



Draft agenda (Version 4.0)

DOCUMENT 1

**37th Annual Business Meeting of the Academia Europaea members at the Barcelona Biomedical Park (PRBB)
Doctor Aiguader 88, 08003, Barcelona**

Location <https://goo.gl/maps/z3abq4WSSMt7tBDV8>

**OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIA EUROPAEA
NO PRE-REGISTRATION NEEDED**

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89726799594>

**Wednesday 15th October, 2025
17:00 – 19:00 (Barcelona time)**

From 01 October. ALL DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND here: https://www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad_Main/Annual_Business_Meetings (no passwords needed)

A series of pre-AGM membership wide electronic ballots on the motions were held online from 15th September to – 26th September.

(NOTE: an agenda and documents pack will be available at the door of the meeting room for any physical attendees). **PLEASE ALSO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER AT THE DOOR**

In the chair: The President – Professor. Dr. Don Dingwell (Munich)

1. Welcome, adoption of the 2025 draft agenda (by members present) – **[DOCUMENT 1]**
2. To adopt the minutes of the AGM held on November, 2024 **[DOCUMENT 2]**

Transaction of Ordinary Business

3 Reports (covering the past 12 months and going forward): QUESTIONS ARE INVITED

- 3.1 President – Don Dingwell. 2024 Trustees (Activity) report. **[DOCUMENT 3.1 + 3.1s Supplement]**

Report of the result of the online ballot of members, to the Motion: “That the AGM adopt the 2024 Trustees report” : In favour 409. Against 1. **[DOCUMENT 3]**

- 3.2 Finance – Professor Stephen Evans (Treasurer) a summary report has been tabled in advance and the 2024 examined accounts made available online. **[DOCUMENT 3.2 + 3.2s supplement]**

Report of the result of the online ballot of members, to the motion: “That members adopt the 2024 accounts” . In favour 406. Against 1 **[DOCUMENT 3]**

3.2. 1 Outcome of the e-ballot of members on the Motion: “That members agree to re-appoint the Audit/Examiners: Messrs Keith Vaudrey and Co. Ltd, London”.
Voted in favour 406. Against 0 **[Document 3]**

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3.2.2 Annual members' financial contribution for 2026

Outcome of the e-ballot of members to the Motion: “The Members are asked to approve the trustees recommendation, for an annual, [voluntary] contribution, based on an age –related scale, and effective from January 1st 2026. As follows:

Ordinary members

Members up to and including 65 years of age: 200 Euro

Members 66 - 75 years of age: 125 Euro

Foreign members (all age categories): 200 Euro

Members over 75: Voluntary donations are welcomed, but they are optional.

The E- Ballot result was: **Those in favour: 370; Those against; 32.**

[Document 3]

3.2.3 Additional motion for the room:

That the Members (present) are asked to approve a one-time **establishment fee for all new (2026) members of 200 Euros, irrespective of age at the time of their acceptance of membership.”**

4. Elections and appointments

4.1 Election of a President.

During 2025, There was a call for nominations for the vacant position of President. A search group was convened comprising the four class chairs plus Dr Robert-Jan Smits (Honorary member) as independent chair. The search group interviewed the candidates and made a recommendation to the Board of trustees. The Board accepted the recommendations and moved to a member-wide confirmatory E-ballot proposing a single candidate – Professor Don Dingwell. The Ballot confirmed Professor Dingwell as the new President. The new President assumed the role of Chair of the Board of Trustees immediately following the ballot. **Professor Dingwell now formally assumes the role of President at this AGM.** His term runs for three years until the AGM of 2028. His position is renewable for a second and final term of three years.

~~[4.2a Appointment of a Class chair for Class A2 – Social and related Sciences.~~

~~Professor Martin Kahanec stood down as Class chair during 2025. Professor Wittrock stood in as pro tem Class chair to manage the identification of a new Class chair. The Board have subsequently approved the recommendation of the Section chairs (acting as Council) of Class A2 and have appointed XXXXXXXX as the new Class chair, effective from 1st January 2026. The Class chair has been co-opted onto the Board of trustees.~~

~~Motion for the room~~

~~The members present are asked to approve an initial term of three years (2026 – 2029). This is renewable for a second and final term of three years.]~~

4.2b Appointment of a Class chair for Class A1 – Humanities

Professor Poul Holm completed his term as Class chair in 2024. He oversaw the identification and selection process for a new chair. The Section chairs from the Humanities class recommended that the Board of trustees appoint **Professor Genoveva Marti (Barcelona)** as the new Class chair with effect from the AGM of 2025 and for a period of three years (renewable for a final period of three years). The Board of trustees accepted the recommendation.

