EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1167403

Details

Other names	ECPR
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-06-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE ECPR ARE TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE, IN PARTICULAR (BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION) BY:1.1.1 FOSTERING COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS ACTIVE IN POLITICAL RESEARCH, TEACHING AND TRAINING; 1.1.2 PLACING BETTER FACILITIES AT THE DISPOSAL OF POLITICAL SCIENTISTS THROUGHOUT EUROPE;1.1.3 INCREASING THE CONTACTS BETWEEN POLITICAL SCIENTISTS AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF EACH OTHER'S RESEARCH; AND1.1.4 MAKING IT EASIER FOR POLITICAL SCIENTISTS TO ENGAGE IN CO-OPERATIVE ADVANCED RESEARCH, TRAINING AND RESEARCH-LED TEACHING.NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE ECPR FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2 OF THE CHARITIES ACT 2011, SECTION 7 OF THE CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 AND SECTION 2 OF THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008.

Activities: An independent scholarly association, with 350 institutional members across around 50 countries, which supports political scientists through: a programme of world renowned conferences and events, all with

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funding opportunities for members; a publishing portfolio which includes a book series and three leading journals; its own publishing imprint, ECPR Press; and a range of high profile prizes.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia

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- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Turkey
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-30	£2,232,316	£2,408,928	£2,292,812	28
2023-09-30	£1,934,802	£2,270,478	£2,355,836	27
2022-09-30	£1,898,701	£2,287,089	£2,660,582	28
2021-09-30	£1,933,738	£1,608,509	£3,234,093	21
2020-09-30	£1,855,354	£1,774,613	£2,820,857	19

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Daniela Irrera	Chair	2021-05-01
Dr Luana Russo		2024-05-01
Ladislav Cabada		2021-05-01
Professor Amy Verdun		2021-05-01
Professor Anne Rasmussen		2021-05-01
Professor Christian Haerpfer		2021-05-01
Professor Gianfrance Baldini		2024-05-01
Professor Jean-Michel EYMERI-DOUZANS		2024-05-01
Professor Jonathan Polk		2024-05-01
Professor Petra Guasti		2024-05-01
Professor Shane Martin		2024-05-01
Professor Sofia Vasilopoulou		2025-01-01

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EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1167403

Accounts

Annual Report

Financial Statements
and Auditor's Report
1 October 2023 –
30 September 2024

ecpr.eu

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1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024

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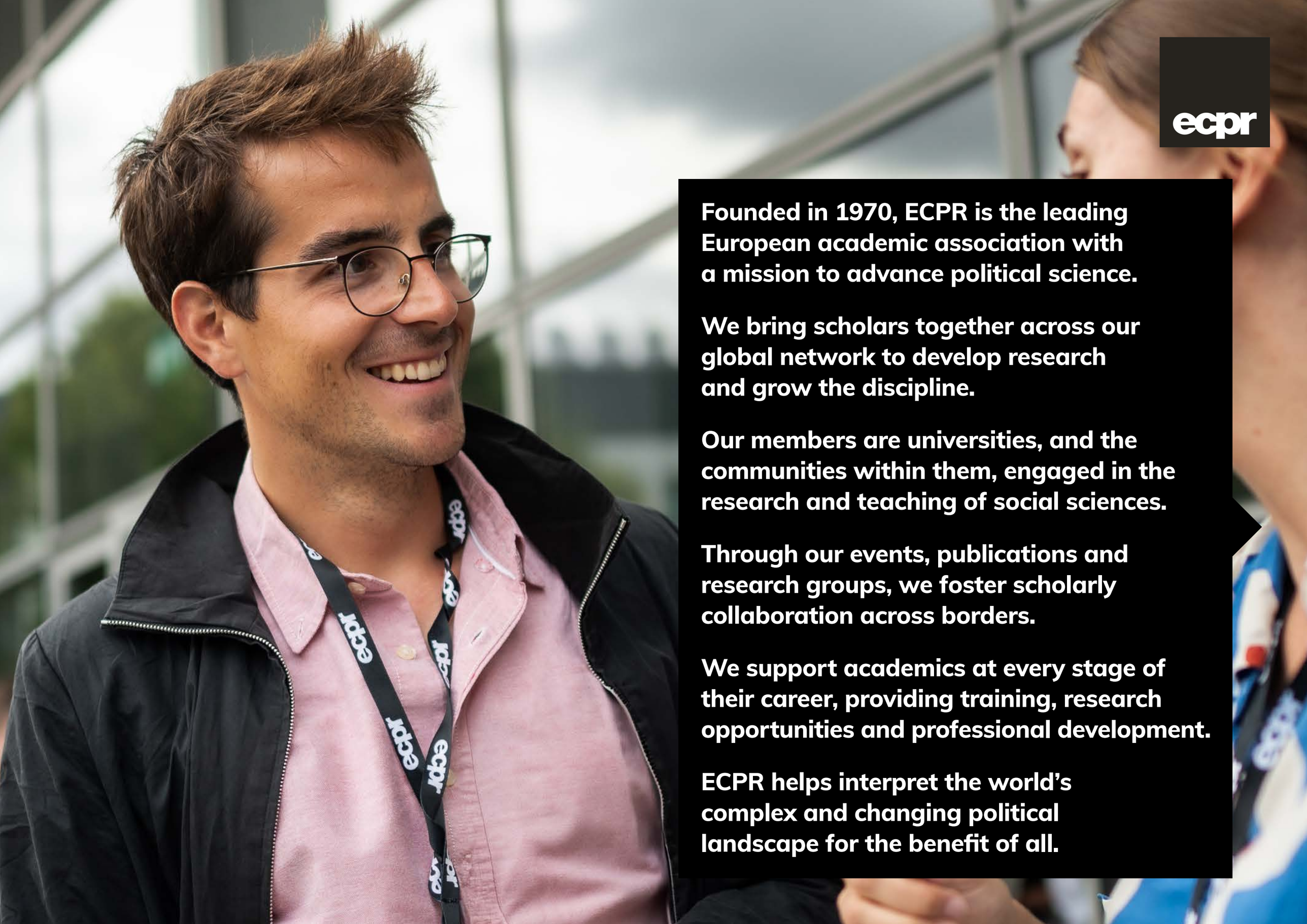
2023–2024



Founded in 1970, ECPR is the leading European academic association with a mission to advance political science.

We bring scholars together across our global network to develop research and grow the discipline.

Our members are universities, and the communities within them, engaged in the research and teaching of social sciences.

Through our events, publications and research groups, we foster scholarly collaboration across borders.

We support academics at every stage of their career, providing training, research opportunities and professional development.

ECPR helps interpret the world's complex and changing political landscape for the benefit of all.

Report of the Executive Committee

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is pleased to present the Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the twelve months ending 30 September 2024

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the ECPR's Constitution, the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice', in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, published in October 2019.

About us

ECPR is a learned society and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in the UK that supports the advancement of political science.

Our members are universities and research institutes concerned with the teaching and research of political science and related disciplines.

Within these institutions is a community of tens of thousands of scholars, from PhD student to senior professor, all of whom benefit directly from ECPR membership. While the ECPR is a membership association, our activities are open to all.

Our mission is to advance political science. We do this in two ways:

- by providing platforms and opportunities for scholars to collaborate and share research, with the purpose of strengthening the discipline and growing the volume and impact of its output worldwide; and
- by delivering training and development opportunities to scholars at all career stages, with the purpose of enhancing professional skills to strengthen and support the community.

Our charitable status

Public benefit

The Executive Committee (EC) has a duty to ensure that the activities undertaken by the ECPR fulfil its charitable objectives and provide a public benefit. Our public is the academic institutions which make up our membership and those scholars who study and teach within them. It is also the wider general public, whose lives are influenced by the resulting research. The EC ensures this public benefit is met through the creation and continued development of a range of activities and initiatives to foster deeper and more productive collaboration between scholars worldwide, with the aim of producing the best quality research. These activities include:

- an annual programme of international workshops, conferences and training events designed to develop ongoing research and provide professional and skills-based training to scholars;
- a range of funding opportunities to support the participation of students and early career scholars in our events;
- a broad and diverse publishing portfolio providing opportunities for scholars to publish and read the most up-to-date research in their field, via subscription and Open Access platforms;
- a number of high-profile prizes celebrating academic achievement across all career stages;
- a programme of support to nurture and grow our sub-disciplinary research groups which, in turn, extends the reach and focus of the organisation; and
- the development of a range of studies and policies aimed at understanding the state of the profession across Europe and the rest of the world, and supporting all scholars working within the discipline.

This report provides a summary of these activities carried out in the 2023–24 financial year.

Grant-making policy

As a membership association, we provide a range of funding opportunities to individual scholars and to groups affiliated with ECPR. This provision of funding and financial support to our affiliates and Standing Groups (SGs) and Research Networks (RNs) is one of the primary ways in which we achieve our charitable objectives. The EC continually reviews ECPR's funding provision with the aim of increasing and improving the value to affiliates and, in turn, their institution.

The funding we provide is listed below:

- SGs and RNs have access to a significant annual budget on which they can draw to support their event activities. This funding is available either for internal events organised by the Group or Network which would otherwise run at a deficit, or to support external events that align with the thematic topic on which the Group is focused, in the form of Sponsorship Grants. In 2023–24 we provided £18k of funding for this purpose.
- ECPR affiliates can apply for funding to support their attendance at our events in the form of fee waivers and travel and accommodation grants. The grants are available to students and early career researchers who cannot access funding elsewhere. In 2023–24 we provided £27k worth of travel and accommodation grants, and waived £16k worth of registration fees, which supported 47 scholars.
- In 2019 we launched a 50th Anniversary Fund, which supports political scientists facing difficulties joining our activities and events for economic, political, social or similar reasons. Unlike our event funding provision, the 50th Anniversary Fund is not restricted to participants from member institutions. Instead, we use it to enable scholars from across the world to participate in our events. In 2023–24 we spent in excess of £12k on this funding stream. This gave 16 scholars access to ECPR events, financing their travel and accommodation costs, and waiving the full fee for event registration.
- The EC Bonus Fund was developed to broaden the funding the ECPR offers outside our traditional provision for events. The Bonus Fund provides 'seedcorn funding' to any SG or RN working on developing a bid to a major funder for a significant research project. In 2023–24, we were pleased to provide over £3k worth of funding for this purpose.

Welcome

ECPR is navigating calmly through troubled times, constantly defending peace, equality, diversity and respect for academic freedom

Evolution, investment, engagement

The 2023–2024 reporting year shows a significant evolution for ECPR. Membership grew substantially, and engagement across all activities reached new heights. Our rapidly expanding portfolio of activities, services, and scholarly content reinforces ECPR's position as Europe's primary hub for political science research and collaboration.

Breaking down barriers

A defining moment for our community is the realisation of an ambitious dream: the removal of barriers to publishing in our journals for every political science scholar. After a long process of selection and negotiation, we reached an agreement with Cambridge University Press to manage our full portfolio, and to do so by transitioning to full Open Access publishing at no cost to the authors.

ECPR is the first social science association to take this bold step. This positions us at the forefront of accessible research dissemination, while maintaining rigorous academic standards. Working in partnership with CUP, we will ensure a smooth transition that protects our authors' and readers' interests over the coming years, and paving the way for generations of researchers to come.

Enhancing member benefits

Looking ahead, our focus remains on further enhancing our offerings to our members. We are committed to expanding the Methods School and to refining our training and professional development provisions in the year ahead, ensuring scholars' ready access to the methodological and interdisciplinary knowledge necessary to advance research and career goals.

While we acknowledge the challenges of operating in a complex global environment, in which world events and systemic inequalities restrict access to resources, we want to continue taking proactive steps to support a better future for political science research. The investment into the creation of a special Middle Eastern series, and the financial support of researchers working in this field, is just one example of our efforts to support research that often challenges or is forced to operate in extraordinary circumstances.

We are also strengthening our digital infrastructure to enhance the member experience. This will ensure seamless, engaging interactions across all platforms, and develop new partnerships that extend our global reach and amplify our impact. All this will reinforce ECPR's role as a leader in political science research and dialogue.

Commitment and expertise

The extraordinary commitment and expertise of our staff at Harbour House ensures excellence across all ECPR activities. Whether face-to-face at events or behind the scenes online, you can be certain that a real person is working hard to guarantee the quality experience you have come to expect. As ECPR continues to overcome the deficit of previous years, we are positioned for sustainable growth and cost-effective service delivery. ECPR continues to evolve as an agile, inclusive organisation ready to meet future challenges. We will continue to dream big and aim high.

Strengthening our community

During 2023–2024, ECPR experienced important changes, promising signs of growth and the need to embark on reforms and adaptations. We live in a world marked by war, illiberalism and instability. The role of political scientists in such a world is constantly challenged.

ECPR has always been a privileged place for intellectual growth and the exchange of ideas. Building on the exceptional achievements of the 2021–2024 Chair David Farrell, all new ECPR initiatives are aimed at strengthening the community, and addressing the needs of scholars at every stage of their career. ECPR is navigating calmly through troubled times, constantly defending peace, equality, diversity and respect for academic freedom.

Daniela Irrera, Chair,
ECPR Executive Committee, 2024 – 2027
Tanja Munro, ECPR Director

Proactive steps for a better future

ECPR is breaking down barriers to publishing, refining our professional development programme, strengthening our digital infrastructure, and addressing the needs of scholars at every stage of their career

2023–2024

A year in review

Members are at the heart of all ECPR activities. We have grown our membership so that more scholars than ever enjoy career-enhancing benefits; we have expanded our events programme to reflect the changing world; and we are dismantling barriers to reading and publishing new research

Membership – a growing community

During the reporting period, we were delighted to see our membership continue to grow by eight institutions, to 338. We now have members in 44 countries worldwide, extending member benefits to some 38,000 scholars. While this number is an indicator of the size of our membership community, involvement with ECPR extends much further, with many non-members also taking part in our activities.

Activities this year focused in particular on engagement and institutional support. We held an in-person Official Representative (OR) Retreat in Colchester, bringing together representatives from current and lapsed UK member institutions to contribute towards ECPR's strategic planning. Following OR feedback, ECPR developed an online 'Institution Dashboard' through which ORs can manage their institution's membership with improved functionality.

During this year, we also completed a major project to improve membership data integrity and processing. This has created a smoother experience for users, and a platform to connect them more easily with their university, ensuring everyone who is eligible benefits fully from ECPR membership.

At the General Conference in Dublin, membership was once again a focal point. Our dedicated stand at the Expo, staffed by the Community Engagement Team, provided information and collected feedback from the community.

ECPR maintained its support for colleagues affected by war with Russia, continuing to provide free membership to eight universities across Ukraine.

Groups and Networks – reflecting the discipline

Together, our Groups and Networks create a thriving research ecosystem that reflects the breadth, diversity and innovation across the field.

We now have 53 Standing Groups and 13 Research Networks operating under the auspices of ECPR, and fully supported by professional staff across all departments. Four new Research Networks were approved by the Executive Committee during this period, covering: Autocracies and Global Governance; Digital Authoritarianism; The Political Theory of Elections; and US Foreign Policy. These groups and networks have a combined membership of just over 23,000.

ECPR took steps throughout the year to enhance engagement and support. In June 2024, we held a one-day online workshop for Steering Committee members, fostering discussions on key issues affecting these groups.

To improve accessibility and functionality, ECPR further developed the web pages we host at ecpr.eu for each Standing Group. We introduced new features to enable further customisation that allows each group to reflects the varying needs of their communities.

We also updated and enhanced the key documentation we provide to support and guide the Steering Committees of ECPR Standing Groups and Research Networks.

Events – bringing scholars together

In 2023–24, we delivered over 40 events (see page18). Along with the annual Joint Sessions of Workshops and the General Conference, ECPR delivered online Methods School courses, in-person summer schools, and online seminars organised by our Groups and Networks.

These events attracted a significant number of registrations from scholars across various disciplines, all managed through ECPR's custom online platform. Participation levels were strong. Many attendees at the General Conference and other events focused on the European Union and on Gender and Politics. Our methods training sessions and seasonal schools also saw considerable involvement, with slightly more participants than in the previous year.

Joint Sessions of Workshops

The 2024 Joint Sessions of Workshops took place in March at Leuphana University Lüneburg. Workshops on diverse topics fostered in-depth exploration of specialist subfields of political science, and facilitated meaningful academic exchange.

The event's success was largely down to the efforts of the Local Organising Committee: Ferdinand Müller-Rommel, Michael Koß, and Sarah Engler, who worked alongside our Events team to ensure a seamless experience for all attendees.

General Conference

University College Dublin hosted the 2024 General Conference in August. The Conference offered a diverse array of Panels and Roundtables, covering all sub-disciplines of political science. Our event also included taster sessions for ECPR's methods courses. These offered attendees a preview of a number of social science research methodologies, from classic to cutting-edge.

A highlight of the conference was the keynote lecture from by Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, titled Climate, Nature, and Conflict: The Unspoken Interactions That Require Urgent Actions. Her thought-provoking address explored the complex links between climate change and global conflicts, emphasising the urgent need for long-term leadership in tackling these pressing issues.
Alongside his position as ECPR Chair, David Farrell also led the local organising team, delivering an exceptional experience for all attendees.

Methods School

In 2024,ECPR's Methods School offered a variety of virtual courses throughout the year, some in collaboration with KU Leuven, all designed to meet the evolving needs of the political science community. Participants at various stages of their academic careers received intensive training in a range of research methods aimed at enhancing qualitative and quantitative research skills.

Middle East Project

Prompted by an open letter to the Council by members of our community, in summer 2024 we launched a call for Convenors of a project addressing the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East. The first event, organised by Convenors Christos Kourtelis and Assem Dandashly, discussing Middle Eastern Policy and EU relations, took place in October.

Jean Blondel Lecture

In November 2023, we delivered the first annual Jean Blondel Lecture in partnership with the University of Essex, honouring the significant contributions made by Jean Blondel to both institutions.

The lecture, titled The Meanings of 'Voting' for Ordinary Citizens, was delivered by Carolina Plescia, the 2014 winner of the Jean Blondel PhD Prize.

The event was attended in person by those participating in our annual Official Representative Retreat, and members of the university's Government Department. The lecture was also streamed online.

Publishing – making research accessible to all

Our stable of political science and international relations journals continue to be highly desirable, trusted platforms to publish and read the latest research in the field. Across the portfolio we published 240 new pieces of research in 2024, from a pool of almost 1,500 submissions.

Request for Proposals

In April 2023 we issued a Request for Proposals to our current publishing partners, inviting them to tender to publish the full journals portfolio (excluding EJIR). Our Publications Subcommittee, led by Giliberto Capano, evaluated the proposals We then held a series of meetings with the shortlisted and then with the preferred publishers throughout the late autumn and winter. We submitted a final recommendation to the Executive Committee for approval at its 2024 spring meeting.
The Subcommittee selected Cambridge University Press (CUP) as ECPR's publishing partner for EJPR, PDY, EPSR and EPS from 1 January 2026; PRX will move across in 2028.

Transition to Open Access

A key feature of the new partnership is that all journals will be published Open Access (OA) from the start of the agreement, making ECPR the first society in the social sciences to have a fully OA journals portfolio. An agreement with a single publisher provides many operational benefits that will improve the author and reviewer experience, the support provided to our editors, and the overall visibility and impact of the published research.

In January 2024, European Political Science Review (EPSR) flipped to OA, joining Political Research Exchange (PRX) in opening almost half of ECPR's journal content for the community to read free of charge. Through their extensive library agreements, philanthropic arrangements and fee waivers, EPSR's publisher CUP guarantees that all authors have access to publish OA without a financial barrier. Meanwhile, ECPR continues to provide fee waivers for all PRX authors affiliated with an ECPR member organisation.

New EJPR editorial team

Editorial teams play a key role in setting the discipline's agenda. Their stewardship of the journals ensures adherence to rigorous processes throughout peer review, selection and publication.

At the end of 2024 we appointed a new team to EJPR, replacing Isabelle Engeli, Emiliano Grossman, Robert Huber, and Sofia Vasilopoulou. Isabelle Borucki, Nicole Curato, Caterina Froio, Airo Hino, Alessandro Nai, Emilie van Haute and Markus Wagner will steer EJPR through a period of significant change and opportunity, as it flips to OA from January 2026.

The Loop

In 2024, The Loop published 217 blog pieces, 96.5% of which were pitched direct or through a series editor. Female authors made up 46% of the total; a 2% rise on the previous year. More than half of contributors were early-career scholars, and more than 65% worked or studied at an ECPR member institution. Authors were based in 36 different countries, as far afield as Chile, Costa Rica and Kazakhstan. More than a third of Loop authors were a member of at least one ECPR Standing Group.

The ⛓ Constraints on Academic Freedom series played host to an exchange about whether organisations such as ECPR should take a stand on the Israel-Hamas conflict. Many contributors speculated on the next phase of war in Ukraine, and its aftermath. And there were many submissions covering elections in a year in which more than half the world's population went to the polls.
Key highlights:

- Published 301 authors based in 36 countries worldwide.
- Launched a new social media account on BlueSky which had amassed more than 1,700 followers by the end of the year.
- Ran successful in-person 'Blog Bootcamp' sessions at the General Conference in Dublin.
- Awarded our second Best Blog prize.
- In the calendar year 2024, The Loop attracted 205,500 clicks and 10.57 million page impressions.

Governance – decisive leadership

On 20 November 2023, ECPR held an extraordinary meeting of Council. Its purpose was to consider a proposal by the Executive Committee that EC member Gianluca Passarelli be removed from office following complaints of misconduct.

Chaired by Speaker of Council Thomas Poguntke, the meeting was attended by 138 Official Representatives, and 133 votes were cast: 96 (72%) yes and 37 (28%) no. As a two-thirds majority (67%) was needed for the resolution to be passed. The resolution was carried.

The EC agreed to leave a vacant seat on the board until the next set of elections.

Executive Committee 2024–2027

At the end of April 2024, six EC members completed their terms of office, requiring an election to replace them. Running from 16 October 2023 to 23 February 2024, nominations were first sought from across the membership, followed by a period of endorsements and final ballot by Official Representatives from full-member institutions.

Seven women and six men put themselves forward. Two were removed from the ballot because they failed to secure sufficient endorsements; three women and three men were duly elected at the end of the process: Gianfranco Baldini, Petra Guasti, Shane Martin, Jonathan Polk, Luana Russo and Sofia Vasilopoulou. Jean-Michel Eymeri-Douzans was appointed to take up the seat left by Gianluca Passarelli's removal.

Welcoming a new Chair

David Farrell completed his term as ECPR Chair and Executive Committee member at the end of April. After a vote by ongoing members of the EC, he was replaced by Daniela Irrera. Daniela is only the second female ECPR Chair, following Simona Piattoni, elected in 2012.

Prizes 2023–2024

ECPR offers a broad range of **prizes**, which recognise service and achievement across our community, honouring individuals at every stage of their career

Prize	Awarded for	Winner
2023		
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2023	**Joint Sessions Paper** *IMF Survival Instincts: Risk Exposure and the Design of Loan Programs*	**Kathleen Brown** Leiden University
Jacqui Briggs EPS Prize 2023	**Article** *Big data meets open political science: An empirical assessment of transparency standards, 2008–2019*	**Karin Dyrstad** and **Jonathon W. Moses** Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Rising Star Award 2023	*Extensive publications, significant contributions to international research projects, and commitment to public engagement through his Democratic Theorizing Project*	**Stuart Turnbull-Dugarte** University of Southampton
Joni Lovenduski PhD Prize in Gender and Politics 2023	**Theses** *The (Im)Possibility of Feminist Critique in Authoritarianism: Revisiting Western Knowledge-Transfer in Russia and Serbia; Adaptive Resistance: Power Struggles over Gender Quotas in Uruguay*	**Leandra Bias** University of Bern; **Cecilia Josefsson** Uppsala University
EPSR Early Careers Prize 2023	**Article** *Non-citizen voting rights and political participation of citizens: evidence from Switzerland*	**Elif Naz Kayran** European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research; **Anna-Lena Nadler** Leiden University
The Loop Best Blog Prize 2023	**Blog piece** *Black, Queer, Trans, Disabled Lives Matter! Empowering identities to transform democracy*	**Brandon Mack** University of Houston
Cora Maas Award 2023	**Methods School Course** *Bayesian Modelling*	**Chendi Wang** Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
2024		
Lifetime Achievement Award 2024	Incredible impact on the discipline – as teachers, mentors, and leaders	**Myra Marx Ferree** Harvard University, **Richard S. Katz** Johns Hopkins University
Stein Rokkan Prize 2024	**Book** *Digital Empires: The Global Battle to Regulate Technology*	**Anu Bradford** Columbia Law School, New York
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2024	**Book** *Settling for Less: Why States Colonize and Why They Stop*	**Lachlan McNamee** Monash University
Political Theory Prize 2024	**Book** *Radical Democracy in Modern Indian Political Thought*	**Tejas Parasher** University of California, Los Angeles
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2024	**Thesis** *Three Essays on the Legitimate Authority of Immigration Control*	**Lukas Schmid** Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize 2024	Contributions to core issues of political sociology	**Anna Durnová** University of Vienna

Monitoring impact

Our income is derived from three main streams: membership fees, event fees, and publications royalties

We keep a close eye on the impact and success of these activities in terms of the benefit they bring to individual scholars and their institutions; the impact they have across the community and in raising the profile of the organisation; and the income they generate. For the purposes of this Annual Report, we employ a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor year on year, as detailed below.

Membership

We carefully monitor trends in membership renewal and acquisition each year. While the period from 2015–16 onwards saw a steady decline in membership, this past year saw a reversal of this, and an increase from 324 to 338 institutional members. We believe this is a direct result of the additional focus and resources directed here over the past 12–18 months.

Publications

We evaluate the impact and health of our individual publications, and the programme as a whole, in a number of ways. However, for the purposes of this report, we apply the following indicators:

- the number of article submissions in a given year (which shows the popularity of the journal as a publishing destination);
- the rejection rate (which shows the competitiveness / benchmark to be accepted for publication given the quality of the article and the available space within the journal volume if applicable).
- citation metrics such as the **Clarivate Impact Factor**, **Scopus Citescore**, etc (to show impact of the published work across the discipline).

Event participation

Attendance at ECPR events is a strong indicator of the popularity and relevance of our programme. Numbers fluctuate, particularly for the General Conference, depending on the location, and its capacity. Virtual events do not have the capacity constraints of physical institutions, and depend more on the number of people willing and able to engage with the technology. However, online options open attendance up to a new demographic who may not have been able to attend in-person activities.

The 2024 Joint Sessions (JS) and General Conference (GC) offered a selection of virtual Workshops and Panels alongside in-person sessions. Collectively, they were attended by 2,485 participants, compared with 2,850 in 2023: a decrease of 365 (13%). The GC fell by 415 participants (17%) attracting 2,009 registrations compared with 2,424 in 2023. 1,865 Papers were presented across 476 Panels and 61 Sections (compared with 2,163, 538 and 66 respectively in 2023). The JS increased by 50 participants (12%), attracting 476 registrations compared with 426 in 2023. 32 Workshops took place, compared with 30 in 2023. All Workshops were in-person, though participants could access online options in special circumstances.

The Methods School was attended by 521 participants, compared with 611 in 2023; a decrease of 90 (15%). Changes in the training landscape, alongside rising numbers of people accessing training online as a credible financially viable alternative in a post-pandemic world of cuts and high economic uncertainty, indicate a shift in demand that requires us to recalibrate our offering.

Attendance at Standing Group and Research Network events increased sharply, by 1,941 (43%), up from 2,572 to 4,513. This is largely because the total number of events (excluding General Conference, Joint Sessions and Methods School) jumped from 22 in 2023 to 36 in 2024. It is also because two large biennial conferences, for our Standing Groups on Politics and Gender, and on the European Union, took place in 2024.

Event calendar

Event name, Standing Group or Research Network	Event type	Dates	Format	Number of participants
Standing Group on Political Theory	Seminar Series	4 Oct 2023–10 Apr 2024	Virtual	141
Case Study Research: Method and Practice	Signature Course	9–13 Oct 2023	Virtual	17
Standing Group on the European Union	Seminar Series	17 Oct 2023–16 Apr 2024	Virtual	263
Standing Group on Environmental Politics	Seminar Series	19 Oct 2023–6 Jun 2024	Virtual	260
Standing Group on Citizenship	Seminar Series	19 Oct 2023–15 Mar 2024	Virtual	53
Standing Group on Migration and Ethnicity	Seminar Series	24 Oct 2023–17 Jun 2024	Virtual	341
Spiral of Silence: Is Self-Censorship Threatening Academic Freedom?	House Series	26 Oct 2023	Virtual	54
Research Network on Food Policy and Governance	Seminar Series	31 Oct 2023–30 Apr 2024	Virtual	92
Research Network on Mediterranean Politics and Society	Seminar Series	2 Nov 2023–29 Apr 2024	Virtual	48
Standing Group on Gender and Politics	Seminar Series	8 Nov 2023–19 Sep 2024	Virtual	98
Standing Group on Knowledge Politics and Policies	Seminar Series	9 Nov 2023	Virtual	51
Standing Group on Public Policy	Seminar Series	13 Nov 2023–16 Sep 2024	Virtual	136
The Meanings of 'Voting' for Ordinary Citizens	House Series	16 Nov 2023	Hybrid	87
Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought	Conference	20–21 and 24–25 Nov 2023	Hybrid	18
	Winter School	22–24 Nov 2023	Hybrid	11
Research Network on Differentiated Integration	Seminar Series	7 Dec 2023–18 Apr 2024	Virtual	50
Measuring Human Rights: Challenges and Developments	House Series	12 Dec 2023	Virtual	46
Research Network on Statehood, Sovereignty and Conflict	Seminar Series	18 Dec 2023–8 May 2024	Virtual	71
Standing Group on Southern European Politics	Seminar Series	18 Dec 2023–7 May 2024	Virtual	36

Event name, Standing Group or Research Network	Event type	Dates	Format	Number of participants
Methods School (Winter)	Winter School	5–9 Feb 2024	Virtual	289
Research Network on Energy Policy, Politics and Governance	Seminar Series	23 Feb–27 Sep 2024	Virtual	148
Joint Sessions of Workshops	Conference	25–28 Mar 2024	Hybrid	476
Stein Rokkan Lecture	House Series	26 Mar 2024	Hybrid	281
Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought	Seminar Series	26 Mar–26 Jun 2024	Virtual	20
Standing Group on Political Culture	Seminar Series	10 Apr– 25 Sep 2024	Virtual	44
Standing Group on Organised Crime	Seminar Series	25 Apr 2024	Virtual	26
Deconstructing Generations in Movements	House Series	14 May 2024	Virtual	122
Working with Concepts	Signature Course	20–24 May 2024	Virtual	11
Standing Group on Organised Crime	Summer School	12–25 Jun 2024	In-Person	25
Standing Group on the European Union	Conference	19–21 Jun 2024	In-Person	575
Standing Group on Interest Groups	Summer School	24–29 Jun 2024	In-Person	12
Young ECPR Network on Europeanisation	Seminar Series	11 Jul 2024	Virtual	14
Standing Group on Extremism and Democracy	Summer School	1–5 Jul 2024	In-Person	15
Standing Group in International Relations	Summer School	1–5 Jul 2024	In-Person	15
Standing Group on Gender and Politics	Summer School	8–10 Jul 2024		729
Methods School (Summer)	Summer School	22 Jul–2 Aug 2024	Virtual	220
Methodological Challenges and Opportunities in Studying Young People's Activism	House Series	25 Jul 2024	In-Person	50
General Conference	Conference	12–15 Aug 2024	Hybrid	2,009
Climate, Nature, and Conflict: The Unspoken Interactions That Require Urgent Actions	House Series	13 Aug 2024	Hybrid	500
Standing Group on Parliaments	Summer School	18–29 Aug 2024	In-Person	15
Standing Group on Political Parties	Summer School	2–6 Sep 2024	In-Person	8
Critical Peace and Conflict Studies	Seminar Series	26 Sep 2024	Virtual	30

KPI data tables

Please refer to separate Appendix for headline statistics on all ECPR publications

Key Performance Indicators for Membership numbers, 2019–2023

	2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24		2024–25
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Membership	345	**320**	340	**308**	320	**305**	321	**324**	321	**338**	**338**

Participation at events, 2020–2024

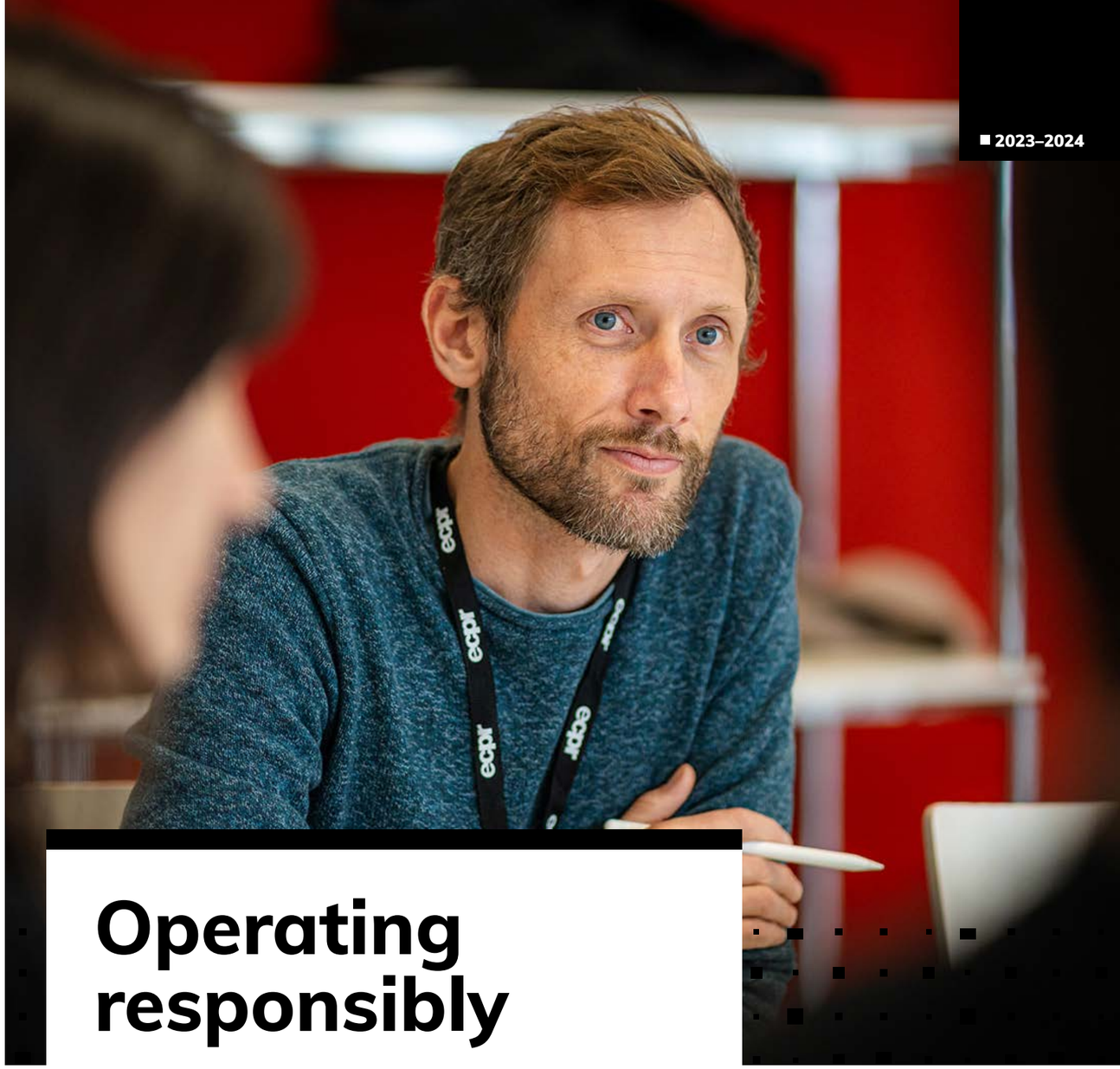
	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025
	Target*	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
General Conference	**1,850**	**2,214**	**2,000**	**2,349**	**2,000**	**2,017**	**2,174**	**2,424**	**2,113**	**2,009**	**2,486**
Joint Sessions	**425**	**87**	**400**	**628**	**400**	**449**	**489**	**426**	**434**	**476**	**495**
Methods School, including (from 2024) Signature Courses		**1,180**	**n/a***	**1,078**	**n/a***	**562**	**918**	**611**	**816**	**521**	**611**

*Previously, targets set and reporting has been based on participant numbers rather than courses sold. From 2021–2022, reporting on course numbers has been adopted as a more reliable metric.

Key Performance Indicators for journal publishing, 2019–2024

	European Journal of Political Research (including PDY)			*European Political Science*			*European Political Science Review*			*European Journal of International Relations*			*Political Research Exchange*	
	Total submissions	Rejection rate*	Impact Factor*	Total submissions	Rejection rate*	Impact Factor*	Total submissions	Rejection rate*	Impact Factor*	Total submissions*	Rejection rate*	Impact Factor*	Total submissions	Rejection rate*
2019	**433**	**96%**	**2.830**	**97**	**48%**	**1.429**	**197**	**74%**	**2.327**	**391**	**87%**	**3.474**	**43**	**44%**
2020	**514**	**85%**	**4.943**	**123**	**59%**	**1.756**	**230**	**88%**	**4.143**	**469**	**91%**	**4.023**	**87**	**77%**
2021	**474**	**88%**	**5.774**	**91**	**70%**	**2.436**	**210**	**82%**	**3.123**	**426**	**91%**	**2.946**	**84**	**71%**
2022	**446**	**85%**	**5.3**	**84**	**61%**	**2**	**232**	**80%**	**3.2**	**402**	**86%**	**3.4**	**91**	**76%**
2023	**526**	**97%**	**5.7**	**117**	**68%**	**2**	**218**	**91%**	**3.2**	**435**	**91%**	**3.4**	**110**	**93%**
2024	**767**			**126**			**416**						**298**	

*ECPR publications follow the calendar year. Some data were therefore unavailable at the time of publication.



Operating responsibly

Supporting our volunteers

Volunteers are defined as people who conduct work on behalf of ECPR without financial reward. Currently, we define members of Steering Committees of ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks, and Associate Editors of the journal PRX, as volunteers. We recognise the contribution of this group to meeting the organisation's mission, and we aim to support them in a number of ways, including opportunities to meet with staff and trustees, and offering advice and training.

Complaints handling policy

We work hard to ensure that we always deliver the best service to our members and affiliates; to support this effort we have developed a complaints policy to allow us to receive, review and take action on any concerns raised. Complaints can be made in person, over the phone or via a dedicated confidential email address: complaints@ecpr.eu. Once received, complaints are processed by our Senior Management Team or Director. We have also published a Code of Conduct on our website, revised in March 2021, which explains explicitly to our community what we consider to be appropriate conduct.

Staff wellbeing

Our staff at the Colchester headquarters work hard to deliver an extensive range of benefits and services to a large community of scholars across the world. All staff

benefit from flexible working, so they can work the hours that suit their own personal situations. Staff required to work additional hours at times of high workload can accrue time-off-in-lieu (TOIL), in addition to the standard 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays.

Home-working has always been an option for staff under certain circumstances, but the pandemic has proven that staff are able and capable of working from home on a regular basis, with minimal disruption to our operations. We have adopted a more flexible approach to home-working, allowing staff to combine home and office working to allow them to better manage their commitments outside of work.

We have developed a number of policies to support and protect staff who are working away from the office, and the organisation reimburses all necessary costs incurred while travelling for work purposes. We provide a defined-contribution pension scheme for all employees, to which ECPR doubles any contribution made by staff, up to 16% of salary. We also provide staff with a benefits package that includes shopping discounts; reduced train tickets; spreading the cost of technology, childcare and vehicles; access to over a thousand e-learning modules and courses; free coffee and movies; and discounts on gym memberships. We are also committed to maintaining the good mental health of our staff. We have trained Mental Health First Aiders and, through our staff benefits package, we provide access to a free counselling service.

Procurement and sustainability

We have adopted a Procurement Policy which seeks to balance the need to protect the resources of ECPR by achieving value for money, with factors such as sustainability and supplier values.

The policy seeks to achieve this by requiring any trustee, volunteer or member of staff considering a purchase to evaluate the following criteria: price of product; quality of product; ability of the product to fulfil the charity's need; supplier's reputation, range of products, service, delivery ability and sustainability principles.

For large purchases or long-term supplies, we seek formal quotes and tenders from at least two competitors. Quotes made by charities or other not-for-profit organisations, and those local to our headquarters or event host (as appropriate), are considered favourably.

Risk management

We regularly evaluate the risks facing the organisation through the Risk Register. This informs the degree of reserves required to sustain the organisation in the event of one or more of these factors materialising.

A key risk the organisation faces is a sustained loss of surplus from our events activities. Multiple factors impact this: increased operating costs due to high inflation; increased shipping costs due to Brexit; decreased income due to VAT; and decreased income due to maintenance of registration fees despite increasing costs. A new key risk is the recent decline in Methods School numbers. The EC will be working closely with the newly appointed Academic Convenors to reformat the school. The EC will also continue to look at options to reduce any further decline in income, to ensure the sustainability of the events portfolio.

While the EC is responsible for adopting the annual budget, and for ensuring that accounts are properly audited, day-to-day management of income and expenditure lies with our Finance Department and Senior Management Team, with regular oversight by the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee.

Reserves policy

ECPR aims to maintain reserves equivalent to the risks identified in the Risk Register. The last Risk Register to be approved by the EC set a net reserves target of £2.1m; at the close of the 2022–23 financial year net reserves (excluding Fixed Assets) were at £944k (44% of target).

At the close of 2023–24, reserves dropped to £763k; only 36% of the target set. Reserves have been declining as a result of several years of deficits. The EC is working towards reversing this trend, and generating surpluses to build reserves.

Current principal ongoing or 'standing' risks faced by ECPR

Risk	Loss of Methods School as a viable event	Reductions to publications income	Sustained loss of surplus from events	Trade or protest action leading to the cancellation of, or significant interruption to, the General Conference	Bank failure
Impact	Increased costs resulting in the activity becoming financially unviable	Decreased income caused by the impact of Open Access	Increased costs resulting in loss of surplus across all events	Trade disputes lead to staff at the local host institution going on strike, or protestors disrupting the event in some way	Loss of unguaranteed income
Mitigation	Revision of strategies and format	ECPR has signed new contracts with CUP to bring the journals under one publisher, stabilising income and reducing the impact	Costs secured as part of the tender process and budgets confirmed in advance	Ensuring ECPR's contracts with host institutions, and our insurance polcies, cover such scenarios	Monitor news
Net risk rating	Very high	Very high	Likely	Very low	Very low

Financial review

Income

Our four primary income streams are:

- Registration income from the annual General Conference
- Membership fees (subscriptions)
- Publications income
- Methods School registration income

Every year, ECPR raises membership subscription rates and event registration fees in line with European Central Bank inflation rates. For the 2023–24 year, fees increased by 4.49%.

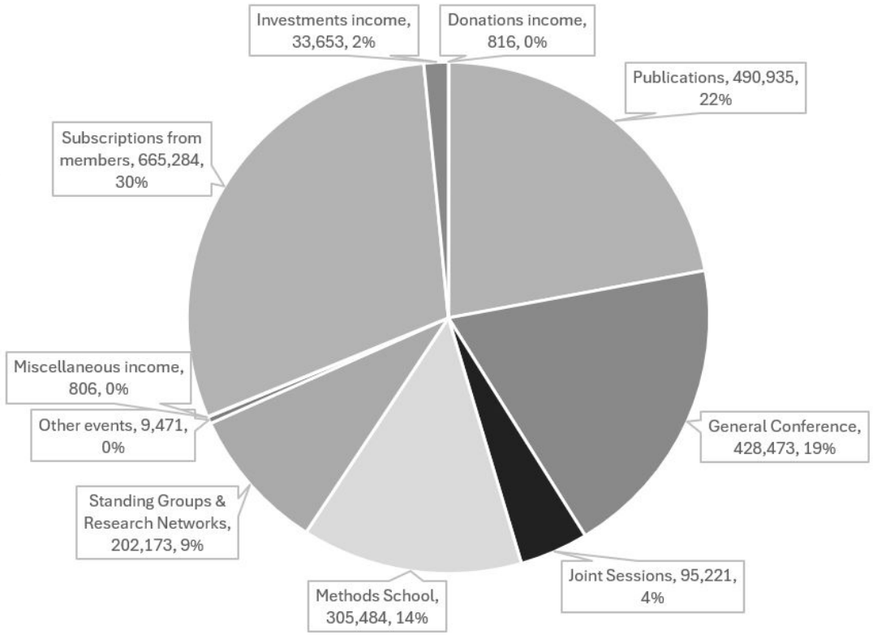
Overall income in 2023–24 increased by 15.4%, up from £1.9m in 2022–23 to £2.2m. Income from publications increased by 17.6% to £491k, compared with £418k in the prior period.

Broken down across our portfolio of journals and book series:

- **ECPR Press** income increased by 60.2%, from £16.3k to £26.1k. This was the result of several years of backdated sales being received from third parties, due to ECPR transitioning the Press back in house.
- ***EJPR* income** increased by 6.6%, from £273k to £291k. This is because the forecast for the 2024 journal income, which will not be fully received until 2025, is higher than for 2023.
- ***EPS* income** increased by 36.2%, from £63k to £86k. This is due to revised forecasts, which project a higher return in royalty income for the journal.
- ***EPSR* income** increased by 52.1% from £32k to £48k. This is due to the publishers revising their forecasts because of structural changes in how academic publishing is now financed, resulting in the creation of a new revenue stream.
- ***EJIR* income** remained stable at £18k.
- ***PRX* income** increased by 39.2%, from £15k to £21k. This was mainly the result of the inclusion of an accrual for anticipated 2024 royalty income due to be received in 2025.

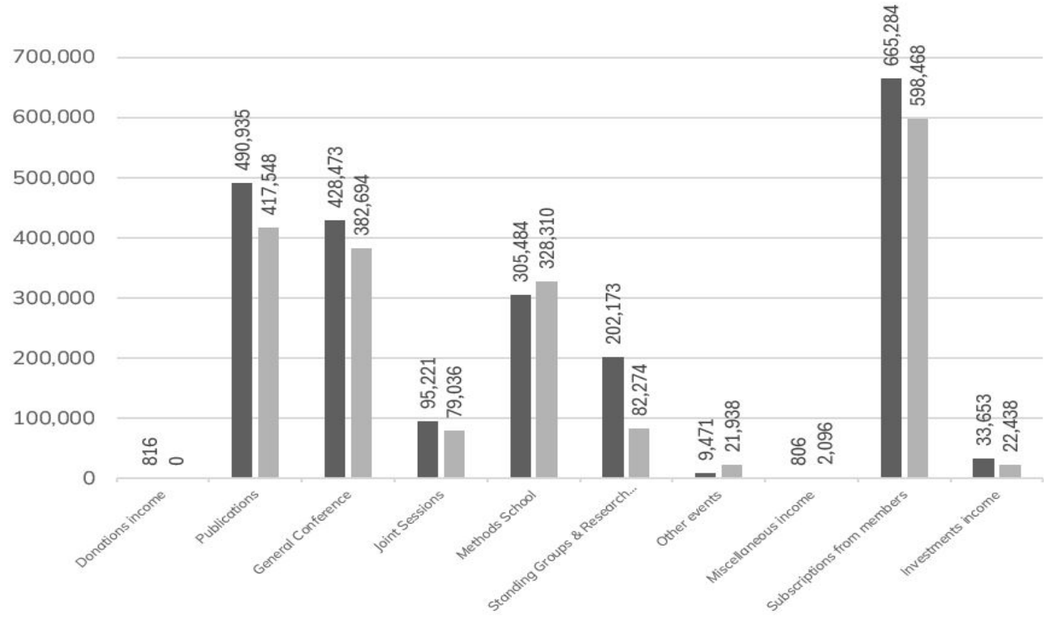
Income summary

Breakdown of income received in 2023–2024



Income compared to prior year

Variance 2023–2024 income against previous year



Event income increased by 16.4%, from £894k in the previous year, to £1m in 2023–24.

