

Annual report 2021 from the Chair of NFGP

The COVID-19 pandemic

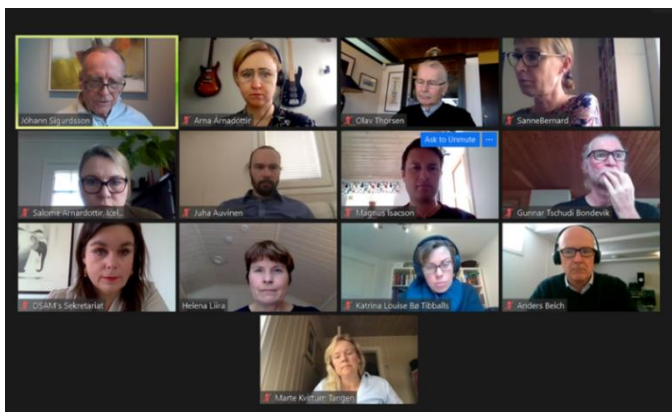
The year 2021 was still another year of the Covid-19 pandemic. This affected much of the activities in NFGP as will be described further below.

Annual meetings year 2021

Our main tasks this year as well as last year have been:

- The COVID-19 pandemic
- Arrangement of our Nordic Congresses of General Practice
- Nordic Leader seminar in Soria Moria
- Professional development within WONCA
- The Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care
- Core values of Nordic general practice
- Nordic Young General Practitioners
- Specialist education of general practice in the Nordic countries
- NFGPs secretariat, administration and economy
- Other matters

Zoom meetings 26 March and 18 June



Because of a new Covid wave, it became clear in early February that the annual meeting in March had to be a virtual zoom meeting. At the March meeting budget was introduced and accepted, the Stavanger congress postponed to 2022, new publisher and new contract for Scand J Prim Health Care was in the pipeline and the idea of making a mini film on our Core Value and Principles charter was launched and discussed.

Annual meeting March 26th

Hoping the Covid pandemic would soon be over, a preliminary plan was made for a physical meeting in June. It turned out, however, that the Covid infection rate was still high worldwide. Therefore, this meeting had to be arranged as a zoom meeting too. At the June meeting it was decided to work on the mini film on Core values to be filmed in Oslo in connection with our Nordic Leader Seminar (NLS) in August. Manus was written and other preparations for this film were in firm hands by Sanna Bernard, Louise Hørslev and Sine Barrett-Madsen. See further description below.

On the international level it became clear that both the Wonca Europe congress to be held in Amsterdam and the Wonca World congress in Abu Dhabi would be virtual. The WE Council meeting this year was postponed until 2022 and then connected to the next WE conference in London. On the Wonca World level the secretariat was moved to Brussels, and Harris Lygidakis took over as our new CEO.

Detailed information can be found for the agenda and minutes of the [26 March meeting](#), and the [18 June meeting](#).

NFGP meeting in Soria Moria 26 August



Thanks to Salome (FÍH) and Anders (DSAM)

An extra Council meeting was arranged in connection to our NLS in Soria Moria/Oslo. In the wake of the Covid pandemic, the Stavanger congress to be held was still one of the main topics.

In close collaboration with NFGP; our Editor-in Chief, Helena Liira had the main responsibility regarding negotiation with new/old publisher, that is, T&F. Draft to a new contract was introduced for council members.

This was the last board meeting for Salóme Arnardóttir (FÍH) and Anders Beich (DSAM), who have now finished their terms as chairs. NFGP

thanked them for fruitful contribution to our Nordic collaboration.

New schedule for the next ten years of NCGP was agreed upon. The minutes and agenda for the meeting can be found [here](#).

Our Nordic Congresses

As decided in late 2020, the NCGP to be held in Stavanger Norway 2021 was postponed until 21st – 23rd of June 2022. The Covid situation with repeated waves made it difficult for all of us to keep to this plan. Still in middle of January 2022 the decisions were “on the edge” and plan B prepared in case. Fortunately, in the end of January 2022, evidence on the Covid pandemic and sickness patterns indicated much milder disease from the Omicron variant of the SARS-CoV-2 than the earlier Delta variant, promising better time.

