

EMA Annual General Council Meeting at INTERMAG 2026 – Minutes

The meeting is held in hybrid mode, 14th April 12:15 - 14:00

- Onsite: Exchange 2 and 3
- Welcome and Lunch pick-up: 12:00 - 12:15
- Online: <https://uni-due.zoom-x.de/j/62944060258?pwd=kl3EbpoSOAWghUdb2eH4sp5BGa5cS.1>
- Informal social dinner @20:00 pm: Gaucho Manchester, 2A St Mary's St, Manchester M3 2LB.

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Participants

A star (*) stands for online participants.

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

GC MEMBERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BOGHOSIAN Mary-Hrachoohi (Armenia)* ● FERNÁNDEZ-PACHECO Amalio (Austria)* ● CARPENTER Robert (Belgium) ● CHERKEZOVA-ZHELEVA Zara (Bulgaria)* ● NOVOSEL Nikolina (Croatia)* ● TRYPINIOTIS Theodossis (Cyprus)* ● CARVA Karel (Czechia)* ● CHRISTENSEN Mogens (Denmark) ● RÕÕM Toomas (Estonia)* ● VAN DIJKEN Sebastiaan (Finland) ● JAOUEN Nicolas (France)* ● GUTFLEISCH Oliver (Germany) ● LALIOTI Nikolia (Greece)* ● KISS László Ferenc (Hungary)* ● MAGNUS Fridrik (Iceland)* ● O'MATHUNA Cian (Ireland)* ● PETTI Daniela (Italy)* ● MIKOLIŪNAITĖM Lina (Lithuania)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MICHELS Andreas (Luxembourg)* ● ELENA Condrea (Moldova)* ● RASING Theo (The Netherlands)* ● PETRESKA Irina (North Macedonia)* ● KUŚWIK Piotr (Poland) ● OLIVEIRA VENTURA João (Portugal)* ● STOLERIU Laurentiu (Romania)* ● PEROVIC Marija (Serbia)* ● GOMILŠEK Matjaž (Slovenia) ● FRAILE RODRÍGUEZ Arantxa (Spain)* ● DASH Saroj (Sweden) ● GRUNDLER Dirk (Switzerland)* ● GÜNDÜZ AKDOĞAN Nilay (Turkey)* ● HAYWARD Tom (UK)* ● GOLUB Volodymyr (Ukraine)*

OFFICERS / PRESIDENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAILLEUIL Matthieu • CARDOSO DE FREITAS Susana • DEMPSEY Nora • DUPÉ Bertrand* • FERREIRA TEXEIRA Sofia* • JAL Emmanuelle* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FRUCHART Olivier* • LEITÃO Diana • MEIER Dennis • McCORD Jeffrey • PETTI Daniela* / KIM Joo-Von • SALA Giacomo*

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

- BORTOLOTTI Paolo (SpinTronic Factory)
- RUNGE Erich (EPS/CMD), excused
- CORONADO Eugenio (The European Institute of Molecular Magnetism, EIMM), excused
- TOMASELLO Riccardo (PetaSpin)
- WEILER Mathias (Magnetometry.eu), excused

DINNER ONLY

- MCKENZIE James (UK-MS)

EXCUSED PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER	REPLACEMENT OR DELEGATED VOTE
SHENGELAYA Alexander (Georgia)	Susana Cardoso De Freitas
WOHLMAN Ora Entin (Israel)	Dennis Meier
FAIVRE Damien (Latvia)	Dennis Meier
WAHLSTRÖM Erik (Norway)	Susana Cardoso De Freitas
RICHTER Kornel (Slovakia)	-
CAFFREY Nuala (Officer for Gender and Diversity)	-

Notes:

- The questions raised are reported after each item. If no questions were raised, no comment was inserted in the report.
- All votes held during the meeting have been made non-anonymously.
- These minutes are provisional. They will be formally approved at the next General Council Meeting, to take place during JEMS 2027.

Agenda

Dennis Meier welcomes the participants, especially the newly elected GC members who participate for the first time and mentions the GC members who are excused and delegated their votes. Meeting prepared with Susana Freitas, Officers and Representatives of Associated Bodies.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST GC E-MEETING, AUGUST 26TH, 2025

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda is approved without changes.

