

**DEMIST General Assembly
Online – September 25th, 2024**

Minutes approved at virtual General Assembly, December 11 2025

Participants:

Voting:

Individuals

Milja Stijovic, Cecilia Casas Desantes, Antonio Manuel Torres da Ponte, Timna Seligman, Ximena Jordan, Caroline Gaillard, Roberto Andreu, Yvonne Ploum, Gianluca Kannes, Frank Louhenapessy, Zhanna Manukyan, Dalia Gallico, Yoshihiro Nakatani, Remko Jansonius, Maria Szadkowska, Dominiek Dendooven, Laura Righi, Edward Bosley, Galina Chernetskaya, Lene Skodborg, Omar Ricardo Guzmán Ralat, Belousov Alexander, Carl R Nold, Beatriz Quevedo, Bogatyrev Aleksandr, Vicky L Kruckeberg, Natacha Abriat, Margot Th. Brandlhuber, Ayşen Savaş, Daniela Ball, Ruggero Ranieri, N'Goran Lessa Daniel.

Institutional Representatives

Jurjaen (Jurn) A.W. Buisman – Museum Geelvinck (Netherlands).
Paulo de Freitas Costa – Fundação Cultural Ema Gordon Klabin (Brazil).
Jūlija Trofimova Riga Art Nouveau Museum (Latvia).
Huang Sing-Da Chinese Association of Museums (Taiwan).
Julia Kiseleva – Tsaritsyno Museum and Reserve (Russia).

Non voting:

Fernanda Paiva Guimarães director from Fundação Cultural Ema Gordon Klabin (Brazil).

Minutes prepared by Cecilia Casas Desantes and Caroline Gaillard

The meeting took place online, via Zoom courtesy of Cerralbo Museum.

The minutes follow the order of the agenda. All the documents shared on the screen to be voted were previously shared with members, more than one month ahead of the meeting. These will be included at the end of this document. New documents and reports are included for informative purposes at the end of this document.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Timna Seligman.

The meeting opened at 4 pm. As there was no quorum, Timna declares the meeting closed and reopened it after 5 minutes.

Some practical instructions about microphones, cameras and chat.

Welcome to members, including new ones.

2. Minutes of the Oct 26, 2023 General Assembly (to be voted on), Cecilia Casas.

Cecilia Casas briefly went through the 2023 General Assembly minutes, sharing them on screen and going through all the sections of the agenda.

Shares a comment previously sent by Remko Jansonius to correct Jeanne Watson name.

No further comments from the members or questions in the chat about previous minutes.

Caroline Gaillard explains the way of voting English and French, by clicking in a link on the chat. Voting procedure will ensure online voting members votes are taken into account.

Then she shares the result on screen for all the members to see.

Members approve the Minutes by majority: 31 votes for.

3. Chair report 2023-24 (to be voted on), Timna Seligman

Timna Seligman thanks Cerralbo Museum for providing the Zoom platform and presents the Chair Report while it is shared on screen. (See at the end of this document).

Congratulates Milja Stijovic for organizing the Belgrade 2023 conference.

Explains selection of Georgia for the 2024 conference, that was ultimately canceled. The DEMHIST Open Talks will be held instead.

Thanks all the members for their participation in 2023 elections.

Goes through our 2024 activities: sustainability award, webinars, acronym discussion, working with national groups, solidarity project community-led training session with the cooperation of board member Antonio Ponte, volunteering by Giusy Guerriero etc.

Antonio Ponte makes a brief presentation on the solidarity project they are working on from September to December 2024.

Quick view about ongoing grants (travel grants for 2024 were suspended).

Our website is totally new. We moved from the independent server back to ICOM minisite. Caroline Gaillard took care of the migration and creation of all the new material with the help of volunteer Giusy. Gianluca Kannés helped with providing additional resources. Roberto Andreu (Vicechair) responsible for DEMHIST social media created an Instagram account, and we are going very active via Facebook and Instagram.

No questions in the chat about the Chair report, but some about Dubai.

Caroline explains voting procedure again, via link in the chat.

Then she shares the result on screen for all the members to see.

Members approve the Chair Report: 30 votes for / one abstention.

