

EAA Corporate Governance Guidelines

This version of the EAA Corporate Governance Guidelines was adopted by the EAA Management Committee on 20 September 2021.

1 Preamble

This document describes the governance structure of the European Accounting Association (EAA), along with the remits, terms, and selection processes for its key positions and committees. As such, it provides application guidance for the [EAA Statutes](#) that is governed by the intention to provide continuity for EAA activities by enabling committees to work with foresight and transparency.

2 Organisational structure

2.1 Standing Committees

The EAA is governed by the General Assembly (GA) and the following committees:

- Board
- Management Committee (MC)
- Other committees
 1. Accounting Resources Centre (ARC) Committee
 2. Congress Committee (CC)
 3. Doctoral Colloquium (DC) Committee
 4. Education Committee (EC)
 5. External Relations Committee (ERC)
 6. Financial Reporting Standards Committee (FRSC)
 7. Publications Committee (PC)
 8. Stakeholder Reporting Committee (SRC)
 9. Standing Scientific Committee (SSC)
 10. Symposia Committee (SC)
 11. Virtual Activities Committee (VAC)

2.2 Ad-hoc committees

In addition, task forces and other ad-hoc committees may be established with the aim of focusing temporarily on special issues of interest to EAA. One current example of an EAA ad-hoc committee is the Awards Committee. Typically, ad-hoc committees are chaired by an MC member.

2.3 Formation process for committees

New committees can be formed by the MC in line with these guidelines when a need arises to implement specific activities.

2.4 EAA Officers

In addition to the EAA Executive Secretary, all members of the above Committees are referred to herein as “EAA officers”.

2.5 EAA journal editors

According to Article 5.2 of the [EAA Statutes](#), the editors of the EAA journals are members of the EAA Board. According to Article 6.5 of the [EAA Statutes](#), they are appointed by the MC for a period not exceeding four years and starting on January 1 of the year following their appointment. They can be dismissed by the MC.

3 Committees and their missions¹

3.1 Standing committees

3.1.1 Board

Refer to Article 5 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

3.1.2 Management Committee

Refer to Article 6 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

3.1.3 Accounting Resources Centre (ARC) Committee

The Accounting Resources Centre (ARC) is the EAA's one-stop place for research and teaching resources, career development guidance and networking opportunities. The ARC's goal is to stimulate the research productivity, inspire educators, expand the accounting community, enhance the exchange of ideas and improve high quality team collaboration.

3.1.4 Congress Committee (CC)

The CC oversees the preparation and organisation of EAA Annual Congresses. It serves as the primary contact point for prospective conference hosts, and its key role is to encourage and screen offers to host future EAA conferences. During the congress preparation, the CC oversees and provides guidance to the local EAA congress organisers by supervising their compliance with the EAA conference guidelines and by overseeing the budget and budget revisions of the local host. The CC is responsible for drafting the EAA congress guidelines and reviewing them on a regular basis.

3.1.5 Doctoral Colloquium (DC) Committee

The aim of the Doctoral Colloquium is to provide an opportunity for European doctoral students in accounting to present and discuss their research with a distinguished international faculty. The faculty will also give some plenary sessions about a range of issues relevant for PhD students, such as about the journal submission and review process; the 'job market' and early career; reviewing and presenting, and similar topics.

3.1.6 Education Committee (EC)

Education is a key task of EAA members, hence playing a strategic role in the EAA's activities. The EC positions itself as thought leaders in the field, developing innovative accounting education as well as facilitating cutting-edge practices in pedagogy, technology and contents. The EC will disseminate such practices among the EAA members and the accounting community at large.

3.1.7 External Relations Committee (ERC)

The External Relations Committee is the EAA's window to the accounting associations, accounting firms, industry associations, corporates, standard setting bodies (in cooperation with the [Financial Reporting Standards](#) and [Stakeholder Reporting](#) Committees) and other potential sponsors.

