EFC and will therefore be the minute taker at meetings.

3. Approval of minutes of meeting at the European Conference in Tampere, July 2023:

The minutes of the meeting in Tampere 2023 were approved.

4. Report from the EFC Chair, Marika Heimbach:

Members of all countries were encouraged to use the website for Europe. Once again Eyglo was thanked for her work with updating the website. Members are also encouraged to send articles and information from their respective chapters and events to the new editor of the Newsletter "Euforia". *Kristin Snæland from Iceland is the new editor.*

The EFC has worked on the amendments forwarded at the convention. Members have also been asked to respond to the "Bursting the Bubble" campaign.

Agendas and minutes of EFC meetings will be placed on the website as soon as approved.

Marika was asked to provide an extended report to all member states and agreed to do so after the Convention.

5. Finances: The treasurer, Carola van Zanen-van Rijn was unable to be present at the Convention. Marie Antoinette presented the spreadsheet with the budget and proposed spending for the new Biennium. The budget has been sent all EFC members and SOPs.

The rules allow for meetings in person once a year. Meetings every 6-8 weeks on Zoom have been efficient and have meant that the EFC achieves more. In person meetings are important, and the issue of state organisations covering excess costs in their own budgets was solved *after* the meeting in Tampere. The EFC has agreed with its members to cover costs more than 300€.* Almost all members travelling to the meeting in Vestnes, Norway in May had travel costs more than 300€. (Flights in Europe are more expensive than the US or Latin America.) The need for the adjustment came after members' costs were very high to the meeting in Spain in 2023.

Marie Antoinette explained to those present that the Emergency fund, Europe, is 2 years old and members can apply for small amounts for e.g. projects for refugees, etc. For the next year the amount is 627€.

*(Sweden had approved for the 23-25 Biennium, but wish further discussion).

The Zoom meetings used by the EFC are covered by the personal account M-A holds, as this is a cheaper alternative.

6. Guidelines: - finances

The Guidelines for the EF have been approved by members and will be revised after the amendments made earlier at the Convention. These allow for the travel costs of the Chair to be covered when attending Convention. The total amount of monies transferred to EF from HQ will also be increased to 400\$ per member country.

The European Conference in 2025 will be organised by the EFC with a starting budget of 5000\$. There will be a separate Conference account and Kathrin Hodgson will be the Conference treasurer.

7. The European Forum Committee 2024-2026:

-Chair and members:

Chair: Carola van Zanen van Rijn (NL)

Treasurer: Henna Pervätaalo (FIN)

Secretary: Muriel Marsh (NO)

Annette Nyberg (SWE)

Diana Bell (GB)

Kadri Mettis (EST)

Thi Finkemeyer (GER)

Vilborg Ása Bjarnadóttir (ICE)

-Future projects, recommendations:

- The EF will continue with educational presentations, using their own members and speakers from outside the Society. A comparative look at the respective school systems in the eight member countries is encouraged. Finland had a successful presentation with Manitoba in the spring of 2024.

- continue the Lucia celebration virtually on December 13th

- continue presenting artists' work under the new headline "Artist in the Spotlight"

- follow up the members survey from 2023.

- work closely with the RD Marie Antoinette in preparing for the Conference in Brighton in July 2025

- ensure a good flow of information between the EFC members and the different countries executive boards. Ideally EFC members should be members of their boards.

Norway 24th July 2024

Muriel C Marsh (Norway)

European members present at the Convention :

Estonia: *Siiri Vimberg, Katrin Saks*

Finland: *Riitta Liisa Arpiainen, Eija Liisa Sokka-Meaney, Anna Kaisa Räsänen, Jenni Korte, Kaija Teikari*

Germany: *Gitta Franke -Zöllmer, Marika Heimbach*

Great Britain: *Kathrin Hodgson*

Iceland: *Àrny Eliasdóttir*

Netherlands: *Jeanine de Jong, Marie- Antoinette Hubers de Wolf, Janny Kistemann*

Norway: *Barbara Carlsen, Muriel Marsh*

Sweden: *Marianne Skardeus, Dr Charlotte Lindgren, Karin Grundahl*

The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM

Muriel Marsh

25.06.2024