PARTIAL ELECTIONS TO GC

- The elections in 2026 took place with a different timeline than usual as there is no JEMS in 2026. The mandate of the new representatives (and the next term of the renewals) will be three years, starting April 14th, 2026 in conjunction with the annual meeting of EMA's GC.
- Next year, we will have the normal timeline, that is, the GC meeting at JEMS 2027.
- The mandate of the leaving representatives ended on the day before the meeting, i.e., on April 13th, 2026.
- Dennis thanks the GC members whose term ended in 2026 and welcomes the new GC members (now including Macedonia), as well as those serving a second term in the GC:
 - Amalio FERNÁNDEZ-PACHECO (Austria)
 - Robert CARPENTER (Belgium)
 - Karel CARVA (Czechia)
 - Nicolas JAOUEN (France)
 - Nikolia LALIOTI (Greece)
 - László Ferenc KISS (Hungary)
 - Cian O'MATHUNA (Ireland)
 - Daniela PETTI (Italy)
 - Lina MIKOLIŪNAITĖM (Lithuania)
 - Irina PETRESKA (North Macedonia)
 - Erik WAHLSTRÖM (Norway)
 - Piotr KUŚWIK (Poland)
 - João OLIVEIRA VENTURA (Portugal)
 - Laurentiu STOLERIU (Romania)
 - Kornel RICHTER (Slovakia)
 - Matjaž GOMILŠEK (Slovenia)
 - Arantxa FRAILE RODRÍGUEZ (Spain)

- Saroj DASH (Sweden)
- Nilay Gündüz AKDOĞAN (Turkey)
- Tom HAYWARD (United Kingdom)

- The General Council is expected to participate actively in shaping EMA and to contribute to its actions, with contributions that may vary from smaller tasks (e.g., optimizing the online representation of EMA) to proposing and developing new initiatives.

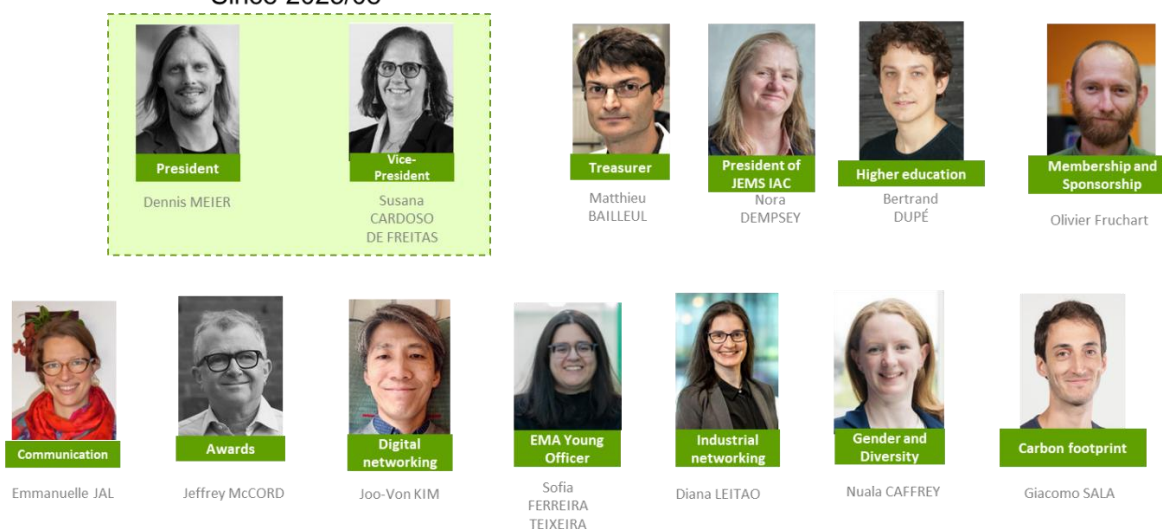
PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF NEW OFFICER: DIGITAL NETWORKING

- Joo-Von Kim introduces his past collaboration with the team (B. Dupé and D. Petti) since 2020 and his commitment to:
 - Continue to grow recent initiatives, such as “Industry in the Spotlight”, “Sustainability”, “Lectures”.
 - Expand geographical representation.
 - Expand scope to researchers at all career stages (early/mid).
- Voting by raising hands – the participants online and on site unanimously confirm Joo-Von Kim as the new EMA Officer for the Digital Networking.

GENERAL REPORT BY THE EMA PRESIDENT (DENNIS MEIER)

- **Working process of the Presidents**
 - Monthly meetings and combined participation in important discussions, autonomous conduct of specific operations otherwise.
- **Executive Board**
 - Regular meetings: 13/11/2025, next: 22/07/2026.
 - Extraordinary meeting: 11/09/2025.

Since 2025/08



- **Follow up on the previously launched actions**
 - **Links with National Societies**
 - GC members are welcome to promote interactions with their national societies.