Details about the congress are available [here](#).

Nordic Leader Seminars

After repeated postponements, a physical meeting for our NLS could be arranged at Soria Moria/Oslo 25-28 August. It was hosted by our Norwegian colleagues, NFA and the AF union, under the leadership of Marte Kvittum-Tangen, Torgeir H Skavøy and Tor Carlsen.



Representatives at our Nordic Leader Seminar 2021, Soria Moria/Oslo



NFGP staff: Sanne, secretary, Johann, chair and Louise, director celebrating the first physical meeting after the start of the Covid pandemic.

As before, and prepared at pre-meetings, each country was responsible for specific topics, presented and discussed at the meeting. The agenda and minutes from the meeting can be found [here](#). Based on experience of this meeting the general guidelines for NLS were revised. The new guidelines under the heading, "Terms and conditions of the Nordic Leader Seminar" are to be found [here](#).

WONCA matters

WONCA Europe.

Shlomo Vinker took over as president and Mehmet Ungan stepped off to be past president. An informal virtual WE Council Meeting was held November 11th.

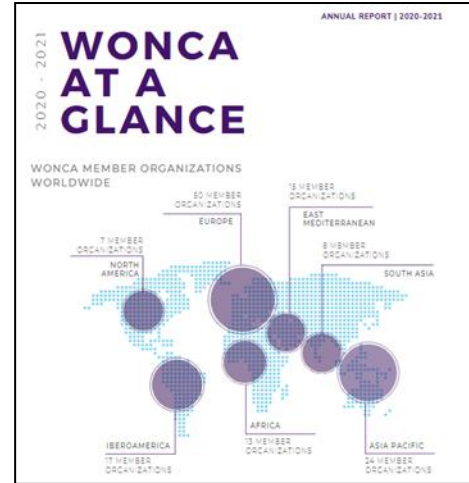
As mentioned in our earlier report, we have been participating in the WE working group on Core Values under the lead of Anna Stavdal. This group includes representatives of all the WE networks, i.e. EURACT, EQuIP, EUROPREV, EGPRN, EURIPA and Vasco de Gama. Our report was sent to WE EB in due time. This proposal was introduced at the virtual meeting November 11th. It was decided to distribute the report and gather feedback. The charter for WE on core values will be on the agenda again in London 2022.

WONCA World.

In March-April, Wonca World arranged virtual meetings regarding changes of the by-laws, allowing a virtual council and conference meeting in 22-27 November. This means that the reception planned to be arranged by NFA and NFGP in Abu Dhabi, to honor Anna was postponed. By a simple arrangement in Brussels 26 November, Anna Stavdal took over as our new president of the Wonca World Organization. Her vision and mission for the new tasks ahead can be watched [here](#)



Harris Lygidakis, Wonca CEO, inaugurates Anna Stavdal as our new Wonca World president after Donald Li.

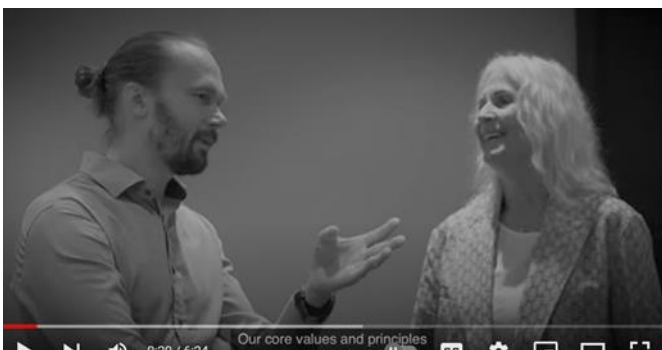


Wonca World annual report 2020-2021 can be seen here.

Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care, SJPHC

The publishing contract with Taylor & Francis terminated at the end of 2021 with T&F as well as with other publishers. As mentioned above year 2021 was spent on a new contract, which was signed late 2021. Helena Liira will describe these processes in more details in her [report as Editor-in-Chief](#).

Core Values of Nordic general practice



Actors Juha Auvinen (SYLY) and Anna Stavdal (Wonca World) discussing their roles.

