

## Agenda GM

### 1. Opening of General Meeting

Welcoming speeches by the hosting town and president of Douzelage  
Giving the opportunity to add points to the agenda  
Settle the agenda

### 2. Approval of the Škofja Loka GM minutes

Approval of the minutes of GM in Škofja Loka, 25-28 August 2022

### 3. Approval of the accounts 2022 (January 2022 - December 2022)

- Brief explication on financial status of Douzelage account by Harry Crombag, treasurer Douzelage Europe
- The Douzelage accounts are checked by two auditors: Mrs. Veronica Marešová (Sušice) and Mr. Thorsten Wohleser (Judenburg)
- Statement by Mrs. Veronica Marešová on the Douzelage account of 2022
- Granting discharge by the auditors
- Appointing one new auditor and thanking Mrs. Veronica Marešová for her work

### 4. Annual Douzelage membership

- It is proposed to remain at the amount of € 350,- according to the decision taken in Sesimbra (2003).  
The invoices of 2023 will be send after this GM.

### 5. Announcement of one our Douzelage town

(page 4)

### 6. New Codicil of Charter of Douzelage Partner Towns

The last charter was signed in Bad Kötzing in 2017. Since then we said farewell to a few towns and welcomed others.  
Shall we set a date for the new charter?

### 7. Extra amendments to the constitution; the voting system (Constitution Douzelage, 4. Organisation, point c.)

You have been asked for your opinion on three possible variations on 28 July 2023.

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1/3rd of our Douzelage town members responded.

(page 7)

We will vote according to the constitution of Douzelage.

### 8. (Bus) project Road to Ukraine

Mrs. Mette Grith Sørensen will tell you about our visit to Ukraine and the idea to try to fund a bus for the people of Kamjanets-Podilsky.

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### 9. (Social) Media and PR

When having a Douzelage visit/exchange/project think of our **douzelage.eu** website!

Please send your text and photos to the Secretariat: [secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl](mailto:secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl)

Please check whether your email addresses (and/or town information) on the website are still up to date.

**Instagram:** Feed by Shane Smyth, Annigje Kruytbosch, Julian Preidl and Ovidiu Oniciuc.

You are welcome to join as editor. Let us know!

**Facebook:** We are still looking for editors from certain towns.

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### 10. Past, ongoing and future projects/activities within our towns

Bad Kötzting, Bundoran, Chojna, Granville and Meerssen will present their projects/activities with the aid of (e.g.) a powerpoint presentation during the GM.

These projects will all be described in the minutes of Rovinj/Rovigno 2023.

#### **New!**

Judenburg

(page 9)

Sušice

(page 10)

**Did we miss something? Please let us know a.s.a.p. and take your presentation with you to Skofja Loka.**

### 11. Presentations on the cultural and historical heritage of our towns

All our town presentations are submitted and made into a wonderful digital 'booklet' by our hosts of Rovinj/Rovigno.

We will listen to a few presentations by Douzelage towns.

### 12. Program for further meetings

2023 Rovinj/Rovigno

2024 Sherborne

2025 Preveza

2026 Marsaskala

2027 Vacant

(pages 11/12)

The board would like to propose that it is up to the organising town whether to host in Spring or Autumn.

### 13. Presentation of Sherborne and setting a date

The hosts of the GM in 2023 will give you further information and propose the following date: 4th to 7th of May 2023

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**14. New board in 2024**

In Sherborne a new president and three vice presidents will be elected.

The secretary, treasurer and minutes maker will be appointed by the new team of (vice) presidents.

**15. Workshop Presidency**

The Presidency would love to see many candidates during the elections in 2024 (Sherborne).

We would therefore like to elaborate on "What does it mean to be a (vice) president?" and "Can I do it?" within workshop.

We would love to see many of you attend. It is not obligatory.

**16. Any Other Business**

Time for questions and announcements

**17. Closing the General Meeting 2023**



**MAYOR  
CITY OF ZVOLEN**

**Annije Luns – Kruytbosch**  
President of Douzelage

September 6, 2023  
Zvolen

Subject: **A letter of resignation**

Dear Madam, Sir  
Dear Annigje

I am writing to tell you that the City of Zvolen no longer wishes to be part of the Douzelage.

We have been members since 2007 and since then many people from different areas of social life have profited from membership.