- **General Conference** income increased by 12%, from £383k to £428k. There were 411 fewer registrations for the 2024 event than in 2023, but this was offset by the fee increase.
- **Joint Sessions** income increased by 20.5%, from £79k to £95k. This was the result of an 50 extra registrations for the 2024 event, and of fee increases.
- **Methods School** income decreased by 7%, from £328k to £305k. Increased fees were offset by the fact that ECPR sold 32 fewer course registrations.
- **Standing Group and Research Network** income increased by 145.7%, from £82k to £202k. Two large events which occur in alternate years cause a significant variance in income when compared to the previous year.
- **Other events** income decreased by 56.8%, from £22k to £9k. This was due mainly to income from the ECPR Academy being received in the previous year but not in 2023–24.
- **Miscellaneous income** decreased by 61.5%, from £2k to £806. This is because ECPR received £1.5k of funding in 2022–23 for a member of staff on a government training program that we did not receive in 2023–24.
- **Membership subscription** income increased by 11.2%, from £598k to £665k. This was due to a significant increase in member numbers – 20 – from 323 to 343, and to increases in subscription fees.
- **Investment income** increased by 50%, from £22k to £34k, due to an improvement in the investment portfolio.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure increased by 14.5%, from £2.3 to £2.4m.

Support costs remained stable, at £1.1m. Governance costs increased by 7.3% on audit fees and 10.2% on EC expenditure, rising from £16k to £17k and from £47k to £52k respectively. Expenditure on funding and prizes, personnel, office, banking and finance, legal and professional fees, depreciation and taxation all decreased. Expenditure on publicity and marketing, IT software and equipment, general administration and salaries and wages all increased.

Expenditure on staff salaries and wages is the largest area of expenditure, and it rose 6.4% from £1.1m to £1.2m. Expenditure on staffing for support activities increased 5% from £670k to £703k. Expenditure on staffing for generating funds increased by 16.9%, from £47k to £55k and on charitable activities it increased by 7.6%, from £402k to £432k. Overall salaries and wages increased by 5.4%, from £923k to £973k. Average staff numbers increased from 27 to 28 because vacant positions were filled, staff on maternity leave returned and existing staff received promotions. Employer social security costs increased 9.1%, from ££83k to £91k. Pension costs increased 13%, from £112k to £127k.

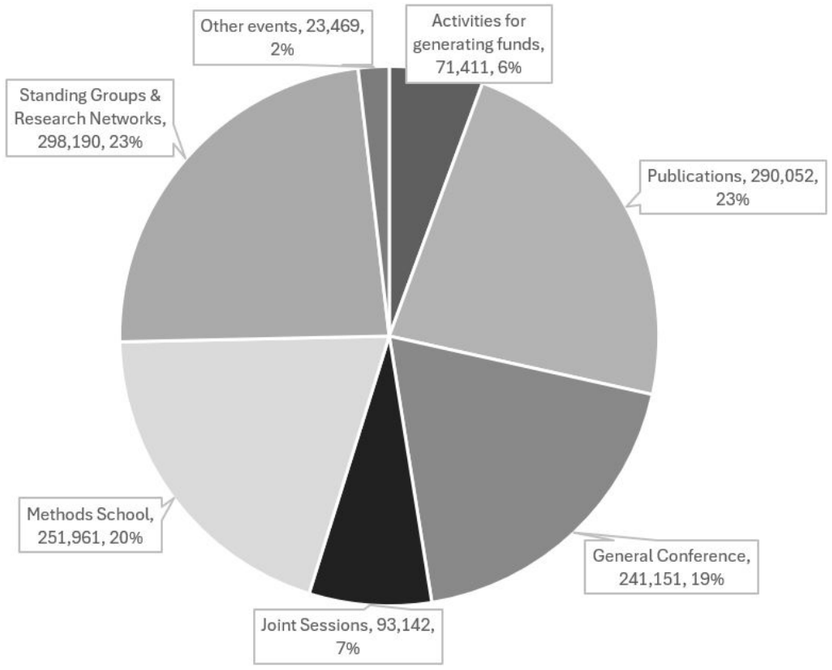
- **Expenditure on raising funds** (membership subscriptions) increased by 21.3%, from £59k to £71k. Host fee waivers increased by £5k and salary apportionment increased by £8k.

Due to the increase in direct expenditure, the allocation of support costs increased 14.5%, from £56k to £64k.

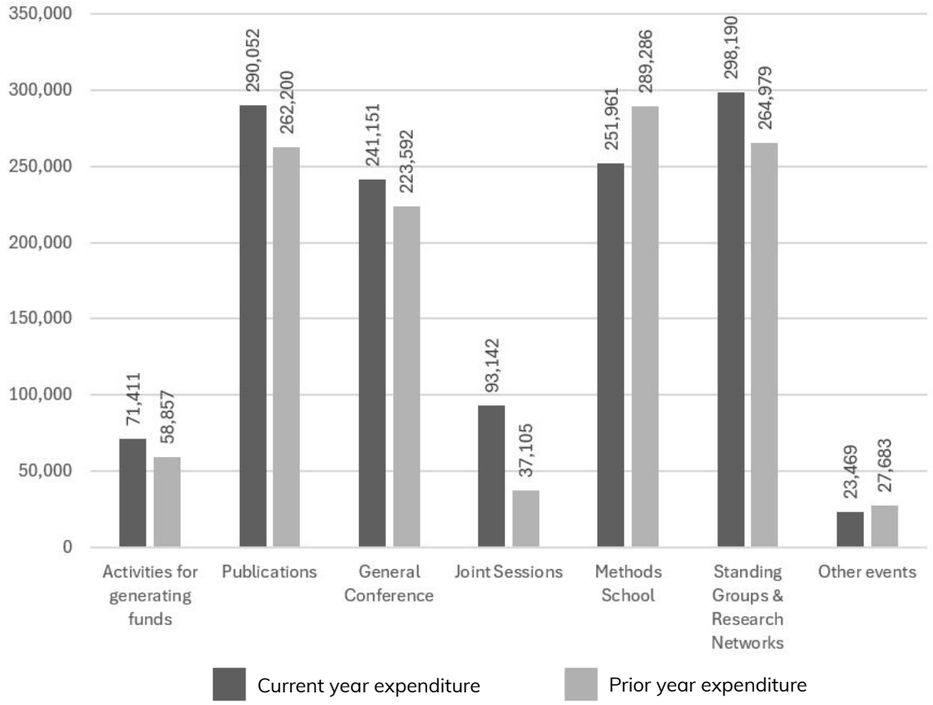
- **Expenditure on publications** increased 10.6%, from £262k to £290k, due mainly to an increase in staff salary apportionment of £39k.
- **General Conference expenditure** increased by 7.9%, from £224k to £241k due to an increase in staff salary apportionment of £7k and a small increase in event expenditure of £10k.
- **Joint Sessions expenditure** increased by 151%, from £37k to £93k. The 2023 event had been hosted free, so the sharp increase was mainly the result of a £57k rise in event costs.
- **Methods School expenditure** decreased by 12.9%, from £289k to £252k. ECPR saved £30k in costs by holding the Winter School online instead of in person.
- **Standing Group and Research Network expenditure** increased by 12.5%, from £265k to £298k, because two large events that take place in alternate years both fell in 2024.
- **Expenditure on other events such as retreats** decreased by 15.2%, from £28k to £23k because ECPR held them online.

Expenditure summary

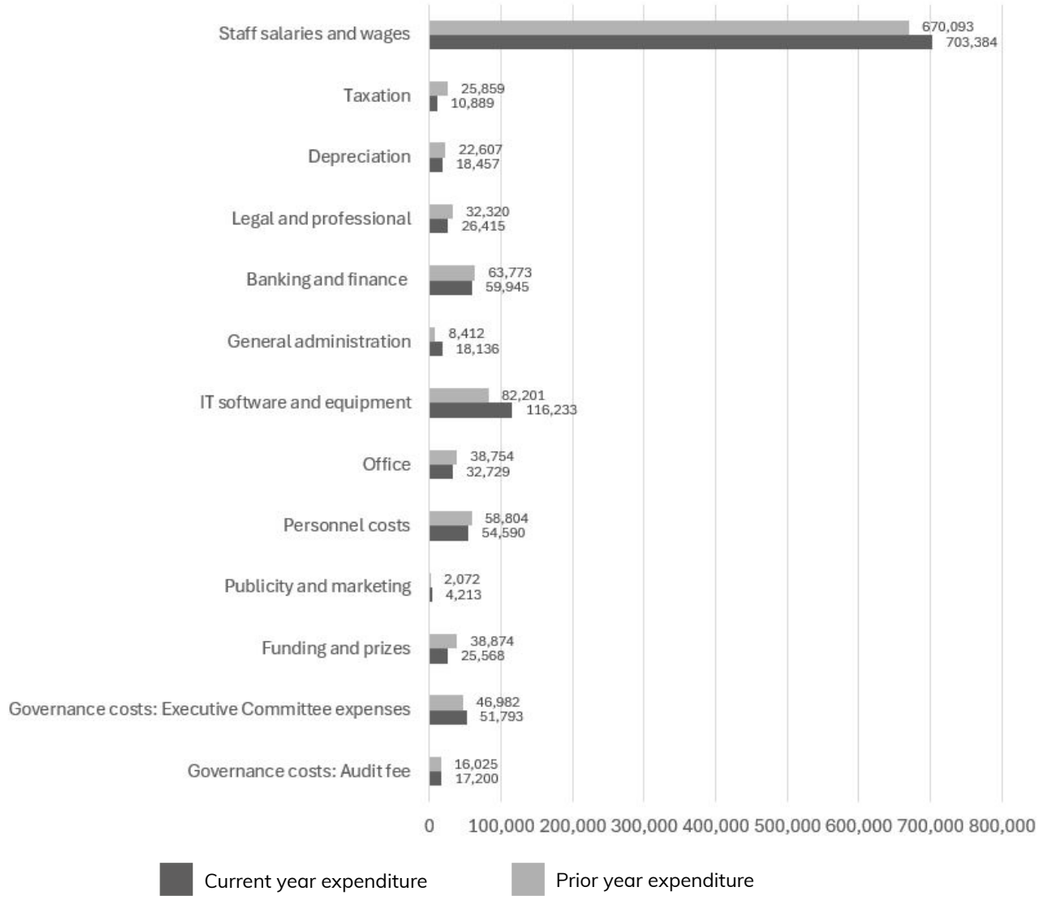
Breakdown of charitable expenditure 2023–2024



Charitable expenditure compared to prior year



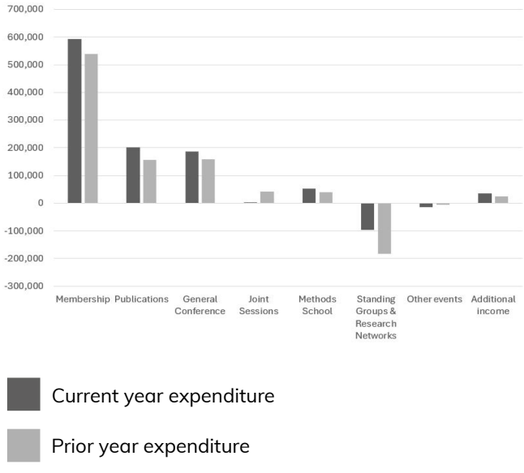
Support costs compared to prior year



Surplus and deficit

- **Membership generated a surplus of £594k**. This represents an increase of £54k (10.1%) on the previous year.
- **Publications** generated a surplus of £201k, an increase of £46k (29.3%) on the previous year.
- **The General Conference** generated a surplus of £187k, an increase of £28k (17.7%) on the previous year.
- **The Joint Sessions** generated a surplus of £2k. This is a decrease of £40k (95%) on the previous year.
- **The Methods School** generated a surplus of £54k, an increase of £14k (37.2%) on the previous year.
- **Standing Groups and Research Networks** generated a deficit of £96k. This is a decrease in deficit of £87k (47.4%) on the previous year.
- **Other events** generated a deficit of £14k, an increase in deficit of £8k (147.3%) compared to the prior year.
- **Additional income from miscellaneous payments, donations and investments** amounted to £35k. This is a rise of £11k (43.8%) on the previous year.

Surplus for income-generating activities



Overall, the surplus generated by these activities was £963k, up £192k (24.9%) from the prior year. This amounted to 80.9% of the support costs, up from 68.9% in the prior year. The deficit of £177k was reduced by investment gains of £114k, so the overall deficit was £63k – a decrease in deficit of £242k (79.3%) compared to the prior year.

Investment policy and performance

When ECPR makes a surplus, we use this money to build reserves which we can call upon to keep the organisation functioning should it meet any of the risks highlighted by our Risk Register or generate operating deficits instead of surpluses. Some of our reserves are held in an investment portfolio.

After a review by the EC in 2017, we decided that our managed fund was not bringing us value for money, so we transferred the £855k to Vanguard Investments UK Limited, split 50/50 across two funds: Vanguard Lifestrategy 40% Equity Fund and Vanguard Lifestrategy 60% Equity Fund. These index-tracking funds tend to be less volatile than active funds, and attract lower management costs, at 0.24%.

Since the transfer of the portfolio, the investments had brought us gains increasing the value of the fund to £1.1m in 2020–21. The value of the fund decreased for the first time in 2021–22, but has been recovering steadily since then, and at the end of 2023–24 it had returned to a value of £1.1m. Investment gains in the year were £114k, and £34k of income was generated.

Administrative information

Principal Office

Harbour House
6–8 Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex CO2 8JF

Registered Charity Number

1167403 CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Website

https://ecpr.eu/

Auditors

Sumer Auditco Limited
Statutory Auditor
820 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YQ

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
Teviot House
South Gayle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9DR

Solicitors

Birkett Long LLP
Faviell House, 1 Coval Wells
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1WZ

Investment Managers

Vanguard Investments
UK Limited
PO Box 10315
Chelmsford
Essex CM99 2AT

Staff at Harbour House in Colchester

Employed 1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024

Director

Tanja Munro

Senior Management Team

Rebecca Gethen
Head of Communications

Mark Kench
Head of IT and Events

Helen Morgan
Head of Finance *Until May 2024* / Head of Compliance *From May 2024*

Communications

Helen Cooper Community Engagement Manager

Kate Hawkins
Publishing and Content Manager

Olga Roelens
Marketing Manager

Rebecca Delve Editorial Coordinator *Maternity leave June 2023 – July 2024*

Anna Hubbard
Editorial Coordinator

Charlie Brown
Editorial Coordinator

Jessica Dorling Community Engagement Coordinator

Miah Edwards Digital Engagement Coordinator

Events

Annie Ho Events Manager

Bridie Calver
Training Manager
Maternity leave October 2023 – August 2024

Samantha Wong
Training Coordinator
Until May 2024

Andie Nash
Events Coordinator
Until October 2023

Hayley Cadel
Events Coordinator
Until September 2024

Amy Nice Events Coordinator

Robert Neale
Events Coordinator

Alice See Training Coordinator
From May 2024

IT and Website

James Gooch
Development Manager

Colin McPhie
Systems Manager

Antoni Christodoulou
Developer

Jordan Rudge
Junior Developer

Compliance

Bianca Taylor
Finance Manager

Kim Jesney HR Manager

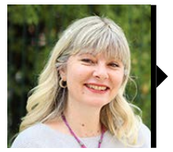
Francisco Alamo Rios
Data Analyst
From October 2023

Sean Judge
Finance Assistant

Calum Martin
Finance Apprentice
Until May 2024

Emily Price
Office Administrator
March – June 2024

Executive Committee: trustees 2024 – 2027



Daniela Irrera Professor of Political Science and International Relations, Centre for High Defence Studies, Rome
■ Positive and negative action and influence on global politics by non-state actors.

Petra Guasti Associate Professor of Democratic Theory, Charles University
■ Central and Eastern Europe, civil society, comparative politics, democratisation, EU, gender, governance, integration, parliaments, political participation, populism.

Ladislav Cabada Vice-Rector for Research, Quality and Development, Metropolitan University Prague

■ Regionalism and development studies in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Gianfranco Baldini Associate Professor, University of Bologna
■ Political parties, electoral systems; regionalism and federalism; comparative politics; local politics; political communication; European Union.

Christian Haerpfer Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Vienna
■ Europe (Central and Eastern), Comparative Politics, Democracy, Political Participation, Electoral Behaviour, Public Opinion, Survey Research.

Shane Martin Anthony King Chair in Comparative Government, University of Essex
■ Legislative organisation, Irish politics, parliamentary structures, influence of electoral incentives, representation.

Sofia Vasilopoulou Professor of European Politics, King's College London
■ Comparative politics and political behaviour; causes and consequences of political dissatisfaction; Euroscepticism and far-right politics.

Jonathan Polk Professor, Department of Political Science, Lund University
■ Political parties, the European Union and comparative politics. Representational relationship between citizens and parties in European democracies.

Anne Rasmussen Professor of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

■ Representation, (inequality in) political representation, public opinion, political parties, and public policy.

Jean-Michel Eymeri-Douzans Exceptional Class Professor, Sciences Po Toulouse
■ International expert in comparative public administration. Also legislative behaviour, legislative organisation, parliamentary accountability.

Luana Russo Associate Professor in Political Behaviour and Quantitative Methods, Maastricht University
■ Elections, political attitudes and behaviours, political psychology, affective polarisation, and negative partisanship.

Amy Verdun Full Professor of Political Science, University of Victoria, British Columbia
■ European integration widely defined: political economy, policy, governance, integration theories, comparative politics.

Structure, governance, and management

Organisation and control

We are governed by our board of trustees, the EC, with day-to-day operational management delegated to the Director and Senior Management Team. The EC is responsible for ensuring ECPR acts solely to further its charitable objects. It reports to the Council, which is made up of Official Representatives from member institutions.

ECPR's activities were divided into five portfolios of work; however, during the year, one of the Subcommittees was disbanded and the work of that committee was absorbed into another portfolio. Each of the four Subcommittees comprises two or three members of the EC, plus the Chair and Vice Chair. The Director, related Senior Manager and their staff work with the Subcommittees day-to-day to operationalise EC decisions. Subcommittees have decision-making authority delegated to them via a Scheme of Delegation, and bring key items to the EC in plenary for decision and strategic discussion.

There is a structured induction process for new trustees which includes meeting key staff and receiving governance, strategy and financial documents. The first meeting of a new cohort of trustees will normally take place at ECPR's offices where they will have the opportunity to sit in on the final meeting of the outgoing group.

Key management remuneration

All Executive Committee members give their time freely. No remuneration was paid to them during the year. Trustees are reimbursed travel and subsistence expenses when working away on ECPR business. Accommodation is usually organised and paid for by ECPR. ECPR provides the Chair's institution financial support to cover their absence while they are serving their term of office.

No remuneration is made to serving EC members or to people who volunteer for ECPR without the express approval of the EC and in line with the Charity Commission for England and Wales' regulations.

Staff Remuneration Policy

As a UK registered charity, the ECPR seeks to ensure that:

- staff are paid fairly, in line with local market rates, appropriately for their level of responsibility and in line with the pay of colleagues who perform similar tasks;
- staff salaries are awarded based on skills and experience and are free from discrimination;
- we comply with our obligation to expend our incoming resources responsibly;
- there is transparency in all aspects of our operations.

To achieve the above goals, we must balance the need to ensure value for money when expending the Charity's resources with the need to recruit and retain the best people for the job.

The EC is responsible for setting management pay, including that of the Director, usually by delegation to the Management Subcommittee; the EC is also responsible for the recruitment and appointment of the Director. Staff are awarded an annual cost of living pay increase, which is also approved by the EC.

Conflicts of Interest Policy

ECPR trustees have a legal duty to ensure they always act in ECPR's best interest when making decisions. It is a legal requirement that trustees report a potential conflict of interest as soon as it arises. A conflict of interest would arise if:

- a trustee could benefit financially from a decision over which they have influence, whether directly or indirectly through a personal connection;
- a trustee's loyalty to the ECPR conflicted with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person.

Conflicts of interest are common in charities, so we adopted practices aimed at reducing the risk of / to:

- making decisions that could be overturned;
- ECPR's reputation;
- trustees having to repay ECPR for unauthorised payments.

ECPR has adopted the following practices to safeguard against the above risks occurring:

- clauses 7.8 and 8 of the **ECPR Constitution**;
- implementation of a Register of Interests, which is updated annually with appropriate procedures for managing conflicts.

Where trustees delegate their decision-making powers to staff members under the terms of the organisation's Scheme of Delegation, those staff are also expected to declare any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from any discussions

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

As a group of trustees, the EC is responsible for preparing its Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the EC to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The EC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of ECPR's Constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

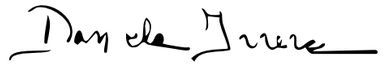
In so far as the EC is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditor is unaware;
- it has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

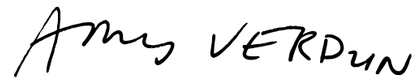
The EC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditor

On 28 March 2024, our auditor, SB Audit LLP, merged with Sumer Auditco Limited. Accordingly, SB Audit LLP formally resigned as the Company's auditor, and the Directors duly appointed Sumer Auditco Limited to fill the vacancy arising.



Daniela Irrera
On behalf of the Executive Committee
13 March 2025



Amy Verdun
On behalf of the Executive Committee
13 March 2025

Independent Auditor's Report

SB Audit LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the European Consortium for Political Research (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Executive Committee is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the Head of Compliance (as required by auditing standards) and senior management, inspection of the Charity's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the Head of Compliance the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: compliance with the requirements of The Charity Commission, health and safety, corporate governance including safeguarding and wellbeing, human rights and employment law, anti-bribery and corruption and GDPR. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws

and regulations to enquiry of the Governors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the Charity complies with such regulations, enquiries of management and those charged with governance concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims, inspection of any relevant legal documentation, review of board minutes, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and the performance of analytical review to identify any unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK). A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is on the Financial Reporting Council's website. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

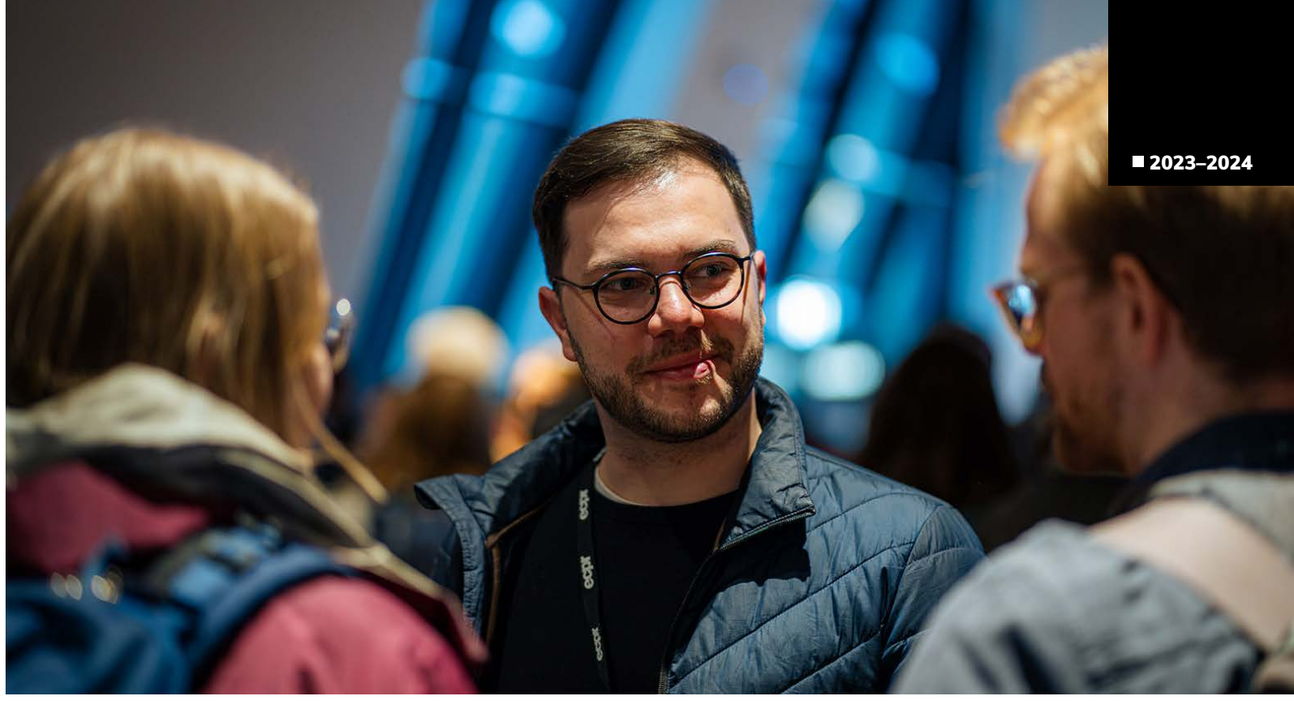
This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have forme.

Signature and approval

Sumer Audit

Piers Harrison, Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of Sumer Auditco Limited, 13 March 2025
Statutory Auditor, 820 The Crescent, Colchester Business Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 9YQ
Sumer Auditco Limited is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006



Statement of financial activities

Year ended 30 September 2024

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Income from			
Donations		**816**	-
Charitable activities	2	**1,532,563**	1,313,896
Subscriptions from members	3	**665,284**	598,468
Investments	4	**33,653**	22,438
Total income		**2,232,316**	1,934,802
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	6	**135,519**	114,835
Charitable activities	7	**2,273,409**	2,155,643
Total expenditure		**2,408,928**	2,270,478
Unrealised investment gains / (losses)		**113,588**	30,930
Net expenditure of funds for the year		**(63,024)**	(304,746)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		**2,355,836**	2,660,582
Total funds carried forward		**2,292,812**	2,355,836

Continuing operations
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Total recognised gains and losses
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Funds
All of the income, expenditure and gains for the last two financial periods relate to unrestricted funds.

Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2024

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2024 £	2023 £ as restated
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	**394,965**	412,778
Investments	12	**1,134,915**	999,326
		1,529,880	1,412,104
Current assets			
Debtors	13	**442,100**	395,900
Current asset investment		**104,338**	101,380
Cash and cash equivalents	14	**1,270,601**	1,529,424
		1,817,039	2,026,704
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(1,054,107)**	(1,082,972)
Net current assets		**762,932**	943,732
Net assets		**2,292,812**	2,355,836
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**2,292,812**	2,355,836

Approved by the Executive Committee and signed on its behalf by:

Daniela Irrera
On behalf of the Executive Committee
13 March 2025

Amy Verdun
On behalf of the Executive Committee
13 March 2025

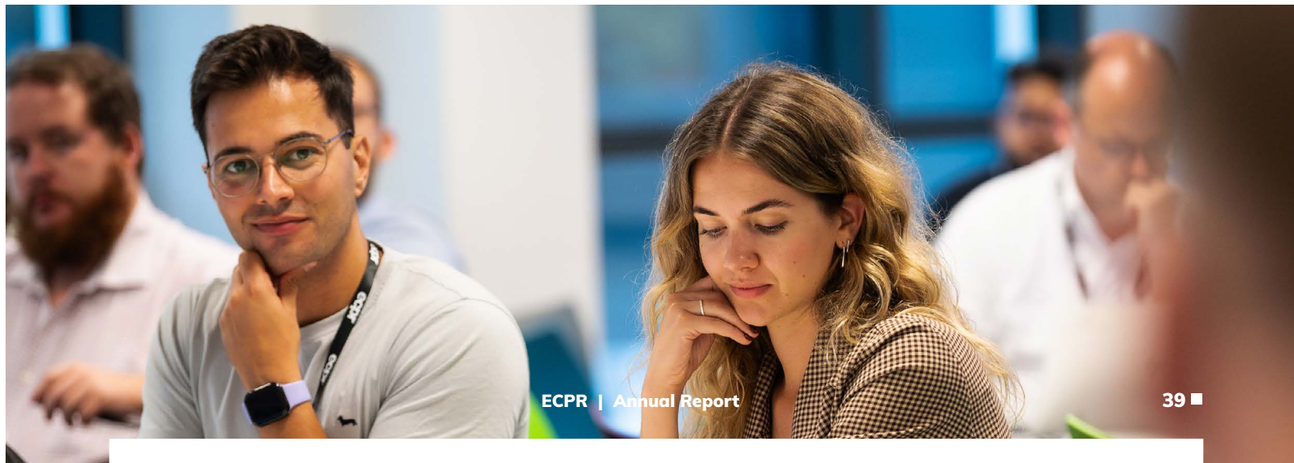
Statement of cashflows

Year ended 30 September 2024

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	2024 £	2023 £ as restated
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net expenditure for the year	**(63,024)**	(304,746)
Adjusted for		
Depreciation of tangible assets	**19,409**	22,607
Loss on disposal of assets	**94**	94
Unrealised investment gain	**(113,588)**	(30,930)
Dividend accumulated in funds	**(22,001)**	(16,595)
Interest received	**(11,652)**	(5,843)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	**(46,200)**	15,909
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	**(28,865)**	88,069
Net cash used in operating activities	**(265,827)**	(231,435)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(1,690)**	(9,510)
Interest received	**8,694**	4,995
Purchase of investments	**-**	(50,000)
Net cash gained from / (used in) investing activities	**7,004**	(54,515)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(258,823)**	(285,950)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**1,529,424**	1,815,374
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**1,270,601**	1,529,424

No Net debt analysis has been included as there is no debt in the charity



Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2024

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1 and are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency.

b. Going concern

Having considered the Charity's forecasts and projections the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements. For this reason the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. The Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties with regard to going concern.

c. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from subscriptions from members is accounted for in the year to which they relate.

Income from publications in the form of royalties is received in relation to the journals. Royalty income is accounted for in the year that it becomes receivable, which is when the publication is sold.

Income from conferences is accounted for in the year in which the conference occurs.

Income from investment activities is recognised when received and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity.

d. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Reserves are targeted to be approximately 12 months regular expenditure. All funds held are unrestricted.

f. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading including investment management and their associated costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of publications, courses, conferences and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Governance costs represents the costs of governance arrangements and include costs associated with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but are not directly attributable to charitable activities. Support costs represent costs attributable to the management of the charity's assets and organisational administration. These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

h. Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences arising in the normal course of trading are dealt with in the statement of financial

activities for the year.

i. Fixed assets

Individual assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

- Freehold buildings between 2% and 10% per annum.
- Office and IT equipment 25%
- Freehold land is not depreciated.

j. Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are calculated based on the market value at which the investments are recorded in the financial statements and are shown on the face of the statement of financial activities.

k. Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

m. Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of readily available amounts held in liquid funds. Movements in the fair value of the asset are included in the profit and loss.

n. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account.

o. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

p. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

q. Taxation

ShapeEuropean Consortium for Political Research is a charity within the meaning of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity for tax purposes in line with Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, European Consortium for Political Research is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to its charitable purposes.

r. Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Charity has no further payment obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity in independently administered funds.

s. Significant judgements and estimates

The more significant judgements and estimates involved in the preparation of the financial statements include assessing the depreciation rates applicable to tangible fixed assets and the way in which certain costs should be apportioned. Further details regarding these points are included within the accounting policies.

2. Income from charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Publications (note 5)	490,935	417,548
General Conference	428,473	382,694
Joint Sessions of Workshops	95,221	79,036
Methods School	305,484	328,310
Standing Groups & Research Networks	202,173	82,274
Other events	9,471	21,938
Miscellaneous	806	2,096
Total	**1,532,563**	**1,313,896**

Income from charitable activities can be further analysed as:

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from rendering of services	1,041,628	896,348
Income from royalties	490,935	417,548
Total	**1,532,563**	**1,313,896**

3. Subscription from Members

	2024 £	2023 £
Subscription from members	665,284	598,468

100% of the subscriptions from members – £665,284 (2023: £598,468) relates to the provision of services.

4. Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from fixed-asset investments	22,001	16,595
Bank interest receivable	11,652	5,843
Total	**33,653**	**22,438**

5. Publications income

	2024 £	2023 £
ECPR Press	26,115	16,304
European Journal of Political Research	290,707	272,585
European Political Science (journal)	85,826	63,012
Other publications	708	415
European Political Science Review (journal)	48,480	31,867
European Journal of International Relations	18,560	18,608
Political Research Exchange (journal)	20,539	14,757
Total	**490,935**	**417,548**

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Directly attributable activities for generating funds	71,411	58,857
Support costs allocated	64,108	55,978
Total	**135,519**	**114,835**

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Publications	290,052	262,200
General Conference	241,151	223,592
Joint Sessions of Workshops	93,142	37,105
Methods School	251,961	289,286
Standing Groups & Research Networks	298,190	264,979
Other events	23,469	27,683
Share of support costs (see note 8)	1,075,444	1,050,798
Total	**2,273,409**	**2,155,643**

8. Support costs

Basis of allocation

Support costs have been allocated against charitable activities in line with the percentage of other expenditure directly attributable to the activity. All members of the Executive Committee are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their duties. During the year reimbursed expenses amounted to £39,793 (2023: £30,057). This amount is included within governance costs. No emoluments have been paid to any member of the Executive Committee. Support costs can be broken down as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Funding and prizes	25,568	38,874
Publicity and marketing	4,213	2,072
Personnel costs	54,590	58,804
Office costs	32,729	38,754
IT software and equipment	116,233	82,201
General administration	18,136	8,412
Banking and finance	59,945	63,773
Legal and professional	26,415	32,320
Depreciation	18,457	22,607
Taxation	10,889	25,859
Staff salaries and wages	703,384	670,093
Total	**1,070,559**	**1,043,769**

Governance costs: audit fee	17,200	16,025
Governance costs: Executive Committee expenses	51,793	46,982
Total	**68,993**	**63,007**
Grand total	**1,139,552**	**1,106,776**

9. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	972,594	923,133
Social security costs	90,993	83,370
Pension costs – defined contribution	126,754	112,145
Total	**1,190,341**	**1,118,648**
Directly attributable wages (note 7)	432,031	401,563
Directly attributable wages for activities for generating funds	54,926	46,992
Total wages cost to be included in support costs allocation (note 8)	703,384	670,093
Total	**1,190,341**	**1,118,648**

Management and administration of the Charity	28	27

The charity considered its key management personnel to comprise the Executive Committee and the Senior Management Team, comprising the Director and three Heads of Department. The total employment benefits, including employers' pension contributions of the key management personnel, were £306,106 (2023: £281,246). Three employees had employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000 and one had employee benefits between £90,000 and £100,000. (2023: Three employees had employee benefits between £60,000 and £70,000 and one had employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000).

10. Audit fee

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration in respect of audit services	17,200	16,025
Total	**17,200**	**16,025**

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office and IT equipment £	Freehold land and buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2023	42,177	489,117	531,294
Additions	1,690	-	1,690
Disposals	(1,046)	-	(1,046)
At 30 September 2024	**42,821**	**489,117**	**531,938**
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2023	29,165	89,351	118,516
Charge for year	5,990	13,419	19,409
Eliminated on disposals	(952)	-	(952)
At 30 September 2024	**34,203**	**102,770**	**136,973**
Net book value			
At 30 September 2024	**8,618**	**386,347**	**394,965**
At 30 September 2023	13,012	399,766	412,778

12. Investments

Assets held for charity use and to provide investment return	2024 £	2023 £
Banco Santander shares	1,135	1,135
Funds held with Vanguard Investment UK, Limited	1,133,780	998,191
Total	**1,134,915**	**999,326**

The movement in the year is as follows	2024 £	2023 £
Market value as at 1 October 2023	999,326	951,801
Gain on valuation	113,588	30,930
Dividend accumulated in fund	22,001	16,595
Market value as at 30 September 2024	**1,134,915**	**999,326**

The investments shown above comprise UK and overseas investments. Below are investment holdings by category:	2024 £	2023 £
Managed funds	1,134,915	999,326

The managed funds with Vanguard relate to two Vanguard LifeStrategy funds. The LifeStrategy 40% equity fund is made up of 40% equity and 60% bonds. The LifeStrategy 60% equity fund is made up of 60% equity and 40% bonds. The investments are split equally between the two managed funds.

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors (including subscriptions due)	258,430	227,076
Other debtors	169,705	124,975
Prepayments		
Events	1,483	2,000
Publications	-	3,750
HR costs	1,079	825
Rates	1,431	1,476
Insurance	7,962	13,669
Office costs	286	284
Professional fees	1,724	3,342
General Prepayments	-	18,503
Total prepayments	**13,965**	**43,849**
Total debtors	**442,100**	**395,900**

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following items for the purpose of the Statement of cash flows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Total cash and cash equivalents	**1,270,601**	**1,529,424**

15. Prior year adjustment

Following a review of cash and investments, management determined that some balances are held in accounts with a maturity date greater than three months. In line with the accounting policy these balances, totalling £101,380, have therefore been reclassified from cash and cash equivalents to current asset investments within the Balance Sheet. There is no impact on the Statement of Financial Position in the current or prior year.

16. Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income	831,270	699,072
Accruals	68,010	235,641
Trade creditors	135,827	117,018
Other taxation and Social Security	19,000	31,241
Total	**1,054,107**	**1,082,972**

Amounts invoiced in advance represent income in respect of future events; subscription income from members where the subscription year starts on 1 October 2024; and publications income for the three-month period to 31 December 2024.

17. Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	428,135	352,051
Financial assets measured at fair value	1,134,915	999,326
Total	**1,563,050**	**1,351,377**
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	186, 637	336,634

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors.

Financial assets measured at fair value comprise listed investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise accruals and trade creditors.

18. Related parties

The related parties of ECPR are the members of the Executive Committee. ECPR is controlled by its Executive Committee.

No other transactions were identified which should be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

ecpr

£27K

Awarded in funding across four funding streams

42

Events organised

67

Standing Groups & Research Networks

338

Institutional members

457

Journal articles & blogs published

7,507

Scholars attended ECPR events and training

9

Published podcasts

476

General Conference Panels

13

Prizes awarded

21K

Active MyECPR account holders

£2.23m

Income generated

Encouraging the training, research, and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

Principal Office
Harbour House | 6 – 8 Hythe Quay
Colchester | CO2 8JF | United Kingdom ▪ **ecpr.eu**

Registered Charity Number 1167403 Charitable Incorporated Organisation

EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1167403

Accounts

Annual Report

Financial Statements
and Auditor's Report
1 October 2022 –
30 September 2023

ecpr.eu

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1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023

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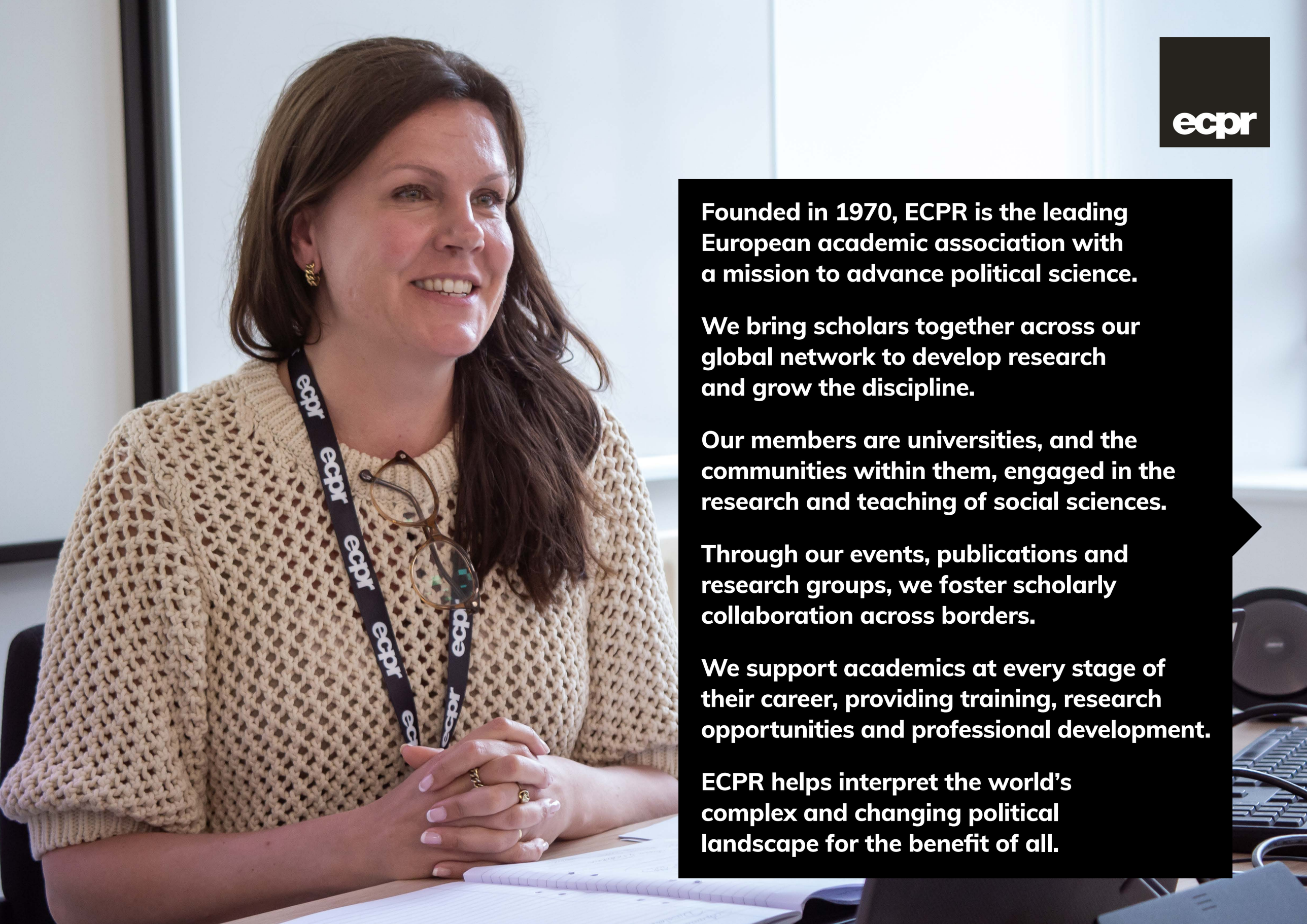


Founded in 1970, ECPR is the leading European academic association with a mission to advance political science.

We bring scholars together across our global network to develop research and grow the discipline.

Our members are universities, and the communities within them, engaged in the research and teaching of social sciences.

Through our events, publications and research groups, we foster scholarly collaboration across borders.

We support academics at every stage of their career, providing training, research opportunities and professional development.

ECPR helps interpret the world's complex and changing political landscape for the benefit of all.

Report of the Executive Committee

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is pleased to present the Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the twelve months ending 30 September 2023

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the ECPR's Constitution, the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice', in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, published in October 2019.

About us

ECPR is a learned society and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in the UK that supports the advancement of political science.

Our members are universities and research institutes concerned with the teaching and research of political science and related disciplines.

Within these institutions is a community of tens of thousands of scholars, from PhD student to senior professor, all of whom benefit directly from ECPR membership. While the ECPR is a membership association, our activities are open to all.

Our mission is to advance political science. We do this in two ways:

- by providing platforms and opportunities for scholars to collaborate and share research, with the purpose of strengthening the discipline and growing the volume and impact of its output worldwide; and
- by delivering training and development opportunities to scholars at all career stages, with the purpose of enhancing professional skills to strengthen and support the community.

Our charitable status

Public benefit

The Executive Committee (EC) has a duty to ensure that the activities undertaken by the ECPR fulfil its charitable objectives and provide a public benefit. Our public is the academic institutions which make up our membership and those scholars who study and teach within them. It is also the wider general public, whose lives are influenced by the resulting research. The EC ensures this public benefit is met through the creation and continued development of a range of activities and initiatives to foster deeper and more productive collaboration between scholars worldwide, with the aim of producing the best quality research. These activities include:

- an annual programme of international workshops, conferences and training events designed to develop ongoing research and provide professional and skills-based training to scholars;
- a range of funding opportunities to support the participation of students and early career scholars in our events;
- a broad and diverse publishing portfolio providing opportunities for scholars to publish and read the most up-to-date research in their field, via subscription and Open Access platforms;
- a number of high-profile prizes celebrating academic achievement across all career stages;
- a programme of support to nurture and grow our sub-disciplinary research groups which, in turn, extends the reach and focus of the organisation; and
- the development of a range of studies and policies aimed at understanding the state of the profession across Europe and the rest of the world, and supporting all scholars working within the discipline.

This report provides a summary of these activities carried out in the 2022–23 financial year.

Grant-making policy

As a membership association, we provide a range of funding opportunities to individual scholars and to groups affiliated with ECPR. This provision of funding and financial support to our affiliates and Standing Groups (SGs) and Research Networks (RNs) is one of the primary ways in which we achieve our charitable objectives. The EC continually reviews ECPR's funding provision with the aim of increasing and improving the value to affiliates and, in turn, their institution.

The funding we provide is listed below:

- SGs and RNs have access to a significant annual budget on which they can draw to support their event activities. This funding is available either for internal events organised by the Group or Network which would otherwise run at a deficit, or to support external events that align with the thematic topic on which the Group is focused, in the form of Sponsorship Grants. In 2022–23 we provided £36k of funding for this purpose.
- ECPR affiliates can apply for funding to support their attendance at our events in the form of fee waivers and travel and accommodation grants. The grants (included within expenditure from charitable activities) are available to students and early career researchers who cannot access funding elsewhere. In 2022–23 we provided £33k worth of travel and accommodation grants, and waived £20k worth of registration fees, which supported 65 scholars.
- In 2019 we launched a 50th Anniversary Fund which supports political scientists facing difficulties joining our activities and events for economic, political, social or similar reasons. Unlike our event funding provision, the 50th Anniversary Fund is not restricted to participants from member institutions. Instead, we use it to enable scholars from across the world to participate in our events. In 2022–23 we spent in excess of £30k on this funding stream. This gave 27 scholars access to ECPR events, financing their travel and accommodation costs, and waiving the full fee for event registration.
- The EC Bonus Fund was developed to broaden the funding the ECPR offers outside our traditional provision for events. The Bonus Fund provides 'seedcorn funding' to any SG or RN working on developing a bid to a major funder for a significant research project. In 2022–23, we were pleased to provide over £1k worth of funding for this purpose.

2022–2023

Welcome

For the first time in many years, our membership has enjoyed significant growth, underscoring the value and relevance of ECPR's work

Resilience, innovation, collaboration

As we reflect on the past year at the European Consortium for Political Research and this Executive Committee approaches the final year of its term of office, it is with a profound sense of accomplishment for the strides we have made in advancing political science across Europe and further afield.

Our journey has been one of resilience, innovation, and collaboration, and we are proud to share with you the highlights of our progress in 2022/23. In particular, this is reflected in each of the five strategic areas on wich we have been focusing over the past two years:

Membership

We are happy to report that, for the first time in many years, our membership has seen significant growth, with old friends remaining steadfast, new friends joining, and some of those who left returning to ECPR. This uptick in membership underscores the value and relevance of our work in fostering collaboration and driving excellence in political science research and education.

Standing Groups and Research Networks:

Our Standing Groups and Research Networks have flourished, too, becoming vibrant hubs of scholarly exchange and learning. With numbers growing and activity increasing, they continue to provide invaluable opportunities for specialised learning and collaboration among our members. We continue to dedicate resources to supporting our Groups and Networks in every way possible.

Academic freedom and equality, diversity and inclusion

In our commitment to Academic Freedom and promoting Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), we have made significant strides. The Executive Committee has agreed upon the principles for Academic Freedom, and we are revising the Code of Conduct to align with our EDI plans, ensuring that ECPR remains a welcoming and inclusive community for all. We have created new, regularly updated pages on our website for both initiatives, including contact details. We are pleased to report that the EC has reiterated its commitment to follow through and build on these initiatives in the years to come.