3. 2023 budget (to be voted on), Frank Louhenapessy

Frank Louhenapessy presents himself as new treasurer elected at 2023 elections in Belgrade. Thanks Remko as previous secretary/treasurer for all his help. This budget was made by them together. Then Frank goes briefly through the budget shared on screen (See end of this document)

There are no comments from members about the budget.

Caroline explains voting procedure again, via link in the chat.

Then she shares the result on screen for all the members to see.

Members approve the budget by majority: 29 votes for.

4. 2024 budget (for information only), Frank Louhenapessy

Frank Louhenapessy briefly goes through the budget shared on screen (See end of this document)

First column is the budget approved in Belgrade for 2024. Then there are some changes, once we knew the income we would have during 2024. This is the

second column. Third column shows the expenses until August. And forth column shows the expected expenses until the end of the year. Georgia expenses will not be made, so there will be changes. As there is no physical conference in Georgia, we will not have any travel grants, the young travel grant will have to be returned to Paris.

Frank asks if there are any questions about the budget.

Timna answers Alexandra's question: Georgia budget remains in our budget.

There is no need to vote this budget as it is ongoing.

5. 2025 proposed budget (to be voted on), Frank Louhenapessy

Frank Louhenapessy briefly goes through the budget shared on screen (See end of this document)

The rollover from 2024 to 2025 will be larger than expected because of the unspent budget from the Georgia conference.

Timna explains that at the end of each year we need to send a full report to ICOM SAREC, which decides the size of the ICOM subvention (provided budget) will be for the International Committees for the following year. year.

Therefore, until the new year actually begins, we will not know the size of our budget.

Frank shares that we are saving a lot of money after the migration to ICOM minisite. We will probably benefit from a NGO discount at mailchimp also.

We will give some expenses for the London procedures.

Caroline explains voting procedure again, sharing screen, in English and French.

Cecilia adds Spanish explaining.

Then she shares the result on screen for all the members to see.

Members approve the budget by majority: 32 votes for.

6. Presentation of the Strategic Plan (to be voted on), Milja Stijovic

Milja Stijovic presents herself as Belgrade organizer and new Vicechair elected in the previous elections. Then she briefly goes through the Strategic Plan shared on screen (See end of this document).

She explains that basically she used the strategic lines presented at the Prague Triennial, adapting them to DEMHIST. She defined Vision, Mission, Goals, and Strategies to achieve these strategic goals. She thanks Remko for his remarks sent in advance. Outreach and Communication are our strongest goals for the future, since we worked a lot on Governance over the past year..

She asks for any comments or questions.

Timna remarks that we are already working on sustainability, inclusivity, etc.

Caroline explains voting procedure again, via link in the chat.

Then she shares the result on screen for all the members to see.

Members approve the Strategic Plan by majority: 28 votes for.

BREAK (5 minutes)

7. Membership report, Cecilia Casas

Cecilia Casas presents herself as new secretary, and then makes a brief membership report with data according to IRIS database August 2024 (see attached document). Cecilia thanks Remko for all his support.

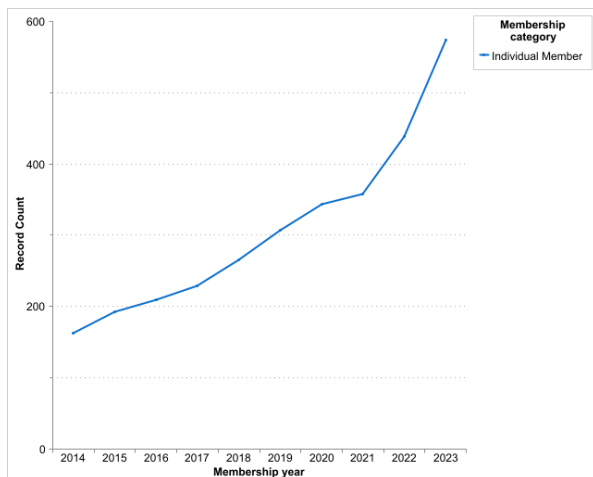
She shows the numbers for individual and institutional members, and the rising trend during the last 9 years. Regarding the geographical areas, we are working to increase our outreach in Africa.

