

Abiding by strict regulations in the

Originating in Roman Law, the Latin term *nemo iudex in re sua*, “no one should be a judge in their own cause” represents one of the cardinal rules of justice, namely no one should act as a judge in a case in which they have a personal interest. This concept has been influential in legal systems around the world and it serves as the principle behind the term conflict of interest.

A matter of good governance

A conflict of interest can arise at all levels of governance, including in public, corporate and financial sectors, as well as in international associations like our Academy. Such conflict can influence decision making, leading to reputational risk, failure to act in the best interests of the Academy and poor governance.

International organisations have recognised that the establishment of guiding principles for the regulation of conflicts of interest is vital, not only for local or national governments or corporate sectors, but also for supranational, international and global governance, consequently introducing self-regulatory procedures.

With this in mind, the [conflict of interest disclosure form](#) (COIDF) was introduced within EADV in the early 2000s.

An essential tool

A conflict-of-interest disclosure form is an essential tool for any organisation (profit or non-profit) as it helps to ensure transparency between its members and accountability in its operations, as well to make sure that primary interests (the interests of the

organisation) are not unduly influenced by secondary interests (private interest of a member), which could be of financial or non-financial gain.

EADV members should avoid the public perception of a conflict between their personal, private interests and those of the Academy. Disclosure of a “potential” conflict of interest does not make it an actual conflict, but may help to eliminate the perception of one. Conversely, disclosure of an actual conflict of interest does not eliminate the conflict, but helps to ensure that it is properly managed. By disclosing potential conflicts of interest, the Academy can take appropriate steps to manage or mitigate them, thereby making sure that the actions of EADV are always in the best interests of the Academy’s objectives and vision.

Preventing undue influence or bias

The COIDF helps to prevent any undue influence or bias that could compromise the integrity of the Academy’s decision-making process and elections. Members of EADV have the duty to act in the best interests of the Academy and therefore a COIDF is required to preserve transparency and accountability.

Relating to EADV members

In times of globalisation, conflict of interest has become an underlying problem. In the case of EADV members, physicians may have relationships with manufacturers of commercial products and providers of commercial services related to healthcare or may work as governmental advisors or in scientific organisations.

Therefore, Academy members in leadership positions (Executive Committee members, members of the Board, members and chairpersons of committees, chairpersons of task forces, task force facilitator, members and chairpersons of working groups, editors of EADV publications (the *Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology* (JEADV), the JEADV



interests of us all

Clinical Practice (JEACP) and the *EADV News*) are expected to proactively update and submit their COIDF every six months. Should any change to their conflict of interest status occur, it should be submitted even before the renewal deadline of six months.

Course chairs and lecturers (involved in both live and non-live EADV educational activities), webinars, congress and symposium chairs and speakers are also expected to submit the COIDF before their participation in the activities listed above.

Increasing transparency

It is essential to also recognise the value of the COIDF in terms of ethical importance and increased transparency. This has given rise to new forms of accountability, such as our Code of Conduct and Code of Behaviour. The current [Code of Behaviour](#) for candidates appeared for the first time in the 2012 EADV Board Manual. Given that over 10 years have passed since the introduction of the Code, a review of this document could be considered to adapt it to the current social media environment.

In 2013, EADV introduced the [Code of Conduct](#) which must be observed by EADV members at all times, and which emphasises that EADV members should not allow personal animosity to interfere with the collegiality or functioning of EADV.

In order to become a member of EADV, an "Agreement of Adherence to the EADV Statutes" must be signed, which means that all members agree to abide by the EADV [EADV Statutes](#), bylaws and governing rules.

Upcoming elections

During Calls for Nominations and Elections, nominees must agree to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the Code of Behaviour of the Academy and submit an updated COIDF, as provided for in the bylaws.

During the summer 2024 round of Calls for Nominations, many important leadership positions will be advertised, including vacancies for board members, president-elect, board representatives to the EC, committee chairs and committee members.

If you have ideas, energy and commitment, apply for an EADV elected position! EADV needs you!



Prof Carmen Salavastru

EADV Secretary General

For questions related to the conflict of interest disclosure form contact

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For questions related to Calls for Nominations and elections contact

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EADV Leadership

Executive Committee

RÖCKEN Martin (DE) President
MARINOVIC Branka (HR) President-Elect
STRATIGOS Alexander (GR) Immediate Past-President
SALAVASTRU Carmen (RO) Secretary General
DE RIE Menno (NL) Treasurer
GONÇALO Margarida (PT) Board Representative to the EC
TZELLOS Thrasyvoulos (NO) Board Representative to the EC

Board of the Representatives

ALPSOY Erkan (TR)
ARENBERGEROVA Monika (CZ)
BAKIC Mirjana (ME)
BARDHI Brunilda (AL)
BAUER Johann (AT)
BELIAUSKIENE Aiste (LT)
BEWLEY Anthony (GB)
BOGDANOV Ivan (BG)
BONDARE-ANSBERGA Vanda (LV)
DAMEVSKA Katerina (MK)
DOLENC-VOLJC Mateja (SI)
FORSEA Ana-Maria (RO)
GANCEVICIENE Ruta (LT)
GILABERTE CALZADA Yolanda (ES)
GILLIET Michel (CH)
GJERSVIK Petter (NO)
GONÇALO Margarida (PT)
GUTERMUTH Jan (BE)
GYULAI Rolland (HU)
HOLLO Peter (HU)
HUNGER Robert Emil (CH)
JOUAN Nicole (FR)
KÄHÄRI Veli-Matti (FI)
KATOULIS Alexander (GR)
KOBACHIDZE Joseph (GE)
LAZARIDOU Elizabeth (GR)
LESIAK Aleksandra (PL)
LEVENTER Mihaela (RO)
LITUS Aleksandr (UA)
MENDES BASTOS Pedro (PT)
MERCIECA Liam (MT)
MICALI Giuseppe (IT)
MOLLOY Kevin (IE)
OSMANCEVIC Amra (SE)
PASQUALI Paola (ES)
PRIGNANO Francesca (IT)
PROHIC Asja (BA)
RATZINGER Gudrun (AT)
RICHARD Marie-Aleth (FR)
RICHERT Bertrand (BE)
RUDNICKA Lidia (PL)
SAUNTE Ditte Marie (DK)
SIMON Jan-Christoph (DE)
SKERLEV Mihael (HR)
SKILJEVIC Dusan (RS)
STARINK Markus Vincent (NL)
STRÖMER Klaus (DE)
SVECOVA Danko (SK)
THIERS Bruce H. (INT)
THIO Hok Bing (NL)
THORLEIFSDOTTIR Ragna Hlin (IS)
TOOMSON Tiina (EE)
UZUN Soner (TR)
VASSILEVA Snežina (BG)
VERMA Shyam (INT)
VERYKIOU Stamatina (CY)
WALSH Sarah (GB)
ZAAR Oscar (SE)
ZACHARIAE Claus (DK)
ZAK STANGELAND Katarina (NO)
ZASLAVSKY Denis (RU)

CEO

Kimberley Zimmermann