Among the ERC's tasks are: building the EAA's relationships with key academic and non-academic stakeholders; developing and implementing a sponsorship strategy for the EAA; fostering links to existing and potential new sponsors for the EAA (e.g. professional associations, data providers, publishers, providers of educational material, policy makers, and others) with a view to attracting sponsorship for the EAA's activities; liaising with other EAA committees to find sponsorship opportunities in the activities developed and organised by other EAA committees; liaising with the EAA's Symposium Committee on the sponsorship of symposia at the EAA's Annual Congress; liaising with the EAA's Management Committee for regular updates; and developing and updating information

¹ The up-to-date list of EAA committees and their missions is [here](#).

material for stakeholders and potential sponsors (e.g., EAA brochure, sponsorship packages, information on EAA websites).

3.1.8 Financial Reporting Standards Committee (FRSC)

The purpose of the FRSC is to bring contributions of academic research to the standard-setting process related to financial reporting. This includes a responsibility for the FRSC to liaise with the IASB and EFRAG on behalf of the EAA in order to promote the use of academic research and to ensure that the voice of the European academic accounting community is heard. The FRSC is a facilitating committee that identifies tasks to be undertaken and coordinates volunteers from the research community to address them.

3.1.9 Publications Committee (PC)

The PC oversees the affairs of all EAA scientific publications (currently *European Accounting Review* and *Accounting in Europe*) as well as the *EAA Newsletter*. The editors of these publications are solely responsible for the editorial content. The PC liaises with editors regarding changes in policies and practices that affect the operations and the attractiveness of the publications as places to publish. It also interacts with the publisher of the EAA journals.

3.1.10 Stakeholder Reporting Committee (SRC)

SRC's mission is to actively participate in the debate about how organisations can, and should, inform their wide range of stakeholders about their activities, including their impact on society. It focuses on non-financial reporting, or sustainability reporting. Further, given that non-financial information is increasingly attracting the interest of policy makers and standard setters, the SRC also aims to create awareness of the policy issues among EAA members, and to collaborate with policy makers and standard setters with a view to allowing the academic community's research expertise to have an impact on emerging policies and standards.

3.1.11 Standing Scientific Committee (SSC)

The Standing Scientific Committee advises on the scientific programme of the Annual Congress. In particular, it reviews the submitted papers and sets up the sessions. The Standing Scientific Committee is also responsible for the scheduling and composition of the parallel sessions; the local organisers are responsible for the scheduling and composition of the research fora. The Standing Scientific Committee also advises the local organisers with regard to the scientific programme of the Annual Congress as a whole.

3.1.12 Symposia Committee (SC)

Symposia are flagship sessions of the EAA Annual Congress, as they feature topical themes and typically attract a large number of delegates. They are coordinated and decided upon by a Symposia Committee, which includes one EAA MC member (acts as Chair), one Local Organising Committee member, the SSC chair, and the ERC Chair. An invitation to submit symposia proposals is shown permanently on the EAA website and advertised in the EAA Newsletter. In addition, the Symposia Committee will directly solicit proposals in due time.

3.1.13 Virtual Activities Committee (VAC)

The presence of the EAA in the virtual space has become strategic for all EAA activities and roles. The VAC positions itself as the enabler that will enhance the inclusivity and accessibility of the EAA's benefits to a wider audience on a global scale.

In particular, the VAC is responsible for (1) planning, scheduling, and organising virtual research events, e.g., VARS; (2) liaising with other EAA committees for EAA education events (education committee), doctoral workshops (Doctoral Colloquium/PhD forum committee), regulatory and practitioner events (FRSC and SRC), potential EAA Annual Congress virtual event/elements (LOC), virtual EAR conference (EAR Editor), etc. to facilitate/advise/support these other committees to conceptualize, organise,

conduct virtual (live) events as well as coordinate an EAA calendar of virtual events; (3) promoting a “greenfield approach” without being too much anchored on how physical events used to be; (4) focusing on “lasting” virtual activities and (5) liaising with ARC to make sure the event is marketed (through ARC events calendar, social media, blogs, etc.) and all material related to these events is stored in the right place.