As mentioned above, our NFGP film directors used the opportunity at the NLS meeting to record the Core value film. It is based on the NFGP Core Value and Principles [statement](#) from 2020. The video is now to be found on YouTube. Link can be found [here](#). We plan to introduce this video at our upcoming congresses as well as elsewhere, when advocating for our values and discipline.

Since NFGP expanded its By-laws in 2018, with increased focus on promoting general practice in general, our core values and principles have been one of the main topics to deal with last years. One of the milestones in this journey was publishing the paper "[A Saga-In-Progress: Challenges and Milestones on Our Way Toward the Nordic Core Values and Principles of Family Medicine/General Practice](#)" year 2021, The strength of the paper lies in the fact that the authors not only experienced the fifty years covered in this saga as active GP's, but were also opinion leaders in the Nordic evolution of modern Family Medicine.



Nordic Young General Practitioners (NYGP)

The Nordic Young General Practitioners ([NYGP](#)) union is now well established and will participate in one of the parallel sections at our annual meetings. Norway is in charge represented by Ingvild Vatten Alsnes and Katrina Tibballs, NYGP aim to have their meeting in Stavanger prior to the conference. In 2021, NYGP agreed upon a [statement regarding specialist training](#) in general practice in the Nordic countries. Their annual report can be found [here](#).

Working group on specialist education of general practice in the Nordic countries

At present, we have produced two statements regarding specialist education in general practice in the Nordic countries. [One from our working group year 2020](#) and the other [one from NYGP group published 2021](#). Advocating for these statements has been delayed because of Covid. They need to be re-activated the upcoming years.

NFGP's secretariat, administration and economy

As before, NFGP's headquarters, secretarial and administrative assistance (part time secretary and director), are partly financed by DSAM and located in Copenhagen. Communication and co-operation between NFGP's secretariat and the chair (located in Iceland and/or Norway), by e-mails, zoom meetings, and physical meetings have been working in a pleasant and smooth way.

DSAM 50 years celebration

The Danish College of General Practice was established year 1970. So, year 2020 it was time to celebrate its 50 years anniversary. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic it had to be postponed as everything else. On October 1st, DSAM managed to celebrate this important event in Kolding, with one day anniversary conference connected with the DSAM annual meeting. On behalf of NFGP, Johann brought DSAM warm greetings at this historical moment. He pointed out that in Nordic perspective our Danish colleagues and DSAM have always been in the frontline in creating and shaping modern general practice. DSAM was the first of the Nordic countries to establish an academic college in 1970, followed by Sweden 1972, Iceland 1978 and Norway and Finland 1983. DSAM hosted the first Nordic Congress of General Practice in 1979, and when establishing our journal, Scandinavian Journal of General Practice 1983, Paul Backer, professor of General Practice in Copenhagen, became our first Editor-in Chief, thereby shaping the journal. And from the beginning DSAM has hosted the secretarial office of our Nordic collaboration.



Meetings and congresses ahead:

NYGP Stavanger 20 June, 2022

Nordic Leader Seminar, pre-meeting, Stavanger 21st 2022.

NCGP, Stavanger 21-23 June, 2022

Wonca World council meeting in London 27th June 2022

Wonca Europe Council meeting in London 28th June, 2022

Wonca Europe Congress in London 28th June to 1 July, 2022

Wonca World EB meeting in Oslo 1-4 July, 2022

Wonca Europe Conference in Brussels, 6-10 June 2023

POD (Preventing Overdiagnosis) conference, Copenhagen 14-16 August 2023

Wonca World, Council meeting Sydney from 18 October 2023

Wonca World Conference Sydney, 26-29 October, 2023

Nordic Leader Seminar in Finland 2023

Thanks

Again, on behalf of NFGP, I thank our working parties for their valuable contributions and cooperation during the past year. Furthermore, we want to bring special thanks to our secretary Sanne Bernard and our director Louise Hørslev for their attendance to and caretaking of NFGP in its everyday life.

Reykjavik, February 15th, 2022.

Johann A. Sigurdsson, Chair NFGP