Climate change mitigation

Addressing climate change remains a paramount challenge for ECPR, as reflected in the fact that it is a standing agenda item for all meetings of the EC and its subcommittees. While the post-pandemic return to in-person events undoubtedly impacts on our environment, we continue to prioritise sustainability by offering virtual and hybrid options, and minimising travel emissions where possible, without compromising the quality of our conferences and events.

Financial challenges

The past year presented unprecedented financial challenges, and not just for ECPR. Global inflation, rising costs, and geopolitical tensions have all contributed to the complexity of delivering our services. However, through prudent management and the unwavering support of our community, ECPR has navigated these challenges with resilience and determination.

As we look to the future, ECPR remains steadfast in our commitment to advancing political science, fostering collaboration, and promoting inclusivity and sustainability. While challenges persist, we are confident that our collective efforts will continue to drive positive change and innovation within our field. Finally, we extend heartfelt thanks to our members, supporters, partners, and staff for their unwavering dedication and support. Your contributions have been instrumental in our success, and we remain deeply grateful for your continued commitment to ECPR's mission to shape the future of political science in Europe and beyond.

David Farrell, Chair,
ECPR Executive Committee, 2021 – 2024

Tanja Munro, ECPR Director

Equality, diversity and inclusion

In our commitment to Academic Freedom and EDI, ECPR has made significant strides. We are revising our Code of Conduct to ensure that ECPR remains a welcoming and inclusive environment for all

2022–2023

Areas of special interest, 2021–24

ECPR's current Executive Committee has agreed the following five areas of strategic focus for its three-year term

1 Membership

Building on the work undertaken in 2021–22 and outlined in the previous Annual Report, we continued our focus on membership. Activities included reviewing the way we share information with Official Representatives, using insight from the OR Retreat in late 2021 to inform changes and improvements. At the heart of this is the new 'Institution Dashboard' which provides ORs with key data on uptake of benefits and engagement with the organisation by colleagues at their university. Rolled out in 2023, we will continue to improve this resource, based on user feedback.

Throughout the year we ran an #ECPRMemberPerks campaign across our social media channels, highlighting the breadth of benefits available to scholars at our member universities, to maximise uptake and therefore membership value. Membership also had a focus at the General Conference in Prague, with a stand in the exhibition area, staffed by the key Membership department colleagues.

By the end of the year we were delighted to see an increase in membership of 25. This brought the total to 330 and reversed the trend of decline we had experienced since 2015–16.

2 Standing Groups and Research Networks

As of 2022–23, 53 Standing Groups and nine Research Networks operate under the auspices of ECPR. During the year, we continued our work to support them, most often in delivering the logistical aspects of their events.

To improve the visibility and impact of our groups and networks, and to streamline the online offer provided by ECPR, we undertook a large-scale project to integrate all SG and RN individual websites into the main ecpr.eu domain. This significant piece of IT development

work also enables our groups to benefit from the latest technology, search engine optimisation, and integration into advertising campaigns.

3 Academic freedom

The Working Group on Academic Freedom continued its work under the leadership of Executive Committee member Daniela Irrera, who has overseen the activities of this group since its inception in 2021. ECPR continues to be committed to supporting its community of scholars, especially if they live and work in places where academic freedom is under threat. Notably, the group compiled the guidelines for the working group, a document which was ratified by the full Executive Committee at its summer meeting. For more information, visit the group's website.

4 Climate change

Addressing the dual challenge of meeting the needs of our academic community while minimising our environmental footprint remains a central focus for ECPR. Despite encountering obstacles, we remain committed to progress in our efforts to achieve sustainability in all our activities.

In the past year, we have continued to integrate virtual components into all meetings, events and training programmes, wherever feasible. While facing increased air travel demand and a preference for in-person interactions post-pandemic, we continue to offer hybrid and virtual options to mitigate our environmental impact, and we freely share knowledge and access to our virtual platform where requested. Recognising the environmental implications of digital activities, we are actively engaged in optimising our website to reduce its environmental footprint. This includes efforts to streamline content and enhance efficiency, reflecting our dedication to sustainability.

Additionally, minimising our ecological impact is a recurring agenda item at every Board meeting, underscoring its significance. We remain resolute in our commitment to choosing 'greener' options wherever possible and continually seek avenues for improvement. Despite the challenges encountered, our unwavering dedication to sustainability guides our actions as we navigate toward a more environmentally conscious future.

5 Equality, diversity and inclusion

In 2015, the EC committed itself to a set of objectives and concrete actions to address the gap in representation between men and women in the discipline. To hold itself accountable, the EC commissioned an annual Gender Study to review and measure progress made.

To build on this work and expand its view to other areas of diversity and inclusion, and where they might intersect with other areas of interest or may be compromised by the way we deliver our activities, the EC established the Working Group on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Working under the leadership of Executive Committee member Amy Verdun, the group has notably agreed on a set of EDI Principles underpinning its work, alongside incorporating these into ECPR's Code of Conduct.

Upon ratification by the full Executive Committee, both documents will form the foundations of how the community is expected to interact with each other.

A year in review

Despite challenges, we persisted in offering sustainable event options, balancing the need for in-person engagement with environmental stewardship

In the 2022–23 financial year, the ECPR experienced remarkable growth and progress across its key focus areas, against a backdrop of a financial deficit, rapidly rising costs, and global humanitarian crises.

Membership surged for the first time in years, testament to the enduring relevance of our collaborative platform. Standing Groups and Research Networks thrived, offering diverse opportunities for scholarly exchange and learning.

We continued to champion academic freedom and advanced equality, diversity, and inclusion initiatives, solidifying our commitment to fostering an inclusive scholarly community.

Despite challenges, particularly in mitigating climate change amidst a post-pandemic resurgence of travel, we persisted in offering sustainable event options, balancing the need for in-person engagement with environmental stewardship.

Financially, the year posed significant hurdles, yet with prudent management and community support, we navigated these complexities with resilience, allowing us to close this year in a much better financial position and positive frame of mind.

Our four core events were attended by **3,384** participants, compared to a total of 2,761 in 2022; an increase of 22.6%. The number of other events, including those organised by our SGs and RNs, increased in this period: 12 were held in person and 17 virtually (compared to 15 and 9 respectively in 2022). These events were attended by **5,956** participants, compared with a total of 5,297 in 2022; an increase of 12.4%.

Membership

Our membership comprises more than 300 of the world's leading academic institutions concerned with teaching and researching political and social science. From this membership stems a network of tens of thousands of individual 'affiliate' members across some fifty countries. The activities and services we provide are aimed primarily at these affiliates but, indirectly, they also benefit their institution. The membership year runs concurrently with our financial year, 1 October–30 September. Over the past five years we had experienced a decline in member numbers, which was reversed in 2022–23. With an increase to **324 paying members** (330 members in total including Ukrainian institutions that have been awarded free membership).

Relations with other organisations

We continue to work closely with a number of scholarly associations operating in the same field of interest, to share best practices and develop joint initiatives to serve the community.

These include the American Political Science Association (APSA), International Political Science Association (IPSA), International Public Policy Association (IPPA) and UK Political Studies Association (PSA). We also maintain relationships with other UK-based charities working outside political science, and associations that support organisations similar in structure, such as the Association of Association Executives (AAE).

Our Standing Group on International Relations works closely with the European International Studies Association (EISA) in the oversight of the European Journal of International Relations (*EJIR*).

We are members of the Association for Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the International Science Council (ISC), with whom we award the Stein Rokkan Prize. We also award an annual prize with the Mattei Dogan Foundation.

Standing Groups and Research Networks

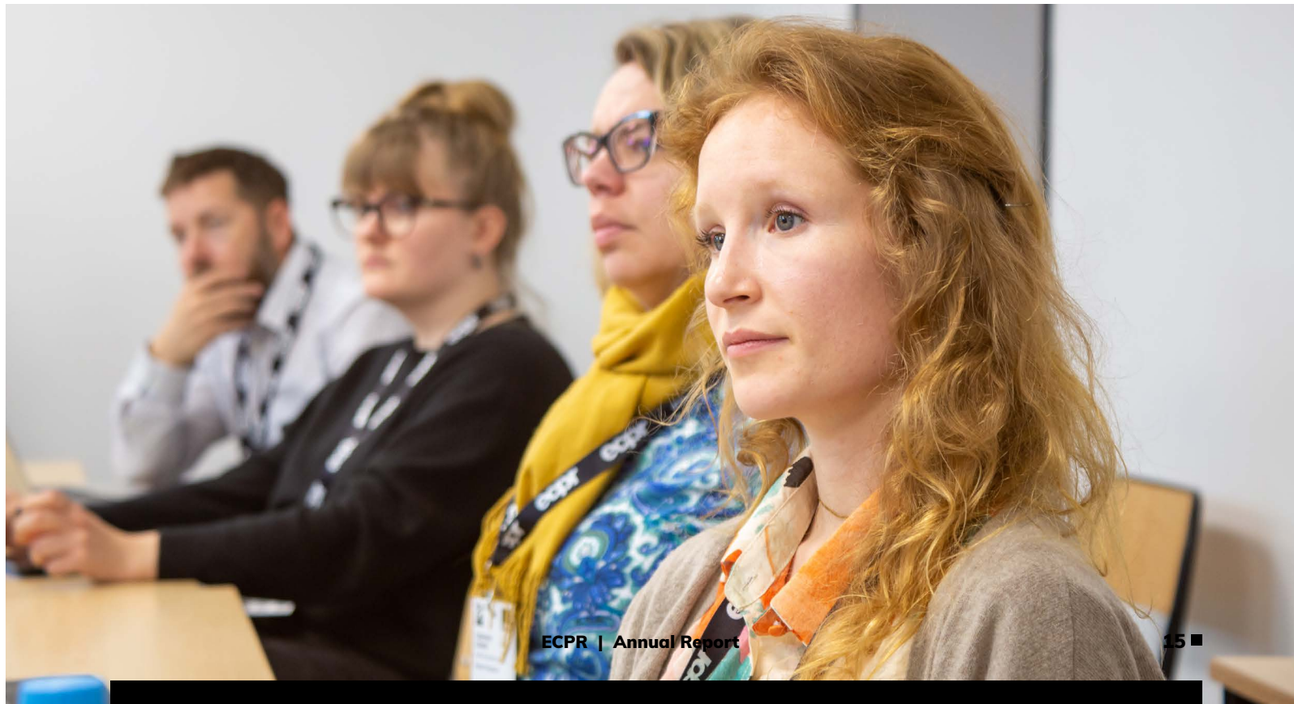
Over sixty thematic research groups operate under the auspices of ECPR, covering the full breadth of the discipline: 53 Standing Groups and nine Research Networks. Each group has its own membership and the opportunity to deliver a range of activities; some smaller such as a forum for networking, and some that are significantly larger such as thematic conferences and seminars.

These groups play a key role in shaping the academic programme of the Joint Sessions and General Conference through an annual allocation of Workshops and Sections.

Events

We organise a comprehensive programme of academic and professional events every year. This consists of:

- **Joint Sessions of Workshops** A week-long event comprising around thirty Workshops running concurrently. Participants must present their own research to attend the full Workshop, so these events are incredibly valuable to scholars, and therefore highly competitive.
- **General Conference** Follows the traditional format of Sections, Panels and Papers; all subjected to rigorous peer review prior to acceptance. The event has become the largest annual gathering of political scientists in Europe.
- **Methods School** Offers a comprehensive programme of cutting-edge qualitative and quantitative methodological courses organised across two annual events, one in winter and one in summer.
- In addition to the core programme, a wide variety of other events are organised each year by SGs and RNs that focus on their thematic disciplines. From conferences, schools, workshops, numerous seminar series and multiple opportunities for exchange and cooperation, SGs and RNs offer a rich and diverse programme of the best and most current developments in political science. It is of particular note that as SG and RN events are open to all, their work reaches far beyond the boundaries of traditional ECPR membership, which makes it all the more valuable to us.
- The **House Series** Inspired by ECPR's Harbour House headquarters, which provides a literal and metaphorical 'home' for the ECPR family, this series opens doors to some of the most pressing issues and challenges in the discipline. Delivered online and accessible to all, The House Series is a mix of roundtables, discussions and lectures featuring content from across the discipline.



Publications

Our publishing portfolio provides a platform on which to share the best of new thinking and research across the community and beyond. We publish six journals, a book series and our own imprint, in partnership with leading scholarly publishers, alongside an in-house blog. Partnerships allow us to harness the expertise, reach and new technologies of the publisher, while retaining editorial oversight through our appointment of the editorial teams. Our portfolio includes the following titles:

- *European Journal of Political Research* (*EJPR*)
- *Political Data Yearbook* (*PDY*) and PDY:Interactive (*PDYi*)
- *European Political Science Review* (*EPSR*)
- *European Political Science* (*EPS*)
- *European Journal of International Relations* (*EJIR*)
- *Political Research Exchange* (*PRX*)
- Comparative Politics Book Series
- ECPR Press
- The Loop

In 2021 the decision was taken to end our publishing partnership and to close the ECPR Press to any new submissions. The full backlist continues to be available to purchase via ECPR's online shop, and elsewhere.

The Loop *2023 analysis*

In 2023, The Loop **published 287 blog pieces**, easily exceeding its target of 250 by 31 December. In 2021, only 38% of published pieces had been pitched direct. But as the Loop's reputation grew, content arrived increasingly through editors of the series threads. In 2023, the **proportion of pitched blog pieces jumped to 94%**.

In 2022, 37% of output was by female authors; a 1% drop on 2021. In March 2023, the editors thus committed The Loop to the '50:50 gender parity challenge'. The Loop has not yet succeeded in achieving equal representation, but its efforts still **pushed the proportion of published female authors up by 7%, to 44%**.

In 2023 The Loop's four existing series strands were joined by 🔮 Future of Populism, ⛓ Constraints on Academic Freedom, 💉 Rescuing Democracy, 🌈 Gendering Democracy, and 🥳 Democratic Transformations, bringing the series total to nine. At the time of writing (February), two further series are set to launch in 2024, though the figure will likely be higher by year end.

Key highlights

- Published 415 authors based in 43 countries worldwide.
- Gained more than 1,300 Twitter-X followers.
- Ran successful in-person 'Blog Bootcamp' sessions at the ECPR General Conference in Prague.
- Launched a 'best blog' prize. First iteration won by the University of Nairobi's Reginald Oduor.

ECPR prizes 2022 – 2023

We offer a broad range of prizes, which recognise service and achievement across the ECPR community. These prizes honour individuals at many stages of their careers, from distinguished senior scholars to exceptional PhD students

Prize	Awarded for	Winner
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2022	**Thesis** *Social Norms and Stigmatized Political Behaviour*	**Vicente Valentim** University of Oxford
Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize 2022	Contributions to core issues of political sociology	**Olivier Fillieule** University of Lausanne
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2022	**Joint Sessions Paper** Conceptualization and Measurement of Regulatory Discretion: Text Analysis of 120 Years of British Legislation	**Nir Kosti** Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Lifetime Achievement Award 2022	Incredible impact on the discipline – as teachers, mentors, and leaders	**Beate Kohler** University of Mannheim **Jean Blondel** University of Siena
Jacqui Briggs EPS Prize 2022	**Article** *The politics of panel systems: political insurance and the organization of high courts*	**Jay N. Krehbiel** West Virginia University
Rising Star Award 2022	*Extensive publications, significant contributions to international research projects, and commitment to public engagement through his Democratic Theorizing Project*	**Hans Asenbaum** University of Canberra
Stein Rokkan Prize 2023	**Book** *Agents of Reform: Child Labor and the Origins of the Welfare State*	**Elisabeth Anderson** NYU Abu Dhabi
Joni Lovenduski PhD Prize in Gender and Politics 2023	**Theses** *The (Im)Possibility of Feminist Critique in Authoritarianism: Revisiting Western Knowledge-Transfer in Russia and Serbia; Adaptive Resistance: Power Struggles over Gender Quotas in Uruguay*	**Leandra Bias** University of Bern **Cecilia Josefsson** Uppsala University
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2023	**Book** *Ascending Order: Rising Powers and the Politics of Status in International Institutions*	**Rohan Mukherjee** The London School of Economics and Political Science
Political Theory Prize 2023	**Book** *Democratic Speech in Divided Times*	**Maxime Lepoutre** University of Reading
EPSR Early Careers Prize 2023	**Article** Non-citizen voting rights and political participation of citizens: evidence from Switzerland	**Elif Naz Kayran** European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research **Anna-Lena Nadler** Leiden University
The Loop Best Blog Prize 2023	**Blog piece** *How elections stifle democracy in Kenya*	**Reginald Oduor** University of Nairobi
Cora Maas Award 2023	**Methods School Course** *Bayesian Modelling*	**Chendi Wang** Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Monitoring impact

Our income is derived from three main streams: membership fees, event fees, and publications royalties

We keep a close eye on the impact and success of these activities in terms of the benefit they bring to individual scholars and their institutions; the impact they have across the community and in raising the profile of the organisation; and the income they generate. For the purposes of this Annual Report, we employ a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor year on year, as detailed below.

Membership

We carefully monitor trends in membership renewal and acquisition each year. While the period from 2015–16 onwards saw a steady decline in membership, this past year saw a reversal of this, and an increase from 305 to 324 institutional members. We believe this is a direct result of the additional focus and resources directed here over the past 12–18 months.

Publications

We evaluate the impact and health of our individual publications, and the programme as a whole, in a number of ways. However, for the purposes of this report, we apply the following indicators:

- the number of article submissions in a given year (which shows the popularity of the journal as a publishing destination);
- the rejection rate (which shows the competitiveness / benchmark to be accepted for publication given the quality of the article and the available space within the journal volume if applicable).
- citation metrics such as the **Clarivate Impact Factor**, **Scopus Citescore**, etc (to show impact of the published work across the discipline).

Event participation

Attendance at ECPR events is a strong indicator of the popularity and relevance of our programme. Numbers fluctuate, particularly for the General Conference, depending on the location, and its capacity. Virtual events do not have the capacity constraints of physical institutions, and depend more on the number of people willing and able to engage with the technology. However, online options open attendance up to a new demographic who may not have been able to attend in-person activities.

The 2023 Joint Sessions (JS) and General Conference (GC) offered a selection of virtual Workshops and Panels alongside in-person sessions. Collectively, they were attended by 2,850 participants, compared with 2,466 in 2022: an increase of 384 (15.6%). The GC increased by 407 participants (20.1%) attracting 2,424 registrations compared with 2,017 in 2022. 2,166 Papers were presented across 538 Panels and 66 Sections (compared with 1,734, 452 and 62 respectively in 2022). The JS decreased by 23 participants (5.1%), attracting 426 registrations compared with 449 in 2022. 30 Workshops took place, compared with 43 in 2022. All workshops were in-person, though participants could access online options in special circumstances.

The Methods School was attended by 534 participants, compared with 509 in 2022; an increase of 25 (4.9%). Despite this increase, we experienced a decline in overall engagement numbers, which affected the income generated from this activity. Changes in the training landscape, alongside rising numbers of people accessing training online as a credible financially viable alternative in a post-pandemic world of cuts and high economic uncertainty, indicate a shift in demand that requires us to recalibrate our offering.

Attendance at Standing Group and Research Network events decreased by 2,725 (51.4%), from 5,297 to 2,572. Although the number of events held remained stable (25 versus 24 in 2022) the downturn was the result of the absence of two large biennial conferences, for our Standing Groups on Politics and Gender, and on the European Union. Adjusting the figures to take this into account, 2023 attendance was up by 13.6%, at 2,222.

Event calendar

Event name, Standing Group / Research Network	Event type	Dates	Virtual or in person?	No. of participants
Standing Group on Law and Courts	Workshop	29–30 September 2023	Virtual	10
'Ukraine is Europe' Lessons for Europe and for Political Science	House Series	5 September 2023	In person	81
General Conference	Conference	4–8 September 2023	In person	2,424
Standing Group on Political Parties	Summer School	21–26 August 2023	In person	13
The impact of ChatGPT on Political Science Research and Teaching	House Series	2 August 2023	Virtual	384
Summer School in Research Methods and Techniques	Summer School	24 July–11 August 2023	Virtual	275
Standing Group on Regulatory Governance	Conference	12–14 July 2023	In person	191
Standing Group on Parliaments	Conference	6–8 July 2023	In person	112
Standing Group on Political Communication	Summer School	3–7 July 2023	In person	22
The Politics of Becoming *Rising Star edition*	House Series	20 June 2023	Virtual	49
Turkey After the 2023 Elections: Do Existing Paradigms Still Work?	House Series	15 June 2023	Virtual	82
Standing Group on Organised Crime	Summer School	12–23 June 2023	In person	23
Standing Group on Southern European Politics	Seminar Series	12 May–29 December 2023	Virtual	97
Research Network on Statehood, Sovereignty, and Conflict	Seminar Series	3 May 2023	Virtual	32
	Seminar Series	27 April 2023	Virtual	27
Fariba Adelkhah, the Embodiment of Scientific Freedom *Stein Rokkan edition*	House Series	26 April 2023	In person	57
Joint Sessions of Workshops	Joint Sessions	25–28 April 2023	In person	426
Standing Group on Migration and Ethnicity	Workshop	13–14 April 2023	In person	120
Standing Group on Gender and Politics	Seminar Series	22 March–29 December 2023	Virtual	199
Standing Group on European Union	Early Careers Workshop	21 February 2023	Virtual	89
How to Research Climate Change: A Debate on Methods and Perspectives from Political Science	House Series	9 February 2023	In person	286
Winter School in Research Methods and Techniques	Winter School	6–11 February 2023	In person	259
Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought	Annual lecture and conference	1–2 December 2022	Virtual	7
	Winter School	28 November–1 December 2022	Virtual	14
Symbolic Objects in Contentious Politics: Why Objects Matter in Protest, Revolution and Resistance	House Series	8 November 2022	Virtual	210
The Rise of Illiberalism: An International Roundtable *The Loop edition*	House Series	4 October 2022	Virtual	250

KPI data tables

Please refer to separate Appendix for headline statistics on all ECPR publications

Key Performance Indicators for Membership numbers, 2018–2023

	2018–19		2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Membership	345	**331**	345	**320**	340	**308**	320	**305**	321	**324**	321

Participation at events, 2019–2023

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
General Conference	**1,846**	**1,801**	**1,850**	**2,214**	**2,000**	**2,349**	**2,000**	**2,017**	**2,174**	**2,424**	**2,113**
Joint Sessions	**407**	**448**	**425**	**87**	**400**	**628**	**400**	**449**	**489**	**426**	**434**
Winter School	Previously, targets set* and reporting has been based on participant numbers rather than courses sold. From 2021–2022, reporting on course numbers has been adopted as a more reliable metric.			**573**	**n/a***	**578**	**n/a***	**334**	**470**	**284**	**404**
Summer School				**607**	**n/a***	**500**	**n/a***	**228**	**448**	**327**	**412**

Key Performance Indicators for journal publishing, 2019–2023

	European Journal of Political Research (including PDY)			*European Political Science*			*European Political Science Review*			*European Journal of International Relations*			*Political Research Exchange*	
	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate
2019	**433**	**95.60%**	**2.830**	**97**	**47.70%**	**1.429**	**197**	**74.00%**	**2.327**	**391**	**87.00%**	**3.474**	**43**	**44.00%**
2020	**514**	**84.83%**	**4.943**	**123**	**59.35%**	**1.756**	**230**	**88.26%**	**4.143**	**469**	**91%**	**4.023**	**87**	**77.01%**
2021	**474**	**88.19%**	**5.774**	**91**	**70.33%**	**2.436**	**210**	**81.90%**	**3.123**	**426**	**91%**	**2.946**	**84**	**71.43%**
2022	**446**	**85%**	**5.3**	**84**	**61%**	**2**	**232**	**80%**	**3.2**	**402**	**86%**	**3.4**	**91**	**76%**
2023	**526**	**97%**		**117**	**68%**		**218**	**91%**					**110**	**93%**

ECPR publications follow the calendar year. Some data were therefore unavailable at the time of publication.

Operating responsibly

Supporting our volunteers

Volunteers are defined as people who conduct work on behalf of ECPR without financial reward. Currently, we define members of Steering Committees of ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks, and Associate Editors of the journal *PRX*, as volunteers. We recognise the contribution of this group to meeting the organisation's mission, and we aim to support them in a number of ways, including opportunities to meet with staff and trustees, and offering advice and training.

Complaints handling policy

We work hard to ensure that we always deliver the best service to our members and affiliates; to support this effort we have developed a complaints policy to allow us to receive, review and take action on any concerns raised. Complaints can be made in person, over the phone or via a dedicated confidential email address: complaints@ecpr.eu. Once received, complaints are processed by our Senior Management Team or Director. We have also published a **Code of Conduct** on our website, revised in March 2021, which explains explicitly to our community what we consider to be appropriate conduct.

Staff wellbeing

Our staff at the Colchester headquarters work hard to deliver an extensive range of benefits and services to a large community of scholars across the world.

All staff benefit from flexible working, so they can work the hours that suit their own personal situations. Staff required to work additional hours at times of high workload can accrue time-off-in-lieu (TOIL), in addition to the standard 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays.

Home-working has always been an option for staff under certain circumstances, but the pandemic has proven that staff are able and capable of working from home on a regular basis, with minimal disruption to our operations. We have adopted a more flexible approach to home-working, allowing staff to combine home and office working to allow them to better manage their commitments outside of work.

We have developed a number of policies to support and protect staff who are working away from the office, and the organisation reimburses all necessary costs incurred while travelling for work purposes. We provide a defined-contribution pension scheme for all employees, to which ECPR doubles any contribution made by staff, up to 16% of salary. We also provide staff with a benefits package that includes shopping discounts; reduced train tickets; spreading the cost of technology, childcare and vehicles; access to over a thousand e-learning modules and courses; free coffee and movies; and discounts on gym memberships. We are also committed to maintaining the good mental health of our staff. We have trained Mental Health First Aiders and, through our staff benefits package, we provide access to a free counselling service.

Procurement and sustainability

We have adopted a Procurement Policy which seeks to balance the need to protect the resources of ECPR by achieving value for money, with factors such as sustainability and supplier values.

The policy seeks to achieve this by requiring any trustee, volunteer or member of staff considering a purchase to evaluate the following criteria: price of product; quality of product; ability of the product to fulfil the charity's need; supplier's reputation, range of products, service, delivery ability and sustainability principles.

For large purchases or long-term supplies, we seek formal quotes and tenders from at least two competitors. Quotes made by charities or other not-for-profit organisations, and those local to our headquarters or event host (as appropriate), are considered favourably.

Risk management

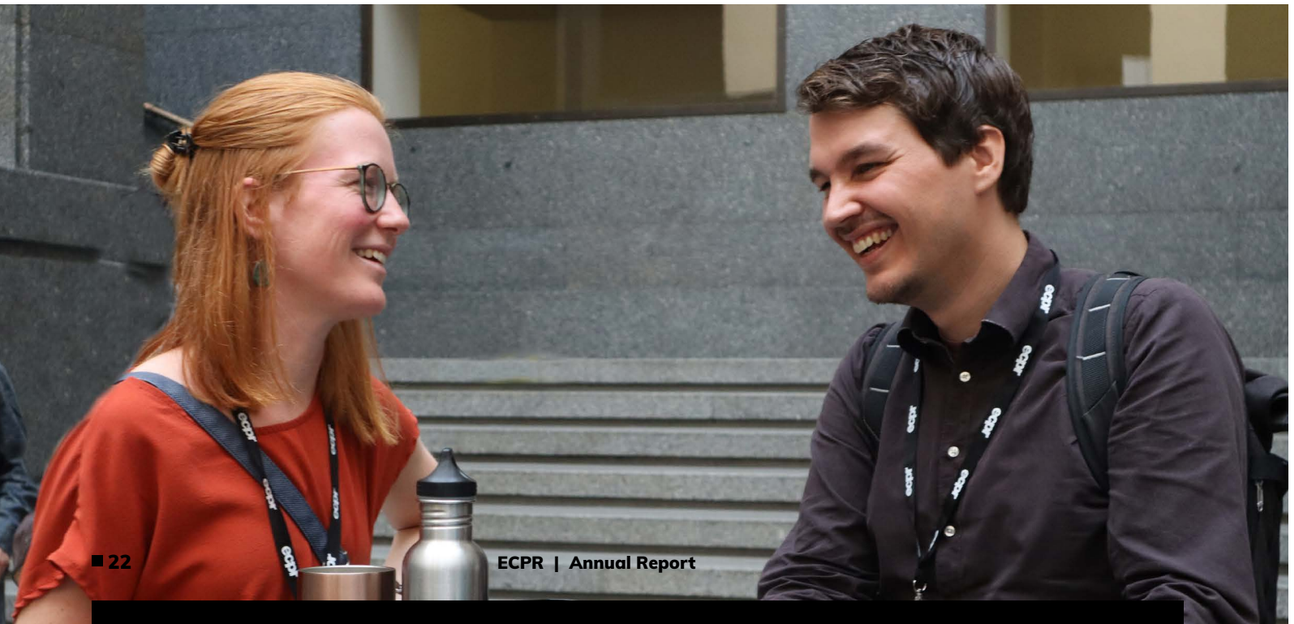
We regularly evaluate the risks facing the organisation through the Risk Register. This informs the degree of reserves required to sustain the organisation in the event of one or more of these factors materialising.

A key risk the organisation faces is a sustained loss of surplus from our events activities. Multiple factors impact this: increased operating costs due to high inflation; increased shipping costs due to Brexit; decreased income due to VAT; and decreased income due to maintenance of registration fees despite increasing costs. A new key risk is the recent decline in Methods School numbers. The EC will be working closely with the newly appointed Academic Convenors to reformat the school. The EC will also continue to look at options to reduce any further decline in income, to ensure the sustainability of the events portfolio.

While the EC is responsible for adopting the annual budget, and for ensuring that accounts are properly audited, day-to-day management of income and expenditure lies with our Finance Department and Senior Management Team, with regular oversight by the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee.

Reserves policy

ECPR aims to maintain reserves equivalent to the risks identified in the Risk Register. The last Risk Register to be approved by the EC set a net reserves target of £1.8m; at the close of the 2021–22 financial year net reserves (excluding Fixed Assets) were at £1.3m (70% of target). At the close of 2022–23, reserves dropped to £944k; only 52% of the target set. The SMT and the EC will review the Risk Register ahead of the next Executive Committee meeting, in April 2024. Over the coming years, the EC is making plans to return the organisation to profitability, and to begin rebuilding reserves.



Current principal ongoing or 'standing' risks faced by ECPR

Risk	Loss of Methods School as a viable event	Sustained loss of surplus from events	Exchange rate volatility	Loss of publications income	Bank failure
Impact	Increased costs resulting in the activity becoming financially unviable	Increased costs resulting in loss of surplus across all events	GBP value increasing against Euro	Publisher folding or defaulting on contract	Loss of unguaranteed income
Mitigation	Revision of strategies and format	Costs secured as part of the tender process and budgets confirmed in advance	Continued monitoring and change in sourcing strategy	Continued monitoring with option to fold the journal	Monitor news
Net risk rating	Very high	Very high	Minimal	Very low	Very low

Financial review

Income

Our four primary income streams are:

- Registration income from the annual General Conference
- Membership fees (subscriptions)
- Publications income
- Methods School registration income

Overall income in 2022–23 increased by 1.9%, from £1.90m in 2021–22 to £1.93m.

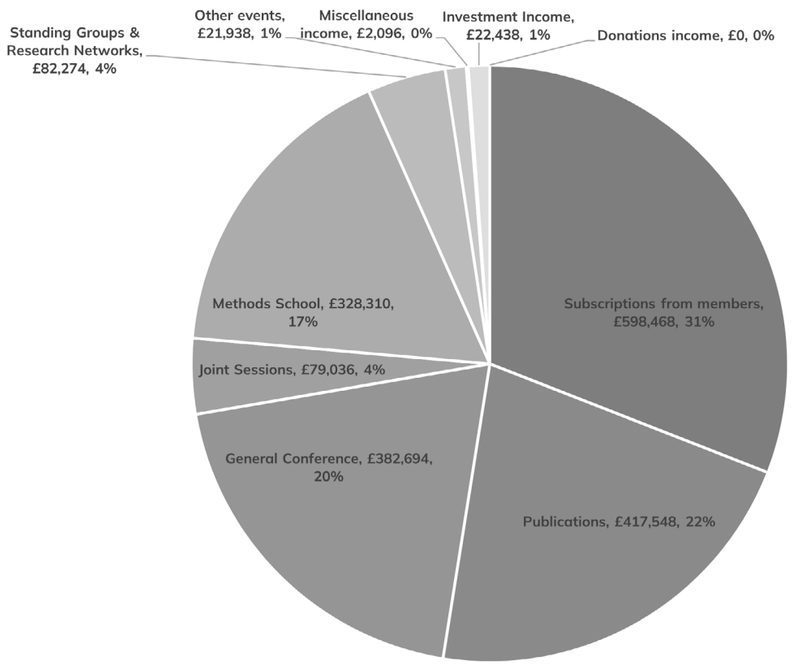
Income from publications increased by 4.2% to £418k compared with £401k in the prior period.

Broken down across our portfolio of journals and book series:

- **ECPR Press** income increased by from £0k to £16k. This is due to the late receipt of Royalty payments due in the Prior Year, new sales income generated by bringing the Press back in-house and one-off Article Process Charges for publishing a book in Open Access format.
- ***EJPR* income** decreased by 3.3%, from £282k to £273k. This is due to the ongoing transfer of publishing revenue from subscriptions to OA-based revenue and agreements, which is most keenly felt by a long-established journal like *EJPR*.
- ***EPS* income** increased by 4.7%, from £60k to £63k. This is due to revised forecasts which project a higher return in royalty income for the journal.
- ***EPSR* income** decreased by £12k (28.1%) to £32k. This was due to timing differences relating to the royalty income.
- ***EJIR* income** increased by 6.5%, from £17k to £19k. This is due to an increase in royalty income generated by the journal.
- ***PRX*** recorded a negative income figure of £4k in 2021–22. This was due to adjustments made at the 2020–21 year-end for anticipated income that was not realised because the required thresholds were not met. In 2023–23, income was £15k, which was more in line with previous income figures (£13k, for example, in 2020–21).

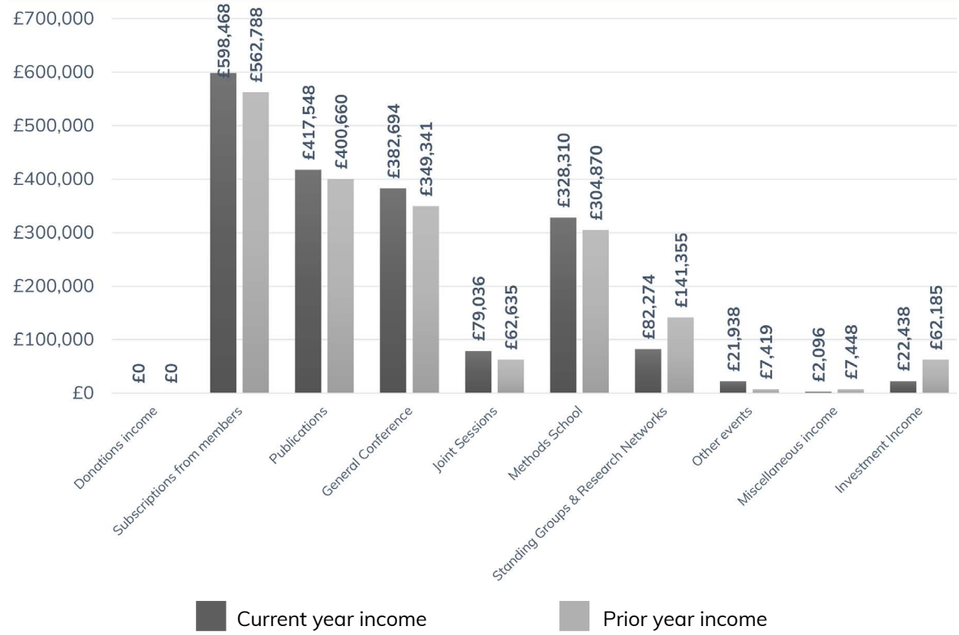
Income summary

Breakdown of income received in 2022–2023



Income compared to prior year

Variance 2022–2023 income against previous year



Event income increased by 3.3% from £866k in the previous year to £894k in 2022–23.

- **General Conference** income increased by 9.5% to £383k from £349k. This was due to a combination of increased registrations (2,424 compared to 2,017 in 2022) and a small increase in the fee.
- **Joint Sessions** income increased by 26.2%, from £63k to £79k. Although registration numbers were down (426 compared to 449 in 2022) the pricing structure was revised for the event so that discounts could be brought in line with the General Conference (50% for ECPR members, 30% for students, 80% for ECPR student members). This meant that some of the fees charged were higher than they had been in the previous year.
- **Methods School** income increased by 7.7%, from £305k up to £328k. This is due to an increase in courses sold of 13 (2.2%) (611 compared to 598 in 2022), plus a small rise in fees.
- **Standing Group and Research Network** income declined by 41.8%, from £141k to £82k. Two large events which occur in alternate years cause a large variance in income when compared to the previous year. Other event income was up 195.7%, from £7k to £22k. This was due to £11k of training income being generated for a bespoke course in the year, and to a slight increase in exhibition income.
- **Miscellaneous** income decreased by 71.9%, from £7k to £2k. This was because in 2021–22 £5k of funding was received for a member of staff that was on a government training programme that was not received in 2022–23.
- **Membership subscription** income increased by 6.3%, from £563k to £598k. This was due to a significant increase in member numbers of 19 (6.2%), up from 305 in 2021–22 to 324 in 2022–23.
- **Investment income** decreased by 63.9%, from £62k to £22k. The income recorded in 2021–22 was unusually high, up 363.8% compared to the prior year, so this represents a return to more usual levels (£13k in 2020–21).

Expenditure

Overall expenditure remained stable in the period, at £2.3m.

Overall support costs remained stable at £1.1m. Within this, governance costs decreased by £10k (13.9%), from £68k to £59k. Staff salaries and wages increased by £49k (5.6%) from £874k to £923k. Overall staffing costs, including pension and social security costs, remained stable at £1.1m. The increase in salaries was due to a cost-of-living increase issued to all staff in October 2022 of 5.14%. Staff turnover led to average staff numbers decreasing slightly from 28 to 27. Support costs are reallocated to our charitable activities based on the percentage of charitable expenditure the activity generated.

- **Expenditure on raising funds** (membership subscriptions) increased by 43.2% from £80k to £115k. This was because allocated support costs rose from £40k to £56k, mostly due to an increase in allocated staff salaries, which then lead to an increase in direct costs, from £40k to £59k.

- **Expenditure on publications** decreased by 2.8%, from £526k to £512k. This was due to a decrease in direct expenditure of c£40k due to there being a one-off purchase of rights in the prior year to bring the ECPR Press back in-house, offset by an increase in allocated staff salaries.

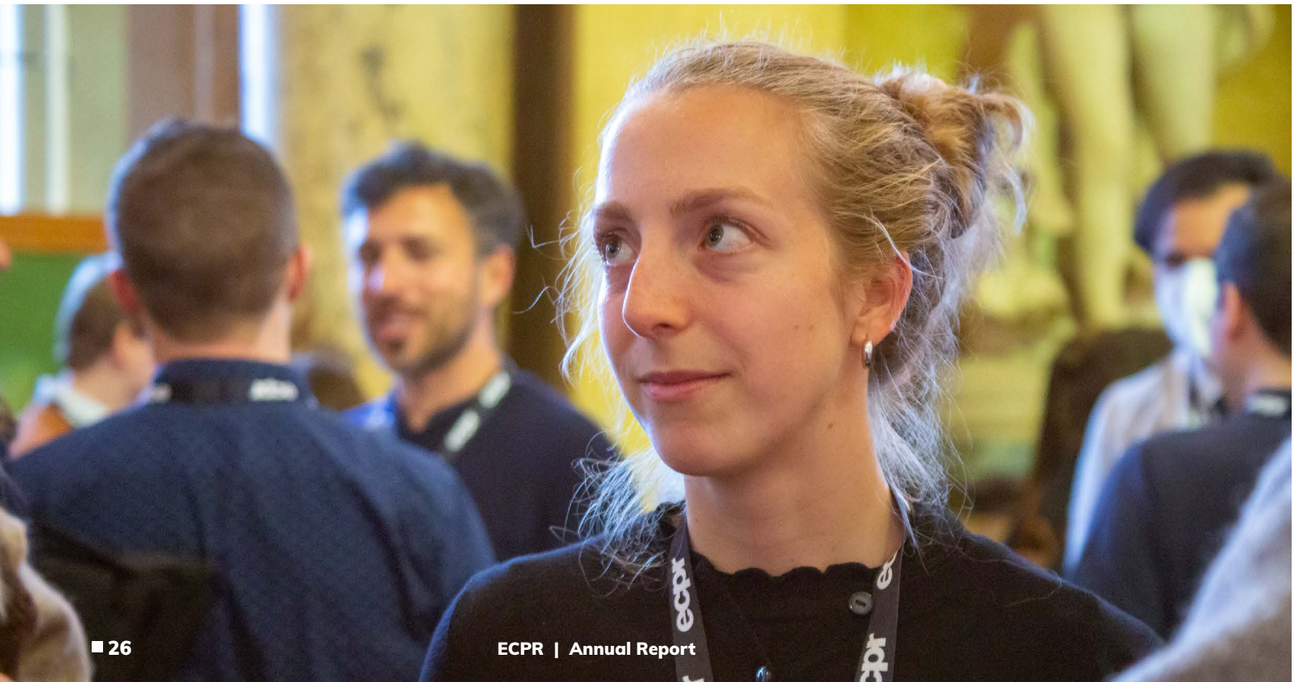
- **General Conference expenditure** decreased by 28.1%, from £607k to £436k. Funding issued decreased by c£20k, direct costs for the event decreased by c£28k and allocated staff salaries reduced by c£55k, therefore the allocation of support costs also decreased.

- **Joint Sessions expenditure** decreased by 46.1%, from £134k to £72k. This was due to a decrease in funding of c£6k and a decrease in event costs of c£14k, which led to a decrease in support cost allocation.

- **Methods School expenditure** increased by £138k (32.4%), from £426k to £564k. Direct costs increased by £79k due to the Winter School taking place in person, whereas both schools took place virtually in 2022, which led to an increase in the allocation of support costs.

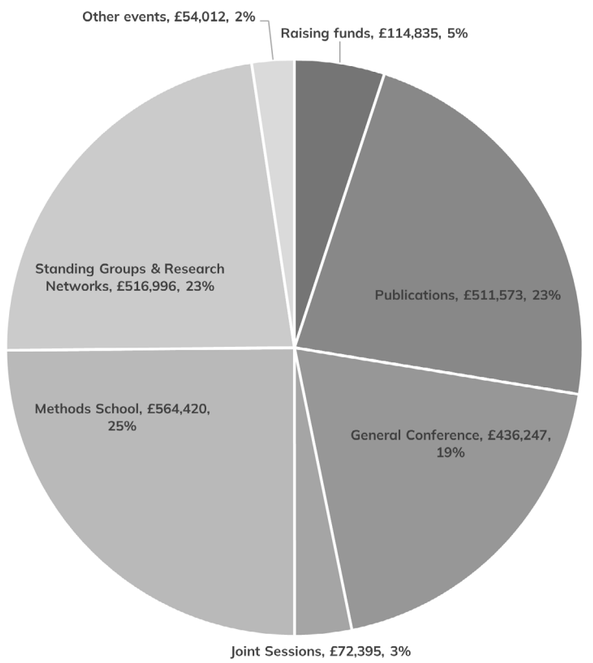
- **Standing Group and Research Network expenditure** increased by 5.6%, from £490k to £517k. Direct costs decreased from £246k to £137k because the two large events that take place every other year were not run in the period (offset by a decrease in income). This was offset by an increase in staff salaries of £128k (none were allocated to this activity in 2021–22), which overall resulted in a £9k increase in the allocation of support costs.

- **Other events expenditure** increased by 130.0%, from £23k to £54k. Direct costs increased by £7k for retreats that took place virtually in the prior year, which led to an increase in support cost allocation.

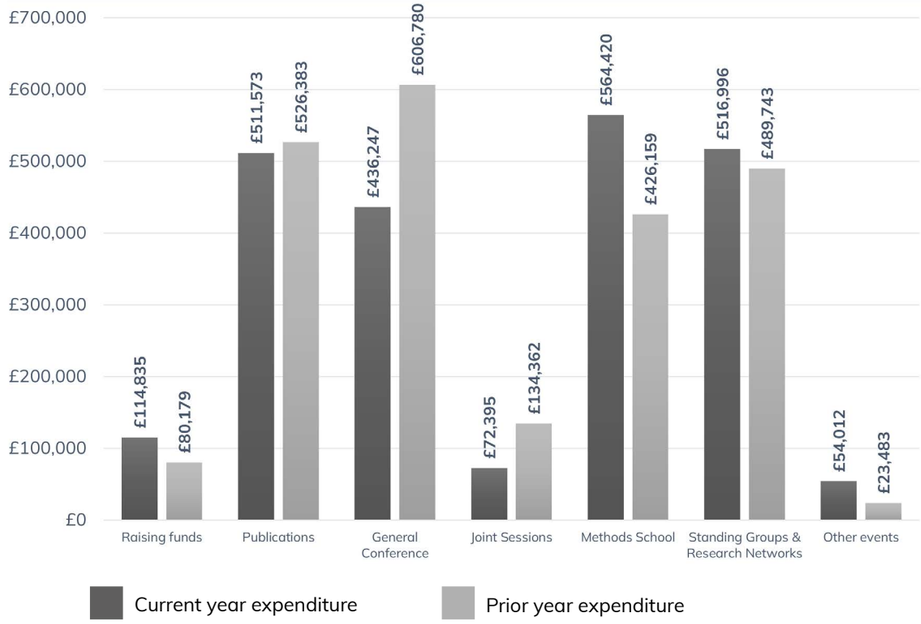


Expenditure summary

Breakdown of charitable expenditure 2022–2023



Expenditure compared to prior year



Surplus and deficit

The 2022–23 financial year overall recorded a deficit of £305k compared to a deficit of £574k in 2021–22. This represents an improvement of £269k (46.9%).

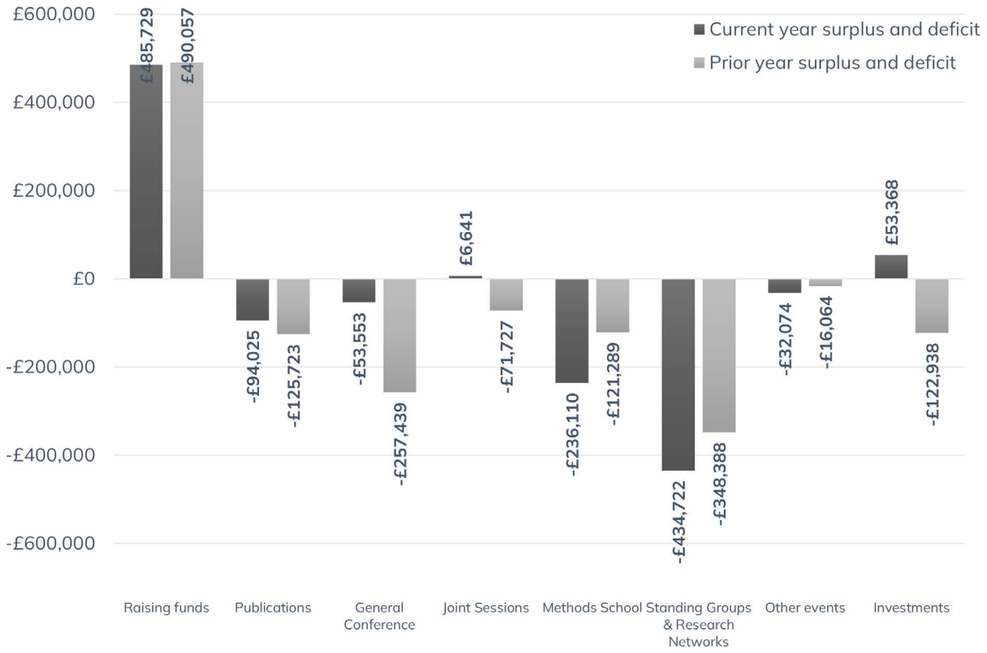
- **The surplus gained by raising funds** (membership subscriptions) declined by £4k (0.9%) from £490k to £486k.
- **Publications** recorded a deficit in the period of £94k, which was a decrease in deficit of 25.2% from £126k in 2021–22.
- **The General Conference** increased by 79.2% from a deficit of £257k in 2021–22 to a deficit of £54k in 2022–23.
- **The Joint Sessions** increased by 109.3% from a deficit of £72k in 2021–22 to a surplus of £7k in 2022–23.
- Deficit made by the **Methods School** increased by 94.7%, from a deficit of £121k to £236k.
- Deficit made by **Other Events and Standing Groups** increased by 28.1%, from £364k to £467k.
- **Surplus generated by the investments portfolio** rose by 143.4%, to a surplus of £53k from a deficit of £123k.