3.2 Ad hoc committees

3.2.1 Awards Committee

The Awards Committee is responsible for ensuring the nomination process for the Anthony Hopwood award, as well as coordinating with the EAA journal editors for the annual Best Paper and Best Reviewer prizes.

4 General provisions for all officers and committees

4.1 Profiles

4.1.1 Chairs

The profile of a committee chair should be in line with the mission and activities of the respective committee. Typically, a committee chair (a) is an active or former committee member or has comparable relevant experience (e.g., the Congress Committee chair should have congress organising experience, e.g., as a former Local Organising Committee chair, treasurer, or member), (b) has an impeccable academic reputation, and (c) has a proven track record of commitment and service to the academic accounting community.

4.1.2 Members

The profile of a committee member should be in line with the mission and activities of the respective committee.

4.2 Selection and appointment

4.2.1 Chair

EAA committee chairs are selected and appointed according to the following process. A call for nominations is launched by the EAA Secretariat. EAA members can self-nominate or nominate other candidates, with members or past members of the respective committee being particularly encouraged to make themselves available. Following the nomination process, the President draws up a shortlist of committee chair candidates for discussion in the MC. From this shortlist, the committee chair is selected and appointed by the MC. The Board is informed about the appointment.

If a committee chair wishes to step down before the end of his or her term, a new candidate, once elected, will take over immediately with a full term.

4.2.2 Members

EAA committee members are appointed by the MC upon a proposal made by the respective committee chair. The Board is then informed.

4.3 Terms

All EAA committee chairs and members serve a term of up to three years, once renewable.

4.4 Composition

Committees are typically composed of a chair, or co-chairs, and a number of members that enables the committee to conduct its activities efficiently.

Specific rules pertain to the Management Committee; refer to Article 6.2 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

4.5 Budget

Each EAA committee chair should, upon the EAA Treasurer's request, provide a provisional budget for implementing their committee's activities on an annual basis. The budgets will be reviewed by the Treasurer and will be subject to final approval by the MC.

5 Specific provisions for individual officers and committees

5.1 Executive Secretariat

Refer to Article 6.6 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.2 President (Past President and President-elect)

5.2.1 Tasks

Refer to Article 5.3 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.2.2 Profile

The EAA President (a) has deep first-hand knowledge of the EAA, (b) has an impeccable academic reputation, and (c) has a proven track record of commitment and service to the academic accounting community.

5.2.3 Selection and appointment

The President-elect is found through an open call for nominations carried out in December where EAA members can self-nominate or nominate a candidate. Nominees will be considered by the MC. The MC proposes one nominee to the Board for approval with a simple majority of votes by mid-February. Upon approval, the candidate should express his/her acceptance to serve by the end of February. The final approval is by the General Assembly with a simple majority of votes.

5.2.4 Term

The President is appointed for a period of two years following one year as President-elect and starting at the end of the General Assembly, which follows the year as President-elect. He/she cannot be re-elected. The President will stay on the Management Committee and on the Board for one year after his/her two-year term, as the Past President. Under exceptional circumstances, the President's two-year term can be extended once by 1 year only.

For details, refer to Article 5.3 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.3 Treasurer

5.3.1 Tasks

The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the EAA and works closely with the other members of the MC to safeguard the EAA's finances. He or she considers the financial implications of the EAA's strategic priorities, activities and plans; establishes and carries out an annual budget cycle; liaises with the EAA Executive Secretary and other EAA officers about the EAA's finances; liaises with the Congress Committee over budgets of current and upcoming congresses, including applicants for future congresses; prepares a medium-term financial plan, develop financial policies (e.g., related to saving, investment, hedging, etc.); and presents the EAA's financials to the MC, the Board and the General Assembly.

According to Article 5.3 of the [EAA Statutes](#), the Treasurer is elected by the Board upon nomination by the President, and is appointed for a period of three years, once renewable.

