

## Presentation of Candidates

### Application as Governor 2022-24 in District 28

#### Christine Dersch, ZC Marburg, Area 02



When I was asked 17 years ago if I liked to become a member of the Zonta Club Marburg, I felt honored and asked myself the question: Why should I get involved with Zonta? I found the answer quite quickly. Despite the success already achieved in fighting for equality I considered it important to care about strengthening the EQUAL RIGHTS of women and girls. That was true then and unfortunately is more relevant today than ever before.

Domestic violence has increased enormously worldwide. During the lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic especially girls and women were often unprotected. Here we as Zontians should intervene in a supportive way.

I find it frightening that in today's time of crisis many images of women are reappearing that were long considered overcome. In the past, many women had to bear the double and triple burden as a housewife, mother and a working woman alone and today it seems to be the same again. Our advocacy activities are sending out important signals to society and must continue to be strengthened.

In addition, our club life has also changed considerably due to the pandemic and fortunately not only for the worse. Certainly for all clubs it was and is still difficult to maintain the usual togetherness and to give all members the opportunity to participate in club meetings. Many clubs have completely repositioned themselves digitally in recent months. This has given them the great opportunity to network even more with other Zonta clubs, whether through presentations or attending meetings of other clubs. We should continue to use these new networking opportunities in the future.

For the next biennium, it is enormously important that we continue to act as a strong network. Not only strategies for member retention must be developed, but also for membership acquisition.

Young women in particular enrich our global network. They must be inspired for our interests and integrated into the clubs. This will be a special focus of the next biennium.

In 2004 I became a member of the Zonta Club Marburg. In the periods from 2010 to 2014 and 2018 to 2020 I was club president. From 2014 to 2018 I first served as Vice Area Director and then as Area Director for Area 02. Since 2020 I have been Lt. Governor of District 28.

Professionally I am a Legal Adviser at an energy supply company. I have been married for over 30 years and we have two grown-up children.

I am curious about new challenges and ready to take on new exciting tasks at Zonta. That is why I am applying for the role of Governor and kindly ask for your support.

We Zontians are a strong network of friendship and engagement. Together as a global team we will continue to empower the rights of women and girls and I will do my part to support the goals of ZONTA.

Christine Dersch