

Guidelines for the political work in the Nordic Freelance Cooperation.

Purpose

The Nordic freelance cooperation is based on the fact that freelance journalists in the Nordic countries share common interests and challenges. The media develop rapidly, and, as a consequence, the working conditions for freelancers change. Nordic freelance organizations will use the Nordic Freelance Cooperation as a common platform to meet these challenges and to develop joint strategies.

Nordic Committee

The members of the Nordic Committee should be one person from each freelance board or other union representatives. Finland will be represented by one person from each of the two Finnish freelance organizations.

The committee will have a meeting six times a year. This includes meeting in person just before the top meeting, and at one or two of the annual meetings of the national organizations.

The committee is also responsible for the distribution of information with inter-Nordic content relevant to freelancers in the Nordic countries. This information should be distributed via a homepage, Facebook etc.

The committee is responsible for setting up working groups.

Working groups

The working groups should deal with relevant current problems and issues. Members of the smaller working groups can include members of the committee as well as people brought in from outside the committee. The working group does not have to have representation from all countries. The top meeting could start or initiate working groups.

Secretary

Right after the committee is elected, the group appoints a secretary of the committee from within its own ranks. The secretary is elected for one year at a time. The job as secretary should not be much more time-consuming than the tasks of the other members.

The secretary is responsible for the liaison between the freelance boards

and the general secretary of the Nordic Federation of Journalists (NFJ), the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) and the Freelance Rights Expert Group (FREG).

Top meeting

An annual top meeting will be held for Nordic freelancers in May, June or August. The host country invites 4 members from each organization for lunch and dinner. Lunch and dinner for participants exceeding 4 from each country must be paid for by the home organization.

The top meeting has the highest authority in the Nordic cooperation, and all major decisions should be taken at the top meeting. Denmark, Norway and Sweden will have two votes at the top-meeting. The two Finnish freelance organizations (FAO and SFJ) will have one vote each.

The general secretary of NFJ should be invited to the top meeting.

Guests may be invited when needed to enlighten certain topics.

Meeting structure

The invitation is sent out by the committee two months before the Nordic meeting at the latest. One month before the top meeting national reports and the agenda is sent out by the committee for all participants to read before the meeting.

The top meeting should begin with a short report from the freelance organizations in each Nordic country. The report should consist of a few issues of inter-Nordic freelance interest. Reports and news from the NFJ, EFJ, IFJ and FREG/EFJ should be presented.

The meetings follow normal routines for formal meetings. The committee is responsible for sending out the minutes of the meeting no later than two weeks after the meeting to the Nordic boards.

Location

The top meeting will take place at the location of the freelance event when this takes place.

National Annual Meetings

At least one of the members of the committee should be present at each of the countries' annual meetings to report. The expenses incurred by these members are paid for by the organization of that committee member.

Each organization should invite representatives from the other organizations to their annual meeting. It is up to each organization whether they want to go or not, and with how many delegates, and they will cover their own expenses.

The Nordic guests and a committee representative shall hold short presentations at the annual meeting.

The Nordic Journalist Federation

The Nordic Freelance Cooperation aims at a closer working relationship with the NJF. The committee member of the country which holds the NJF presidency shall develop a closer communication with The Nordic Journalist Federation.

Evaluation

These new guidelines for the Nordic Freelance Cooperation should be evaluated by the Top Meeting in a year.

A proposal from the Nordic Working Group for guidelines for an annual Nordic Freelance Seminar

The Nordic Freelance Seminar should be held every year, and the responsibility of hosting it should be given to one of the four participating Nordic countries in turn.

The framework for a Nordic Seminar should be very flexible in terms of finance, duration, content and otherwise.

The Nordic Committee can support contributions from the non-hosting countries in terms of speakers, lectures and so forth.

The host country is responsible for the overall economic

picture for the seminar.

The participants from each country will pay for their own travelling, lodging and food.