# 4th Annual General Meeting on Friday, 20 November 2026 of the European Demidoff Association with seat in Lugano, Switzerland

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| Date and time: | Friday, 20 November 2026 at 10AM |
| Place: | Lugano, Switzerland |
| In attendance: | Alexander Borovikov, Kristiina Demidoff, Oliver Spörri, Alexandre Tissot Demidoff |
| Members: | To be Confirmed |
| Head of the meeting: | Alexandre Tissot Demidoff |
| Keeper of the minutes: | Alexandre Tissot Demidoff |

Agenda items:

1. Membership of the European Demidoff Association (EDA) exceeds 150 with members primarily based in Europe. As such, it is not practical to expect all members to attend by Videoconference the 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM). However, we do expect sufficient numbers in attendance to constitute a quorum to ensure that any and all proposed motions and amendments are considered for approval. Moreover, we are in regular contact with our members, who express their support for the work of the EDA.
2. There are no financial statements of the EDA to approve.
3. The members of the EDA are requested to consider for approval the overview of this year's activities, as presented below, as well as the re-election for a subsequent one year term of office, so for 2027, the existing President, Alexandre Tissot Demidoff; Vice-President, Kristiina Demidoff; Ambassador, Alexander Borovikov; and Marketing & Social Media Director, Oliver Spörri.
4. Shown below is a review of the activities of the EDA in 2026:

<u>Corporate Governance</u>

1. The European Demidoff Association (EDA) remains structured as an independent 'not-for-profit' Swiss Association so without legal ties to any other corporate entity.
2. At month end January 2026, the Lugano-based accounting firm, Fiduciaria Antonini, finalised the legal process for the EDA to be considered exempt from needing to formally register with the Commercial Registry in Ticino. The associated legal document was formally notarised, on-forwarded, and approved, without issue, by the Commercial Registry of Ticino.
3. The completion of the above noted legal process confirms that the EDA remains in proper good standing order as a 'Not for Profit', Swiss Association.
4. The directors of the EDA in February 2026 resolved to navigate away, to the extent possible, from the IT platforms of the US IT Giants and to replace them, wherever possible, with GDPR-protected European platforms. The EDA adopted "Hostpoint" in place of "ZOOM" and "YouSign" in place of "Docusign". We continue to explore finding European alternatives to Instagram and LinkedIn, amongst others.
5. Due to the continuing challenging international political climate for any organisation connected with Russia, the EDA continues blocked by FINMA, the Swiss Financial Regulator, from opening a Swiss Bank Account or in engaging in Fundraising. This means that financial

disbursements are made by the individual directors who then file Expense Reports for eventual reimbursement once the political environment normalises and fundraising can commence.

EDA Publication of Articles in Academic Journals

6. The EDA president submitted an article on the "Demidoff Mausoleum in Paris" that published in mid-2026 in the "Journal of the Museum of Tula". This followed the publication of an article submitted on "Prince Semyon Abamelek-Lazarev & Princess Maria Pavlovna" that published in the same journal in the previous year.
7. The EDA president's article entitled, "Una collezione privata di libri della Biblioteca di Villa di San Donato" published in the January / March issue of the Italian academic journal, SLAVIA. The forward to the article was generously contributed by Prof. Lucia Tonini. The EDA further sponsored the January / March issue of SLAVIA who were most grateful and, in return, agreed to feature the EDA logo on the issue.
8. In September, the EDA president contributed to the project by Alexander Egger to document the living memory of those who still carry the heritage of the of the White émigrés. The submitted article was on the history of the Demidoff family and on the role of Princess Maria Pavlovna in support of those fleeing Russia following the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. The article will feature in a forthcoming publication by Alexander Egger that is a follow up to his earlier publication on the first great Russian diaspora of the twentieth century that followed the Bolshevik Revolution https://gallipolians.com/.

EDA Sponsorship of Publications and Films

9. The EDA agreed to sponsor Michail Talalay's third publication, which is the first Russian translation of Octave Jaunez Sponville's book on Anatole Demidoff's correspondence during the War in Crimea. Anatole engaged tirelessly to bring relieve to the PoW's of all sides during the conflict. Talalay's book is expected to publish in early 2027.
10. The EDA is co-sponsoring the publication of a 'glossy' book on the "Russian Orthodox Church in Florence" written by EDA Academic Member, V. Zherdev. Unfortunately, the publication has confronted delays due to the need to secure additional funding. At the EDA directors's meeting in October, it was agreed to extend an additional donation of Euros 500, so in addition to our original donation. The donation will be completed by the end of the year.
11. The Finnish film director, Marrit Lalli, attended the "Aurora Karamzine" event at Traskanda Manor on 10 March 2026. Lalli discussed with the EDA president her longstanding project to raise a documentary on Aurora Demidova. She believes that it is a story that should be told given that Aurora's name features amongst educational and health institutions in Helsinki but with the connection to the actual person long forgotten. The central challenge, of course, is with funding. Lalli recently approached a Finnish television company, who are interested, but on condition that any documentary target a younger audience. Lalli asked if the EDA president could provide the names of "young", direct descendants of Aurora, with experience in film or theatre. These individuals would then host / narrate the TV series. In coordination with HRH Princess Elizabeth Karageorgevitch, the names of two experienced candidates were identified and brought forward. A decision of the TV company is expected sometime in December 2026.

