

Date: May 21

Place: Digital

NFOG Board members

NFOG officers: Alexander Kristinn Smáráson, (President), Sebastan Gidlöf (Secretary General), Vasilis Sitras (Treasurer).

National societies: Mette Fabricius (DSOG), Matthildur Sigurðardóttir (FÍFK), Solveig Bjellmo (NFG), Marion Ek (SFOG), Marjo Tuppurainen (SGY).

NFOG Committees/Activities: Terhi Piltonen (Scientific Committee), Niels Ulbjerg (NFOG Textbook), Inger Sundström Poromaa (Congress President, NFOG Uppsala 2025)

Absent: Michelle Kanne (NFYOG), Lars Ladfors (Webmaster), Amar Bhide (Chief Editor AOGS).

1. Opening

After some technical issues, Alexander Kristinn Smáráson (AKS) opened the meeting.

2. Economy and budget 2026-2027

Vasilis now has access to the bank accounts. The external audit provided their report for 2024. The report will now be reviewed by the internal auditors and then it needs to be designed by all national presidents and NFOG officers.

Vasilis Sitras (VS) showed the proposed budget to be presented at the upcoming General Assembly. The budget had been updated according to the suggestions put forward at the last NFOG Board meeting. The changes included DKK 100 000 to be allocated to the NordAct committee per year and DKK 20 000 extra to NFYOG.

According to the statutes it is not possible to have a fixed amount of the NFOG Fund included in the budget. But it is possible to ask the General Assembly for approval to have a fixed amount transferred to the fund for the upcoming two years to secure minimal amount for available for grants. This minimum could be set at 700.000 per year over the next two years.

The membership fees were discussed, and it was decided to keep them unchanged from the previous budget years.

Peter Ildal Nielsen participated in the meeting and clarified questions from the NFOG board members regarding the economy.

3. Preparations for the General Assembly

Sebastian Gidlöf went through the procedures of the General Assembly. The agenda will be sent out to all NFOG member societies at least two months prior to the General Assembly. All national presidents were asked to check the number of members as the number of votes is corresponding to this figure. The election committee, consisting of all national presidents, will have to put forward a candidate for General Secretary, Marie Søgaard from Denmark.

4. Webmaster

Finland has located a good candidate for the webmaster position when Lars Ladfors steps down, Kristiina Rönö who has held the position for six years at SGY. It was decided by the NFOG board to offer the position to the Finnish candidates. AKS will contact Lars Ladfors to plan the handover.

5. EBCOG

The invitation to have an NFOG member to be part of a steering committee in EBCOG was discussed. At the last meeting it was decided to nominate Katariina Laine for the position.

Katariina Laine has attended the first meeting of this committee so more information is available although much is still unclear about the work. Each member is expected to prepare PICO for one subject per year and to cover costs of systematic review from professional knowledge providers which is estimated to be 10.000 EUR.

Solveig Bjellmo (SB) has been in contact with Katariina Laine who is sceptical about the project. It was unanimously decided that NFOG are not able to prioritize this now in the budget. This decision can be revised later with further information.

6. AOGS

Amar Bhide could not attend the meeting, but AKS gave a short report. Wiley's negotiations with Norway broke down so now there is neither transitional agreement with Norway nor Denmark. Further information will be available at the next Board meeting. The current contract with Wiley ends at the end of 2027.

7. Update NFOG2025 congress

Inger Sundström Poromaa gave an update on the NFOG2025 congress. The sponsor positions have all been filled out. The number of delegates is just slightly under budget but there are still registrations coming in.

8. NFOG congress 2029

It was decided that Iceland should be offered the opportunity to arrange the next congress after Tampere. If the Icelandic society decides to decline, Denmark will arrange the congress. AKS raised the issue of having the NFOG congress the same years as both FIGO and EBCOG and suggested moving to an even year in 2030. This would mean a departure from the statutes for one year and would have to be agreed by the General Assembly. All national societies will consider the proposal, and the issue will be brought up again at the next NFOG meeting.

9. Closing of the meeting

AKS thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The next planned board meeting is in Uppsala on Sunday the 24th of August as decided at the last board meeting.