

Welcome and introduction to EAP meetings!

This is a brief introduction to EAP for new individual members and member organizations, their delegates or representatives. EAP brings together psychotherapists and psychotherapy organisations from 43 countries across Europe which makes us quite a complex organisation. We hope that this introduction will help you to orient and connect.

Organisational Structure:

The EAP is composed of Member Organisations and Individual Members. The **EAP Statutes** define all the main organisational structures, memberships, and the procedures of the AGM. The Statutes are available on the EAP website and usually provide the best guide for orientation or question about the EAP Board, EAP committees, or EAP Officers.

Main Documents (available on the EAP website)

All documents are in English. With the exception of the Strasbourg Declaration, EAP Statutes and policy documents are been revised from time to time as EAP evolves and when changes became necessary.

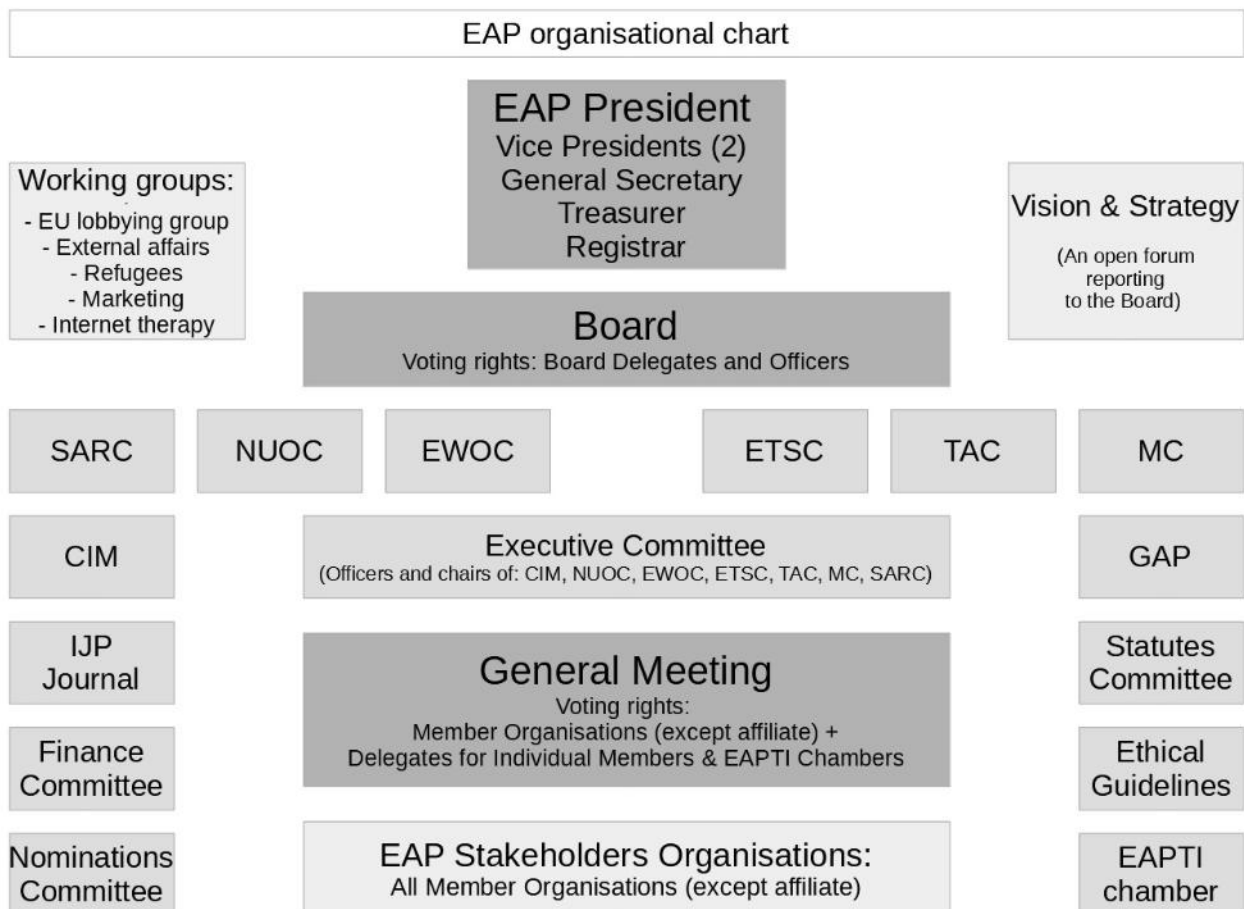
- **EAP Statutes**
- The **Strasbourg Declaration on Psychotherapy**, confirms psychotherapy as an independent profession and is signed by all EAP Members and Member Organizations.
- The **Statement of Ethical Principles** sets standards of ethical psychotherapy practice and related activities. This is a mandatory guide for all EAP Members and Member Organisations.
- The **ECP Document** defines EAP standards of education and training and processes for the award of the European Certificate for Psychotherapy (ECP).
- The **TAC Document** sets out policies and processes by which Training Institutes and Training Programmes can become accredited as an EAPTI.
- The **Psychotherapy Act** has been submitted to the EUROPEAN COMMISSION to gain recognition of the professional status of Psychotherapist

EAP National and European Wide Umbrella or Accrediting Organisations

An 'Ordinary' Member Organisation may apply for recognition as a National Umbrella Organisation (NUO) or a European Wide Organization (EWO) as defined in the Statutes. Any NUO or EWO may apply for accreditation (for fixed periods of 7 years at present) as a National Accrediting Organisation (NAO) or as a European Wide Accrediting Organization (EWAO).