Investment policy and performance

When we make a surplus, we use this money to build reserves which can be called upon to keep the organisation functioning should it meet any of the risks highlighted by our Risk Register. Some of our reserves are held in an investment portfolio. After a review by the EC in 2017, we decided that our managed fund was not bringing us value for money, so we transferred the £855k to Vanguard Investments UK Limited, split 50/50 across two funds: Vanguard Lifestrategy 40% Equity Fund and Vanguard Lifestrategy 60% Equity Fund. These index-tracking funds tend to be less volatile than active funds, and attract lower management costs, at 0.24%.

Since the transfer of the portfolio the investments had brought us gains increasing the value of the fund to £1.1m in 2020–21. However, the value of the fund decreased for the first time in 2021–22, dropping 11.5% to £952k, with a loss on the value of the portfolio of £185k and a dividend accumulated of £61k. It recovered some of its value in 2022–23 increasing by £31k and generating a dividend accumulated of £17k. Overall, the portfolio increased by £47k to £999k. These funds are tracked rather than actively managed, so the increase is the result of external factors affecting the portfolio.

Surplus for all activities



Staff at Harbour House in Colchester

Employed 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023

Director

Tanja Munro

Senior Management Team

Rebecca Gethen
Head of Communications

Mark Kench Head of IT

Helen Morgan
Head of Finance

Communications

Helen Cooper
Community Engagement Manager

Kate Hawkins
Publishing and Content Manager

Olga Roelens
Marketing Manager

Kaez Condon Publishing and Communications Coordinator *Until August 2023*

Rebecca Delve
Editorial Coordinator *Maternity leave from June 2023*

Anna Hubbard
Editorial Coordinator

Bobbi Westerman
Community Engagement Coordinator *Until March 2023*

Charlie Brown
Editorial Coordinator *From April 2023*

Jessica Dorling
Community Engagement Coordinator *From May 2023*

Miah Edwards Digital Engagement Coordinator *From June 2023*

Events

Nirusha Ridgwell Events Manager *Until April 2023*

Bridie Calver
Training Manager *Maternity leave from October 2023*

Annie Ho
Events Coordinator / Events Manager *From May 2023*

Alexandra Turner Events Assistant *Until July 2023*

Harriet Olley
Events Coordinator *Until November 2022*

Samantha Wong
Training Coordinator

Andie Nash
Events Coordinator

Hayley Cadel
Events Coordinator *From July 2023*

Amy Nice
Events Coordinator *From August 2023*

Rob Neale
Events Coordinator *From September 2023*

Finance

Bianca Taylor
Finance Manager

Shaun Klotia-Clottey
Finance Assistant *Until September 2023*

Darren Harrington-Keeton
Data Analyst *Until September 2023*

Sean Judge
Finance Apprentice / Finance Assistant *From August 2023*

IT and Website

James Gooch
Development Manager

Colin McPhie
Systems Manager

Antoni Christodoulou
Developer

Jordan Rudge
Junior Developer

Operations

Kim Jesney HR Manager

Jeff Noga Facilities Coordinator *Until July 2023*

Executive Committee: trustees 2021 – 2024

David Farrell, Chair Full Professor of Politics, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin

■ Representation, elections and parties, constitutional deliberation.

Petra Meier, Vice Chair *Awards, Prizes, and Funding Decisions Subcommittee;* Professor of Politics, University of Antwerp

■ Gender politics and policies; democracy and representation; electoral inclusiveness; inequality in multi-level systems.

Ladislav Cabada Vice-Rector for Research, Quality and Development, Metropolitan University Prague

■ Regionalism and development studies in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Giliberto Capano *Publications Subcommittee;* Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, University of Bologna

■ Comparative higher education policy, policy design and policy instruments, and the role of agents in public policy.

Christian Haerpfer Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Vienna

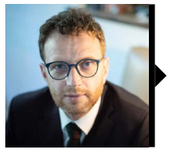
■ Europe (Central and Eastern), Comparative Politics, Democracy, Political Participation, Electoral Behaviour, Public Opinion, Survey Research.

Daniela Irrera Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations, University of Catania

■ Positive and negative action and influence on global politics by non-state actors.

Hana Kubátová *Events and Finance Subcommittees;* Head of the VITRI Research Centre, Charles University in Prague

■ Majority-minority relations, identity construction, politics of memory and microdynamics of (ethnic) violence.



Gianluca Passarelli
Sapienza University of Rome
Until November 2023

■ Electoral systems' influence on voting behaviour; presidential political parties.

Anne Rasmussen Professor of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

■ Representation, (inequality in) political representation, public opinion, political parties, and public policy.

Thomas Saalfeld *Organisation and Training Subcomittees;* Professor of Comparative Politics and Vice President for Research, University of Bamberg

■ Legislative behaviour, legislative organisation, parliamentary accountability.

Sabine Saurugger *Training and Events Subcommittees;* Professor of Political Science, Director, Sciences Po Grenoble

■ Public policy, comparative politics, interest groups, European integration, European public policies and the politics of law.

Amy Verdun Full Professor, University of Victoria, British Columbia

■ European integration widely defined: political economy, policy, governance, integration theories, comparative politics.

Administrative information

Principal Office

Harbour House
6–8 Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex CO2 8JF

Registered Charity Number

1167403 CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Website

https://ecpr.eu/

Auditors

SB Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants
820 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YQ

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
Teviot House
South Gayle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9DR

Solicitors

Birkett Long LLP
Faviell House, 1 Coval Wells
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1WZ

Investment Managers

Vanguard Investments
UK Limited
PO Box 10315
Chelmsford
Essex CM99 2AT

Structure, governance, and management

Organisation and control

We are governed by our board of trustees, the EC, with day-to-day operational management delegated to the Director and Senior Management Team. The EC is responsible for ensuring ECPR acts solely to further its charitable objects. It reports to the Council, which is made up of Official Representatives from member institutions.

ECPR's activities were divided into five portfolios of work; however, during the year, one of the Subcommittees was disbanded and the work of that committee was absorbed into another portfolio. Each of the four Subcommittees comprises two or three members of the EC, plus the Chair and Vice Chair. The Director, related Senior Manager and their staff work with the Subcommittees day-to-day to operationalise EC decisions. Subcommittees have decision-making authority delegated to them via a Scheme of Delegation, and bring key items to the EC in plenary for decision and strategic discussion.

There is a structured induction process for new trustees which includes meeting key staff and receiving governance, strategy and financial documents. The first meeting of a new cohort of trustees will normally take place at ECPR's offices where they will have the opportunity to sit in on the final meeting of the outgoing group.

Key management remuneration

All Executive Committee members give their time freely. No remuneration was paid to them during the year. Trustees are reimbursed travel and subsistence expenses when working away on ECPR business. Accommodation is usually organised and paid for by ECPR. ECPR provides the Chair's institution financial support to cover their absence while they are serving their term of office. No remuneration is made to serving EC members or to people who volunteer for ECPR without the express approval of the EC and in line with the Charity Commission for England and Wales' regulations.

Staff Remuneration Policy

As a UK registered charity, the ECPR seeks to ensure that:

- staff are paid fairly, in line with local market rates, appropriately for their level of responsibility and in line with the pay of colleagues who perform similar tasks;
- staff salaries are awarded based on skills and experience and are free from discrimination;
- we comply with our obligation to expend our incoming resources responsibly;
- there is transparency in all aspects of our operations.

To achieve the above goals, we must balance the need to ensure value for money when expending the Charity's resources with the need to recruit and retain the best people for the job.

The EC is responsible for setting management pay, including that of the Director, usually by delegation to the Management Subcommittee; the EC is also responsible for the recruitment and appointment of the Director. Staff are awarded an annual cost of living pay increase, which is also approved by the EC.

Conflicts of Interest Policy

ECPR trustees have a legal duty to ensure they always act in ECPR's best interest when making decisions. It is a legal requirement that trustees report a potential conflict of interest as soon as it arises. A conflict of interest would arise if:

- a trustee could benefit financially from a decision over which they have influence, whether directly or indirectly through a personal connection;
- a trustee's loyalty to the ECPR conflicted with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person.

Conflicts of interest are common in charities, so we adopted practices aimed at reducing the risk of / to:

- making decisions that could be overturned;
- ECPR's reputation;
- trustees having to repay ECPR for unauthorised payments.

ECPR has adopted the following practices to safeguard against the above risks occurring:

- clauses 7.8 and 8 of the **ECPR Constitution**;
- implementation of a Register of Interests, which is updated annually with appropriate procedures for managing conflicts.

Where trustees delegate their decision-making powers to staff members under the terms of the organisation's Scheme of Delegation, those staff are also expected to declare any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from any discussions.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

As a group of trustees, the EC is responsible for preparing its Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the EC to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The EC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of ECPR's Constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the EC is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditor is unaware;
- it has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The EC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

David Farrell
On behalf of the Executive Committee
15 March 2024

Hana Kubátová
On behalf of the Executive Committee
15 March 2024

Independent Auditor's Report

SB Audit LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the European Consortium for Political Research (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the financial statements other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Executive Committee is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below:

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the Head of Finance (as required by auditing standards) and senior management, inspection of the Charity's regulatory and legal correspondence and we have discussed with the Head of Finance the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements, including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation, and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance, through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: compliance with the requirements of The Charity Commission,

health and safety, corporate governance, including safeguarding and wellbeing, human rights and employment law, anti-bribery and corruption, and GDPR. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Governors and other management, and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the Charity complies with such regulations, enquiries of management and those charged with governance concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims, inspection of any relevant legal documentation, review of board minutes, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and the performance of analytical review to identify any unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

Read a further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements on the **Financial Reporting Council's website**. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature and approval

SB Audit LLP

15 March 2024, SB Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor, 820 The Crescent, Colchester Business Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 9YQ
SB Audit LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 30 September 2023

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Income from			
Charitable activities	2	**1,313,896**	1,273,728
Subscriptions from members	3	**598,468**	562,788
Investments	4	**22,438**	62,185
Total income		**1,934,802**	1,898,701
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	6	**114,835**	80,179
Charitable activities	7	**2,155,643**	2,206,910
Total expenditure		**2,270,478**	2,287,089
Unrealised investment gains / (losses)		**30,930**	(185,123)
Net expenditure of funds for the year		**(304,746)**	(573,511)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		**2,660,582**	3,234,093
Total funds carried forward		**2,355,836**	2,660,582

Continuing operations
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Total recognised gains and losses
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Funds
All of the income, expenditure and gains for the last two financial periods relate to unrestricted funds.

Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2023

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	**412,778**	425,969
Investments	12	**999,326**	951,801
		1,412,104	1,377,770
Current assets			
Debtors	13	**395,900**	411,809
Cash and cash equivalents	14	**1,630,804**	1,865,906
		2,026,704	2,277,715
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(1,082,972)**	(994,903)
Net current assets		**943,732**	1,282,812
Net assets		**2,355,836**	2,660,582
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**2,355,836**	2,660,582

David Farrell
On behalf of the Executive Committee
15 March 2024

Hana Kubátová
On behalf of the Executive Committee
15 March 2024

Statement of cashflows

Period ended 30 September 2023

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net expenditure for the year	**(304,746)**	(573,511)
Adjusted for		
Depreciation of tangible assets	**22,607**	19,692
Loss on disposal of assets	**94**	-
Unrealised investment (gain) / loss	**(30,930)**	185,123
Dividend accumulated in funds	**(16,595)**	(61,195)
Interest received	**(5,843)**	(990)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**15,909**	(87,609)
Increase in creditors	**88,069**	191,332
Net cash used in operating activities	**(231,435)**	(327,158)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest received	**5,843**	990
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(9,510)**	(22,511)
Net cash used in investing activities	**(3,667)**	(21,521)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(235,102)**	(348,679)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**1,865,906**	2,214,585
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**1,630,804**	**1,865,906**

No Net debt analysis has been included as there is no debt in the charity

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1 and are prepared in sterling.

b. Going concern

Having considered the Charity's forecasts and projections the trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements. For this reason the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. The trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties with regard to going concern.

c. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from subscriptions from members is accounted for in the year to which they relate.

Income from publications in the form of royalties is received in relation to the journals. Royalty income is accounted for in the year that it becomes receivable, which is when the publication is sold.

Income from conferences is accounted for in the year in which the conference occurs.

d. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Reserves are targeted to be approximately 12 months regular expenditure.

f. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading including investment management and their associated costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of publications, method schools, conferences and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Governance costs represents the costs of governance arrangements and include costs associated with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but are not directly attributable to charitable activities. Support costs represent costs attributable to the management of the charity's assets and organisational administration. These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on the proportion of direct costs which relate to each activity. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

h. Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences arising in the normal course of trading are dealt with in the statement of financial activities for the year.

i. Fixed assets

Individual assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

- Freehold buildings between 2% and 10% per annum.
- Office and IT equipment 25%
- Freehold land is not depreciated.

j. Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are calculated based on the market value at which the investments are recorded in the financial statements and are shown on the face of the statement of financial activities.

k. Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

m. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account.

n. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

o. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

p. Taxation

European Consortium for Political Research is a charity within the meaning of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity for tax purposes in line with Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, European Consortium for Political Research is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to its charitable purposes.

q. Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Charity has no further payment obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity in independently administered funds.

r. Significant judgements and estimates

The more significant judgements and estimates involved in the preparation of the financial statements include assessing the depreciation rates applicable to tangible fixed assets and the way in which certain costs should be apportioned. Further details regarding these points are included within the accounting policies.

2. Income from charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Publications (note 5)	417,548	400,660
Conference income	382,694	349,341
Joint Sessions income	79,036	62,635
Methods School income	328,310	304,870
Standing Groups & Research Networks	82,274	141,355
Other event income	21,938	7,419
Miscellaneous	2,096	7,448
Total	**1,313,896**	**1,273,728**

Income from charitable activities can be further analysed as:

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from rendering of services	896,348	873,068
Income from royalties	417,548	400,660
Total	**1,313,896**	**1,273,728**

3. Subscription from Members

	2023 £	2022 £
Subscription from members	598,468	562,788

100% of the subscriptions from members – £598,468 (2022: £562,788) relates to the provision of services.

4. Investment income

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from fixed-asset investments	16,595	61,195
Bank interest receivable	5,843	990
Total	**22,438**	**62,185**

5. Publications income

	2023 £	2022 £
ECPR Press	16,304	-
European Journal of Political Research	272,585	281,989
European Political Science (journal)	63,012	60,208
Palgrave / Sage / OUP	415	605
European Political Science Review (journal)	31,867	44,328
European Journal of International Relations	18,608	17,478
Political Research Exchange (journal)	14,757	(3,948)
Total	**417,548**	**400,660**

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Directly attributable activities for generating funds	58,857	40,299
Support costs allocated	55,978	39,880
Total	**114,835**	**80,179**

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs £	Direct wages £	Allocated £	2023 £	2022 £
Publications	109,594	152,606	249,373	511,573	526,383
Conference expenditure	189,697	33,895	212,655	436,247	606,780
Joint Sessions of Workshops	17,719	19,386	35,290	72,395	134,362
Methods School	227,783	61,503	275,134	564,420	426,159
Standing Groups & Research Networks	137,282	127,697	252,017	516,996	489,743
Other event expenditure	21,207	6,476	26,329	54,012	23,483
Total	**703,282**	**401,563**	**1,050,798**	**2,155,643**	**2,206,910**

8. Support costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Office costs	436,683	386,877
Staff salaries and wages	670,093	750,692
Total	**1,106,776**	**1,137,569**

Total support costs are made up of the expenditure for generating funds in note 6 of £55,978 (2022: £39,880) and the expenditure on charitable activities in note 7 of £1,050,798 (2022: £1,097,689).

Basis of allocation

Support costs have been allocated against charitable activities in line with the percentage of other expenditure directly attributable to the activity as follows:

	Support cost per activity %	Support cost per activity £	Direct cost per activity £
Subscriptions – Allocated	5.06	55,978	-
Subscriptions – Direct costs	-	-	58,857
Publications – Allocated	22.53	249,373	-
Publications – Direct costs	-	-	262,200
Conferences – Allocated	19.21	212,655	-
Conferences – Direct costs	-	-	223,592
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Allocated	3.19	35,290	-
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Direct costs	-	-	37,105
Methods School – Allocated	24.86	275,134	-
Methods School – Direct costs	-	-	289,286
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Allocated	22.77	252,017	-
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Direct costs	-	-	264,979
Other event expenditure – Allocated	2.38	26,329	-
Other event expenditure – Direct costs	-	-	27,683
Total	**100.00**	**1,106,776**	**1,163,702**

Included within support costs are £58,737 (2022: £68,254) of expenditure which relates to governance costs. This is broken down as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Executive Committee expenses, and Director remuneration	42,712	52,464
Audit fee (note 10)	16,025	15,790
Total	**58,737**	**68,254**

All members of the Executive Committee are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their duties. During the year reimbursed expenses amounted to £30,057 (2022: £40,181). This amount is included within governance costs.

No emoluments have been paid to any member of the Executive Committee.

All of the costs of the Chair are classed as governance costs.

9. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	923,133	874,261
Social security costs	83,370	82,006
Pension costs – defined contribution	112,145	109,611
Total	**1,118,648**	**1,065,878**
Directly attributable wages (note 7)	401,563	278,548
Directly attributable wages for activities for generating funds	46,992	36,638
Total wages cost to be included in support costs allocation (note 8)	670,093	750,692
Total	**1,118,648**	**1,065,878**

Management and administration of the Charity	27	28

The charity considered its key management personnel to comprise the Executive Committee and the Senior Management Team, comprising the Director and three Heads of Department. The total employment benefits, including employers' pension contributions of the key management personnel, were £281,246 (2022: £259,925). Three employees had employee benefits between £60,000 and £70,000 and one had employee benefits between £80,000 and £90,000. (2022: Three employees had employee benefits between £60,000 and £70,000 and one had employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000).

10. Audit fee

	2023 £	2022 £
Auditors' remuneration in respect of audit services	16,025	14,770
Auditors' remuneration in respect of tax and other advisory services	-	1,020
Total	**16,025**	**15,790**

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office and IT equipment £	Freehold land and buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2022	42,189	480,641	522,830
Additions	1,034	8,476	9,510
Disposals	(1,046)	-	(1,046)
At 30 September 2023	**42,177**	**489,117**	**531,294**
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2022	23,436	73,425	96,861
Charge for year	6,681	15,926	22,607
Eliminated on disposals	(952)	-	(952)
At 30 September 2023	**29,165**	**89,351**	**118,516**
Net book value			
At 30 September 2023	**13,012**	**399,766**	**412,778**
At 30 September 2022	18,753	407,216	425,969

12. Investments

Assets held for charity use and to provide investment return	2023 £	2022 £
Banco Santander shares	1,135	1,135
Funds held with Vanguard Investment UK, Limited	998,191	950,666
Total	**999,326**	951,801

The movement in the year is as follows	2023 £	2022 £
Market value as at 1 October 2022	951,801	1,075,729
Loss / gain on valuation	30,930	(185,123)
Dividend accumulated in fund	16,595	61,195
Market value as at 30 September 2023	**999,326**	**951,801**

The investments shown above comprise UK and overseas investments. Below are investment holdings by category:	2023 £	2022 £
Managed funds	999,326	951,801

The managed funds with Vanguard relate to two Vanguard LifeStrategy funds. The LifeStrategy 40% equity fund is made up of 40% equity and 60% bonds. The LifeStrategy 60% equity fund is made up of 60% equity and 40% bonds. The investments are split equally between the two managed funds. After the year end the Vanguard investments have increased in value to £1,058,339 as ot 29 January 2024.

13. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors (including subscriptions due)	227,076	255,003
Other debtors	124,975	138,128
Prepayments		
Events	2,000	5,859
Membership	-	890
Publications	3,750	7,425
HR costs	825	1,982
Rates	1,476	1,115
Insurance	13,669	1,407
Office costs	284	-
Professional fees	3,342	-
General Prepayments	18,503	-
Total prepayments	**43,849**	**18,678**
Total debtors	**395,900**	**411,809**

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following items for the purpose of the Statement of cash flows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Total cash and cash equivalents	**1,630,804**	**1,865,906**

15. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income	699,072	599,058
Accruals	235,641	150,567
Trade creditors	117,018	234,270
Other taxation and Social Security	31,241	11,008
Total	**1,082,972**	**994,903**

16. Financial instruments

	2023 £	2022 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	352,051	393,131
Financial assets measured at fair value	999,326	951,801
Total	**1,351,377**	**1,344,932**
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	336,634	370,067

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors.

Financial assets measured at fair value comprise listed investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise accruals and trade creditors.

17. Related parties

The related parties of ECPR are the members of the Executive Committee. ECPR is controlled by its Executive Committee.

No other transactions were identified which should be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

£120K

Awarded in funding across four funding streams

26

Events organised

62

Standing Groups & Research Networks

330

Institutional members

2,126

Journal articles & blogs published

5,956

Scholars attended ECPR events and training

42

Published podcasts

16

Prizes awarded

24K

Active MyECPR account holders

£1.93m

Income generated

528

General Conference Panels

Encouraging the training, research, and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

Principal Office
Harbour House | 6 – 8 Hythe Quay
Colchester | CO2 8JF | United Kingdom ▪ **ecpr.eu**

Registered Charity Number 1167403 Charitable Incorporated Organisation

EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1167403

Accounts

Annual Report

Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022

▪ **ecpr.eu**

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1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022

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2021–2022

Founded in 1970, ECPR is the leading European academic association with a mission to advance political science.

We bring scholars together across our global network to develop research and grow the discipline.

Our members are universities, and the communities within them, engaged in the research and teaching of social sciences.

Through our events, publications and research groups, we foster scholarly collaboration across borders.

We support academics at every stage of their career, providing training, research opportunities and professional development.

ECPR helps interpret the world's complex and changing political landscape for the benefit of all.

Report of the Executive Committee

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is pleased to present the Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the 12 months ending 30 September 2022

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the ECPR's Constitution, the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice', in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, published in October 2019.

About us

ECPR is a learned society and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in the UK that supports the advancement of political science.

Our members are universities and research institutes concerned with the teaching and research of political science and related disciplines.

Within these institutions is a community of tens of thousands of scholars, from PhD student to senior professor, all of whom benefit directly from ECPR membership. While the ECPR is a membership association, our activities are open to all.

Our mission is to advance political science. We do this in two ways:

- by providing platforms and opportunities for scholars to collaborate and share research, with the purpose of strengthening the discipline and growing the volume and impact of its output worldwide; and
- by delivering training and development opportunities to scholars at all career stages, with the purpose of enhancing professional skills to strengthen and support the community.

Our charitable status

Public benefit

The Executive Committee (EC) has a duty to ensure that the activities undertaken by the ECPR fulfil its charitable objectives and provide a public benefit. Our public is the academic institutions which make up our membership and those scholars who study and teach within them. It is also the wider general public, whose lives are influenced by the resulting research. The EC ensures this public benefit is met through the creation and continued development of a range of activities and initiatives to foster deeper and more productive collaboration between scholars worldwide, with the aim of producing the best quality research. These activities include:

- an annual programme of international workshops, conferences and training events designed to develop ongoing research and provide professional and skills-based training to scholars;
- a range of funding opportunities to support the participation of students and early career scholars in our events;
- a broad and diverse publishing portfolio providing opportunities for scholars to publish and read the most up-to-date research in their field, via subscription and Open Access platforms;
- a number of high-profile prizes celebrating academic achievement across all career stages;
- a programme of support to nurture and grow our sub-disciplinary research groups which, in turn, extends the reach and focus of the organisation; and
- the development of a range of studies and policies aimed at understanding the state of the profession across Europe and the rest of the world, and supporting all scholars working within the discipline.

This report provides a summary of these activities carried out in the 2021–22 financial year.

Grant-making policy

As a membership association, we provide a range of funding opportunities to individual scholars and to groups affiliated with ECPR. This provision of funding and financial support to our affiliates and Standing Groups (SGs) and Research Networks (RNs) is one of the primary ways in which we achieve our charitable objectives. The EC continually reviews ECPR's funding provision with the aim of increasing and improving the value to affiliates and, in turn, their institution.

The funding we provide is listed below:

- SGs and RNs have access to a significant annual budget on which they can draw to support their event activities. This funding is available either for internal events organised by the group or network which would otherwise run at a deficit, or to support external events that align with the thematic topic on which the group is focused, in the form of Sponsorship Grants. In 2021–22 we provided £36k of funding for this purpose.
- ECPR affiliates can apply for funding to support their attendance at our events in the form of fee waivers and travel and accommodation grants. The grants (included within expenditure from charitable activities) are available to students and early career researchers who cannot access funding elsewhere. In 2021–22 we provided £48k worth of travel and accommodation grants and waived £32k worth of registration fees, which supported 111 scholars.
- In 2019 we launched our 50th Anniversary Fund, which offers funding to support political scientists facing difficulties joining our activities and events for economic, political, social or similar reasons. Unlike our event funding provision, the 50th Anniversary Fund is not restricted to scholars from member institutions. We use it to enable scholars from across the world to participate in our events. In 2021–22 we spent in excess of £8k on this funding stream. This gave 20 scholars access to ECPR events, by financing their travel and accommodation costs, and waiving the full fee for event registration.
- The EC Bonus Fund was developed as a way to broaden the funding ECPR offers outside our traditional provision for events. The Bonus Fund provides 'seedcorn funding' to any SG or RN working on developing a bid to a major funder for a significant research project. In 2021–22, we were pleased to provide nearly £3k worth of funding for this purpose.

Welcome

We provided free membership to all Ukrainian institutions, and ran our first ‘green’ conference with the University of Innsbruck

Navigating uncertain times

Another year of adapting to the ‘new normal’. This has been a year of progress and hard work for the ECPR. Progress in that our offerings to you, our community, continued unhindered by the restrictions imposed upon our lives by the pandemic, and, which in the latter part of the year, saw us returning to pre-pandemic opportunities for collaboration, sharing and networking. And hard work, which has meant that even though we strove at all times to give our best, sometimes events beyond our control left us wishing we could have done better; but, where necessary, we have sought to be responsive and reactive to any issues that have arisen. These are certainly uncertain times.

To help navigate this uncertainty, it is more important than ever that the ECPR holds steadfast to what we do best, and so this year has been all about listening: our Publications Retreat, Standing Group Retreat and Official Representative Retreat all provided opportunities for you to tell us what you need, where we can improve, and how we can move forward as ‘your ECPR’.

We provided free membership to all Ukrainian institutions, ran our first green event with our wonderful friends at the University of Innsbruck, and grew The Loop into a thriving free resource. The House Series has also established itself as a free option for you to introduce yourself and your research to the wider community.

The Methods School remains a great opportunity to access training, learning from the best in their field, and is back to its strength again thanks to our hard working new Academic Convenors, committed Instructors and Teaching Assistants offering ground-breaking courses. The Joint Sessions, our first physical event since early 2020, held at the University of Edinburgh, marked the end of our virtual-only programming. And, of course, the highlight of the year – our General Conference in the beautiful (and sunny) Tyrol last August, which saw 2,017 delegates come together for five packed days of panels, roundtables, receptions – and morning yoga!

But the biggest leap forward has been achieved by our Standing Groups and Research Networks, which the staff at Harbour House have been happy to support to be best of their abilities. Not only has the portfolio of events organised by the various Standing Groups and Research Networks increased to 24, but more remarkably still, the attendance figures at these events have leapt from 3,850 in 2021 to a staggering 5,297 in 2022. We could not be prouder of the hard work and achievements of the groups and networks.

Another area of progress this past year has been the development of our five key strategic objectives (on climate; equality, diversity and inclusion; academic freedom; members; and standing groups and research networks), which were launched in 2021 and discussed in our statement in last year’s annual report. These objectives guide the ECPR’s work, as is reflected throughout this Annual Report. They have shaped our focus and underpinned our interactions with you at events, retreats and throughout our publications. In particular, two key principles shaping our future is our commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and to Academic Freedom – each the focus of a dedicated working group whose reports are being finalised for discussion by the Executive Committee prior to being launched to the wider community.

In the coming year we will keep our focus on our strategic objectives. There is always more to be done on adapting to the climate crisis, on promoting equality, diversity and inclusion, on protecting academic freedom, on meeting the needs of our members, and on supporting our Standing Groups and Research Networks.

It is our commitment to let these be a guide to the way we work and behave, with the aim of building an environment that supports our mission to advance political science in a global network that fosters scholarly collaboration across borders and, most importantly, for all.

David Farrell, Chair,
ECPR Executive Committee, 2021 – 2024

Tanja Munro, ECPR Director

This year has been all about listening

‘Retreats’ for editors of our Publications, and for representatives from Standing Groups and Council, let you tell us what you need, where we can improve, and how we can move forward as ‘your ECPR’

2021–2022

Areas of special interest, 2021–24

ECPR's current Executive Committee has agreed the following five areas of strategic focus for its three-year term

1 Membership

First and foremost, ECPR is a membership association, so the decline in institutions renewing membership over the past five years is an increasing cause for concern.

Throughout 2021–22 we implemented a number of initiatives aimed at understanding the causes of this attrition, and how this is influenced by country, region and other environmental factors.

We also considered what we should be doing to address this, and the broader needs of our community.

We began with a series of online Official Representative (OR) Retreat sessions in late 2021. During these sessions, we spent time with representatives from member universities across the world, to understand the context of membership within their institutions.

Building on this, membership was an item for discussion at our Publications and Standing Groups Retreats in the spring of 2022.

Insights from these sessions and ongoing engagement with our Official Representatives has already informed a number of new initiatives, which will continue into the next year.

2 Standing Groups and Research Networks

Standing Groups and Research Networks are often described as the lifeblood of ECPR, representing the full breadth and diversity of our community.

The number of new groups continues to grow, and the past five years have seen considerable enhancement in the range of support provided to Steering Committees to develop and enhance new and existing activities.

A Standing Group Retreat is held every year, virtually and in-person at Harbour House, providing an opportunity for key staff and EC members to share information, discuss key topics, and receive feedback and ideas from these important groups.

3 Academic freedom

When ECPR was founded, it was on the principle that all member institutions should be politically free. As democracy grew across Europe, so did our membership.

Recent years, however, have seen a resurgence in authoritarianism, prompting the EC to examine the impact of potential restrictions to academic freedom on our members and their work.

We therefore established a working group to consider what ECPR can do to support its community of scholars living and working in states and regions in which academic freedom is under threat.

The working group sought feedback from, and aimed to work in partnership with, other political science organisations. In April, we held an open dialogue event that allowed participants to freely share their concerns, practices and policies on this topic.

The feedback we received is, in turn, shaping ECPR's policy approach on this issue.

Since the event, members of the working group and EC have taken part in related events within our networks, gathering a picture of Academic Freedom across ECPR's membership community from which we can learn and develop.

In practical terms, the EC took the decision to offer free membership to Ukrainian institutions in response to the Russian invasion. We also dedicated a roundtable to this topic at the 2022 General Conference in Innsbruck.

4 Climate change

Meeting the needs of our academic community while reducing the overall impact on the planet is a standing item in our event and training portfolios.

We plan to continue to offer virtual elements where possible and will consider more critically the location, accessibility, and sustainability commitments of prospective event host institutions.

To this end, we are pleased to report on our first 'green' General Conference, hosted by the University of Innsbruck.

We aim to continue this ethos throughout our activities over the coming years, and will also encourage and promote more sustainable means of travel to our events, particularly by ECPR staff.

We are also planning initiatives to reduce the running costs and environmental impact of ECPR's head office at Harbour House in Colchester.

5 Equality, diversity and inclusion

Much progress has already been made in relation to gender representation across ECPR. In 2015, the EC committed itself to a set of objectives and concrete actions to address the gap in representation between men and women in the discipline.

To hold itself accountable, the EC also commissioned an annual **Gender Study** to review and measure progress made.

The current EC wishes to build on this work and expand its view to other areas of diversity and inclusion, and where they might intersect with other areas of interest or may be compromised by the way we deliver our activities.

To this end, the EC established the working group on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Its express purpose is to identify and respond to areas of underrepresentation created by potential disadvantage or bias across our activities, and in the activities of the broader political science community.

A year in review

A tentative post-pandemic return to in-person events characterised this financial year for ECPR

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was minimal in 2021-22, with only the Winter School 2022 forced online.

The Joint Sessions returned to an in-person format taking place in Edinburgh in April 2022, and the General Conference took place in Innsbruck in August; this host had been deferred from 2020.

The EC took the decision to continue to hold the Summer School in Methods and Techniques virtually in 2022, because this format had proved popular in the preceding years. The virtual platform, developed to support our online events, continues to be used for in-person meetings to enrich participant experience through streaming live and on-demand content, providing all programme information and supporting additional networking opportunities.

Our four core events were attended by 2,761 in-person and 214 virtual participants, compared to a total of 3,845 in 2021. The number of other events, including those organised by our SGs and RNs, increased in this period. 15 were held in person and nine virtually (compared to one and 21 respectively in 2021). These were attended by 3,742 in-person and 1,555 virtual participants, compared to a total of 3,850 in 2021.

Staff began to return to Harbour House in early 2021. A blend of office and home working helped staff manage their work-life balance while continuing to deliver high-value services. The EC also returned to in-person meetings, assembling first in Colchester in March and again at the General Conference in Innsbruck. Six of the twelve members took office in May 2021, so the March 2022 meeting was the first time the current cohort had met in person.

Membership

Our membership comprises more than 300 of the world's leading academic institutions concerned with teaching and researching political and social science. From this membership stems a network of tens of thousands of individual 'affiliate' members across some fifty countries. The activities and services we provide are aimed primarily at these affiliates but, indirectly, they also benefit their institution. The membership year runs concurrently with our financial year, 1 October–30 September. Over the past five years we have experienced a decline in member numbers, which continued into 2021–22, during which we recorded 305 members compared to 308 in 2020–21. This is a key area of improvement for the EC and staff.

Relations with other organisations

We continue to work closely with a number of scholarly associations operating in the same field of interest, to share best practice and develop joint initiatives to serve the community.

These include the American Political Science Association (APSA), International Political Science Association (IPSA) and UK Political Studies Association (PSA). We also maintain relationships with other UK based charities working outside of the political science remit and associations that support organisations similar in structure such as the Association of Association Executives (AAE).

Our Standing Group on International Relations works closely with the European International Studies Association (EISA) in the oversight of the *European Journal of International Relations* (EJIR).

We are members of the Association for Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the International Science Council (ISC), with whom we award the Stein Rokkan Prize. We also award an annual prize with the Mattei Dogan Foundation.

Standing Groups and Research Networks

Sixty thematic research groups operate under the auspices of ECPR, covering the full breadth of the discipline: 52 Standing Groups and eight Research Networks. Each group has its own membership and the opportunity to deliver a range of activities. Some are small and provide a forum for networking or sharing of ideas, others are large and organise their own regular events. These groups play a key role in shaping the academic programme of the Joint Sessions and General Conference through an annual allocation of Workshops and Sections.

Events

We organise a comprehensive programme of academic and professional events every year. This consists of:

- **Joint Sessions of Workshops** A week-long event comprising around thirty Workshops running concurrently. Participants must present their own research to attend the full Workshop, so these events are incredibly valuable to scholars, and therefore highly competitive.
- **General Conference** Follows the traditional format of Sections, Panels and Papers; all subjected to rigorous peer review prior to acceptance. The event has become the largest annual gathering of political scientists in Europe.
- **Methods School** Offers a comprehensive programme of cutting-edge qualitative and quantitative methodological courses organised across two annual events, one in winter and one in summer.
- In addition to the core programme, a wide variety of other events are organised each year by SGs and RNs that focus on their thematic disciplines. From conferences, schools, workshops, numerous seminar series and multiple opportunities for exchange and cooperation, SGs and RNs offer a rich and diverse programme of the best and most current developments in political science. It is of particular note that as SG and RN events are open to all, their work reaches far beyond the boundaries of traditional ECPR membership, which makes it all the more valuable to us.
- **The House Series** Inspired by ECPR's Harbour House headquarters, which provides a literal and metaphorical 'home' for the ECPR family, this series opens doors to some of the most pressing issues and challenges in the discipline. Delivered online and accessible to all, The House Series is a mix of roundtables, discussions and lectures featuring content from across the discipline.

Publications

Our publishing portfolio provides a platform on which to share the best of new thinking and research across the community and beyond. We publish six journals, a book series and our own imprint, in partnership with leading scholarly publishers, alongside an in-house blog. Partnerships allow us to harness the expertise, reach and new technologies of the publisher, while retaining editorial oversight through our appointment of the editorial teams. Our portfolio includes the following titles:

- *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)*
- *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* and *PDY:Interactive (PDYi)*
- *European Political Science Review (EPSR)*
- *European Political Science (EPS)*
- *European Journal of International Relations (EJIR)*
- *Political Research Exchange (PRX)*
- Comparative Politics Book Series
- ECPR Press
- The Loop

In 2021 the decision was taken to end our publishing partnership and to close the ECPR Press to any new submissions. The full backlist continues to be available to purchase via the ECPR website and elsewhere.

The Loop

In its second calendar year of operation, The Loop developed into a thriving resource for the political science community, with the quantity of its output far exceeding initial expectations.

From January – December 2022, The Loop published 244 blogs, by 310 authors (some pieces are multi-authored). Contributors hailed from 41 countries worldwide, and 55% were working or studying at an ECPR Member or Associate Member institution.

After attracting 43% female contributors in the launch phase of late 2020, gender split had dropped to 37% by the end of 2022 as a whole. The editors will work to rectify this trend in 2023.

In 2021, 38% of blog pieces had been pitched direct. The most significant development of 2022 has therefore been the sea-change in the proportion of content coming to The Loop direct. Last year, 75% of published content arrived either via a direct pitch or through a third-party series editor (see overleaf) – a resounding 37% rise on 2021.

In 2021, The Loop introduced two discrete content strands, Science of Democracy, and Illiberal Wave. In 2022, these were joined by Autocracies with Adjectives, a series examining the nuanced differences between autocratic regimes around the world. By the end of 2022, this series, had attracted 17 entries. Finally, the blog site launched Measuring Human Rights, looking at the challenges and limits of methodologies for gathering human rights data. By the end of the year, The Loop had published eight pieces in this strand.

ECPR prizes 2021 – 2022

We offer a broad range of prizes, which recognise service and achievement across the ECPR community. These prizes honour individuals at many stages of their careers, from distinguished senior scholars to exceptional PhD students

Prize	Awarded for	Winner
Cora Maas Award 2021 (award date unknown)	**MMS course** *Interpretive Research Methods*	**Marie Østergaard Møller** Aalborg University
Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award 2021 (March 2021)	**MS teaching assistant; course** *Qualitative Data Generation*	**Clare McKeown** University of Stirling
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2022 (November 2022)	**Thesis** Social Norms and Stigmatized Political Behaviour	**Vicente Valentim** University of Oxford
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2021 (November 2021)	**Thesis** *Grievances, Identity, and Political Opportunity: The Effects of Corporate and Liberal Power-Sharing on Ethnic Conflict*	**Andreas Juon** University College London
Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize 2022	Contributions to core issues of political sociology	**Olivier Fillieule** University of Lausanne
Stein Rokkan Prize 2022 (September 2022)	**Book** *Religious Parties and the Politics of Civil Liberties*	**Vineeta Yadav** Penn State University
Stein Rokkan Prize 2021 (July 2021)	**Book** *City, State: Constitutionalism and the Megacity*	**Ran Hirschl** University of Toronto
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2022 (January 2023)	**Joint Sessions Paper** Conceptualization and Measurement of Regulatory Discretion: Text Analysis of 120 Years of British Legislation	**Nir Kosti** Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2021	**Joint Sessions Paper** Information and Motivation – How Do Attitudes Towards International Organizations Develop?	**Paul Meiners** University of Münster
Lifetime Achievement Award 2022	Incredible impact on the discipline – as teachers, mentors, and leaders	**Beate Kohler** University of Mannheim **Jean Blondel** University of Siena
Joni Lovenduski PhD Prize in Gender and Politics 2021 (July 2021)	**Thesis** *The Politics of Intersectional Practice: Representation, Coalition and Solidarity*	**Ashlee Christoffersen** University of Edinburgh
Jacqui Briggs *EPS* Prize 2022	**Article** Public sensitivity to cultural identity and regime type of trading partners: A survey experiment from Turkey and Greece	**Osman Sabri Kiratli** Bogazici University, Istanbul
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2022 (June 2022)	**Book** *Market Power Politics: War, Institutions, and Strategic Delay in World Politics*	**Stephen Gent** and **Mark Crescenzi** University of North Carolina
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2021 (July 2021)	**Book** *The Closure of the International System: How Institutions Create Political Equalities and Hierarchies*	**Lora Anne Viola** Freie Universität Berlin
Rising Star Award 2022 (January 2023)	Extensive publications, significant contributions to international research projects, and commitment public engagement through his Democratic Theorizing Project	**Hans Asenbaum** University of Westminster
Rising Star Award 2021 (November 2021)	Early career excellence in publications, research, teaching, service to the profession, and commitment to open science	**Julia Schulte-Cloos** Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
Political Theory Prize 2022 (September 202s)	**Book** *The Humanity of Universal Crime: Inclusion, Inequality, and Intervention in International Political Thought*	**Sinja Graf** London School of Economics and Political Science
Political Theory Prize 2021 (September 2021)	**Book** *The Privatized State*	**Chiara Cordelli** University of Chicago

Monitoring impact

Our income is derived from three main streams: membership fees, event fees, and publications royalties

We keep a close eye on the impact and success of these activities in terms of the benefit they bring to individual scholars and their institutions; the impact they have across the community and in raising the profile of the organisation; and the income they generate. For the purposes of this Annual Report, we employ a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor year on year, as detailed below.

Membership

We carefully monitor trends in membership renewal and acquisition each year. The past five years have seen a steady fall in overall membership numbers, which is a cause for concern, and an issue we are monitoring closely, including through continuing frequent engagement with our Official Representatives.

Publications

We evaluate the impact and health of our individual publications, and the programme as a whole, in a number of ways. However, for the purposes of this report, we apply the following indicators:

- the number of article submissions in a given year (which shows the popularity of the journal as a publishing destination);
- the rejection rate (which shows the competitiveness / benchmark to be accepted for publication given the quality of the article and the available space within the journal volume if applicable).
- citation metrics such as the Clarivate Impact Factor, Scopus Citescore etc (to show impact of the published work across the discipline).

Event participation

Attendance at ECPR events is a strong indicator of the popularity and relevance of our programme. Participant numbers fluctuate, particularly for the General Conference, which can experience spikes in attendance depending on the location, and its capacity. Virtual events do not have the capacity constraints of physical institutions and depend more on the number of people willing and able to engage with the technology. However, online options open event attendance up to a new demographic of scholars who may not have been able to attend in-person activities.

The 2022 Joint Sessions (JS) and General Conference (GC) offered a selection of virtual Workshops and Panels alongside in-person sessions. Collectively, they were attended by 2,466 participants; a decline of 511 (17.2%) on 2021. The GC declined by 332 participants (14.1%), whereas the proportional decline for the JS was much larger, at 28.5% (628 in 2021 vs 449 in 2022). In 2022, we held 45 JS Workshops, all virtual, compared with 42 in 2022, of which 15 were in-person and 27 virtual. Feedback indicated numbers were down due to ongoing trepidation regarding international travel. This was the first in-person event following the pandemic, and suffered from several late withdrawals. We do not expect this declining trend to continue.

The Methods School was attended by a total of 509 participants compared to 868 in 2021, a decline of 359 (41.4%). There were several factors affecting this, including a slight reduction in the number of courses on offer (53 in 2022 compared to 58 in 2021) and the fact that there were no new courses. In the year, two new Academic Convenors were appointed to refresh the MS programme, but the declining attendance numbers for the MS is a major concern for the EC and is a key contributory factor to the overall deficit generated by the organisation in the year.

Attendance at other events increased by 1,447 (37.6%) from 3,850 to 5,297. 3,742 scholars attended in person; 1,555 virtually. This upturn was due in part to the number of events increasing from 22 to 24. It was also helped by the reintroduction of in-person events (15 in 2022 compared to 1 in 2021), which tend to be more popular.

Event calendar

Event name, Standing Group / Research Network	Event type	Dates	Virtual or in person?	No. of participants
Standing Group on the European Union	Seminar Series	21 October 2021 – 21 April 2022	in person	266
Standing Group on Environmental Politics	Seminar Series	7 October 2021 – 31 August 2023	virtual	399
Winter School	Methods School	7 – 11 February 2022	virtual	295
The Methods Edition: Replication and Political Methodology	House Lecture	10 February 2022	virtual	392
Research Network on Statehood	Seminar Series	23 February – 31 July 2022	virtual	87
The Loop Reflections on the Science of Democracy	Roundtable	4 March 2022	virtual	150
Standing Group on Citizenship	Seminar series	30 March – 22 November 2022	virtual	94
Joint Sessions of Workshops	Workshops	19 – 22 April 2022	in person	449
Stein Rokkan Edition: *The Academic Legacies of British Empire*	House Series	19 April 2022	virtual	96
Standing Group on Migration and Ethnicity: Ethical Issues in Migration Research	Online Workshop	18 May 2022	virtual	103
Standing Group on Citizenship	Early Careers Lounge	18 May – 23 November 2022	virtual	50
Standing Group on the European Union: 11th Biennial Conference	Conference	8 – 10 June 2022	in person	478
Standing Group on Teaching and Learning Politics: 5th European Conference	Conference	15 – 17 June 2022	in person	71
Standing Group on Religion and Politics	Summer School	20 –24 June 2022	in person	10
Standing Group on Latin American Politics: Democratic Legitimacy in Latin America	Seminar	22 – 23 June 2022	in person	42
Standing Group on Interest Groups	Summer School	23 June – 1 July 2022	in person	19
Standing Group on Parliaments: 7th Conference	Conference	30 June – 2 July 2022	in person	77
Standing Group on Organised Crime: 4th Conference	Conference	4 – 6 July 2022	in person	93
Standing Group on Extremism and Democracy	Summer School	4 – 8 July 2022	in person	15
Standing Group on Gender and Politics	Conference	6 – 8 July 2022	in person	448
Standing Group on International Relations	Summer School	12 – 15 July 2022	in person	37
Summer School	Methods School	18 July – 5 August 2022	virtual	214
Standing Group on Parliaments	Summer School	18 – 29 July 2022	in person	21
General Conference	Conference	22 – 26 August 2022	in person	2017
The Impact of the War in Ukraine on Academic Freedom	House Series	23 August 2022	in person	47
Standing Group on the European Union	Seminar Series	15 September 2022 – 20 May 2023	virtual	184
Standing Group on Citizenship Inclusive Citizenship as Belonging	Conference	29 September – 1 October 2022	in person	101

KPI data tables

Please refer to separate Appendix for headline statistics on all ECPR publications

■ Key Performance Indicators for Membership numbers, 2017–2022

	2017–18		2018–19		2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Membership	345	338	345	331	345	320	340	308	320	305	321

■ Participation at events, 2018–2022

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
General Conference	1,500	2,463	1,846	1,801	1,850	2,214	2,000	2,349	2,000	2,017	2,174
Joint Sessions	400	460	407	448	425	87	400	628	400	449	489
Winter School	Previously, targets set* and reporting has been based on participant numbers rather than courses sold. From 2021–2022, reporting on ourse numbers has been adopted as a more reliable metric.					573	n/a*	578	n/a*	334	470
Summer School						607	n/a*	500	n/a*	228	448

■ Key Performance Indicators for journal publishing, 2018–2022

	European Journal of Political Research (including PDY)			*European Political Science*			*European Political Science Review*			*European Journal of International Relations*			*Political Research Exchange*		
	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor
2018	415	88.30%	3.066	106	59.00%	1.141	176	73.00%	1.545	365	90.00%	2.756	27	59.00%	
2019	433	95.60%	2.830	97	47.70%	1.429	197	74.00%	2.327	391	87.00%	3.474	43	44.00%	
2020	514	84.83%	4.943	123	59.35%		230	88.26%	4.143			4.023	87	77.01%	
2021	474	88.19%	5.774	91	70.33%		210	81.90%	3.123			2.946	84	71.43%	
2022	450			84			232						91		

ECPR publications follow the calendar year. Some data were therefore unavailable at the time of publication.

