



**EACVI**  
European Association of  
Cardiovascular Imaging

**EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY**  
**European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging**



**Constitution**

The Constitution of the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI) aims to outline the principles of governance of a transparent and democratic organisation with a strong collective leadership within the European Society of Cardiology (ESC).

*Version to be Approved*  
*In August 2018*  
*at EACVI General Assembly, 27 August 2018*  
*during the ESC Congress 2018 in Munich*



## **ARTICLE 1 – FORM – DURATION – NAME – REGISTERED OFFICE**

### **A. Form – Duration**

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging, previously named the European Association of Echocardiography (EAE), is a branch of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) designated as “Association” despite not being an autonomous legal entity. The ESC is governed by the law dated 1<sup>st</sup> July 1901 and was registered at the Sous-Prefecture at Grasse on 08 April 1992 – n°1/10006 – O.J. n°18 – 29 April 1992.

The European Association of Echocardiography was formed at the ESC General Assembly on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2003 in Vienna for an unlimited duration.

By a vote of the ESC Extraordinary and Ordinary General Assemblies in Amsterdam on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013, the ESC Working Group (WG) on Nuclear Cardiology & Cardiac Computed Tomography (NC & CCT), and the ESC WG on Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (CMR) were dissolved and merged to form the unified EACVI structure.

The internal organization of the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging is regulated by the present Constitution approved by the ESC Board and related policies or by-laws approved by the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging Board.

### **B. Name**

The Association is called the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging, abbreviated to EACVI.

### **C. Registered Office**

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging has a registered office at the European Heart House in Biot (Alpes-Maritimes) – 2035, route des Colles, Les Templiers - CS 80179 BIOT - Sophia Antipolis Cedex, France.

## **ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE AND MEANS**

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging contributes to the mission statement of the ESC which is “to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease”.

The ESC created Associations to promote the advancement of specific areas of expertise related to prevention, diagnosis and management of diseases of the heart and the vascular system.



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In its sub-specialty area of Cardiovascular Imaging, the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging is committed to “promote excellence in clinical diagnosis, research, technical development, and education in cardiovascular imaging”.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging takes responsibility for education and training of cardiologists and other professionals involved in Cardiovascular Imaging in the ESC member countries, and for the development of standards for their training, continuous education and professional conduct. In addition, the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging promotes education, training and standards throughout the world.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging wishes to improve the scientific understanding of Cardiovascular Imaging through promotion of research in this field.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging may undertake the scientific and material organisation of any congress, symposium or similar event, bringing together any and all professionals, including physicians, scientists, biomedical technicians, nurses and allied health professionals, interested in Cardiovascular Imaging as well as offering all associated services usual at such international meetings, including but not limited to renting space, organising scientific sessions, satellite events, publishing information and similar.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging may organise the collection, analysis, processing and communication of medical or scientific information obtained from a wide range of physicians, scientists or institutions of Cardiovascular Imaging.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging may collect, edit and publish journals, articles or information whether in printed or electronic form on any medical or scientific nature related to Cardiovascular Imaging.

The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging may award scholarships, awards or grants for education, training or research in its area of interest.

**Within the framework of the European Society of Cardiology, the EACVI objectives are:**

1. To support the ESC mission.
2. To develop a strong multi-modality imaging association.
3. To represent the three Constituent Bodies (Section Echo, Section CMR and Section Nuclear Cardiology/Cardiac CT) in the new structure in a balanced way. This includes a commitment to strive towards an EACVI leadership that truly reflects the multi-modality nature of the EACVI.



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4. To promote patient- rather than technology-centred research and clinical practice.
5. To organise the EACVI congress and section-specific meetings.
6. To publish and further promote the European Heart Journal Cardiovascular Imaging (EHJ-CVI).
7. To certify individuals who have achieved appropriate standards of clinical and research excellence and quality performance in Cardiovascular Imaging.
8. To accredit clinical laboratories which have attained appropriate standards of excellence in Cardiovascular Imaging.
9. To contribute to the ESC annual congress and participate in the Board committees of the ESC.
10. To cooperate with all organs and communities of the ESC, and with the National Working Groups, associations or societies, on matters of Cardiovascular Imaging.
11. Collaborate with other international organisations for Cardiovascular Imaging.

### **ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERS & FELLOWS**

EACVI membership categories and EACVI fellows (if existing), fees and benefits linked to each of the EACVI membership categories are subject to definition and adjustment after agreement voted by 50% +1 vote of the Board members present at the vote.

#### **A. Members from ESC member countries**

EACVI membership is subscribed on an individual and direct basis. It is open to all health professionals, members of a National Cardiac Society or national organisation involved in the field of Cardiovascular Imaging that supports the EACVI mission and objectives.