EAP Committees (the roles and composition of these committees are described in the EAP Statutes)

- ETSC - European Training Standards Committee;
- NUOC - National Umbrella Organisations Committee;
- EWOC - European Wide Organisations Committee;
- Statutes Committee;
- MC - Membership Committee;
- Finance Committee;
- Ethical Guidelines Committee;
- TAC - Training and Accreditation Committee;
- GAP - Grandparenting Advisory Panel (for ECP application when no relevant EWAO exists);
- IJP - Editorial Board of the International Journal of Psychotherapy – The IJP website is: www.ijp.org.uk
- SARC - Science & Research Committee;
- Nominations Committee (preparing nominations for election of officers);
- CIM - Chamber of Individual Members;
- Chamber of Member Organisations (currently not active);
- EAPTI Chamber (currently not active);



EAP Meetings: General Meetings, Governing Board and Committee or Working Group Meetings

With the exception of the Executive Committee, EAP meetings are usually open for all EAP members and delegates/representatives to attend. Some committees restrict participation to committee members for part of a meeting, e.g. to discuss confidential matters (all decisions are included in the meeting minutes).

There is an **Annual General Meeting**, or **AGM**, held in March. This is the main decision making organ of the EAP. Once a decision has been made at an AGM, it can only be changed by a later AGM or by an **Extraordinary General Meeting** (EGM). The EAP Statutes delegate various aspects of EAP decision making to the **Governing Board** (as detailed in the EAP Statutes).

The **Governing Board (GB)** is composed of EAP's elected Officers, delegates from NUO/NAOs, EWO/EWAOs, EAP committees and chambers. GB meetings are scheduled twice every year and usually start with consultations and discussion as detailed in the GB meeting agenda. Voting on decisions normally takes place at the final scheduled GB meeting. Please consult the Statutes for GB composition details.

EAP meetings (GB, Committees, Working Groups and GM) usually occur two times a year, in March and October, over three days: all day on Thursday, Friday & Saturday, starting at 09.00 AM.

- 1) The March meeting is in Vienna and followed by an Annual General Meeting.
- 2) For the October meetings, the location usually varies, sometimes followed by an EAP Congress hosted by the EAP NUO/NAO in that country.

Delegates and EAP members coming to these meetings make their own travel and transfer arrangements. The 'hosts' of the meeting usually negotiate a discounted price in the hotel or other venue where the meetings are to be held and information about the location, is usually circulated at least 6 weeks in advance of the meetings. There is commonly a social evening or event arranged for one evening, often at a small extra cost. Individual members need to inform the EAP Office if they wish to join a (e)mailing list for EAP meetings. Delegates/representatives should confirm delegate names and contact details every year to ensure that EAP records remain up to date.

The EAP Office usually sends out the agendas of the main meetings, and any relevant papers for discussion or voting, about 4 weeks in advance, as an email attachment. Minutes of the last meetings are sent out to delegates present who have lodged their e-mails with the EAP Office.

All meetings are conducted in English, the official language of EAP. It is essential that delegates or representatives of organizations, have a reasonable command of both written and spoken English. Knowledge of normal "committee procedure" is useful for participation. Familiarisation with the main documents of the EAP and any discussion papers being presented is also recommended. If you are representing an organization, you may need to get a "mandate" or "position" from your organisation about any major issues that will be voted on. Some informational documents are sometimes only presented during a meeting in the context of a particular discussion matter arising.

EAP Statements and Guidelines (available on the EAP website)

- **EAP Research Statement**
- **EAP Guidelines Psychotherapy with Refugees**
- **Legal Position of Psychotherapy in Europe**
- **EAP Statement on Conversion Therapy**
- **EAP Statement on Esoteric Methods**
- **EAP Statement on Parent Alienation Syndrome (PAS) - Parental Alienation (PA)**
- **EAP Interim Advice for Conducting Psychotherapy Online**
- **A Survey on Psychotherapy in Europe during the COVID-19 Lockdown 2022**

The EAP documents on the EAP website are in PDF format. If you experience any difficulties to print these, the open source “Sumatra PDF reader” is free and without advertising: <https://www.sumatrapdfreader.org>

Voting and elections at EAP Meetings:

General Meetings (AGM and EGM): The AGM elects the President, two Vice-Presidents, and the Treasurer. All EAP member organisations may vote. The number of votes for each organisation is proportional to their membership as detailed in Paragraph 10 in the EAP Statutes. At General Meetings, abstentions are counted together with “No” votes when the Statutes require a proportional vote.

Governing Board (GB) meetings: The Board elects the General Secretary, the External Relations Officer and the Registrar. All Officers and Delegates (as detailed Statutes § 5) may vote. Abstentions do not effect voting (i.e. majorities are established by the number of “yes” and “no” votes only).

Committee meetings: Only committee members or delegates can vote (composition of committees is detailed in the Statutes)

Glossary

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CIM	Chamber of Individual Members
EGM	Extraordinary General Meetings
ETSC	European Training Standards Committee
EWOC	European Wide Organisations Committee
GAP	[ECP] Grandparenting Advisory Panel
GB	Governing Board
IJP	International Journal of Psychotherapy
MC	Membership Committee;
NUOC	National Umbrella Organisations Committee;
SARC	Science & Research Committee;
TAC	Training and Accreditation Committee;

We hope you will enjoy our meetings. Thank you for your attention and involvement!