- Need to identify means to stimulate mutual exchange.
- **EMA - repository for educational material**
 - Technical updates related to webpage required before implementation
 - Team established.
- **Loan for JEMS 2027**
 - Loan of 60.000 € approved by the GC in January 2026 and transferred to the organizers by the treasurer.
- **Evolving situation in the Middle East**
 - Extraordinary meetings and discussions in September 2026.
 - In September 2025, a poll was set involving all GC members. The decision was:
 - ◆ *“Option 1: Maintain Current Messaging - No further statement is necessary beyond our existing commitment to promoting trust in science, fostering mutual understanding among communities, and advocating for peace—values that align with the JEMS message.”*
 - New poll to be launched after the GC meeting to account for updates of the situation.
- **Identification of new EMA strategies**
 - Encourage input from the GC members, via email / direct contact with the Board / Presidents.
 - Discussion / evaluation together during next board meeting (22/07/2026).
 - Part of EMA survey (similar to 2023 survey) – to be launched in May 2026.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

- **A. Treasurer (Matthieu Bailleul)**
 - The EMA financial statement for 2025 is presented (see slides for details).
 - The membership and sponsorship values are included by the officer (Olivier Fruchart).
 - The surplus from JEMS 2025 (24k€) is not in the 2025 table, because it will be accounted in 2026.
- **B. Communication (Emmanuelle Jal)**
 - In addition to the officer, the team includes Michal Staňo, Evgenia Tereshina-Chitrova, and 2 new collaborators: Johanna Fischer, Ricardo Rama Eiroa.
 - EMA social channels currently are: Blueksy (116 followers), Instagram (264) and LinkedIn (5147); the use of “Buffer for management” substantially improved the workflow.
 - Request to send input to contact@magnetism.eu for:
 - Event beyond the academics
 - National awards
 - Society or industry-related news
 - Obituary
 - WIKIPEDIA page for EMA in progress (two rejections in the past).
 - The calendar for EMA editorials in the year to come was presented:

2026	Goal	Officer
May	Award results	Jeffrey
June	Output of GC / future EMA strategy	Dennis and Susana
July	Industrial relationships	Diana
August	Sustainability	Giacomo
September	Summary of ESM 2026	Bertrand
October	Gender and Diversity	Nuala
November	Call for awards	Jeffrey (EMA), Emmanuelle (IUPAP)
December	Communication tool reminder	Emmanuelle and Michal
2027	Goal	Officer
January	Overview of 2026 and prospects for 2027	Dennis and Susana
February	Young EMA network	Sofia
March	E-lectures and seminars	Joo-Von

Comments:

- Bertrand mentioned that the 2026 ESM school is end of August, therefore, it is too early to have the ESM newsletter in September. Asked to move to October (switch with Nuala).
- **C. JEMS (Nora Dempsey)**
 - JEMS 2025 @ Frankfurt
 - Post-conference report and survey responses submitted to EMA and shared with organisers of JEMS 2027.
 - 24k€ budget surplus has been transferred to EMA.
 - JEMS 2027 @ Prague
 - Website active (<https://www.jems2027.eu/>).
 - Update on the progress on the Symposia selection.
 - 1st announcement sent to EMA mailing list (E. Jal).
- **D. Awards (Jeffrey McCord)**
 - 6 EMA Young Scientist Award nominees; 5 EMA Dominique Givord Award nominees
 - Decisions have been made – to be announced in early May, 2026
 - Thanks to the teams of GC members who participate in the jury.
 - Next call for EMA Young Scientist Award 2027: November 2026.
 - Nominations are due in January 2027.
 - Candidate's evaluation through GC members in March 2027.
 - Announcements at JEMS 2027.
 - The GC members have a very important role: to nominate or evaluate.
- **E. Higher Education (Bertrand Dupé)**
 - ESM 2026: Uppsala, 17-28 August 2026 (Local chairs: Prof. Sanyal and Dr. Herper). The statistics on applicants were presented:
 - 168 applications received, 98 selected (58.3 %), from 28 countries.
 - Gender balance:
 - Male: 62,3 % of all applicants (61,2 % of the selected).
 - Female: 35,2 % of all applicants (37,8 % of the selected).
 - Geographical origin of the selected participants: Germany (29.6%) and France (22.4%), altogether 52% of the participants.

- **F. Young Officer (Sofia Ferreira Texeira)**
 - The MoU with IAPS is now in action.
 - Possible participation at: the International Conference of Physics Students ICPS 2026, networking session at ESM 2026, participation in JEMS 2027.
 - Prepare handover for the end of the year (appoint new Young Officer).

