



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

European Forum Committee meeting on June 20, 2024, 19-20 hrs CE

Marika Heimbach (Chair)

1. Welcome:

Marika, the outgoing Chair for the EFC welcomed all present, both new and old members.

The members present from the outgoing EFC: Marika Heimbach (GER), Reeli Tänavsuu (EST,) Helga Skeidsvoll (SWE), Carola van Zanen van Rijn (NL), Evelyn Goodsell (GB), Muriel Marsh (NO), Pia Nyman (FIN) (present for 4+5 on the agenda), RD Marie Antoinette Hubers De Wolf.

Members present from the new EFC:

Carola van Zanen van Rijn (NL), Muriel Marsh (NO), Vilborg Ása Bjarnadottir (ICE), Diana Bell (GB), Thi Finkemeyer (GER), Henna Perätalo (FIN)

Not present: Anette Nyberg (SWE), Kadri Mettis (EST), Anita Jonsdottir (ICE, outgoing)

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 in Vestnes:

The minutes of the meeting in Vestnes 26th May, were approved. Pia was thanked for her work. The minutes will be published on the website. As and from 1st July both the agenda and minutes will be placed in one document on the European website.

4. Work in the EFC:

Members of the outgoing EFC were asked to comment on the working of the committee. Many stressed the positive communication between the European countries, especially smaller nations. It was highlighted the necessity of meeting in person and exchanging good practices both at meetings and on Zoom lectures. Important that mentor function as Chair is upheld. Both Marika and Carola stressed this as a strength of the group. Discussions have shown that we have a lot in common and share many of the same challenges in our school systems. It is hoped that the educational topics will use members' experiences to highlight the different school systems. All members were excited about the Conference in England that will be the first organised by the EFC! As RD, Marie Antoinette noted that the sharing experience within the European family was special, and that new groups can be developed with virtual Chapters before a new state organisation is formed. She noted that it takes a year or two to gain an oversight of the workload and issues and is therefore pleased to be able to carry on as RD in the coming biennium (after being voted in!).

Marika also reminded us that the EFC has achieved a lot, but that a lot of work lies ahead. The problems teachers are facing are global. DKG must and can play a role. Carola as the incoming Chair hoped that there would be more Chapter-to-Chapter contact within the European group.

5. Convention in Maryland:

Marika has prepared the Booklet for the EFC to use at the Convention at the Forum meeting on Friday 12th July at 4pm. The Booklet has been sent electronically to all EFC members and will be placed on *Basecamp*. Marie Antoinette will put the final financial report there as well, as she now has received monies from all European states.

The extra costs for hire of the room at Convention for the joint forum meeting will be somewhat higher than first suggested, ca \$180 with taxes included.

The joint Forum meeting will be too costly to stream, and Victor at HQ has been asked to assist with recording Marion Blumenthal's lecture. She will not be present in person but will answer questions from her home.

The theme of the Forum meeting is "Peace".

6. Introduction of new members:

Marika introduced **Àsa** as the new member from Iceland. Àsa sits on her executive board. She has been a member of DKG since 2018. **Henna** from Finland was also introduced. She is the treasurer of the Finnish board, and she was suggested as the new treasurer of the EFC! (The new treasurer will not have responsibilities as treasurer of the European conference in 2025. A treasurer for the conference is to be appointed from Great Britain). Unfortunately, her IT connection wasn't good, and she was unable to reply to the question!

Thi from Germany was also introduced but was hampered by bad IT connection.

Diana from GB has been a member of the EFC on three occasions! She will be a key member of the committee with the Conference taking part in Brighton in 2025.

Muriel has been a new member of the EFC since November 2024. She was very pleased with the meeting at Vestnes and commented on the camaraderie of the women present, something that is precious to DKG. She thanked her predecessor, Astrid, who had been a member for 4 years.

Marika thanked all for their contributions and looked forward to meeting many members from Europe in Maryland.

7. Next meeting:

The next meeting of the new EFC will be **a Zoom meeting on September 5th, 2024, at 19.00 CET.**

Marie Antoinette will send the link.

The meeting was adjourned at 20.20 CET

Muriel Marsh

25.06.2024