Building Bridges of Friendship

12. Dr. Elena Pirogova of Ekaterinburg, a world renowned expert on the Demidoff libraries, actively promoted, at academic conferences in Russia, the contents of a private library in London consisting of over 80 titles of original books from the library of Villa di San Donato. The book that received the most attention is the two-volume, large folio edition of Les Saints Évangiles

(The Four Gospels) that published in 1873 by Librairie Hachette of Paris. Paul Demidoff, 2nd Prince of San Donato, commissioned an elaborate edition of the book with ornate, silver binding that features the Demidoff Coat of Arms.

13. The EDA president was delighted to attend two separate museum exhibitions, one in Paris and the other in Milan, on the important sculptor, Prince Paul Troubetzkoy. EDA Member, Prince Roberto Troubetzkoy, was directly involved in mounting the exhibition. The first exhibition took place at the "Musée d'Orsay" in Paris while the second took place the evening of 26 February at the "Modern Museum of Art" in Milan. The event in Milan was the 'Grand Opening' that also saw in attendance the historian, Michail Talalay, and EDA member, Conte Luigi di Noghera and his wife, Sonia.
14. An extended family reunion took place on 13 March in Espe Gods, located near Copenhagen, with an extended Bonaparte family member for the first time. The meeting was with Count Adam Moltke-Huitfeldt, a direct descendant of King Jerome Bonaparte and his first wife, the American, Elizabeth 'Betsy' Patterson. It was a most enjoyable get-together where the shared family history was discussed as well as viewings of paintings and other original historical items pertaining to Jerome and Betsy. Unfortunately, there has been no progress to date in establishing contact with the living descendants of King Jerome Bonaparte and his second wife, Princess Catherine of Württemberg, who reside in Paris.
15. Given the existing challenging international political situation, it remains complicated for the International Demidoff Foundation (IDF) with headquarters in Moscow to partner with the EDA with headquarters in Lugano. The EDA directors were thus pleased to see a communication on the IDF website where the president of the IDF expressed appreciation for the work of the EDA and a willingness to work together on forthcoming art and cultural events. This was a brave initiative given that is contrary to the government's position to curb such kind of collaboration.
16. The monthly NewsLetter has importantly expanded interest in the history of the Demidoff family and promoted new membership in Europe. This work is further supported by the series of entertaining and professional Instagram postings in Russian by the Marketing Director, Oliver Spörri,

<u>Preservation of Demidoff Historical Monuments</u>

17. Formal approval was received in January 2026 from the legal team of the Cemetery of Père Lachaise in Paris for the ownership rights to the Demidoff Mausoleum to apply only to the direct descendants of Elizabeth Stroganoff. The rights were earlier granted in 1972, in error, to Paul Alexandrovitch Demidoff and to his descendants, a distant cousin to Elizabeth Stroganoff. The formally recognised co-owners of the Demidoff Mausoleum are the following: Alexandre Tissot Demidoff, HRH Princess Elizabeth Karageorgevitch, HRH Prince Michel of Yugoslavia, Fernand Humbert Tissot, Sophie Pouliot, and Conte Palatin Luigi di Noghera.
18. Regardless of the correction to the ownership rights of the Demidoff Mausoleum, the current co-owners unanimously agreed for Alexandre Pavlovitch, a descendant of Paul Alexandrovitch Demidoff, who is gravely ill, to be laid to rest next to his father at the Demidoff Mausoleum. This respects the wishes of Alexandre Pavlovitch. This decision, together with the necessary documents, were sent to Nicholas Demidoff, the son of Alexandre Pavlovitch, who was grateful for the co-owners decision.
19. Unfortunately, the door to the Demidoff Mausoleum was once again vandalised making it inoperable. The repair was organised and paid for by the EDA. On Thursday, 14 May, the EDA president, together with EDA Academic Member, Ella Romanova, and the Cemetery's Director, Benoît Gallot, visited the Demidoff Mausoleum to confirm that the door was in proper working order. A visit inside the Mausoleum also took place that found the overall condition of the monument in generally solid condition.

20. The process to list the Demidoff Mausoleum as a protected monument of the State of France commenced, in coordination with the Cemetery's director, Benoît Gallot, with the responsible French public official, Pauline Collard. However, given the large backlog of such requests, Collard advised that no decision should be expected before the end of 2027 or early 2028.