Only EACVI members of the ESC Member Countries can have voting rights at the EACVI General Assembly or within the Association.

A member is considered eligible for voting only if a member already at the time of the announcement of candidates.

Only EACVI members holding voting rights may stand for Board positions.

Applications for membership are made online via the dedicated form along with payment (when applicable) on the ESC-EACVI website.



## **B. Members from ESC affiliated countries**

EACVI membership is subscribed on an individual and direct basis. It is open to all health professionals, members of an ESC affiliated member country, involved in the field of Cardiovascular Imaging, that supports the EACVI mission and objectives.

EACVI members **from ESC affiliated countries** are offered specific benefits defined by the EACVI Board.

EACVI members **from ESC affiliated countries** do not have voting rights at the EACVI General Assembly.

They are not eligible for EACVI Board positions.

## **C. Members from non-ESC member or non-ESC affiliated countries**

Any scientist, health professional involved in the field of Cardiovascular Imaging from a non-ESC member or non-ESC affiliated country, that supports the EACVI mission and objectives, may become a member.

EACVI members from non-ESC member or non-ESC affiliated countries do not have voting rights at the EACVI General Assembly or at Board elections.

They are not eligible for EACVI Board positions.

## **D. Honorary Members**

The EACVI can bestow upon individuals with exceptional merits in matters of cardiac imaging, and the EACVI, the award of becoming an Honorary Member. These should be EACVI members, although exceptions are possible.

Proposals can be made by Board members in writing to the President and providing a detailed recommendation and curriculum of the candidate.

Such decision must be taken by 50% +1 vote of the Board members present at the vote. No more than 1 Honorary Member per year should be awarded. Honorary Members receive a sign of recognition, hold a one-time EACVI lecture, and are entitled to lifelong EACVI membership and to participate at one EAVCI congress per year without fee.

## **E. Fellows**

Physicians, scientists and other professionals who have made a major contribution to prevention, diagnosis and management of diseases of the heart and the blood vessels and/or the scientific understanding of the heart and the vascular system, may apply to become a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC) and/or a Fellow of



the EACVI (if existing).

The procedures for application and election of ESC Fellows are decided upon by the ESC Board. The procedures for application and election of EACVI Fellows (if existing) are decided upon by the EACVI Board.

## **ARTICLE 4 – RESIGNATION – EXPULSION – DEATH**

### **A. Individual Members**

EACVI individual members or Fellows may resign by sending their resignation to the EACVI President and Secretary of the Board. Their membership will then be terminated at the end of the current calendar year.

EACVI individual members who resign from their EACVI membership also terminate their membership of the ESC at the end of the current calendar year.

In case of death or resignation of a voting EACVI Board member, whether personal or professional, an extra-ordinary election can be organised at any time of the year. In the event of death of an individual EACVI member or Fellow (if existing), the membership is terminated immediately. The heirs and assignees will not by right acquire membership of the EACVI or the ESC.

When applicable, the lack of payment of the annual membership fee may lead to exclusion from the EACVI membership.

A member or Fellow (if existing) of the EACVI may be expelled from the EACVI and ESC for any justified grievance addressed to the President or Secretary. The request for expulsion must be communicated to the Board which may take immediate decision by written vote. Such decision must be taken by 50%+1 vote of the voting members of the EACVI Board.

The EACVI Board may recommend to the General Assembly removal of a member from the Association membership list for activities which may bring the EACVI into disrepute.

### **B. Board members**

In the event of the death or the resignation, whether personal or professional, of any member of the Board, he or she will be replaced as follows:

- If it concerns the President, such will be succeeded for the balance of the appropriate two-year mandate by the President-Elect on an acting basis.
- If it concerns the Secretary or Treasurer, an extra-ordinary election can be organised at any time of the year. The new Secretary or Treasurer will start his



or her mandate immediately although the term length will need to match the one in progress (from year N to year N+2).

- If it concerns the immediate Past-President, the Board may, at its own discretion, appoint any previous Board member for the balance of the two-year mandate. This previous Board member will have no voting rights.
- If it concerns the President-Elect, the Board will refer the matter to the next Ordinary General Assembly for a vote following, to the extent possible, the procedures laid down in this Constitution and Board approved procedures. In the meantime, until voting has taken place, the task related to the position of President-Elect within the Board may be delegated to one of the other voting Board members, or to any previous Board member. A previous Board member will have no voting rights.
- If it concerns non-voting Board members, the Board may appoint any qualified person for the balance of the two-year mandate.

The new Board member will start his or her mandate immediately although the term length will need to match the one in progress (from year N to year N+2).

