

District conference Bologna, 26 – 28 Sep 2025

Presentations of Candidates 2026-2028 by Nominating Committee

Doris Rutishauser, ZC Liestal / Chair


Susan Georgijewitsch, ZC Frankfurt

Sonia Albanese, ZC Roma


Slate of Candidates for District Office for Biennium 2026 – 2028

Candidate Name	Running for Position of	Area	Member of ZC	Years in Zonta
Zelinda Legge	Governor	3	Roma 1	20
Meike Rieken	Lt. Governor	2	Darmstadt	32
Uorschla Rupp	Treasurer	4	Engiadina	14
Dominique-Chantal Pontani	Auditor	2	Wiesbaden	13
Isabella Boselli	Auditor	3	Bologna due Torri	9
Antonietta Pavese	Auditor	3	Potenza	1
Renate Mack	Nominating Committee	2	Frankfurt am Main	9
Francesca Mastrovito	Nominating Committee	3	Cosenza	18
Suzanne von Blumenthal	Nominating Committee	4	Chur	25
Ursula Kostal	Nominating Committee	4	Vaduz	20

Zonta International District 28: Presentation of Candidates 2026 - 2028


Zelinda Legge	Roma 1	Area 03	Governor
	<p>My name is Zelinda Legge, I am sixty years old, graduated in Pharmaceutical chemistry, I work as Quality control manager and Responsible person of the food complements and cosmetic department of a small Italian pharmaceutical company, I am single and have no children.</p> <p>I am Zontian since 2005.</p> <p>Two years ago in my applications for the office of Lt. Governor I spoke about a time that come in the life of all Zontians, the time to step forward and take on our share of committment and work, in clubs, areas, districts and so on.</p> <p>According to that I was Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-president and President in my club, then I served as Foundation Ambassador for six years and I am currently serving the District as Lieutenant Governor.</p> <p>Over the last year I have studied, observed and participated in seminars and workgroups, to be prepared for the role of Governor, if you choose to entrust me with the task, attending the membership commitee meetings I understood that the actual critical issue in Zonta is the loss of membership, to reverse this trend will be the focus of my work as Governor, along with increasing friendship and collaboration between the areas of the District.</p> <p>I cannot guarantee that I will be a great Governor, but I can guarantee that I will do all my best to be a good one, and I hope you would give me the opportunity to do so.</p>		

Zonta International District 28: Presentation of Candidates 2026 - 2028


Meike Rieken	Darmstadt	Area 02	Lt. Governor
	<p>I was born in Hamburg and have been living with my husband in the middle of Germany for a long time now. I am a computer scientist and have been self-employed for 32 years. In my many assignments as a project manager for IT projects in various companies and industries, I have learned to work with a wide variety of individuals - just as we are in Zonta.</p>		
	<p>I became a Zontian over 30 years ago on the advice of my mother, who is a Zontian herself. Since then, I have served at all levels, of course in my club, but also in the ZI pilot project Women in Technology, 16 years in the District as webmaster, secretary and nominating committee and now 4 years in the Area. So, I feel well prepared to take on another role and today I am applying for the position of Lt. Governor.</p>		
	<p>What has inspired me from day one at Zonta is our diversity - many strong women with lots of great ideas. I am convinced that we can achieve fantastic things together.</p>		
	<p>But in recent years (especially as an Area Director), I have also seen that the willingness to get involved in offices is waning. Here we need strategies to make the offices attractive again and to spread the burden of the individual offices over several shoulders.</p>		
	<p>In addition to supporting the future governor, I intend to work passionately and with commitment to achieve this.</p>		

