

# **ACTIVITY REPORT 2025**

**Presented to EPS Council, 15-16 May 2026**



**European Physical Society**

more than ideas



| President's Report | **Mairi SAKELLARIADOU** |

## INTRODUCTION FROM THE PRESIDENT

In May 2023, during the EPS Council in Porto, you entrusted me with the Presidency of the European Physical Society. Over the past two years, I have done my utmost to contribute to its legacy and to honour the trust you placed in me.

At that same Council meeting in 2023, I presented my set of aspirations for the role of the EPS. I would now like to summarise the developments of the Society over the two years of my presidency, with reference to the objectives outlined in my EPS editorial (EPN 55/2, April 2024).

### Strengthen the position of Europe

The European Physical Society has published its position paper entitled “Energy: A Foundation for Prosperity and Stability”. This document reflects the collective scientific expertise of the EPS community and is intended to serve as a strategic reference for European authorities. It contributes to the development of effective and forward-looking policies that advance sustainable energy solutions while safeguarding strong

and sustained investment in research and education.

The publication of this paper represents a significant achievement for the EPS, particularly in light of the diversity of perspectives within the community and the extensive and constructive discussions that shaped the final text.

To complement the position paper, an EPS event on the Contribution of Physics to Energy Production, Storage, and Distribution has taken place on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2026 at the Royal Academy of Brussels. The programme featured talks by representatives from academia, industry, and the policy sector, followed by panel discussions.

### Adapt higher education to fast changing professional demands

The European Physical Society has published a position paper entitled “Physics Bachelor studies in Europe”. This document is an updated version of the original report (published in 2009), reflecting current conditions and evolving perspectives on Physics Bachelor Programmes. Since the publication of the first edition, significant developments have reshaped both the academic and professional landscape.

This document incorporates examples of good practice, evidence-based approaches to teaching, assessment and evaluation, plus concrete recommendations across a broad range of relevant topics, providing departments with practical guidance for implementation and improvement.

Through the publication of this position

paper on physics education, the European Physical Society reaffirms its commitment to serving society and shaping the next generation of physicists by promoting excellence, relevance, and inclusivity in university-level education.

### Orient scientific policy in Europe

- The European Physical Society has released a report entitled “A refreshed assessment of the importance of physics to the European economy”, covering the years 2018 to 2024. The report highlights that physics-based activities are experiencing significantly higher growth than other sectors of the economy. It is expected to play a key role in guiding European and national policy by demonstrating that physics research translates into tangible economic and societal benefits. Furthermore, the report advocates for sustained funding in physics research, emphasising this as a strategic investment rather than a cost. I presented this report during a press conference entitled “Discover how physics powers Europe's prosperity” at the Press Club (Brussels).
- I represented EPS in the Executive Committee of Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) whose aim is to design and implement European science policies. EPS has common vision with the ISE and shares a number of common goals.
- I joined the “Transatlantic Big Science Conference” in Berlin (November 2024), as well as the “Falling Walls Science Summit 2024” (November 2024). EPS is

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- invited to take a leading role in the next Falling Walls Science Summit (November 2026) meeting in Berlin.
- At the occasion of the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, an opening ceremony was organised (January 2025) at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris and EPS was one of the sponsors of this event.
  - The European Physical Society and a number of national Physical Societies released a statement entitled “Europe and the Future of Quantum Science”. To reaffirm the opinions published in this declaration, we published an “EPS Statement on International Collaboration in Quantum Science and Technology”
  - I participated in a panel discussion organised by the Italian Physical Society (SIF) during their Congress (September 2024) together with the President of the American Physical Society and representatives from France, Germany, Italy and ICTP. The panel discussed events scheduled at the occasion of the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.
  - To reinforce the role of EPS within policy makers in Europe, my plan was to recruit a Policy Officer, whose role would be to support the EPS in its interactions with policy makers of the European Union in Brussels. Unfortunately, due to financial constraints this plan has not been realised.

## Maintain and reinforce the role of EPS in Europe and beyond

- I delivered a talk and participated in a panel discussion in the “Physics in a Shifting Landscape” session, during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Nordic Network for Diversity in Physics (NORNDiP) in Göteborg, Sweden (November 2025).
- We reinforced our partnerships with the Balkan Physical Union (BPU). In 2025 We participated to the 12<sup>th</sup> BPU Congress in Bucharest (July 2025), co-organised and participated to the WE Heraeus-BPU School on “Frontiers in Quantum Science and Technology” (July 2025), celebrating UNESCO’s International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, and the 5<sup>th</sup> EPS-TIG hands-on session (July 2025).
- We also supported the Balkan Physics Olympiad in Nikšić, Montenegro (June 2024), the “First Balkan student Summer School on Astronomy and Astrophysics” held in Thessaloniki, Greece (August 2024), and the Balkan Physics Olympiad in Ohrid, North Macedonia (June 2025).
- We co-organised physics schools within the framework of the Southeastern European Network in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics (SEENET-MTP) training programme.
- We supported the Informal Physical Societies Exchange Conference (IPSEC) in Katowice, Poland (September 2025).
- Continuing our Physics for Development activities, we supported the conference of the Union of Physicists from Portuguese Speaking Countries (União dos Físicos dos Países de Língua Portuguesa - UFPLP) in Coimbra (September 2024). We have also decided to support their next conference.
- In the framework of the APS-ICTP-EPS Travel Award Fellowship Programme (ATAP) aiming at supporting short-term research visits to laboratories in Europe and North America from active early-career scientists from developing countries, in 2024 we funded visits of three scientists from Cuba, Nigeria and Palestine visiting Institutions in Brazil, Canada and France, respectively and in 2025 we funded five scientists from Palestine, Egypt, India (two scientists) and Morocco to visit institutions in France, Belgium, Germany and Spain.
- We have committed to prolong the ATAP programme until 2027. Selection is already underway for the 2026 programme.
- We supported the International Physics Tournament held in Zürich (April 2024) and various events organised by the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS) including the Physics League Across Numerous Countries for Kick-ass Students (PLANCKS) which took place in Dublin (May 2024) and Barcelona in 2025.
- The EPS contributed to a programme of physics outreach at European music festivals which reached over 16 000 people in four countries in 2024 and over 20,000 people in three countries in 2025.

## Make science attractive without barriers

We have established precise EPS prizes and awards regulations reinforcing diversity in the selection committee and the nominees. I again want to congratulate the 50 laureates of the EPS prizes and distinctions for their research and achievements in various aspects of physics.

The European Physical Society has released an EPS diversity statement which emphasises our commitment to providing equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, or socioeconomic background. We recognise that diversity strengthens our society, and we remain committed to fostering a more inclusive and equitable future for every EPS member and the broader scientific community.

## Other accomplishments

- The EPS Historic Sites programme was successfully continued. Four new EPS Historic Sites were inaugurated: Institut für Physik der Universität Graz, Accademia Galileiana di Padova, the City of Göttingen, and the Heinrich Hertz Lecture Hall at KIT, Karlsruhe
- Our Young Minds (YM) were very successful with the organisation of the 160 events across different locations in Europe. To reinforce our commitment to the YM we are organising the 2026 EPS Council meeting together with the YM Leadership meeting.
- EPS has a completely new website. This is an important improvement for the image of our Society. Moreover, the database of our members (including subscriptions and fees) is now in order.
- We have secured funding from Acinque S.p.A to reintroduce the Volta Physics prize, managed and organised by the EPS, aiming at recognising the best European physicist every two years. The Volta prize was suspended after 2020 due to lack of



Honorary Secretary's Report | **Katharina LORENZ** |

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES 2025

The Executive Committee (ExCom) of the European Physical Society (EPS) is responsible for developing and implementing EPS policy, overseeing ongoing activities and financial matters, and planning future initiatives. A key objective of the committee is to strengthen the visibility, impact, and strategic direction of the Society. The Executive Committee is chaired by the EPS President, Mairi Sakellariadou.

In 2025, the Executive Committee met nine times: six meetings were held virtually and three in person. Under the leadership of President Sakellariadou, a format of shorter but more frequent meetings was introduced, with online meetings taking place approximately every two months. This approach has enabled more regular discussion of strategic and operational matters.

Each member of the Executive Committee maintains liaison with specific EPS Divisions, Groups, and Member Societies, thereby ensuring effective communication and coordination across the Society's structures. These responsibilities are summarised in the table below.

The Executive Committee appoints and oversees the work of the EPS Secretary General. In this capacity, the Honorary

Secretary, Katharina Lorenz, together with the Honorary Treasurer, Alessandra Fantoni, conducted the third annual performance review of the Secretary General, Anne Pawsey, in November 2025.

During the year, the President and the Executive Committee also coordinated meetings with the chairs of EPS Divisions and Groups, as well as with the presidents of national member societies. These meetings aim to strengthen cooperation between the different bodies of the Society and to ensure alignment on strategic priorities.

The Executive Committee has supported the work of the EPS Secretariat, notably in the development of a new EPS website and the implementation of a new membership database, both of which are important steps towards improving communication, visibility, and member services.

Members of the Executive Committee also contribute actively to several EPS committees, including the Conference Committee, the Distinctions and Awards Committee, the Equal Opportunities Committee, and the Historic Sites Selection Committee. In addition, ad hoc committees were established during 2025 to address specific tasks, including the

review of EPS-recognised journals, the analysis of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with international scientific societies, the organization of the European Researchers Night and overseeing financial issues.

The Executive Committee has further overseen and supported the preparation and dissemination of several scientific and policy contributions. These include the report *The Importance of Physics to the Economies of Europe*, as well as policy papers on education and energy, the EPS declaration *Europe and the Future of Quantum Science*, and the revision of the EPS Mission Statement.

Beyond Europe, the Executive Committee continues to promote international engagement and collaboration. In particular, EPS supports initiatives such as the APS–EPS–ICTP–FECS ATAP Travel Fellowship Programme. Members of the Executive Committee participated in the Council Meetings of SESAME (Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East) and have promoted the development of partnerships and Memoranda of Understanding with scientific societies beyond Europe. ■

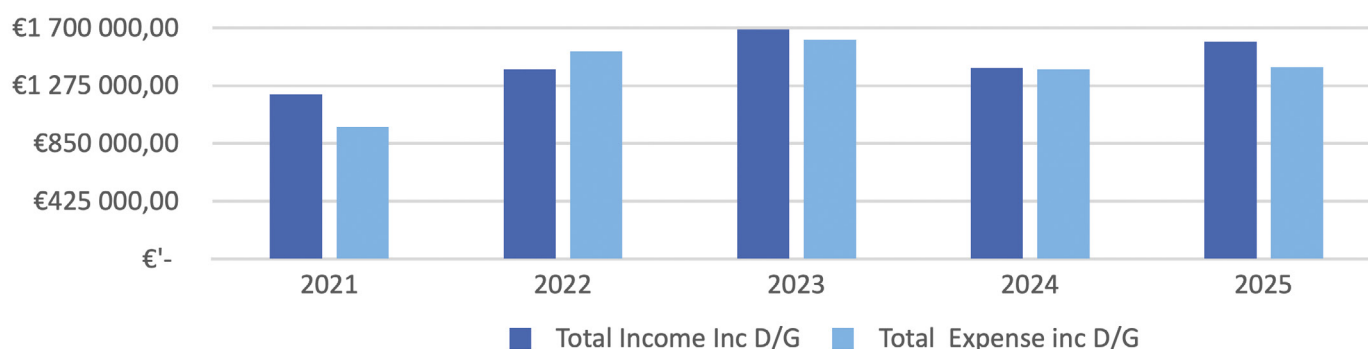
EX. COM. MEMBERS	COMMITTEE, DIVISION, GROUP, PUBLICATION	MEMBER SOCIETY
Sakellariadou	President	
De Teresa	President-Elect	
Beck	EPS Conferences Committee Statistical and Non-linear Physics Division - Environmental Physics Division Computational Physics Group	Turkey - Israel - Slovenia
Chardin	Forum Physics and Society - Quantum Electronics and Optics Division Energy Group	France
Coccia	Gravitational Physics Division History of Physics Group	Bulgaria - Romania - Spain
Crombé	Joint European Solar Physics Division Energy Group	Belgium - Luxembourg - Netherlands
Di Ciaccio	High Energy and Particle Physics Division Physics for Development Group	Macedonia, North - Montenegro - Serbia
Fantoni	Historic Sites Selection - Distinctions and Awards - Physics Education Division - Division of Physics in Life Sciences - EPJ / EPJ TI - eEPS	Albania - Croatia - Cyprus - Greece - Italy
Fulton	Equal Opportunities - Nuclear Physics Division - EPL	Denmark - Finland - Sweden, Estonia - Latvia - Lithuania - UK and Ireland
Husemann	Young Minds <i>Europhysics News</i>	Iceland - Norway - Hungary - Slovakia
Lorenz	Plasma Physics Division - Condensed Matter Division	Ukraine - Portugal
Schmeling	Atomic Molecular and Optical Physics Division - Technology and Innovation Group	Liechtenstein - Switzerland - Austria - Armenia - Georgia - Moldova
Zach	Committee on European Integration	Germany - Czech Republic - Poland



| EPS Honorary Treasurer’s Report | **Alessandra FANTONI** |

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2025

Income and Expenditure Euro Including D/G Expenses



The overall financial result of 2025 was better than budgeted. The income (not including division and group activities) for 2025 was Euro **1 451 827.69**, 41% from Members, 30% from publication activities and 19% from conferences and 11% from other activities. The expenditure for 2025 was Euro **1 281 646.31**, 75.6% for administration and governance (which includes all salary costs — a change from previous reporting), and 24.4% for activities. The activities of divisions and groups resulted in a net income of Euro **14 616.36**. The outcome for the year is an excess of Euro **184 797.74**.