## ARTICLE 5 – RESOURCES

The sources of revenue for the EACVI include:

- Membership dues paid directly to the EACVI from individual members, members from ESC affiliated countries or from other countries and Fellows, when applicable. The amount of such dues will be determined by the Board.
- Remuneration and contributions earned from the sale of goods and services (net income) and from any other resources authorised by law and regulations of the country in which the EACVI and ESC reside.
- Registration fees and subscription fees for the various activities carried out by or on behalf of the EACVI in particular conferences and journal revenue, certification and accreditation.
- Donations and sponsorships in compliance with current regulations.
- Generally any other authorized source of income

The EACVI Board has authority to seek financial support to cover investments or other expenses linked to the conduct of the Association activities.



Net income generated from various activities is never redistributed to the EACVI members, but may be re-invested into the Association upon ESC Board's decision. Scholarships, awards or grants may be awarded for education, training or research in the EACVI area of interest.

## **ARTICLE 6 – INTERNAL GOVERNANCE (Board, Executive Committee...)**

### **A. The administration of the EACVI is conducted by a Board composed of:**

1. Voting members who are elected by the EACVI paying members every two years
2. Ex-officio non-voting members (example: Editor in Chief)
3. Non-voting members, such as consultants or sui generis members, who are proposed by the President and approved by the voting members
4. The CEO and the COO of the ESC as non-voting members.

Representatives from industry companies are not eligible to be part of the EACVI Board.

#### **Voting members (at Board meetings)**

- President
- President-Elect
- Immediate Past-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 6 Councillors who can also be Committee Chairs and who will be composed as follows:
  - 2 for Echocardiography
  - 2 for CMR
  - 2 for Nuclear Cardiology & Cardiac CT
- 3 Vice Presidents: also Section Chairs of the three existing Sections
- 3 Vice Presidents-elect of the three existing Sections





All elected members are encouraged to be Fellows of the ESC or of the EACVI when applicable.

**Ex-officio non-voting members :**

- Editor-in-Chief of the EACVI official journal
- ESC Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer
- Other co-opted members invited by the President and approved by the Board

These members have an advisory role and are not entitled to vote at Board meetings.

**B. There is an Executive Board composed of:**

- President
- President-Elect
- Immediate Past-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 3 EACVI Vice Presidents (Chairs of each section)
- Editor-in-Chief (non-voting)

In attendance the ESC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Operating Officer (COO).

**C. The EACVI Membership holding voting rights shall elect each voting Board member in accordance with the EACVI Board's approved procedures.**

1. Voting Board members shall hold their positions for a period of two years.
2. This two-year term shall start and come to an end at the close of the annual General Assembly of the period.
3. There can be no re-election to the same position except for the position of Councillor, for which the candidate may stand for one more term.
4. Candidates for the position of President-Elect must have served the current or one of the preceding Boards as voting members of the Board. The elected candidate will automatically become President two years later.



5. Candidates for the position of Secretary and Treasurer must have served the current or one of the preceding Boards.
6. The President will automatically become immediate Past President at the end of his/her two-year mandate.
7. Vice Presidents-elect will automatically become Vice Presidents after 2 years.
8. The duties of all Board members are executed on a voluntary basis. All Board members will be entitled to reimbursement of expenses incurred while exercising their duties upon presentation of supporting original documents and pursuant to ESC's policy.
9. Should an EACVI Board member wish to apply for an executive position concurrently (President, President-Elect or Vice-President) in a National Cardiac Society or in the ESC, he or she will need to inform the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging Board.

**D. Non-voting members are appointed by the Board for a 2 year-term, which term may be extended once at the same position.**

This limitation does not apply to the Editors of the official Society Journals who are contracted on an individual basis for a specified term.

## **ARTICLE 7 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A. Roles and responsibilities of the Boards**

#### **1. ESC Board**

The ESC President is the only person recognised by French law to have the ultimate power to act on behalf of the EACVI.

The EACVI Board informs the ESC Board about its procedures on a regular basis.

#### **2. EACVI Board**

The EACVI Board is given the power to execute, or authorise others to execute, all acts and operations of the EACVI which are not reserved for the General Assembly.



The role of the EACVI Board includes but is not necessarily limited to:

- Liaise in an open and transparent way with the ESC Board
- Define the general policy and strategic direction of the EACVI, about which it reports to the EACVI General Assembly and ESC Board
- Ensure that the EACVI governed by its constitution remains in line with the ESC Statutes and By-Laws
- Approve the projects presented by an EACVI Board member or by EACVI committees in compliance with allocated budget and resources
- Approve the annual objectives and assumptions, business plan and related budget
- Decide on the provisional exclusion of individual members and of other Fellows
- Approve the internal rules and regulations and by-laws of the EACVI

In the event of an emergency, the EACVI Board shall have authority to make any appropriate decision by a simple majority of the voting Board members. In such a case, the decision may be taken on written consultation. In such a case, powers are conferred to the President or the Secretary to implement the decision made.

