

SYMPOSIA GUIDELINES – UPDATE 2024

The scientific programme of the Annual Congress includes a number of Symposia. While the number of symposia has varied over the years (between 8-13), the standard arrangement is having a total of 9 symposia over the conference.¹

Given that the EAA annual congress does not include keynote presentations, the symposia can be considered the flagship sessions of the congress, as they feature topical themes within the accounting field and attract a large number of delegates to the audience. As such, there is often considerable interest from academics, sponsors, and other stakeholders, who wish to have a say in and provide input to the organisation of the symposia.

The following principles guide the design of the symposia programme:

- Symposia are part of the scientific programme, and should meet academic criteria
- Symposia topics and speakers should be diverse, cover various aspects of accounting, and represent various approaches to accounting research, thus forming an overall balanced programme so that different interests of attendants are honoured
- A number of symposia are reserved. These include symposia for the European Accounting Review (EAR), for Accounting in Europe (AiE), for the Editors' Panel. The Local Organising Committee (LOC) is also allocated one slot as an option.²

Given that the symposia are relevant for EAA's key external stakeholders and for the Association's relationships with the accounting practice and profession, it is paramount that in putting together the symposia programme, care is taken to make sure that the views of interested parties are heard. For this purpose, the programme for the symposia is the outcome of cooperation and agreement between several parties: the EAA Management Committee (MC), the EAA Standing Scientific Committee (SSC), the EAA External Relations Committee (ERC) and the Local Organising Committee (LOC).

Symposia are coordinated and decided upon by a Symposia Committee, which includes one EAA MC member, one LOC member, the SSC Chair, and the ERC Chair. To ensure continuity over the years and communication with the EAA Management Committee, the Committee is chaired by the EAA MC member.

The Symposia Committee is also responsible for the Editors' Panel composition and theme. The SSC Chair has a key role in the organization of the Panel which is designed according to the following principles:

- The Editors of the two EAA journals (EAR and AiE) will be part of the Panel
- The Panel will be composed of at least 5 and no more than 6 speakers
- Editors of non-EAA journals will be invited based on a rolling system, keeping into consideration diversity and the links with other big accounting associations
- The Editors' Panel should not be chaired by an Editor

¹ This means organizing one symposium at a time in each timeslot in the programme. In exceptional cases, and upon approval by the Management Committee, the number of symposia may be different than the standard.

² Presently, under an agreement with the EAA, EFRAG also holds a designated slot.

An invitation to submit symposia proposals will be shown permanently on the EAA website. In addition, the Symposia committee will contact, in between mid-end October of the year preceding the conference, key stakeholders, including the Editors of EAR and AinE, key non-academic counterparts who have previously sponsored the EAA (e.g., professional bodies, accountancy firms), and the chairs of the various EAA committees³.

The proposals for symposia should include a proposed title (topic), 200-words abstract discussing and motivating the theme, potential chair/speakers (preferably), and potential stakeholders interested in sponsorship. The deadline for submitting the proposals will be the end of November. The proposals should be sent to the Symposia Committee Chairperson and to the EAA Executive Secretary.

The final list of symposia has to be approved by the Management Committee. Decisions regarding the symposia programme should ideally be made by the end of February of the year of the Congress. The Symposia Committee may decide to leave one or two symposia open until a later date, should there be pending opportunities that would affect the decisions. The final list of symposia will be announced in due time through the Annual Congress website.

Once decisions regarding the symposia programme are made, the LOC is responsible for the detailed organisation.

All symposia will be recorded and made available on the EAA website, accessible to members only upon discretion of the MC. Speakers should be aware that in case the link of the video is shared, the video will be also visible to non-EAA members.

The LOC is responsible for collecting the necessary approvals from the speakers according to the current regulation on privacy.

³ Symposium proposals submitted by all EAA committees undergo a competitive evaluation process. EAA Committees whose proposals are not selected will have the opportunity to organize a virtual symposium (an online event) in the autumn of the Congress year.