The income from members including member societies, individual and associate members was consistent with 2024. There was no further decrease in associate member fees but equally no additional

associate members joined or increased their contributions.

The income from CLEO-Europe/EQEC was significant contribution to EPS funds at Euro 264 639.6. However, it was lower than estimated in the 2025 budget due to an error in calculation for work in progress (production stocké). The EPS has decided to stop using this accounting practice and will record all conference income in the year of the conference from 2025 onward.

The income from EPS investments remains stable with respect to 2024 at Euro **101 413.49** (93 371.02 in 2024) this however represents a significant increase from 2023 (Euro **15 239.36**) due to reinvesting at more favourable interest rates.

Income from publication activities increased, due to currency fluctuations.

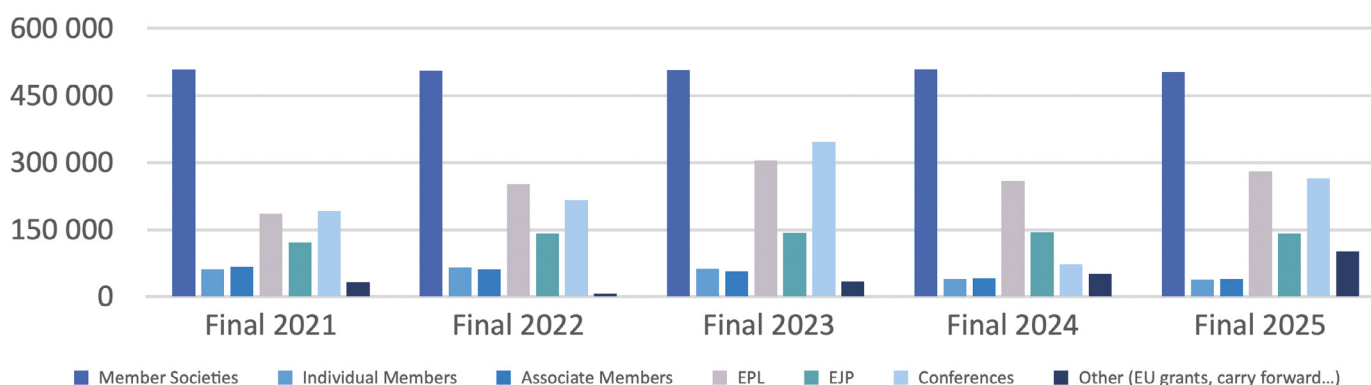
**There were savings due to a change in operating practice:**

- No replacement for our representative in Brussels was appointed during 2025 so the budget of Euro **45 000** was not spent.
- Changing the chartered accountant resulted in a saving of Euro **20 538.16**.

**Significant expenses in 2025 were:**

- The report on the Importance of Physics to the Economies of Europe, Euro **81 626.21**. This was the third edition of the report and it covers the period 2016-2022. This expense can only be attributed to a single year and cannot be split across years. Any future edition will not be published prior to 2029.
- Support for the Balkan Physical Union Congress and associated satellite events for a total of Euro **10 361**.

Income By Source



## EDUCATION POSITION PAPER

During 2025 a small working group reviewed the existing EPS document on Physics Bachelor Programmes as part of Mairi Sakellariadou's commitment to improving European Physics Education.

The group commissioned Prof. Andreas Müller of the University of Geneva to update the document, which was originally created in 2009 to support the Bologna Process. The original document aimed to provide a common

curricular framework to encourage student mobility and mutual recognition of qualifications. It was designed as a reference for universities developing new programs, a tool for internal quality assurance, and a guide for external accreditation.

The current edition updates that work to reflect recent developments in physics and the wider world, incorporating emerging areas like sustainable

development, data science, digital technologies, and artificial intelligence, as well as evolving workplace expectations.

Beyond curriculum updates, the document also addresses persistent challenges in European physics programmes — including low enrolment, gender inequality, and high dropout rates — by offering evidence-based teaching and learning strategies. Finally, it retains a European Benchmark for accreditation purposes.

## ENERGY POSITION PAPER

One of Mairi Sakellariadou's objectives as President was to contribute to European Policy on Energy. During her presidency the EPS energy group, members of the current and previous Executive Committee and Individual Members of the EPS contributed to a position paper, which updates the 2018 EPS position paper.

The paper highlights the role that energy plays in economic development and stability

and the difficulties inherent in striking a balance between security of supply, affordability and environmental considerations. These difficulties had an impact on the development of the paper itself, which was not without controversy. The challenges were overcome via open and productive dialog between the different actors.

The paper recommends the diversification of energy strategies, that there should

be investment in diverse types of nuclear energy, that energy research and development should be supported and that public understanding and education is necessary for an informed debate.

A conference to discuss the issues raised in the position paper was held in Brussels on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2026. Including speakers from industry, academia and policy.

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF QUANTUM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2025 was the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology. Launched at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in February 2025 and closed in Accra Ghana in February 2026 the International Year highlighted the importance of quantum physics and its applications. The EPS was a sponsor of the year and the EPS President attended the launch event in Paris.

Many of the EPS Member Societies organised events and initiatives for the year, ranging from contemporary music inspired by quantum science in Germany, a quantum board game in Switzerland to resources for students and school pupils translated into local languages in Estonia.

The EPS was delighted to award the City of Göttingen the status of EPS

historic site. This is in recognition of the foundations of quantum science laid in Göttingen in 1925 and the contributions of the many scientists who developed the field over subsequent years. The award to the City honours all the contributions to the development of Quantum Science including those of technicians and non-academic staff.

The EPS worked with its member societies to produce a joint statement on "Europe and the Future of Quantum Science" this paper was drafted by a team of volunteers proposed by the EPS Member Societies and released as a joint statement by the EPS and several of its members. The statement underlined that, quantum science underpins key technologies of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and that potential of quantum science remains

to be explored. That quantum technologies will change our lives, address societal challenges, and drive scientific and economic progress. Finally that Europe is in a strong position, with an established research base and will play a leading role in future quantum technologies. A draft of the statement was discussed during the meeting of EPS Presidents co-hosted with the German Physical Society (DPG) in Berlin after the German launch of the International Year (see below). At the end of 2025, the EPS Executive Committee issued a statement on "International Collaboration in Quantum Science and Technology" emphasising the importance of cross-border collaboration and scientific openness in the development of quantum science and technologies.

## PRESIDENTS MEETING BERLIN

The Presidents of European and international physical societies convened in Berlin, co-chaired by EPS President Mairi Sakellariadou and DPG President Klaus Richter, to discuss collaboration and strategic priorities. Sixteen Presidents and representatives attended the meeting which followed the German Launch event for the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.

The participants shared a wide range of planned national activities for the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, reflecting the importance of the quantum year for public engagement with physics across Europe. A draft of the Quantum declaration was discussed and welcomed by those present.

The American Physical Society (APS) President John Doyle discussed potential collaboration between the EPS and the APS.

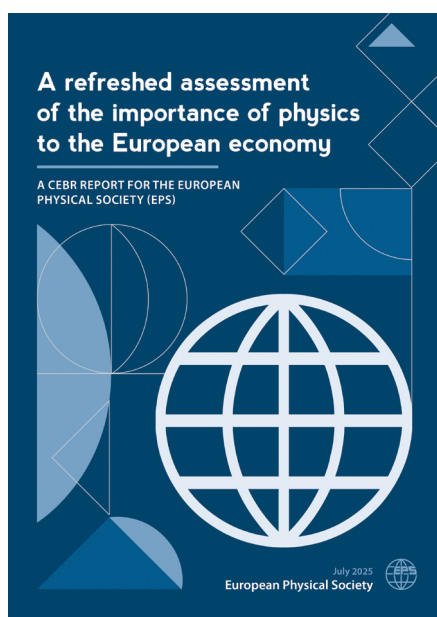
Finally, a substantive discussion took place regarding the EPS's strategic focus and how it can best support its members. There



was broad consensus that the EPS should prioritise its role as the authoritative voice of physics in Europe, focusing on conference organisation, EU-level representation, and facilitating best practice exchange between National Societies.

The EPS and the DPG believe strongly that these meetings should become regular events allowing a broader discussion of topics of common interest than is possible during an EPS Council meeting. The next such meeting will be held in November 2026.

## IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICS TO THE ECONOMIES OF EUROPE



The EPS commissioned the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) to produce an updated analysis after the previous report (published September

2019). The report analyses data and impact on the physics-based sector within the 27 countries of EU, the United Kingdom and the three of the four EFTA members (Iceland, Norway, Switzerland) and covers the period 2016-2022.

What the report shows is the sustained increase of the turnover of the physics based sector over the period with the notable exception of the year 2020, a direct impact of the Covid pandemic touching EU and non-EU countries. The recovery from that period is solid, even if the nominal increase may be partially attributed to the inflationary spike, as is rightfully noted in the report.

Global turnovers have a direct impact on the employment, with major differences between different sectors: energy production and construction experienced growth while oil and gas activities as well as treatment of hazardous materials declined. This may be related to both the central role of energy has

played, and the geopolitical uncertainty we are experiencing.

Finally, as far as productivity is concerned, physics based activities show an increase largely superior to the other branches of economy (with again the marked effect of the Covid pandemic for year 2020). The highly educated and skilled workers in physics-based sectors are more productive and earn more than workers in other branches of the economy.

We hope that such a report produced by an independent organism (CEBR) can contribute helping organise policy briefings in Brussels, Strasbourg, and national capitals, translating physics research into economic and societal benefits and advocate for sustained funding in physics research as a strategic investment, not a cost.

We encourage our Member Societies and Members to disseminate this report widely and to use it in their lobbying efforts to justify investment in physics research.

## BPU CONGRESS AND SATELLITE EVENTS

The BPU (Balkan Physical Union) congress was held in Bucharest between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> July, the event brought together over 400 physicists from 25 countries, the BPU countries Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey, and beyond. There were 138 talks and 83 posters. The participants have the opportunity to publish their contributions in three volumes that will be published by EDP Sciences, Springer and the Società Italiana di Fisica, MDPI.

The EPS President Mairi Sakellariadou and the DPG President Klaus Richter gave key note presentations. The EPS Secretary General chaired a panel on “Physics for development – New ways for scientific Cooperation in Europe” to discuss improving co-operation in the region and within Europe more broadly. The panel consisted of representatives of the EPS, DPG, Romanian Physical Society and the Moldovan Physical Society.

The EPS Committee on European Integration (CEI) and the EPS Technology and Innovation Group (TIG) organised satellite events for students and early career researchers. Attendees at these events were able to join the main BPU congress and network with the more senior academics.

The CEI organised a summer school with the generous support of the WE Heraeus Foundation on “Frontiers in Quantum Science and Technologies”. The aim of the school was to deepen the understanding of the quantum world and its applications in quantum technologies. The school was addressed to early-carrier researchers worldwide, a special emphasis, however,



was to establish scientific contacts and partnerships between participants from the Balkans and EU countries.

There was a total of 63 on-site participants, including 47 early-carrier scientists as “students”. The students came from European laboratories, mainly from BPU member countries. To our deep regret, several registered students from non-EU countries, in particular from Turkey, were not granted the required visas in good time.

The school programme featured 12 lectures by Luc Bergé (France), Radu Ioniciu (Romania), Aurelian Isar (Romania), Florian Marquardt (Germany), Tilman Pfau (Germany), Christophe Rossel (Switzerland), Marina Rotaru (Romania), Petra Rudolf (The Netherlands), Jörg Schmalian (Germany), Calin Alexandru Ur (Romania), Fabian Wolf (Germany), George Zoupanos (Greece). The lectures gave a comprehensive overview over fundamental quantum phenomena on all length and time scales, their role in the second quantum revolution in extending and enhancing established technologies as well as providing new applications.

The students were asked to present their research interests which enabled intensive

scientific exchange. A highlight was the visit to the Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI) in Măgurele, the world’s largest laser.