Motion for the room

The members present are asked to approve an initial term of three years (to the AGM of 2028) for Professor Marti. This is renewable for a second and final term of three years.

Other Business (as time allows)

5. Report on the AE engagement in the SAPEA Horizon Europe Project and G-20 (S-20) – President/Prof. Dingwell

6. Brief AE Regional Knowledge Hub Reports 2025/26:

Barcelona (Prof. Jaume Bertranpetit Academic Director, Ms Maite Sánchez Riera - Hub Manager).

Bergen (Prof. Eystein Jansen Academic Director, Ms Kristen Baaken - Hub Manager).

Bucharest (Sorin Antohi, Executive Director, Grigore Vida, - Hub Manager)

Budapest (Prof. Peter Hegyi, Academic Director, , Hub manager).

Cardiff (Prof. Ole Petersen Academic Director).

Tbilisi (Prof.. David Lordkipanidze Academic Director, Ms Natia Khuluzauri – Hub Manager),

Wroclaw Hub (Prof. Arkadiusz Wojs Academic Director, Ms Anna Jarosz – Hub Manager),

Graz Data Centre (Dr Helmut Leitner – Centre manager, Ms Dana Kaiser manager)

7. Report by the Editor-in-Chief of the European Review – Professor Alban Kellerbauer

8 Report by our Patron member The Hungarian Research Network (HUN-REN) – Professor Balazs Gulyas

9. Future plans (President)

10. Future annual conferences

11. Motion from Professor Cinzia Ferrini (Philosophy) Trieste (and others) - There will be a brief exchange around the following motion – no vote is needed:

Motion: *a policy to favour participation in the annual conference*

a.. Members who only come to attend the meeting, without any role in the organization and program and/or without any financial support from their universities, face increasingly higher costs for traveling, accommodation (in expensive cities like Barcelona or München) **and** the registration rate (early bird of this year raised by 25%, 340 euros for the regular rate). In sum, many have renounced to join, especially from sections that do not sufficiently motivate participation involving their members with calls and attractive programs. Although this motion is under my sole responsibility and initiative, I personally shared this concern among a number of colleagues from the Humanities.

b. The annual conference works as a catalyst and general context for regional hubs' activities, giving to members the unique possibility to meet and connect with colleagues of all disciplines across Europe. This exchange and encounter is at the very core of the AE's mission, is nothing but its 'lymph', and the Board should adopt a more inclusive policy to facilitate and encourage broader participation by all members, by reducing economic obstacles.

c. Some suggestions:

i. empowering the action of class chairs to relaunch under-represented sections in the general annual program

ii. reduce general AE expenses to allocate more funds to the annual conference and/or reduce its budget by limiting costs to strictly necessary expenses

iii. select localities where the organization costs (from catering to hotels) are more affordable

iv. reduce registration fees, calculating the necessary costs in a differentiated way: revise the current system of exemptions and charges, and/ or adopt the scaled annual membership fee to the conference registration rate

v. facilitate the payment of annual fees which entitles participation at the annual conference, allowing for payment with credit cards, instead of bank transfers which can be expensive and complicated from some countries

Sincerely yours
Cinzia Ferrini (MAE)

12. Questions from the membership

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13. Closing remarks (The President)

14 Announcement; Call for nominations for election to membership – opened 01 October 2025 - 31 January 2026

NOTES:

Trustee (Activity) 2024 report and 2024 examined accounts at: https://www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad_Main/Publications/Academia_Europaea_Annual_Activity_Reports_and_Annual_Accounts

AE Statutes and regulations can be found at: http://www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad_Main/About_us/Governance

AE Section chairs and committees at: http://www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad_Main/About_us/Academic_Management

Regional Knowledge Hub websites;

Barcelona

<https://aebarcelona.eu/>

Bergen

<https://aebergen.w.uib.no/>

Bucharest

<https://acadeurobucharest.eu/>

Budapest

<https://mta.hu/aebudapest>

Cardiff

<http://aecardiffknowledgehub.wales/>

Wroclaw

<http://acadeuro.wroclaw.pl/>

Tbilisi

<https://www.aetbilisihub.org/>

Corporate website:

www.ae-info.org

The Executive Secretary . Frau Friederike Brandthaus, AE Munich, 2025
Support office at London – Dr David Coates and Ms Teresa McGovern

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