

## EMA Annual General Council Meeting at JEMS 2025 – Minutes

The meeting is held in hybrid mode, 26<sup>th</sup> August 12:15 - 13:30

- Onsite: Room HZ15 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)
- Welcome and Lunch pick-up: 12:00 - 12:15
- Online: <https://univ-grenoble-alpes-fr.zoom.us/my/olivier.fruchart>
- Informal social dinner @8pm: Restaurant Arche Nova, Kasseler Str. 1a, Frankfurt.

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### Participants

\*A star indicates online participation.

#### PARTICIPANTS WITH VOTING RIGHTS (MEMBERS OF THE GC AND OFFICERS)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ▫ ADELMANN Christoph (Belgium)*                          | ▫ FRUCHART Olivier (President)                       |
| ▫ ASENJO BARAHONA Agustina (Spain)                       | ▫ GOLUB Vladymyr (Ukraine)*                          |
| ▫ BAILLEUIL Matthieu (Treasurer)                         | ▫ GUTFLEISCH Oliver (Germany)                        |
| ▫ BERTACCO Riccardo (Italy)*                             | ▫ JAL Emmanuelle (France, Officer for Communication) |
| ▫ CARDOSO de FREITAS Susana (Portugal)*                  | ▫ KACZOROWSKI Dariusz (Poland)*                      |
| ▫ CARVA Karel (Czech Republic)                           | ▫ LEITAO Diana (Officer for Industrial Relations)    |
| ▫ CHERKEZOVA-JELEVA Zara (Bulgaria)*                     | ▫ MAGNUS Fridrik (Iceland)*                          |
| ▫ CONDREA, Elena (Moldova)*                              | ▫ MCCORD Jeffrey (Officer for Awards)                |
| ▫ DEMPSEY Nora (Officer for JEMS)                        | ▫ MEIER Dennis (Vice-President)                      |
| ▫ DUPÉ Bertrand (Officer for Officer Higher Education) * | ▫ MICHELS Andreas (Luxembourg)*                      |
| ▫ FERREIRA TEXEIRA Sofia (Young Officer)                 |  |

- MOORE Thomas (United Kingdom)
- NOVOSEL Nikolina (Croatia)\*
- PEROVIC Marija (Serbia)\*
- **PETTI Daniela (Officer for Digital Networking)**
- RASING Theo (The Netherlands)\*
- RõõM Toomas (Estonia)\*
- **SALA Giacomo (Officer for Sustainability)**
- SHENGELAYA Alexander (Georgia)\*
- STAMENOV Plamen (Ireland)
- STANCU Alexandru (Romania)\*
- SUESS Dieter (Austria)
- TRYPINIOTIS Theodosis (Cyprus)\*
- WAHLSTRÖM Erik (Norway)\*
- ZARAUSKIENE Nerija (Lithuania)

#### INVITED PARTICIPANTS

- RUNGE ERICH (EPS/CMD), excused
- BORTOLOTTI Paolo (SpinTronic Factory), excused
- CORONADO Eugenio (The European Institute of Molecular Magnetism, EIMM), excused
- FINOCCHIO Giovanni (PetaSpin), excused
- WEILER Mathias (Magnetometry.eu)\*
- HILLEBRANDS Burkard (past president)

#### EXCUSED PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER	REPLACEMENT OR DELEGATED VOTE
FAIVRE Damien (Latvia)	Olivier Fruchart (President)
ÅKERMAN Johan (Sweden)	n.a.
ARCON Denis (Slovenia)	n.a.
CAFFREY Nuala (Officer for Gender and Diversity)	n.a.
ENTIN-WOHLMAN Ora (Israel)	n.a.
GRUNDLER Dirk (Switzerland)	n.a.
HRACHOOHI BOGHOSIAN Mary (Armenia)	n.a.
VAN DIJKEN Sebastian (Finland)	n.a.
MOGENS Christensen (Denmark)	n.a.
ÖZTÜRK Mustafa (Turkey)	n.a.
RICHTER Kornel (Slovakia)	n.a.
TANGOULIS Vassilis (Greece)	n.a.
VARGA, Lajos (Hungary)	n.a.

## Notes:

- The questions raised are reported after each item. If none were made, no comment is inserted in the report.
- Votes held during the meeting have been made non-anonymously, although not reported nominally in the present minutes. This excepts the election for the next Vice-President, which was handled anonymously both online and onsite.
- These minutes are provisional. They will be formally approved at the next General Council Meeting, which will take place during Intermag2026.