Operating responsibly

Supporting our volunteers

Volunteers are defined as people who conduct work on behalf of ECPR without financial reward. Currently, we define members of Steering Committees of ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks, and Associate Editors of the journal *PRX*, as volunteers. We recognise the contribution of this group to meeting the organisation's mission, and we aim to support them in a number of ways, including opportunities to meet with staff and Trustees, and offering advice and training.

Complaints handling policy

We work hard to ensure that we always deliver the best service to our members and affiliates; to support this effort we have developed a complaints policy to allow us to receive, review and take action on any concerns raised. Complaints can be made in person, over the phone or via a dedicated confidential email address: complaints@ecpr.eu. Once received, complaints are processed by our Senior Management Team or Director. We have also published a **Code of Conduct** on our website, revised in March 2021, which explains explicitly to our community what we consider to be appropriate conduct.

Staff wellbeing

Our staff at the Colchester headquarters work hard to deliver an extensive range of benefits and services to a large community of scholars across the world.

All staff benefit from flexible working, so they can work the hours that suit their own personal situations. Staff required to work additional hours at times of high workload can accrue time-off-in-lieu (TOIL), in addition to the standard 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays.

Home-working has always been an option for staff under certain circumstances, but the pandemic has proven that staff are able and capable of working from home on a regular basis, with minimal disruption to our operations. We have adopted a more flexible approach to home-working, allowing staff to combine home and office working to allow them to better manage their commitments outside of work.

We have developed a number of policies to support and protect staff who are working away from the office, and the organisation reimburses all necessary costs incurred while travelling for work purposes. We provide a defined-contribution pension scheme for all employees, to which ECPR doubles any contribution made by staff, up to 16% of salary. We also provide staff with a benefits package that includes shopping discounts; reduced train tickets; spreading the cost of technology, childcare and vehicles; access to over a thousand e-learning modules and courses; free coffee and movies; and discounts on gym memberships. We are also committed to maintaining the good mental health of our staff. We have trained Mental Health First Aiders and, through our staff benefits package, we provide access to a free counselling service.

Procurement and sustainability

We have adopted a Procurement Policy which seeks to balance the need to protect the resources of ECPR by achieving value for money, with factors such as sustainability and supplier values. The policy seeks to achieve this by requiring any trustee, volunteer or member of staff considering a purchase to evaluate the following criteria: price of product; quality of product; ability of the product to fulfil the charity's need; supplier's reputation, range of products, service, delivery ability and sustainability principles.

For large purchases or long-term supplies, we seek formal quotes and tenders from at least two competitors. Quotes made by charities or other not-for-profit organisations, and those local to our headquarters or event host (as appropriate), are considered favourably.

Risk management

We regularly evaluate the risks facing the organisation through the Risk Register. This then informs the degree of reserves required to sustain the organisation in the event of one or more of these factors materialising.

A new key risk facing the ECPR is the recent decline in courses and attendance at the Methods School. The EC will be working closely with the newly appointed Academic Convenors to reformat the school to increase its competitiveness. Sustained loss of surplus for events is an ongoing risk as we consider the potential impact of hybrid events and the significantly higher costs that may be involved with this type of event, without necessarily increasing income. Brexit is an ever-changing situation. With the return to in-person events we have felt the impact in the cost and convenience of transporting event materials outside the UK and we are looking at ways to operate more effectively in this regard. We continue to monitor the overall impact of Brexit and have contingency plans in place if required. Exchange rate volatility and the risk of loss of members remain unchanged from 2020–21.

While the EC is responsible for adopting the annual budget, and for ensuring that the accounts are properly audited, day-to-day management of our income and expenditure lies with the operational staff, and specifically, our Finance Department and Senior Management Team, with regular oversight by the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee.

Reserves policy

ECPR aims to maintain reserves equivalent to the risks identified in the Risk Register. The last Risk Register to be approved by the EC set a net reserves target of £1.8m; at the close of the 2020–21 financial year net reserves (excluding Fixed Assets) were at £1.7m (95% of target). However, at the close of 2021–22, reserves dropped to £1.3m; only 70% of the target set. The SMT and the EC will review the Risk Register ahead of the next board meeting in April 2023. If reserves are still far below target, we will begin planning to rebuild the reserves over the coming years.

Current principal ongoing or 'standing' risks faced by ECPR

Risk	Loss of Methods School as a viable event	Sustained loss of surplus from events	Brexit – VAT	Exchange rate volatility	Reduction in membership subscriptions
Impact	Due to competition, the Methods School can no longer continue	Increased costs for hybrid events resulting in loss of surplus across all events, which cannot be supported by surpluses from publications and membership subscriptions	Risk of having to seek re-clarification of our VAT position in EU countries; increased VAT costs for countries that were exempt; increasing travel costs, eg insurance / visas	The likelihood of this going against us, ie GBP value increasing against Euro increases post-Brexit	Loss of members
Mitigation	Need to develop strategies for revising the format so as not to be in direct competition	Making careful decisions about events, and look at it in the wider context of all events income and costs	Potential issues include increased VAT costs in EU countries, increased travel costs from the UK to the EU, loss of participant funding, increased insurance costs	Monitoring and potentially sourcing as much in the UK as possible if costs do rise due to declining GBP	OR Retreats, expansion to staffing, membership surveys and market research is being conducted to develop a membership retention strategy and increase marketing to members
Net risk rating	Very high	Likely	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

Financial review

Income

Our four primary income streams are:

- Registration income from the annual General Conference
- Membership fees (subscriptions)
- Publications income, of which the majority is produced by the *European Journal of Political Research*
- Methods School registration income

Overall income in 2021–22 decreased by 1.8%, from £1.93m in 2020–21 to £1.90m.

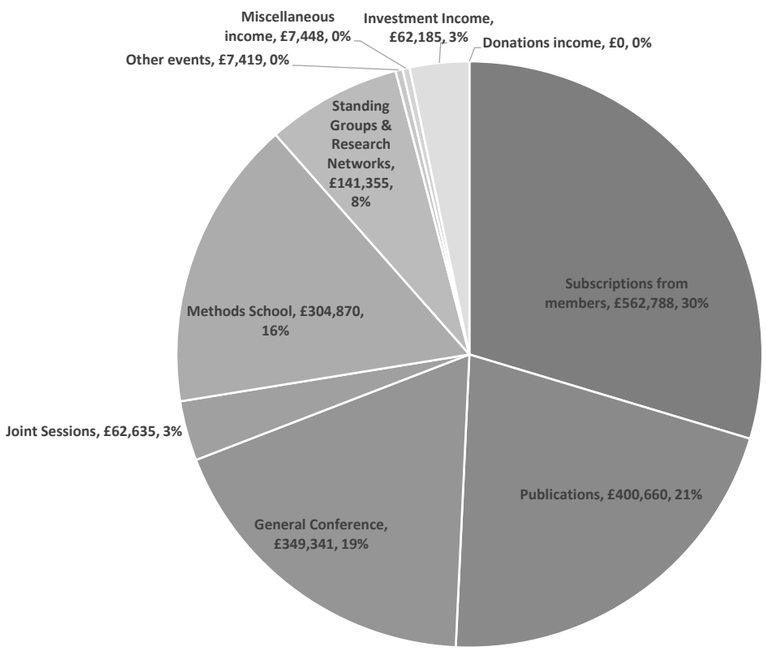
Income from publications reduced by 8.5% to £401k compared with £438k in the prior period.

Broken down across our portfolio of journals and book series:

- **ECPR Press** income decreased by 100% from £11k to £0. This is due to the contract to co-publish the Press coming to an end and the activity being brought back in house. In 2022–23, the Press should start generating income from book sales, rather than royalties, as it did prior to being outsourced in 2017.
- ***EJPR* income** decreased by 10.5%, from £315k to £282k. This is due to a new contract being agreed with the publishers on reduced terms. It is expected that this will continue to be a declining source of revenue for the organisation.
- ***EPS* income** increased by 53.9%, from £39k to £60k. This is due to a timing difference on the recognition of income.
- ***EPSR* income** increased by £11k (32%) to £44k. This was due to timing differences relating to the recognition of income.
- ***EJIR* income** declined by 28.4%, from £24k to £17k. This is due to a decline in royalty income generated by the journal.
- ***PRX* recorded a negative income** figure of £4k compared with £13k surplus in the prior period (a decline of 131.4%). This is due to adjustments that were made at the 2020–21 year-end for anticipated income that was not realised due to the required thresholds not being met.

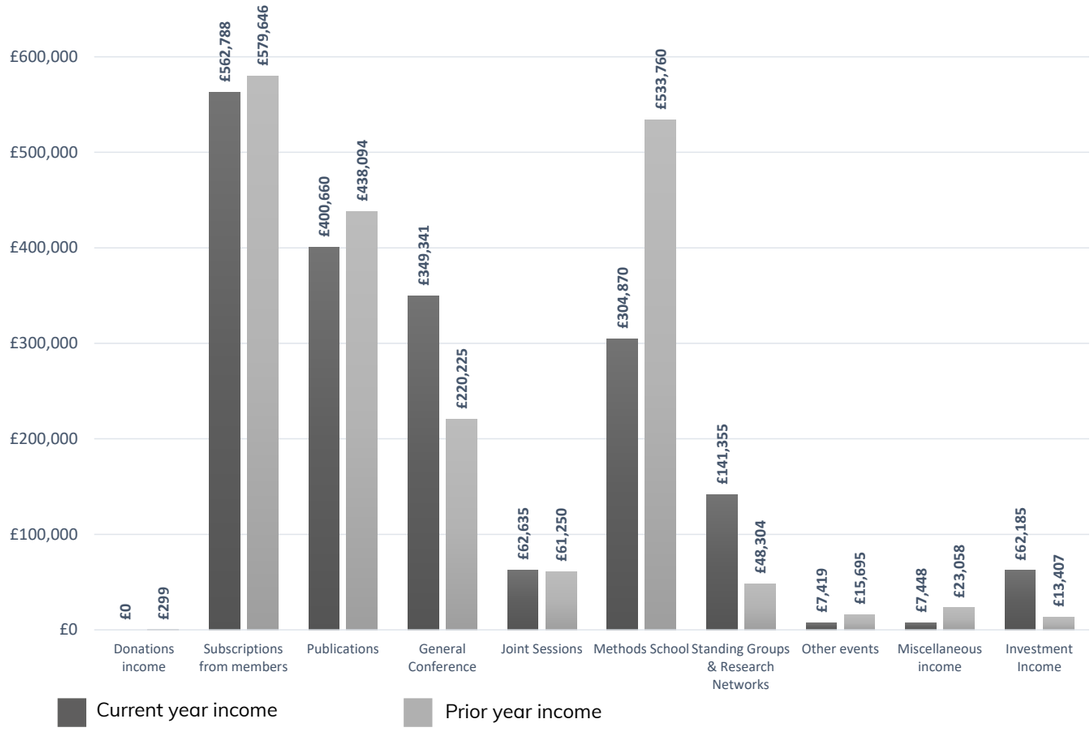
Income summary

Breakdown of income received in 2021–2022



Income compared to prior year

Variance 2021–2022 income against previous year



Event income decreased by 1.5% from £879k in the previous year to £866k in 2021–22.

- **General Conference** income increased by 58.6% to £349k from £220k. Although participant numbers were down from 2,349 to 2,017, income increased due to the return to in-person events which carry higher registration fees.
- **Joint Sessions** income increased by 2.3%, from £61k to £63k. Participant numbers were significantly lower, down from 628 to 449; however, as with the General Conference, registration fees charged for in-person attendance were significantly higher than for virtual attendance in 2021.
- **Methods School** income declined by a significant 42.9%, from £534k down to £305k. This is mirrored in a decline in participant numbers of 359 (41.4% down on previous year).
- **Standing Group and Research Network** income increased by a significant 192.6%, from £48k to £141k. **Other event** income was down 52.7%, from £16k to £7k. Overall participant numbers were up 37.1%, from 3,850 to 5,279. In-person attendees were generally charged a higher fee than virtual attendees.
- **Miscellaneous** income decreased by 67.7%, from £23k to £7k. This was because ECPR received furlough payments from the UK government in 2020–21 which were not received in 2021–22.
- **Membership subscription** income reduced slightly, by 2.9%, from £580k to £563k.
- **Investment income** increased by 363.8%, from £13k to £62k. However, overall, the value of the investment portfolio declined (see Investment policy and performance, p28).

Expenditure

Overall expenditure increased by 42.2% in the period, from £1.6m to £2.3m.

- **Overall support costs** increased by £266k (30.6%), from £871k to £1.1m. Within this, governance costs increased by £41k (153.3%), from £27k to £68k. This was due to increased travelling by EC members to meetings and events. General administration costs increased by £44k (16.2%), from £274k to £318k. Staff salaries and wages increased by £181k (31.7%) from £570k to £751k. This was due to a planned restructure in staffing, which is necessary to support our increasing activities and grow income. Average staff numbers increased by 33.3% from 21 to 28. Support costs are reallocated to our charitable activities based on the % of charitable expenditure the activity generated.

- **Expenditure on raising funds** (membership subscriptions) increased by 5.1% from £76k to £80k. This was mainly due to increased staffing costs.

- **Expenditure on publications** increased by 8.6%, from £485k to £526k. The primary reason for this was the one-off expenditure related to purchasing the rights to ECPR Press titles in order to bring the activity back in house.

- **General Conference expenditure** increased by a significant 543.3%, from £94k to £607k. Direct costs were up from £19k to £250k because the event took place in person rather than online. There was also a £31k increase in staffing costs, both of which resulted in a larger allocation of support costs, of £251k.

- **Joint Sessions expenditure** also increased by a significant 229.3%, from £41k to £134k. Direct costs increased from £5k to £36k because the event took place in person. Direct staffing costs also increased from £14k to £32k, and the allocation of support costs also increased, from £22k to £67k.

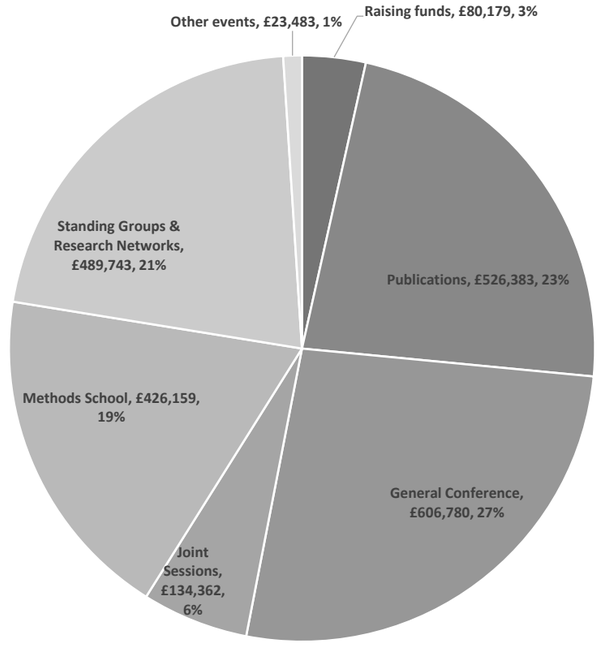
- **Methods School expenditure** decreased by £366k (46.2%), from £792k to £426k. Direct costs decreased by £115k, from £264k to £149k. The majority of which (£71k) was because teaching fees decreased due to fewer courses being on offer. Direct salaries decreased from £99k to £65k, and the allocation of support costs therefore also reduced, from £429k to £212k.

- **Standing Group and Research Network expenditure** increased by 356.7%, from £107k to £490k. Direct costs increased from £44k to £246k because events returned to an in-person format. Support costs thus rose from £58k to £244k.

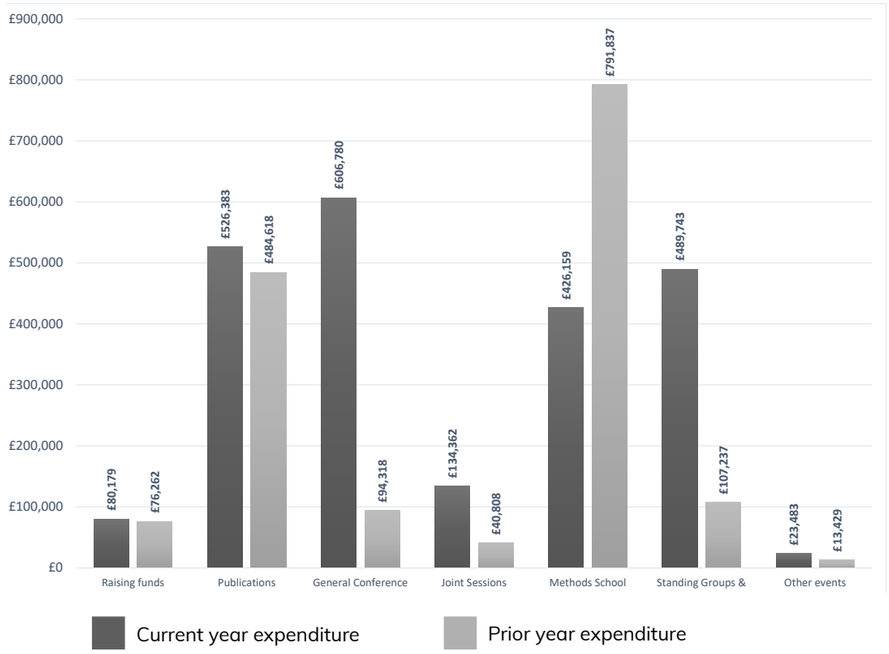
- **Other events expenditure** increased by 74.9%, from £13k to £23k. This was due to slightly increased direct costs (£2k) and direct salaries (£4k) leading to an increase in support cost allocation of £4k.

Expenditure summary

Breakdown of charitable expenditure 2021–2022



Expenditure compared to prior year



Surplus and deficit

The 2021–22 financial year overall recorded a deficit of £574k compared to a surplus of £413k in 2020–21. This represents a decline of £987k (238.8%).

- **Activities for raising funds** were the only surplus-generating activities in 2021–22. These generated £490k, including donations and miscellaneous income. However, this was a decrease in surplus of 6.96% from £527k.
- **Publications** recorded a deficit in the period of £256k which was an increase of 170.2% from a deficit of £45k in 2020–21.
- **The General Conference** declined by 304.5% from a surplus of £126k in 2020–21 to a deficit of £127k in 2021–22.
- **The Joint Sessions** declined by 450.9% from a surplus of £20k in 2020–21 to a deficit of £72k in 2021–22.
- Deficit made by the **Methods School** decreased by 26.8%, from £348k to £255k.
- Deficit made by **Other Events and Standing Groups** decreased by 66.4%, from £261k to £88k.
- **Surplus generated by the investments portfolio** rose by 383.6%, to £101k from £21k.

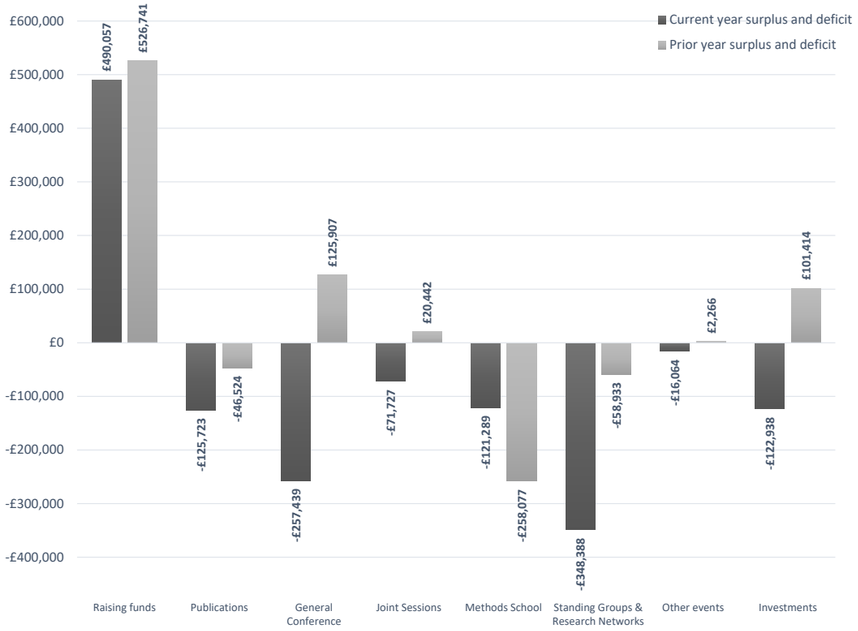
Investment policy and performance

When we make a surplus, we use this money to build reserves which can be called upon to keep the organisation functioning should it meet any of the risks highlighted by our Risk Register.

Some of our reserves are held in an investment portfolio. After a review by the EC in 2017, we decided that our managed fund was not bringing us value for money, so we transferred the £855k to Vanguard Investments UK Limited, split 50/50 across two funds: Vanguard Lifestrategy 40% Equity Fund and Vanguard Lifestrategy 60% Equity Fund. These index-tracking funds tend to be less volatile than active funds, and attract lower management costs, at 0.24%.

Since the transfer of the portfolio the investments had brought us gains increasing the value of the fund to £1.1m in 2020–21. However, the value of the fund decreased for the first time in 2021–22, dropping 11.5% to £952k, with a loss on the value of the portfolio of £185k and a dividend accumulated of £61k. As these funds are tracked rather than actively managed, the reason for the decline is due to external factors affecting the portfolio. The portfolio was revalued at the end of December 2022 and had recovered slightly from £951k (excluding £1k from Santander shares) to £976k.

Surplus for all activities



Staff at Harbour House in Colchester

Employed 1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022

Director

Tanja Munro

Senior Management Team

Rebecca Gethen
Communications Manager, Head of Communications
From January 2022

Mark Kench
IT Manager, Head of IT
From June 2022

Helen Morgan
Finance Manager, Head of Finance
From January 2022

Nirusha Vigi
Events Manager

Communications

Rebecca Gethen
Senior Manager

Helen Cooper
Communications Officer, Community Engagement Manager *From January 2022*

Kate Hawkins
Marketing and Communications Officer, Publishing and Content Manager *From January 2022*

Olga Dovzhanchuk
Events Marketing Coordinator, Marketing Manager
From January 2022

Yeva Babchenko Community Engagement Coordinator
January to March 2022

Mary Cenci Editorial Assistant
Until June 2022

Kaez Condon Publishing and Communications Coordinator

Rebecca Delve
Communications Assistant

Bobbi Westerman
Community Engagement Coordinator *From May 2022*

Anna Hubbard Editorial Coordinator *From June 2022*

Callum Winterford Digital Engagement Coordinator
January to September 2022

Events

Nirusha Ridgwell
Senior Manager

Bridie Gaynor Events Coordinator, Training Manager
From May 2022

Alexandra Turner
Events Assistant

Órlaith Donnelly Events Coordinator *Until April 2022*

Fatima Syed Junior Events Coordinator *Until January 2022*

Savanna Allum Events Assistant *Until March 2022*

Annie Ho Events Coordinator
From November 2021

Harriet Olley Events Coordinator *From April 2022*

Samantha Wong Training Coordinator *From April 2022*

Andie Nash Junior Training and Events Coordinator
From June 2022

Finance

Helen Morgan Senior Manager

Bianca Taylor Senior Finance Assistant, Finance Manager *From January 2022*

Shaun Klotia-Clottey
Sales & Purchase Ledger Assistant, Finance Assistant
From August 2022

Darran Harrington-Keeton
Data Analyst

Sean Judge
Finance Apprentice

Operations

Kim Jesney
Administrator, HR Generalist
From February 2022

Jeff Noga
Facilities Coordinator
From February 2022

IT and Website

Mark Kench
Senior Manager

James Gooch
Developer, Development Manager
From May 2022

Colin McPhie
Systems Administrator, Systems Manager
From May 2022

Antoni Christodoulou
Junior Web Developer, Developer *From May 2022*

Richard Lay-Flurrie
Junior Web Developer
Until March 2022

Aaron Riley
Interim Web Developer
March to May 2022

Jordan Rudge
Junior Developer
From April 2022

Executive Committee: Trustees 2021 – 2024

David Farrell, Chair Full Professor of Politics, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin

■ Representation, elections and parties, constitutional deliberation.

Petra Meier, Vice Chair *Awards, Prizes, and Funding Decisions Subcommittee;* Professor of Politics, University of Antwerp

■ Gender politics and policies; democracy and representation; electoral inclusiveness; inequality in multi-level systems.

Ladislav Cabada Vice-Rector for Research, Quality and Development, Metropolitan University Prague

■ Regionalism and development studies in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Giliberto Capano *Publications Subcommittee;* Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, University of Bologna

■ Comparative higher education policy, policy design and policy instruments, and the role of agents in public policy.

Christian Haerpfer Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Vienna

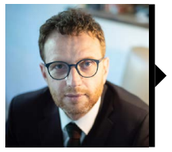
■ Europe (Central and Eastern), Comparative Politics, Democracy, Political Participation, Electoral Behaviour, Public Opinion, Survey Research.

Daniela Irrera Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations, University of Catania

■ Positive and negative action and influence on global politics by non-state actors.

Hana Kubátová *Events and Finance Subcommittees;* Head of the VITRI Research Centre, Charles University in Prague

■ Majority-minority relations, identity construction, politics of memory and microdynamics of (ethnic) violence.



Gianluca Passarelli Professor of Political Science and Comparative Politics, Sapienza University of Rome

■ Electoral systems' influence on voting behaviour; presidential political parties.

Anne Rasmussen Professor of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

■ Representation, (inequality in) political representation, public opinion, political parties, and public policy.

Thomas Saalfeld *Organisation and Training Subcomittees;* Professor of Comparative Politics and Vice President for Research, University of Bamberg

■ Legislative behaviour, legislative organisation, parliamentary accountability.

Sabine Saurugger *Training and Events Subcommittees;* Professor of Political Science, Director, Sciences Po Grenoble

■ Public policy, comparative politics, interest groups, European integration, European public policies and the politics of law.

Amy Verdun Full Professor, University of Victoria, British Columbia

■ European integration widely defined: political economy, policy, governance, integration theories, comparative politics.

Administrative information

Principal Office

Harbour House
6–8 Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex CO2 8JF

Registered Charity Number

1167403 CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Website

https://ecpr.eu/

Auditors

Scrutton Bland LLP
Chartered Accountants
820 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YQ

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
Teviot House
South Gayle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9DR

Solicitors

Birkett Long LLP
Faviell House, 1 Coval Wells
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1WZ

Investment Managers

Vanguard Investments
UK Limited
PO Box 10315
Chelmsford
Essex CM99 2AT

Structure, governance, and management

Organisation and control

We are governed by our board of Trustees, the EC, with day-to-day operational management delegated to the Director and Senior Management Team. The EC is responsible for ensuring ECPR acts solely to further its charitable objects. It reports to Council, which is made up of Official Representatives from member institutions. The activities of ECPR are divided into five portfolios of work, each with an associated Subcommittee comprising two to three members of the EC, plus the Chair and Vice Chair. The Director, related Manager and their staff work with the Subcommittees day-to-day to operationalise EC decisions. Subcommittees have decision-making authority delegated to them via a Scheme of Delegation, and bring key items to the EC in plenary for decision and strategic discussion.

Key management remuneration

All Executive Committee members give their time freely. No remuneration was paid to them during the year. Trustees are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenses when working away on ECPR business. Accommodation is usually organised and paid for by ECPR. The Chair's institution is provided with financial support to cover their absence while they are serving their term of office.

No remuneration is made to serving EC members or volunteers of ECPR, without the express approval of the EC and in line with the Charity Commission for England and Wales' regulations.

Staff Remuneration Policy

As a UK registered charity, the ECPR seeks to ensure that:

- staff are paid fairly, in line with local market rates, appropriately for their level of responsibility and in line with the pay of colleagues who perform similar tasks;
- staff salaries are awarded based on skills and experience and are free from discrimination;
- we comply with our obligation to expend our incoming resources responsibly;
- there is transparency in all aspects of our operations.

To achieve the above goals, we must balance the need to ensure value for money when expending the Charity's resources with the need to recruit and retain the best people for the job.

The EC is responsible for setting management pay, including that of the Director, usually by delegation to the Management Subcommittee; the EC is also responsible for the recruitment and appointment of the Director. Staff are awarded an annual cost of living pay increase, which is also approved by the EC.

Conflicts of Interest Policy

ECPR Trustees have a legal duty to ensure they always act in ECPR's best interest when making decisions. It is a legal requirement that Trustees report a potential conflict of interest as soon as it arises. A conflict of interest would arise if:

- a Trustee could benefit financially from a decision over which they have influence, whether directly or indirectly through a personal connection;
- a Trustee's loyalty to the ECPR conflicted with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person.

Conflicts of interest are common in charities, so we adopted practices aimed at reducing the risk of / to:

- making decisions that could be overturned;
- ECPR's reputation;
- Trustees having to repay ECPR for unauthorised payments.

ECPR has adopted the following practices to safeguard against the above risks occurring:

- clauses 7.8 and 8 of the **ECPR Constitution**;
- implementation of a Register of Interests, which is updated annually with appropriate procedures for managing conflicts.

Where Trustees delegate their decision-making powers to staff members under the terms of the organisation's Scheme of Delegation, those staff are also expected to declare any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from any discussions.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

As a group of Trustees, the EC is responsible for preparing its Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the EC to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The EC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of ECPR's Constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the EC is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditor is unaware;
- it has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The EC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Executive Committee
28 March 2023

On behalf of the Executive Committee
28 March 2023

■ 2021–2022

Independent Auditor's Report

Scrutton Bland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the European Consortium for Political Research (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the Trustees responsibilities with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the financial statements other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Executive Committee is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the Head of Finance (as required by auditing standards) and senior management, inspection of the Charity's regulatory and legal correspondence and we have discussed with the Head of Finance the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements, including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation, and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements; for instance, through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: compliance with the requirements of The Charity Commission, health and safety, corporate governance, including safeguarding and wellbeing, human rights and employment law, anti-bribery and corruption, and GDPR. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and

regulations to enquiry of the Governors and other management, and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the Charity complies with such regulations, enquiries of management and those charged with governance concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims, inspection of any relevant legal documentation, review of board minutes, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and the performance of analytical review to identify any unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is on the **Financial Reporting Council's website**. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature and approval

Scrutton Bland LLP

28 March 2023, Scrutton Bland LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor, 820 The Crescent, Colchester Business Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 9YQ
Scrutton Bland LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 30 September 2022

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2022 £	2021 £ As restated
Income from			
Donations		-	299
Charitable activities	2	**1,273,728**	1,340,386
Subscriptions from members	3	**562,788**	579,646
Investments	4	**62,185**	13,407
Total income		**1,898,701**	1,933,738
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	6	**80,179**	75,972
Charitable activities	7	**2,206,910**	1,532,537
Total expenditure		**2,287,089**	1,608,509
Realised and unrealised investment gains		**(185,123)**	88,007
Net income and net movement in funds for the year		**(573,511)**	413,236
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		**3,234,093**	2,820,857
Total funds carried forward		**2,660,582**	3,234,093

Continuing operations
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Total recognised gains and losses
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Funds
All of the income, expenditure and gains for the last two financial periods relate to unrestricted funds.

Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2022

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	**425,969**	423,150
Investments	12	**951,801**	1,075,729
		1,377,770	1,498,879
Current assets			
Debtors	13	**411,809**	324,200
Cash and cash equivalents	14	**1,865,906**	2,214,585
		2,277,715	2,538,785
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(994,903)**	(803,571)
Net current assets		**1,282,812**	1,735,214
Net assets		**2,660,582**	3,234,093
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**2,660,582**	3,234,093

On behalf of the Executive Committee
28 March 2023

On behalf of the Executive Committee
28 March 2023

Statement of cashflows

Period ended 30 September 2022

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net (expenditure) / income for the year		**(573,511)**	413,236
Adjusted for			
Depreciation of tangible assets		**19,692**	16,039
Unrealised investment gain		**185,123**	(88,007)
Dividend accumulated in funds		**(61,195)**	(11,830)
Interest received		**(990)**	(1,573)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		**(87,609)**	91,499
Increase / (decrease) in creditors		**191,332**	(72,998)
Net cash (used in) / generated from operating activities		**(327,158)**	346,366
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		**990**	1,573
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(22,511)**	(33,841)
Net cash used in investing activities		**(21,521)**	(32,268)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**(348,679)**	314,098
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		**2,214,585**	1,900,487
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**14**	**1,865,906**	**2,214,585**

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1 and are prepared in sterling.

b. Going concern

Having considered the Charity's forecasts and projections the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements. For this reason the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. The Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties with regard to going concern.

c. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from subscriptions from members is accounted for in the year to which they relate.

Income from publications in the form of royalties is received in relation to the journals. Royalty income is accounted for in the year that it becomes receivable, which is when the publication is sold.

Income from conferences is accounted for in the year in which the conference occurs.

d. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Reserves are targeted to be approximately 12 months regular expenditure.

f. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading including investment management and their associated costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of publications, method schools, conferences and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Governance costs represents the costs of governance arrangements and include costs associated with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but are not directly attributable to charitable activities. Support costs represent costs attributable to the management of the charity's assets and organisational administration. These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on the proportion of direct costs which relate to each activity. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

h. Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences arising in the normal course of trading are dealt with in the statement of financial activities for the year.

i. Fixed assets

Individual assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

- Freehold buildings between 2% and 10% per annum.
- Office and IT equipment 25%
- Freehold land is not depreciated.

j. Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are calculated based on the market value at which the investments are recorded in the financial statements and are shown on the face of the statement of financial activities.

k. Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

m. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account.

n. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

o. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

p. Taxation

European Consortium for Political Research is a charity within the meaning of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity for tax purposes in line with Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, European Consortium for Political Research is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to its charitable purposes.

q. Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Charity has no further payment obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity in independently administered funds.

r. Significant judgements and estimates

The more significant judgements and estimates involved in the preparation of the financial statements include assessing the depreciation rates applicable to tangible fixed assets and the way in which certain costs should be apportioned. Further details regarding these points are included within the accounting policies.

2. Income from charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £ As restated
Publications (note 5)	400,660	438,094
Conference income	349,341	220,225
Joint Sessions income	62,635	61,250
Methods School income	304,870	533,760
Standing Groups & Research Networks	141,355	48,304
Other event income	7,419	15,695
Miscellaneous	7,448	23,058
Total	**1,273,728**	**1,340,386**

Income from charitable activities can be further analysed as:

	2022 £	2021 £
Income from rendering of services	873,068	902,292
Income from royalties	400,660	438,094
Total	**1,273,728**	**1,340,386**

3. Subscription from Members

	2022 £	2021 £
Subscription from members	562,788	579,646

100% of the subscriptions from members – £562,788 (2021: £579,646) relates to the provision of services.

4. Investment income

	2022 £	2021 £
Income from fixed-asset investments	61,195	11,834
Bank interest receivable	990	1,573
Total	**62,185**	**13,407**

5. Publications income

	2022 £	2021 £
ECPR Press	-	10,767
European Journal of Political Research	281,989	315,244
European Political Science (journal)	60,208	39,123
Palgrave / Sage / OUP	605	2,393
European Political Science Review (journal)	44,328	33,571
European Journal of International Relations	17,478	24,413
Political Research Exchange (journal)	(3,948)	12,583
Total	**400,660**	**438,094**

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	2022 £	2021 £ As restated
Directly attributable activities for generating funds	40,299	34,963
Support costs allocated	39,880	41,299
Total	**80,179**	**76,262**

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs £	Direct wages £	Allocated £	2022 £	2021 £ As restated
Publications	145,904	118,663	261,816	526,383	484,618
Conference expenditure	249,654	55,321	301,805	606,780	94,318
Joint Sessions of Workshops	35,519	32,013	66,830	134,362	40,808
Methods School	148,830	65,363	211,966	426,159	791,837
Standing Groups & Research Networks	246,151	-	243,592	489,743	107,237
Other event expenditure	4,615	7,188	11,680	23,483	13,429
Total	**830,673**	**278,548**	**1,097,689**	**2,206,910**	**1,532,247**

8. Support costs

	2022 £	2021 £ As restated
Office costs	386,877	301,216
Staff salaries and wages	750,692	569,855
Total	**1,137,569**	**871,071**

Total support costs are made up of the expenditure for generating funds in note 6 of £39,880 (2021: £41,299) and the expenditure on charitable activities in note 7 of £1,097,689 (2021: £829,772).

Basis of allocation

Support costs have been allocated against charitable activities in line with the percentage of other expenditure directly attributable to the activity as follows:

	Support cost per activity %	Support cost per activity £	Direct cost per activity £
Subscriptions – Allocated	3.51	39,880	
Subscriptions – Direct costs	-	-	40,299
Publications – Allocated	23.02	261,816	-
Publications – Direct costs	-	-	264,567
Conferences – Allocated	26.53	301,805	-
Conferences – Direct costs	-	-	304,975
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Allocated	5.87	66,830	-
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Direct costs	-	-	67,532
Methods School – Allocated	18.63	211,966	-
Methods School – Direct costs	-	-	214,193
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Allocated	21.41	243,592	-
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Direct costs	-	-	246,151
Other event expenditure – Allocated	1.03	11,680	-
Other event expenditure – Direct costs	-	-	11,803
Total	**100.00**	**1,137,569**	**1,149,520**

Included within support costs are £68,254 (2021: £26,947) of expenditure which relates to governance costs. This is broken down as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Executive Committee expenses, and Director remuneration	52,464	12,347
Audit fee (note 10)	15,790	14,600
Total	**68,254**	**26,947**

All members of the Executive Committee are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their duties. During the year reimbursed expenses amounted to £40,181 (2021: £80), this amount is included within governance costs.

No emoluments have been paid to any member of the Executive Committee.

All of the costs of the Chair are classed as governance costs.

9. Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	874,261	705,430
Social security costs	82,006	65,855
Pension costs – defined contribution	109,611	92,048
Total	**1,065,878**	**863,333**
Directly attributable wages (note 7)	278,548	266,973
Directly attributable wages for activities for generating funds (note 6)	36,638	26,505
Total wages cost to be included in support costs allocation (note 8)	750,692	569,855
Total	**1,065,878**	**863,333**
Management and administration of the Charity	28	21

The charity considered its key management personnel to comprise the Executive Committee and the Director that held the positions within the period. During the year, the charity restructured to add a Senior Management Team, comprising the Director and three Heads of Department, to its key management personnel. The total employment benefits, including employers' pension contributions of the key management personnel, were £259,925 (2020: £73,853). Three employees had employee benefits between £60,000 and £70,000 and one had employee benefits between £70,000 and £80,000.

10. Audit fee

	2022 £	2021 £
Auditors' remuneration in respect of audit services	14,770	13,300
Auditors' remuneration in respect of tax and other advisory services	1,020	1,300
Total	**15,790**	**14,600**

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office and IT equipment £	Freehold land and buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2021	25,032	475,287	500,319
Additions	17,157	5,354	22,511
At 30 September 2022	**42,189**	**480,641**	**522,830**
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2021	17,549	59,620	77,169
Charge for year	5,887	13,805	19,692
At 30 September 2022	**23,436**	**73,425**	**96,861**
Net book value			
At 30 September 2022	**18,753**	**407,216**	**425,969**
At 1 October 2021	7,483	415,667	423,150

12. Investments

Assets held for charity use and to provide investment return	2022 £	2021 £
Banco Santander shares	1,135	1,135
Funds held with Vanguard Investment UK, Limited	950,666	1,074,594
Total	**951,801**	1,075,729

The movement in the year is as follows	2022 £	2021 £
Market value as at 1 October 2021	1,075,729	975,892
Loss / gain on valuation	(185,123)	88,007
Dividend accumulated in fund	61,195	11,830
Market value as at 30 September 2022	**951,801**	**1,075,729**

The investments shown above comprise UK and overseas investments. Below are investment holdings by category:	2022 £	2021 £
Managed funds	951,801	1,075,729

The managed funds with Vanguard relate to two Vanguard LifeStrategy funds. The LifeStrategy 40% equity fund is made up of 40% equity and 60% bonds. The LifeStrategy 60% equity fund is made up of 60% equity and 40% bonds. The investments are split equally between the two managed funds. After the year end the Vanguard investments have increased in value to £976,305 as ot 21 December 2022.

13. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors (including subscriptions due)	255,003	217,067
Other debtors	138,128	72,864
Prepayments		
Events	5,859	22,977
Membership	890	-
Publications	7,425	337
HR costs	1,982	426
Rates	1,115	1,094
Insurance	1,407	9,435
Total prepayments	**18,678**	**34,269**
Total debtors	**411,809**	**324,200**

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following items for the purpose of the Statement of cash flows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Total cash and cash equivalents	**1,865,906**	**2,214,585**

15. Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income	599,058	621,241
Accruals	150,567	105,573
Trade creditors	234,270	36,401
Other taxation and Social Security	11,008	36,997
Credit card	-	3,359
Total	**994,903**	**803,571**

Amounts invoiced in advance represent income in respect of future events; subscription income from members where the subscription year starts on 1 October 2021; and publications income for the three-month period to 31 December 2021.

16. Financial instruments

	2022 £	2021 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	393,131	289,931
Financial assets measured at fair value	951,801	1,075,729
Total	**1,344,932**	**1,365,660**
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	370,067	132,033

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors.

Financial assets measured at fair value comprise listed investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise accruals and trade creditors.

17. Related parties

The related parties of ECPR are the members of the Executive Committee. ECPR is controlled by its Executive Committee.

No other transactions were identified which should be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

18. Prior year reclassification

Following a review by management, it was deemed that certain income and expenditure transactions would provide a more accurate reflection of their nature if they were reclassified. These changes have subsequently also been reflected in the comparative figures to ensure consistency in the results.

2021–2022

Shaping ECPR's future

ECPR is committed to the key principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and to Academic Freedom. In 2021, we established dedicated working groups to innovate in these areas.

Encouraging the training, research, and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

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Registered Charity Number 1167403 Charitable Incorporated Organisation

EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1167403

Accounts

Annual Report

Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
1 October 2020 – 30 September 2021

ecpr.eu

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30 September 2020 – 1 October 2021

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2020–2021

Founded in 1970, ECPR is the leading European academic association with a mission to advance political science.

We bring scholars together across our global network to develop research and grow the discipline.

Our members are universities, and the communities within them, engaged in the research and teaching of social sciences.

Through our events, publications and research groups, we foster scholarly collaboration across borders.

We support academics at every stage of their career, providing training, research opportunities and professional development.

ECPR helps interpret the world's complex and changing political landscape for the benefit of all.

Report of the Executive Committee

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is pleased to present the Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the 12 months ending 30 September 2021

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the ECPR's Constitution, the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice', in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, published in October 2019.

About us

The ECPR is a learned society and UK registered charity that supports the advancement of political science.

Our members are universities and research institutes concerned with the teaching and research of political science and related disciplines.

Within these institutions is a community of tens of thousands of scholars, from PhD student to senior professor, all of whom benefit directly from ECPR membership. While the ECPR is a membership association, our activities are open to all.

Our mission is to advance political science. We do this in two ways:

- by providing platforms and opportunities for scholars to collaborate and share research, with the purpose of strengthening the discipline and growing the volume and impact of its output worldwide; and
- by delivering training and development opportunities to scholars at all career stages, with the purpose of enhancing professional skills to strengthen and support the community.

Our charitable status

Public benefit

The Executive Committee has a duty to ensure that the activities undertaken by the ECPR fulfil its charitable objectives and provide a public benefit. Our public is the academic institutions which make up our membership and those scholars who study and teach within them. It is also the wider general public, whose lives are influenced by the resulting research. The EC ensures this public benefit is met through the creation and continued development of a range of activities and initiatives to foster deeper and more productive collaboration between scholars worldwide, with the aim of producing the best quality research. These activities include:

- an annual programme of international workshops, conferences and training events designed to develop ongoing research and provide professional and skills-based training to scholars;
- a range of funding opportunities to support the participation of students and early career scholars in our events;
- a broad and diverse publishing portfolio providing opportunities for scholars to publish and read the most up-to-date research in their field, via subscription and Open Access platforms;
- a number of high-profile prizes celebrating academic achievement across all career stages;
- a programme of support to nurture and grow our sub-disciplinary research groups which, in turn, extends the reach and focus of the organisation; and
- the development of a range of studies and policies aimed at understanding the state of the profession across Europe and the rest of the world, and supporting all scholars working within the discipline.

This report provides a summary of these activities carried out in the 2020–21 financial year.

Grant-making policy

As a membership association, we provide a range of funding opportunities to individual scholars and to groups affiliated with ECPR. This provision of funding and financial support to our affiliates and Standing Groups and Research Networks is one of the primary ways in which we achieve our charitable objectives.

In 2019 the EC reviewed ECPR's funding provision with the aim of increasing and improving the value to affiliates and, in turn, their institution. The changes, to be implemented from the financial year 2019–20 onwards, were detailed in last year's Annual Report. The only change to this provision in 2020–21 was the removal of funding for the Rising Star Award from the Bonus Fund into the central Prizes budget; thus, leaving the full Bonus Fund for Standing Group Research Funds.

Every year we award a significant number of funding grants to students and early career researchers to help them attend our events. In 2020–21, all events continued to be held virtually, so, as in the previous year, the full fund was used to cover fee waivers, once again making ECPR's virtual events more accessible to those who could not access funding elsewhere. In the period we funded 211 participants to engage with our events. This funding was worth nearly £70k.

We support the development and activities of our Standing Groups and Research Networks by providing funds to enable them to hold training schools, workshops, and conferences, and to help them support the attendance of younger scholars. Funding is available to support internal events managed directly by the Standing Groups and Research Networks, and to allow them to sponsor external events arranged by other parties which align with the thematic topic on which the group is focused. The budget available is nearly €80k (the budget is set in Euros) but, since events continued to be held virtually in 2020–21, we received fewer funding applications. ECPR approved funding worth €25k, and €19k was provided during the period to our groups and networks to support these activities.

Welcome

We are developing a new plan on equality, diversity and inclusion, building on, extending and broadening our gender action plan

Living the ‘New Normal’

The ECPR’s annual report is an important moment to review our activities over the past year, reflecting on the challenges we’ve faced, and on our achievements. It also provides an opportunity to preview our plans for the coming years. We do this to ensure that we stay relevant, and that we continue to provide you with the services and support you need from your ECPR.