5.3.2 Profile

The Treasurer (a) has experience in serving the EAA and (b) has an impeccable academic reputation.

5.3.3 Selection and appointment

The Treasurer is found through an open call for nominations where EAA members can self-nominate or nominate a candidate. Nominees will be considered by the President, who then proposes one nominee to the Board for approval. Refer to Article 5.3 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.4 Editors

5.4.1 European Accounting Review

The Editor-in-Chief of *European Accounting Review*:

- Is an internationally recognized scholar who has made significant contributions to accounting research;
- Has editorial experience (as an editor, as an editorial board member, and/or as a reviewer);
- Has a broad international network across accounting research topics and methods; and
- Is able to work timely and constructively with authors, reviewers and the EAA's Publications Committee.

5.4.2 Accounting in Europe

The Editor-in-Chief of *Accounting in Europe*:

- Is an internationally recognized scholar who has made significant contributions to accounting research;
- Has editorial experience (as an editor, as an editorial board member, and/or as a reviewer);
- Has a demonstrable interest in disseminating accounting research to the world of practice, policy and regulation, and in undertaking or encouraging research in response to current issues in practice;
- Has a broad international network across accounting research topics and methods, not limited to the academic community; and
- Is able to work timely and constructively with authors, reviewers and the EAA's Publications Committee.

5.4.3 Editors of Newsletter

The candidate for the post of EAA Newsletter Editor must exhibit a keen interest to actively solicit news items and content that is relevant to the membership of the EAA and the accounting community more generally. The Editor should consider the broad interests of the EAA community, its wide geographical reach yet European identity. To do so effectively, the EAA Newsletter Editor will be expected to ensure that the content of the Newsletter is appropriate, original, diverse and first rate. A good measure of creativity will be expected from the Editor so that the Newsletter content is regularly refreshed, as well as seen as refreshing and newsworthy by the readers. The Editor should be active in the exploring possibilities for further improvement offered by digital publishing technology and social media.

5.5 Standing Committees

5.5.1 Management Committee

5.5.1.1 Selection and appointment of members

MC members are found through an open call for nominations carried out in December where EAA members can self-nominate or nominate a candidate. Nominees will be considered by the MC. The President prepares a shortlist and from it proposes a ballot of selected nominees to the Board for election by mid-February. Upon approval, the candidates should express their acceptance to serve by the end of February. Refer to Article 5.6 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.5.1.2 Terms

The elected members will be in office for a term of three years. Their mandate will begin at the end of the Annual General Assembly following their election and ends up with the third annual General Assembly following their election. They can be dismissed by the Board and can be re-elected for an additional term. Refer to Article 5.5 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.5.1.3 Composition

Refer to Article 6.2 of the [EAA Statutes](#).

5.5.1.4 Expenses and practicalities

The travel expenses of members of the Management Committee when attending interim meetings in Brussels are fully covered by the EAA. The refunds are processed once the travel expense form is filled out and relevant receipts are provided. Flight tickets should be economy class only. The EAA Secretariat will take care of the accommodation booking, meeting space and catering.

5.5.2 Accounting Resources Centre (ARC) Committee

The ARC consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members. The chair is a member of the MC (refer to Article 6.2 of the [EAA Statutes](#)) and coordinates between the ARC Committee and the MC the governance and strategic direction of the ARC. The members of the ARC Committee further include an Editor-in-Chief as well as team of sufficient breadth and depth to conduct all of the ARC activities. The current ARC Committee members and their roles are found [here](#).

5.5.3 Congress Committee

The Congress Committee consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members. The Committee reports to the MC. The chair is a member of the MC (refer to Article 6.2 of the [EAA Statutes](#)).

The following expenses are covered:

- Travel and accommodation expenses for Congress Preparatory Meeting in location of next conference
- Travel and accommodation expenses for visiting potential future conference locations approved by the President.

5.5.4 Doctoral Colloquium Committee

The Doctoral Colloquium Committee is subject to [guidelines](#) defined by the Management Committee.