However circumstances have now changed and after careful thinking we have decided that our membership no longer meets either the needs of the organisation or the town. Therefore we are resigning from the Douzelage partnership.

Thank you for all the help you have given in the past.

Yours sincerely



**Vladimír Maňka**  
Mayor of the City of Zvolen

Meerssen, 28 July 2023

Dear Douzelage friends,

During the GM in Skofja Loka in August 2022 a discussion arose on how to vote in general during sessions of the GM and particularly in the case of elections. (Constitution Douzelage, 4. Organisation, point c.)

We then agreed that the topic would be postponed and that the Presidency would present a few alternative proposals.

This document presents, as agreed during the GM of 2022, alternative amendments on the voting procedure in the constitution. The Presidency will add their considerations (annex 1) to this document for the sake of transparency, in line with their point of view as communicated during the 2022 GM.

The procedure will be as follows:

This document with three proposed alternative amendments to the constitution of Douzelage will reach you two months prior to the 2023 GM in Rovinj/Rovigno.

We would like your written comments, if any, before the end of August 2023.

Please send them to: [secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl](mailto:secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl)

Your comments will be used to draw up a final document that will be voted upon during the 2023 GM. It will be sent to you two weeks before the 2023 GM.

(The voting procedure on this topic during the 2023 GM will be according to the constitution as is.)

Legal advice in the matter was given by Thorsten Wohleser and Wolfgang Kerscher.

This led to three variations for the voting procedure:

1. Each delegation may cast one vote in the GM, one vote in the EM and one vote in the YM.  
Note: In this case, we have to define the role of the second delegate of each member town in GM and YM.
2. Each member town may delegate two persons in the GM, one person in the EM and two persons in the YM.  
Each delegate can cast one vote in the respective meeting.  
Note: If only one person is delegated per town, then that town has only one vote.
3. Each member town may cast two votes in the GM, one vote in the EM and two votes in the YM. If only one delegate from a member town is present in the GM or YM, that vote counts double.

Best regards,

Annigje Kruytbosch  
Mette Grith Sørensen  
Miha Jese  
Tibi Rotaru

Annex 1.

The Presidency prefers the third variation because of the following considerations:

**Fairness and representation**

More votes ensure a more equal distribution of power and influence within the organization and provide them with a stronger voice in decision-making processes.

A member town that can only send one delegate should have the right to cast two votes.

**Inclusivity and collaboration, active engagement**

More votes per town encourages greater. It fosters a sense of belonging and motivates delegates to actively engage in discussions, negotiations, and finding common ground.

**Fostering consensus**

In certain situations, having more votes per town can make it easier and more flexible to reach consensus on controversial matters. If a proposal receives support from multiple delegates, it is likely to be more widely accepted and respected and it also ensures a larger democratic participation.

## Voting list

	1	2	3
Agros			
Altea			
Asikkala	1 vote		
Bad Kötzting	1 vote		
Bellagio	1 vote		
Bundoran	1 vote		
Chojna			
Granville	1 vote		
Holstebro			
Houffalize			
Judenburg			
Köszeg			
Marsaskala			
Meerssen			
Niederanven			
Oxelösund	1 vote		
Rokiskis			
Preveza			
Rovinj	1 vote		
Sesimbra	1 vote		
Sherborne	1 vote		
Sigulda			
Siret			
Skofja Loka			
Susice			
Tryavna			
Türi			
Zvolen			

Please check if the editors are still active within (your) Douzelage (town).  
And please think of Facebook members who could be your town editor if your town does not have any.

Info to: [secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl](mailto:secretariat.presidency@douzelagemeerssen.nl)

#### Towns:

Agros	Nicolas Christofi	Niederanven	<b>Laura Gaul</b>
Altea	<b>Vicenta Perez</b>	Oxelösund	Catharina Fredriksson
Assikala	Merja Palokangas	Preveza	X
Bad Kötzting	Markus Hofmann	Rokiškis	Wilme Wilmelee/Irena Mateliene
Bellagio	Donatella Gandola	Rovinj/Rovigno	Maria Rocco
Bundoran	Shane Smyth	Sesimbra	X
Chojna	X	Sherborne	Marcus Ainley
Granville	Mauricette Marie Compte	Sigulda	<b>Sabīne Birzniece Liva Ziedina</b>
Holstebro	Jette Hingbjerg	Siret	Tibi Rotaru/Ovidiu Oniciuc
Houffalize	Manuela di Pinto	Škofja Loka	X
Judenburg	Thorsten Wohleser/Eva Volkar	Sušice	Eva Beníšková
Kőszeg	<b>Kitti Mércz</b>	Tryavna	<b>Daniela Mutova Evelin Koev</b>
Marsaskala	Rebecca Micalief	Türi	<b>Aet Sarv</b>
Meerssen	X (Annijje)	Zvolen	Laszlova Zuzka