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Uorschla Rupp	Engiadina	Area 04	Treasurer
	<p>My name is Uorschla Rupp and I am mother of three adult children. I am a Zontian since 2011 and was a founding member of Zonta Club Engiadina. I was president of the club from 2016 to 2018. Currently I am auditor of my club and was treasurer of Area 04 from 2018 to 2024. Since 2024 I am district treasurer.</p> <p>I am retired since 2014. I am a member of the board of directors of WPS Revision AG and work there part-time as an accountant. Furthermore, I am president of the board of F. Pitsch SA and of the Butia Tschier cooperative.</p> <p>I am very motivated to continue to pursue the goals of Zonta and to achieve them together with my colleagues on the board. I would also like to bring my accounting skills and many years of experience to my role as treasurer. I am district treasurer for one year. I really enjoy being treasurer and working with the district governor and am confident that I will be able to keep clear accounts and work with the board to prepare a sound budget.</p> <p>Being re-elected would be a great honour for me and I will do everything in my power to live up to it.</p>		

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Dominique Pontani	Wiesbaden	Area 02	Auditor
	<p>I am a tax consultant and have for a long time been able to combine self-employment with family work.</p> <p>As a mother of five and grandmother of three, it is very important to me to make the world a better place for women and girls. Over the years, I have supported numerous voluntary commitments with my expertise. Zonta's goals are particularly close to my heart. I have been a Zontian since 1 June 2011 and am currently on the board of my club in Wiesbaden as treasurer. I have also for a long-time been active in the State Women's Council (Landesfrauenrat) and the Center for Career Development and Start-ups (Berufswege für Frauen). I represent the voice of women as a member of the Executive Board of the foundation ‚Die Wiesbaden Stiftung‘.</p> <p>Both, as a tax consultant and as a member of numerous voluntary organisations, I know how important it is to have orderly bookkeeping and regular, careful auditing with expertise and at eye level. Thus, I am happy to make my skills available to Zonta and am therefore applying for the position of a District Auditor.</p>		

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Isabella Boselli	Bologna due Torri	Area 03	Auditor
	<p>Born in Parma, I lived for years in Mantua and Bologna and I am the first generation of economically independent women in my family.</p> <p>In Zonta, I have served as Club Auditor, Vice President and President of the Zonta Club Bologna (2018-2024), Auditor of Area 03 D28 (2020-2022), and I am the founder and current President of the Zonta Club Bologna Due Torri (2024-2026).</p> <p>I am President of the Mixed Conciliation Commission of the Integrated Hospital-University Company of Verona, appointed by the Regional Guarantor of the Rights of the Person of the Veneto Region, since 2017 in the course of a second mandate, and President of the Mixed Conciliation Commission of the USL Company n. 4 Veneto Orientale, appointed by the Regional Guarantor of the Rights of the Person of the Veneto Region, since 2022.</p> <p>I am a Chartered Accountant and Auditor and I am also a partner of an international auditing firm and a member of the boards of directors of public and private entities. I have taught at the University of Bologna for over 10 years, I have obtained a Master in Legality (2017) and I firmly believe in the values of Zonta, in its transparency and in its good governance.</p> <p>I am running for Auditor with full dedication, responsibility and passion for Zonta.</p>		

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Antoniotta Pavese	Potenza	Area 03	Auditor
	<p>I am Antoniotta Pavese, I have been married for 7 years, I have a 3-year-old son.</p> <p>I work as a Chartered Accountant and Legal Auditor in my professional office located in Potenza.</p> <p>I am a member of the Zonta Club of Potenza since March 2024, and I work as a treasurer for this club.</p> <p>I would like to apply my skills as an auditor available in Zonta not only at the level of my Club and in my Area but also I would like to extend it to the District.</p> <p>I am really appassionate and firmly believe in Zonta goals.</p>		


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Renate Mack	Frankfurt am Main	Area 02	Nominating Committee
	<p>I have been a member of ZC Frankfurt am Main since 2016. Before my presidency during the 2022-2024 Biennium, I served as club secretary and vice president. Currently, I manage our successful local service project ZONTAlente and am auditor for Area 02.</p> <p>For 38 years until my retirement I worked in various areas of a large German bank. My work experience included 13 years as a full-time works council member, being chairwoman of various committees and a member of the supervisory board. I am thus very familiar with working in committees and shaping democratic processes. Training young people, promoting and supporting women in their professional development and equal professional participation have always been important to me. This was also one of the deciding factors for me to becoming a Zontian.</p> <p>My hobbies are reading, hiking, sports and gardening. As a volunteer, I accompany seriously ill people in their last phase of life (www.buergerinstitut.de/hospiz/).</p> <p>I am very honored to be asked to stand as a candidate for the Nominating Committee of District Board 2026-2028. I would like to use my professional knowledge and Zonta-experience in this role. For this I ask for your trust and your vote.</p>		


