

Ways Of Working: ERGA/EPRA

General approach

ERGA and EPRA agree to work together to:

- Share and coordinate efforts with respect to their respective work programmes and outputs;
- Identify topics and determine how our respective work programmes in the same area might be complementary, while acknowledging that such coordination regarding the work programmes needs to reflect the difference in the nature, aims and remit of ERGA and EPRA and in particular the role of ERGA under the EU media law framework;
- Organize joint Board meetings in a way that keeps the organizational efforts and costs low;
- Give ongoing mutual information exchange high priority to exploit synergies, promote collaboration and ongoing dialogue, and avoid duplicating work;
- Strengthen dialogue and collaboration between EU and non-EU countries¹.

Joint Board meetings

2-3 Joint Board meetings to be held every year, for exchanges on respective work programmes and discussion of key strategic focus of the two groups:

- ERGA Board to provide input **to EPRA WP**: in writing or in person in January of each year;
- Exchange between boards for **coordination and ongoing dialogue**: on the sidelines of EPRA Spring Meeting;
- Discussion on the interplay of EPRA and ERGA WPs, including feedback and ideas for contributions from EPRA Board to the following year's **ERGA WP** and early ideas from ERGA for next year's **EPRA WP**: in person on the sidelines of EPRA Autumn Meeting.

These meetings will not be recorded in detail, but a short summary of agreed actions and key priority points identified will (or may) be produced and circulated to the two boards. Such records of meetings held will be prepared alternately by a representative of ERGA and a representative of EPRA.

Concrete proposals for coordination and information exchange

1. EPRA and ERGA Boards to identify connections and synergies in each year's work programmes and organisational priorities. In practice this means:
 - a. An annual discussion on the interplay between ERGA and EPRA's WPs, and which parts of the EPRA WP ERGA wants to contribute to actively (and which aspects of the ERGA WP it might be appropriate for the EPRA Board and Secretariat to follow in detail);
 - b. Producing a summary of this discussion for the use of the ERGA and EPRA members and respective secretariats;
 - c. Using joint board meetings for frank dialogue between ERGA and EPRA's leaders about strategic objectives, priorities, and challenges.

¹ While noting that ERGA has a mandate on the cooperation of its members and observers.

2. Concrete steps to be taken to support this coordination:
 - a. **In ERGA subgroups:** EPRA to contribute as an observer to ERGA's work, as foreseen in article 2 of the ERGA rules of procedure².
 - b. **In EPRA Plenary meetings** and other ad-hoc working groups and workshop sessions: ERGA SG chairs and members of the subgroups to participate and present ERGA's work on the relevant subject matter, as appropriate.
3. The ERGA Secretariat will serve as a point of contact for the EPRA Secretariat on practical questions. The facilitation of (2) above will be facilitated by the ERGA Chair and their staff.

Longer-Term Options & Objectives

1. **2023:** Mapping of types of work done by EPRA and ERGA (typology e.g. meetings including for networking, reports, decisions, recommendations, advice on jurisdiction etc)
2. **2023:** Mapping of topics and themes covered in last 5 years
3. **2024:** EU vs Non-EU comparison work³

This will allow us in the longer term to:

- identify what each network does that the other doesn't, both in terms of format and subject matter and
- identify areas of potential future synergies and complementarity.

² Article 2 of ERGA's Rules of Procedure:

(2) [...] [T]he Commission may grant observer status to public authorities of candidate countries and EFTA States that are not party to the EEA, as well as organizations, including European Platform of Regulatory Authority (EPRA) and the European Audiovisual Observatory (EAO).
[...]

(5) Observers and their representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions of the group and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the group.

³ While noting that ERGA is focusing on EU media policy.