Current Individual DEMHIST members: 788

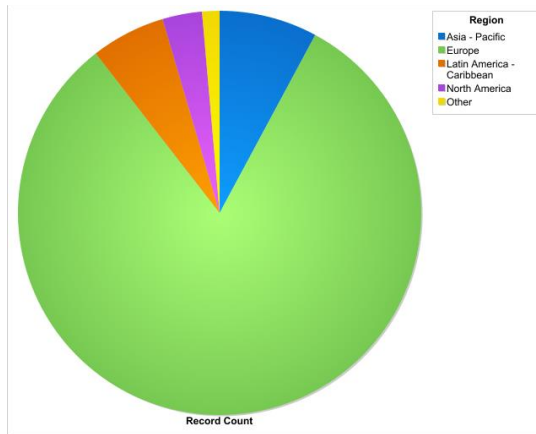
We closed 2023 with 574

We increased 214 members during 2024, and counting.

The membership shows a rising trend, as in the last 9 years (see graphic from 2014 to 2023).



The Individual members are mostly from Europe, followed by Asia-Pacific region and in the third place, by Latin America – Caribbean.

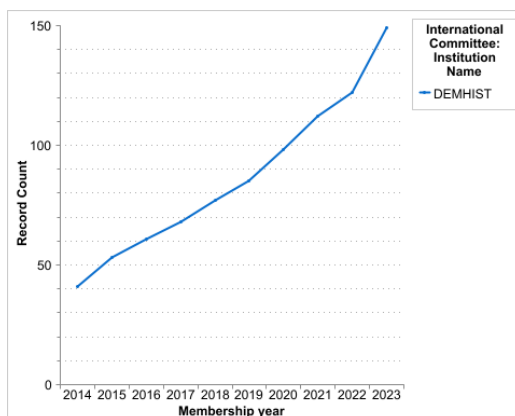


Current Institutional members: 188

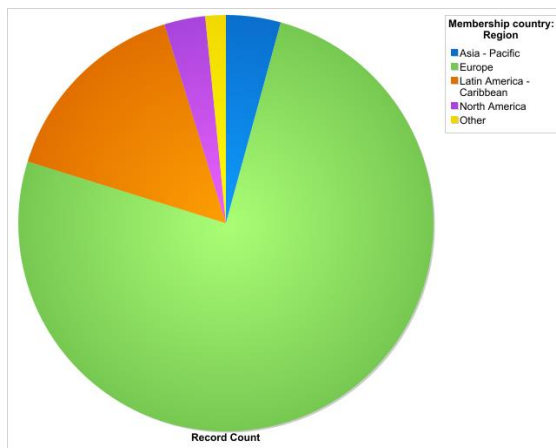
We closed 2023 with 149

So we increased 39 institutional members during 2024, and counting.

The membership shows a rising trend, as in the last 9 years (see graphic from 2014 to 2023).



The Institutional members are mostly from Europe, followed by Latin America – Caribbean region and in the third place, by Asia-Pacific.



Conclusions

Total amount of members: 976

Besides, current individual ICOM members that choose DEMHIST as a committee of interest: 1391

(Numbers according to IRIS database at the beginning August the 2nd)

Cecilia also shares information about Mailchimp: frequency of communications, number of recipients, what to do if you don't receive the communications, the possibility to unsubscribe and follow our news on the web and/or in social media.

Yvonne asks why the Mailchimp recipients are not matching the number of members and Cecilia answers that Mailchimp must be manually updated by downloading new members or updated members data from IRIS, once or twice a month. The problem is that IRIS database is not always updated, Mailchimp deletes the recipients that don't open the mail often... Besides, institutional members can have more than one recipient. This is an ongoing work and the system is not perfect. She shares that ICOM secretariat is very aware of the sync problem between IRIS and Mailchimp (that they recommend to use). Also, ICOM secretariat is currently working on a tool of their own: a new database that will allow to also send communication campaigns with always updated members data.

She is open to any member that needs help to update their data on IRIS.

Yvonne and Remko ask if this rise in members is happening in other committees as well and Cecilia answers she can assume so.