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Francesca Mastrovito	Cosenza	Area 03	Nominating Committee
	<p>I am honored to present my candidacy for the Nominating Committee 2026–2028 of District 28, with the desire to place my experience and skills at the service of Zonta and its mission.</p>		
	<p>For over thirty years, I have worked in education as a tenured teacher of Latin, Greek, and Literature, holding numerous coordination, evaluation, and project management roles within my institution. Throughout my professional path, I have focused on inclusion, gender equality, and innovation in teaching. I have designed and facilitated national and European educational projects, and have always promoted the empowerment of students, especially young women.</p>		
	<p>Academically, I hold a degree in Classical Literature, multiple advanced certificates in education, gender policies, and school management. My international experiences, including CLIL training in the UK, have strengthened my commitment to intercultural dialogue and equal opportunity.</p>		
	<p>I have been a member of Zonta since 2007, currently serving as President of the Zonta Club of Cosenza, after previously holding the role of Vice President. I also served as Chair of the Nominating Committee – Area 03 – for the biennium 2016–2018. I am single and have no children. Personally, and on behalf of Zonta International, I actively support various initiatives in the community where I live and work, in close cooperation with other associations, federations, and service clubs.</p>		
	<p>Zonta International is in my heart — always and forever.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my candidacy. I will be honored to represent you with dedication and enthusiasm.</p>		

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Suzanne von Blumenthal	Chur	Area 04	Nominating Committee
	<p>I am Suzanne von Blumenthal, from Switzerland, married, two adult children, working since over 30 years as psychiatrist and psychotherapist, management experience as director of a regional psychiatric clinic over 22 years, since 2017 self-employed and leading a training institute for professionals in coaching, counselling and psychotherapy.</p> <p>Zonta member since 2000, served as club president (2010 – 2012), area director (2020 – 2022) and on district level as member of nomination committee (2014 – 2016) and president of the organizing committee of district conference in Chur 2023.</p> <p>I am still very dedicated to Zonta and the mission to build a better world for women and girls. So we need Zontians who engage in Zonta projects, organization and networking locally, regional and international. It is important to connect, to build bridges and to support committed Zontians. I can contact easily in different languages like English, German and Italian. As I participated often in international conventions and district conferences I know many Zontians of our District 28.</p> <p>I would be honoured to serve another time as member of the nomination committee and ask for your trust and vote.</p>		

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Ursula Kostal	Vaduz	Area 04	Nominating Committee
			<p>I present my candidacy for the position of Nominating Committee 2026 -2028 to be available to the entire Zonta organization and, in particular to District 28 and Area 04, my Zonta experience, obtained during 20 years of continuous membership and with respect for all its good causes.</p> <p>I'm a second generation Zontian myself, grateful of what experiences, learnings and friendship I was able to gather through our organization, still forward looking with passion what I can do Zonta. I'm retired recently after a very successful global IT leadership career in the Food Industry. This is the right time for me to focus on finding Zonta Leaders for the future, same as I had to find successors in my professional job.</p> <p>The role of the Nominating Committee is a crucial one in these challenging times of fast changing views of societies on women's rights, equality and environmental and commercial challenges alike.</p> <p>I would like to use my management, leadership and mentoring knowledge to find those courageous and tolerant Zonta Leaders who are aware of those challenges and willing to change the world of women and girls for the better.</p> <p>My focus would be to find those future Zonta Leaders amongst the younger generations who navigate today's digital world with profound knowledge, pride and dignity, following at all times the Zonta Mission and Values.</p> <p>If you feel you are in line with my thoughts, vote for me, I will be happy to represent you.</p>