



District 109

Austria - Bulgaria - Cyprus - Greece - Israel - Italy - Liechtenstein - Malta - North
Macedonia - San Marino - Slovenia - Switzerland – Türkiye - Vatican City

2022-2023 Core Team

District Director
Turan Tanin

Program Quality Director
Margherita Brodbeck Roth

Club Growth Director
Dimitrios Diamantopoulos

Public Relations Manager
Laura Filippi

Finance Manager
Giannis Kanlis

Administration Manager
Meltem Altınay

Immediate Past Distr. Dir.
Lilian Shaftacola

Parliamentarian
Lorenzo Gios

District Mission
We build new clubs and
support all clubs in
achieving excellence.

District Motto
Passion beyond borders

District Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday April 30th, 2023
18:00 – 21.00 CET (online)



Please use the link below to register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqcuiozpkjGNyMAvNZMrgLLYOq2P8Ao8sa>



Time (CEST)	Topic	Presenter	I, D*
18:00	Welcome	District Director	
18:05	Call to Order	District Director	
18:07	Review Parliamentary Procedures	Parliamentarian	I
18:18	District Mission & Certification of Quorum	Administration Manager	
18:20	Approval of Agenda	District Director	D
18:23	Approval of Minutes of Online DECM, February 19 th 2023	District Director	D
18:25	Francesco Fedele, DTM-Keynote Speaker	Regional 10 Advisor	I
18:35 18:45	<u>Alignment Report & Recommendation for DCM</u> Alignment Chair Report Recommendation DCM to approve Alignment Report	Alignment Chair	I D
18:55	<u>DLC Report & Recommendation for DCM</u> DLC Chair Report	DLC Chair	I
19:05 19:10	<u>Core Team Reports and District News:</u> District Officer Changes & Nominations Reports (District Director, Program Quality, Club Growth, PR, Finance)	District Director Core Team Members	D I
19:35	Break		
19:45	Audit Committee Chair Report	Audit Committee Chair	I
19:50	Update Reports of Division Directors: Division Reports (A-H)	Division Directors	I
20:30	<u>Current District Business:</u> Announcement re: Hall of Fame June 17-18, 2023, in Ankara/hybrid	District Director	I
20:35	Announcement re: District Conference May 2024	Program Quality Director	I
20:40	Any Other Business Information on membership due increase from \$45 to \$60	District Director	I
20:50	Meeting Adjourned	District Director	

*I=Informative D=Decision-Making



Abbreviations

TT	Turan Tanin, District Director (DD)	LG	Lorenzo Gios, Parliamentarian
MA	Meltem Altınay, Administration Manager	JG	Joseph Galea, Alignment Chair
FF	Francesco Fedele, Regional Advisor R10	YP	Yeoryia Panagiotopoulou, AD G2
KQ	Katherine Quinn, AD D3	EG	Elena Grammenou, Division G DvD
RS	Richard Spitz	MBR	Margherita Brodbeck Roth, Program Quality Director (PQD)
YO	Yoko Owatari, AD D1	LG	Laor Glukhovsky, AD B3
DD	Dimitrios Diamontopoulos, Audit Committee Chair	LS	Lilian Shaftacola, Past Immediate District Director
LF	Laura Filippi, Public Relations Manager	GK	Giannis Kanlis, Finance Manager
EN	Elsa Negri, Division A DvD	GH	Gitel Hesselberg, Division B DvD
GB	Godela Bittcher, Division C DvD	KC	Karina Castella Division E DvD
TA	Tuana Arikboğa, Division H DvD	BT	Brigita Tomas Division F DvD
BUE	Burcu Ünal Erdoğan, AD H3		
DvD	Division Director	AD	Area Director

