

2015 ELECTIONS TO THE ECPR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

By the end of March 2015, the term of office expires for the members of the Executive Committee who were elected in 2009, and for the members of the Executive Committee who were co-opted to vacancies on the Executive Committee after the elections of 2012.

The members of the Executive Committee whose terms expire are:

Simona Piattoni,
André Kaiser,
Niilo Kauppi,
Manuel Sanchez de Dios, and
Jonas Talberg.

The members of the Executive Committee who were co-opted to vacancies that occurred after the elections of 2012 are:

May Farrell,
Birgit Sauer.

The Members of the Executive Committee whose term has not expired, and who will continue to serve on the Executive Committee are:

Rudy Andeweg,
Klaus Goetz,
Olafur Hardarson,
Richard Katz, and
Luca Verzichelli.

This means that 7 new members of the Executive Committee must be elected.

These are the relevant articles of the ECPR Constitution:

14.

a.

The Executive Committee shall consist of twelve persons elected by members of the Council.

b.

The election will take place by electronic means. Those elected must, at the time of their election, belong to a full European Consortium for Political Research member institution.

c.

Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a maximum term of six years.

d.

A member of the Executive Committee who ceases to be attached to a member institution shall cease to belong to the Committee, after one year.

e.

Subject to clause 14(g) below, any vacancies that occur in the Executive Committee for whatever reason, shall be filled up to the extent of three by drawing in order from the list of those 'alternates' elected for that purpose at the most recent election.

f.

Where no one has been elected for this purpose, the Executive Committee shall have the right of co-option. The person filling the vacancy in either way shall hold his or her seat until the next election of members of the Executive Committee and may run for reelection only for the next three-year term.

g.

Any vacancies that occur on the Executive Committee in the three months prior to the beginning of an election shall remain unfilled until that election. The vacancy will then be filled by election as in 14(a) above.

8.

Each full member is entitled to designate one person to serve as its official representative on the Council and an alternate to represent it in the absence of the designated representative, except that any member which is more than one year in arrears with its subscription ceases to be eligible to be represented on the Council. Each member shall have one vote, exercisable by its official representative or alternate present at the meeting.

13. The Speaker shall have the following responsibilities:

.....

d.

To serve as Senior Returning Officer for Executive Committee elections.

This memo sets out the procedures for the 2015 elections based on the document “Rules for Electing Members of the ECPR Executive Committee” approved by the Executive Committee on 31 August 2010”, adapted to suit the constitutional amendments that have been adopted since then and clarified to preempt questions that emerged in the previous elections.

1. The elections are conducted electronically and consist of three stages:
 - a. Nominations
 - b. Endorsements
 - c. Final voting.

All three stages are carried out under the supervision of the Speaker of the ECPR Council in his/her capacity as Senior Returning Officer, unless the Speaker nominates himself/herself. In that case the outgoing Chair of the Executive Committee appoints another Senior Returning Officer.

Each of the three stages is announced at least one week in advance of the starting date on the ECPR website, and by email to all Official Representatives of full-member institutions.

2. **Eligibility:** Candidates need not be Official Representatives. The only restriction is that, according to the Constitution (14b), candidates should belong to a full-member institution at the time of their election. At the 2012 elections, the Senior Returning Officer ruled that art 8 of the Constitution (stipulating that full-members which are more than one year in arrears with their subscription cease to be eligible on the Council) should also apply for candidates to the Executive Committee. This implies that at the time of his/her election a candidate should belong to a full-member institution that has paid its subscription for the 2013/2014 membership year. As the election consists of two phases (acquiring sufficient endorsements and acquiring sufficient votes), ‘at the time of their election’ is operationalised as ‘by the start of the endorsement period, i.e. December 1, 2014.
3. **Voting and endorsing rights:** Also following Art 8 of the Constitution, only Official Representatives of full-member institutions which have paid their subscription for the 2013/2014 membership year by the start of the endorsement period (December 1, 2014) can endorse candidates and vote.
4. **Nominations.** From October 15 to November 15, 2014, candidates can post their nomination on the ECPR website. Nominations must come from the candidates themselves. When posting his or her name, the nominee will be allowed to add a portrait photo and a statement of up to 500 words, covering basic biographical information, the motivation for standing for election,

and any pre-endorsements by Standing Groups, Research Networks, etc. Nominees shall be listed in the order in which they posted their nomination on the website.

5. **Endorsements.** From December 1, 2014 to January 1, 2015, all Official Representatives of full member institutions (See art.3) are invited to endorse up to three candidates for the final ballot. For inclusion on the final ballot, a nominee must:
 - i. Receive at least 5 endorsements,
 - ii. Have endorsements from Official Representatives of full-member institutions in at least 2 countries,
 - iii. Have endorsements from Official Representatives of full-member institutions of both sexes.

Endorsements are public. Endorsements to all candidates are possible throughout the endorsement period (i.e. it remains possible to endorse a candidate who has already met the criteria set out above).

6. If at the conclusion of either the nomination or endorsement periods there is an insufficient number of candidates, the Senior Returning Officer shall have the right to extend the period for nomination and/or endorsement, and to postpone the voting period, in order to ensure that enough candidates are on the ballot. Nominees or candidates may also withdraw their names until the closing of the endorsement period (i.e. January 1, 2015) by sending a message to the Senior Returning Officer c/o ECPR Central Services.
7. **Final Voting.** Once the final ballot of candidates has been determined, all Official Representatives of full member institutions (See art.3) will be asked to vote for their preferred candidates. The voting period is from January 15 to February 15, 2015. The electoral system to be used is Single Transferable Vote (Scottish variant). Official Representatives will be asked to rank order their preferred candidates. The minimum number of candidates to be rank ordered for a vote to be valid is one. There is no maximum to the number of candidates to be rank ordered. Pursuant to the STV method, preference votes will be tallied and transferred until all vacancies are either filled or until preferences are exhausted (at which point any remaining vacancies will be awarded to those candidates with the highest vote tallies).
8. Candidates are declared elected as soon as the Senior Returning Officer has certified the results. Following certification, all candidates are informed of the results by the Senior Returning Officer. If the results are not challenged within a week of the candidates having been informed, they are final and are made public on the ECPR website within a week of having become final. Elected candidates take office at a transition meeting at the end of the final meeting of the outgoing Executive Committee held during the Joint Sessions of Workshops in Warsaw (April 2, 2015).
9. When insufficient candidates are declared elected to fill all vacancies on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall fill such vacancies by co-option.