For many of us, 2021 was a year of the ‘new normal’. What began in 2020 as a crisis response requiring short term and sometimes *ad hoc* measures gradually established itself as operational practice for 2021. For all of us in our daily lives, the world remained unpredictable, but people took control where they could and shaped this uncertainty into something new or more normal. In this, the ECPR was no exception. Despite the pandemic, we reached new milestones in connecting people from all over the globe by enabling the collaboration and exchange of knowledge. It has been a busy year, one that allowed us to deliver more events, services, seminars, workshops and publications to our community than ever before. It has also seen a considerable expansion of our digital and social media offering. For this we thank the wonderful team at Harbour House, but most of all we thank you, our members.

2021 also saw the election of a new Chair and a fresh cohort of Executive Committee members. We have used this opportunity to set out our strategic priorities for the next three years, as discussed at last year’s Council meeting. There are five key goals. First, we want to place climate change front and centre of our agenda. Covid-19 has shown the potential of online meetings, and we want to continue learning from this. Our Events and Training subcommittees have been tasked with bringing forward proposals to meet the challenges posed by the climate crisis.

Second, we are developing a new plan on equality, diversity and inclusion, building on, extending and broadening our existing gender action plan. To that end, a working group has been established, tasked with producing a report for our Executive Committee meeting in the autumn of 2022. Third, we want to prioritise academic freedom, something that is becoming increasingly prominent in our lives as academics and that covers a number of dimensions, including threats to academic freedom from governments and institutions, online threats and attacks on individual academics, and scholars at risk. There are reasonable questions to ask over what we currently do as an Association to respond to this, and what more we might reasonably be expected to do. A working group has been established on this too, which will also be reporting back to the Executive Committee in the autumn of 2022.

Our fourth strategic objective is to redouble our efforts in maintaining and developing our links with you, our members. In last year’s annual report we reported on the efforts we made to investigate the views of our members about the ECPR and its activities. Flowing from that are a number of new initiatives, including providing more information about membership benefits, establishing annual meetings with official representatives of our member institutions and starting a process of outreach and engagement with leading national political science organisations to seek areas of potential collaboration.

Last, but not least, our fifth strategic objective is to review the levels and range of supports that we give to our Standing Groups and Research Networks. These are core groups in our organisation and we want to make sure we’re doing everything we can to support them. As set out in our annual report over the past few years, we have extended the financial and operational supports we give to them. Our Events and Finance subcommittees have been tasked with examining existing supports to see what more we can do in this space.

We will be reporting back on our progress in implementing these strategic goals in our next annual report.

In the meantime, we are eager to see what 2022 will bring – we hope an end to the pandemic and a new era of cooperation across our membership where we take on the new, and take care of your normal.

David Farrell, Chair,
ECPR Executive Committee, 2021 – 2024

Tanja Munro, ECPR Director

2021 was a year of the ‘New Normal’

For all of us in our daily lives, the world remained unpredictable, but people took control where they could and shaped this uncertainty into something new or more normal. In this, the ECPR was no exception.

2020–2021

A year in review

Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic

The global pandemic continues to impact the services we offer, most significantly and visibly our events, which for 2021 all took place virtually. In 2020 we launched our bespoke virtual platform, built in-house, for the General Conference. We continued to use it in 2021, not only to host our General Conference and Joint Sessions of Workshops, but also a number of Standing Group conferences and seminars, and our House Lecture series. We implemented significant improvements to the platform, including new features to enhance networking.

We also invested in learning management system Canvas, which we used successfully as the platform for our Winter and Summer Schools. A number of Standing Groups also used it to host their own summer schools, and it allowed us to soft-launch a Training Academy, with courses taking place outside the Methods School.

The virtual events proved popular. Including Standing Group events, they attracted over 4,000 participants, and generated more than £900k in income. This does, however, represent a 11.8% drop in income since 2018–19, the last financial year in which all events took place in person, which generated over £1.2m. This drop in income is because General Conference and Joint Sessions fees were significantly lower for the virtual than the in-person events.

Behind the scenes, our staff continued to work predominantly from home, striving tirelessly to keep up standards and maintain our reputation for delivering high-value services while juggling the challenges that arise from blended home and work environments. During the period we recruited eight new members of staff, who were all interviewed and brought on board remotely. All EC and subcommittee meetings took place virtually, and the planned farewell dinner for the outgoing Executive Committee members, who completed their terms in May 2021, was postponed.

However, despite an overall decline in income of 9.5% since the last financial year which completed prior to the pandemic (£1,933,738, down from £2,136,398 in 2018–19), expenditure also decreased significantly, by 16.6% (£1,608,509, down from £1,929,320 in 2018–19). This is because costs for virtual events are considerably lower than for in-person events. Investment gains rose by 47.7% (£88,007, up from £59,588 in 2018–19). ECPR recorded a record surplus of £413,236, making 2020–21 our most successful financial year since we incorporated in 2016. This is a fantastic achievement considering all the difficulties we have faced as an organisation, and means that we will have additional funds to reinvest in the services we offer to the community.

Membership

Our membership comprises more than 300 of the world's leading academic institutions concerned with teaching and researching political and social science. From this membership stems a network of tens of thousands of individual 'affiliate' members across some fifty countries. The activities and services we provide are aimed primarily at these affiliates but, indirectly, they also benefit the affiliate's institution.

The membership year runs concurrently with our financial year, 1 October–30 September. The highest membership recorded to date was 350 in 2015–16; since then, there has been a general decline in member numbers. In 2020–21 that trend continued and we recorded 308 members compared to 320 in 2019–20. This is a concern for the EC, and we are currently looking at how we might offer more value to our members to restore membership levels.

Relations with other organisations

We continue to work closely with a number of scholarly associations operating in the same field of interest , to share best practice and develop joint initiatives to serve the community. These include the American Political Science Association (APSA), International Political Science Association (IPSA), UK Political Studies Association (PSA), British International Studies Association (BISA) and International Studies Association (ISA). Our Standing Group on International Relations also works closely with the European International Studies Association EISA in the oversight of the *European Journal of International Relations*.

We are members of the Association for Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the International Science Council (ISC), with whom we award the Stein Rokkan Prize. We also award an annual prize with the Mattei Dogan Foundation.

2020–2021

Events

We organise a comprehensive programme of academic and professional events every year. This consists of:

- **Joint Sessions of Workshops** A week-long event comprising around thirty Workshops running concurrently. Participants must present their own research to attend the full Workshop, so these events are incredibly valuable to scholars, and therefore highly competitive.
- **General Conference** Follows the traditional format of Sections, Panels and Papers; all subjected to rigorous peer review prior to acceptance. The event has become the largest annual gathering of political scientists in Europe.
- **Methods School** Offers a comprehensive programme of cutting-edge qualitative and quantitative methodological courses organised across two annual events, one in winter and one in summer.
- In addition to the core programme, a wide variety of other events are organised each year by our **Standing Groups**.
- **House Lecture Series** Inspired by ECPR's Harbour House headquarters, which provides a literal and metaphorical 'home' for the ECPR family, this lecture series seeks to open doors to some of the most pressing issues and challenges in the discipline.

Event or Standing Group / Research Network name	Event type	Dates
Standing Group on Latin American Politics	Seminar Series	6 October 2020 – 29 October 2021
Research Network on Food Policy and Governance	Seminar Series	3 November 2020 – 31 July 2022
Standing Group on International Relations	Seminar Series	19 November 2020 – 10 December 2021
Standing Group on Knowledge Politics and Policies	Conference	23 November 2020
The Resurgence of Nationalism	House Lecture	1 December 2020
Standing Group on Political Violence	Seminar Series	2 December 2020 – 11 May 2022
Standing Group on Migration and Ethnicity	Seminar Series	20 January 2021 – 31 July 2022
How Low Can You Go? *Declining Standards of Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe*	House Lecture	2 February 2021
Winter School	Methods School	15 – 26 March 2021
Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought	Seminar Series	30 March 2021 – 31 July 2022
Standing Group on Human Rights and Transitional Justice	Seminar Series	31 March – 31 July 2021
Political Science at Risk in Europe: Frailness and the Study of Power	House Lecture	6 April 2021
Research Network on Differentiated Integration	Seminar Series	13 May 2021 – 31 July 2022
Joint Sessions of Workshops	Workshops	17 – 28 May 2021
Standing Group on Organised Crime and (Anti-)Corruption	Roundtable Series	19 May – 7 July 2021
Stein Rokkan Lecture – *Bridging the East-West Divide*	House Lecture	25 May 2021
Standing Group on Organised Crime	Summer School	7 – 25 June 2021
Standing Group on the European Union	Conference	10 – 12 June 2021
Standing Group on Religion and Politics	Summer School	21 – 25 June 2021
Standing Group on Concepts and Methods for Research on Far-Right Politics	Summer School	28 June – 2 July 2021
Standing Group on Interest Groups: *Interest Groups and Lobbying in the Policymaking Process*	Summer School	30 June – 8 July 2021
Standing Group on Parliaments	Conference	1 – 2 July 2021
Standing Group on Politics and Gender	Conference	7 July 2021
Summer School	Methods School	2 – 20 August 2021
General Conference	Conference	30 August – 3 September 2021
Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought *Kantian Political Thought Today: Global Challenges*	Summer School	27 September – 1 October 2021

Publications

Our publishing programme enables us to share the best new thinking and research across the community and beyond. We publish five journals, a book series and our own imprint, in partnership with leading scholarly publishers, alongside an in-house political science blog. Partnerships allow us to harness the expertise, reach and new technologies of the publisher, while retaining editorial oversight through our appointment of the editorial teams. Our programme consists of:

- *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)*
- *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* and *PDY:Interactive*
- *European Political Science Review (EPSR)*
- *European Political Science (EPS)*
- *European Journal of International Relations (EJIR)*
- *Political Research Exchange (PRX)*
- Comparative Politics Book Series
- ECPR Press
- The Loop

In 2021 we signed a new, three-year contract with Wiley for *EJPR* and appointed a new editorial team for *EJIR* through the journal's Joint Management Committee, comprised of representatives from the European International Studies Association (EISA) and our Standing Group on International Relations. We also took the decision to end our partnership with Rowman & Littlefield for ECPR Press, as of 30 April 2022.

◇ The Loop

In its first calendar year of operation, The Loop developed into a thriving resource for the political science community, with the quantity of its output far exceeding initial expectations. From January – December 2021, The Loop published 218 blogs, by 238 authors (some pieces are multi-authored). Contributors hailed from 38 countries worldwide, and 70% were working or studying at an ECPR Member or Associate Member institution. After attracting 43% female contributors in the launch phase of late 2020, gender split had dropped to 38% by the end of 2021 as a whole. The editors will work to rectify this trend in 2022.

In 2021, The Loop introduced two discrete content strands. The first of these, *Science of Democracy*, involves blog pieces carrying a 🦋 icon. By the end of 2021, the series had attracted 32 contributions. The second series launch, charting the surge of an 'Illiberal Wave' in world politics, is marked with a 🐊. The Loop aims to instigate at least one more of these branded strands of content in 2022, possibly on a theme connected to populism.

At the General Conference in early September, Production Editor Kate Hawkins delivered a lively presentation entitled *First-Time Blogger*, encouraging early career scholars to submit to The Loop. The presentation covered writing style and structure, what to expect from The Loop's editorial and production process, guidance on picture research, and tips for improving a blog's readership post-publication.

Also at the General Conference, The Loop's editorial team hosted Meet-the-Editor sessions to discuss Loop submissions with prospective authors. These well-attended sessions were intended in particular for early career scholars, and those who may have been familiar only with dealing with academic journals.

Standing Groups and Research Networks

Over 50 thematic research groups operate under the auspices of ECPR, covering the full breadth of the discipline. Each group has its own membership and the opportunity to deliver a range of activities; some are small and provide a forum for networking or sharing of ideas, others are large and organise their own regular events. These groups play a key role in shaping the academic programme of the Joint Sessions and General Conference through an annual allocation of workshops and sections. We support them, practically and financially, to develop their own activities.

In 2020–21 we once again redistributed the budget normally used for travel and accommodation for funded event participants and allocated an amount to each SG or RN with an endorsed section in the General Conference. We used the additional funding to offer fee waivers to participants most in need of support to attend, as identified by steering committees and section Chairs. This was well received by all groups, and meant that the number of funded places at the 2021 General Conference was 117, compared to a pre-pandemic number of 29 for the 2019 General Conference.

Prizes

We offer a broad range of prizes, which recognise service and achievement across the ECPR community. These prizes honour individuals at many stages of their careers, from distinguished senior scholars to exceptional PhD students.

Over time, the portfolio has grown, so 2021 proved an opportunity for review, to ensure all processes behind how and why the prizes are awarded are fair, rigorous, and transparent; and to ensure our winners receive the publicity and public recognition they deserve.

All ECPR prizes awarded 2020 – 2021

Prize	Awarded for	Winner
Cora Maas Award 2021 (November 2021)	**MS course** *Interpretive Research Methods*	**Marie Østergaard Møller** Aalborg University
Cora Maas Award 2020 (award date unknown)	**MS course** *Ethnographic Field Research Methods*	**Cai Wilkinson** Deakin University
Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award 2021 (November 2021)	**MS teaching assistant; course** *Qualitative Data Generation*	**Clare McKeown** University of Stirling
Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award 2020 (March 2021)	**MS teaching assistant; course** *Multilevel Modelling*	**Ameni Mehrez** Central European University **Alberto Stefanelli** KU Leuven
Hans Daalder Prize	*On hold*	
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2021 (November 2021)	**Thesis** *Grievances, Identity, and Political Opportunity: The Effects of Corporate and Liberal Power-Sharing on Ethnic Conflict*	**Andreas Juon** University College London
Jean Blondel PhD Prize 2020 (November 2020)	**Thesis** *The Politics of Turning Coat: A Comparative and Historical Analysis of Party Switching*	**Elisa Volpi** University of Geneva
Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize 2021	*Biennial prize; not awarded in 2021*	
Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize 2020 (May 2020)	**Contributions to European Political Sociology in leadership, research, teaching, and other activities**	**Niilo Kauppi** University of Helsinki, CNRS, Sciences Po Strasbourg
Stein Rokkan Prize 2021 (September 2021)	**Book** *City, State: Constitutionalism and the Megacity*	**Ran Hirschl University of Toronto**
Stein Rokkan Prize 2020 (July 2020)	**Book** *The Wealth Effect: How the Great Expectations of the Middle Class Have Changed the Politics of Banking Crises*	**Jeffrey M. Chwieroth** LSE; **Andrew Walter** University of Melbourne
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2021 (January 2022)	**Joint Sessions Paper** *Information and Motivation – How Do Attitudes Towards International Organizations Develop?*	**Paul Meiners** University of Münster
Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2020	*Reduced Joint Sessions programme meant the prize was not awarded in 2020*	
Lifetime Achievement Award 2021	*Biennial prize; not awarded in 2021*	
Lifetime Achievement Award 2020	**Contributions to European Political Science as leader, teacher, and theorist**	**David Miller** University of Oxford
Joni Lovenduski PhD Prize in Gender and Politics 2021 (July 2021)	**Thesis** *The Politics of Intersectional Practice: Representation, Coalition and Solidarity*	**Ashlee Christoffersen** University of Edinburgh
Joni Lovenduski PhD Prize in Gender and Politics 2020	*Biennial prize; not awarded in 2021*	
Jacqui Briggs EPS Prize 2021	*Not yet awarded*	
Jacqui Briggs Prize 2020 (April 2021)	**Article** *Does Ideological Polarisation Mobilise Citizens?*	**Tuuli-Marja Kleiner** Thünen Institute of Rural Studies
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2021 (June 2021	**Book** *The Closure of the International System: How Institutions Create Political Equalities and Hierarchies*	**Lora Anne Viola** Freie Universität Berlin
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations 2020 (July 2020)	**Book** *Anatomies of Revolution*	**George Lawson** Australian National University
Rising Star Award 2021 (January 2022)	**Early career excellence in publications, research, teaching, service to the profession, and commitment to open science**	**Julia Schulte-Cloos** Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
Rising Star Award 2020 (November 2020)		**Veronica Anghel** European University Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
Political Theory Prize 2021 (September 2021)	**Book** *The Privatized State*	**Chiara Cordelli** University of Chicago

Studies and policies

Regular engagement with our community is vital to ensure we continue to serve a changing membership. This year we worked to improve the representation of women in the discipline, and conducted a survey of our membership

Membership survey

In late 2020 we asked all scholars interacting with the organisation to complete a survey looking at how and why they engage with ECPR, what they value most, and what more we can do to support them. Younger and early career scholars reported very specific opinions and expectations. They are more likely to attend the General Conference before the Joint Sessions, while students' 'entry point' into ECPR is often taking part in a Standing Group summer or winter school. Younger scholars are less likely to participate in ECPR events and those of other associations; more likely to need to develop their methodological skills and therefore to expect methodological training; less likely to be members of one or more Standing Groups; more active on social media, especially on Twitter; in favour of more funding: grants for participation, and funding to support their own research; and more in favour of a more politically active ECPR, defending academic freedom and gender equality. The survey found men and women responded differently to certain questions; partly because female scholars in our sample tended to be younger than the men. The first event women attend is more likely to be the General Conference than the Joint Sessions. We found that female scholars are in greater need of financial support; more in favour of an ECPR that defends gender equality; more open to online meetings and training; and willing to limit their travel. The final variation in response we found was by geography. The geographical region in which respondents work makes a difference. Western Europe and East-Central Europe are not two homogenous blocks, but there are striking variations between them. We found that scholars from East-Central Europe are more likely to take part in the General Conference before either the Methods School or the Joint Sessions; less likely to participate in events generally; less likely to receive funding from their universities and therefore more in need of financial support; more active on Facebook and less on Twitter; less supportive of an ECPR defending gender equality; and more likely to favour an ECPR that gives access to data and resources, and help for publishing. The full analysis is published at ecpr.eu and was the basis for the online Official Representative (OR) engagement sessions in early 2021. All of which together helped inform strategic discussions.

Gender Study and Equality Plan

In 2021 the Gender Equality Plan came to an end. We reviewed it against the results of the past five Gender Studies. The plan identified areas requiring action to improve gender balance across ECPR activities. Clear targets were set, with action plans to meet them. The pandemic somewhat complicates over-time comparisons (and we will have to allow at least another year to get a true sense of the gendered nature of its impact); nevertheless, signs are promising. For events, the Plan aimed at achieving 50% female Joint Sessions Workshop Directors, and General Conference Section Chairs. We reached and even slightly exceeded that target, in both events. For publications, we have made some more progress in our editorial boards and editorial teams: in the former, women now comprise 54% of the total (compared to less than a third just four years ago); and 47% of our editorial teams are women. The proportions are less impressive across our full publishing programme, however: there is still a 60:40 split in favour of men. We expect recent editorial appointments to improve things in 2022. There are a number of areas where more work is needed. We still need gender balance across all areas in our training portfolio. This is also the case for the peer review process in our publications portfolio (though this needs to take account of the risks of over-burdening women), and in nominations for ECPR's various prizes. Finally, the EC reached parity for the first time in its history this year, when gender quotas for EC elections were adopted for the 2020–21 process.

Monitoring impact

Our income is derived from three main streams: membership fees, event fees, and publications royalties

We closely monitor the impact and success of these activities in terms of the benefit they bring to individual scholars and their institutions; the impact they have across the community and in raising the profile of the organisation; and the income they generate. For the purposes of this Annual Report, we employ a number of key performance indicators to monitor year on year.

■ Membership

Participation in our activities is not limited to scholars affiliated with one of our member institutions, but ECPR is a membership association, and a significant portion of our annual income derives from membership fees. We therefore carefully monitor trends in membership renewal and acquisition each year. The past five years have seen a steady fall in overall membership numbers, which is a cause for concern and an issue we are monitoring closely, including through continuing dialogue with our Official Representatives.

■ Event participation

Attendance at our events is a strong indicator of the popularity and relevance of our programme. Participant numbers fluctuate, particularly for the General Conference, which can experience spikes in number depending on the popularity of the location, and its capacity. Virtual events are quite different and do not have the maximum capacity constraints of physical host institutions. Online events depend more on the number of people willing and able to engage with the technology required to attend. This therefore opens up event attendance up to a new demographic of scholars who may not have been able to attend in-person events.

The 2021 virtual Joint Sessions and General Conference, delivered through our bespoke platform, proved very popular, with increased participation numbers, and full academic and social programmes.

The virtual Joint Sessions gave Workshop Directors full flexibility in scheduling. This resulted in a record 45 Workshops and over 600 participants, allowing more scholars to attend without compromising the high quality our community has come to expect.

In addition to the full academic programme, our networking, social, roundtable and publishing sessions were a major contributor to the increased engagement from participants.

The Winter and Summer Methods School instalments both took place virtually on our new learning management system.

Launched at the end of last year, the House Lecture series and our Standing Group seminars have been taking place as free events with a variety of speaker formats, and are growing in success, frequency and numbers. We also saw a large increase in our Standing Group Event offering. Conferences on our virtual platform and five SG schools through our learning management system took place over the summer.

■ Publications

The mission of our publishing programme is to bring cutting-edge new research and thinking across the political science discipline to the community, providing the very best quality platforms for authors and readers. There are many ways in which we evaluate the impact and health of our individual publications, and the programme as a whole, but, for the purposes of this report, we apply the following indicators:

- the number of article submissions (which shows the popularity of the journal as a publishing destination);
- the rejection rate (which shows the competitiveness / benchmark to be accepted for publication given the quality of the article and the available space within the journal volume).
- The impact factor (a calculation used to determine the value, quality and readership of a journal based on the number of citations its articles received in a given period of time).

You can find further, contextual information about our publications in the appendix to this Report. Please note that ECPR publications follow the calendar year; and some data were therefore unavailable at the time of going to press.

KPI data tables

Please refer to separate Appendix for headline statistics on all ECPR publications

Key Performance Indicators for Membership numbers, 2016–2022

	2016–17		2017–18		2018–19		2019–20		2020–21		2021–22
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Membership	345	340	345	338	345	331	345	320	340	308	320

Key Performance Indicators for participation numbers at events, 2017–2022

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
General Conference	1,500	2,006	1,500	2,463	1,846	1,801	1,850	2,214	2,000	2,352	2,000
Winter School	350	391	350	399	378	441	400	415	400	484	400
Summer School	250	345	300	348	308	379	350	493	400	384	400
Joint Sessions	400	393	400	460	407	448	425	87	400	628	400

Key Performance Indicators for book sales, 2016–2021

	ECPR Press		Oxford University Press Comparative Politics Series	
	New titles published	Units sold	New titles published	Units sold
2016	25	4500	3	1143
2017	9	3820	3	1276
2018	17	4257	4	1548
2019	11	2763	2	931
2020*	7		4	840

Key Performance Indicators for journal publishing, 2016–2021

	European Journal of Political Research (including PDY)			*European Political Science*			*European Political Science Review*			*European Journal of International Relations*			*Political Research Exchange*		
	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor
2016	361	82.3%	2.891	86	41.86%	1.292	152	68%	1.722	381	90%	2.277			
2017	406	64.2%	3.576	77	60%	0.806	199	73%	1.755	375	89%	2.545			
2018	415	88.3%	3.066	100	59%	1.141	176	73%	1.545	365	90%	2.756	27	59%	
2019	433	95.6%	2.83	86	47.67%	1.429	197	74%	2.327	391	87%		43	44%	
2020*	519	90%		110	45.74%		230	83%					87	66%	

*2020 data is provisional, because not all manuscripts have completed the peer review process.
The 2019 figures have been updated to reflect decisions taken after submission of data to the previous report

Engaging with our community

Our mission and membership model means we exist to serve the individual but must work closely with their institutions, too. We cater across all career stages, geographical regions and thematic sub-fields, engaging with different sections of our community throughout the year in a number of different ways

Digital engagement

At grass roots we have a very large community of individuals who engage with ECPR through social media, the website and email marketing. Over the past two years this form of engagement has become even more important as opportunities to engage face to face have declined. Alongside the online event offering we developed as a response to the pandemic, we have grown our digital content during 2021, for example through prize-winner videos, recorded seminars and lectures via our podcast channels, and enhanced email communications. This has led to an increase in followers and subscribers across all of our social media platforms and mailing lists.

Event participants

Attendance at one of our events is the foremost way in which people interact with the organisation, and often constitutes their first introduction to ECPR. In 2021 we built on the infrastructure we developed in the previous year to deliver a range of new event formats to support our community. As a result, we were delighted to welcome even more scholars than ever to engage with the organisation.

The development of new-format events and the functionality of our digital platform has provided opportunities to enhance the user's experience and highlight other ECPR benefits and services to those from member and non-member institutions; and from across all corners of the community.

Standing Groups and Research Networks – members

Each Standing Group and Research Network has its own members who can communicate directly via a messaging system built into the ECPR website, via their social media channels, and during activities and events. This enables groups and networks to share information about their activities with the aim of developing and growing their membership. It also increases their visibility within the community. Across ECPR's 57 groups and networks there are around 4,000 individuals (from ECPR member and non-member institutions) who are interacting with the organisation at this level.

Standing Groups and Research Networks – Steering Committees

Each of our Standing Groups and Research Networks appoints a Steering Committee to run the group for a period of time. The size of these committees can vary, but across 57 groups, it constitutes a large community of scholars engaged in a leadership and strategic function for the organisation. Since 2018 we have held an annual two-day Groups and Networks Retreat at our Colchester headquarters, Harbour House, to which we invite representatives from across these groups. In 2021 we again held this event virtually, but it still provided a valuable opportunity to discuss key issues affecting the organisation, the discipline, and the work of our groups.

Affiliates

A large part of our community comprises individuals affiliated to a member institution and who can therefore receive the benefits of membership. This number currently sits at c.11,000. Regular and positive engagement with this group is essential to understanding how ECPR can continue to meet the needs of our community, and how we can retain and grow our membership.

Official Representatives

Each member institution appoints an Official Representative (OR) to act as the main point of contact with ECPR and to form part of the Council. The OR's role is critical in ensuring continuation of membership each year, because they are often the main advocate for membership at their institution. While we currently communicate regularly with our ORs to keep them abreast of key information about the organisation and invite them to the annual Council meeting (held virtually in 2021) we have launched a new engagement project, with the aim of building closer working relationships with these important stakeholders.

Editors and publishers

The editorial teams for our publications are appointed from the membership community. These scholars play a key role in shaping the content and output of our journals and book series and, in turn, shaping the conversation across the discipline more generally.

We work closely with these scholars throughout the year, and every spring since 2015 we have invited them to Harbour House for a two-day Publications Retreat. In 2021 this event took place online. The Retreat is an opportunity for the full editorial team from each publication to meet one another – as well as the editorial assistant and publisher – to review the progress of the past year, and plan for the year to come.

Each team also presents their annual report to the EC, who use this as an opportunity to discuss key contractual or financial issues with the publishers.

The environment around us

Brexit

Ever since the United Kingdom's 2016 referendum to leave the European Union, the potential impact of this on the organisation has been a key concern, particularly with regard to VAT; increased travel costs; availability of funding; the impact on Data Protection regulations; and the impact on exchange rates. So far, none of these concerns have been realised. However, after two years during which most of our events have been held virtually, it may be that we have not yet felt the impact of any changes in regulations. The EC continues to monitor the situation and has contingency plans in place should any problem arise.

Academic freedom

When ECPR was founded, it was on the principle that all member institutions should be politically free. As democracy grew across Europe, so did our membership. Recent years, however, have seen a resurgence in authoritarianism, prompting the EC to examine the impact of potential restrictions to academic freedom on our members and their work. The current EC has identified this as one of its three areas of focus for 2022, and has established a working group to consider further what ECPR can do to support its community of scholars.

The publishing landscape

The Open Access movement in Europe continues to gather pace. The past year alone has seen a rapid increase in the number of OA articles published in ECPR journals alone. While we remain supportive of the principles of Open Access, concern still remains that the shift to an 'author pays' model brings with it unintended barriers to publication for those without access to funds. We therefore continue to work closely with our publishing partners and members to navigate the best path forward.

Climate change

Large-scale events attracting global participation can have a detrimental effect on the environment. ECPR had been considering the effects of climate change and ways to reduce our carbon footprint even before the pandemic. As a first step, we took the decision not to produce print programmes and Annual Reports, and have subsequently decided to extend this to include our own working documents at Harbour House and for our EC.

Meeting the needs of our academic community while reducing the overall impact on the planet is now one of our five strategic initiatives as an organisation, and a standing item in our event and training portfolios.

Having delivered a full year of virtual events, we plan to continue to offer virtual elements where possible when planning next year's events, allowing participants from farther afield to attend virtually without contributing to high carbon emissions from air travel. We are also actively promoting more sustainable means of travel to our events, as well as favouring hosts in more accessible locations. We will aim to ensure that staff attending an event will use sustainable forms of transport such as trains and will only travel by air when it is unavoidable. Finally, we are planning to deliver in-person elements of future events as sustainably as possible. We will also be checking the green credentials of institutions applying to host an ECPR event, considering initiatives around elements such as catering, to ensure that these requirements can be sourced locally and sustainably. We are currently looking forward to our first 'green' General Conference, in Innsbruck.

Operating responsibly

Supporting our volunteers

Volunteers are defined as people who conduct work on behalf of ECPR without financial reward; currently, we define members of Steering Committees of ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks and Associate Editors of the PRX journal as volunteers. We recognise the contribution of this group to meeting the mission of the organisation and aim to support them in a number of ways, including opportunities to meet with staff and trustees, and offering advice and training.

Complaints Handling Policy

We work hard to ensure that we always deliver the best service to our members and affiliates; to support this effort we have developed a complaints policy to allow us to receive, review and take action on any concerns raised. Complaints can be made in person, over the phone or via a dedicated confidential email address: **complaints@ecpr.eu**. Once received, complaints are processed by our Management Group or Director. We have also published a **Code of Conduct** on our website, revised in March 2021, which explains explicitly to our community what we consider to be appropriate conduct.

Staff wellbeing

Our staff at the Colchester headquarters work hard to deliver an extensive range of benefits and services to a large community of scholars across the world. All staff benefit from flexible working, so they can work the hours that suit their own personal situations. Staff required to work additional hours at times of high workload can accrue time off in lieu, in addition to the standard 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays.

Homeworking has always been an option for staff in certain circumstances, but the pandemic has proven that staff are able and capable of working from home on a regular basis, with minimal disruption to our operations. Going forward, we will adopt a more flexible approach to homeworking, allowing staff to choose whether they wish to work from home or the office, to allow them to better manage their commitments outside of work.

We have developed a number of policies to help support and protect staff who are working away from the office, and the organisation reimburses all necessary costs incurred whilst travelling for work purposes. We provide a defined contribution pension scheme for all employees, to which ECPR doubles any contribution made by staff, up to 16% of salary. We also provide staff with a benefits package that includes shopping discounts; reduced train tickets; spreading the cost of technology, childcare and vehicles; access to over a thousand e-learning modules and courses; free coffee and movies; and discounts on gym memberships.

We are also committed to maintaining the good mental health of our staff. We have trained Mental Health First Aiders and, through our staff benefits package, we provide access to a free counselling service. We have also introduced a daily no-contact hour, which gives staff a period of time every day where they can choose to relax and switch off from their work, and, if they choose to, take some exercise or spend some time with their families.

Procurement and sustainability

We have adopted a Procurement Policy which seeks to balance the need to protect the resources of ECPR by achieving value for money, with factors such as sustainability and supplier values. The policy seeks to achieve this by requiring any Trustee, volunteer or member of staff considering a purchase to evaluate the following criteria: price of product; quality of product; ability of the product to fulfil the charity's need; supplier's reputation, range of products, service, delivery ability and sustainability principles.

For large purchases or long-term supplies, we seek formal quotes and tenders from at least two competitors. Quotes made by charities or other not-for-profit organisations, and those local to our headquarters or event host (as appropriate), are considered favourably.

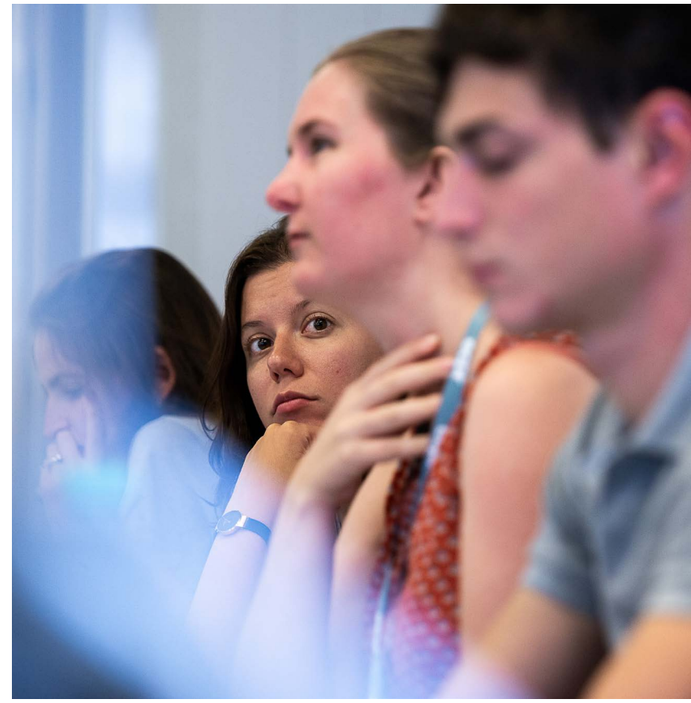
Risk management

We regularly evaluate the risks facing the organisation through the Risk Register, which then informs the degree of reserves required to sustain the business in the event of one or more of these factors materialising.

The ECPR Press contract has been terminated with Rowman & Littlefield and we are in ongoing negotiations with them regarding the future of the imprint. Sustained loss of surplus for events is also a new risk as we consider the potential impact of hybrid events and the significantly higher costs that may be involved with this type of event, without necessarily increasing income. Brexit is an ever-changing situation, and the pandemic may mean that we may have not yet felt its true impact. But we continue to monitor the situation, and have contingency plans in place. Exchange rate volatility remains unchanged, and it does not seem likely that it will have a significant impact in the short-term future. The risk of loss of members also remains unchanged. While the EC is responsible for adopting the annual budget, and for ensuring that the accounts are properly audited, day-to-day management of our income and expenditure lies with the operational staff, and specifically, our Finance Department and Management Group, with regular oversight by the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee.

Reserves policy

ECPR aims to maintain reserves equivalent to the risks identified in the Risk Register. At the end of the 2020–21 year, Net Reserves were £1.7m. The Risk Register as at February 2022 identified a Net Reserves Goal of £1.6m, so the reserves held were at 109% of target.



Current principal ongoing or 'standing' risks faced by ECPR

Risk	Contract for the ECPR Press terminating	Sustained loss of surplus from events	Brexit – VAT	Exchange rate volatility	Loss of members
Impact	Publishing is coming back in-house; purchase of the titles is under negotiation	Increased costs for hybrid events resulting in loss of surplus across all events	Risk of having to seek re-clarification of our VAT position in EU countries; increased VAT costs for countries that were exempt	GBP value increasing against Euro increases post-Brexit	Reduction in subscription income
Mitigation	We are seeking legal advice	Making careful decisions about which events are held as true hybrid events in the wider context of all events' income and costs	Evaluation of possible impact and identification of mitigating actions	Monitoring and potentially sourcing as much in the UK as possible if costs do rise due to declining GBP	A membership retention strategy is in development
Net risk rating	Likely	Medium	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

Financial review

Income

Our four primary income streams are:
- Registration income from the annual General Conference
- Membership subscriptions
- Publications income, of which the majority is produced by the *European Journal of Political Research*
- Methods School registration income

Overall income in 2020–21 increased by 4.2%, from £1.86m in 2019–20 to £1.93m.

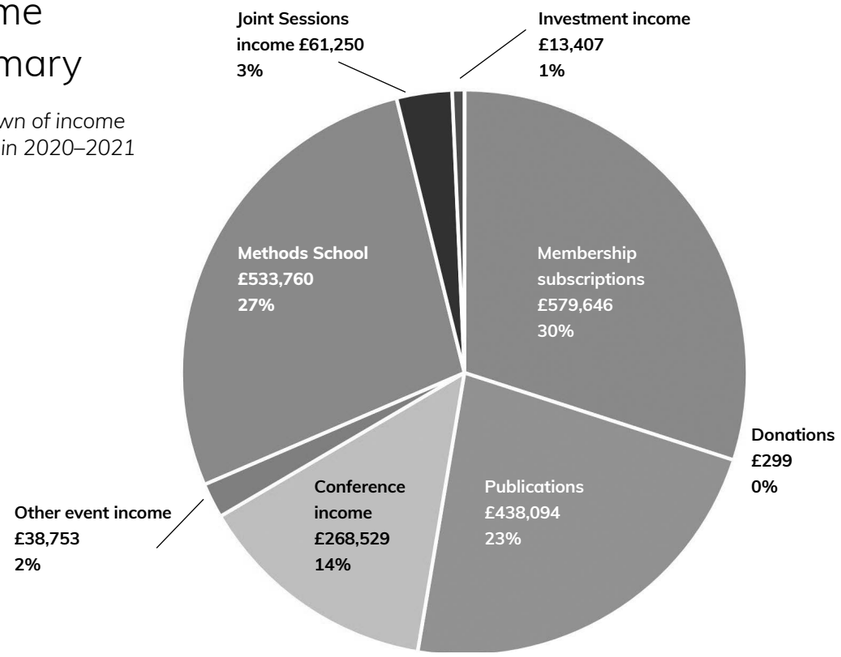
Income from publications remained stable at £438k compared to £439k in the prior period.

Broken down across our portfolio of journals and book series:

- **ECPR Press** income increased by 250% from a deficit of £7k to £11k. This reflects a return to expected levels of income.
- ***EJPR* income** increased slightly by 6.3%, from £297k to £315k.
- ***EPS* income** declined by 50.8% to £39k. The 2019–20 figure was unusually high, showing an increase of 51.2% to £80k compared to the prior year. The figure recorded in the 2020–21 accounts is therefore a more accurate reflection of income from this activity.
- ***EPSR* income** decreased by 19.9% to £34k. As with *EPS*, the prior year accounts recorded an increase in income of 19.4% to £41k, so the figure recorded in the 2020–21 accounts reflects a return to expected levels of income.
- ***EJIR* income** increased by 32.6% to £24k. The 2019–20 accounts recorded a drop in income of 13.9% to £18k, so this reflects a recovery in the anticipated income.
- ***PRX* recorded income** increased by 29.1% to £13k. The prior year accounts recorded a drop of 33.2% to £10k, so this reflects a recovery in anticipated income.

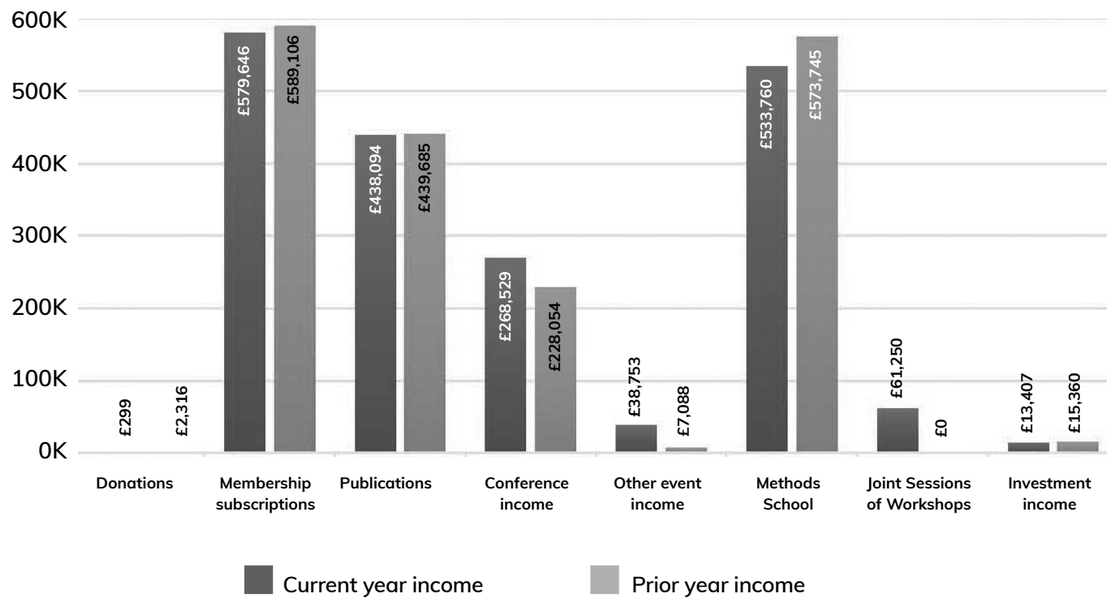
Income summary

Breakdown of income received in 2020–2021



Income compared to prior year

Variance 2020–2021 income against previous year



Event income increased to £902k in 2020-21, up from £809k in 2019-20.

- **General Conference** income increased by 17.7% to £269k from £228k. This was due to a rise in participant numbers from 2,214 in the prior year to 2,352 in the current year.
- **Joint Sessions** income increased by 100% to £61k because no fees were charged for attendance at the virtual event in 2019–20 but fees were reintroduced in 2020–21.
- **Methods School** income dropped by 7% from £574k to £534k, having risen by 7.6% in the prior year. This was caused by a decline of 109 in participants at the Summer School, which resulted in Summer School income dropping by 20.1%, from £308k to £247k. There was a rise of 69 in Winter School participants. This increased Winter School income by 8.5%, from £265k to £287k.
- **Other event** income, which includes income from Standing Group events, increased by 446.7% to £39k, having dropped in 2019–20, by 74.6% to £7k. This was as a result of most events being cancelled or postponed because of the pandemic. There was an increase in the number of virtual events which took place in 2020–21.
- **Membership subscription** income reduced slightly, by 1.6%, from £589k to £580k.
- **Investment** income declined by 12.7%, from £15k to £13k.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure decreased by 9.4% in the period, from £1.8m to £1.6m.

- **Support costs** remined stable at £868k for 2020–21 compared to £867k for 2019–20. Office costs decreased by 27.1%, from £409k to £298k, but staffing costs rose by 24.4%, from £459k to £570k. Included in office costs were governance costs of £27k, which was a decrease of 39.6% from £45k compared to the prior year, because in the early part of the prior year, some EC members travelled before the pandemic caused all meetings and events to migrate online. Support costs are reallocated to our charitable activities based on the % of charitable expenditure the activity generated.

- **Expenditure on raising funds** (membership subscriptions) increased by 64.5% from £46k to £76k. This was due mainly to an increase in staffing costs, which also led to an increase in support costs allocated.

- **Expenditure on publications** increased by 26.9%, from £381k to £483k. This was caused by an increase in staffing costs which was partly offset by bringing editorial support roles in-house. The increase in staff meant that more support costs were allocated.

- **Conference expenditure** remained stable, decreasing slightly by 1.6%, from £95k to £94k.

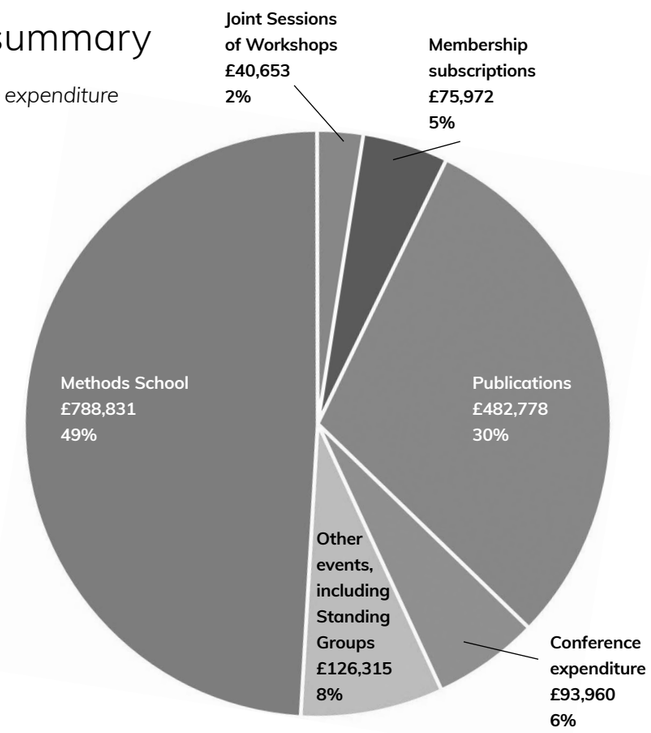
- **Other events and Standing Groups and Research Networks expenditure** decreased by 52.8%, from £268k to £126k. This was mainly due to lower staffing costs, which led to a decrease in support costs allocated.

- **Methods School expenditure** decreased by 14.5%, from £922k to £789k. We saved £70k because in 2020 the Winter School took place in-person but by 2021 it had migrated to a virtual event. We saved £25k in course set-up fees, which had been paid in the prior financial year to help get the online courses ready to deliver. These savings meant that there were fewer support costs allocated to the current year's activity.

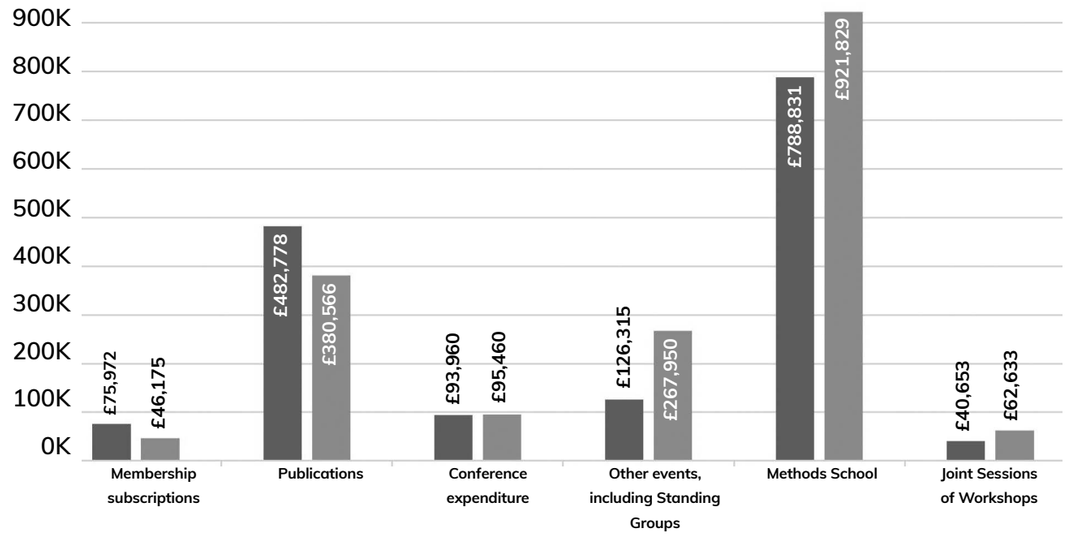
- **Joint Sessions expenditure** decreased by 35.1%, from £63k to £41k. We saved £3k on VAT costs and £6k on staffing costs, meaning that fewer support costs were allocated.

Expenditure summary

Breakdown of charitable expenditure 2020–2021



Expenditure compared to prior year



Surplus and deficit

- **Surplus from donations** was down 87.1%, from £2k to £300. Donations were higher in the prior year because money was pledged to our 50th Anniversary Fund, including three Joint Sessions registration fees, which could not be refunded.
- **Surplus from subscriptions** decreased by 7.2%, from £543k to £504k.
- **Publications** recorded a deficit in the period of £45k, compared with a surplus of £59k in the prior period. This represents a decline of 175.6%.
- **Surplus for conferences** increased by 31.7%, from £133k to £175k.
- Deficit made by **Other Events and Standing Groups** decreased by 66.4%, from £261k to £88k.
- Deficit made by the **Methods School** decreased by 26.8%, from £348k to £255k.
- **Joint Sessions** recorded a surplus of £21k compared with a deficit of £63k in the prior period. This represents an increase of 132.9%.
- **Surplus generated by the investments portfolio** rose by 383.6%, to £101k from £21k.