Minutes

TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed the members of the DECM. • Explained the meeting agenda and procedure. • Invited the Parliamentarian Lorenzo Gios to present the Parliamentary Procedures.
LG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked LG. • Invited the Administration Manager (AM) Meltem Altınay to present the District Mission and status of the quorum.
MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Mission: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence. • Quorum: Achieved, we have 44 members of the DECM, and 34 members registered for the online DECM. • The District Parliamentarian LG, Regional Advisor FF and District Alignment Chair JG who are present at the meeting do not have voting powers and are not included in quorum calculations.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked MA. • Reminded that the agenda was sent in advance, explained the agenda and asked if there are any objections to the approval of the agenda as presented.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing no opposition, asked MA to cast a single vote in favour of approving the agenda as presented.
MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A single vote is cast to approve the agenda of the DECM as presented.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asked for approval of the <u>minutes of the online DECM held on February 19th, 2023</u>. Hearing no opposition, asked MA to cast a single vote in favour of approving the minutes of the online DECM held on February 19th, 2023.
MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A single vote is cast to approve the minutes of the online DECM held on February 19th, 2023.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited Regional Advisor Francesco Fedele to deliver his keynote speech to the DECM.
FF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest speaker Francesco Fedele delivered the speech <u>Are You a Human Leader</u>.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked FF for his inspiring speech. Invited the Alignment Chair Joseph Galea to present the District Alignment Report.
JG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JG presented the <u>District Alignment Report</u>. Explained that the report was sent in advance and a minor correction for a footnote had been made for the report being presented at the DECM. Explained the alignment criteria. The data is based on the toastmaster.org as of April 22nd 2023. Three divisions do not reach the minimum numbers, namely divisions B, C and H. Explained that the clubs in colour <u>magenta</u> are likely to close. Division A remains as is. Division B merged into other divisions and to be closed. For divisions C, D and E, clubs need to be moved around for the divisions to meet the minimum requirements. Division F restructured to have three areas. Division G includes clubs in Greece, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Israel, with four areas. Division H is one club short to be a division but has two clubs that are chartering and meets the requirements to remain as a division.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked JG for the hard work leading to the alignment report. Before opening the floor for discussion asked if there are any proposals for amendments the alignment report as presented. Noted two requests for amendments, one from Yeoryia Panagiotopoulou and one from Yoko Owatari. Gave the floor to YP to raise a motion for the amendment.
YP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raised a motion for two amendments for Division G. Redefine G2 and create a new area.
EG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seconded the motion.



LG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated the discussion by displaying the proposed version of the alignment for Division G. Reminded the DD that there is a second amendment request.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gave the floor to YO.
YO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved a motion to make a 2nd level amendment for Division D to create a new area 4.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asked LG to display the proposed version of the alignment request for Division D and asked YO to confirm.
YO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed by clarifying there are 6 clubs in the new area.
KQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seconded the amendment.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opened the floor to discussion for the second amendment, explaining that those in favour and those against will have each 1 minute to speak and at the end the DECM will vote for the amendment before moving to the first amendment. Gave the floor to KQ (in favour), MBR (against) and RS (in favour). Asked the DECM to vote. Voting resulted in 9 in favour, 7 against and 12 abstained. The 2nd level amendment approved. The 1st amendment now includes the 2nd amendment. Opened the floor for discussion for the motion. Gave the floor to YP (in favour), LG (against), MBR (against). Asked the DECM to vote. Voting resulted in 7 in favour, 8 against, 13 abstained. The amendment was not approved. Opened the floor to make a recommendation to present the Alignment Report to the DCM. After the debate asked the DECM to vote. Voting resulted in 14 in favour, 4 against, 10 abstained. The Alignment report will be presented to the District Council. After the break, invited LS to present the DLC Report
LS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the DLC Report. Explained that all divisions were represented in the committee. Interviews took place from February to March 2023. As Chair, LS did not vote. The whole process is confidential. The report is confirmed by the district director and is in good order. The DLC is now dissolved, their work is done.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked LS and the DLC members for their hard work. Proceeded to the next agenda item and presented District Officer Changes & Nominations Informed the DECM of the nomination of Marco Ambrogio as Area Director for Division A, Area 4.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made a recommendation to nominate Dimitrios Diamantopoulos as Club Growth Director for the remaining term of 2022-2023. • Opened the floor for discussion. • Receiving no objection, asked MA to cast a single vote for approve the nomination.
MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single vote is cast to approve the nomination of Dimitrios Diamantopoulos as Club Growth Director for the remaining term of 2022-2023.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the District Director Report • Reminded that our key goals are positive turnaround for membership growth and number of healthy clubs. • Gave the floor to MBR to present the PQD Report.
MBR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Program Quality Director Report. • Explained the impacts of high turnover. • Emphasised the importance of preparation for the contests. • Informed that there will be an opportunity to give feedback for the next edition of the contest rulebook for next year. • Invited DECM to the district conference and asked to extend the invitation to all their clubs and members. • Gave the floor back to the district director.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave the floor the Dimitrios Diamantopoulos as the new Club Growth Director.
DD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked the DECM for approving the appointment to the role. • Explained that for the remaining months he will support divisions, areas and clubs to build and save clubs, recover suspended clubs and clubs not in good standing. • We can aim to be a distinguished district and even if we don't achieve that goal, we can lay the foundations for a healthy growth. • Invited everyone to work together and gave the floor back to the district director.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked DD and gave the floor to LF for the Public Relations Report.
LF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminded that we have one last breaking news before the district conference. • Asked to engage new members and record a short video interview for the conference. • Reminded that the newsletter is going out and there will be one more for June. • Gave the floor back to the district director.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave the floor to GK for the Finance Manager Report.
GK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Finance Manager Report • Explained that the full Q3 figures are not available from headquarters so the report only covers the first two months of the third quarter. • Traveling costs have to be kept under control, we are at the budget limit. • Make sure you input all expenses by the end of June.



TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked GK for his presentation, reminded the DECM that our district approval process is quick and that we must leave the district in good order by submitting our expenses early. • After the break gave the floor to Division A Director EN for her report.
EN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Division A Report. • Nearly 500 members and 27 clubs, with 1 prospect club in Marche. • Main focus this year is sustainable growth for existing clubs. • Recommendation to have Winter COT's early in December to avoid overlap with contests.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked EN for her report and invited Division E Director KC to give her report as she requested to have an early slot.
KC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Division E Report. • Everyone is engaged, despite being tired. • For the Division Contest over 60 people were involved. Lack of financial resources is a major challenge. • Biggest takeaway: socializing.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked KC for her report and going back to the alphabetical order invited Division B Director for her report.
GH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Division B Report. • Cyprus is holding with two healthy clubs. • Bulgaria lost one club. The remaining 3 are low in membership. • Israel: 3 clubs doing well and one new club. There is also a prospect club. • Division B will close and looking forward to collaborating with Division G for the next term.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked GH for her report and invited GB to present her report for Division C.
GB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Division C Report. • The Division C covers the northwest of Switzerland with Basel, Berne and Lucerne. • Explained the situations in the clubs, outlook is positive for the future.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked GB for her report and invited KQ to present her report on behalf of the Division Director for Division C.
KQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the Division D Report .on behalf of Division Director EF. • 6 clubs will be closing but this was already known at the beginning of the year. • Several clubs have issues with recognizing their payments and status with TI HQ. • A TLI will be organized in June. • Working on division wide publicity and to reach out to non-Toastmasters.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked KQ for the presentation and for describing the struggles of the division in a very positive note. • Invited BT to present the report for Division F.



BT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Division F Report. Greetings from Austria and Slovenia. More than half the clubs are distinguished or better. Overall outlook is positive with succession planning and alignment discussions involving the leadership teams.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked BT and invited EG to present the report for Division G
EG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Division G Report. Half the clubs will be distinguished. Updates on YLP, Greek website, initiatives and Greek translation project. Invited DECM members to the Division G conference in Chios.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked EG for her presentation and invited TA to present the report for division H.
TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Division H Report. Three areas, three cities of Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir, total of 11 clubs. New club chartered and going to charter. Using 5 social media channels to promote Toastmasters.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked TA for her report and for the positive outlook for division H. Invited DD to present the Audit Committee Report in his role as District Audit committee Chair.
DD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Audit Committee Report. Presented the members of the audit committee, in total four. Explained that they checked the expense reports for compliance with Toastmasters governing rules and if deadlines were respected. Explained that expense reports were correct. Made a recommendation for expenditure above \$500 that two prior authorizations are required. Make sure documentation is complete. We need to have proof for the amount and for the purpose.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked DD and the audit committee team for their hard work and recommendations. Presented the Hall of Fame ceremony details that will be held in Ankara on the 17th of June 2023. The district will pay for lodging and meals but is unable to pay for travel. Invited MBR to present the announcement regarding the district conference in 2024.
MBR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Request for Proposals for the district conference in 2024. Invited BUE to present the district conference 2024 presentation.
BUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented THIS ISTANBUL Calling. Location is Istanbul. A city on two continents. A wonderful occasion to celebrate 100 years of Toastmasters. An initial team of five members for the organization. A venue is already identified.



MBR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked BUE for the presentation. • Explained that this is the only proposal that was received, the district core team approves it.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked MBR. • Moved on to last agenda item, other business. • Presented <u>Membership Dues Increase</u>. • Membership fees will increase from \$45 to \$60. • There is an opportunity to pay \$45 only if the payments are received before July 31st. • This should be managed in the handover of district and club officers as there is a very small time window to organize the early membership payment to take advantage of the lower fee.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited the DECM members to take a hard look at the decisions that were taken this year. • For example, the decision to have all area and division contests in hybrid, with a large number of areas with only 4 clubs, created a compound effect of having many contestants and not enough members to support the contests. • Make sure your recommendations to your successors include your considerations about contest organization.
TT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked the DECM members for their participation and for their hard work.
TT	Adjourned the meeting.