Gianluca asks what is the geographical precedence of the new members. Cecilia don't have this specific data prepared for the meeting, but we have members

from more than 60 countries, as we prepared the data for the last SAREC report. She could dig more for Gianluca and Antonio outreach project if they want.

Milja proposes to investigate duplicate accounts etc. and Cecilia shares that she presented to the chair some cases to decide about in June, but unfortunately they have too much on their plates. This is an ongoing work.

8. Acronym change, Cecilia Casas

Cecilia Casas presents the results and conclusions of the consultations about Acronym and/or flag change, as decided by the board following results of the membership surveys.

ICOM Executive Board asked all International Committees to consider the practicality and benefits of replacing International Committee acronyms with names reflecting their core area of focus and activity. Committees are invited also to change their flag.

The call went out at the end of 2023, with clear instructions to all ICs. The process would involve informing members, gathering input + voting on GA. Our first informative communication to members was on March 2024, in English, Spanish and French.

We held the “Time to Change?” webinar on March 26 to inform all membership and clear doubts. With Luis Marcelo Mendes from ICOM - MPR.

First survey was launched in March and remained open till April 30th (more than a month) to gather membership input.



After the webinar, our following communication presented the link to the recording, a summary of the webinar, and an objective list of pros and cons, elaborated by the board, of changing the acronym, to help members process the information and make their own decision.

Again, the campaign was performed in English, Spanish and French. First survey was still open, to give members time to answer.

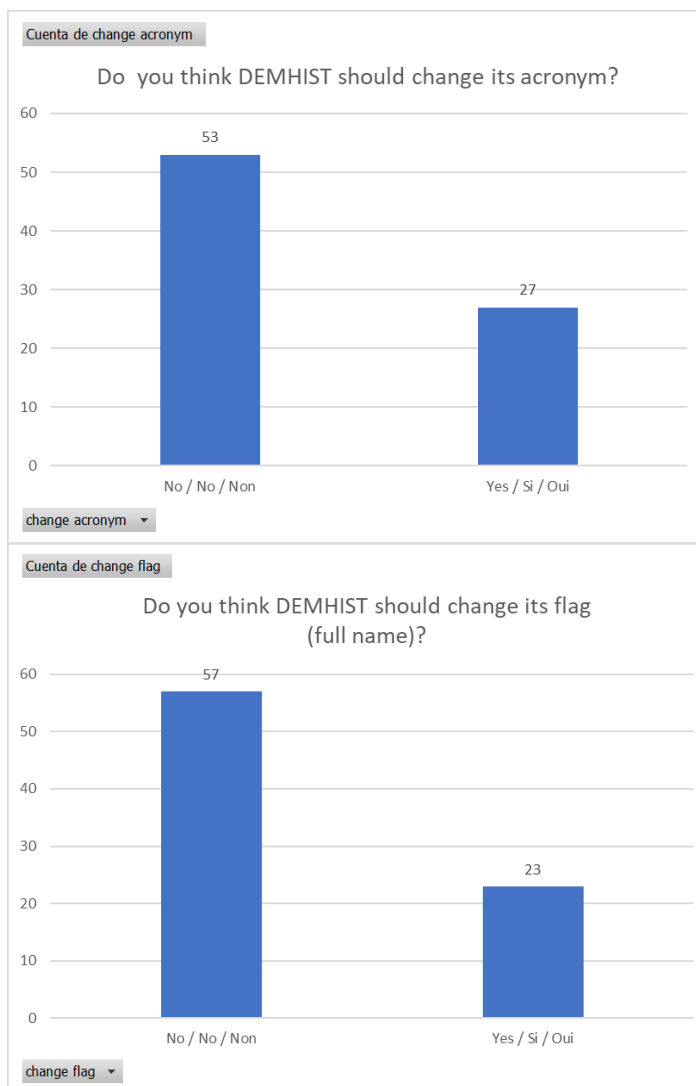
First survey was answered by very few people, with too many questions, and outcome was very inconclusive. Less than 15 participants was not representative of our membership. We also received many concerned feedbacks via email, regarding the whole process, the importance of the current acronym, why they had decided NOT to vote, etc.

We decided to launch a second survey.

