



European Suzuki Association

INSTRUMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2025

VIOLA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson - Mysie Ferguson UK

Joanne Martin, France

Edith Code, Denmark

INSTRUCTOR APPOINTMENTS		
14/03/2025	Hannah Biss	UK
08/07/2025	Margaret Parkin	UK
TEACHER TRAINER APPOINTMENTS		
None		
ESA RECOGNITIONS		
08/12/25	Heather Gardner	ESA Level 2
PROJECTS		
<p>Discussions are ongoing with Japanese trainers who are interested in establishing Viola Teacher Training in Japan. Violin Teacher Trainer, Mona Kodama, a native Japanese speaker, has prepared a presentation to support the understanding of ESA training procedures.</p> <p>Planning has begun for the next Viola Gathering; the date and venue are still to be confirmed.</p>		
ITEMS FROM ISA VIOLA COMMITTEE		
<p>Book Revisions Work on revising the early Viola books is ongoing. Book 1: Proofs are with the publishers. Currently awaiting final decisions on photographs and some translations. Book 2: Revision is complete. Proofreading is scheduled for early 2026. Book 3: Work is expected to begin following completion of Book 2.</p> <p>Recordings Suggestions have been invited for potential recording artists for the new recordings. The ISA committee took the decision that they did not have sufficient specialist knowledge and connections to make informed recommendations, so a subcommittee will be formed to identify suitable performers.</p>		

DEVELOPMENT OF VIOLA IN ESA REGION

Training in 2025

- Viola training continues, responding to country demands.
- Training took place in Denmark, The Hague, Iceland, and Scotland.

Upcoming Training (2026)

A collaboration with the BSMA Teacher Training Course in London will begin in January 2026, offering a Level 3 Conversion Course from January to June. Plans are in place to expand this to long-term viola training from Level 1 in the next academic year.

Spain

The Spanish Federation are keen to restart their viola Teacher Training programme, and discussions are ongoing.

UK

Three trainees in Scotland have begun long-term viola Teacher Training from Level 1.

Enhancing Accessibility and Recruitment

The committee is committed to:

- Ensuring that viola teacher training remains accessible
- Encouraging teachers to prioritise the recruitment of young violists

Strengthening the number of developing players will help ensure that violists feel fully represented and valued at workshops and events.

Looking ahead, the committee aims to enhance the visibility of the viola by encouraging teachers to:

- Include a viola item in every concert
- Offer 'viola for violinists' classes at workshops