Board meetings shall be convened by the President or half of the voting Board members, as often as is deemed to be in the EACVI interest, either at the registered office, or in any other place, with the consent of no less than half of the voting Board members.

Upon the decision of the President, meetings may be held electronically or by telephone with all decisions confirmed in writing. The agenda is to be drawn up by the President, or those Board members who convene the meeting, and any proposed items must be sent to the President at least one week prior to the meeting.

The presence of no less than half of the voting Board members at a Board meeting is necessary to ratify decisions.

Decisions will be made by a majority of the votes of the members present with each Board member casting one vote.

No proxy votes will be accepted at a Board meeting. Absent Board members may submit their opinion in writing on items appearing on the agenda.

In the event that the number of votes cast at a Board meeting on any matter is tied,



the President shall have a deciding vote.

Board resolutions will be recorded in minutes.

- **Veto right**

The veto can only be used by EACVI Vice Presidents (Section Chairs) for matters and decisions severely and directly impacting the integrity, finances and existence of the Sections.

This right is to be used individually and only in exceptional circumstances where consensus in the Board cannot be reached. In case of exercise of veto, the members of the Board shall make every effort to resolve the matter which occasioned the veto.

## **B. Roles and responsibilities of the Executive Board**

The role and responsibilities of the Executive Board are among others:

- To discuss with the ESC management on business and operational plans, operations, organisation and Human Resources matters, major projects and actual results and to report to the EACVI Board on a regular basis
- To discuss and report to the EACVI Board on governance issues (e.g. constitution amendments)
- To oversee the allocation of resources between ESC internal constituent bodies according to the ESC and Associations approved governance rules
- To propose to the Board together with the EACVI Manager and ESC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and ESC Chief Operating Officer (COO) the budget for approval.
- To maintain the risk register and to consider insurance matters jointly with the ESC management
- To review policy for the financial business of the EACVI
- The Executive Board advises the EACVI Board, prepares the EACVI Board's agenda and discussions and oversees the implementation of the EACVI Board's decisions
- To discuss and report to the EACVI Board on strategic issues (congress matters: venue, identity, joint partnership, membership fees etc...)



**i. Roles and responsibilities of the President**

The President will be responsible for executing the decisions of the Board and ensuring the smooth running of the EACVI.

The President of the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging must belong to one of the National Cardiac Societies, or belong to one of the Constituent Bodies of the ESC, and be a Fellow of the ESC or/and EACVI (if existing).

The role of the President of the EACVI includes but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- Be a full ex-officio voting member of the ESC Board and as such, act as representative of the ESC Board
- Be the Chairperson of the EACVI Board and Executive Board and EACVI Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies
- Assume responsibility for establishing that high ethical standards are adhered to by all who are engaged in the EACVI business and affairs
- Act in the name and on behalf of the EACVI Board, and in particular:
  - Carrying out the decisions of the ESC Board and responsibility for the proper conduct of the EACVI business
  - Representing the EACVI
  - Defining the Strategic plan of the EACVI
  - Proposing the Committee Chairs in consultation with the EACVI Executive Board ensuring a representation of each modality
- Is a Member of the Scientific Committee for the ESC Annual Congress

The President may delegate part of his authority. The President is a member of any meeting of the EACVI by right.

**ii. Roles and responsibilities of the President-Elect**

The President-Elect will automatically assume the office as President of the EACVI after two years and acts on behalf the President when needed.



The role of the President-Elect of the EACVI includes but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- Interact openly and transparently with the ESC Board
- Act as representative or spokesperson of the EACVI
- Ascertain in partnership with the EACVI President that the Board focuses on strategic planning and policy development
- Perform the duties of the EACVI President in absence or incapacity including completing the Presidential term in the event of a vacancy
- Manage assignments given by the President or the EACVI Board
- Make recommendations on work processes and volunteers' assignments
- Ascertain, together with the EACVI Executive Board, continuity in EACVI leadership
- Before taking office as President, consider and prepare Board appointed Committees for the coming two years including renewal of Chairpersons and members as needed
- Will co-Chair with the Vice Presidents the scientific programme of the EACVI congress

### **iii. Roles and responsibilities of the immediate Past President**

The immediate Past Presidency automatically follows a two-year term as President without further voting rights at EACVI elections.