*The meeting was prepared by the President, Olivier Fruchart, supported by the Vice-President, Dennis Meier, as well as the EMA Officers and representatives of associated bodies.*

## Agenda

Olivier Fruchart (OF) welcomes the participants and mentions the GC members who are excused and delegated their votes.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST GC E-MEETING, JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2024**

No comments are raised and the minutes from the previous meeting is approved.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda is approved without changes.

### **PARTIAL ELECTIONS TO GC**

OF thanks the GC members whose term ended in 2025 and welcomes the new GC members:

- Elena Condrea, Moldova
- Damien Faivre, Latvia
- Mogens Christensen, Denmark
- Sebastian Van Dijken, Finland
- Mariia Perovic, Serbia
- Zara Cherkezova-Zheleva, Bulgaria
- Nikolina Novosel, Croatia
- Toomas Rõõm, Estonia
- Volodymyr Golub, Ukraine

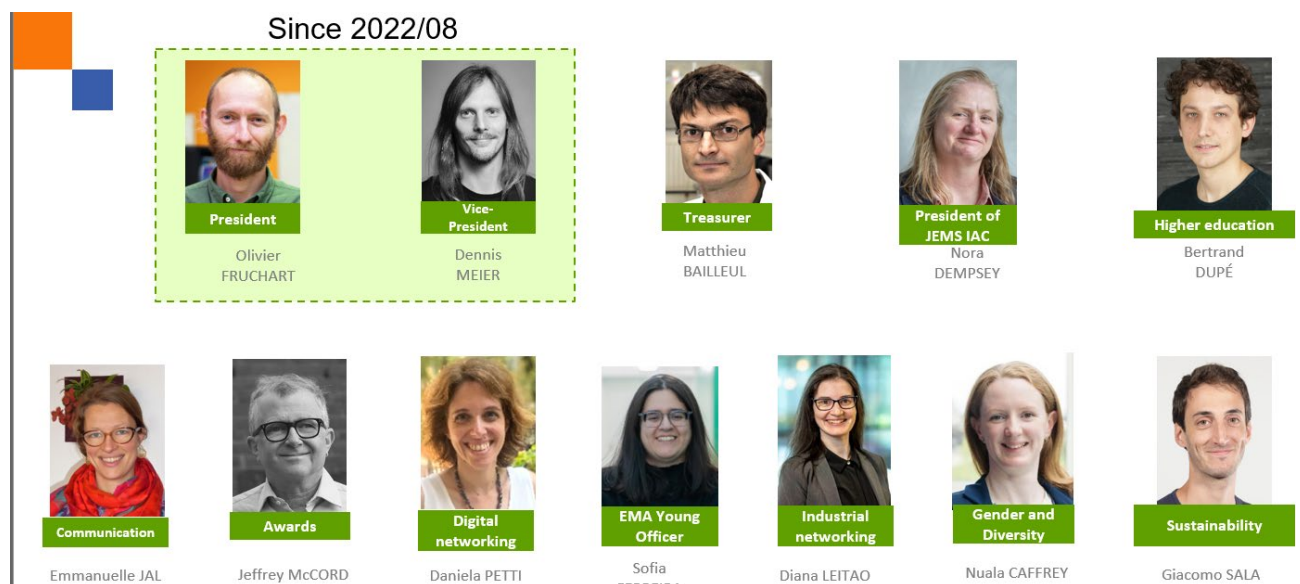
### **PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF NEW OFFICER: SUSTAINABILITY**

- Giacomo Sala (GS) introduces his mission and the team, including him as officer and Verena Brehm (not present). At this point, they are learning from other conferences and the experience gathered by the previous carbon footprint officer, Bertrand Dupé. GS presents the first planned steps and potential future actions:
  - Name change from «Carbon footprint» to «Sustainability»
  - Develop actions considering “sustainability in the lab” and “sustainability outside the lab”
  - Establish a larger working group to drive the different actions.

- There are no additional comments or questions.
- Voting by raising hands – the participants online and on site confirm GS as new EMA Officer for Sustainability.