The EPS TIG organised their 5<sup>th</sup> “Hands on Event”. Thirty students - mostly from the Balkan region - attended, which started with a vivid presentation on career options for students, both in academia and industry, given by Petra Rudolf from the Netherlands. Jan Meijer from the Felix Bloch Institute of the University of Leipzig and co-founder of the company SaxonQ gave a detailed, yet comprehensible, insight into the field of quantum computing using Nitrogen Vacancy (NV)- centres in diamond as Qbits. The highlight of the talk was a short live demonstration of a simple quantum operation, on a remote table-top quantum computer in Leipzig, running the NV- centres as Qubits at room temperature.

The students then started the “Hand-On” part of the workshop guided by Stefan Kubsy with an in-depth presentation on how to use NV- centres as quantum magnetometers. After this, the students were divided into workgroups, each responsible for a defined subtask, but all with the final aim to get the experiment up, working, produce data, analyse the data and finally present the results. The KwanTek company sent its quantum educational platform « KwanTeach » together with the physicist Zohaib Khan, in order to optimise the build of the experimental setup. This is the special format of EPS TIG hands-on events: new, exciting and timely experiments with and for the students. After several hours, the students had managed all the above tasks and presented their work to all the audience.

The second day was filled by two detailed visits, the National Institute of Materials Physics and ELI.



# REPORTS BY EPS ACTION COMMITTEES

## EPS HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE | Chair: Karl GRANDIN

The year of 2025 saw four new EPS Historic Sites being inaugurated. They were the Accademia Galileiana in Padua, Italy, the City of Göttingen, Germany, The Villa Mondragone in the Alban Hills, Italy and the Heinrich Hertz Lecture Hall in Karlsruhe, Germany. In 2026 a few more Historic Sites are envisaged to follow.

Until 31 December 2025, 117 nominations have been received by the EPS Historic Sites Committee. Proposals can be made at any time from the EPS web site (link below). Of these proposals, 79 EPS Historic Sites have been inaugurated in 26 different countries at the end of 2025. The full list consists of:

1. The Goldfish Fountain of the Physics Institute of Panisperna Street – *Centro Fermi*, Rome, Italy, 20 April 2012
2. Laboratory “Les Cosmiques”, Col du Midi, Chamonix, France, 23 July 2012
3. Hoza 69, Warsaw, Poland, 10 January 2013
4. The Study of Bruno Pontecorvo – JINR, Dubna, Russia, 22 February 2013
5. The Hill of Arcetri, Florence, Italy, 17 May 2013
6. The Villa Griffone in Pontecchio Marconi, Bologna, Italy, 26 May 2013
7. The Observatory of Tycho Brahe, Hven Island, Landskrona, Sweden, 11 September 2013
8. The LAL-LURE Accelerator Complex, Orsay, Paris, France, 13 September 2013
9. PTB, Formerly PTR, The National Metrology Institute, Berlin, Germany, 8 October 2013
10. The Cathedral, Kamien Pomorski, Poland, 11 October 2013
11. The Neutrino Experiment at MTA Atomki, Debrecen, Hungary, 25 October 2013
12. The Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark, 3 December 2013
13. The AdA Storage Ring at the INFN Frascati National Laboratory, Frascati, Rome, Italy, 5 December 2013.
14. The European Birthplace of the Atomic Timekeeping – NPL, Teddington, UK, 31 January 2014
15. The Blackett Laboratory, London, UK, 30 April 2014
16. The Fabra Observatory, Barcelona, Spain, 9 May 2014
17. The Study of Georgi Nadjakov, Sofia, Bulgaria, 23 May 2014
18. The Synchro-Cyclotron, SC – CERN, Geneva, Switzerland, 19 June 2014
19. The Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratory and Lorentz Institute, Leiden, The Netherlands, 9 February 2015.



▲ The EPS Historic Site inauguration during the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology in Göttingen, which saw many fundamental contributions to quantum mechanics. EPS President, Prof. Mairi Sakellariadou, University President Prof. Axel Schölmerich, Göttingen's Mayor Petra Broistedt, Prof. Dr. Joachim Schachtner, Secretary of State Lower Saxony, Professor Arnulf Quadt, University of Göttingen and Prof. Dr. Sarah Köster Dean of Physics, University of Göttingen unveiled the plaque in the Göttingen Aula on April 1, 2025. The plaque was later placed in front of Forum Wissen. Photo: Göttingen University/Peter Heller

20. The Fisor Lutheran Secondary School, Budapest, Hungary, 23 April 2015
21. The Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, 6 May 2015
22. The Students Residence (Residencia de Estudiantes), Madrid, Spain, 13 May 2015
23. The Mount Vesuvius Observatory, Herculaneum, Naples, Italy, 23 May 2015
24. The Institute for Radium Research, Vienna, Austria, 28 May 2015
25. The Einstein House, Bern, Switzerland, as Joint APS-EPS Historic Site, 14 September 2015
26. The Hotel Metropole, Brussels, Belgium, 24 October 2015
27. The Ernst Mach Physics Institute, Prague, Czech Republic, 18 February 2016
28. The Cabinet of Physics of the University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal, 11 March 2016
29. The Former Physical Institute of the University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany, 7 June 2016
30. The “Piersanti Mattarella Tower of Thought” of the Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture, Erice, Italy, 21 August 2016
31. The Uddmanska House, Kungälv, Sweden, 29 October 2016
32. The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA, as Joint APS-EPS Historic Site, 9 November 2016
33. “Les Bastions” of the University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, 29 March 2017
34. H.H. Wills Physics Laboratory (Royal Fort) of the University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, 13 September 2017
35. IBM Research Laboratory, Rüschlikon, Zürich, Switzerland, 26 September 2017
36. The Philips NatLab, Eindhoven The Netherlands, 5 October 2017
37. The Curie Laboratory of the “Institut du Radium”, Paris, France, 7 November 2017
38. Magurele Physics Campus, Magurele, Romania, 15 November 2017
39. Institute of Spectroscopy, ISAN, Troitsk, Russia, 20 June 2018
40. Dunsink Observatory, Dublin, Ireland, 23 June 2018
41. Haldde Observatory, Alta, Norway, 26 August 2018
42. Laboratories of Kirchoff and Bunsen, Heidelberg, Germany, 1 October 2018
43. Old Physics Building of the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary, 12 October 2018
44. Laboratorio Bergara, Basque Country, Spain, 20 October 2018
45. Jungfrauoch Research Station, Switzerland, 8 February 2019
46. Institute of Physics of Archirafi Street, Palermo, Italy, 18 February 2019
47. Atominstitut, TU, Vienna, Austria, 21–22 May 2019
48. Holy Spirit College, Leuven, Belgium, 23 May 2019
49. The Former Physics Institute, Frankfurt am Main, 4 September 2019
50. Mendeleev’s Museum-Archive, St. Petersburg, Russia, 12 September 2019
51. Birr Castle, Demesne, Ireland, 20 September 2019
52. Institute for High Voltage Engineering, RWTH, Aachen, Germany, 30 September 2019
53. The Academy of Sciences of the Bologna Institute, Italy, 7 November 2019
54. The Physics Department at the University of Dundee, UK, 2 December 2019
55. Les Houches School of Physics, Les Houches, France, 5 October 2020
56. Sonnenborgh Observatory, The Netherlands, 7 April 2021
57. City of Jena, Germany, 7 June 2021
58. A.J. Ångström Physics Institute, Uppsala, Sweden, 6 August 2021
59. Ampère House, Lyon (Poleymieux), France, 6 October 2021
60. Cyclotron Hall, Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium, 12 October 2021
61. Magnus-Haus, Berlin, Germany, 15 October 2021
62. Old Department of Physics, Lund, Sweden, 10 May 2022
63. Zeeman Laboratory, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 25 May 2022
64. Theodor von Grothuss Laboratory, Gedučiai/ Žeimelis, 2 July 2022
65. The Aldo Pontremoli Institute of Complementary Physics, Milan, Italy, 16 September 2022
66. Meteorological Observatory, Zagreb, Croatia, 23 September 2022
67. Victor Franz Hess Messtation, Haflekar/ Innsbruck, Austria, 29 September 2022
68. Institut d’Études Scientifiques de Cargèse, France, 7 October 2022
69. Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory, Finland, 8 December 2022
70. Racah Institute of Physics, Jerusalem, Israel, 19 April 2023
71. Faculty of Physics, (UAIC), Iași, Romania, 22 May 2023
72. Mansion of Misa Anastasijevic, Belgrade, Serbia, 15 September 2023
73. Stachelschützenhaus, Basel, Switzerland, 22 September 2023
74. Institut de Physique Nucléaire Orsay, France, 13 October 2023
75. Institute of Physics, University of Graz, Austria, 7 June 2024
76. The Accademia Galileiana, Padua, Italy, 18 January 2025
77. City of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, 1 April 2025
78. The Villa Mondragone, Alban Hills, Italy, 9 June 2025
79. Heinrich Hertz Lecture Hall at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany, 30 October 2025

<https://www.eps.org/what-we-do/distinctions/eps-historic-sites/>

The HS Committee examines proposals three times per year. A few more sites have been approved and await inaugurations in 2026.

Members of the EPS HS Committee during 2025 were: Karl Grandin (Chair), Luisa Cifarelli, Goran Djordjević, Ursel Fantz, Alain Fontaine and Jim Hough. Representing the EPS Young Minds Hripsime Mkrtchyan. The chair and the communication coordinator at EPS Mulhouse, Gina Gunaratnam, work together on the nominations.

For each inauguration event, an EPS HS plaque is unveiled in the presence of local representatives and authorities. The EPS President or another representative (Past President or Member of the EPS Executive Committee or Member of the EPS HS Committee) attends the ceremony. For each ceremony, some news is published right away in the electronic newsletter e-EPS and on the EPS web site, and an extended article is published afterwards in EPN.

## YOUNG MINDS | Chair: Carmen Martin

Young Minds (YM) is an European Physical Society (EPS) programme launched in 2010 with the aim of bringing together students and early career researchers in Physics and fostering excellence among them by encouraging the creation of local groups called Sections and ensuring the possibility to access an annual budget to carry out student-led activities falling in three main categories: outreach, networking and professional development. Young Minds has now reached 14 years of activity with 116 Sections in 38 countries. Of those 116 Sections, 82 in 33 countries are considered active, *e.g.* they have recently applied for funding or attended the leadership meeting in the past 2 years.

### Programme Management and Action Committee

The full Young Minds Action Committee (AC) comprises EPS President Mairi Sakellariadou, EPS General Secretary Anne Pawsey, EPS Programme leader Ophélie Fornari, Carmen Martín Valderrama (chair, Spain), Anna Grigoryan (Armenia), Carlos Damián Rodríguez (Spain), Lasha Dalakishvili (France), Serina Al-Massu (Germany), Pasquale Francesco Romano (Italy) and Tsovinar Karapetyan (Armenia). Mattia Ostinato (former chair, Spain) is leaving the AC, although remains as a supporting member.

A new AC call has been launched in 2025, from which no candidate has been selected.

To further support Sections, a quick guide to a successful YM grant application – key do's and don'ts and must-knows, has been created and included in the webpage. It is intended to improve both the quality and efficiency of applications (<https://www.epsyoungminds.org/benefits/activity-grant/>).

Following the nation-based approach started in 2021, the YM network is split into six geographical zones, and each zone is assigned to an AC member, which serves as a direct contact point for the Sections within that zone. The Section distribution is kept the same as the previous year, as seen in Figure 1.

During 2025 the AC met in person once, the 4<sup>th</sup> of June in Santiago de Compostela (Spain), before the Leadership Meeting. Additionally, we have online monthly meetings on the last Friday of each month, plus special online meetings for the grant evaluations.

### Section Development and Grants

In 2025 the programme established 5 new Sections: Murcia's Young Minds Section (Spain), La Laguna Young Minds Section (Spain), Universidad de Alicante (Spain), Georgian Technical University Young

Minds (Georgia), Zaragoza Young Minds Section (Spain), and UAB Young Minds Section (Spain).

The Sections are entitled to apply for an Activity Grant twice a year, which can provide a maximum annual funding of 1000 € per Section. This type of grant supports activities falling in at least one of these four categories: outreach, networking, professional development, and section management. The section management category was recently implemented, it considers expenses related to the maintenance of your section, section meetings, promotional materials or any other purchase which is not connected to a specific activity but it is planned to be used in multiple activities.

There are two deadlines per year – January 15<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>. Table 1 summarizes the figures involving the 2025 Activity Grants, including the total number of applications, the number of those approved, the total amount of requested funding, and the amount granted for each deadline.

