



**Minutes of the European Regional Division Committee meeting,
Tuesday 7th November 2023, online**

Present:

EURDC Members:

Ertuğrul Çimen, Chair
Marcie Hopkins, Vice-Chair
Kateryna Aleksieienko
Steen Bording Andersen
Dagnija Baltaņa
Nick Boxem
Giorgios Glossiotis
Catharina Isberg
Hella Klauser
Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk
Jasmina Ninkov
Antti Sauli
Pascal Sanz
Maia Simonishvili

Guests:

Despina Gerasimidou (IFLA HQ)
Stephen Wyber (IFLA HQ)

Apologies:

Almuth Gastinger
Ágnes Hajdu Barát
Stefano Parise
Mojca Rupar Korošec
Pavel Kuzmin
Alicia Sellés Carot

1. Welcome and Chair's Update

Ertuğrul Çimen (EC) welcomed EURDC members to the second meeting of the Europe Regional Division Committee for years 2023-2025.

2. Previous meeting minutes discussion and approval

EC asked if anyone has comments to the last meeting's minutes sent by Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk (JKZ). Pascal Sanz (PS) raised concerns about one of the sentences attributed to Sharon Memis, IFLA's Secretary General (SM). Hella Klauser (HK) and Catharina Isberg (CI) supported his opinion. JKZ declared that she will review her notes and check whether she put this sentence to the minutes correctly.

(note: After the meeting Stefano Parise (SP) asked to correct one of his remarks. JKZ corrected them accordingly. JKZ also removed the sentence attributed to SM as its meaning was put down incorrectly. No other corrections were requested.)

3. Latest situation of the co-opted members for the two free seats

Concerning the process of co-opting members for the two free seats in the division EC stated that:

- 1) The co-option process has been concluded,
- 2) 8 candidates came forward,
- 3) All of these candidates had a relevant background,
- 4) While choosing the new members EC, Marcie Hopkins (MH) and JKZ focused on regional and background diversity,
- 5) 3 names were proposed to Alejandro Lorenzo César Santa (ALCS), Regional Council's chair, who is responsible for approving new committee members,
- 6) ALCS agreed to appoint Kateryna Aleksieienko from Ukraine (KA) and Dagnija Baltiņa from Latvia (DB) as the new members of the EURDC.

KA and DB introduced themselves. HK asked which countries the other candidates were from. EC informed that these were Belgium, Bosna & Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Lithuania, and Romania.

4. HQ Update

Stephen Wyber (SW) informed the Committee that a Governing Board meeting has been held online. One of its topics was the events that could be held next year. EC asked everyone to think what the EURDC could propose in place of the cancelled WLIC.

5. Discussion on the Brussels Workshop and RDC meeting

SW presented the upcoming workshop's details. MH asked whether the committee members should prepare anything in advance. SW replied that everyone should have already received an email with things to think about before the workshop. EC informed that the EURDC first in-person meeting will be focused on the action plan. He added that he invited Ilona Kish, Director of Public Libraries 2030 to join the meeting and present on her work. More guest speakers will be invited, if they will be available.

6. Action Plan 2023-2025 Discussion and Identifying the Subcommittees and Chairs

EC thanked EURDC members for their input and informed how the process of setting up the action plan looked like. EURDC officers decided to choose actions which were realistic and had endorsement. Although the deadline for submitting the action plan was October 31st, the EURDC was allowed to submit it on November 24th – after the in-person meeting. He also stressed that every of the 4 proposed actions needs to have a chair/leader.

A discussion on the 4 proposed actions has been held.

Maia Simonishvili (MS) and HK proposed to postpone the discussion until the in-person meeting. EURDC members agreed on this.

7. Any Other Business

JKZ informed that IFLA HQ is expecting the EURDC to publish at least one news item per month. These news will be then used for the IFLA newsletter.

No other AOB have been raised.

8. Closing remarks

EC thanked everyone for their attendance.