The following expenses are covered for the DC faculty members:

- Accommodation expenses during Doctoral Colloquium and Congress (up to a max. of 4 nights for Annual Congress)
- Congress fee waived (they should pay the membership fee)

5.5.5 External Relations Committee (ERC)

The ERC consists of the chair, an appropriate number of members, and the Executive Secretary (*ex officio*). The Committee reports to the MC.

The ERC Chair is a senior member who is well-connected to potential sponsors, is willing and able to spend significant time in reaching out to them and has experience with contracts and administrative procedures. He or she advocates the interests of the sponsors in internal EAA discussions.

5.5.6 Financial Reporting Standards Committee (FRSC)

The FRSC consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members, one of which is the current EAA representative on the IFRS Advisory Council. The Committee reports to the MC.

The FRSC chair has:

- High motivation and qualification in conducting and communicating academic research that is relevant to financial reporting standard-setting and regulation;
- A wide, international as well as European network, not limited to the academic community;
- The ability to work in a timely and constructive manner with the members of the FRSC, the SRC, and other EAA committees, and to liaise with the relevant institutions in the regulatory landscape, such as IASB, EFRAG, etc.; and
- A proven track record of active EAA membership and service to the academic accounting community.

Travel and accommodation expenses of the Chair are covered when attending relevant workshops/Advisory Board meetings.

5.5.7 Publications Committee (PC)

The PC consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members, and the Executive Secretary (*ex officio*). The Committee reports to the MC. The PC chair:

- Is a reputable scholar with a good understanding of, and experience in, academic editing – preferably as (associate) editors (not necessarily with EAA journals);
- Has some experience in dealing with publishers;
- Is willing and able to take a broad view of research methods and topics; and
- Has a deep understanding of the EAA context and is capable of working in this context, ideally documented by a track record of active EAA membership.

5.5.8 Stakeholder Reporting Committee (SRC)

The SRC consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members; it reports to the MC. The SRC chair has:

- High motivation and qualification in conducting and communicating academic research that is relevant to wider non-financial, sustainability, and ESG reporting standard-setting and regulation;
- A wide, international as well as European network, not limited to the academic community;
- The ability to work in a timely and constructive manner with the members of the SRC, the FRSC, and other EAA committees, and to liaise with the relevant institutions in the regulatory landscape, such as the European Commission, EFRAG, the IFRS Foundation, etc.; and
- A proven track record of active EAA membership and service to the academic accounting community.

Travel and accommodation expenses of the Chair are covered when attending relevant workshops/Advisory Board meetings.

5.5.9 Standing Scientific Committee (SSC)

The SSC consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members; it reports to the MC. The Scientific Committee, which reports to the SSC, consists of about 100 international members who act as reviewers for the Annual Congress, and up to 10 locally nominated members.

The following expenses are covered for SSC members:

- Travel and accommodation expenses (1 night) for all SSC meetings (2 yearly meetings, one during the Congress)
- Congress fee waived (they should pay the membership fee)

5.5.10 Symposia Committee (SC)

The Symposia Committee consists of the chair and three members. The Symposia Committee chair is an MC member. The Committee reports to the MC.

5.5.11 Virtual Activities Committee (VAC)

The Virtual Activities Committee consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members; it reports to the MC.

The VAC chair:

- Is a reputable scholar with a good understanding of, and experience in, conceiving and organizing academic events, including but not limited to: seminars, conferences, roundtables, panels, PhD training sessions
- Has experience as editor and a good track of academic leadership/service
- Is willing and able to take a broad view of research epistemologies, methods and topics
- Has a deep understanding of the EAA context and is capable of working in this context, ideally documented by a track record of active EAA membership.

The current EAA Committee members can be found [here](#).

5.6 Ad-hoc committees

5.6.1 Awards Committee

The Awards Committee consists of the chair and an appropriate number of members. The Awards Committee chair is an MC member.