The Past-President serves for two years and is thereafter not subject to re-election to a new Board position at the end of his/her mandate.

The role of the immediate Past President of the EACVI includes but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- Act as representative or spokesperson of the EACVI
- Provide insights on the EACVI history and guidance to the EACVI President and Board
- Act as Chairperson of the new Nominating Committee for the EACVI



- Assume responsibility for establishing that high ethical standards are adhered to by all who are engaged in the EACVI business and affairs
- Ascertain in partnership with the President that the EACVI Board focuses on strategic planning and policy development
- Manage assignments given by the President or the EACVI Board and ensure continuity in the activities of the EACVI
- Represent the EACVI at the ESC Congress Programme Committee
- Become the Chair of the International Communities and Membership Committee

#### **iv. Roles and responsibilities of the Secretary**

- Act as representative or spokesperson of the EACVI
- Ascertain in partnership with the President that the EACVI Board focuses on strategic planning and policy development
- Provide guidance to the EACVI President and Board on statutory and organisational matters
- Ensure due process has been followed if membership proposes a change to the Constitution
- Manage assignments given by the President or the EACVI Board and ensure continuity in the activities of the EACVI
- Supervise and keep records of the EACVI Board minutes, activities and membership in close cooperation with the ESC dedicated Staff
- Make recommendations on work processes and volunteers' assignments

#### **v. Roles and responsibilities of the Treasurer**

- Act as representative or spokesperson of the EACVI for any financial matters pertaining to the Association.
- Ascertain in partnership with EACVI President that the EACVI Board focuses on strategic planning and policy development.



- Supervise finances and provide guidance to the EACVI President, EACVI Executive Board and EACVI Board especially to long-term financial planning and management and unbudgeted expenses.
- Participate in fundraising activities and ensures full transparency of all transactions and compliance with current regulations.
- Cooperate with the ESC Chief Executive Officer, ESC Chief Finance Officer, ESC Chief Operating Officer (COO) and EACVI Manager in preparing business plans, reviewing budgetary and financial issues of the EACVI.
- Reports on financial matters to the EACVI General Assembly.
- Supervise the EACVI finances held by the ESC

### **C. Roles and responsibilities of the Sections**

- The role of the Sections is to represent each imaging modality and to support the EACVI mission.
- EACVI Vice Presidents will be responsible for executing the decisions of the EACVI Board and ensuring the smooth running of the EACVI.
- The Sections are represented on the EACVI Board through their EACVI Vice President (Section Chair, voting) and Vice President-elect (voting). There are two Councillors representing each section on the EACVI Board.
- Each EACVI Vice President (Section Chair) is a member of the EACVI Executive Board
- Each EACVI Vice President (Section Chair) will be in charge of organising the EACVI congress with the EACVI President-Elect. In addition, each EACVI Vice President will organise section-specific meetings.
- They can appoint a scientific and programme committee of their choice in consultation with the EACVI President and typically involve representatives of other Sections in their programme committees.
- The section leadership can invite additional EACVI members to support the many activities, such as organising the annual meeting and teaching courses and represent the Sections in EACVI committees. The EACVI web pages will provide the names of these active EACVI members to specifically give them visibility. The EACVI Vice Presidents may invite active EACVI members to meet at the section-specific meetings for e.g. a brainstorming meeting.





Creation of a new Section requires approval by the EACVI Board (50%+1 vote of the full Board present at the vote) as well as the EACVI General Assembly. The detailed process for creation of a new Section will be defined by the EACVI Board.

#### **D. Committees**

The President will select the Chair of each Committee in consultation with the Executive Board ensuring that each section will have at least one committee chair, but the aim is of a balanced (e.g. countries, modalities/sections) leadership of committees. In this selection process the elected EACVI board members should preferably be considered for Committee Chair.

In case there is no suitable Chair among elected Board members, the President of the EACVI can nominate an ad hoc Chair that will automatically become a non-voting Board member.

The Scientific Programme chairs for the different subspecialty congresses (e.g., EuroEcho, EuroCMR, ICNC) are the exception to this rule and are not appointed directly by the President. They are usually the EACVI Vice-Presidents, who can appoint a scientific programme committee of their choice in consultation with the EACVI President.

Vice Presidents will select one Section representative for each Committee.

Committees will run transversal initiatives and will be organised in sections reflecting the main EACVI federation.

