



December 2022

Call for new members of the Mirror Group (MG) of the European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing (EPAA)

In order to fill in vacant posts in the EPAA Mirror Group, we launch this call for candidates.

The mandate, tasks, and membership details of the Mirror Group's members are outlined below. The new members of the Mirror Group will be selected by the Steering Committee based on the criteria under point 4. The Steering Committee will also seek a balanced representation of the various interests and to ensure that Mirror Group's Members have the necessary expertise and experience to contribute to the EPAA's work in a meaningful and productive way.

Interested applicants are invited to submit their motivation letter and CV no later than 31 January 2023, 12h00 noon Brussels time. Applications should be submitted by e-mail to the EPAA Secretariat (grow-epaa@ec.europa.eu).

EPAA Mirror Group – mandate, tasks, membership

1. General description:

The Mirror Group (MG) is a consultative body providing advice and comment on the implementation of the EPAA Action Programme, on project proposals and project implementation, and on other day-to-day work of the EPAA (“the Partnership”), such as outreach, communication and dissemination activities.

The MG acts as an interface between the Partnership and expert stakeholders from, inter alia, academia, (national) 3R centers, patients groups, animal research and welfare NGOs, and is considered a ‘multiplier’ of EPAA's work.

2. Mandate and tasks

- To ensure transparency and information flow, enrich the Partnership's activities and help the Steering Committee (SC) to prepare and disseminate its decisions and activities;
- To advise and comment on the implementation of the Action Programme and on EPAA activities from a broader societal perspective.

3. Membership and duration of term

- a. The Mirror Group will be composed of a maximum of 10 members from 3R- relevant stakeholder communities and expertise, as described under paragraph 4. In addition, a Member of the European Parliament is invited to participate in the Mirror Group.
- b. The term of MG members will be of 2 years, renewable. The SC will review the composition of the MG every 2 years.
- c. Membership of the MG is in a personal capacity, based on expertise, not as a representative of the member's organisation. No permanent seats will be attributed, neither to persons, nor to organisations.
- d. Members are expected to participate regularly in the meetings and to provide input and comments or support when requested by the SC.
- e. Presence at the meetings and commitment will be an essential element for membership renewal. Non-active members will be reminded to attend, and membership may be withdrawn if deemed necessary.
- f. The SC reserves the right to change the membership at any time if it deems this necessary.

4. Invited Interests

The EPAA Steering Committee invites individuals from, inter alia, the following interests to participate in the Mirror Group:

- a. Academia and laboratories (Scientists, researchers, laboratories or networks of laboratories, research organisations or networks, etc)
- b. Animal research organisations
- c. Animal welfare organisations
- d. Patient groups, consumers
- e. National (or other) 3R centers

The members of the MG should have the necessary expertise and experience to be able to understand and assess the relevance of the 3Rs, in particular, but not only, in relation to the use of animals and their replacement in regulatory testing.

5. Meetings

- a. The MG meets normally on the same day as the SC meetings: a joint meeting of the SC with the Mirror Group follows the SC meeting.
- b. 3-4 meetings per year are normally foreseen; currently one meeting per year is planned as in person/hybrid meeting, the others take place online.
- c. MG members should meet for 1-2 hours before the joint SC/MG meeting to coordinate their views. The EC will provide an appropriate meeting room in case of an in person/hybrid meeting, depending on availability. The agenda and any meeting notes of this pre-meeting are the responsibility of the MG members.
- d. If necessary, further meetings of the Mirror Group may be convened by the co-chairs of EPAA, who also chair these meetings.
- e. The MG members may select a chairperson.
- f. Minutes of the joint SC/MG meetings are drafted by the EPAA Secretariat in the Commission and made available to the members of the SC and the MG.

- g. A member of the Mirror Group is invited to give a presentation at each EPAA Annual Conference. The MG should agree on the member to give that presentation, and the presentation should be coordinated amongst MG members beforehand and reflect the views and potential recommendations of the Mirror Group as a whole.

6. Reimbursement of travel and daily allowance

The cost for travelling to the regular joint meetings of the Mirror Group with the SC, and to the EPAA Annual conference, will be reimbursed for the members of the Mirror Group, subject to the budgetary rules of the European Commission.

Annex I

[Reimbursement rules of the European Commission](#)

Annex II

[Privacy statement](#)