It was shorter, but provided more results, this second survey (opened from May to June 12th) gave a clearer result showing that despite the name perhaps not having a clear meaning, the membership is attached to the history behind it and feels it best represents the committee.

80 responses (about 10% of individual membership).

It was decided not to change the acronym.



Results were communicated to members in the June newsletter, including the disclaimer: “Please remember that this was an opinion survey and not a poll. The topic may well come up for discussion at our annual General Assembly, as is required by the ICOM Executive Board”.

But, according to the membership's wishes, and after deliberation with DEMHIST governance working group, we decided that DEMHIST will remain DEMHIST and we won't vote for any change. It was communicated to ICOM Secretariat, via Marine Walon, and they have accepted our response.

This is included in Chair Report 2023-2024 and we keep all the records on surveys. All the campaigns are linked on our website, to keep a record on the communication process. We did our best to explain the process to our membership, to encourage debate and reflection, but we saw a clear tendency to keep the DEMHIST traditional acronym. So, this matter is not subject to vote today, according to your desires and with the permission of ICOM Secretariat, that also gave us the possibility of changing our minds in the future if the members desire.

No questions from the members.

9. Outreach, Roberto Andreu

Roberto Andreu, Vicechair presents himself.

Facebook has had an increase in members 203 from our last GA, and the new Instagram account has 357 members now.

Mexico, Italy, Brazil... we have several countries with national groups. And some of them are very active now, as Turkey, Northern countries.

We are focusing now in spreading the word about the Open Talks. He thanks Ximena Jordán, board member from México, for her great ideas and availability. He asks all the members help us grow on social media and spread the word about DEMHIST.

10. National groups updated guidelines Aysen Savas

Prof. Dr. Aysen Savas (METU Faculty of Architecture, Turkey) presents the draft for the new guidelines for National Groups, a recommendation document elaborated in collaboration with Ximena Jordán (Museo Frida Kahlo, board member). Cecilia shares the document on the screen.

This is intended to encourage the creation of new national groups and to easy explanation of their advantages.

(See end of this document).

Timna shares some thoughts and expresses her desire to increase our membership in Africa.

11. Open Talks presentation, Timna Seligman

Timna Seligman introduces our next community outreach event, the Open Talks 25-27 November 2024 “Historic house museums and their communities”. We are able to use the majority of the paper proposals for Georgia and turn it into a totally new event, very open and dynamic: papers, video tours, gamification, etc. With John Orna Ornstein of the National trust (UK) as keynote speaker.

We have a teaser that Caroline shares to create expectation about the event between the attending members.

The event will be free and open to members and non-members.

The teaser will be shared in our webpage in a few days.

12. ICOMOS Czechia Committee for House Museums, Maria Szadkowska

Maria Szadkowska, from the City Museums of Prague, Czequia, and former board member, talks about the creation of a new ICOMOS Czechia committee for House Museums. We came to the conclusion at that time that cooperation between ICOM Demhist and ICOMOS would be very useful in view of the establishment of more and more new house museums of this type all over the world. Often these are architecturally exceptional houses that require a specialist approach to their reconstruction, restoration or adaptation for museum purposes. We have noticed that this particular category of heritage houses or museums does not have a developed methodology for restoration, reconstruction and subsequent operation. Since we already have several well operated houses in the Czech Republic, of which the Müller Villa and Villa Tugendhat can be considered pioneers in the field of restoration and operation, the idea of establishing a new committee within ICOMOS was born.

13. Any Other Business & open microphone, all

No questions or comments.

14. Closure and thank you, Timna Seligman

DOCUMENTS:

DEMHIST BUDGET 2022	
	Financial Report 2022
REVENUE	
Balance Rollover	9,651.65
ICOM Subsidy 2022	6,455.00
subTOTAL	16,106.65
EXPENSES:	
DEMHIST support of Prague Conference	-574.60
Webinars (Mar 14, Apr 21, Jun 21, Oct 27)	-2,000.00
GRANTS:	
Special Project Grants - Liisa Okari/Finland (1,000); Lavinia Galli/Italy (1,000); Esther Griffin/Poland (650)	-2,650.00
Jeanne Watson Travel Bursary - Alice S. Legé/France	-1,000.00
ICOM Young Member Travel Grant	-
Formatting Annual Proceedings 2022	-
COMMUNICATIONS:	
Website Maintenance	-747.00
SurveyMonkey	-487.20
Postage	-
Banking Fees	-100.91
Exchange Loss	-
Other	-
subTOTAL	-7,559.71
End of Year Balance	8,546.94