**EACVI Committees categorised according to the 5 ESC pillars (*starting from December 2018*):**

**Advocacy:**

- Industry Round Table
- Web-Communication

**Education:**

- Education and teaching courses
- Certification and Accreditation

**Congress:**



- Scientific Programme – EACVI congress
- Scientific Programme – Euroecho
- Scientific Programme – EuroCMR
- Scientific Programme – ICNC

**Membership:**

- International Communities and Membership
- Heart Imagers of Tomorrow (HIT)

**Research:**

- Scientific Documents
- Scientific Initiatives
- Research and Innovation

## **E. Roles and responsibilities of the Nominating Committee**

The EACVI Nominating Committee (NC) aims to have equal representation between the sections and thus consists of:

1. **The Immediate EACVI Past-President** (Chair, non-voting at NC selections). He/she takes into account all the principles of representation stated in the NC bylaws and leads the initial, general discussion amongst all voting and non-voting members about all received applications for EACVI Board positions.

2. **One representative from each section's past leadership** (3 in total, non-voting at NC selections): e.g. the Immediate EACVI Past Vice-Presidents or, if these are not eligible because of conflicts of interest, the previous past Section Chairs (in reverse chronological order) who are eligible and have no conflicts.

They will provide input about the candidates for Councillor/Vice President-Elect for their sections and their suitability to be nominated (e.g. scientific contribution, teaching, international recognition, balanced geographical distribution as detailed in the NC bylaws).

3. **The current President-Elect** (non-voting at NC selections)

4. **5 voting representatives of the EACVI Community** (senior members selected from previous Chairs of the Constituent Bodies of the EACVI or national imaging societies or European leaders in the field of CV imaging):



- **1** from each Section (voting). The 3 sections' representatives mentioned at point 2 will each suggest at least 2 names (from different countries) for the respective positions
- **2** selected by the NC Chair taking into account all the principles of representation stated in the Constitution and the NC bylaws (voting)

The appointment of NC members should be made avoiding any conflict of interest – e.g. someone standing for elections should not be involved in the NC or in appointing NC members.

There should be no more than 1 voting Nominating Committee member from one country except if from the same country as the Nominating Committee Chair. The country where the person currently works (having a permanent position) will be considered when selecting the members of the NC.

The NC Chair will ensure the final composition of the NC follows these rules.

A Nominating Committee member cannot sit on the Board at the same time except for the position of the current President-Elect (non-voting) and that of the Immediate Past-President, who chairs the Nominating Committee.

**The role of the Nominating Committee consists of:**

- Evaluating and proposing candidates for EACVI Board elections
- Ensuring balance of candidates with appropriate experience from all regions within the ESC member countries according to pre-defined selection criteria
- Selecting candidates that represent all imaging modalities in a balanced way

The term of the Nominating Committee mandate is two years non-renewable.

Current members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible as candidates for election to either the EACVI Board, or to a future Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee should propose at least two candidates for each vacant voting position on the new EACVI Board.

Candidates standing for the available EACVI Board positions may be endorsed by their own National Cardiac Society.



Decisions within the EACVI Nominating Committee will be made by a majority of the votes of those members present having the right to vote.

In the event that the number of votes cast is tied, the voting will be repeated. In case of the second tied vote, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall have a deciding vote.

#### **F. Roles and responsibilities of the task force members**

They are EACVI members with a specific interest or skill appointed to a task dedicated to a specific topic or strategic issue (governance, congress, CVI horizon...).

Task force members are appointed by the President and responsible:

- To actively participate in meetings and calls
- To contribute and invest time/effort in the association's initiatives
- To deliver timely the tasks assigned by the Task Force Chair

### **ARTICLE 8 – TERM OF OFFICE**

#### **EACVI Board**

- A. The normal term of office of voting Board members will be two years. They may be able to stand for re-election in open competition in the same position for a maximum of one more 2 year-term except for the President-Elect who will automatically become the new EACVI President
- B. The period in office of the Secretary, Treasurer, President-Elect, Immediate Past President is two years. The Secretary or Treasurer can stand for re-election in open competition for another EACVI Executive Board position, which must differ from the one previously occupied
- C. Past-Presidents are not re-eligible for a Board position
- D. Proposed candidates for President-Elect should have served at least one 2 year-term on the EACVI Board, as a voting Board member.

### **ARTICLE 9 – JOURNAL**

The EACVI publishes the European Heart Journal Cardiovascular Imaging (EHJ-CI).

The Journal publishes original articles, editorials, reviews, case reports and interesting images on cardiovascular imaging. It is the official journal of the European Association of



Cardiovascular Imaging and provides an avenue of communication of scientific data, new developments and teaching between the EACVI members, other imaging specialists, and clinical cardiologists.

The Editor-in-Chief is elected by the Board for an initial period of 3 years which may be renewed as appropriate. Deputy Editors may be appointed by the Editor in Chief.

