



MOTION FORM

FOR SERVAS INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (SIGA) 2025

1. Heading for the proposal in this motion (No more than 10 words)

Ensuring essential data in Servas profiles

2. Date and place for this motion.

SICOGA 2025

3. SI member group(s) or SI Exco member(s) who is responsible for this motion.

Note that only SI Member Groups or SI Executive Committee (SI Exco, Servas International's global board) may propose motions for a SIGA.

Servas Germany, Servas Netherlands

4. Exact wording of the proposal to be voted on.

We propose that SIGA 2025 approves that (one or more goals and/or actions):

From January 1, 2027, active Servas online member profiles must contain the essential data (first name and last name, gender, year of birth, residence, postcode, phone number, email address, Photo with recognizable face, availability as Servas host and/or Servas day host). Profiles with missing essential data will after January 1, 2027, automatically be set to "AMICO".

In order to facilitate this changeover, SOL 2.0 is to be set as early as 1 April 2026 so that when a Letter of Introduction (LOI) is requested, the presence of the above-mentioned data is checked and, if incomplete, the Servas Traveler receives a corresponding error message. If facial recognition is not technically possible when checking the photo, only the presence of a photo should be checked.

Servas EXCO is asked to ensure that all Servas groups

- communicate to their members the vital importance of the essential data for the functioning of Servas**
- offer advice and education in the event of concerns about data protection, for example.**

Please note that SIGA 20xx must be able to vote YES, NO or ABSTAIN on a SIGA proposal.

5. Implications on SI Statutes 2024.

Will this proposal affect the SI statutes and therefore create a need for a change in the SI statutes?

No

The SI Statutes are accessible on the internet here:

<https://servas.org/administration-archive>

6. Brief description of the reason for your proposal.

The motivation must contain a clear description of the benefit of this proposal for the Servas community; its member groups, individual members and Servas International as an international non-governmental organisation.

SIGA 2025 should approve this motion because (one or more motivations):

The quality of the basic information in the Servas profile is essential for travel and for finding a host. However, currently only the profiles of "new" members [admitted since July 2024] are complete - the majority of Servas profiles of members admitted before July 2024 are not.

The lack of transparent information is not the only reason, why Servas travelers face increasing difficulties in finding suitable Servas hosts. But it may be the most important one. And in any case a lot of Servas travelers share the view that complete and up-to-date data is a key building block in the process of improving the availability of Servas hosts.

Both measures Ensuring the essential data also simplifies the validation of the Letter of Introduction (LOI): by far the most frequent reasons for complaints when checking the LOI are deficiencies in the essential data!

Both of these measures have the important side-effect of saving hundreds of hours of time each year for Servas coordinators in larger Servas 'countries' who deal with Servas travelers.

In addition, it would eliminate the high time pressure that Servas Travelers experience when submitting their LOI at very short notice and expecting immediate approval.

Extended transitional arrangements: There are concerns that entering essential data would in some African Servas groups encounter practical problems. Although low-cost online tariffs are available there, they only allow the use of mobile phone and messenger (WhatsApp) but no full Internet access. In this case, uploading a photo in SOL, for example, could be difficult.

The authors of this motion think, that EVERY use of SOL requires full internet access. Therefore, the consideration would be: anyone who uses SOL must also have access to the internet. In any case, this question should be investigated during the preliminary phase and exceptions should be granted if necessary.

7. IF budget implications

Describe what financial resources are needed to accomplish the aims of this motion.

Use the money currency Swiss francs, which is the currency used for SI's budget:

Costs are less than CHF 1000 are expected for the changeover in SOL and for worldwide communication to Servas groups and Servas members.

8. Other resources needed -- time, experts with specialist competences or knowledge or other human resources.

None.

9. Proposed timeline/timetable for accomplishing the aims of the proposal?

For the SOL-Responsible of EXCO, the work for this project is done in February/March 2026 (step 1), and in December 2026 (step 2). Thereafter, no work is requested.

The proposed action should ideally:

- Start on this date: Year-Month-Day. **2026-07-01**
- Be accomplished on this date: Year-Month-Day ... **2027-02-28**
- ...

The person(s) or group(s) will report the results of this motion to SI Exco.

10. Which person or persons writes/write this motion and is/are responsible for the proposal?

Name/names:

Arne Schaeffler and Manuela Kuttig

ServasOnline registration ID/IDs: Arne Schaeffler #12219 Manuela Kuttig #8733

Functions/titles in Servas: National Secretary of Servas Germany, Deputy National Secretary of Servas Germany

Contact information

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If applicable:

Other communication channels:

11. Who or which group will be responsible for accomplishing the aim/aims of the proposal in this motion? (SI committee, SI Team, SI member group or Servas individual member/members.

SI Servas-online-Team, all Servas groups

12. SI Exco comment on this motion

Date: 20xx-MONTH-DAY

How it works:

For Minute Taker Use Only:

13. Amendments (Passed or defeated)