

DEI Committee Meeting Summary 14.10.2026

This document is a summary of the Hanken DEI Committee meeting held on 14.10.2026.

Brief meeting summary

The committee discussed practical DEI matters, with a particular focus on establishing and communicating a new quiet room on the Helsinki campus. Members also discussed some practical DEI-related matters, such as religion-sensitive menus, language cafes in both campuses, and distributing safer space-posters in both campuses. The committee shared insights from recent DEI-related events and conferences, discussed events connected to antiracism and curriculum diversity, and reviewed upcoming DEI activities and community engagement opportunities.

Important news

- [A quiet room](#) has been secured near the entrance at Runebergsgatan 10, and preparations for furnishing, communication, and usage guidelines are underway
- Updated appointments for the DEI Committee and DEI Ombuds until 31.12.2027 were noted. The current DEI Ombuds aim to document their learning for institutional memory and possibly onboarding of future DEI Ombuds.
- [Finnish and Swedish language cafes will be held in Helsinki every other week](#), with discussion on expanding similar activities to Vaasa and potentially online formats. The committee aims to find out if there are interest and possibilities for hybrid or/and in-person language café in Vaasa.

Discussions

The committee discussed practical arrangements for the quiet room, including furnishings, signage, communication channels, naming of the room, budget considerations, and draft user guidelines. It was agreed that the room should be called the Quiet Room, and communication should be distributed through Hanken channels, newsletters, and student networks.

Regarding practical matters, the following items were introduced and discussed:

- The university cafeteria menu's religious sensitivity. Vasa representant will see if Vasa has different information available from Helsinki. Social sustainability coordinator has contacted the Compass Group.
- Laminated versions of safer space-poster and contact ombudsman-poster without individual persons have been ordered to Helsinki and Vasa campus.

The committee also discussed DEI-related learning and collaboration opportunities, including reflections from recent DEI events and conferences. Discussions covered antiracism, curriculum diversity, institutional responses to racism, and opportunities to make use of existing expertise within Hanken. Additional topics included the development of a DEI 101 onboarding course.



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Decisions

The committee decided to use the name Quiet Room. The room guidelines are adapted from the draft presented and finalized for implementation. Further discussions will be held with relevant people regarding furnishings, available resources, and funding sources, while communication about the room will be integrated into relevant newsletters (such as newsletter for international students, sustainability newsletter) and other institutional channels. After the Quiet Room has been established in Helsinki, considerations on similar possibility to Vasa campus.

General community feedback

Positive feedback was received regarding a panel discussion on “Punchlines & power: colonialism in academia”. Interest was expressed in organizing additional events on similar themes and exploring opportunities for future collaboration.

Hanken has been contacted by the founders of Toivuksissa ry and rehabilitative addiction-care company, Kantamo to arrange an event on addictions/work. The committee decided that there will be two events: one aimed to students arranged by SHS/SSHV as part of their wellbeing-week, and one aimed to the staff either as separate event in January or as open guest lecture as part of the course “Corporate Sustainability” under the theme week “Stigma, inclusion/exclusion in working life”.

Important dates

16.11.2026 - International Day of Tolerance.

10.12.2026 - Human Rights Day literary event combined with Amnesty Write for Rights.

Future dates noted include Sami National Day (6 February 2027), Minna Canth Day (19 March 2027), and the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March 2027). Committee will aim to develop events based on community engagement for some of these dates.

Next DEI committee meeting is held 11th November.