



Fifth online European Forum Meeting 2025-2026

Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 19.00-20.30 CET

Agenda

1. Welcome – Carola van Zanen-van Rijn, chair EU Forum Committee 2024-2026
2. Minutes November 12 , Minute taker Muriel Marsh, Norway.(Thank you)
3. Review St Lucia Day, December 11, 2025 and Educational Topic February 5, 2026.
4. Make a top 3 for a theme for the Conference in Norway from the suggestions we have.
5. Update conference in Norway.
6. Incoming mail and messages.
- News from the Europe Regional Director
7. Other Educational Topics, planning, Great Britain and the best way to plan the zoommeetings to be interesting for all including sound, presentation etc.
8. Artist in the Spotlight (December Germany) February/March ? Can only members participate? What is your opinion?
9. Our in person meeting in Norway, May 2026.
10. Every member reports about their own country and issues they want to address.
11. Other business

The next meeting will be March 11, 2026, 19.00-20.30 CET



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

European Forum Committee meeting 11^h February 2026, 19.00-20.00 CET

Present at the Zoom meeting were Carola van Zanen van Rijn, Marie Antoinette Hubers de Wolf, Muriel Marsh, Viborg Ása Bjarnadottir, Diana Bell, Thi Finkemayer, Henna Perätalo, Ann Kathrin Swärd and Kadri Mettis. Beverly Hall-Maughan was present towards the end of our meeting. Thank you

1.Welcome: Carola welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting of the 12th of November 2025. The minutes were approved.

3. Review of/ comments on Lucia Day 11th December 2025 and educational topic from Jelena 5th February 2026. The educational topic was well received and will be published on the European website. GB stressed that it is imperative that all members taking part in Zoom/ digital meetings are muted throughout the lecture/ webinar. The host should make sure this is done prior to the start to reduce irritation later!

4. Conference 2027, Theme:

Carola has had a poll on our What's App, where all members have placed their 3 preferences for the Conference theme. Here are the votes of the EFC jury, in preferred order:

1. Shaping the future of education, trends and insights for tomorrow.
2. Education and learning: unlocking opportunities for all.
3. Beyond borders -exploring global perspectives on education. (the topic Global collaboration in education has a very similar message)

These topics will be discussed at our next meeting and by the state board of Norway at their meeting 12th March.

5. Update on Conference in 2027:

The Norwegian board has confirmed that they will invite to Kristiansand in 2027. w/e 10th-13th June 2027. Norway wishes to hold its state meeting in conjunction with the Conference to encourage members to take part. The EFC in its feedback from Brighton encourages a social event prior to the meetings. This will be confirmed as soon as possible. The Norwegian board is keen to establish which locality the Conference will be held at. It is hoped that this will be confirmed before the summer. The board will meet in Kristiansand in April to look at premises.

6. Incoming mail and messages: Henna (Finland), our treasurer, has been chosen as a participant of the Ignite program. Together with Jenni Korte, also from Finland and chosen for the Ignite program, she will take part at the Convention in Colorado. We send our warmest congratulations!

Carola has sent us all the agenda for the Forum meeting in Colorado and asked for comments, as this is to be forwarded to HQ. The theme of the combined Forum meetings at the convention has had a poll from the EFC. The same has been conducted in the other Forums.

News from the Regional Director: MA reminded us of a request sent from the Leadership Discovery Centre (LDC) for short articles concerning leadership practices in Europe. She will forward the mail sent to the SOPs and encourages us all to send a small input. A new deadline is set for 15th March.

7. Other Educational Topics: Diana has a promising speaker from GB. His name is Kenneth Xiaoling Jiang, an American concert pianist who gained a place at the Juilliard School of music. He is also a very creative person and teacher and is happy to speak of “The unlimited mind” which is his teaching method. A date is to be decided. Henna told us of the theme of Creativity in the classroom used in Finland, and MA of a teacher in Germany, (Daniella), who conducts a week’s survival work out of the classroom with her pupils. They must learn to be creative and independent on 10 euros a day!

Concerning issues with Zoom meetings and etiquette for such, **see point 3 above.**

8. Artist in the spotlight: A new artist from either GB, or Iceland. We will discuss the possibility of an artist from outside our membership when we meet in May.

10. In-person meeting in Norway: All members of the EFC have confirmed coming to Oslo in May and most have sent travel/flight details. Sweden will confirm later. Muriel reminds all to send any dietary needs prior to coming and preferably by 1st May. Bjørg will be present for practicalities and MA will invite the incoming RD to dinner on the Saturday.

11. Member countries report:

- **Iceland** has published a book celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2025. They are very excited at welcoming Louise Evans to Reykjavík in March!
- **Germany** Thi was excused from giving a report.
- **Netherlands.** Have held a successful day of meetings for all members at the start of the year. They also had a fundraiser for refugee girls. The hope is to mentor the girls and give them opportunities to buy school essentials to improve their possibilities. The Netherlands will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on the 30th of May with a party for all! Details not given yet!
- **GB** are preparing for their AGM in the spring, either 28th March or the 18th April. Will be confirmed shortly. They recommend following their website for upcoming events.
- **Finland** Has a theme of Creativity and beyond for the DKG year. Their AGM will be held on the 11th April, with MA attending. After the meeting there will be a seminar of creativity. Henna was curious if this could be a virtual event for others in Europe. MA will investigate it. Henna was thrilled to gain a place on the Ignite program and also hoped to continue as treasurer for the EFC in the upcoming biennium.

- **Norway** has 3 Chapters that are functioning well. Some new members as well, especially younger members in Kristiansand! We hope to have the Conference Committee in place by the summer.
- **Sweden** has had a Zoom meeting with all Chapter presidents. The focus has been a thorough discussion of the 7 purposes of DKG members. All Chapters have been asked to do a SWAT analysis. Ann Kathrin stressed to all, that members and meetings should be concerned about **why** we are members of DKG, stressing the 7th purpose:

“To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society”

- **Estonia** is busy preparing for the AGM in Pärnu on the 26th of April. MA will be visiting Tallinn and Pärnu prior to travelling to Finland. Kadri is also involved in a project concerning the use of Louise Evans’ method in schools in Estonia and other countries in Europe.

11. Other business: All incoming and outgoing members of the EFC are invited to the last meeting of the current EFC on the 10th of June. Carola wishes that all countries inform of their new EFC members and of those continuing in the coming biennium.

11. Next meeting: 11th March 19.00 CET.

Happy half term/ winter break/carnival / Chinese New Year/ Valentine to all!

The meeting was adjourned at 20.00 CET

Muriel Marsh (Norway)

12.02. 2025

