

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON THE FUTURE OF SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

1. Background

DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD) has set up a group of experts (“the group”).

The overall aim of setting up the group is to support the research and innovation policy development on Open Science and contribute to the priority on Open Science. The group’s tasks shall be to assess emerging and alternative open access business models with the aim of establishing how an economically viable transition towards open access can be achieved. An important element of the group's work will be establishing general principles for the future of open access publishing and scholarly communication.

The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting members of the group.

2. Features of the Group

2.1. COMPOSITION

The group shall consist of up to 12 members.

Members shall be individuals appointed in a personal capacity and shall be organisations.

Members appointed in a personal capacity shall act independently and in the public interest.

Organisations shall nominate their representatives and shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise. DG RTD may refuse the nomination of a representative by an organisation if it considers this nomination inappropriate in light of the requirements specified in chapter 4 of this call. In such case, the organisation concerned shall be asked to appoint another representative.

2.2. APPOINTMENT

Members shall be appointed by the Director-General of DG RTD from applicants complying with the requirements referred to in chapter 4 of this call.

Members shall be appointed for one year. They shall remain in office until replaced / until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.

Registration in the Transparency Register is required in order for organisations to be appointed.

DG RTD shall appoint alternate members, in accordance with the same conditions as members, who shall automatically replace any members who are absent or indisposed.

In order to ensure continuity and the smooth functioning of the group, DG RTD shall establish a reserve list of suitable candidates that may be used to appoint replacements. DG RTD shall ask applicants for their consent before including their names on the reserve list.

Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the group’s deliberations, who in the opinion of DG RTD do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or who resign, shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the group and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

2.3 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE GROUP

DG RTD shall appoint the Chairperson of the group.

The group shall act at the request of DG RTD.

In principle, the group shall meet three times per year on Commission premises in order to discuss. DG RTD shall provide secretarial services.

Members and members' representatives should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the group, to be involved in preparatory work ahead of meetings, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion, and to act, as appropriate, as 'rapporteurs' on ad hoc basis.

As a general rule, working documents will be drafted in English and meetings will be also conducted in English.

The group shall adopt its opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by simple majority of the members. The members that voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

Participants appointed in their personal capacity ("Type A" members) will be remunerated for the work performed. They are entitled to a payment of a maximum of EUR 450 in the form of a daily unit cost for each full working day spent assisting the Commission's departments. Organisations ("Type C" members) shall not be remunerated for the service they offer. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the group shall be reimbursed by the Commission. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The members of the group, as well as invited experts, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443¹ and 2015/444². Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

On a proposal by and in agreement with DG RTD the group shall adopt its rules of procedure on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups.

DG RTD may invite experts with specific expertise with respect to a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the group on an ad hoc basis.

2.4. TRANSPARENCY

The group shall be registered in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups').

As concerns the group composition, DG RTD shall publish the following data on the Register of expert groups:

¹ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

² Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

- the name of individuals appointed in a personal capacity;
- the name of member organisations; the interest represented shall be disclosed;
- the name of organisations' representatives

DG RTD shall make available all relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' submissions, either on the Register of expert groups or *via* a link from the Register to a dedicated website, where this information can be found. Access to dedicated websites shall not be submitted to user registration or any other restriction. In particular, DG RTD shall ensure publication of the agenda and other relevant background documents in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes. Exceptions to publication shall only be foreseen where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) N° 1049/2001³.

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

3. Application procedure

Interested individuals and interested organisations are invited to submit their application to DG RTD.

Applications must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be helpful to include a summary of the CV in English.

Organisations shall indicate the name of their representative(s) in the group.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. All documents submitted by applicants should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially.

Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a **cover letter** explaining the applicant's motivation for answering this call and stating what contribution the applicant could make to the group;
- a **classification form** duly filled in specifying the member category for which the application is made (Annex 1).
- a **selection criteria form** duly filled in documenting how the applicant fulfills the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call (Annex 2).

For individuals applying to be appointed as members of the group in a **personal capacity** as well as for **individuals indicated by organisations** as their representatives, a **curriculum vitae** (CV) shall also be provided, preferably not exceeding three pages. All CVs shall be submitted in the European format (<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>).

Individuals applying to be appointed as members of the group in a **personal capacity** must

³ These exceptions are intended to protect public security, military affairs, international relations, financial, monetary or economic policy, privacy and integrity of the individual, commercial interests, court proceedings and legal advice, inspections/investigations/audits and the institution's decision-making process.

disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest by submitting a **declaration of interests** ('DOI') form on the basis of the standard DOI form for expert groups attached to this call (Annex 3). Submission of a duly completed DOI form is necessary in order to be eligible to be appointed in a personal capacity. DG RTD shall perform the conflict of interest assessment in compliance with the horizontal rules⁴.

Additional supporting documents (e.g. publications) may be requested at a later stage.

Deadline for application

Applications must be sent to RTD-OPEN-SCIENCE@ec.europa.eu by 7 April 2017 at the latest. The date of the e-mail will be the date of sending.

4. Selection criteria

DG RTD will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

- proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and / or international level, in areas relevant to the evolution of the scientific publication market and scholarly communication (in the EU / world-wide), open access publishing models (including alternative models), scholarly communication infrastructures, economics of open access, open access publishing and bibliometrics, research impact and/or peer review (all applicants);
- absence of circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest (individuals applying to be appointed in a personal capacity only);
- competence, experience and hierarchical level of the proposed representatives (organisations only);
- good knowledge of English allowing active participation in the discussions (individual applicants and organisations' representatives).

5. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by DG RTD against the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants, and concluded by the appointment of the members of the group.

When defining the composition of the group, DG RTD shall aim at ensuring, as far as possible, a high level of expertise, as well as a balanced representation of relevant know how and areas of interest, while taking into account the specific tasks of the group, the type of expertise required, as well as the relevance of the applications received.

Where individual experts are appointed in their personal capacity, DG RTD shall seek a geographical balance and a gender balance.

For any further information please contact Mr Jean-Claude Burgelman, Telephone: (32-229-80006, e-mail: Jean-Claude.BURGELMAN@ec.europa.eu).

⁴

Article 11 of the horizontal rules.

ANNEXES:

- ANNEX 1 - Classification form
- ANNEX 2 - Selection criteria form
- ANNEX 3 - Standard declaration of interests (DOI) form for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity
- ANNEX 4 - Guidance for filling in the declaration of interests (DOI) form by individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity
- Protection of your personal data