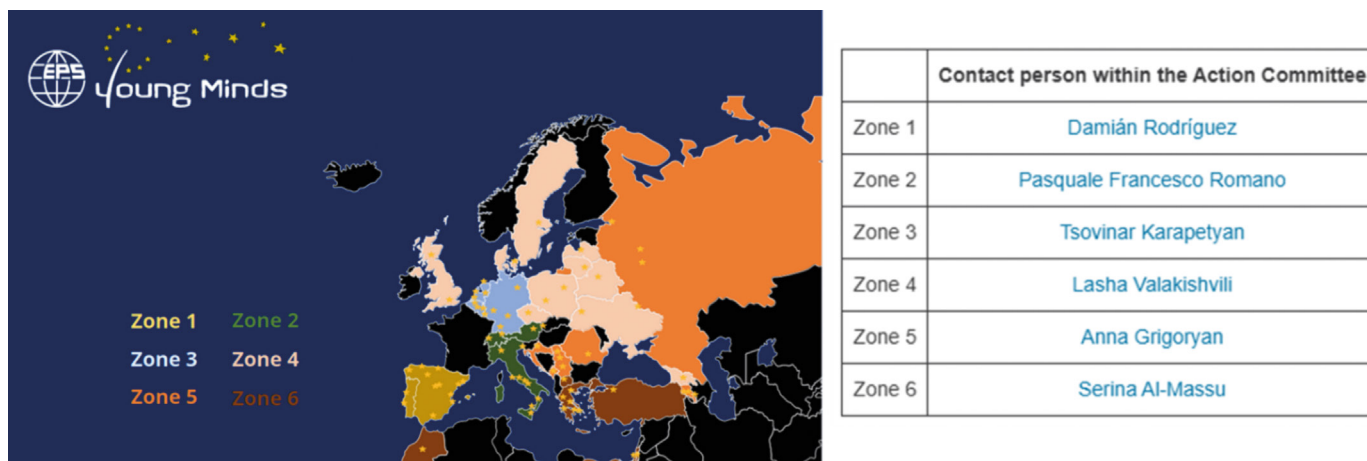
Compared to previous years, the number of Activity Grants applications has grown (90 compared to 84 in 2024, 72 in 2023 and 2022 and 55 in 2021) and it has increased compared to the pre-pandemic situation. Although there is a difference in the number of grant applications received in January and July, the total

2025 ACTIVITY GRANTS	REQUESTS	APPROVED WITH FULL AMOUNT	APPROVED WITH REDUCED AMOUNT	TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED (€)	TOTAL AMOUNT GRANTED (€)
January 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	52	12 (63%)	27 (30%)	12.873,40	8.235
July 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	38	15 (52%)	14 (28%)	8.362	6.072
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>21.235,40</b>	<b>14.304</b>

▲ Table 1. Summary of the 2025 Activity Grants.

▼ Table 2. Summary of the 2025 Young Minds Conference Awards (YMCAs).

2025 YMCA	REQUEST	APPROVED WITH FULL AMOUNT	APPROVED WITH REDUCED AMOUNT	TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED (€)	TOTAL AMOUNT GRANTED (€)
January 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	3	1 (33%)	0 (33%)	3.420	950
April 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	3	1 (33%)	1 (33%)	3.000	1.800
July 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	1	1 (100%)	0 (33%)	1.000	1.000
October 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7.420</b>	<b>3.750</b>



▲ Figure 1. Distribution into 6 geographical zones and corresponding AC contact person for each zone.

amount requested and granted has decreased: in 2025 it was requested 21.235,40 € and granted 14.304 €, and in 2024 it was requested 28.842,27 € and granted 21.664,40 €.

Starting in January 2019, the AC introduced the Young Minds Conference Award (YMCA), designed to support conferences or sessions organized by YM Sections. YMCAs have been introduced to raise the visibility of the EPS YM programme during large events involving the scientific community. The applicants are requested to guarantee a timeslot to present the YM project during the event. Table 2 summarizes the figures involving the 2025 YMCAs, including the total number of applications, the number of those approved, the total amount of requested funding, and the amount granted for each deadline.

The number of YMCA applications in 2025 (7 applications) has decreased as compared to 2024 and 2023 (11 and 11 applications), as well as the budget granted (2025: 3.750 €, 2024: 8.141 €, and 2023: 7.310 €). Sections are assisted during the grant submission process, and especially for the YMCA the AC provides feedback and the possibility to resubmit the grant, in a sort of peer review process that helps both parties.

Taking the Activity Grant and the YMCA applications together, the YM Programme has granted in 2025 a total amount of 18.054 € to Sections distributed over 13 different countries. While the traditionally strong mediterranean cluster of very active Sections in Italy, Spain, Greece and Portugal received about 50 %

of the funding (9.117 €), it is gratifying to see that Sections in Armenia, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, and Germany are very well established and active within the YM network, having been granted every year since 2022. Figure 2 summarizes how the approved funding is distributed over the different countries within the YM network.

### Young Minds and European Physical Society

The organization of YM sessions during EPS sponsored and recognized conferences started in 2018 to increase the synergy between YM and other EPS Divisions and Groups. Following the work done in the past year, the AC worked towards continuing these collaborations, with many AC members involved in first person.

- The 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of July were the dates that encompassed the National Optics Congress 2025 at DTU. Lasha Dalakishvili participated representing the YM Programme in a session dedicated to “From PhD to CEO”. It was organized as a panel discussion, oriented to young researchers in learning about science and technology entrepreneurship.
- On May 4<sup>th</sup>, Carlos Damián Rodríguez-Fernández represented YM at the EPJ Scientific Advisory Committee at the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen. He took part in important discussions with publishers, editors and society delegates from across Europe on how

to make scientific publishing more inclusive and supportive for early career researchers.

- On June 27<sup>th</sup> YM and OPTICA co-hosted a career event “From PhD to CEO” for early-career researchers at CLEO Europe-EQEC. Moderated by Claus Roll (OPTICA) and Mattia Ostinato (YM), this session focused on different strategies to make the leap from academia to industry.
- The 27<sup>th</sup> of September YM and AISF joined the 111<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Italian Physical Society in Palermo. Pasqualino collaborated in the Youth Section “Start your quantum journey”, which was dedicated to the world of quantum technology and the careers around it.

In addition to these contributions held in conferences organized by the EPS Divisions and groups, YM also organized sessions during the meetings and conferences of some of the Member Societies of EPS, strengthening its ties also with National Physical Societies.

### Leadership Meeting

The meeting gathered 54 Section delegates, coming from 25 Sections. The allocated budget to this event was 18000 €. The final amount needed for the organization (accommodation of the attendees, lunches, social dinner, reception cocktail, social event venue, city tour and traditional

music reception), the traveling grants for attendees (100 euros each, 200 exceptionally) and for the AC accommodation and travel summed up to 15600 €, being satisfactory below the intended budget.

The program of the Leadership Meeting included:

- Physics talks: “The wonders of the Universe: a guided tour” by Mairi Sakellariadou, “From attoscience, measuring attosecond dynamics” by Bárbara Buades, “Evolving Quarks: probing the early universe with jets” by Meijian Li, and “Computations design of quantum materials by Victor Pardo.
- “From PhD to CEO” roundtable with Pablo Cabanelas (Neutron Insights) and Bárbara Buades (MEETOPTICS).
- A workshop dedicated to mental health, a recurrent issue for those pursuing a PhD degree. It included three different activities: The body scan practice, Autogenic training, and Progressive muscle relaxation.
- “Preparing for a successful faculty career” talk by Paulo Ferreira.
- Networking activities and Poster sessions, where delegates had the opportunity to present their Sections’ activities, learn about those of other groups and share ideas and experiences in a friendly and welcoming environment. The Best Activity award by EPL was awarded to

Yerevan YM and Milan YM. The winners received certificates from EPL and 250 euro each.

In consideration of the large number of participants, the great talks provided by the invited speakers, and the lively and insightful discussions that took place over the two days, the 2025 Leadership Meeting can be considered a large success. A more detailed summary of the event is given in [Europhysics News 56/4](#).

### Young Minds publications in European Physical Society Journals and Magazines

A new section in each issue of Europhysics News (EPN) dedicated to YM was established in 2020. Serina Al-Massu and Carmen Martín are the corresponding persons in charge of this contribution.

The articles published as YM contribution in EPN in 2025 are:

- [“What are the professional prospects of a scientific degree?”](#) (EPN 56/1).
- [“EPS young minds sparks - Primary education through physics”](#) (EPN 56/2).
- [“A dynamic editorial board to bridge the gap between early career researchers and scientific publishing”](#) (EPN 56/3).
- [“Behind the scenes of international conferences: the 13<sup>th</sup> Young Minds Leadership Meeting”](#) (EPN 56/4).

- [“From Aerospace to Quantum: Bridging the Gap in the Quantum Revolution”](#) (EPN 56/5).

Furthermore, YM continued in 2025 to occasionally publish on e-EPS, the online magazine of EPS with Tsovinar Karapetyan as the contact person within the AC for the e-EPS. However, we increased our visibility through social media.

### Young Minds in Social Media

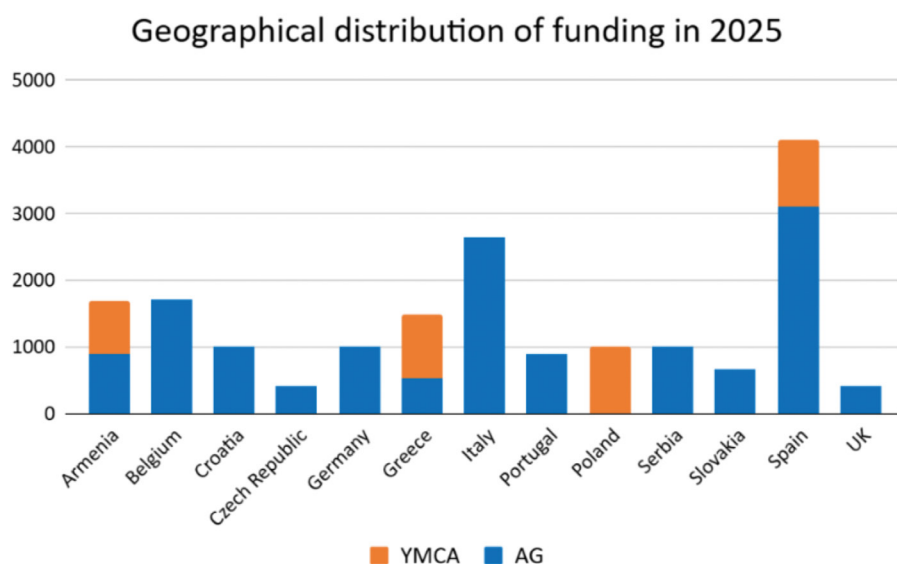
YM have active accounts on Instagram and Linked-in, with 543 followers on Instagram and 763 on Linked-in. There were 15 posts on Instagram with a range between 7 and 104 likes. On Linked-in the number of posts is 17, with a higher engagement and interactions with the network. Lasha Dalakishvili and Anna Grigoryan are in charge of the posts on Social Media.

### Other activities

Starting in 2023, the YM Programme has been the first network of early career Physicists to be granted permanent representation in the **Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the European Physical Journals (EPJ)**. The AC has decided that the YM representative will be an AC member and will be replaced every year. The AC member representing YM in the EPJ-SAC in 2024 was Mattia Ostinato, C. Damián Rodríguez Fernández was chosen for 2025. YM participated in the EPJ-SAC annual meeting that took place on 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2025 in Copenhagen, Denmark. There, Damián exposed the advances in the Young Minds-EPJ collaboration to promote early careers in physics as the corner stone of the renewal of the EPJ T&I journal editorial board. During that meeting, the proposed Editors-in-Chief, which will be mentors of the early-career editors, were revealed: Giorgio Benedek, Luisa Cifarelli, Antigone Marino and Günter Reiter.

Starting in 2024, a collaboration was established between the **EPJ journal Techniques and Instrumentation** (EPJ T&I) and EPS Young Minds (YM). A memorandum of understanding

▼ **Figure 2.** Geographical distribution of the total funding granted by the AC in 2025 to the YM network. Blue bars indicate Activity Grants, orange bars indicate YMCAs.



between EPJ and YM was formalized, defining the responsibilities of both parties. Following this agreement, the journal's aims and scope were jointly updated. An article introducing the journal was published in Europhysics News. In addition, a call for Early Career Editors was launched through the EPS YM's website and social media channels and disseminated among YM and EPS members. A total of 20 applications were received, from which eight Early Career Researchers were selected as editors of the journal. The selected candidates were formally endorsed by the Editors-in-Chief of EPJ T&I. After an extended period of coordinated effort, the journal is officially launched. Future activities include continued promotion of the journal and the establishment of a sustainable process for the selection of future candidates. Damián Rodríguez, Mattia Ostinato, and Anna Grigoryan have been involved in this project.

