

OPEN PHILATELY WORKING GROUP REPORT
to the FIP Board
Bangkok, Dec 1, 2023

- The FIP Board established the Open Philately (OP) Working Group (WG) on Nov 13, 2022 in Cape Town. As responsible for the OP in the FIP Board, I have looked for five members of the WG among experienced OP exhibitors. Birthe King, Iva Mouritsen, Jari Majander, Elisabeth Hisey and Kazuyuki Inoue have responded positively, so they were nominated.

- The OP WG first (Zoom) meeting was held on Feb 15, 2023. Birthe King was elected by the group of five to co-chair the meetings together with myself and Iva Mouritsen was elected WG Secretary. This year the WG had altogether eight Zoom meetings.

- A Qualifying PPT seminar has been assembled discussing the current regulations and providing examples from WG members exhibits.

- Qualifying seminars

Held: IBRA 2023 by Peter Suhadolc and Birthe King

Next: THAILAND 2023 by Peter Suhadolc and Francisc Ambrus

Planned: EFIRO 2024, HAFNIA 2024, KOREA 2024

- An OP seminar was held during the GASS Cleveland in June by Birthe King and Elisabeth Hisey.

- A website proposal has been put forward by Kazuyuki Inoue and is waiting to be implemented on the FIP website.

- Two jurors have been accredited in OP: Iva Mouritsen and Francisc Ambrus. The WG requests the FIP Board to plan as many Cross-accreditations as possible in the next years to form a solid group of OP jurors.

- The last four meetings have been dedicated to draft the new OP Guidelines. At present they are almost ready and foreseen to be approved during the January 2024 meeting. They will be circulated to the FIP Board first and then to all OP delegates (39 at present).

- The OP WG proposes to the FIP Board that a mandate is given to the WG to prepare elections for the OP Commission Bureau to be held during the next FIP 2024 Congress, that would approve the new OP Guidelines. In this way, the new Guidelines could enter into force immediately after the 2024 Congress. A temporary mandate of two years could be assigned to the elected OP Bureau, so as to have in 2026 elections in all FIP Commissions.

For the OP WG
Birthe King and Peter Suhadolc
Co-chairs