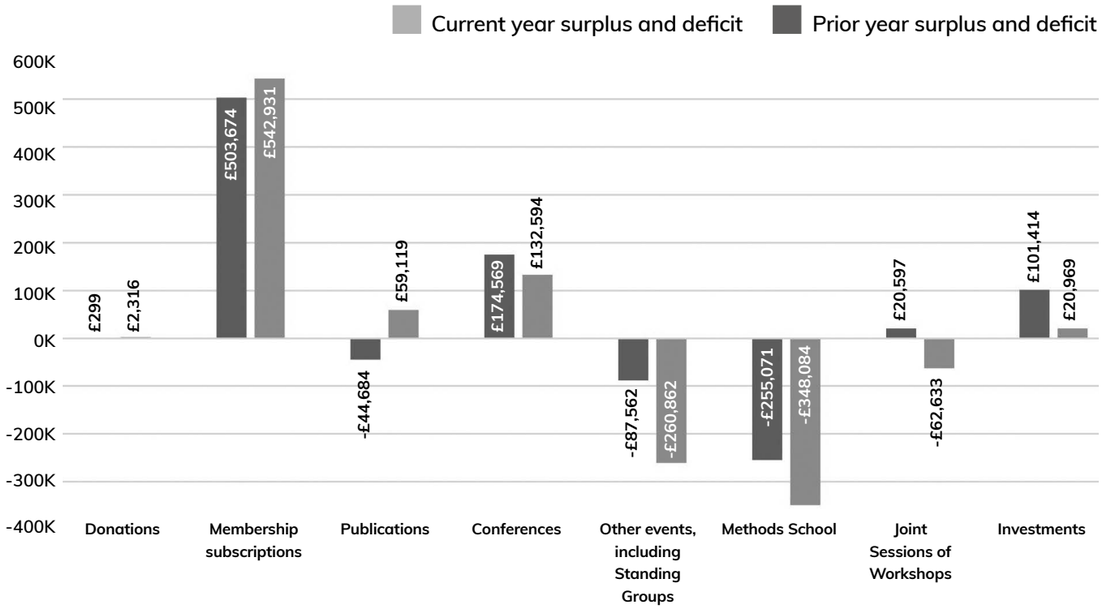
Investment policy and performance

When we make a surplus, we use this money to build reserves which can be called upon to keep the organisation functioning should it meet any of the risks highlighted by our Risk Register.

Some of our reserves are held in an investment portfolio. After a review by the EC in 2017, we decided that our managed fund was not bringing us value for money, so we transferred the £855k to Vanguard Investments UK Limited, split 50/50 across two funds: Vanguard Lifestrategy 40% Equity Fund and Vanguard Lifestrategy 60% Equity Fund. These index-tracking funds tend to be less volatile than active funds, and attract lower management costs, at 0.24%.

By the end of the 2020/21 financial year, our total investment portfolio was valued at £1.1m compared to £976k in 2019–20. This represents a rise of 10.2%, with a gain on the valuation of the portfolio of £88k, and a dividend accumulated of £12k.

Surplus for all activities



Structure, governance, and management

Organisation and control

We are governed by our board of Trustees, the EC, with day-to-day operational management delegated to the Director and Management Group. The EC is responsible for ensuring ECPR acts solely to further its charitable objects. It reports to Council, which is made up of Official Representatives from member institutions.

The activities of ECPR are divided into five portfolios of work, each with an associated Subcommittee comprising two to three members of the EC, plus the Chair and Vice Chair. The Director, related Manager and their staff work with the Subcommittees day-to-day to operationalise EC decisions. Subcommittees have decision-making authority delegated to them via a Scheme of Delegation, and bring key items to the EC in plenary for decision and strategic discussion.

Staff at Harbour House in Colchester

Employed 1 October 2020 – 30 September 2021

Director

Tanja Munro

Management

Rebecca Gethen
Communications Manager
Mark Kench IT Manager
Helen Morgan
Finance Manager
Nirusha Vigi Events Manager

Communications

Rebecca Gethen Manager
Mary Cenci Editorial Assistant
Kaez Condon Publishing and Communications Coordinator
From June 2021

Helen Cooper
Communications Officer
Kate Hawkins Marketing & Communications Officer
Olga Dovzhanchuk
Events Marketing Coordinator
Rebecca Delve
Communications Assistant

Events

Nirusha Vigi Manager
Anna Foley
Events Coordinator
Until August 2021
Marcia Taylor Events Coordinator *Until January 2021*
Diane Towler
Events Coordinator
Until November 2020
Alexandra Turner
Events Assistant

Bridie Gaynor Events Coordinator *From March 2021*
Órlaith Donnelly Events Coordinator *From April 2021*
Fatima Syed
Junior Events Coordinator
From September 2021
Savanna Allum
Events Assistant
From September 2021

Finance

Helen Morgan Manager
Bianca Taylor
Senior Finance Assistant
Shaun Klotia-Clottey
Sales & Purchase Ledger Assistant
Darran Harrington-Keeton
Data Analyst
From September 2021

Sean Judge
Finance Apprentice
From September 2021

Operations

Kim Jesney Administrator

IT and Website

Mark Kench Manager
James Freke Developer
Until December 2020
James Gooch Developer
From February 2021
Antoni Christodoulou
Junior Web Developer
Richard Lay-Flurrie
Junior Web Developer
Colin McPhie
Systems Administrator

Trustees 2021 – 2024

David Farrell, Chair Full Professor of Politics, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin

■ Representation, elections and parties, constitutional deliberation.

Ladislav Cabada Vice-Rector for Research, Quality and Development, Metropolitan University Prague

■ Regionalism and development studies in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Christian Haerpfer Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Vienna

■ Europe (Central and Eastern), Comparative Politics, Democracy, Political Participation, Electoral Behaviour, Public Opinion, Survey Research.

Hana Kubátová *Events and Finance Subcommittees;* Head of the VITRI Research Centre, Charles University in Prague

■ Majority-minority relations, identity construction, politics of memory and microdynamics of (ethnic) violence).

Anne Rasmussen Professor of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

■ Representation, (inequality in) political representation, public opinion, political parties, and public policy.

Sabine Saurugger *Training and Events Subcommittees;* Professor of Political Science, Director, Sciences Po Grenoble

■ Public policy, comparative politics, interest groups, European integration, European public policies and the politics of law.

Petra Meier, Vice Chair *Awards, Prizes, and Funding Decisions Subcommittee;* Professor of Politics, University of Antwerp

■ Gender politics and policies; democracy and representation; electoral inclusiveness; inequality in multi-level systems.

Giliberto Capano *Publications Subcommittee;* Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, University of Bologna

■ Comparative higher education policy, policy design and policy instruments, and the role of agents in public policy.

Daniela Irrera Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations, University of Catania

■ Positive and negative action and influence on global politics by non-state actors.

Gianluca Passarelli Professor of Political Science and Comparative Politics, Sapienza University of Rome

■ Electoral systems' influence on voting behaviour; presidential political parties.

Thomas Saalfeld *Organisation and Training Subcomittees;* Professor of Comparative Politics and Vice President for Research, University of Bamberg

■ Legislative behaviour, legislative organisation, parliamentary accountability.

Amy Verdun Full Professor, University of Victoria, British Columbia

■ European integration widely defined: political economy, policy, governance, integration theories, comparative politics.

Retired; served May 2018 – April 2021

Kris Deschouwer Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Mary Farrell University of Plymouth
Petri Koikkalainen University of Lapland
Maurizio Carbone University of Glasgow
Anna Sroka University of Warsaw
Reuven Hazan Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Administrative information

Principal Office

Harbour House
6–8 Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex CO2 8JF

Registered Charity Number

1167403 CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Website

https://ecpr.eu/

Auditors

Scrutton Bland LLP
Chartered Accountants
820 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YQ

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
Teviot House
South Gayle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9DR

Solicitors

Birkett Long LLP
Faviell House, 1 Coval Wells
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1WZ

Investment Managers

Vanguard Investments
UK Limited
PO Box 10315
Chelmsford
Essex CM99 2AT

Key management remuneration

All Executive Committee members give their time freely. No remuneration was paid to them during the year. Trustees are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenses when working away on ECPR business. Accommodation is usually organised and paid for by ECPR. The Chair's institution is provided with financial support to cover their absence while they are serving their term of office.

No remuneration is made to serving EC members or volunteers of ECPR, without the express approval of the EC and in line with the Charity Commission for England and Wales' regulations.

Staff Remuneration Policy

As a UK registered charity, the ECPR seeks to ensure that:

- staff are paid fairly, in line with local market rates, appropriately for their level of responsibility and in line with the pay of colleagues who perform similar tasks;
- staff salaries are awarded based on skills and experience and are free from discrimination;
- we comply with our obligation to expend our incoming resources responsibly;
- there is transparency in all aspects of our operations.

To achieve the above goals, we must balance the need to ensure value for money when expending the Charity's resources with the need to recruit and retain the best people for the job.

The EC is responsible for setting management pay, including that of the Director, usually by delegation to the Management Subcommittee; the EC is also responsible for the recruitment and appointment of the Director. Staff are awarded an annual cost of living pay increase, which is also approved by the EC.

Conflicts of Interest Policy

ECPR Trustees have a legal duty to ensure they always act in ECPR's best interest when making decisions. It is a legal requirement that Trustees report a potential conflict of interest as soon as it arises. A conflict of interest would arise if:

- a Trustee could benefit financially from a decision over which they have influence, whether directly or indirectly through a personal connection;
- a Trustee's loyalty to the ECPR conflicted with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person.

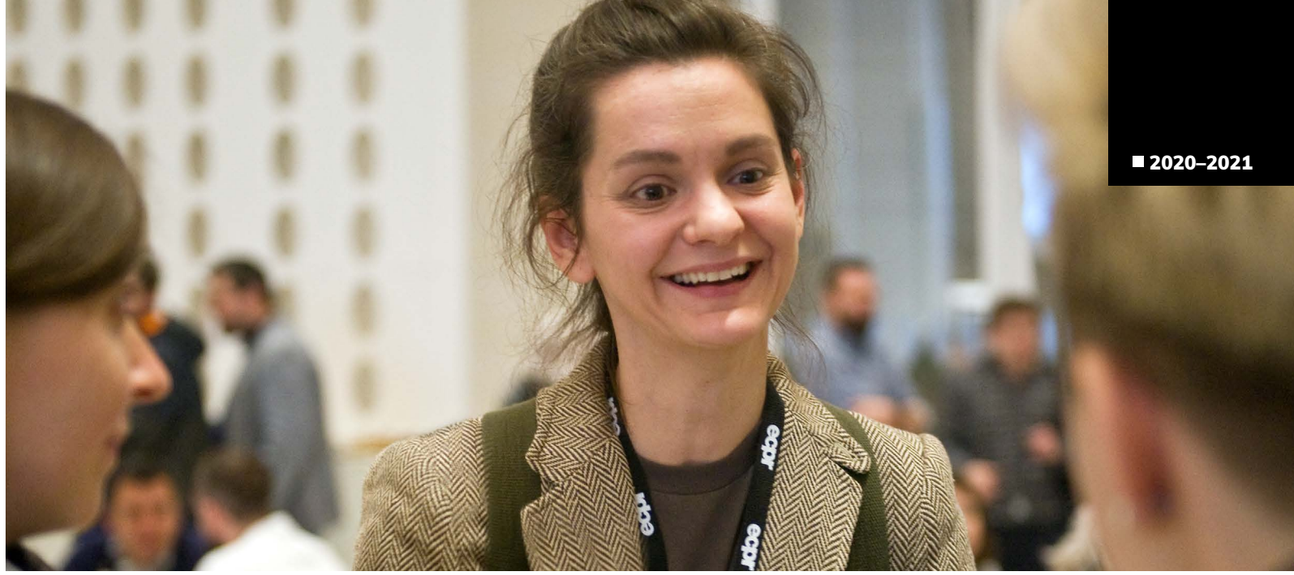
Conflicts of interest are common in charities, so we adopted practices aimed at reducing the risk of / to:

- making decisions that could be overturned;
- ECPR's reputation;
- Trustees having to repay ECPR for unauthorised payments.

ECPR has adopted the following practices to safeguard against the above risks occurring:

- clauses 7.8 and 8 of the **ECPR Constitution**;
- implementation of a Register of Interests, which is updated annually with appropriate procedures for managing conflicts.

Where Trustees delegate their decision-making powers to staff members under the terms of the organisation's Scheme of Delegation, those staff are also expected to declare any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from any discussions.



Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

As a group of Trustees, the EC is responsible for preparing its Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the EC to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The EC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of ECPR's Constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the EC is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditor is unaware;
- it has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The EC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Executive Committee
14 March 2022

On behalf of the Executive Committee
14 March 2022

■ 2020–2021

Independent Auditor's Report

Scrutton Bland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the European Consortium for Political Research (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the Trustees responsibilities with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the financial statements other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Executive Committee is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the Finance Manager (as required by auditing standards) and senior management, inspection of the Charity's regulatory and legal correspondence and we have discussed with the Finance Manager the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements, including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation, and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements; for instance, through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: compliance with the requirements of The Charity Commission,

health and safety, corporate governance, including safeguarding and wellbeing, human rights and employment law, anti-bribery and corruption, and GDPR. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Governors and other management, and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the Charity complies with such regulations, enquiries of management and those charged with governance concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims, inspection of any relevant legal documentation, review of board minutes, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and the performance of analytical review to identify any unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is on the **Financial Reporting Council's website**. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature and approval

14 March 2022, Timothy O'Connor (Senior Statutory Auditor)
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor, 820 The Crescent, Colchester Business Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 9YQ
Scrutton Bland LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 30 September 2021

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Income from			
Donations		**299**	2,316
Charitable activities	2	**1,340,386**	1,248,572
Subscriptions from members	3	**579,646**	589,106
Investments	4	**13,407**	15,360
Total income		**1,933,738**	1,855,354
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	6	**75,972**	46,175
Charitable activities	7	**1,532,537**	1,728,438
Total expenditure		**1,608,509**	1,774,613
Realised and unrealised investment gains		**88,007**	5,609
Net income and net movement in funds for the year		**413,236**	86,350
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		**2,820,857**	2,734,507
Total funds carried forward		**3,234,093**	2,820,857

Continuing operations
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Total recognised gains and losses
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Funds
All of the income, expenditure and gains for the last two financial periods relate to unrestricted funds.

Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2021

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	**423,150**	405,348
Investments	12	**1,075,729**	975,892
		1,498,879	1,381,240
Current assets			
Debtors	13	**324,200**	415,699
Cash and cash equivalents	14	**2,214,585**	1,900,487
		2,538,785	2,316,186
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(803,571)**	(876,569)
Net current assets		**1,735,214**	1,439,617
Net assets		**3,234,093**	2,820,857
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**3,234,093**	2,820,857

On behalf of the Executive Committee
14 March 2022

On behalf of the Executive Committee
14 March 2022

Statement of cashflows

Period ended 30 September 2021

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income for the year		**413,236**	86,350
Adjusted for			
Depreciation of tangible assets		**16,039**	14,460
Unrealised investment gain		**(88,007)**	(5,609)
Dividend accumulated in fund		**(11,830)**	(14,815)
Interest received		**(1,573)**	(538)
Other investment income		**(–)**	(7)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		**91,499**	(20,026)
(Decrease) in creditors		**(72,998)**	(11,446)
Net cash generated from operating activities		**346,366**	48,369
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		**1,573**	538
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(33,841)**	(3,422)
Other investment income			7
Net cash used in investing activities		**(32,268)**	(2,877)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**314,098**	45,492
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		**1,900,487**	1,854,995
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**14**	**2,214,585**	1,900,487

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005, which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1 and are prepared in sterling.

b. Going concern

Having considered the Charity's forecasts and projections, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements. For this reason the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. The Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties with regard to going concern.

c. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to funds; any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met; it is probable that the income will be received; and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from subscriptions from members is accounted for in the year to which they relate.

Income from publications in the form of royalties is received in relation to the journals. Royalty income is accounted for in the year that it becomes receivable, which is when the publication is sold.

Income from conferences is accounted for in the year in which the conference occurs.

d. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Reserves are targeted to be approximately 12 months' regular expenditure.

f. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party; it is probable that settlement will be required; and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading, including investment management and their associated costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of publications, methods schools, conferences and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, and their associated support costs.

Governance costs represents the costs of governance arrangements and include costs associated with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but are not directly attributable to charitable activities. Support costs represent costs attributable to the management of the charity's assets and organisational administration. These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on the proportion of direct costs which relate to each activity. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

h. Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences arising in the normal course of trading are dealt with in the statement of financial activities for the year.

i. Fixed assets

Individual assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

- Freehold buildings, between 2% and 10% per annum.
- Office and IT equipment, 25%.
- Freehold land is not depreciated.

j. Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date.

Realised and unrealised gains or losses are calculated based on the market value at which the investments are recorded in the financial statements and are shown on the face of the statement of financial activities.

k. Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

m. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account.

n. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

o. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

p. Taxation

European Consortium for Political Research is a charity within the meaning of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity for tax purposes in line with Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, ECPR is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to its charitable purposes.

q. Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid, the Charity has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity, in independently administered funds.

r. Significant judgements and estimates

The more significant judgments and estimates involved in the preparation of the financial statements include assessing the depreciation rates applicable to tangible fixed assets and the way in which certain costs should be apportioned. Further details regarding these points are included within the accounting policies.

2. Income from charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Publications (note 5)	**438,094**	439,685
Conference income	**268,529**	228,054
Other event income	**38,753**	7,088
Joint Sessions income	**61,250**	–
Methods School income	**533,760**	573,745
Total	**1,340,386**	1,248,572

Income from charitable activities can be further analysed as:

	2021 £	2020 £
Income from rendering of services	**902,292**	808,887
Income from royalties	**438,094**	439,685
Total	**1,340,386**	1,248,572

3. Subscription from Members

	2021 £	2020 £
Subscription from members	**579,646**	589,106

100% of the subscriptions from members – £579,646 (2020 : £589,106) relates to the provision of services.

4. Investment income

	2021 £	2020 £
Income from fixed-asset investments	**11,834**	14,822
Bank interest receivable	**1,573**	538
Total	**13,407**	15,360

5. Publications income

	2021 £	2020 £
ECPR Press	**10,767**	(7,147)
European Journal of Political Research	**315,244**	296,700
European Political Science (journal)	**39,123**	79,535
Palgrave / Sage / OUP	**2,393**	536
European Political Science Review (journal)	**33,571**	41,912
European Journal of International Relations	**24,413**	18,406
Political Research Exchange (journal)	**12,583**	9,743
Total	**438,094**	439,685

6. Fundraising expenditure

	2021 £	2020 £
Directly attributable activities for generating funds	**34,963**	23,603
Support costs allocated	**41,009**	22,572
Total	**75,972**	46,175

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs £	Direct wages £	Allocated £	2021 £	2020 £
Publications	100,297	121,881	260,600	**482,778**	380,566
Conference expenditure	19,289	23,952	50,719	**93,960**	95,460
Other event expenditure	5,641	3,326	10,518	**19,485**	37,800
Standing Groups & Research Networks	43,852	5,312	57,666	**106,830**	230,150
Methods School	264,111	98,915	425,805	**788,831**	921,829
Joint Sessions of Workshops	5,122	13,587	21,944	**40,653**	62,633
Total	**438,312**	**266,973**	**827,252**	**1,532,537**	1,728,438

8. Support costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Office costs	**298,406**	409,293
Staff salaries and wages	**569,855**	458,197
Total	**868,261**	867,490

Total support costs are made up of the expenditure for generating funds in note 6 of £41,009 (2020: £22,572) and the expenditure on charitable activities in note 7 of £827,252 (2020: £844,918).

Basis of allocation

Support costs have been allocated against charitable activities in line with the percentage of other expenditure directly attributable to the activity as follows:

	Support cost per activity %	Support cost per activity £	Direct cost per activity £
Subscriptions – Allocated	4.72	41,009	–
Subscriptions – Direct costs	–	–	34,963
Publications – Allocated	30.02	260,600	–
Publications – Direct costs	–	–	222,178
Conferences – Allocated	5.84	50,719	–
Conferences – Direct costs	–	–	43,241
Other event expenditure – Allocated	1.21	10,518	–
Other event expenditure – Direct costs	–	–	8,967
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Allocated	6.64	57,666	–
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Direct costs	–	–	49,164
Methods School – Allocated	49.04	425,805	–
Methods School – Direct costs	–	–	363,026
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Allocated	2.53	21,944	–
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Direct costs	–		18,709
Total	**100.00**	**868,261**	**740,248**

Included within support costs are £26,947 (2020: £44,579) of expenditure which relates to governance costs. This is broken down as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Executive Committee expenses, and Director remuneration	**12,347**	30,169
Audit fee (note 10)	**14,600**	14,410
Total	**26,947**	44,579

All members of the Executive Committee are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their duties. During the year reimbursed expenses amounted to £80 (2020: £8,166), this amount is included within governance costs. No emoluments have been paid to any member of the Executive Committee.

9. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	**705,430**	642,859
Social security costs	**65,855**	57,750
Pension costs – defined contribution	**92,048**	84,254
	863,333	784,863
Directly attributable wages (note 7)	**266,973**	309,376
Directly attributable wages for activities for generating funds (note 6)	**26,505**	17,291
Total wages cost to be included in support costs allocation (note 8)	**569,855**	458,196
Management and administration of the Charity	**21**	19

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Executive Committee and the Director who held the position during the year.

The total employment benefits, including employer's pension contributions for the key management personnel, were £73,853 (2020: £71,865). One employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

10. Audit fee

	2021 £	2020 £
Auditors' remuneration in respect of audit services	**13,300**	13,300
Auditors' remuneration in respect of tax and other advisory services	**1,300**	1,110
Total	**14,600**	14,410

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office and IT equipment £	Freehold land and buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2020	19,739	446,739	466,478
Additions	5,293	28,548	33,841
At 30 September 2021	**25,032**	**475,287**	**500,319**
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2020	11,300	49,830	61,130
Charge for year	6,249	9,790	16,039
At 30 September 2021	**17,549**	**59,620**	**77,169**
Net book value			
At 30 September 2021	**7,483**	**415,667**	**423,150**
At 1 October 2020	8,439	396,909	405,348

12. Investments

Assets held for charity use and to provide investment return	2021 £	2020 £
Banco Santander shares	**1,135**	1,135
Funds held with Vanguard Investment UK, Limited	**1,074,594**	974,757
Total	**1,075,729**	975,892

The movement in the year is as follows	2021 £	2020 £
Market value as at 1 October 2020	**975,892**	955,468
Gain on valuation	**88,007**	5,609
Dividend accumulated in fund	**11,830**	14,815
Market value as at 30 September 2021	**1,075,729**	975,892

The investments shown above comprise UK and overseas investments. Below are investment holdings by category:	2021 £	2020 £
Managed funds	**1,075,729**	975,892

The managed funds with Vanguard relate to two Vanguard LifeStrategy funds. The LifeStrategy 40% equity fund is made up of 40% equity and 60% bonds. The LifeStrategy 60% equity fund is made up of 60% equity and 40% bonds. The investments are split equally between the two managed funds.

13. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors (including subscriptions due)	**217,067**	241,866
Other debtors	**72,864**	149,541
Prepayments		
Conferences	**22,977**	17,072
Insurance	**9,435**	6,126
Publications	**337**	–
HR costs	**426**	–
Rates	**1,094**	1,094
Total prepayments	**34,269**	24,292
Total debtors	**324,200**	415,699

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following items for the purpose of the Statement of cash flows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Total cash and cash equivalents	**2,214,585**	1,900,487

15. Creditors

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income	**621,241**	671,042
Accruals	**105,573**	131,295
Trade creditors	**36,401**	12,640
Other taxation and Social Security	**36,997**	56,039
Credit card	**3,359**	5,553
Total	**803,571**	876,569

16. Deferred income

Amounts invoiced in advance represent income in respect of future events; subscription income from members where the subscription year starts on 1 October 2021; and publications income for the three-month period to 31 December 2021.

17. Financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	**289,931**	391,407
Financial assets measured at fair value	**1,075,729**	975,892
Total	**1,365,660**	1,367,299
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	**132,033**	130,635

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors.

Financial assets measured at fair value comprise listed investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise accruals and trade creditors.

18. Related parties

The related parties of ECPR are the members of the Executive Committee. ECPR is controlled by its Executive Committee.

No other transactions were identified which should be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

What will 2022 bring?

We hope an end to the pandemic, and a new era of cooperation across our membership, where we take on the new, and take care of your normal.

2020–2021

Encouraging the training, research, and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

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Registered Charity Number 1167403 Charitable Incorporated Organisation

EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1167403

Accounts

ecpr

Annual Report

Financial Statements
and Auditor's Report
1 October 2019 –
30 September 2020

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Founded in 1970, ECPR is the leading European academic association with a mission to advance political science.

We bring scholars together across our global network to develop research and grow the discipline.

Our members are universities, and the communities within them, engaged in the research and teaching of social sciences.

Through our events, publications and research groups, we foster scholarly collaboration across borders.

We support academics at every stage of their career, providing training, research opportunities and professional development.

ECPR helps interpret the world's complex and changing political landscape for the benefit of all.

Report of the Executive Committee

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is pleased to present the Trustee's Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the 12 months ending 30 September 2020

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the ECPR's Constitution, the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice', in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

About us

The ECPR is a learned society and UK registered charity that supports the advancement of political science.

Our members are universities and research institutes concerned with the teaching and research of political science and related disciplines.

Within these institutions is a community of tens of thousands of scholars, from PhD student to senior professor, all of whom benefit directly from ECPR membership. While the ECPR is a membership association, our activities are open to all.

Our mission is to advance political science. We do this in two ways:

- by providing platforms and opportunities for scholars to collaborate and share research, with the purpose of strengthening the discipline and growing the volume and impact of its output worldwide; and
- by delivering training and development opportunities to scholars at all career stages, with the purpose of enhancing professional skills to strengthen and support the community.

Our charitable status

Public benefit

The Executive Committee has a duty to ensure that the activities undertaken by the ECPR fulfil its charitable objectives and provide a public benefit. Our public is the academic institutions which make up our membership and those scholars who study and teach within them. It is also the wider general public, whose lives are influenced by the resulting research. The EC ensures this public benefit is met through the creation and continued development of a range of activities and initiatives to foster deeper and more productive collaboration between scholars worldwide, with the aim of producing the best quality research. These activities include:

- an annual programme of international workshops, conferences and training events designed to develop ongoing research and provide professional and skills-based training to scholars;
- a range of funding opportunities to support the participation of students and early career scholars in our events;
- a broad and diverse publishing portfolio providing opportunities for scholars to publish and read the most up-to-date research in their field, via subscription and Open Access platforms;
- a number of high-profile prizes celebrating academic achievement across all career stages;
- a programme of support to nurture and grow our sub-disciplinary research groups which, in turn, extend the reach and focus of the organisation; and
- the development of a range of studies and policies aimed at understanding the state of the profession across Europe and the rest of the world, and supporting all scholars working within the discipline.

This report provides a summary of these activities carried out in the 2019–20 financial year.

Grant-making policy

As a membership association we provide a range of funding opportunities to both individual scholars and groups affiliated with the ECPR. This provision of funding and financial support to our affiliates and Standing Groups and Research Networks, is one of the primary ways in which we achieve our charitable objectives.

In 2019 the EC reviewed the ECPR's funding provision and developed a new Fee and Funding Policy which included a number of provisions aimed at increasing and improving the value to affiliates and in turn their institution. From this, the following changes were to be implemented from the 2019–20 financial year:

- Event participation funding available to PhD students and early career researchers (ECRs) increased to cover the full cost of attendance, as opposed to only the travel and accommodation costs, as had previously been the case. This means recipients would receive a full course/registration fee via a waiver, plus full travel and accommodation costs. Total funding available for the year was increased to nearly €65k (the budget is set in Euros) to allow a significant number of full grants to be awarded.
- The 50th Anniversary Fund was created to mark our anniversary. The Fund's aim is to support political scientists facing difficulties joining our activities and events for economic, political, social or other reasons. The EC allocated £10k to this fund and a further £1k of general donations was utilised. 21 grants totalling more than £3k were paid out and the balance is being rolled over to continue supporting these academics.
- The EC Bonus Fund was established, based on 10% of surplus from the last complete financial year (in this case 2017–18). The available budget for 2019–20 was £35k, earmarked to support a 'Rising Star Award', to fund a PhD student without access to any other form of funding to attend all major ECPR events in a given year; and a Research project grant available to Standing Groups or Research Networks to support a research project which must have the objective of producing a large grant bid to a funding body.

The Covid-19 pandemic meant that international travel was not possible from late February 2020. Therefore, with the exception of the Winter Methods School which was held in Bamberg in February, all ECPR events took place virtually. The travel element of the funding budget was repurposed to increase the overall fund available for fee waivers, thus also increasing the number of recipients to which it was available. The online format of events opened up participation beyond our traditional boundaries, which, along with the increased funding, made them far more accessible for all members of the profession in 2020.

We support the ongoing development and activities of our Standing Groups and Research Networks through practical support and allocations of funds. Financial provision enables our groups to hold training schools, workshops, and conferences. It also supports the attendance of younger scholars. Funding is made available to allow Standing Groups and Research Networks to sponsor external events in collaboration with third parties which align with the thematic topic of that group.

Nearly €80k (the budget is set in Euros) was made available in 2018–19. £40k was distributed to and via these groups. In 2019–20 the pandemic restricted possibilities for in-person events. Though some events were held virtually, the amount of funding required was significantly lower, at £16.5k. We supported Standing Groups' participation in our virtual General Conference, making significant funding available for them to allocate to participants, in cases where the greatest need was identified.

The coming years will oblige us to find the right balance between intensive, in-person exchanges and the cost and impact of academic travel

Statement from our Chair

This Annual Report looks back at probably the strangest year yet for the ECPR. Having closed a very successful 2018–19, we were getting ready to celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2020. That golden anniversary would have marked all our events, and included the launch of a new event aiming at providing professional and career-building skills to young scholars in the final stages of their PhD. A tiny virus has, however, shaken our world, and academic research and teaching has been deeply affected.

An organisation like ECPR, committed to advancing political science, had to adapt and change its plans. While doing so, we did, however, proudly celebrate our anniversary. One achievement was the creation of the 50th Anniversary Fund, which now helps scholars facing difficulties to participate in our events.

Keeping in mind ECPR's major mission to provide political scientists with the means and platforms to present and publish their work, to exchange ideas, to receive training and to build and expand their networks, our central commitment has been to *keep on going*.

The Winter School of January 2020 was offered as a 'normal' in-person event, but from there on, all activities and events were transformed into successful virtual events. A large number of scholars participated in them, with very high degrees of satisfaction. Knowing that we are able to offer good-quality virtual experiences, we rapidly decided to go virtual again for all events and activities in 2021 and to plan carefully for the best possible experience. The situation is, of course, not ideal. We have a long tradition of events, always organised on the campus of a member institution. Virtual alternatives cannot offer the same intense exchanges and the pleasure of sharing time with the colleagues.

The financial picture for 2019–20 does not look too bleak. By not cancelling or postponing events, and by offering well-organised and attractive online alternatives, we have been able to generate enough income to keep the books balanced. We have built a solid financial basis over the past few years, and can absorb some shocks if needed.

We do, however, expect to face a few challenging and difficult years. We are all eager to go back to normal, but we also know that the pandemic will exert a lasting impact. Universities are under increasing financial pressure, and that will undoubtedly have consequences for the way scholars can engage in international exchanges. The coming years will oblige us to reflect on the number and type of our events, and to find the right balance between intensive, in-person exchanges on the one hand, and the cost and impact of academic travel on the other.

The Executive Committee that took office in May 2018 set itself several goals. One of these was to streamline ECPR's governance structure, creating a clear framework of delegation of tasks among the Executive Committee, and between the EC and staff at Harbour House in Colchester. That goal has been achieved.

The EC has also – following a thorough scoping and consultation exercise – published a new Framework for ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks. With the new Framework we have given these groups more flexibility in the way they organise themselves. We also offer them much more direct support – financially and logistically – for the activities they develop.

Another goal was to improve the gender balance across the different aspects of ECPR's work. Our 2018 Gender Equality Plan identified the problems, set clear targets and defined the actions needed to reach them. The results are now visible, but there is still some way to go. We are not yet the gender-equal role model that we would like to be. And achieving a better gender balance can only be the first step towards becoming an organisation that truly reflects the increasing diversity of the political science community.

From May 2021 a new Executive Committee, chaired by David Farrell, will take office. Thanks to the new rules for electing its members, this EC is the first in ECPR's history with the same number of male and female members.

I wish the new team all the best. It arrives at a difficult but also challenging and interesting time, that allows for a creative rethinking of the way Europe's most important political science association can remain the point of reference for all of us. ECPR's major events mark the rhythm of the academic year, and its high-quality publications are an important source of information about political science research.

I am convinced that ECPR will continue to offer good services to our community. It will continue to advance political science in a turbulent world, in which the insights offered by political science are more needed than ever before.

Kris Deschouwer, Chair,
ECPR Executive Committee, 2018 – 2021

Director's report

A Year of 'Firsts'

In last year's Director's statement, I wrote about change resulting in both challenges and opportunities. Little did I think then that these words would come true in such a literal way.

2020 will remain for many a year of sadness, isolation and a period defined by the restrictions imposed upon our lives. Although we are not out of the woods quite yet, the vaccine has given us a new hope of life getting better again. As we regroup, we reflect on a year of 'firsts' for ECPR.

In March 2020, Harbour House closed its doors to staff and members for the very first time to enter Lockdown 1.0; since then, staff have been working from home, striving to deliver a service that is as close to usual as possible. This was followed swiftly by the first virtual Publications Retreat, and the first ever full virtual EC meeting.

In April, the 48th Joint Sessions became not only our first virtual Joint Sessions, but also ECPR's inaugural virtual event, delivered on a shoestring, held together by the goodwill of those who attended. And much like the very first Joint Sessions back in 1973, this event shaped all other ECPR events to come.

May brought further firsts, with virtual recruitment resulting in the appointment of editors for our new blog site, The Loop. This was followed in June by our first virtual Standing Group Retreat. It was also the time when we began to deliver virtual Standing Group events, starting with the Conference of our Standing Group on Teaching and Learning.

August saw the first virtual Methods School, in collaboration with CEU, and the first virtual General Conference, run on ECPR's very first custom event platform. Here, ECPR celebrated its landmark 50th anniversary, not with a bang perhaps, but a gentle bugle, premièring a film and launching The Loop. And finally, to September, where we held our Council Meeting in a virtual environment, again, for the first time.

Like many other organisations, we enter our next financial year carrying the burden of a tough previous one. ECPR's income for the year has been affected not only by the economies of the pandemic, but also by our choices.

We consciously chose to waive fees where possible, and to maintain or reduce them where it was not. We not only continued to fund our members to attend our events, but we also channelled more into those funds by re-purposing other budgets to bolster the number of grants we could give.

> Last year, I wrote about change resulting in challenges and opportunities. Little did I think these words would come true in such a literal way

We created awards such as the Rising Star to nurture future talent, the 50th Anniversary Fund to support scholars in need, and the Bonus Fund to provide seed-corn funding to enable scholars to advance innovative and novel ideas.

And we listened to you, our members, introducing initiatives such as the allocation of grant funding to Standing Groups, allowing them to distribute and lower barriers to participation, in recognition of the challenges of additional caring responsibilities.

Recounting this last year feels strange, the events and experiences too many to fit into just twelve months. And so, we look to the future, to the next twelve months, with some trepidation perhaps and also, with humility, because we know that our lives are yet to return to normal.

It is my hope that you will continue with ECPR, that you remain confident we are here for you, and that you, too, can look back with pride at everything you accomplished, despite the global pandemic.

ECPR will continue to forge ahead, building spaces for our members, providing stability and a sense of kinship in a rapidly changing and uncertain world. We are able to do this because of the support that exists in our community – and for this I'd like to offer you my sincere thanks.

Tanja Munro, ECPR Director

A year in review

Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic

Like many organisations, the impact of the global pandemic on our operations has been significant. On 17 March 2020, following advice from the UK Government, we took the decision to close our offices at Harbour House and all staff worked remotely from home throughout the pandemic.

Making the switch

Thanks to the international nature of the organisation and our activities, and investments already made in technology and processes, ECPR already had much of the infrastructure and equipment in place to allow a fast and relatively seamless transition to remote working for staff, so day-to-day operations were not largely disturbed.

However, the sudden disruption to the working environment while juggling other commitments, such as home-schooling and caring responsibilities, was a challenge for our staff.

Weathering the storm

2020 was ECPR's 50th anniversary year. Several new activities were scheduled on top of our regular programme to celebrate it.

Long established events had to be rapidly reimagined in a virtual context so we could continue to deliver activities and membership benefits to our community. Feedback from all stakeholder groups was extremely positive, and we feel ECPR is in the best position it can be to weather the continuing impact of the pandemic.

Calendar of events

Of all our planned events, only the **Winter Methods School** took place in person, from 14–21 February 2020 at the University of Bamberg.

The **Joint Sessions of Workshops**, due to be held at Sciences Po in Toulouse, took place virtually via Zoom, with a significantly reduced programme. Registration fees for the live event were refunded, and the 87 participants who took part in the virtual Joint Sessions did so free of charge.

Our next virtual event was the **Summer Methods School**, conducted using a mixture of pre-recorded and live teaching materials delivered via Zoom, with assistance from Central European University Budapest's Moodle platform.

ECPR's in-house IT Team developed a bespoke virtual conferencing platform for the **General Conference**. It aimed to replicate the feel of a live conference in a virtual environment, combining Zoom integration with a simple way of navigating the different elements of the event.

Due to the untested nature of it format, the EC decided to postpone the launch of our new graduate event, the **ECPR Futures Lab**, amid the pandemic.

Innovating in adversity

2020 did see the launch of a number of new ECPR activities, some already under development and some invented out of necessity.

The **House Lectures**, named after ECPR's headquarters, Harbour House, launched in December 2020, to round off the year and thank the community for its support. Our first two speakers were recipients of the Lifetime Achievement and Rising Star Awards respectively. More lectures are planned for 2021.

The Loop blog site launched in autumn 2020, publishing impactful content aimed at bridging the gap between academe and the public sphere. Taking into account the pandemic, Brexit and the US elections, we were not short of fascinating content to kick-start this new venture.

Finally, many of our **Standing Groups** embraced the opportunities presented by online meetings to launch a number of new seminar series, each on a topical theme reflecting their area of interest. With several sessions taking place every week at times, these new events have significantly enriched our offering to the community.

Virtual governance

Beyond the impact on events and administration, there was also an impact on Governance. The Executive Committee was forced to cancel its scheduled meeting at Harbour House in March 2020 and instead hold the meeting via Zoom – a first for ECPR
The EC summer meeting usually held at the General Conference was also conducted via Zoom, as was our annual Council meeting.

Other meetings normally held at Harbour House, such as the Publications and Standing Group retreats, also took place virtually.

Financial impact

The most significant impact of the pandemic was on our finances. We did not charge participants to take part in the Joint Sessions, and General Conference registration fees were significantly reduced. Our event income reduced by £282k compared to the previous year.

While some costs, such as room hire, were saved, other expenses such as Zoom licences, were incurred. The significant administrative costs remained the same because ECPR staff had to develop completely new practices for delivering virtual events and providing support for them. Subsequently, the surplus produced by the events portfolio dropped by £34k.

Another major element of our work to be affected was the investment portfolio. In the 2018–19 year, this produced investment gains of £60k, but in 2019–20, it gained only £6k. Overall, our surplus dropped from £266k in 2018–19 to £86k in 2019–20.

50th Anniversary year

2020 marked the occasion of ECPR's 50th Anniversary. Much was planned to celebrate the milestone.

In 2019 we decided to use our 50th Anniversary as an opportunity to review the ECPR brand and to create a fresh new look to carry the organisation forward into its next half century. We worked with a local creative agency to establish a clear and contemporary new visual identity, reflecting ECPR's rich heritage and our vibrant current community.

We also began planning a number of commemorative activities for the anniversary year, a 50th Anniversary Film, and celebrations that would take place at our flagship events. A brand-new event, the ECPR Futures Lab, was set to launch.

The pandemic meant that 2020 was not the year we had planned, but we still managed to mark the occasion. The re-brand had already launched, and work on our book *Political Science in Europe: Achievements, Challenges, Prospects* was complete. We also managed to record our 50th Anniversary Film, conducting interviews with ECPR's two surviving founding fathers, Richard Rose and Jean Blondel, at Harbour House in October 2019 and January 2020. The remainder of the film's subjects were recorded remotely. Our film premièred at the virtual General Conference in late August.

Finally, as noted above, The Loop launched at just the right time, in autumn 2020, to capitalise on the opportunity to shine a political science light on major international issues and current affairs.

Membership

Our membership comprises the world's leading academic institutions concerned with teaching and researching political and social science. From this membership stems tens of thousands of individual 'affiliate' members across some fifty countries. The activities and services we provide are aimed primarily at these affiliates, but ultimately also benefit their institution.

The membership year runs concurrently with our financial year, from 1 October–30 September.

Our highest membership recorded to date was 350 in 2015–16. 2019–20 saw a small drop from 331 in 2018–19, to 320.

Events

We organise a comprehensive programme of academic and professional events every year, comprising:

- **Joint Sessions of Workshops** A week-long event bringing together around thirty focussed, concurrent workshops. This event's unique format makes it incredibly valuable for developing research and building networks. Participation is highly competitive.
- **General Conference** Follows the traditional format of Sections, Panels and Papers covering all aspects of the discipline, all subjected to rigorous peer review prior to acceptance. The GC has become the largest annual gathering of political scientists in Europe.
- **Methods School** A comprehensive programme of cutting-edge training courses in qualitative and quantitative methodologies and research techniques organised across

two annual events, the Winter and Summer Schools.

In addition to this core programme, a variety of events is organised each year by our Standing Groups; see the table below.

Relations with other organisations

We continue to work closely with a number of scholarly associations operating within the same field of interest. This includes organising regular panels at each other's conferences, and in 2019 conducting a World of Political Science (WPS) survey in collaboration with the International Political Science Association (IPSA), looking at the state of the discipline across Europe and the rest of the world.

We are members of the Association for Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the International Science Council (ISC) with whom we award the Stein Rokkan prize.

Event	Standing Group	Host institution, if relevant	Country	Dates in 2020
Workshop *New Frontiers in Teaching Politics, Gender and Sexuality*	Gender and Politics	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Belgium	16 January
Winter Methods School		University of Bamberg	Germany	14 – 21 February
Joint Sessions of Workshops		Virtual Event	N/A	14 – 17 April
European Conference *Teaching & Learning Politics, International Relations & European Studies*	Teaching and Learning	Virtual Event	N/A	18 – 19 June
Summer School *Teaching and Learning*	Teaching and Learning	Virtual Event, in association with Comenius University in Bratislava	N/A	6 – 13 July
Summer Methods School		Virtual Event, in association with Central European University in Budapest	N/A	27 July – 14 August
Summer School *Political Epistemology*	Kantian Political Thought	Virtual Event, in association with Keele University	N/A	27 – 31 July
General Conference		Virtual Event	N/A	24 – 28 August
Conference *Theoretical Perspectives on Interpretive Approaches to Policy Studies*	Theoretical Perspectives in Policy Analysis	Virtual Event	N/A	2 – 4 September

Publications

Our publishing programme enables us to share the very best new thinking and research across the community and beyond. We publish five journals, a book series and our own imprint, all in partnership with leading scholarly publishers, alongside an in-house political science blog. Our publishing partnerships allow us to harness the expertise, reach and new technologies of the publisher, while retaining editorial oversight through our appointment of the editorial teams.

Our publishing programme consists of:
- *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)*
- *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* and *PDY:Interactive*
- *European Political Science Review (EPSR)*
- *European Political Science (EPS)*
- *European Journal of International Relations (EJIR)*
- *Political Research Exchange (PRX)*
- Comparative Politics Book Series
- ECPR Press
- The Loop

The Loop

2020 saw the launch of our new blog site, the Loop, established as an Open Access forum for innovative analyses to enhance current understandings of politics. Academic 'conversations' between researchers with competing perspectives, which often get lost behind paywalls on mainstream news media, are made visible to a broader readership.

Short contributions of 600–1,000 words focus on recent research findings, discuss research in progress, or convey newsworthy information resting on contributors' professional expertise.

- **Benefits for ECPR** ECPR represents tens of thousands of scholars at several hundred member institutions. The Loop is an essential meeting point for engagement between these political scientists and the wider world.
- **Benefits for ECPR's member affiliates** The Loop prioritises contributions from scholars at ECPR member institutions, constituting a brand-new membership benefit for the political science community.
- **Benefits for the profession** Blogging raises an author's profile. It gets scholarly research noticed by a readership beyond academe, realising greater levels of influence for academics – and for the political science discipline – in government and public life.

The Loop is an academic commentary, but it is open and accessible to everyone.

- **Research community** The wider community of political science, including international relations, public policy, political theory, methods, comparative politics.
- **Policy stakeholders** Parliamentarians, executives, agencies, international organisations, and influencers such as civil society organisations, think tanks and interest groups.
- **Citizens** Engaged and informed citizens across Europe, and the world.

Standing Groups and Research Networks

Over 50 thematic research groups operate under the auspices of the ECPR, covering the full breadth of the discipline. Each group has its own membership and the opportunity to deliver a range of activities. Some are small and provide little more than a focus for networking or sharing of ideas; others are very large and organise their own events on a regular basis.

Each year, Standing Groups and Research Networks play a key role in shaping the academic programme of the Joint Sessions and General Conference through allocation of workshops and sections. They are also supported practically and financially by ECPR to develop their own activities.

In 2019–20 ECPR drew further on our Standing Groups' knowledge and experience of their community. We redistributed funding normally used for travel and accommodation for funded participants to each Standing Group with an endorsed General Conference section.

We asked SGs to identify scholars in their community most in need of support to attend, so that we could waive their fee. This proved a popular move, reflecting the growing importance and integration of SGs and RNs into ECPR. It also meant that the number of funded places at the 2020 General Conference rose to 189, up from 29 the previous year. General Conference funding rose from £6k to £17k.

Prizes

We offer a broad range of prizes, which recognise service and achievement across the ECPR community. These prizes honour individuals at many stages of their careers, from distinguished senior scholars to exceptional PhD students

Prize	Awarded for	Winner
Jean Blondel PhD Prize	**Thesis** – *The Politics of Turning Coat: A Comparative and Historical Analysis of Party Switching*	**Elisa Volpi** University of Geneva
Mattei Dogan Prize	**A major contribution to the advancement of political sociology**	**Niilo Kauppi** Swedish School of Social Science of the University of Helsinki
Stein Rokkan Prize	**Book** – *The Wealth Effect: How the Great Expectations of the Middle Class Have Changed the Politics of Banking Crises*	**Jeffrey M. Chwieroth** London School of Economics and Political Science **Andrew Walter** University of Melbourne
Lifetime Achievement Award	**An outstanding contribution to European political science**	**David Miller** Nuffield College Oxford
Hedley Bull Prize in International Relations	**Book** – *Anatomies of Revolution*	**George Lawson** Australian National University
Rising Star Award	**An outstanding PhD student or early career researcher with exceptional talent and potential to become a leading light in the discipline**	**Veronica Anghel** Max Weber Fellow, European University Institute Research Fellow, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
Cora Maas Award	**Best-evaluated course at the Winter or Summer School** *Ethnographic Field Research Methods*	**Cai Wilkinson** University of Melbourne
Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award	**Outstanding pedagogy as a Teaching Assistant**	**Ameni Mehrez** Central European University **Alberto Stefanelli** KU Leuven

Inaugural Rising Star Award winner, Veronica Anghel

Monitoring success

We monitor our progress and achievements through key performance indicators in three income-generating areas

■ Membership

Since 2011–12 our membership had increased year on year, peaking in 2015–16 at 350. Subsequent years, however, have seen a gradual decline in member numbers. This downward trend continued in 2019–20, when we saw a fall to 320, from 331 the previous year.