The AC designated a member, C. Damián Rodríguez Fernández, to participate as a representative in the Education Working Group in charge of updating the EPS specifications for the European bachelor's degrees in physics. This working group has been meeting periodically since May 2024 and it has done significant advances in the writing of a new specification document. The Young Minds representative has actively provided feedback to the document, with a focus on relevant topics for

early careers, such as the need of reinforcing the programming skills during the courses, the value of strengthening the university-society interaction via service-learning approaches, and the incorporation of artificial intelligence in the curriculum. The updated specifications are expected to be published in 2026.

YM applied in October 2025 to the **HORIZON-MSCA-2025-CITIZENS-01-01**, with a consortium with Esencia (Coordinator) and AECC La Asociación Española Contra el Cáncer (associated partner). The total budget of the call is €350,000 (maximum allowed, with €175,000 allocated for each edition), with a project duration of 19 months (April 2026 – September 2027). The project's main activity consists of the following three actions: (i) Future Meets Future – A 'Researchers at Schools' programme implemented in at least eight EU Member States, with students interacting with young researchers both in their educational centres and in research institutions during the 2026/27 academic year. (ii) Discovery in Town – Twelve actions held in towns and small localities across at least five EU Member States during Researchers' Night week, led by participating researchers. (iii) Science Connect Cities – Fifteen events in European cities across eight countries, beginning on 25 and 24 September 2026 and 2027, broadcast live and featuring interactive connections between them.

## Outlook to 2026

In 2026, the YM programme will continue to consolidate its role as a key platform for early-career physicists within the EPS, while also exploring new avenues for growth and impact. The new chair of the programme will be chosen in the 2026 LM.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Leadership Meeting will be organized alongside the EPS Council in Vilnius, from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of May. Holding the meeting in conjunction with the EPS Council is expected to further strengthen the visibility of Young Minds within the EPS Executive Committee and to promote dialogue between early-career researchers and senior representatives of the physics community.

A particular focus in 2026 will be placed on increasing the engagement of under-represented regions within the YM network, both by encouraging the creation of new Sections and by supporting existing ones through targeted guidance during the grant application process.

Finally, subject to the outcome of the HORIZON-MSCA-2025-CITIZENS-01-01 call, 2026 may mark the beginning of a significant expansion of YM outreach activities at the European level. If funded, the proposed project will provide new opportunities for YM Sections to engage with schools, local communities, and the general public, reinforcing the programme's long-term mission of connecting physics, young researchers, and society.

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE | Chair: Marian REIFFERS

The Conference Committee from February 2025 consisted of the following members: Milan Milicevic (secretary), Alice Valkárová, Els de Wolf, Teresa Peña and Marian Reiffers (chair).

The situation with the organisation of conferences was similar to the previous year. However, it is still not at the level before 2019. During 2025 and the beginning of 2026 we have in total 19 applications. We approved all of them after clarification of missing information. One could see that

there was no increasing number of conferences. This is still less than before COVID. We expect that situation will be better. The approved conferences are on the EPS website. We have a well elaborated system of work. Applications are presented to all members of the committee. Sometimes there was some delay with the answer of some members.

Conferences, Workshops, and Summer Schools are essential elements in the personal communication of physics, the career

development of physicists, the promotion of physics towards students and young scientists, and the reputation and credibility of the EPS and physics. The role of the Conference Committee is to advise the EPS Executive Committee on the development of all activities and programmes in the area of such scientific events and to administer EPS Conference grants.

I would like to thank all members of the committee for their responses, especially Alice Valkárová.

## DISTINCTIONS AND AWARD COMMITTEE | Co-Chairs: Anna DI CIACCIO, Luisa CIFARELLI

### Members:

Richard DENDY,  
 Enrique DIEZ FERNANDEZ,  
 Lukas GALLMANN,  
 and ex-officio  
 Anne PAWSEY,  
 <Mairi SAKELLARIADOU

### Relaunching the Alessandro Volta Prize with a New Sponsor

The Awards and Distinctions (A&D) Committee of the European Physical Society (EPS), cochaired by Luisa Cifarelli and Anna Di Ciaccio, reported on its activities in 2025 and presented several updates to EPS prizes and distinctions. The Committee reviewed the EPS Central Prizes, and its recommendations were subsequently endorsed by the EPS Executive Committee.

A major development concerns the revival of the EPS Volta Prize, which had been discontinued in 2020 due to the loss of sponsorship. Thanks to a new sponsorship agreement with Acinque S.p.A., the prize

has been re-established as the Alessandro Volta Prize for three editions (2025, 2027, and 2029). Each edition includes a €10,000 cash award for the winner(s) and funding for a one-day scientific workshop in Como. The first award will be announced at the 2026 EPS Council Meeting in Vilnius, with the award ceremony planned to take place in Como in autumn 2026.

The EPS Emmy Noether Distinction for Women in Physics continues to recognize two laureates each year—one early- to mid-career researcher and one senior scientist—thereby highlighting excellence and promoting role models for women in physics. From 2025 onward, this distinction will also include a cash award, financed initially by EPS and, in the future, by an external sponsor (to be identified).

Changes were also introduced to the EPS Early Career Awards. From 2025, only one award per year will be granted, regardless of whether the recipient is a theorist or an experimentalist.

Eligibility is defined as fewer than six

years post-PhD, and the prize now consists of a medal and a €1,000 cash award.

The Gero Thomas Commemorative Medal remains the sole EPS distinction for outstanding service to the Society, following the discontinuation of the EPS Achievement Award due to significant overlap in scope.

No updates were provided regarding EPS Fellows and Honorary Members. However, a new selection committee has been established to identify future Honorary Members, with the total number of living EPS Honorary Members capped at 30.

Finally, the Committee presented a new set of regulations for EPS prizes, which were endorsed by the Executive Committee. These guidelines emphasize the maintenance of high standards alongside increased attention to diversity, gender balance, and geographical representation.

They also promote transparency in announcements and require a minimum number of nominees per prize to ensure fairness and visibility.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE | Chair: Petra RUDOLF

The Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC) of the European Physical Society is entrusted with advancing diversity, equity and inclusive access across the full spectrum of professional life in physics. Its remit is to foster an environment in which all physicists—irrespective of gender, ethnicity or nationality—can pursue careers, access professional resources, and contribute to the discipline on equal terms. To this end, the EOC advocates fair and transparent treatment in recruitment, career progression, networking, publishing, and participation in conferences and other scholarly fora, and it actively opposes discriminatory or predatory conduct in any professional setting. The EOC monitors gender representation in EPS activities and in major scientific events, and promotes balanced participation in boards, divisions and groups, conference committees, and related decision-making bodies.

It organises and contributes to workshops, sessions, and publications aimed at heightening awareness of persistent gender disparities and at encouraging the adoption of evidence-based, proactive measures. At the same time, the Committee's mandate extends beyond gender equality alone. It encompasses the broader objective of widening participation in physics and physics education among individuals from underrepresented ethnic backgrounds and nationalities, thereby strengthening the discipline through a more inclusive and representative community.

### Composition of the EPS EOC

In 2025, the EPS EOC comprised 6 members. They are:

- Nadia MARTUCCIELLO, CNR Spin, Italy, EPS CMD
- Elizabeth RACHLEW, Uppsala University, Sweden, EPS AMOPD

- Ana PROYKOVA, University of Sofia, Bulgaria, EPS NPD
- Hripsime MKRTCHYAN, University of Reading, U.K., EPS EPD
- Ian BEARDEN, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, EPS HEPPD EPS Executive Committee
- Petra RUDOLF, University of Groningen, NL, EPS CMD, chair

The Members of the EOC met online on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### Emmy Noether Distinction

To enhance the visibility and recognition of women in physics, the EOC selects the awardees of the EPS Emmy Noether Distinction for Women in Physics. Candidates are assessed on the basis of their scientific contributions, demonstrated leadership as principal investigators, engagement in research governance and service on committees or editorial boards,



## COMMITTEE ON EUROPE INTEGRATION | Chair: Gertrud ZWICKNAGL

### Members:

Ekaterina Batchvarova, Bulgaria  
 Radu Constantinescu, Romania  
 Goran Djordjević, Serbia  
 Danica Krtovska, North-Macedonia  
 Dénes Lajos Nagy, Hungary  
 Leszek Sirko, Poland  
 Sofoklis Sotiriou, Greece

### The strategy of the EPS-CEI

In 2025 the Committee of European Integration kept its general strategy of promoting Physics across Central, Eastern and Southern parts of Europe through activities on the following directions:

1. Integrating the access to research infrastructures in Europe
2. Student training through a School Program supported by EPS
3. Physics education and teacher training
4. Strengthening the regional cooperation among EPS Member Societies and other regional organizations.
5. Promotion of physics in the regions.

### Planned activities in 2025

For 2025 the EPS-EIC planned the following actions:

1. Participation of EPS-EIC members in the BPU12 Congress in Bucharest  
 Organization of a committee meeting in Bucharest

2. Support of IPSEC in Katowice
3. Organization of physics schools within the frame of the SEENET-MTP training programme
4. Support of the Balkan Physics Olympiad BPO-7 in Ohrid, North Macedonia
5. Organization of a WE Heraeus-BPU School on “Frontiers in Quantum Science and Technologies” in Bucharest, celebrating UNESCO’s ‘International Year of Quantum Science & Technology’
6. Promotion of the cooperation in Europe; special attention given to scientists from Albania, Moldova, Ukraine

The total budget for these activities was 13.000,00 € including a carry-forward of 1.000,00€ from 2024

### Actions taken by EPS-EIC were

1. BPU12 congress in Bucharest  
 A report has been published in eEPS <https://eps.org/the-12th-bpu-congress-in-bucharest-july-2025/>  
 Meeting (hybrid) of EPS-EIC on July 11, 2025 in Bucharest  
 Digital meeting on December 03, 2025, 11:00-13:00
2. Gertrud Zwicknagl participated in the 49<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Polish Physicists, September 05-11, 2025 in Katowice, in particular in IPSEC on September 05, 2025.

The EPS-EIC supported IPSEC by providing travel support for representatives of EPS Member Societies. A report and a copy of Gertrud Zwicknagl’s presentation can be found [here](#).

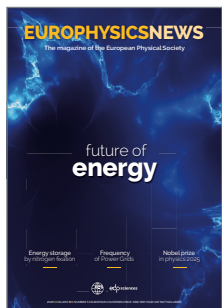
3. A summer school was organized as satellite event of BPU12 within the frame of the CERN-SEENET-MTP program.
4. The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Balkan Physical Olympiad (BPO-7) took place in Ohrid, North Macedonia, June 26-30, 2025
5. In connection with UNESCO’s International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, a WE-Heraeus-BPU School on Quantum Science and Technology was organized in Bucharest. It was a satellite event of the BPU12 Congress. EPS-EIC supported the school by providing travel support for lecturers and students. A report was published in eEPS <https://eps.org/we-heraeus-school-on-frontiers-in-quantum-science-and-technologies/>
6. EIC-EPS provided travel support for the promotion of cooperation in Europe. This includes travel support for scientists from North Macedonia to participate in a Les Houches Summer School and to scientists from Ukraine to participate the EPS recognized conference on Ferroelectricity in Katowice

For financial details see the balance sheet.

PLANNED ACTIVITY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	ACTIVITIES IN 2025	AMOUNT SPENT	DIFFERENCE
Participation of EIC members in on-site committee meeting in Bucharest and in BPU12	2.000 €	In-person meeting on July 11, 2025 Hotel Bucharest (July 11/12) Meals (July 11, 2026)	2.000 €	—
Support of IPSEC organized jointly with 49 <sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Polish Physical Society, Katowice, Poland (September 05-11, 2025)	2.000 €	IPSEC	2.000 €	—
Support for a new edition of the South-Eastern European PhD School in partnership with CERN and ICTP Trieste	2.500 €	PhD School in Bucharest	2.500 €	—
Seventh edition of the Balkan Physics Olympiad (BPO7) in North Macedonia	2.500 €	BPO7	3.000 €	-500 €
WE Heraeus-BPU School	2.000 €	Travel support students (989,44 €) Travel support lecturers (1.311,64 €)	2.301,08 €	-301,08 €
Promotion of cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, as well as the participation of young researchers in Summer Schools or conferences jointly organized with EPS	2.000 €	Travel students → TIG School (500 €) Travel Zwicknagl → Katowice (694,32 €) Travel Vojin Mitrevski → Les Houches (259,92 €) Travel To EMF-15 (236,96 €)	1.691,20 €	+308,80 €
Sum:	13.000 €		13.492,28 €	-492,28€

# JOURNALS REPORTS 2025

## EUROPHYSICS NEWS (EPN)



**Chief Editor:**  
Antigone Marino

**Science Editor:**  
Ferenc Iglói

EuroPhysics News (EPN) is the official magazine of the European Physical Society (EPS). It is published quarterly, with a special issue released at the end of each year. The magazine is produced in collaboration with the scientific publisher EDP Sciences. Printed copies are distributed to all Individual Members of EPS and many institutional subscribers. Additionally, most European National Societies receive EPN for further distribution. Digital versions are archived by EDP Sciences on [europhysics-news.org](http://europhysics-news.org), while EPS maintains a digital repository of the magazine at [epn.eps.org](http://epn.eps.org).

