

## Minutes of the ELI Membership Meeting

**6–7 September 2023, Vienna**

**Venue:** University of Vienna

**Chair:** Pascal Pichonnaz (ELI President)

Keeper of the minutes: Laura Papasodaro (ELI Secretariat)

The meeting commenced at 14:25 (CEST).

### **I. Welcome**

- (1) Pascal Pichonnaz opened the meeting by welcoming those present. He explained that, owing to the Council elections, the Membership meeting would be adjourned at 14:30 on 6 September 2023 until 16:45 on 7 September 2023, when the results of the ELI Council elections would be announced.
- (2) He thanked the ELI Secretariat, headed by Vanessa Wilcox, members of the Executive Committee (Lord John Thomas, Anne Birgitte Gammeljord, Pietro Sirena, Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson, Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell, Aneta Wiewiórowska-Domagalska) and the Scientific Director (Christiane Wendehorst) for their support over the last few months.
- (3) A minute of silence was observed for those ELI Members who passed away since the 2022 Annual Conference.

### **II. Opening of ELI Council Elections**

- (4) The Returning Officer, Reinhard Zimmermann, opened the ELI Council Elections. He encouraged those present to vote as early as possible.

The meeting ended at 14:30 (CEST).

The meeting resumed on 7 September at 16:45 (CEST)

**III. Brief Report from the ELI President and Other Executive Committee Members**

- (5) Pichonnaz presented the above and underlined the three new schemes introduced in 2023, namely kick-off webinars, which aim at raising awareness about newly adopted ELI projects, High Level Fora, targeted at key stakeholders, and aimed at disseminating ELI output and exploring implementation, as well as ELI Members' Day, yet another opportunity for ELI Members to propose topics for upcoming projects.
- (6) Pichonnaz also mentioned the support that ELI received from the European Commission in the form of the Operating Grant. He thanked the Secretariat under the leadership of the Secretary General for preparing successful grant applications annually.

**IV. Brief Report from the Treasurer**

- (7) Pietro Sirena presented the above. Apart from the information about sources of income, he also outlined expenses. He emphasised that the ELI accumulated a surplus and was advised by Deloitte to make use of its surplus, to maintain its charitable status. Sirena said that the Executive Committee had decided to hire a Fundraising Officer, to that end.

**V. Brief Overview of ELI Projects and Similar Initiatives**

- (8) When presenting the above, Lord John Thomas stressed the task of disseminating completed projects. Apart from projects, ELI also responds to the European Commission's public consultations. Furthermore, ELI's Innovation Paper scheme has proved to be successful.

**VI. Announcement of the Council Election Results**

- (9) Zimmermann, Speaker of the ELI Senate and Returning Officer, thanked Vanessa Wilcox, ELI's Secretary General, and Katja Kolman, Senior Project Officer, for organising the elections so efficiently. He also thanked other staff and helpers. He informed those present that 175 ballots were cast. He then read out the list of those elected and congratulated them. He wished them the best for the upcoming four years in office. Zimmermann encouraged unsuccessful candidates to continue being active Fellows. Pichonnaz thanked Zimmermann for overseeing the Council elections. He congratulated newly elected members of the Council.

**VII. 2024 ELI Annual Conference**

- (10) Paul Keane and William McKechnie disclosed to those present that the 2024 ELI Annual Conference will take place in Dublin, Ireland, before giving a brief presentation on the event.

The meeting ended at 17:30 (CEST)