- **G. Industrial Relations (Diana Leitão)**
 - Working group includes Graeme Finch and Ester Palmero.
 - EMA Industry on the Spotlight series: EMA e-plenary with Digital Networking team needs more activities.
 - EMA at EURAMET TC-EM Contact Persons Meeting October 21-22, 2026 in Vilnius, Lithuania, will be represented by vice president Susana Freitas.
 - Discussion with organizers for a special session at JEMS 2027.
 - MoU with UK Magnetics Society is ready for approval and will be sent to GC for approval after this meeting.

- **H. Digital Networking (Daniela Petti)**
 - Daniela was applauded for her contributions to date and formally passed the Digital Networking Officer role to Joo-Von.
 - Organized in 2025: 11 early career (EC) seminars and 6 plenary lectures (PL), with attendance 50 people (EC) and 80-100 (PL).
 - Need of new nominations for EC and PL for 2026 (only 3 events + 1 scheduled).
 - Open issues:
 - - Low diversity in country representation and gender.
 - - Open to early-mid career researchers?

- **I. Sustainability (Giacomo Sala)**
 - Two new team members: Stéphane Flament and Matic Klug.
 - Revised the text available online, with extended travel/event guidelines.
 - Sustainability survey to be published in December's newsletter.
 - Discounted Interrail passes (10% negotiated with Interrail) for ESM participants are discussed in collaboration with Bertrand.

- **J. Gender and Diversity (Emmanuelle Jal, interim for Nuala Caffrey)**
 - There is an open ongoing call for volunteers to join and support the team.
 - Anonymous survey (run via SurveyMonkey) was advertised on EMA social media accounts / newsletter. There was a good response, and the short / anonymous form seems to encourage engagement.
 - Ongoing actions include:
 - Completion of 'Practical Guidelines' document and handouts.
 - To display / maintain JEMS / ESM gender statistics.

- **K. Membership & Sponsorship (Olivier Fruchart)**

- **Membership:** Number of members has increased since 2024. Income per year increasing, and is 6200 € in 2026.
 - Next actions:
 - Declaration of EMA as charity
 - Update mailing list and advertise at events
- **Sponsorship:** Committee includes Sofia, Giacomo, Dennis, Olivier, and is open for additional volunteers, who can help with the evaluation of submissions.
 - Open Call for 2026 (Budget: 10 k€).
 - Cut-off date 2026/S1: 6k€ support
 - Next cut-off date 31/07/2026 (4k€ available)

Comments:

Need to update the webpage regularly with the individuals/events supported by EMA.

- **Associated European Bodies**

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

- PetaSpin (chair: Giovanni Finocchio, represented by Riccardo Tomasello)
- Spintronics Factory (Paolo Bortolotti)
- Magnetometry Network (Mathias Weiler): presented by Dennis Meier)
- European Physical Society – CMD (Erich Runge): presented by Dennis Meier)
- European Molecular Magnetism Community (Eugenio Coronado): presented by Dennis Meier)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Discussion / exchange of information within the GC:
 - gc@magnetism.eu is used to distribute information (no «reply all» discussion forum)
 - Reminder: [gc@magnetism](mailto:gc@magnetism.eu) not a designated channel for communication among the GC members.
 - The emails are moderated (filtered by the host)
 - In general, the GC agrees that an additional exchange channel is needed.
 - There is an open chat for the GC members in EMA Discord (not used?).
 - Diana suggested to have an open channel host on the EMA webpage.
 - An EMA GC Discord channel appears to be the best option and Dennis asked for volunteers for the channel moderation.
- New EMA strategies:
 - Dennis asked the GC members to suggest actions for EMA.
 - A survey will be launched for the members to collect ideas and suggestions (Susana).
 - Paolo suggested to establish a channel with EU, specifically, to continue the lobbying for Spintronics at the JU CHIPS.
- Position of EMA concerning the situation in the Middle East:

- An action was requested by Riccardo Bertacco. Similar to the methodology taken in November, it was decided to:
 - ◆ share the questions from last Poll with the new GC members and ask for suggestions/modifications.
 - ◆ launch a new poll.
 - ◆ act accordingly.
- Agenda for the next year / key dates:
 - Young scientist award: 01 Nov 2026: call / 31 Jan 2027: deadline / 1 May 2027: results
 - JEMS 2027: 29 Aug – 03 Sept 2027 (Prague)
 - Partial renewal of GC: 01 Apr 2027: call / 01 May 2027: start voting / 01 June 2027: results
 - Next GC meeting: during JEMS 2027

Attachments

- N.a.