



DECISION 31/2023
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND APPOINTEMENT OF THE VISIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast) (hereafter the ‘EIT Regulation (recast)’)¹, in particular Articles 6(a) and (h) thereof and 2 (h) of Section 2 the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation;

Having regard to Decision 2021/820 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe and repealing Decision No 1312/2013/EU (hereafter the “EIT SIA 2021-2027”)², in particular Section 3.5.1 thereof;

Having regard to Decision 18/2021 of the EIT Governing Board of 7 May 2021 on the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee³, in particular, Article 20;

Having regard to Decision 11/2023 of the EIT Governing Board of 12 May of 2023 on setting the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board, its chairperson, the members of the Executive Committee of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, the EIT GB Rapporteurs, and the members of the members of the EIT Governing Board Advisory Groups of the EIT in particular, Article 4 thereof⁴;

Having regard to Decision 25/2023 of the Governing Board of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) on the Code of Conduct of the EIT Governing Board⁵;

WHEREAS

- (1) Pursuant to the EIT Regulation, the Governing Board shall establish, where appropriate, advisory groups with a defined objective, tasks, and duration.
- (2) The established Advisory Groups shall contribute to the work of the Governing Board and shall report to the Governing Board via the Executive Committee in line with the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee.
- (3) The EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027 calls on the EIT to increase the recognition of the EIT as a quality brand for innovation under Horizon Europe and strengthening the availability of information at the national and EU level whilst promoting the EIT’s added value as Europe’s largest innovation ecosystem, including through INNOVEIT and the EIT Stakeholder Forum.

¹ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61–90

² OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91

³ Ares (2021)3139636

⁴ Ares(2023)3471368

⁵ Ref.Ares(2023)4915633



- (4) The EIT shall work closely with the European Commission and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities to implement this.
- (5) The Visibility Advisory Group should be established by a decision of the Governing Board of the EIT. This Decision shall govern its composition, mandate, tasks and duration.
- (6) The term of office of the members of the EIT, including the Chairperson, shall be two years. This term of office may be extended once for a period not exceeding the duration of the first term of office.
- (7) The Governing Board members appointed as members of the Visibility Advisory Group shall receive remuneration for the work performed in this regard as set out in Decision of the Governing Board of EIT on setting the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board, its chairperson, the members of the Executive Committee of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, the EIT GB Rapporteurs, and the members of the members of the EIT Governing Board Advisory Groups of the EIT⁶.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 **Mandate and Membership**

- (1) The Visibility Advisory Group shall contribute to the work of the Governing Board and shall report to the Governing Board via the Executive Committee.
- (2) The Visibility Advisory Group is composed of two members from the members of the EIT Governing Board nominated and appointed by the EIT Governing Board and an observer from the Commission.
- (3) The Visibility Advisory Group may appoint its Chair from among the members from the EIT Governing Board.
- (4) The Chair of the Visibility Advisory Group shall report to the EIT Governing Board on the implementation of the tasks and activities assigned to this advisory group.

Article 2 **Composition of the Visibility Advisory Group of the EIT**

- (1) The following members of the Governing Board are hereby appointed as members of the Visibility Advisory Group of the EIT Governing Board:
 - Ms Martina Larkin (EIT Governing Board) – member of the Visibility Advisory Group of the EIT
 - Mr Mark Boris Andrijanič (EIT Governing Board) – member of the Visibility Advisory Group of the EIT
 - Mr Luca PEREGO - observer from the European Commission.

Article 3 **Term of office**

- (1) The members of Visibility Advisory Group shall serve for a period of two years. This term of office may be extended once for a period not exceeding the duration of the first term of office on the proposal of the EIT Governing Board.
- (2) The term of office of the members of the EIT Governing Board appointed as members for this Advisory Group shall automatically terminate in any of the following cases:
 - if his/her term of office as member of the Governing Board expires without extension,

⁶ Ref. Ares(2023)3471368 -17/05/2023



- or in the event that s/he is unable to complete his/her term of office,
- or due to the end of his/her term of office.

Article 4

Scope and objectives

- (1) The Visibility Advisory Group shall assist the EIT Governing Board and provide:
 - strategic advice for the EIT on its communication and engagements agenda to enhance EIT impact and support the EIT in delivering on the SIA ambitions.
 - strategic guidance relating to development, implementation and monitoring of the key EIT communications and stakeholder engagement priority areas related to the EIT communications and engagement strategy, the organisation of high-level events and INNOVEIT and public affairs.
 - strategic guidance relating to development of the communications and public affairs capacity of the EIT Community, in particular in terms of amplification of communications efforts, etc.
- (2) Members of the Visibility Advisory Group might represent the EIT at relevant meetings related to tasks and activities that fall under the scope and mandate of this advisory group.

Article 5

Functioning of the Visibility Advisory Group

- (1) The meetings of the Visibility Advisory Group shall take place on a quarterly basis; however, actual priorities may trigger more or less frequent meetings.
- (2) The EIT shall provide administrative support and any requested input to the Visibility Advisory Group.
- (3) The minutes of each meeting of the Visibility Advisory Group shall be distributed to all its members via email or any other electronic means and submitted to the Visibility Advisory Group for its approval prior to the next meeting.

Article 6

Confidentiality and conflict of interests

- (1) In case a conflict of interest situation is identified with respect to any of the members to be appointed by the Governing Board of the EIT and the Observer, as a result of the decision on the assessment of the annual declaration exercise on conflict of interest for members of the Governing Board, this should be taken into account prior to their appointment. The decision on whether the conflict-of-interest situation identified would affect the impartiality and independence as a member of this Advisory Group shall be taken by Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board and the EIT Director.
- (2) The members of the Visibility Advisory Group appointed by the Governing Board of the EIT and the Observer will be required to sign a declaration of absence of conflict of interest upon their appointment.
- (3) The members of the Visibility Advisory Group will inform the Chair of Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director as soon as possible of relevant professional changes. The Chair of the Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director shall consider whether such changes affect their capacity as a member of the Visibility Advisory Group or could represent a substantial conflict of interest in line with the EIT Code of Conduct for members of the Governing Board. In such a case, the Chair of the Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director, upon consultation with the Chair of the Visibility Advisory Group, may ask the respective Visibility Advisory Group member to vacate the current position and the Governing Board of the EIT to select a new Visibility Advisory Group member.



- (4) The members and the observer will be bound by the same confidentiality and conflict of interest requirements laid down in the Code of Good Conduct of the EIT Governing Board⁷.
- (5) At the start of each meeting, any member whose participation in the Visibility Advisory Group's deliberations would raise a conflict of interest on a specific item on the agenda relating to his/her position shall inform the Chair of the Visibility Advisory Group.
- (6) In the event of such a conflict of interest, the member shall abstain from discussing the items on the agenda concerned and from any vote on these items.
- (7) In the event that the Chair's participation in a specific item on the agenda would raise a conflict of interest, the Chair shall inform the Visibility Advisory Group and the discussion of that item shall be managed by another member of the Visibility Advisory Group agreed by the members.

Article 7

Reimbursement of expenses

An annual fixed amount shall be paid to the members of the Visibility Advisory Group appointed by the EIT Governing Board according to Article 4. 3.b) of Decision 11/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT⁸.

Article 8

Entry into force

This decision shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Done in Budapest, on 20 September 2023

[E-signed]

Nektarios Tavernarakis
Chair of the EIT Governing Board

⁷ Ref. Ares(2023)4915633.-14/07/2023. Decision 25/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the Code of Conduct of the EIT Governing Board.

⁸ Ref. Ares(2023)3471368 -17/05/2023