Philanthropy and Charity

21. Unfortunately, the donation of the collection of over 80 titles of original books from the library of Villa di San Donato, that was proposed and accepted last summer by the Uffizi Library in Florence sadly will not take place. It simply did not make sense to move forward with the "gift", given without a solution to the challenge that a cross-border "gift of goods" from Switzerland to Italy attracts "heavy" tax penalties to the donor and from both the Swiss and Italian tax authorities. Instead the donation will be made to the Napoleon Museum in Arenenberg, Switzerland where no such penalties apply. The legal documentation was accepted in early September with shipment planned for the end of November 2026. A fair market valuation of the collection is being undertaken by the Paris-based antique book specialist, "Librairie Henri Picard & Fils". Once the donation is completed, a conference will be organised, in coordination with the Napoleon Museum, on the topic of the "Demidoff Libraries in Europe and Russia".
22. Dr. Olga Maloletneva, director of the Demidov Museum in Tula, presented on 21 May at the XII Demidov Assembly, that took place at Nizhny Novgorod, on forthcoming exhibitions at the museum. This prompted the EDA president to contact Maloletneva to offer the gift of two original, elaborate hats, dating to the 'Belle Epoque', once worn by Princess Maria Pavlovna Demidoff. The gift was made in coordination with HRH Princess Elizabeth Karageorgevitch and further included an original photograph of Princess Maria taken while at Villa Abamelek. The gifts were immediately accepted and were taken to Tula in late July by our close friend, Irina Kovalyova of Genoa. A gift giving event was then organised at the Demidov Museum that was attended by Kovalyova and the president of the IDF, amongst other public dignitaries. However, it came as a serious blow to understand that our good friend Kovalyova passed away suddenly, shortly thereafter, in Russia on 15 August. She is sorely missed by everyone whom she touched with her loving spirit.
23. The event in Tula was preceded with a "Gift Giving Event" in Rome that was kindly and generously hosted by the Russian Ambassador on 9 July at Villa Abamelek, the former palace of Princess Maria. Presenting in person were the Ambassador, Kovalyova, and the EDA president while presenting by video were the directors of the Demidov Museum and the historian, Talalay. It was a most moving and special event that was appreciated and enjoyed by all who attended.

Conferences

24. EDA Director, Kristiina Demidoff, coordinated closely with Terhi Makinen, director of the "Friends of Träskända Manor" to mount an event the evening of 10 March 2026, on "Aurora Demidova Karamzine" at the Chapel of Träskända. The EDA president presented on the personal story of the close "bonds of love" that existed between Aurora and her grandchildren. The Finnish scholar, Tryggve Gestrin, presented on the history of the gardens of Träskända Manor. It was also an occasion, organised by Kristiina Demidoff, for a delightful family reunion with descendants of Prince Lopukhin-Demidov residing in Finland.
25. On 21 May, EDA Director, Alexander Borovikov, presented, in Russian, at the XII Demidov Assembly, on "Anatole Demidoff and the French Romantic Painters". Borovikov's daughter deserves special mention for contributing the highly polished and professional PowerPoint presentation. Borovikov's presentation was then followed by Professor Natalia Tanshina who presented her forthcoming publication on "Anatole & Mathilde". This sparked a series of

communications between the EDA president and Tanshina with the EDA president agreeing to contribute the foreword to Tanshina's book. It further prompted the president to return to his ambitious project of transcribing hundreds of original manuscripts in his private collection with the goal of raising a complementary book on the story of Anatole and Mathilde. It will be complementary since it is based on the "Mathilde Archives" in Paris while Tanshina's publication is primarily based on the Demidov archives in Russia.

26. On Thursday, 25 June, the EDA President presented at a black-tie event in London at the City University Club. The invitation was extended by Dr. Maria Harwood, president of the "Grand Duchess Elizabeth Society", who are based in the south of England. The EDA president's presentation provided a broad overview of seven generations of prominent Demidoff family members spanning a period of two centuries. The presentation was well-received by the audience.
27. The EDA president attended a Boris Pasternak event in London the evening of Wednesday, 21 October. An interesting and entertaining presentation was given by one of his descendants, Anna Pasternak, who published a book on the 'real' Lara of Pasternak's book, "Doctor Zhivago". The event was hosted by St. Gregory's Foundation with whom the EDA has collaborated for over a decade. It was wonderful to once again see the directors of St. Gregory's as well as to speak with their Royal Patron, HRH Prince Michael of Kent.
28. Unfortunately, the EDA president needed to cancel, for family medical reasons, presenting at this year's "Lanterna di Genoa" that takes place the weekend of 8 and 9 November. The presentation by Pia Todorovic also needed to be cancelled. Nonetheless, the EDA president is keen to present the following presentations at the next event: "Paul Pavlovitch Demidoff, 2nd Prince of San Donato: A Life Lived in Two Parts" and "Critical Findings of the Mathilde Archives". Todorovic also looks forward to presenting the story of "HRH Princess Elizabeth Karageorgevitch". We wish the organisers of this year's "Lanterna di Genoa" great success and look forward to attending their next event in Genoa.