#### GENERAL REPORT BY THE EMA PRESIDENT (OLIVIER FRUCHART)

- **Working process of the Presidents**
  - Monthly meetings and combined participation in important discussions, autonomous conduct of specific operations otherwise
- **Executive Board**
  - Regular meetings: 04/11/2024 and 28/03/2025.
  - Extraordinary meeting: 12/06/2025.



- **Move from X to Bluesky**
  - Action proposed by Executive Board.
  - X accounts frozen (EMA, JEMS).
  - Bluesky accounts created and fed (~100 followers).
- **Four strategies decided in 2023**
  - Young Officer: position filled.
  - Links with National Societies: challenging to establish continuous exchange; “EMA ambassador” list established to foster an exchange on a more personal basis. Input from the GC welcome to improve the exchange with their National Societies.
  - Membership: Supporting membership implemented.
    - Follows survey 2023
    - Discussed by dedicated committee, approved by GC during JEMS2023
    - Conditions: Open to individuals and bodies, Membership fees are voluntary with free amount, Free membership is an option, EMA remains non-profit and serving all

- 2025: massive personal mailing (> 3500 recipients) - will be further advertised during JEMS
- Proceedings: frozen (not implemented at JEMS2025).

COMMENT: Burkard Hillebrands (BH): Are GC members and officers directly members? Automatically making the GC members and Officers also EMA members could increase the number. Olivier Fruchart (OF): An action like this would have no direct impact or provide income, which is why it was not considered.

- **Discussion on the situation in the Middle-East**

- Questioning raised by some GC colleagues already in 2024.
- Recent context: Continuous escalation, Rise of criticism from many European states, Rise of critical discussion within Israel itself, incl. key political/military persons.
- Extraordinary meeting of the Board on 12/06/2025 called by a board member.
  - Feeling is that the situation is very concerning, although not perfectly comparable to that of Russia versus Ukraine, for which an EMA ban on the show of affiliations was declared in 2022.
  - Options evaluated: 1. Do nothing 2. Statement for peace (public or at JEMS?) 3. Extend the ban to institutions from Israel
  - All consider that something should be done, however there is no clear majority for a given action.
  - Involving the GC in the discussions is mentioned, to broaden the basis of opinions to define the position of EMA
- Decision by Presidents jointly with JEMS organizing team: during the EMA address, make a statement for trust in science, understanding between the people and call for peace, aligned with JEMS message.
- Comments welcome; discussion should go on after the GC meeting.

COMMENT: Riccardo Bertacco (RB): what is happening in the middle east is unacceptable and additional measures need to be identified. He strongly supports additional discussions and suggests to organize broader discussions. OF and Dennis Meier (DM) note that the topic was intentionally lifted up to the GC level, following up on the extraordinary board meeting on 12/06/2025. Respective further actions will be coordinated by the new EMA President and Vice-President.

- **Misc**

- Updated MoUs (Increase communication synergy + non-ending term).  
AUMS (signed 2024-12-18) – Promote JEMS/AUMSc cross-participation  
IUPAP (signed 2025-04-01)
- Educational material: contact established with Andrii Chumak. He agrees in principle (action pending on EMA's side).

## REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

- **Treasurer (Matthieu Bailleul)**

The EMA financial statement for 2024 is presented (see slides for details). It is mentioned that spendings will increase next year as two awards will be handed out.

COMMENT: OF: For legal reasons, an annual budgeting is needed, although spendings are usually “continuous”, including, e.g., costs related to JEMS or ESM the year before. MB also has “per event” overviews, not presented here.

- **JEMS (Nora Dempsey)**

Report by **Oliver Gutfleisch**: OG gives a short overview of key figure related to JEMS 2025 (766 registered participants, including DGM and helpers (718 on-site); on the day of the GC meeting 91% of the registered on-site participants have reached the meeting). OG expresses his general feeling: A revision of the EMA/JEMS guidelines is strongly encouraged. The host has a large responsibility, but no influence on the program, despite carrying a substantial financial risk. There is a strong dependence on “other people” as he currently sees the setting: One group carries a substantial financial risk, while another group decides on the content of JEMS (“Destiny in other people’s hands”). Furthermore, some recommendations concerning the organization should be reconsidered as related actions are very costly. He was surprised to hear that program/symposium chairs partially felt the same, raising the question, who ultimately has responsibility. Constructive discussions are needed concerning future JEMS.

Not all people involved participate in person (e.g., symposium chairs: turn out less than 50%). As a consequence, many tasks end up still with the organizers and it is desirable that committee members take their responsibilities seriously.