#### Education:

**Riikka Penttilä**

#### Youth:

**Zino Vreysen**

#### Board:

Annijje Kruytbosch  
Mette Grith Sørensen

#### Webmaster:

Alexander Luns

#### New!

Still active for Douzelage? Or on facebook?



## European photo exhibition

The city of **Judenburg** organizes the “Judenburg Photo Month” every year, where photography is the focus. Around the travel and adventure festival El Mundo, photo exhibitions are offered in galleries, cafés and in public spaces. On the occasion of our anniversary year 2024 - 950 years of Judenburg & 800 years of the city of Judenburg - the city of Judenburg would like to initiate a traveling exhibition for public space. Topic: Youth – Environment – Building Culture.

With the help of EU funding, this exhibition could open in Judenburg in 2024 and be hosted in the European Douzelage partner cities from 2025. We look forward to implementing this project together and would like to thank you in advance for your support and inclusion in Douzelage's annual program.

## **Young Musicians Festival in Sušice 2024**

### **Term:**

19. 6. 2024 – 24. 6. 2024 (Wednesday – Monday)

### **Draft:**

Music festival for 10 Douzelage member towns, 4 participants (3+1)

### **Description:**

Non-competitive music festival for all musicians who will perform in more places of the town with their own performances and practise for the main concert where each group should prepare one part of a 20–30 minutes performance and 1 or 2 common compositions.

### **Accompanying program:**

Trip to the Šumava mountains and a trip to Prague (for those who will arrive to Prague earlier)

### **Accommodation:**

Garni Hotel Roušarka – 5 nights + full board

### **Transport:**

Transport to Prague at own expense of the participants, transport from Prague provided by the organizer

### **Schedule:**

- 19. 6. – Arrival, sightseeing to Prague, transfer to Sušice
- 20. 6. – Wellcome of the guests by members of the town council, rehearsal in the School of Arts
- 21. 6. – Trip to the mountains, evening concerts in town
- 22. 6. - Concerts in town, rehearsals
- 23. 6. – general rehearsal, concert in Smetana Hall (each delegation one umber + orchestra)
- 24. 6. – Departure

### **We need to know:**

How will you get to the Czech Republic?

What musical instruments will you play?

What repertoire will you play? (At least genre)

Will the delegations have their own instruments or will they need to borrow them?

