

Minutes NEMO Annual General Meeting 2024

Date: 5 November 2024 | Time: 11:00 – 12:15 CET

Format: Online

Number of participants: Representatives from 58 member organisations

1. Welcome and Annual Update

Petra Havu, NEMO Chair, welcomes the participants and introduces the new Executive Board Praesidium.

The former NEMO Chair, **David Vuillaume**, left the German Museums Association and his position as NEMO Chair in August 2024. Petra Havu, CEO of the Finnish Museums Association, took over the chairmanship in August. She thanks the NEMO executive board for the trust and is honored to take over the new position. Petra also introduces the new praesidium of NEMO, consisting of the Vice-Chair **Vera Carasso**, Dutch Museums Association, and the treasurer **Paulina Florjanowicz**, Polish National Institute for Museums. Petra gives special thanks to Vera and Paulina for taking up the new responsibility.

In addition, another new member has joined the executive board in August: **Sylvia Willkomm**, the new director of the German Museums Association, has taken over the seat of David Vuillaume.

Petra then welcomes the other members of the Executive Board:

- **Liv Ramskjaer** – Norwegian Museums Association (NO)
- **Dagmar Ingi** – Estonian Museums Association (EE)
- **Sergio Servellón** – ICOM Belgium Flanders (BE) – *absent*

All members of the Executive board briefly introduce themselves to the assembly.

The meeting proceeds with an update by Julia Pagel, NEMO Secretary General, on NEMO's activities throughout the year, including ongoing projects and achievements.

Julia points out that everyone received the AGM information pack, that includes NEMO's activities 2024 and budget, plus an update about EU cultural policy developments this year. All details about budget and activities are available on the AGM page www.ne-mo.org/agm2024.

Julia reports on highlights from the year, including

- the international conference on Museums and AI in Brussels, in the context of the EU presidency of Belgium,
- the Political Internship at Suermondt Ludwig Museum in Aachen, Germany, with MEP and EP CULT chair Sabine Verheyen,
- the Ukraine Recovery Conference in May in Berlin, that settled the partnership agreement with the OBMIN network of museums (network of museums in Ukraine), and the start of the Ukrainian Museums Association, which was officially founded in July 2024

Julia then reports about the following capacity building activities and publications:

- NEMO's mentoring scheme for museum professionals in cooperation with the Group of Educators in Museums (GEM), UK
- 4 trainings and 3 webinars
- NEMO's 3 working groups continued their work with a focus on the social value of museums
- 4 publications: one of each working group, plus guidelines for museums and the LGBTQIA+ community – all publications will be online by the end of the year 2024

Julia takes the opportunity to thank all working group leaders, Margherita Sani, Sylvia Willkomm and Estelle DeBruyn for their dedication as working groups leaders in the last year.

Julia points out NEMO's current involvement in two EU funded projects:

- CHARTER, which is looking at training and skills needed in the sector to deliver the best value and work of the museum sector (project ends 2024) and
- ECHOES (started in July 2024): The project will establish a European cultural heritage data cloud, to bring digital cultural heritage into the cloud and make it usable.

She then reports that the Executive Board has worked intensely on NEMO's new strategic priority for the coming year 2025. NEMO decided to focus on the social value of museums, with a specific effort in wellbeing, health and sustainable communities. The strategic paper is also part of the AGM material.

NEMO's objectives for the coming year will be to:

- Raise the AWARENESS in the sector, through information and exchange
- Using our INSTRUMENTS such as trainings and researches to build capacity in the museum
- Using our ADVOCACY to promote the value that museums can create for their communities in the space of wellbeing, health and sustainable communities.

As an outlook for 2025, Julia mentions that NEMO has secured EU funding for the main network activities in the coming four years, that will allow NEMO to keep and build on its offers and actions for the European museum community.

NEMO will also be part of a new project “TOWCHED” that will look at the value of museums through the SDGs - which is an internationally recognized framework.

She then invites everyone to save the date and join NEMO for next years’ European Museum Conference from 26-28 October 2025 in Horsens, Denmark.

The overview of the 2024 budget and the forecast for the 2025 budget is presented by **Paulina Florjanowicz**, who highlights key income sources and expenditures of NEMO. The budget can be downloaded from this page www.ne-mo.org/agm2024..

Petra Havu asks the members if they have questions concerning the budget and/or NEMO activities. There are no questions from the members.

2. Presentation of candidates and elections to the NEMO Executive Board

Petra explains that there are a maximum of 7 seats on the Executive Board, out of which 3 are open for the next term. Liv Ramskjaer and Dagmar Ingi will end their term with the Annual General Meeting 2024 in Sibiu.

Sergio Servellón will stand for re-election, together with the new candidates **Zane Grīvalde** from the Latvian Museums Association and **Sandro Debono**, from the University of Malta, and **Alenka Černelič Krošelj**, from the Slovenian Museums Association. Petra then introduces Rebecca Thonander from the NEMO office as election leader.

Rebecca explains the voting procedure with the Mentimeter tool and invites the four candidates to present themselves to the assembly:

- Sandro Debono, University of Malta, MT (Live via Zoom)
- Zane Grīvalde, Latvian Museums Association, LV (Live via Zoom)
- Alenka Černelič Krošelj, Slovenian Museums Association, SL (via video message)
- Sergio Servellón, ICOM Belgium Flanders, BE (via video message)

After the candidates’ presentations, members are divided into breakout rooms according to their membership categories (Full members, Network members, Individual members) for the election process. Eligible for voting are:

- 20 Full members
- 14 Individual members
- 12 Network members

The election results are published:

Sandro Debono:	196 votes
Zane Grīvalde:	163 votes
Sergio Servellón:	216 votes
Alenka Černelič Krošelj:	156 votes

The newly elected executive board members for the term 2025-2027 are **Sandro Debono, Zane Grīvalde and Sergio Servellón.**

Petra Havu thanks the leaving executive board members Liv Ramskjaer and Dagmar Ingi for their valuable work on the NEMO Board and Alenka Černelič Krošelj for her motivation to stand for elections.

3. Sneak Peek at NEMO's European Museum Conference 2024 and Member's Forum

Julia Pagel gives a brief preview of the European Museum Conference 2024, that will take place from 10-12 November in Sibiu, Romania. Cultural institutions such as museums are increasingly under pressure with polarization rising in societies across the globe. The conference will feature engaging panels, participatory sessions, and hands-on workshops designed to equip NEMO members and museums professionals with practical tools for addressing these challenges.

Julia invites all members to take part in the Member's Forum on 12 November 2024, which will focus on NEMO's main priorities today and in the future. The Member's Forum is a unique opportunity to meet and exchange with all NEMO members and to shape NEMO's future activities.

4. Open Questions and Conclusion

Petra opens the floor for questions and answers. There are no questions from the audience. She thanks the assembly for their time and participation and ends the meeting. The AGM ends at 12:10 CET.

Minutes by Mira Höschler
on behalf of the NEMO Executive Board
Berlin, 8.11.2024