Approximately 15% of EPN's pages are dedicated to EPS related issues, 60% to physics, and 25% to commercial advertisements, managed by EDP Sciences.

### EPS in the magazine

EPN serves as a key communication platform for EPS activities at multiple levels. Each issue begins with an EPN Editorial, written by the EPS President, highlighting important EPS policies and statements. The EPS News section features reports from the EPS Secretary General and the e-EPS editor, providing in-depth insights into ongoing developments within and around EPS. The EPS Young Minds reports on its activities across Europe on every issue.

Among the five issues, a double-thickness Special Issue is published every year. This issue also includes the EPS directory, listing members of various committees, divisions, and groups, along with the names of EPS award laureates and newly inaugurated EPS Historic Sites.

### A Physics Magazine for Physicists

EPN is created by physicists, for physicists. Both its authors and editors contribute voluntarily, in line with the magazine's mission as a publication of a scientific foundation. It serves as a platform for exchanging ideas within the physics community. Invited authors can showcase their research projects and ideas to a broad physics audience. Early-career researchers use EPN as a platform to introduce themselves and gain visibility for their work. More senior physicists often discuss topics related to science policy and diplomacy. The most experienced authors frequently write about the history of physics. All authors, especially early-career researchers, appreciate the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) provided by EDP Sciences, which enhances the visibility and credibility of their publications. In a way, EPN acts as a publishing playground for the physics community.

In 2025, 78 authors contributed to the Features section, which consisted of 33 scientific papers.

### Mini themes in 2025

In 2025 the mini themes of the regular issues were 'AI for Physics', 'Soft Matter Physics', 'Cultural Heritage' and 'Future of Energy'. Selecting these mini themes early allows editors to reach out to authors in advance and facilitates the acquisition of targeted advertisements by EDP Sciences. Additionally, European journals such as EPL and EPJ can promote related articles or special issues within these themes.

### Probing the Universe in the Special Issue Quantum Science and Technologies in the Special Issue

In celebration of the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ) 2025, the EPN Special Issue 2025 is dedicated to the remarkable advances and applications of quantum science. This issue highlights the transformative impact of quantum

technologies across a wide range of sectors, including computing, communication, cryptography, and sensing. It not only celebrates key historical milestones in the development of quantum science, but also looks ahead to the innovations that will shape the future, underscoring the crucial role of continued research and collaboration in this rapidly evolving field. The EPN Special Issue on Quantum Science and Technologies was distributed for free during the CLEO Europe conference 2025 held in Munich.

### InfograPhysics

In 2025, EPN introduced InfograPhysics, an innovative initiative aimed at communicating complex physical phenomena through visually compelling scientific infographics. Built on this philosophy, InfograPhysics translates the beauty and intricacy of physics into images that inform, inspire, and educate. Five graphics across five issues tell the physics behind modern technologies, and the phenomena we encounter in everyday life.

### The editors team

In 2025, the EPN editorial team consisted of Antigone Marino (Chief Editor) Ferenc Iglói (Science Editor), Anne Pawsey (Executive Editor), Xavier de Araujo (graphic designer), and Agnès Henri (Director of publication).

### The External Advisory Board

The editorial team is supported by an External Advisory Board (EAB) of distinguished specialists who suggest authors and review feature articles. The Editors would like to express their sincere gratitude to the EAB members for their invaluable support and guidance: Vittorio Aita (UK), Bernardo Gonçalves Almeida (PT), Teresa Cacace (IT), Rebecca Ingle (UK), Jose Lado (FI), Marek Lewitowicz (FR), Carmen Martín Valderrama (ES), Virginie Ponsinet (FR), Arnulf Quadt (DE), Sylvain Viroulet (FR), Victor Velasco (ES), Ivo van Vulpen (NL), Rüdiger Voss (CH), Els de Wolf (NL) and Manuel Güdel (AT).

## EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHYSICS (EJP)



**Editor in Chief:**  
Stefano Oss

**Publisher,**  
**IOP Publishing:**  
Sophia Marcellia

### Executive summary

IOP Publishing is pleased to report to the Council another successful year for European Journal of Physics (EJP). The journal continues to deliver on its dual aims of supporting and catering to the needs of the growing field of physics education research, as well as acting as the primary source for all newly qualified physics lecturers during their training by providing

valuable resources to them.

IOP Publishing is also delighted to report that there has been a steady financial contribution to the European Physical Society, of £119,851 (EUR 141,528). This represents a small decrease of £5,211 (EUR 2,172) compared to the previous year, due to a small increase in costs (*i.e.*, larger number of *EJP* board members attending the board meeting in London).

Submissions to *EJP* increased by 26% in 2025; submissions increased across all geographic regions, with the exception of Africa. The jump in submissions follows an IOPP-wide trend whereby most of our journals have seen an increase, mostly from countries such as China and India. Despite the large increase in total submissions, acceptances have increased to a

lesser extent, 4% in 2025. This reflects the ethos of the journal to uphold the standards of high-quality articles, and to meet the needs of the community by acting as the primary source for any newly qualified physics lecturers. The only region to show a drop in acceptances compared to 2024 is North America.

### Editorial activity

The editorial board continues to offer invaluable support to the journal, by acting as guest editors for focus collections, contributing and commissioning high quality content, and promoting the journal at conferences. There have been a few changes to the editorial board in 2025; Hanno Essén has retired from his role, having served as a board member for over a decade. We have also retired our previous Editor-in-Chief, Mojca Čepič, and Physics Education Research, Cedric Linder, as their respective terms came to an end in the final quarter of 2025.

IOPP launched a new hiring process for Editors and Editorial Board members in early 2025, which involved having an open call for applications, advertising the position, and carefully vetting the candidates. This new policy was applied in the search for the new Editor-in-Chief of the journal, as previously this position had typically been passed from one board member to another. During the open call, we received nine applications, which was the highest amount of interest seen amongst IOPP journals advertising respective positions. Out of those nine applications, we interviewed two strong candidates, and we decided to hire both applicants given that we had an upcoming vacancy for an editor position on *EJP*. Our new recruits are:

**Editor-in-Chief: Stefano Oss, Physics Education Professor at the University of Trento in Italy**

Stefano has long-standing experience with *EJP*, having both extensively

Geographic region	ORIGINAL SUBMISSIONS (BY RECEIVED YEAR)					ACCEPTANCES (BY FINAL DECISION YEAR)				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Africa	53	42	34	39	<b>37</b>	3	0	1	2	<b>2</b>
Asia	291	253	238	258	<b>326</b>	45	17	25	30	<b>37</b>
Australia / NZ	29	18	11	9	<b>13</b>	14	6	2	4	<b>3</b>
Cent/s. America	69	39	56	58	<b>72</b>	25	8	9	19	<b>21</b>
Europe	189	200	185	198	<b>215</b>	71	58	53	72	<b>76</b>
Middle East	86	61	63	59	<b>76</b>	10	7	3	4	<b>6</b>
N. America	122	98	101	79	<b>117</b>	41	41	19	37	<b>24</b>
UK	24	25	18	14	<b>23</b>	8	4	5	6	<b>12</b>

▲ Table 1.

▼ Table 2.

Article type	ORIGINAL SUBMISSIONS (BY RECEIVED YEAR)					ACCEPTANCES (BY FINAL DECISION YEAR)				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Papers	832	702	621	533	<b>696</b>	203	131	104	160	<b>155</b>
Review	23	22	18	13	<b>23</b>	3	0	4	2	<b>3</b>
Special Issue/Focus	11	2	54	152	<b>148</b>	2	2	2	7	<b>17</b>
Other	12	14	10	16	<b>12</b>	9	8	7	5	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>181</b>

reviewed for the journal and published in it. Stefano has extensive experience in advanced physics education, curriculum innovation, and research in the pedagogy of physics, with his main research interests being Physics Education, former experimental atomic physics and algebraic theory of molecular spectroscopy. Stefano has long regarded the *European Journal of Physics* as a key forum for rigorous, reflective, and forward-thinking approaches to physics education. As a researcher and educator with a background in both physics and the didactics of science, he is strongly motivated to support the Journal's mission at a time when the role of physics education is being redefined by technological change, societal challenges, and pedagogical innovation. Having already served as the only European member of the Editorial Board of *The Physics Teacher*, and as a regular referee for international journals, he wishes to bring this experience to a European context, fostering exchange between communities that are often too disconnected. Contributing to the Journal's direction would also align closely with his long-standing commitment to improving how physics is taught, understood, and contextualised—especially for new generations of learners and teachers.

**Deputy Editor: César Mora, Professor at the National Polytechnic Institute in Mexico City, Mexico**

César has been on the editorial board of Latin American journals in the field of EJP, as well as acted as EiC for the Latin American Journal of Physics Education. César has many ties with various Latin American societies, which will help the journal expand its geography, in terms of the editorial board, and for possible commissioning opportunities. César also has a lot of great ideas with expanding the aims and the scope of EJP by diversifying its content and is very keen to be a global ambassador through online webinar engagement with the subject community. His area of expertise is Physics Education, and training physics teachers, so rather than having his title solely being the representative/ editor of PER (Physics Education Research,

which was the title held by the previous editor, Cedric), we have decided that the journal needs a breath of fresh air, and a new direction by giving César the title of Deputy Editor.

Both editors have already made a strong impact on the journal, and we look forward to seeing how this dynamic duo will shape the development of EJP.

**Focus collections and commissioning**

EJP continues to publish articles in the ongoing 'Focus on' collections: Focus On Physics Competitions, guest Edited by Angela Fösel, with 9 published papers. We regularly receive submissions to this focus collection, but whether they're in scope is a

different question. The last one we accepted was very recently, 17 December 2025. Focus On Lab Works in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, guest edited by Gunnar Friege, has published 7 papers, and has received a lot of interest from the community. The deadline of this focus collection has been extended until January 2028.

The focus collections have proven to be a strong avenue for encouraging submissions to EJP, and we will continue to work with the board on developing new ideas for these. However, the board is also keen to set up another type of commissioning programme, whereby the editorial board identifies 'hot topics' and invite experts in the field to write a paper to be published in the journal.

ARTICLE TITLE	VOLUME, ISSUE	ARTICLE TYPE	OA STATUS	ONLINE DATE	2025 DOWNLOADS
Beyond velocity and acceleration: jerk, snap and higher derivatives	37/6	Paper	OA	10/13/16	9,693
How understanding large language models can inform the use of ChatGPT in physics education	45:2	Paper	OA	1/29/24	4,083
Modular low-cost 3D printed setup for experiments with NV centers in diamond	44/3	Paper	OA	4/7/23	3,685
Can ChatGPT pass a physics degree? Making a case for reformation of assessment of undergraduate degrees	46/1	Paper	OA	12/16/24	3,171
Learning physics while monitoring vibrations of the Earth—investigating seismic phenomena by using a Raspberry Pi	46:2	Paper	OA	1/16/25	2,652

▲ TABLE 3: TOP DOWNLOADED IN 2025 (ALL EJP ARTICLES)

▼ TABLE 4: TOP DOWNLOADED IN 2025 (2025 ARTICLES)

ARTICLE TITLE	VOLUME, ISSUE	ARTICLE TYPE	OA STATUS	ONLINE DATE	2025 DOWNLOADS
Exploring the motion of rigid bodies down an inclined plane from a point mass perspective	46/3	Article	OA	28/03/25	1,242
Naked eye celestial objects and phenomena: how far can we see at night?	46/3	Review	OA	17/04/25	1,236
Connect the dots... finding all possible orbits between two points	46/4	Article	OA	04/07/25	1,148
A simple derivation of the relativistic Doppler effect in accelerated systems	46/3	Article	OA	25/03/25	1,117

## Download statistics

In 2025, downloads of *EJP* articles increased by 2.7% (375,267 vs 365,093). In 2025, subscription articles received ~48% of the total downloads, while Open Access articles were responsible for 52% of the total 2025 downloads. In 2025, 34% of the traceable downloads to *EJP* articles came from Asia (notably China and India), 26% from Europe (notably Germany, Italy and Spain) and 21% from North America.

We saw a number of articles performing particularly well (see tables 3 and 4).