**Nora Dempsey (ND)** reports that there are two bids for the JEMS 2027, which will be presented at the IAC meeting the following day. A specific discussion on the hybrid model of JEMS is planned.

- **Awards (Jeffrey McCord)**

- 11 EMA Young Scientist Award nominees this year. Different lessons were learned this year, which will be helpful to improve the process (e.g., clearer formulation of objective criteria).
- 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025: Call for Dominique Givord Award 2026 & Call for EMA Young Scientist 2026 (Nominations in 2026).
- Additional other awards (Innovation? Public dissemination?) in-between DGA

COMMENT: OF reminds of the two plenary talks by the award recipients at JEMS and thanks Jeffrey McCord for guiding all processes related to the two awards.

- **Higher Education (Bertrand Dupé)**

- ESM2025 was a success (99.5% of satisfaction).
  - 120 participants onsite, 15 participants online
  - 4 people/room still too much according to participants, vary food from day to day to avoid repetition would be appreciated
  - Better poster prize communication necessary
  - Gender diversity session needs to be improved (a joint discussion with JEMS organizer of the same session and with Nuala Caffrey is scheduled)
- ESM2026: Uppsala, 17-28 August 2026 (Local chairs: Prof. Sanyal and Dr. Herper).

- An evaluation of the carbon footprint was conducted, but the outcome is not conclusive at this point.

COMMENT: ND asks if there is a rule concerning transportation/travelling for the students and OF clarifies that this is currently not asked and therefore not a criterium when students are applying.

- **Young Officer (Sofia Ferreira Texeira)**

- Young working group active, including also Sabri Koraltan, Elizabeth Jefremovas, Luiz Enger, and Daniel Arranz López.
- YORNE event @JEMS was successful with approx. 140 participants.
- Networking session at ESM was implemented in 2024, but not in 2025. It will be continued at the next ESM in 2026.
- Future projects: Make Discord active, connect with IEEE MagSoc SiM for online events, activate the MoU with IAPS.

COMMENT: OF encourages all to advertise the Young EMA activities in their networks and research groups. in your groups.

- **Industrial Relations (Diana Leitao)**

- Working group is well-established, including Graeme Finch and Ester Palmero.
- EMA Industry on the Spotlight series: EMA e-plenary with Digital Networking team is ongoing, but may need a boost to increase attendance. Suggestions for future e-plenary speakers are highly welcome.
- Special session organized at JEMS 2025 together with Oliver Gutfleisch: Industry Meets Science. Lesson learnt: The organizers had to rely on registered participants and personal contacts. Suggestions for how to expand in the future are welcome.
- The team supports STF activities and MMA 2025.

COMMENT: OF encourages all to reach out to the industrial relation any time to support their actions.

- **Digital Networking (Daniela Petti)**

- The team is well-established, including Joo-Von Kim and Sebastian Meyer
- In 2025, 7 early career (EC) seminars and 3 plenary lecture (PL) / plenary lectures with ESM were scheduled until July with good attendance (EC: ~50, PL: 80-100).
- Advertisement via Bluesky, Instagram and LinkedIn with the help of Sofia
- New: Award for the best video abstract (2024 seminars) at JEMS.
- Open issues: Low diversity in country representation, and representation of early-mid career researchers.
- New nomination round for EC and brainstorming for PL will start in September 2025 (only 2 events scheduled at the moment) and more tutorial/textbook like PL lectures are desired in the future. The topics may be further broadened, possibly including sustainability and diversity.

COMMENT: OF encourages all GC members to help with nomination of early-career scientists, in particular recently-graduated PhDs.

- **Sustainability (Giacomo Sala)**

*(Actions already presented earlier in this meeting.)*

- **Gender and Diversity (Emmanuelle Jal, interim for Nuala Caffrey)**

- There is an open ongoing call for volunteers to join and support the team and suggestions are welcome.
- Activities related to the “#HerVoiceInScience – 2025 UNESCO Women in Science Day” were a success and will be continued in the future.
- There was a good exchange with Maija Laux und Sonja Laubach concerning the ‘Diversity in Magnetism’ session at JEMS 2025.
- Ongoing actions include: Completion of ‘Practical Guidelines’ document and handouts, display / maintain JEMS / ESM gender statistics.