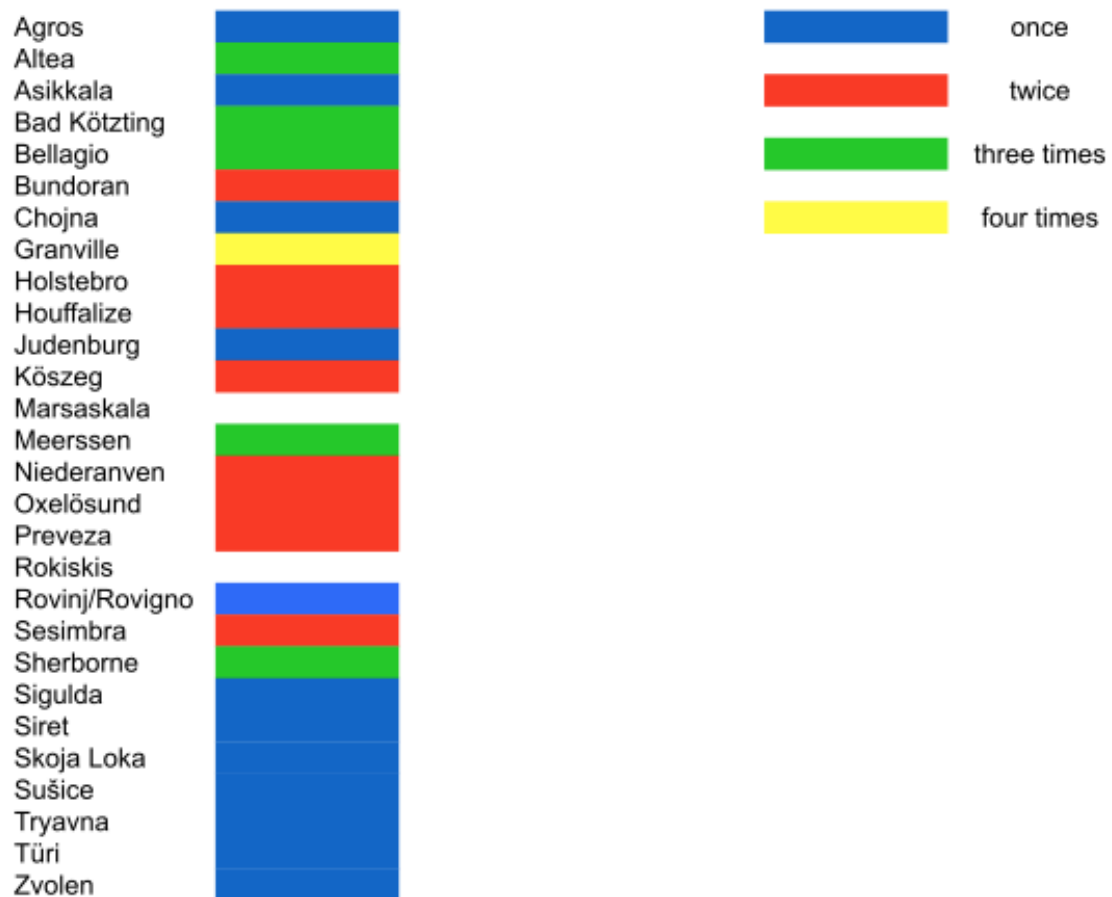
Will the musicians have their accompaniment or will they need ours? (In that case we will need to know the music beforehand).

### **Applications:**

By February 2024

GM	Town	Number	GM				
			1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	
2026		Marsaskala	50	█			
2025	Spring	Preveza	49			█	
2024	Spring	Sherborne	48				█
2023	Autumn	Rovinj/Rovigno	47	█			
2022	Summer	Škofja Loka	46	█			
2021	Autumn	Agros	45	█			
2020	Spring	Škofja Loka	45	cancelled			
2019	Spring	Asikkala	44	█			
2018	Spring	Oxelosünd	43		█		
2017	Spring	Bad Kötzing	42			█	
2016	Spring	Tryavna	41	█			
2015	Spring	Siret	40	█			
2014	Spring	Sigulda	39	█			
2013	Spring	Bellagio	38			█	
2012	Spring	Zvolen	37	█			
2011	Spring	Granville	36				█
2010	Spring	Susice	35	█			
2009	Spring	Altea	34			█	
2008	Spring	Chojna	33	█			
2008	Autumn	Türi	32	█			
2007	Spring	Köszeg	31		█		
2006	Autumn	Sherborne	30			█	
2006	Spring	Köszeg		project meeting cancelled			
2006	Spring	Bellagio		█			
2005	Autumn	Meerssen	29			█	
2005	Spring	Bundoran	28		█		
2004	Autumn	Granville	27			█	
2004	Spring	Judenburg	26	█			
2003	Autumn	Holstebro	25		█		
2003	Spring	Sesimbra	24		█		
2002	Autumn	Houffalize	23		█		
2002	Spring	Oxelosünd	22	█			
2001	Autumn	Karkkila	21	█			
2001	Spring	Niederanven	20		█		
2000	Autumn	Preveza	19		█		
2000	Spring	Altea	18		█		
1999	Autumn	Bad Kötzing	17		█		
1999	Spring	Sherborne	16		█		
1998	Autumn	Meerssen	15		█		
1998	Spring	Bellagio	14		█		
1997	Autumn	Granville	13		█		
1997	Spring	Bundoran	12	█			
1996	Autumn	Holstebro	11	█			
1996	Spring	Sesimbra	10	█			
1995	Autumn	Houffalize	9	█			
1995	Spring	Niederanven	8	█			
1994	Autumn	Altea	7	█			
1994	Spring	Preveza	6	█			
1993	Autumn	---					
1993	Spring	Bad Kötzing	5	█			
1992	Autumn	Sherborne	4	█			
1992	Spring	Bellagio	3	█			
1991	Autumn	Meerssen	2	█			
1991	Spring	Granville	1	█			

### Towns



Future GM's are not yet processed in this chart.