As seen in the tables above, the highest performing articles continue to be Open Access articles. In 2025, 37% of articles were published OA (across IOPP, 51% of all articles were published OA), this is on par with the 2024 figure (37%). IOPP now has Transformative Agreements (TAs), with over 1000 institutions in 44 countries. These agreements help authors manage the cost of article publication charges (APCs) for open access publishing. These typically enable authors to publish on an open access basis at no cost to themselves. In 2025, 88% of the Open Access articles in *EJP* were published through a TA (representing 33% of the total published articles). The most used TAs by *EJP* authors were our agreements in the Italy and the US (10 published articles each) and the UK (9 articles published), followed by Germany (5 articles published).

We continue to offer our waivers and discounts policy as they provide additional support for authors from many countries with historically low levels of financial support, including lower-middle income economies, as categorised by the World Bank, and we continue to fully waive APCs for Ukrainian-based researchers. As of January 2026, IOP Publishing will be expanding its article publishing charge (APC) discount and waiver programme across all of its peer review-managed journals to support more authors to publish Open Access. This initiative reflects our support for greater equity in publishing. By broadening eligibility and applying discounts automatically, we aim to reduce financial barriers for researchers in low- and middle-income economies (as defined by the World Bank). Changes

include: Authors in the most lower-middle income economies will receive a **70% discount** on APCs across fully open and hybrid journals; Authors in most upper-middle income countries—including South Africa, Thailand, and Colombia—will receive a **30% discount across fully open and hybrid journals**; Additionally, researchers from India and Indonesia will benefit from **40% discount** in our fully open journals. Existing full waivers for authors in low-income economies will remain in place.

These discounts will be automatically applied on IOPP proprietary and partner peer review-managed journals when all authors are from an eligible country (and, in the case of hybrid journals, select to publish open access), and applied upon request if the corresponding author and the majority of co-authors are from an eligible country.

## Marketing activity and Education subject collection page

European Journal of Physics continues to be marketed through a variety of channels including email marketing, Targeted Google ads, and through the ‘Education’ portfolio. The journal is included in our ‘Education’ subject collection page, which showcases the leading international journals supporting the physics education community by assisting in improving the standard of taught physics at all levels, from schools through to universities. *EJP* is a leading journal on the page and content is updated throughout the year, on a quarterly basis. Users are directed by social media, email, and advertising. The subject collection can be found online at: <https://iopscience.iop.org/page/education>

## 2024 Highlights campaign (2025)

The annual Highlights collection returned in 2025 and featured outstanding papers from 2024. All articles in the collection are made free to read online until the end of the year and are promoted in email campaigns to all IOPP Education contacts to help encourage usage and citation of this quality content.

The 2024 Highlights can be found online at: [Highlights of 2024 - European Journal of Physics - IOPscience](#)

## Conferences and events in 2025

In engaging with the community and interacting with target authors, we can maintain relationships, build confidence in researchers, and work on improving the journal profile. This interaction with the community is vital and plays a major role in our marketing plans and activities. In 2025, we worked with the editorial team by providing them with promotional material for the journal to be taken to relevant conferences; these included the AAPT (American Association of Physics Teachers) summer meeting in the US, and the GIREP conference (International Research Group on Physics Teaching) in the Netherlands.

These conferences were attended by some of our editorial board members, who were provided with electronic banners, as well as a carefully curated collection of previously published papers in *EJP* to be widely promoted at the conferences. The papers within the collection presented a selection of Open Access and subscription articles, and those behind a paywall were made freely available for audiences to read for the duration of these events.

Last year, we discussed the idea of holding one of IOPP’s Peer Review workshops at the 2025 GIREP conference, to both raise awareness of the journal as well as diversify its pool of reviewers. The peer review team did not have any availability to include GIREP, but this is something that we could look to do in 2026, if this is something that the new editorial team would like to pursue.

## In conclusion

The *European Journal of Physics* continues to increase the impact of our quality and capitalize on steady growth. In 2026, with our new editorial team, we aim to expand the scope of the journal and subsequently hire more editorial board members to cover the subject expertise of *EJP*. With the support of the editorial board and our new editorial team we hope to increase the commissioned content we publish in 2026 and beyond and to build wider and more international connections with the subject community.

Having fresh new perspectives join the team with new ideas will raise the journal’s profile and drive new opportunities for growth.

EPL



**Editor in Chief:**

Prof. Richard A. Blythe (Edinburgh)

**Executive Editor:**

Dr. Vijala Kiruvanayagam (EDP-Sciences Les Ulis)

**Staff Editor:**

Mr. Frédéric Burr (EPS Mulhouse)

**Production Editor:**

Mrs. Barbara Ancarani (SIF Bologna)

**Publisher:**

Mrs. Sophia Marcelia (IOPP Bristol)

**Deputy Editors:**

Dr. Dario Benedetti (France);  
 Dr. Pablo S. Cornaglia (Argentina);  
 Dr. Rosemary J. Harris (UK)

IMPACT FACTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
EPL	1.947	1.958	1.8	1.8	1.8
Journal quartile	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q2
Journal rank	47/86	50/86	52/85	50/110	51/114

▲ TABLE 1: IMPACT FACTOR

YEARS	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	25 VS 24
SUBMISSIONS	1.063	1.028	917	832	867	4.21%

▲ TABLE 2: SUBMISSIONS BY YEAR

YEARS	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of pages	2.697	2.352	2.220	1.817	1.960
Number of papers	435	382	359	289	308

▲ TABLE 3: EPL PUBLISHED PAPERS 2021-2025

**EPL Overview**

EPL is currently indexed within the ‘Physics, Multidisciplinary’ journal category in the Clarivate Journal Citation Report. The 2024 EPL Impact Factor has remained stable at 1.8 and, more importantly, EPL’s ranking of 51/114 in this category ensured the journal remained in Q2, having risen from Q3 in 2023.

**2025 Editorial and Production Data**

Submissions for 2025 were 4% higher than for 2024. This is the first time in 13 years there has not been a year-on-year decline. The number of published papers in 2025 was higher than the previous year (7%), again something that has not been the case for several years.

Submission to acceptance times for 2025 average between 77- 83 days. Average production time from arrival at SIF to online publication was 23.5 days.

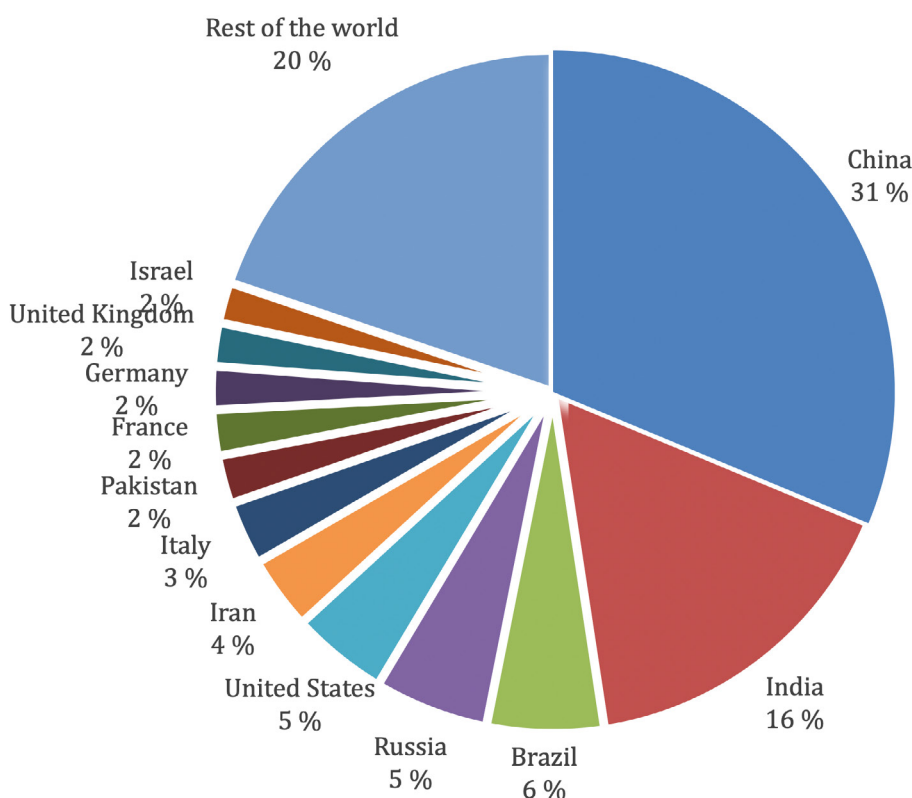
The top three sections in terms of submissions in 2025 were Gravitation, cosmology and astrophysics (162), Condensed matter and materials physics (146) and General physics (112). This was also the case in 2024. Two sections which saw a drop in submissions in 2025 were Atomic, molecular and optical physics (43 vs 63) and Statistical physics and networks (80 vs 91).

**2025 Geographical Breakdown of Submissions**

In 2025, as was the case in 2024, China, India and Brazil accounted for around 50% of EPL submissions.

**2025 Initiatives and Activities**

The current strategic aim of EPL is improved community engagement and visibility, together with dissemination of EPL content to a wider audience. The end goal is to drive submissions and usage through increased awareness of the journal’s unique position as a respected Letters journal whose scientific operations are led by practising research physicists and whose revenues are used to support the global physics research community. In the long term this



would ideally result in an increased impact factor.

Several new initiatives were launched in 2025 to help EPL work towards these goals:

- **Editorial Board Meeting**, May 2025, held at EPS offices in Mulhouse (Fig. 1)
  - Engagement with our board members and an opportunity to commission Perspectives and Focus Issues
  - Editorial board could meet with EPL Board of Directors and editorial staff working on the journal. Fosters good relationships and ensures the board feel part of the EPL team
- **Website Refresh** ([www.epletters.net](http://www.epletters.net)), March 2025
  - Platform to showcase EPL highlights and activities (Perspectives, Editor's Choice, Focus Issues, EPL News, Spotlight on Co-Editors)
  - Dynamic, less formal
- **Launch of the EPL Author Feedback Program**, June 2025 (Authors' feedback – EPL (Europhysics Letters))
  - Gathering data and comments from authors via a questionnaire sent out with proofs
  - Response rate around 20%. Overwhelmingly positive
- **Sponsorship**
  - In 2025, EPL sponsored 6 meetings in Argentina\*, Brazil, Italy (2), Rwanda\* and Spain – all focussing on early careers researchers (\*EPL has subsequently received submissions from prize winners from these meetings)
- **Native Articles pilot with Physics World Launched May 2025 (Fig. 2)**
  - 4 EPL articles were used as the basis for four 'native' articles published in Physics World (Physics World) which has over 265,000 monthly users
  - One article was used as the basis of a Physics World podcast (EPL Podcast)
  - One article was translated and promoted in China (IOP China) and published on WeChat (43K users)
  - Promotion of all articles on Physics World News Alert and social media (Third EPL Native Article)
  - Creation of a digital magazine of all articles/podcast at end of pilot which can be freely distributed and promoted (Highlights of EPL)



▲ FIG. 1: Attendees of the 2025 EPL Board Meeting, May 5-6, Mulhouse

- **Launch of EPL LinkedIn Account** December 2025 ([www.linkedin.com/company/epl-europhysicsletters/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/epl-europhysicsletters/))
  - Platform enables rapid promotion of EPL news and activities
  - Building an EPL network
  - Engagement with younger researchers who are moving to LinkedIn from X (Twitter)

Early indications are that Native Articles are receiving more downloads, and receiving higher levels of attention, than regular EPL articles. The pilot has provided an opportunity to showcase the breadth and depth of EPL research to a more international audience, especially in North America and China. It is too early to know if this will translate into more citations to positively impact on EPL IF, so the pilot will run for one more year. Additionally, it will be of interest to see if there are any benefits to EPL of running a more targeting promotional campaign aimed at Chinese researchers. In addition to the above initiatives, ongoing activities have continued with vigour. This includes the periodic refresh of the Editorial Board, which saw 21 new recruits in 2025. In making these appointments we balanced scientific expertise, geographical distribution

and gender, boosting in representation of both women and scientists from South America on the board. New guidance for authors of Perspectives was created, to further enhance the visibility and distinctiveness of this series. In 2025, 26 Perspectives were published, on a diverse range of topics including active turbulence, seismic noise, information engines and quantum gravity. We have been approaching eminent physicists to build a pipeline of high-quality commissions. A Focus Issue on the Casimir Effect and its Role in Modern Physics was published. Future issues are planned that will diversify the scientific scope of this portfolio.

**EPL 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

2026 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EPL, so several activities have been planned to celebrate this:

- Anniversary Highlights to be published throughout the year ([EPL 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Highlights](#))
- Sponsorship of invited speakers at higher level international meetings, in addition to best poster/best talk sponsorship
- 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo to appear on journal and on proofs throughout 2026
- 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary stickers & eyeglass cleaners for distribution at sponsored events.

▼ FIG. 2: First EPL Native Article (also translated into Mandarin) and first EPL Podcast.