- **Communication (Emmanuelle Jal)**

- In addition to the officer, the team includes Michal Stano and Evgenia Tereshina-Chitrova.
- EMA social channels currently are: Bluesky (100 followers; replacing X (1400), which has been frozen), Instagram and LinkedIn (4380 followers); the use of “Buffer for management” substantially improved the workflow.
- Especially the Instagram account is well received, with >2000 views for JEMS, for example.
- Please actively send input to [contact@magnetism.eu](mailto:contact@magnetism.eu) for:
  - Event beyond the academics
  - National awards
  - Society or industry-related news
  - Obituary
  - Technical sponsorship
- WIKIPEDIA page for EMA is work in progress
- The new EMA editorial list was presented:

 **Editorials**

2025		
September	output of GC / JEMS / new VP	New VP / Dennis / Nora
October	Industrial relationships	Dianna
November	Call for awards	Jeffrey (EMA), Emmanuelle (IUPAP)
December	Sustainability	Giacomo

2026		
January	Overview of 2025, and prospects for 2026 Communication reminder	Dennis and New VP Emmanuelle / Michal
February	Young EMA network	Sofia
March	E-lectures and seminars	Daniela / Joo-Von
April	Open call for the renewal of the EMA GC	Olivier / Dennis
May	Award results	Jeffrey
June	Results of partial elections to the GC	Olivier / Dennis
July	Industrial relationships	Diana
August	Summary of ESM 2026	Bertrand
September	output of GC	New VP / Dennis
October	Gender and Diversity	Nuala
November	Call for awards	Jeffrey (EMA), Emmanuelle (IUPAP)
December	Sustainability	Emmanuelle /Giacomo

COMMENT: OF emphasizes that communication makes EMA visible; new members that would like to support the team are welcome.

- **Associated European Bodies**

Short updates are given concerning different bodies within Europe with a link to EMA, including

- PetaSpin (Giovanni Finocchio, presented by OF)
- Spintronics Factory (Paolo Bortolotti, presented by OF)
- Magnetometry Network (Mathias Weiler)
- European Physical Society – CMD (Erich Runge, presented by OF)
- European Molecular Magnetism Community (Eugenio Coronado, presented by OF)

## **ELECTIONS**

Elections are conducted for the new EMA Vice-President (VP) and President (P), term 2025-2028, in line with the statutes of EMA. For the VP, eligible members anonymously vote on site (paper ballot) and online (zoom poll); the P is elected by raising hands (on site and online).

Information about the two candidates for the VP position was made available before the meeting: short CV and short vision of EMA.

Susana Cardoso de Freitas from the Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal, is elected as new Vice-President of EMA and Dennis Meier from the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, is elected as new President of EMA.

The new VP and P thank the GC members and officers for the trust and look forward to consolidating and developing EMA's actions in support of the European magnetism community in the years to come.

Special thanks go to the past EMA President, Olivier Fruchart, for his tremendous commitment and the remarkable energy he put into shaping EMA and its future during his term, reflecting his passion for fair and inclusive science and for supporting the European magnetism community and the next generation of researchers. **THANK YOU, Olivier!**

## **PROPOSED NEW EMA STRATEGIES**

In his new role as EMA President, Dennis Meier (DM) briefly presents newly planned / evolving actions:

- **SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL**

- Support participation of early-career scientists to events and organization of small-scale events (to define: (small) committee, timeline of calls, criteria, range of amount...); it remains to be discussed how much time can be devoted to this.
- Actions must be consistent with EMA's commitments

The majority approves the action. Anyone wishing to help can contact the board. DM suggests to open a new position as Officer for Membership and Financial Sponsorship. The

proposal is approved and Olivier Fruchart confirmed as first Officer being responsible for this action.

- **PROPOSAL FOR AN APPLIED SCHOOL**

The proposal for (very) applied school in Magnetism is presented; the school should be very different from ESM, mainly with industry members. The concept will be further developed in the weeks to come, with the objective to organize a pilot event already in 2026.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

n.a.

**Attachments**

Provided to all members of the GC ahead of the meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Aug), alongside the agenda.

- Provisional minutes of the annual GC meeting 2024
- The proposal for the sustainability officer Giacomo Sala (item #5 in the agenda).
- The CV and statement of the two candidates running for the election of the next Vice-Presidency.
- Proposal of vision for membership / sponsorship programs (#item 9a).
- Proposal for a (very) applied school on Magnetism (#item 9b).