DEMHIST 2023 BUDGET as of October 7, 2023

	Proposed BUDGET 2023 (Approved at 2022 GA): REVENUE and EXPENSES	REVENUE and EXPENSES as of Oct. 7, 2023	ANTICIPATED EXPENSES by Dec 31, 2023	ANTICIPATED BALANCE by Dec. 31, 2023
REVENUE				
(Anticipated/Actual) Balance Rollover from 2022 (1)	8,150.24	8,546.94		8,546.94
(Anticipated/Actual) ICOM Subsidy 2023 (2)	6,455.00	7,312.00		7,312.00
subTOTAL	14,605.24	15,858.94		15,858.94
EXPENSES				
DEMHIST support of Belgrade Conference 2023	-3,000.00	-3,000.00		-3,000.00
Webinars (Feb 14, Mar 28, Jun 1, Oct 9)	-2,000.00		-2,000.00	-2,000.00
GRANTS:				
Special Project Grants (3)	-3,000.00	-1,500.00	-1,675.00	-3,175.00
Jeanne Watson Travel Bursary - Luz Frias Hernandez/Mexico	-1,000.00		-1,000.00	-1,000.00
ICOM Young Member Travel Grant - Jose Ignacio Carrillo Martinez/Spain (4)			-1,200.00	-1,200.00
Formatting Annual Proceedings 2022 / Kyoto Proceedings (5)	-500.00		-250.00	-250.00
COMMUNICATIONS:				
Website Maintenance	-750.00		-750.00	-750.00
Survey Monkey Annual Fee (6)	-450.00			0.00
MailChimp monthly fee @ app. 27 euro (Mar-Sep) and (Oct-Dec)		-187.79	-81.00	-268.79
Postage and telecommunication Cost	-250.00			0.00
Banking Fees	-300.00	-103.76	-196.24	-300.00
Exchange Loss	-150.00		-150.00	-150.00
Other	-100.00			
Return of Fondazione Pini Subsidy (7)		-1,500.00		-1,500.00
Hospitality (Board retreat Porto) (8)		-212.00		-212.00
subTOTAL	-11,500.00	-6,503.55	-7,302.24	-13,805.79
(9) ANTICIPATED/ACTUAL BALANCE	3,105.24	9,355.39	-7,302.24	2,053.15

equals balance of
Oct 7 DEMHIST bank
account

DEMHIST PROPOSED BUDGET for 2024

	ACTUAL BUDGET 2022	ANTICIPATED BUDGET 2023	BUDGET 2024 proposed REVENUE and EXPENSES
REVENUE			
Balance Rollover	9,651.65	8,546.94	2,053.15
Anticipated ICOM Subsidy 2024 (same as 2023)	6,455.00	7,312.00	7,312.00
subTOTAL	16,106.65	15,858.94	9,365.15
EXPENSES:			
DEMHIST support of 2024 Conference	-574.60	-3,000.00	-2,000.00
Webinars	-2,000.00	-2,000.00	-900.00
GRANTS:			
Special Project Grants	-2,650.00	-3,175.00	-2,000.00
Jeanne Watson Travel Bursary	-1,000.00	-1,000.00	-1,000.00
ICOM Young Member Travel Grant	-	-1,200.00	-1,200.00
Formatting Annual Proceedings 2022	-	-250.00	-200.00
COMMUNICATIONS:			
Website Maintenance	-747.00	-750.00	-750.00
SurveyMonkey	-487.20	-	-
MailChimp monthly fee 12 @ app. 27 euro	-	-268.79	-324.00
Postage	-	-	-28.00
Banking Fees	-100.91	-300.00	-300.00
Exchange Loss	-	-150.00	-150.00
Other	-	-1,712.00	-
subTOTAL	-7,559.71	-13,805.79	-8,852.00
End of Year Balance	8,546.94	2,053.15	513.15