E-EPS



**The Contribution of Physics to Energy Production, Storage & Distribution**

This conference explores how advances in physics are shaping the future of energy systems. Organised by the EPS, it brings together experts from academia, industry, and public policy to examine the scientific, technological, and societal dimensions of the energy transition.

Through keynote lectures and moderated panel discussions, participants will address recent scientific breakthroughs, pathways for technological deployment, and the policy frameworks required to enable a secure, efficient, and sustainable energy system.

The programme covers a broad range of topics, including wind and solar energy, energy storage, critical raw materials, nuclear energy, and other emerging technologies relevant to energy production and distribution.

Take part and register now! Deadline 30th March.



**International Day of Women and Girls in Science**

We celebrated the 11th February with some of our inspiring physicists: EPS board members, EPS prize awardees, and a Nobel laureate in physics.

This is a UNESCO International Day.



**A Portrait of Richard Zeltner, former member of the EPS Young Minds**

Richard Zeltner, currently group leader R&D at Menlo Systems, shares his thoughts on his time as a member of the EPS Young Minds Action Committee.



**Philippa Browning wins the 2026 Hannes Alfvén Prize**

The EPS Plasma Physics Division is delighted to announce that Philippa Browning has been awarded the 2026 Hannes Alfvén Prize. Congratulations!

**Joe Niemela, Chair of IUPAP Commission C13**

Joseph Niemela, chair of the EPS Physics For Development Group, is now chair of the IUPAP Commission C13: Physics for Development.

**IUPAP Early Career Scientist Prize 2026**

The IUPAP Early Career Scientist Prize in Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics 2026 is open for nominations.

**SCIENCE POP-UP by GSI/FAIR**

SCIENCE POP-UP by GSI/FAIR becomes a permanent place to go for science enthusiasts in the inner city of Darmstadt.

GSI is an EPS Associate Member.

**Action plan for women in research, innovation and startups: Call for evidence**

The EU's action plan for women in research, innovation and startups will address persistent gender gaps and promote diversity, equality and inclusiveness in the European Research Area (ERA).

The plan aims to make the ERA the world's most attractive place for women to work in research, innovation and startups by 2030. Mobilising all talents, regardless of gender, will foster the EU's sustainable competitiveness. Deadline 23rd February 2026.

**EPS Council 2026 & Young Minds Leadership Meeting**

This year, the EPS Council Meeting will include parallel sessions including the EPS Young Minds Leadership Meeting, offering a unique opportunity for interaction and exchange.

This joint format aims to foster dialogue between representatives of national physical societies, young physics students and early-career researchers. It gives EPS Council representatives the opportunity to meet EPS Young Minds members, and to present the activities and initiatives organised by their societies.

The events will take place from 15th to 16th May 2026 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

**Events and dates**

**EPS Conference**  
This event on "The Contribution of Physics to Energy Production, Storage & Distribution" will take place in Brussels, Belgium, from 13th to 14th April 2026.

Take part, registration is open until 30th March.

**2nd Summer School of the European Solar Physics Division**  
The school will be held from 27th April to 1st May 2026 in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

**ESCAMPIG**  
The conference will take place in Madeira from 7th to 11th July 2026.

**EPS Activities in 2026**  
Click here for the list of the activities of the EPS Executive Committee and the EPS Staff.

**EPS Recognised Journals from Frontiers**



The two journals Frontiers in Physics and Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences have been approved as EPS Recognised Journals.



Technical Editor : G. Gunaratnam

eEPS is the online monthly newsletter of the European Physical Society, published throughout the year with a summer break in July or August. It provides timely announcements and information about EPS activities, its members, and the broader physics community, including updates from EPS Divisions and Groups, Associate Members, Member Societies, and partner institutions. The newsletter complements Europhysics News, the Society's bimonthly magazine.

eEPS is curated and managed by Gina Gunaratnam, Communication Coordinator, and is proofread by Daniel Price (former President of the Finish Physical Society) and Jo Lister (former chair of the EPS Equal Opportunities Committee). Its editorial board includes the following members: Rüdiger Voss, Petra Rudolf, Christophe Rossel, Ferenc Iglói, Alessandra Fantoni, Daniel Price and Luisa Cifarelli.

The Society's newsletter is distributed to approximately 3,000 subscribers.

The average open rate of the newsletter is 46%.

The average clicked links rate on the newsletter is 10%.

In 2025, the most read articles were related to EPS activities: announcement of prizes, calls, EPS Historic Sites programme, interview of members, policy.

Members are encouraged to share information about their activities.

MONTH	MOST READ ARTICLE
January	EPS Central Distinctions and Awards 2025
February	Gražina Tautvaišienė: An interview
March	Europe and the Future of Quantum Science
April	EPS Historic Site: City of Göttingen, Germany
May	Alessandro Volta Prize 2025 announcement
June	EPS QEOD Prizes 2025 announced
August	EPS Historic Site: Villa Mondragone, Italy
September	Alessandro Volta Prize: Call for Nominations
October	The Nobel Prize in Physics 2025 and IQY
November	EPS Historic Site: Heinrich Hertz Lecture Hall at KIT, Germany
December	EPS Central Distinctions & Awards

TITLE	VIEWS
EPS website	3806
EPS Central Prizes 2025	1277
The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics and the IQY of Quantum Science and Technology	747
Alessandro Volta Prize: Call for nominations	734
The Nobel Prize in Physics 2025	568
Interview with José María de Teresa	544
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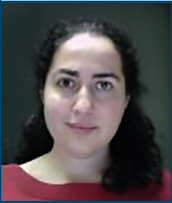
## CONFERENCES ORGANISED IN 2025

CONFERENCE	DATE/PLACE	TYPE	DIVISION
IPAC25	Taipei, Taiwan 1-6 June 2025	Europhysics	Accelerator Group
ECAMP XV	Innsbruck, Austria, 30 June - 4 July, 2025	Europhysics	Atomic Molecular Optics Division
CMD32	Graz, Austria, 26-29 August 2025	Europhysics	Condensed Matter Division
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> China-Europe Solar Physics Meeting (CESPM), "Frontiers in Solar and Heliospheric Physics"	Beijing, China, 15-19 September 2025		European Solar Physics Division
EPS-HEP 2025 conference	Marseille, France, 7-11 July 2025	Europhysics	High Energy and Particle Physics
EuNPC 2025	Caen, France, 22-26 September 2025	Europhysics	Nuclear Physics Division
51 <sup>st</sup> EPS Conference on Plasma Physics	Vilnius, Lithuania, 7-11 July, 2025	Europhysics	Plasma Physics Division
Visions for Fusion (round table)	Vilnius, Lithuania, 9 July 2025		Plasma Physics Division
Women in Plasma Physics lunch	Vilnius, Lithuania, 8 July 2025		Plasma Physics Division
CLEO/Europe – EQEC	Munich, Germany, 21-25 June 2025	Europhysics	Quantum Electronics & Optics Division
Statphys29 conference	Lviv, Ukraine, 30 June-3 July 2025	Europhysics	Statistical and Nonlinear Division
EPS TIG Satellite conference	Bucharest, Romania, 8-12 July 2025		Technology and Innovation Group
EPS TIG meeting	Paris, France, 6 May 2025		Technology and Innovation Group

## PRIZES AWARDED IN 2025

PRIZE	LAUREATE	DIVISION
Young Scientist Prize	Elisabeth Gruber, Innsbruck University	Atomic, Molecular Optics
ESPD Patricia Edwin PhD Thesis Prize:	Dr. Ramada Sukarmadji (Northumbria University)	European Solar Physics Division
ESPD Giancarlo Noci Prize: Early Career Researcher (Postdoc)	Dr. Valeriia Liakh (University of Oslo)	
Kees Zwaan Inspirational Community Prize	SunSpaceArt Team led by Prof. Helen Mason (MSSL/UCL)	
2025 EPS High Energy and Particle Physics Prize	Jürg Gasser, Heinrich Leutwyler (University of Bern) and Martin Lüscher (CERN)	High Energy Physics Division
2025 Giuseppe and Vanna Cocconi Prize	Fermi-LAT and Fermi-GBM collaborations	
2025 Gribov Medal	Lorenz Eberhardt (University of Amsterdam)	
2025 Young Experimental Physicist Prize of the High Energy and Particle Physics Division of the EPS	Thea Klæboe Årrestad (CERN) and Laura Zani (INFN Rome)	
2025 Outreach Prize of the High Energy and Particle Physics Division of the EPS	Beamline for Schools Project	
Physics Estoire	Dr Michael Eckert, Deutsches Museum	History of Physics Group
Lise Meitner 2024	Achim Richter (TU Darmstadt) and Muhsin N. Harakeh (University of Groningen)	Nuclear Physics Division
PhD best thesis	Chloé Fougères (University of Caen / GANIL) ; Dr. Sandro Fabian Kraemer (KU Leuven) ; Dr. Francesco Marino (University of Milan / INFN)	
EPS Hannes Alfvén Prize 2025	Michel Koenig (LULI)	Plasma Physics Division
EPS Plasma Physics Division Innovation Prize 2025	Eric Robert and Sébastien Dozias (GREMI, University of Orléans)	
EPS Plasma Physics Division – PPCF Sylvie Jacquemot Early Career Prize 2025	Arno Vanthieghem, (CNRS)	
EPS Plasma Physics Division PhD Research Awards 2025	Robert J. Ewart (University of Oxford) Benedikt Zimmermann (Technical University of Munich) Li Wang (Ruhr University Bochum)	
2025 EPS – QEOD Quantum Electronics and Optics Prizes The Fresnel Prizes	Nikolay Zheludev, University of Southampton ; Ileana-Cristina Benea-Chelmuş (EPFL, applied) ; Junqiu Liu (University of Science and Technology, Hefei, fundamental)	Quantum Optics Division
Thesis prizes	Joel Kuttruff (University of Konstanz, fundamental), Valerio di Giulio (Max Planck Institute in Göttingen, fundamental), Urban Senica (ETH Zurich, applied) and Daria O. Herasymova (NAS of Ukraine, applied).	Quantum Optics Division
2025 EPS–SNPD Prize	Alessandro Vespignani (Northeastern University) ; Thomas Witten (University of Chicago)	Statistical Non Linear Physics Division
2025 EPS–SNPD Early Career Prize	Francesco Mori (University of Oxford) Vittoria Sposini (University of Padova)	Statistical Non Linear Physics Division

### Atomic Molecular and Optical Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Alicia Palacios (2025)  
Iva Březinová (2026)

**Sections**

- Electronic and Atomic Collisions
- Chemical and Molecular Physics
- European Group on Atomic Systems

**Conferences**

- ECAMPXV

**Prize**

- Young Scientist Prize

**Website**

- <https://members.eps.org/members/group.aspx?id=85184>

### High Energy And Particle Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Fabio Maltoni (2025)  
Géraldine Servant (2026)

**Conference**

- Hybrid Meetings

**Prizes**

- 2025 EPS High Energy and Particle Physics Prize
- 2025 Giuseppe and Vanna Cocconi Prize
- 2025 Gribov Medal
- 2025 Young Experimental Physicist Prize of the High Energy and Particle Physics Division of the EPS
- 2025 Outreach Prize of the High Energy and Particle Physics Division of the EPS

**Website**

- <http://eps-hepp.web.cern.ch/eps-hepp/>

### Condensed Matter Division



**Chair:**  
José María De Teresa (2025)  
Erich Runge (2026)

**Sections**

- Liquids
- Macromolecular Physics
- Magnetism
- Structural and Dynamical Properties of Solids
- Semiconductors and Insulators
- Surfaces and Interfaces

**Website**

- <http://www.eps.org/eps-CMD>

### Nuclear Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Alessandra Fantoni (2024)  
Araceli Lopez-Martes (2025)

**Conferences**

- EuNPC 2025

**Prizes**

- Lise Meitner 2024
- best PhD thesis prizes for the years 2021-2022-2023

**Website**

- <https://members.eps.org/members/group.aspx?id=85199>

### Environmental Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Johannes Orphal

**Website**

- <http://www.eps.org/group/EPD>

### Plasma Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Kristel Crombé

**Sections**

- Beam Plasma and Inertial Fusion Section
- Dusty and Low Temperature

**Conferences**

- 51<sup>st</sup> EPS Conference on Plasma Physics

**Prizes**

- EPS Hannes Alfvén Prize 2025
- EPS Plasma Physics Division Innovation Prize 2025
- EPS Plasma Physics Division – PPCF Sylvie Jacquemot Early Career Prize 2025
- EPS Plasma Physics Division PhD Research Awards 2025 for outstanding doctoral theses

**Website**

- <http://plasma.ciemat.es/eps/>

### Gravitational Physics Division



**Chair:**  
Renate Loll

**Conference**

- 5<sup>th</sup> EPS Conference on Gravitation

**Prize**

- EPS poster prize

**Website**

- <https://members.eps.org/members/group.aspx?id=191878>









**European Physical Society**

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