The Editor in Chief has the sole responsibility for the running of the Journal. The Board has the power to discontinue the term of the Editor-in-Chief if this is deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE 10 – CONGRESS and MEETINGS**

### **1. EACVI Congress**

EACVI organises a multi-modality imaging congress. This congress is so called “EACVI congress” and will be chaired by the President-Elect and the Vice Presidents.

### **2. Section-specific meetings**

- Each Section will organise its own Section-specific meetings. These meetings are the primary responsibility of the Sections except when the EACVI congress is taking place.
- Section specific meetings may be organised through the ESC or other Professional Congress Organisers (PCOs) with guidance provided by the ESC Procurement Office.

If meetings are organised by external PCO's, day-to-day organisation of the meeting, including financial decisions, will rest with the Section leadership.

- Given ESC/EACVI liability, a business case for each activity will be presented to the EACVI Treasurer for approval.
- Special attention will be given to the development of sponsorship to Section-specific meetings. If sponsor support to Section-specific meetings is reduced as a result of the creation of a single EACVI, then the EACVI will share some of its central sponsor support with the Sections to allow them to continue to run their meetings. The proportion of support will be proportional to the number of delegates at each meeting and will be decided by the EACVI Board and the Vice President/Chair of the relevant Section.

## **ARTICLE 11 – GENERAL ASSEMBLIES**

### **A. Attendance**



General Assemblies are attended by the current EACVI Board and the members from the EACVI.

#### **B. Notification to attend**

Notification to attend must be given to the EACVI Membership by electronic mail, no less than thirty (30) days in advance.

#### **C. Agenda**

The agenda will be drawn up by the Board and circulated to EACVI members no less than thirty (30) days in advance.

Only those items appearing on the agenda of the General Assemblies will be discussed and voted on.

Any EACVI member may submit in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board any issue or proposal not governed by this Constitution, no less than four (4) months before the next General Assembly and, if approved by the Board, it will be put on the agenda of the General Assembly.

#### **D. Assembly bureau**

The President of the EACVI presides over the General Assemblies and is responsible for all procedures related to the preparation and conduct of the General Assemblies.

If the President is unable to perform these tasks, these may be conducted by a member of the Executive Board designated by the Board to this effect.

#### **E. General Assembly**

The Ordinary General Assembly shall meet each year. Additional General Assemblies shall be convened by the EACVI President as required, or at the request of no less than two thirds of the delegates.

- Quorum & Majority

In order to deliberate validly, the General Assembly must be formed by no less than 40 members who have the voting rights. If said condition is not met, the General Assembly will be reconvened within two (2) months.

At the second meeting it shall deliberate validly, whatever the number of delegates is present, but only upon those items on the agenda of the previous Assembly.

Decisions of the General Assembly will be made by reaching quorum of 50%+1 vote of the voting members present at the General Assembly. Null and blank votes are included in the number of votes cast.

In the event of a tied vote, a second round of voting will take place. In case of a second



tied vote, the President will have the casting vote.

- Powers of the General Assembly

The General Assembly deliberates on all items appearing on the agenda.

It shall receive the annual report of the President and Secretary/Treasurer on behalf of the EACVI Board.

It will approve or adjust the accounts of the previous financial year, vote as required on the composition of the new EACVI Board, and provide for the replacement of members of the current Board.

Votes must be cast in person and cannot be transferred through other persons.

The resolutions of the General Assembly will be recorded in minutes approved by the President.

## **ARTICLE 12 – PROCEDURES FOR ELECTIONS OF BOARD, NOMINATING COMMITTEE.**

### **1. EACVI Board**

- A. The Executive Board, chaired by the EACVI President, may proceed to conduct the elections for the new Board members at an earlier time of the year than that of the annual General Assembly, but not earlier than four (4) months before such General Assembly.
- B. Such elections may be conducted electronically.
- C. Voting will be conducted under the responsibility of the EACVI Nominating Committee in accordance with EACVI Board approved rules and procedures which will be communicated in writing to all EACVI members at least three (3) months ahead of the annual General Assembly.
- D. Nomination for EACVI Board elections will be invited from all members proposed by the EACVI Nominating Committee.
- E. For paying membership, only members who have paid their full annual membership dues are eligible to vote. The members voting in an election must have been members before the selection of the candidates is made public by the Nominating Committee Chair.



- F. Except for those applying for the position of President-Elect, candidates cannot stand for election for more than 3 consecutive elections or for more than 4 times in total.
- G. Voting will be by secret ballot and administrated by the ESC Staff supervised by the EACVI Nominating Committee Chair. If one candidate only is proposed for any position, a vote will take place in any case. The proposed candidate(s) will be elected if he gains 50% +1 vote of the total number of votes cast.
- H. If he/she is not elected by a majority of votes, his/her candidature will fail and the EACVI Nominating Committee must reconsider the candidature and make a new proposal to the members within three months. An electronic vote will follow. The EACVI Nominating Committee will again supervise said vote.
- I. Voting rights are granted according to the membership category. EACVI Members from ESC affiliated countries have no voting rights.

## **2. EACVI Sections**

- A. Nominations for election to a Section of the EACVI (Councillors/Vice President Elect) will be invited from all EACVI members and submitted to the Chair of the EACVI Nominating Committee.
- B. Only members who have paid their annual subscription are eligible to vote and can vote for all the open EACVI Board positions. The members voting in an election must have been members before the selection of candidates is made public.
- C. One can be eligible as a Vice President-elect candidate, after having served at least 2 years as an elected Section Nucleus Member or as a Councillor on the EACVI Board. If there are no candidates meeting these criteria, the Nominating Committee may choose candidates with other appropriate qualifications from the existing applications, such as relevant national society leadership or other relevant contribution to the field.
- D. No more than two of the four representatives of the same section (EACVI Vice-President, Vice-President elect and two councillors) can come from the same country, except if there are no suitable applications for Vice-President elect and Councillors to run the elections, in which case the Nominating Committee may overrule.





- E. EACVI members from ESC affiliated countries will not have the right to stand for any elected EACVI-Section position.
- F. Voting will be by secret electronic ballot of voting members, administered by the ESC staff and supervised by the Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- G. EACVI Members from ESC affiliated countries have no voting rights.

### **ARTICLE 13 – RULE FOR MERGE/INTEGRATION WITH OTHER ESC CONSTITUENT BODIES**

Subject to the approval by the Ordinary General Assembly, the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging may decide to absorb any ESC Associations, Working Groups or Councils by extending the field of its activity. The ESC Constituent Body absorbed will then be dissolved or, possibly, merged into a new Constituent Body. The ESC Ordinary General Assembly will then decide on the timeline of this restructuring process.

If a working group, council or Association is restructured, the constituent body resulting from such restructuring will, from the date on which the absorbed constituent bodies are dissolved, have the same number of voting delegates for ESC elections that each of the constituent bodies involved had before the restructuring took place for the next two mandates (4 years).

### **ARTICLE 14 – CHANGES OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Any provisions of the Constitution may be changed by the EACVI General Assembly:

- Upon recommendation of the EACVI Board or
- Via a validated proposal supported by a minimum of 10 % of the total paying membership (having the voting rights)

To qualify as a validated proposal the following criteria must be fulfilled:

- A. The number of members supporting the proposal must represent at least 10 % of the total number of paying members of the EACVI.
- B. The validated proposal with sufficient signatures must be received by the Secretary of the EACVI at least four (4) months prior to the General Assembly.

The Secretary of the EACVI is responsible for determining that due processes have been followed and then for informing the Board of the EACVI and placing the validated proposal on the Agenda of the EACVI Assembly.



- C. Proposed changes must be circulated to all members at least two (2) months before the EACVI General Assembly.
- D. The EACVI Board shall have the right to comment in writing on any validated proposal and may circulate such comments together with the proposed wording to all members prior to the EACVI General Assembly.
- E. Proposed changes will be voted at the General Assembly. A quorum of 40 members is required to validate a meeting as a General Assembly.
- F. To be accepted and included in the Constitution, the proposed changes need to be voted by at least 50% + 1 of the members with voting rights present at the General Assembly.

### **ARTICLE 15 – FINANCES**

EACVI's financial figures are included in the legal entity European Society of Cardiology's budgets and accounts, with a fiscal year starting on 1 April and ending on 31 March the following year.

The EACVI budget will be prepared by the EACVI Treasurer and EACVI Manager considering budget requests received from EACVI leadership and with consultation of the EACVI Management Group, in accordance with objectives fixed by the ESC Board.

The draft budget will be reviewed and agreed by the EACVI Board in advance of the relevant deadline, for further review and approval by the ESC Board.

During the fiscal year, the EACVI Treasurer and EACVI Manager will monitor actual spending to ensure that the budget is maintained.

### **ARTICLE 16 – RESPONSIBILITY OF EACVI MEMBERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

Neither EACVI members nor Board members may be held personally responsible for any agreement entered into for EACVI, subject to any application of the provisions of the Law.

### **ARTICLE 17– DISSOLUTION - LIQUIDATION**

The dissolution of the EACVI will take place upon the decision of two thirds of all voting members present at an ESC Extraordinary General Assembly following a proposal of the ESC Board communicated as indicated above.

The net product of the dissolution is allocated to the ESC.