A key priority for ECPR, therefore, is to understand why membership is declining, and what can be done to prevent further losses – not simply because of the impact it has on the organisation, but because with every institutional member lost, the individuals in that university lose out, too. ECPR aims to be a truly inclusive family, so this exclusion of some members of the community is concerning.

In autumn 2020 we distributed a membership survey to Official Representatives and to rank and file affiliates. We collated and analysed response data, then held a series of Workshops for Official Representatives throughout February 2021, in which key themes arising from the survey responses were explored further.

We will use the findings from the suvey and workshops to inform our operational and strategic policy over the coming year. These findings will also feed in to a larger piece of work looking at the future of ECPR's membership model.

■ Event participation

Attendance at our events can be seen as a strong indicator of the value and relevance of our programme. Overall, participant numbers fluctuate, particularly for the General Conference, which can experience a sharp rise in numbers depending on the location of the event. Hence the spike for Hamburg 2018 thanks to our very high membership in Germany.

Virtual events are quite different. They are dependent on the number of people willing and able to engage with the technology required to attend. This opens event attendance up to a new demographic of scholars who may not have been able to attend in-person events. It does, however, cut off access to those unable or unwilling to engage with the virtual format.

Our virtual events in 2020 did prove popular, although the Joint Sessions ran a greatly reduced programme. JS attendance dropped significantly, from 448 participants registed for our scheduled in-person event to just 87 for the online edition.

Attendance at the Summer Methods School and the General Conference, however, was up on 2019. Running a virtual General Conference also allowed us to introduce a new category – Observer registration – to attract participants interested in taking part without presenting their original research. These participants were able to sign up for the event at a significantly reduced rate. The initiative proved successful, generating 290 additional registrations.

■ Publications

We evaluate the success of the ECPR Press and the Comparative Politics book series by the number of new titles published and the number of books (across the full back list) sold in the year.

To evaluate the health of our journals, we use three key performance indicators:

- The **number of article submissions**, which shows the popularity of the journal as a publishing destination.
- The **rejection rate**, which shows the competitiveness/ benchmark to be accepted for publication given the quality of the article, and the available space in the journal volume vs demand.
- The **impact factor** (a calculation used to determine the value, quality and readership of a journal based on the number of citations its articles received in a given period of time).

Figures overleaf are for the calendar year. If an entry is missing, data has not been released at the time of publication.

Publications data

Key Performance Indicators for Membership numbers, 2016–2021

	2016–17		2017–18		2018–19		2019–20		2020–21
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Membership	345	340	345	338	345	331	345	320	340

Key Performance Indicators for participation numbers at events, 2017–2021

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
General Conference	1,500	2,006	1,500	2,463	1,846	1,801	1,850	2,214	2,000
Winter School	350	391	350	399	378	441	400	415	400
Summer School	250	345	300	348	308	379	350	493	400
Joint Sessions	400	393	400	460	407	448	425	87	400

Key Performance Indicators for book sales, 2016–2020

	ECPR Press		Oxford University Press Comparative Politics Series	
	New titles published	Units sold	New titles published	Units sold
2016	25	4500	3	1143
2017	9	3820	3	1276
2018	17	4257	4	1548
2019	11	2763	2	931
2020	7	TBC	4	840

Key Performance Indicators for journal publishing, 2016–2020

	European Journal of Political Research (including *PDY*)			*European Political Science*			*European Political Science Review*			*European Journal of International Relations*			*Political Research Exchange*		
	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor	Total submissions	Rejection rate	Impact Factor
2016	361	82.3%	2.891	86	41.86%	1.292	152	68%	1.722	381	90%	2.277			
2017	406	64.2%	3.576	77	60%	0.806	199	73%	1.755	375	89%	2.545			
2018	415	88.3%	3.066	100	59%	1.141	176	73%	1.545	365	90%	2.756	27	59%	
2019	433	95.6%	2.83	86	47.67%	1.429	197	74%	2.327	391	87%		43	44%	
2020*	519	90%		110	45.74%		230	83%					87	66%	

*2020 data is provisional, as not all manuscipts have completed the peer review process.
The 2019 figures have been updated to reflect decisions taken after submission of data to the previous report

Engaging with our community

Our community of scholars is diverse, both geographically and thematically – and also in the way in which it interacts with the ECPR and the services they expect from us. We therefore engage with different sections of our community throughout the year in a number of different ways

Digital engagement

At grassroots level, a large community engages with ECPR through social media, our website and e-marketing.

We have 21,500+ followers on Twitter and 10,364 receive our fortnightly e-bulletin and other organisational news.

We therefore have a large community engaging passively with us on a regular basis.

Event participants

Each year we welcome c3,000 scholars to our events, from the Methods School to the General Conference. A significant proportion of them are from member institutions, but the events are open to, and attended by, many non-members.

Our events are therefore a key tool for showcasing the value of membership to the wider community, especially to younger scholars.

Standing Groups and Research Networks – members

Each group has its own membership with whom it can communicate direct via the ECPR website. This channel enables networks to develop and grow, and for groups to share information about activities and events, thereby increasing engagement and participation. Across the 51 Standing Groups and five Research Networks, this totals around 16,635

individuals, from ECPR member and non-member institutions, who are interacting with the organisation in this context.

Standing Groups and Research Networks – Steering Committees

Each Standing Group and Research Network appoints a Steering Committee to run the group for a period of time. The size of these committees varies, but taken together constitutes a community of around 215 scholars engaged in a leadership and strategic function for ECPR.

In 2018 we established an annual Groups and Networks Retreat at Harbour House. Representatives from a number of groups were invited on an annual rotation in 2018 and 2019. They met with ECPR staff and Executive Committee members to receive important information and training around ECPR procedures and guidelines, and to learn about legal and regulatory matters pertaining to the running of their activities.

The event also offers chance for groups to share experiences and best practice, and to build community networks. Our 2020 Retreat took place virtually, with a reduced programme, but more participants, given that physical barriers to participation were removed. This innovative online event provided us with a valuable opportunity to engage with this key group of ECPR stakeholders.

Affiliates

The ECPR community comprises scholars affiliated to a member institution ('affiliates') and those whose institution does not hold ECPR membership. In the membership year 2019–20, 26,615 affiliates enjoyed access to member benefits.

Regular, positive engagement with this group is essential to understand how we can continue to meet the needs of the ECPR community, to retain and grow membership, and to ensure our members make the most of the existing benefits available to them.

Official Representatives

Each member institution appoints an Official Representative (OR) to act as a main point of contact with ECPR and to be a member of our governing Council. The OR role is critical to ensure continuation of membership each year, because they are often the main advocate for membership in their institution.

In autumn 2020 we launched a new initiative aimed at better understanding the needs of our membership and the role of ORs. This began with a membership survey and was followed by a series of OR Workshops in early 2021. The workshops were extremely well received and will form the basis for ongoing improvements in the way we communicate and engage with this important group.

Editors and publishers

The editorial teams for our publications are scholars from ECPR member institutions, appointed by the ECPR Publications Subcommittee. These scholars play a key role in shaping the content and output of our journals and book series, and in shaping the conversation across the discipline more generally.

We work closely with these scholars throughout the year and every spring we invite them to Harbour House for the Publications Retreat; a two-day event held since 2015. This provides an opportunity for the full editorial team for each publication to meet, including the editorial assistant and publisher, to review the progress of the past year and plan for the year to come. Each team presents its annual report to the Executive Committee, who use this as chance to discuss key contractual or financial issues with the publishers.

The Publications Retreat is a valuable opportunity to foster cross-publication projects and initiatives, to review working practices and key developments in scholarly publishing, and to strengthen this community of important stakeholders.

In 2020 the Publications Retreat took place virtually with a slightly reduced programme focussed primarily around receiving reports and other governance functions. We plan to hold the Retreat virtually again in 2021, with a full programme spread across a number of sessions.

Scholarly publishing is changing rapidly, so regular and effective communication with our publishing partners is vital to ensure we can take the actions necessary to keep pace. We work closely with our publishers day-to-day, at operational and strategic level.

Other organisations

We collaborate regularly with other scholarly societies working in the field of political science and international relations, who represent different geographies or approaches. This allows us to share best practice, experience and data, and to take part in collaborative events and activities.

There is a degree of crossover between our memberships, so collaboration allows us to develop and deliver a consistent and cohesive approach for the benefit of all our communities.

The environment around us

Brexit

The UK's 2016 referendum vote to leave the European Union caused uncertainty over how ECPR's day-to-day activities may be affected. But a UK-EU deal was reached only towards the end of 2020, and came into effect from January 2021. There was, therefore, little impact on ECPR in 2019–20. Our key Brexit-related concerns have been:

- How travel to events in the EU may be affected for UK-based staff and participants.
- The potential impact on exchange rates, if GBP recovers against the value of the Euro. This would affect the equivalent value of our costs (mostly generated in £) against our income (mostly generated in €).
- The impact on Data Protection regulations and our ability to share data gathered in the UK with people or organisations based in the EU.
- The cost of insurance, particularly travel insurance, which may increase.
- The availability of funding for our participants to attend our events from external means.
- Current VAT directives and how rules may change.

The largest area of concern has been in relation to VAT regulations; the situation is still evolving so whilst we have contingency plans in place, it has not yet been necessary to implement them.

Academic freedom

ECPR was founded on the principle that all member institutions should be politically free. As democracy grew across Europe, so did our membership. But recent times have seen a resurgence in authoritarianism, prompting the Executive Committee to examine the impact of potential restrictions to academic freedom on our members and their work.

We have released a number of statements over the past few years in defence of academic freedom, and have supported member institution Central European University Budapest in its struggles with the Hungarian government.

Scholars facing infringements or persecution can contact us via our dedicated Scholars at Risk email address. The 50th Anniversary Fund provides practical, financial support to those scholars facing restrictions who wish to attend our events.

The publishing landscape

Driven by the philosophy that publicly funded research should be available for all to read outside of a publisher's paywall, the open access movement continues to gather pace.

As a learned society, ECPR is in an invidious position. We represent academics who have long felt aggrieved by the degree to which publishers benefit financially from their labour, while at the same time we receive a significant income from our agreements with those same publishers.

While the ECPR is supportive in principle of the move to OA (indeed, we launched a new, fully OA journal in 2018) we have concerns about the suitability of Plan S for the social sciences and humanities and the potential barriers to publication this may impose for those scholars unable to access funds to publish.

We are also concerned about the impact on the income we receive from publishing agreements, because it supports other important ECPR activities such as event participant and Standing Group funding. We continue to work closely with our publishing partners and members to navigate the best path forward.

Climate change

Organising large-scale events that attract attendance from participants around the globe has a detrimental impact on the environment. This is an issue about which we have been concerned for some time. The pandemic forced us to consider how traditional in-person academic events might translate effectively into a digital environment, negating the need for travel.

Despite very positive feedback for our virtual events throughout 2020, a significant portion of the academic community is telling us that such online events cannot entirely replace in-person interaction. Demand for physical events is, therefore, likely to remain.

ECPR must now consider carefully how we can apply learnings from 2020 to offer a range of events across in-person, virtual and hybrid platforms that continue to meet the needs of the profession, while reducing the overall impact on the planet.

Operating responsibly

Supporting our volunteers

Volunteers are defined as people who conduct work on behalf of ECPR without financial reward. Currently, we define Standing Group and Research Network Steering Committee members, along with Associate Editors of *PRX* journal, as volunteers.

We recognise the contribution of this group to meeting the mission of the organisation and we aim to support them in several ways. These include opportunities to meet with staff and trustees; reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses; clear guidance documents; and advice and training.

Complaints Handling Policy

We work hard to ensure we always deliver the best service to our members and affiliates. To support this effort we have developed a Complaints Handling Policy to allow us to receive, review and take action on any concerns raised.

The procedures around complaints were reviewed and strengthened in 2020 and linked into the Code of Conduct, which was also expanded to make it more robust and enforceable.

Complaints can now be made in person, over the phone or via a dedicated confidential email address: **complaints@ecpr.eu.** Once received, complaints are processed by our Management Group or Director.

Staff wellbeing

Our staff at ECPR's Colchester headquarters work hard to deliver an extensive range of benefits and services to a large community of scholars across the world. We are therefore committed to providing a healthy and enjoyable working environment for them all.

Staff have been based at Harbour House since 2015, which provides not only a headquarters for the organisation but also a comfortable and well-equipped working environment. Staff benefit from flexible working, so they can work the hours that suit their own personal situations and staff required to work additional hours at times of high workload, can accrue time off in lieu in addition to the standard 25 days annual leave plus Bank Holidays.

Over time, ECPR has developed infrastructure and working practices to enable remote working, either while attending an event or meeting, or when staff need to remain at home. When the pandemic hit, this enabled all staff to transition quickly and effectively to full-time homeworking.

We ensured staff had access to all equipment and physical resources needed to manage their work, and devoted considerable time and resource to supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of all staff. To do so we drew on existing policies, the expertise of our two trained Mental Health First Aiders, and the free counselling service available to staff via the benefits package.

Practical initiatives include regular team and all-staff social meetings, and a daily no-contact hour to give staff a period during which they can relax and switch off from their work, perhaps to take some exercise or spend time with their families.

Much of what has been learned during the pandemic can be applied as we move back into more normal life, including a longer-term flexible approach to home working once a return to the office is permitted.

Many ECPR staff are required to travel within and outside the UK as part of their role. We have developed a number of policies to support their health and wellbeing when working away. While travelling for ECPR business, all necessary costs incurred by staff are reimbursed.

We provide a defined contribution pension scheme for all employees, to which ECPR doubles any contribution made by staff, by up to 16% of their salary. ECPR is committed to paying employees fairly and in line with market rates. Employees receive an annual cost of living increase based on the UK Consumer Prices Index.

Staff are provided with a benefits package which includes shopping discounts, reduced-price train tickets, spreading the cost of technology, childcare and vehicles, access to over a thousand e-learning modules and courses, free coffee and movies, and discounts on gym memberships.

Procurement and sustainability

We have adopted a Procurement Policy which seeks to balance the need to protect ECPR resources by achieving value for money, against factors such as sustainability and supplier values. The policy seeks to achieve this balance by requiring any trustee, volunteer or member of staff considering a purchase to evaluate the following criteria when considering a purchase: price of product, quality of product, ability of product to fulfil the charity's need, supplier's reputation, range of products, service, delivery ability and sustainability principles.

For large purchases or long-term supplies, formal quotes and tenders are sought from at least two competitors. Those made by charities or other not-for-profit organisations, and which are local to our headquarters or event host (whichever is more appropriate), are considered favourably.

Risk management

We regularly evaluate the risks facing the organisation through the Risk Register, which then informs the degree of reserves required to sustain the business in the event of one or more of these factors materialising.

Previously, the Brexit risk was graded 'Very high'. This has now reduced as the situation has become more stable, with a deal in place. The situation, however, is ever-changing. We continue to monitor it, and to develop contingency plans.

Exchange rate volatility was previously categorised as 'Likely', but this has been downgraded to 'Minimal' because it does not seem likely that it will have a significant impact in the short-term future.

The risk of loss of members has been upgraded from 'Very Low' to Medium, given that membership does seem to be following a downward trend, which will likely be exacerbated by the impact of the pandemic on university budgets.

The cancellation of 2021 events is rated as a 'Medium' risk. Although all core ECPR events have been cancelled in the live format, they will all still take place virtually, so the mitigation brings the Net Risk rating down to a tolerable level.

A new risk, for Covid-19, has been added. Also considered is the possibility that although we may once again hold in-person events, actual attendance numbers may fall significantly if participants are unable to travel because they have not yet been vaccinated. Vaccination policies are likely to vary from country to country.

The EC is responsible for adopting the annual budget and ensuring our accounts are properly audited. Day-to-day management of our income and expenditure lies with operational staff, specifically, our Finance Department and Management Group, with regular oversight by the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee.

Reserves policy

The ECPR aims to maintain reserves equivalent to the risks identified in the Risk Register. At the end of the 2019–20 year, liquid reserves were £1.4m.

The 2019–20 Risk Register, as at February 2021, identified a Net Reserves Goal of £1.7m (down from £3.4m) so the reserves held were at 80% of target (as per the net current assets total).

Current principal ongoing or 'standing' risks faced by ECPR

Risk	Brexit	Exchange rate volatility	Loss of members	Cancellation of 2021 events	Vaccination programmes for COVID-19 not progressing enough to allow travel to 2022 events
Impact	Risk of having to seek re-clarification of our VAT position in EU countries, increased VAT costs for countries that were exempt, increasing travel costs e.g. insurance/visas	GBP value increasing against Euro increases post-Brexit	Reduction in subscription income	Cancellation due to global event which results in loss of income due to refunds	Events are planned to be held in person but attendance numbers decline as a result of individuals from other countries not being able to travel
Mitigation	Evaluation of possible impact and identification of mitigating actions	Monitoring and potentially sourcing as much in the UK as possible if costs do rise due to declining GBP	Monitoring news re political situation and marketing campaigns	Monitoring the Covid-19 situation and holding digital/ hybrid events instead	Monitor the news and the situation as it evolves
Net risk rating	Minimal	Minimal	Medium	Medium	Likely

Financial review

Income

Our four primary income streams are:

- Registration income from the annual General Conference
- Membership subscriptions
- Publications income, of which the majority is produced by the *European Journal of Political Research*
- Methods School registration income

Overall, income in 2019–20 dropped by 13.2%, from £2.1m in 2018–19 to £1.9m. Income from publications remained stable, at £439k:

Broken down across our portfolio of journals and book series:

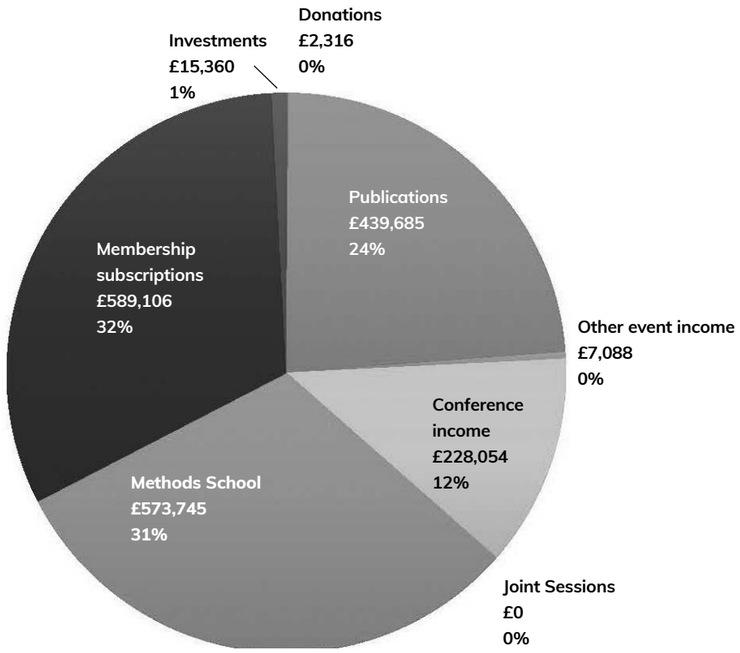
- ECPR Press income dropped by 121% to a deficit of £7k .This is because income that was accrued for at the end of the previous budget year, and should have been received in the period, was not received. The decision was taken not to accrue for any future royalty payments because the contract with publishers Rowman & Littlefield is under review, and it cannot be guaranteed that income due will be received.
- *EJPR* income increased slightly by 3.9% to £296k.
- *EPS* income rose by 51.2% to £79k, largely because it was included in Springer's package, increasing readership and access.
- *EPSR* income increased by 19.4% to £42k.
- *EJIR* income increased by 13.9% to £18k.
- *PRX* recorded income reduced by 33.2% to £9k.

Event income decreased from £1m in 2018–19 to £808k in 2019–20.

- **General Conference income** reduced by 50.7% to £228k. This was because significantly lower fees were charged to attend the 2020 virtual event than were charged to attend the in-person event in Wrocław, in 2019.
- **Joint Sessions income** reduced by 100% to £0 because no fees were charged to attend the virtual event.
- **Methods School income** rose by 7.6% to £573k. Winter School income reduced by 14.5% to £265k and attendance numbers dropped by 5.9%. But Summer School income increased by 38.6%, to £308k, and attendance grew by 30.1%.

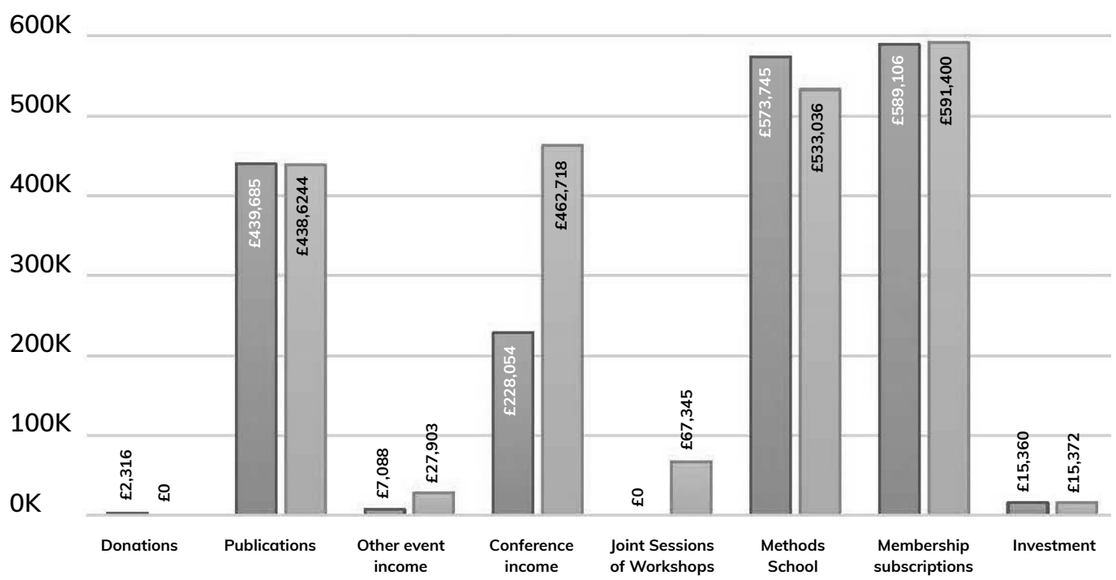
Income summary

Breakdown of income received in 2019–2020



Income compared to prior year

Variance 2019–2020 income against previous year



- **Other event income**, which includes income from Standing Group events, was down 74.6% to £7k. This is simply because far fewer events took place in 2020 amid the pandemic.

Other income remained fairly stable:

- **Membership subscription income** reduced slightly by 0.4% to £589k.
- **Investment income** dropped slightly by 0.1%, so remained £15k.
- We began generating income from donations for our **50th Anniversary Fund** and for **donations made to Standing Groups**, which amounted to £2k.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure decreased by 8% in this period.

■ **Expenditure on raising funds** (membership subscriptions) increased by 19.9% from £21k to £23k, but this was largely due to an accounting change in how these costs are analysed.

■ **Expenditure on publications** increased by 71.1% to £194k. This was in part due to an expenditure item that was not accrued for in the previous period: a change in payment terms for editors which meant they received additional payments in the period. There was also a change in the allocation of staffing costs.

■ **Conference expenditure** decreased by 78.9% to £49k because the event was held virtually.

■ **Methods School expenditure** decreased by 2.6% to £471k. Cost savings were made by holding the Summer School virtually rather than in person.

■ **Joint Sessions expenditure** decreased by 22.5% to £32k. This was also due to the event taking place virtually rather than in person.

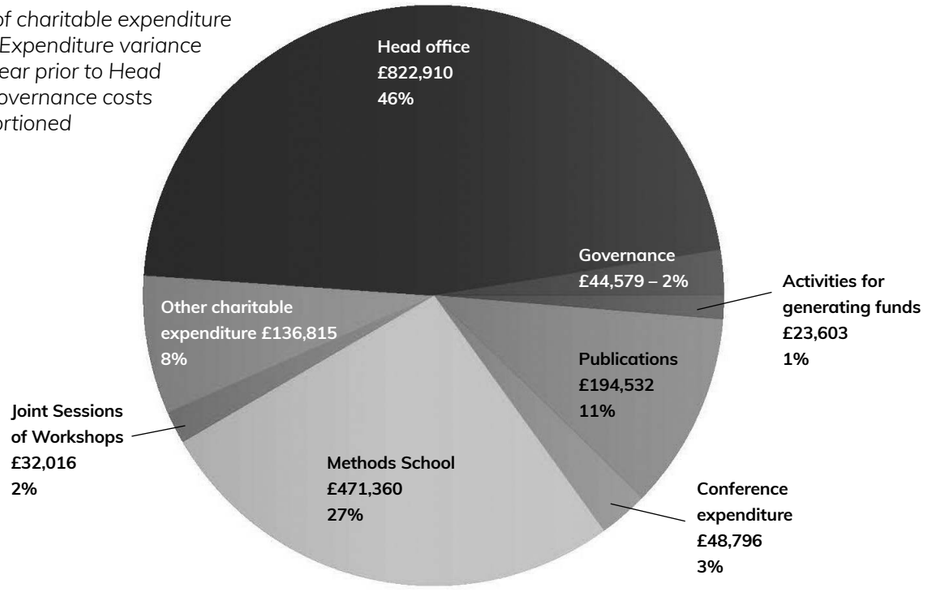
■ **Other charitable expenditure**, which includes Standing Groups and Research Networks, fell by 19.5% to £136k. Again, this was due to fewer events being held amid the pandemic.

■ **Head Office costs** rose by 10.6% to £822k. Staffing increased during the period, and equipment and software had to be purchased to enable the workforce to operate from home.

■ **Governance costs** decreased by 64.1% from £124k to £44k, mainly because the EC did not travel to any in-person meetings during the period.

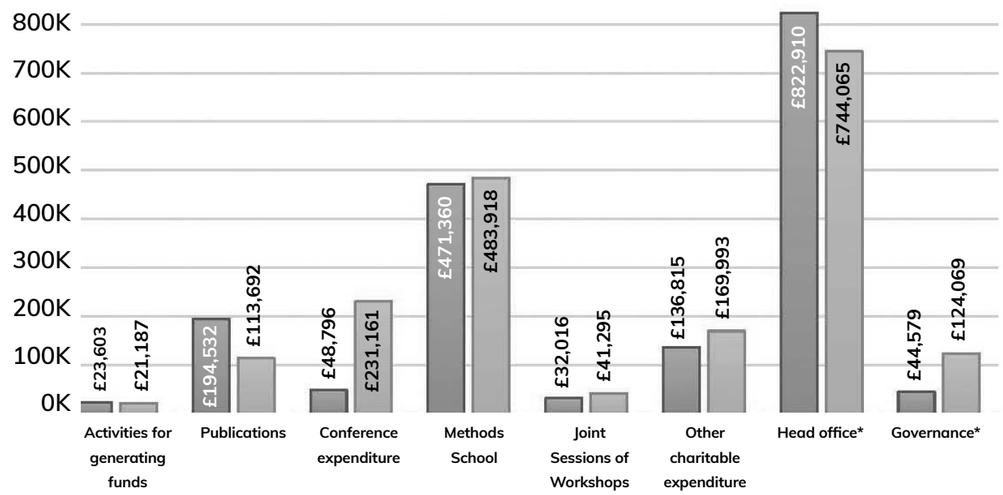
Expenditure summary

Breakdown of charitable expenditure 2019–2020. Expenditure variance to previous year prior to Head Office and Governance costs being reapportioned



Expenditure compared to prior year

Expenditure variance to previous year prior to Head Office and Governance costs being reapportioned



* Within the financial statements, governance and head office costs are apportioned to the charitable activities.

■ Current year expenditure ■ Prior year expenditure

Surplus and deficit

- **Overall surplus** reduced by 67.6% from £267k to £86k.
- **Surplus from publications** was down 77.6% to £52k
- **Membership surplus** decreased by 1.8% to £543k
- The **Joint Sessions deficit** increased by 710.1% to -£62k
- The **General Conference surplus** increased by 212.4% to £133k
- The **Methods School deficit** increased by 0.5% to -£348k. The Summer School reduced its deficit by 41.6% to -£127k and the Winter School increased its deficit by 71.5% to -£221k
- **Other charitable activities**, including Standing Groups and Research Networks, donations and investments increased their deficit by 15.1% to -£237k. The biggest factor was the difference in investment gains, which dropped by 90.6%, from £60k to £5k

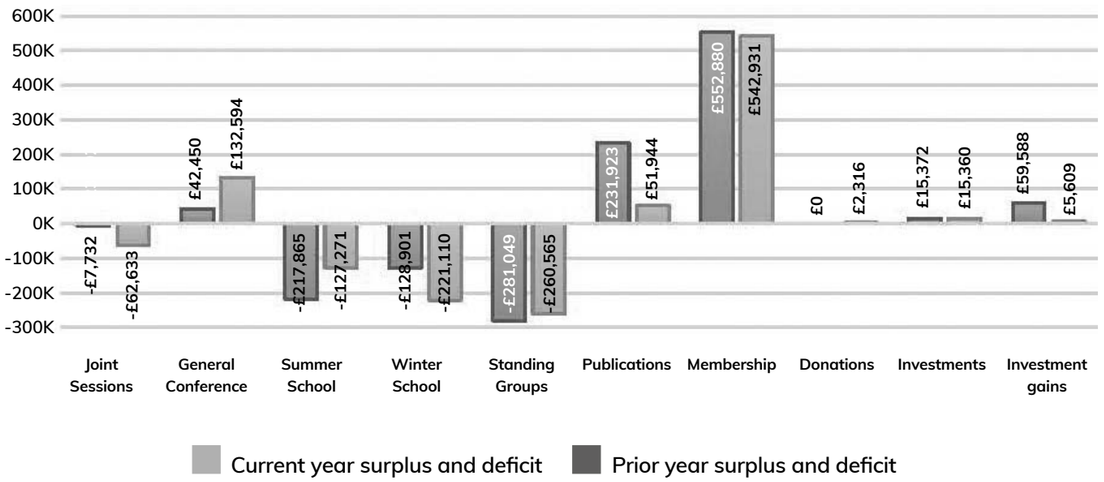
Investment policy and performance

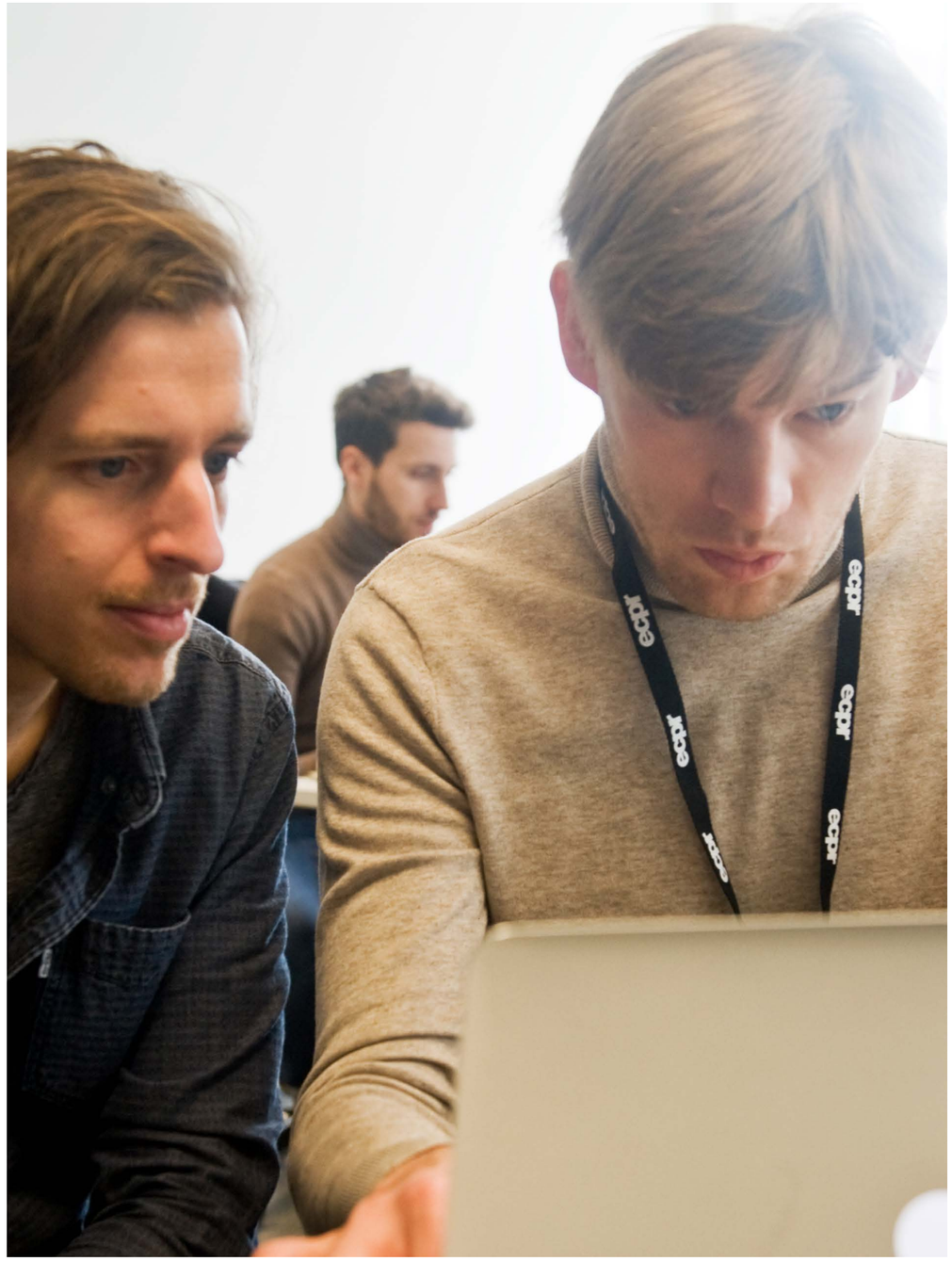
When we make a surplus, we use this money to build reserves which can be called upon to keep the organisation functioning should it meet any of the risks highlighted by our Risk Register.

Following a review by the Executive Committee in 2017 we transferred £855k to Vanguard Investments UK Limited, split 50/50 across two funds: Vanguard LifeStrategy 40% Equity Fund and Vanguard LifeStrategy 60% Equity Fund. These index-tracking funds tend to be less volatile than active funds and attract lower management costs, of 0.24%.

By the end of the 2019–20 financial year our total investment portfolio was valued at £975k compared to £954k in 2018–19: a rise of 2.1%. There was a gain on the valuation of the portfolio of £6k and a dividend accumulated of £15k.

Surplus for all activities





Structure, governance, and management

Organisation and control

ECPR is governed by its board of trustees, the Executive Committee (EC). Day-to-day operational management is delegated to the Director and Management Group. The EC is responsible for ensuring ECPR acts solely to further its charitable objectives and that it reports to Council, made up of Official Representatives from member institutions.

ECPR activities are divided into six portfolios of work, each with a Subcommittee comprising two to three members of the EC plus the Chair and Vice Chair. The Director, a Manager and their staff work with Subcommittees day-to-day to operationalise EC decisions. Subcommittees have decision-making authority delegated to them via a Scheme of Delegation. They bring key items to the EC in plenary twice a year for decision and strategic discussion.

Trustee induction, recruitment and training

Exectuive Committee members are appointed by election every three years. Six newly elected members join six ongoing members to form a new EC which takes office on 1 May. Individuals affiliated with ECPR member institutions are eligible for election, and the Official Representatives of full member institutions are eligible to vote.

New EC members undergo a thorough induction and welcome process that ensures they are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities as charity trustees. Training is given in the form of presentations, guides and handbooks and online tutorials.

Staff at Harbour House in Colchester

Employed 1 October 2019 – 30 September 2020

Director

Tanja Munro

Management Group

Rebecca Gethen
Communications Manager
Mark Kench
IT Manager
Helen Morgan
Finance Manager
Rebecca Lock
Events Manager
until March 2020
Nirusha Vigi
Events Manager
from May 2020

Communications

Rebecca Gethen Manager
Mary Cenci
Editorial Assistant
Helen Cooper
Communications Officer
Kate Hawkins Marketing & Communications Officer
Olga Dovzhanchuk
Events Marketing Coordinator
Rebecca Delve
Communications Assistant
from September 2020

Events

Rebecca Lock Events Manager
until March 2020
Nirusha Vigi Events Manager
from May 2020
Anna Foley
Events Coordinator
Louise Soper Events Coordinator *until March 2020*
Marcia Taylor
Events Coordinator
Diane Towler
Events Coordinator
Alexandra Turner Events Assistant *from September 2020*

Finance

Helen Morgan Manager
Shaun Klotia-Clottey
Sales & Purchase Ledger
Finance Assistant
Bianca Taylor
Finance Assistant

Operations

Kim Jesney Administrator

IT and Website

Mark Kench Manager
James Freke Developer
from July 2020
Antoni Christodoulou
Junior Web Developer
Richard Lay-Flurrie
Junior Web Developer
Colin McPhie
Systems Administrator

Trustees for the period 2018 – 2021

Kris Deschouwer Chair;
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

■ Political parties and elections, political representation, regionalism and federalism, and consociational democracy.

Mary Farrell Vice Chair, Publications Subcommittee; Independent Scholar

■ Political and policy processes in global governance, the UN in global politics and policy, EU external relations.

David Farrell Finance Subcommittee Chair and Organisation Subcommittee;
University College Dublin

■ Representation, elections and parties, constitutional deliberation.

Giliberto Capano Publications Subcommittee; University of Bologna

■ Comparative higher education policy, policy design and policy instruments, and the role of agents in public policy.

Maurizio Carbone Publications Subcommittee; University of Glasgow

■ EU external relations, particularly foreign aid and development-related policies such as trade, security and foreign affairs.

Reuven Y. Hazan Finance Subcommittee; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

■ Comparative democracies in general but particularly parties and party systems, legislative studies, and electoral systems.

Petri Koikkalainen Training Subcommittee; University of Lapland

■ Political theory, governance, the history of political thought and contemporary political history of northern Europe.

Hana Kubátová Events Subcommittee; Charles University in Prague

■ Majority-minority relations in wartime and postwar Slovakia, identity construction, and microdynamics of (ethnic) violence.

Petra Meier Training Subcommittee; University of Antwerp

■ Gender politics and policies; democracy and representation; electoral inclusiveness; inequality in multi-level systems.

Thomas Saalfeld Organisation Subcommittee; University of Bamberg

■ Representation of citizens of immigrant origin, legislative behaviour, legislative organisation, parliamentary accountability.

Sabine Saurugger Training Subcommittee; Sciences Po Grenoble

■ Public policy, comparative politics, interest groups, European integration, European public policies and the politics of law.

Anna M. Sroka Events Subcommittee; University of Warsaw

■ The quality of democracy, mechanisms for democratic accountability, political corruption.

Administrative information

Principal Office

Harbour House
6–8 Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex CO2 8JF

Registered Charity Number

1167403 CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Website

http://ecpr.eu/

Auditors

Scrutton Bland LLP
Chartered Accountants
820 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YQ

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
35 Princes Street
Ipswich IP1 1AE

Solicitors

Birkett Long LLP
Faviell House
1 Coval Wells
Chelmsford CM1 1WZ

Investment Managers

Vanguard Investments
UK Limited
PO Box 10315
Chelmsford CM99 2AT

Key management remuneration

All EC members give their time freely and no remuneration was paid to them in the year. Trustees are paid travelling and subsistence expenses when they are working away on ECPR business. Accommodation is usually organised and paid for by the ECPR. The Chair's institution is given financial support to provide cover for their absence while they are serving their term of office.

No remuneration is made to serving EC members or to ECPR volunteers without the express approval of the EC, and in line with Charity Commission for England and Wales regulations.

Staff Remuneration Policy

As a UK registered charity, the ECPR seeks to ensure that:

- staff are paid fairly, in line with local market rates, appropriately for their level of responsibility and in line with the pay of colleagues who perform similar tasks;
- staff salaries are awarded based on skills and experience and are free from discrimination;
- we comply with our obligation to expend our incoming resources responsibly;
- there is transparency in all aspects of our operations.

To achieve the above goals, we must balance the need to ensure value for money when expending the Charity's resources with the need to recruit and retain the best people for the job.

The EC is responsible for setting management pay, including that of the Director, usually by delegation to the Management Subcommittee; the EC is also responsible for the recruitment and appointment of the Director. Staff are awarded an annual cost of living pay increase, which is also approved by the EC.

Conflicts of Interest Policy

ECPR Trustees have a legal duty to ensure they always act in ECPR's best interest when making decisions. It is a legal requirement that Trustees report a potential conflict of interest as soon as it arises. A conflict of interest would arise if:

- a Trustee could benefit financially from a decision over which they have influence, whether directly or indirectly through a personal connection;
- a Trustee's loyalty to the ECPR conflicted with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person.

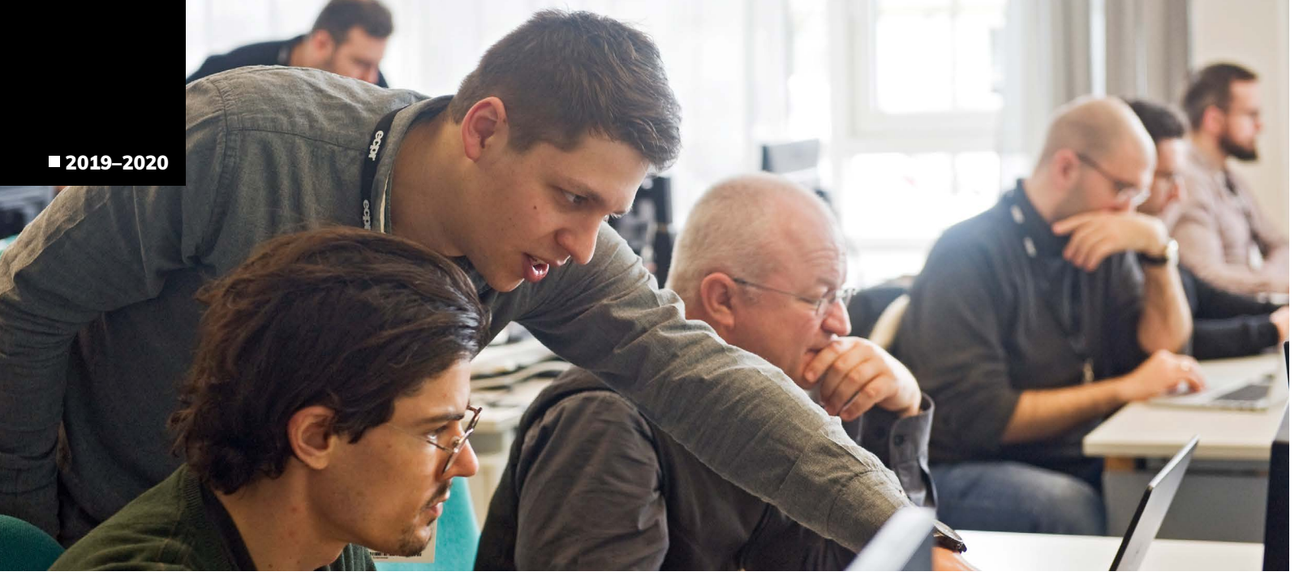
Conflicts of interest are common in charities, so we adopted practices aimed at reducing the risk of:

- making decisions that could be overturned;
- risking the ECPR's reputation;
- Trustees having to repay ECPR for unauthorised payments.

ECPR has adopted the following practices to safeguard against the above risks occurring:

- clauses 7.8 and 8 of the ECPR Constitution;
- implementation of a Register of Interests, which is updated annually with appropriate procedures for managing conflicts.

Where Trustees delegate their decision-making powers to staff members under the terms of the organisation's Scheme of Delegation, those staff are also expected to declare any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from any discussions.



Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

As a group of Trustees, the EC is responsible for preparing its Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the EC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

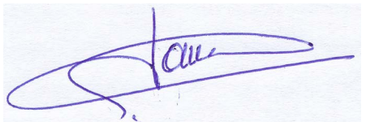
The EC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of ECPR's Constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the EC is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditor is unaware;
- it has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The EC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Executive Committee
29 March 2021



On behalf of the Executive Committee
29 March 2021

scruttonbland

Independent Auditor's Report

Scrutton Bland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the ECPR (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2020, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 30 September 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs [UK]) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the ECPR in accordance with the ethical requirements relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Executive Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Executive Committee has not disclosed in the financial statements any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for at least 12 months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, to consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Executive Committee is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature and approval

29 March 2021, Timothy O'Connor (Senior Statutory Auditor)
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor, 820 The Crescent, Colchester Business Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 9YQ

Scrutton Bland LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 30 September 2020

The notes on pages 38–43 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Income from			
Donations		**2,316**	0
Charitable activities	2	**1,248,572**	1,529,626
Subscriptions from members	3	**589,106**	591,400
Investments	4	**15,360**	15,372
Total income		**1,855,354**	2,136,398
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	6	**46,175**	38,520
Charitable activities	7	**1,728,438**	1,890,800
Total expenditure		**1,774,613**	1,929,320
Realised and unrealised investment gains		**5,609**	59,588
Net income and net movement in funds for the year		**86,350**	266,666
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		**2,734,507**	2,467,841
Total funds carried forward		**2,820,857**	2,734,507

Continuing operations
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Total recognised gains and losses
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Funds
All of the income, expenditure and gains for the last two financial periods relate to unrestricted funds.

Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	**405,348**	416,386
Investments	12	**975,892**	955,468
		1,381,240	1,371,854
Current assets			
Debtors	13	**415,699**	395,673
Cash and cash equivalents	14	**1,900,487**	1,854,995
		2,316,186	2,250,668
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(876,569)**	(888,015)
Net current assets		**1,439,617**	1,362,653
Net assets		**2,820,857**	2,734,507
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**2,820,857**	2,734,507

On behalf of the Executive Committee
29 March 2021

On behalf of the Executive Committee
29 March 2021

Statement of cashflows

Period ended 30 September 2020

The notes on pages 40–45 form part of these financial statements

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income for the year		**86,350**	266,666
Adjusted for			
Depreciation of tangible assets		**14,460**	17,785
Unrealised investment gain		**(5,609)**	(59,598)
Dividend accumulated in fund		**(14,815)**	(13,749)
Interest received		**(538)**	(1,485)
Other investment income		**(7)**	(128)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		**(20,026)**	26,544
(Decrease) in creditors		**(11,446)**	(131,193)
Net cash generated from operating activities		**48,369**	104,842
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		**538**	1,485
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(3,422)**	(4,074)
Other investment income		**7**	128
Net cash used in investing activities		**(2,877)**	(2,461)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**45,492**	102,381
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		**1,854,995**	1,752,614
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**14**	**1,900,487**	1,854,995

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued March 2018.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1 and are prepared in sterling.

b. Going concern

Having considered the Charity's forecasts and projections, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements. For this reason the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. The Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties with regard to going concern.

c. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from subscriptions from members is accounted for in the year to which they relate.

Income from publications in the form of royalties is received in relation to the journals. Royalty income is accounted for in the year that it becomes receivable, which is when the publication is sold.

Income from conferences is accounted for in the year in which the conference occurs.

d. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Reserves are targeted to be approximately 12 months' regular expenditure.

f. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading, including investment management and its associated costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of publications, the Methods School, conferences and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Governance costs represent the costs of governance arrangements and include costs associated with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but are not directly attributable to charitable activities. Support costs represent costs attributable to the management of the charity's assets and organisational administration. These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on the proportion of direct costs which relate to each activity. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

h. Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences arising in the normal course of trading are dealt with in the statement of financial activities for the year

i. Fixed assets

Individual assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

- Freehold buildings between 2% and 10% per annum.
- Office and IT equipment 25%
- Freehold land is not depreciated.

j. Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are calculated based on the market value at which the investments are recorded in the financial statements and are shown on the face of the statement of financial activities.

k. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

l. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account.

m. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

n. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o. Taxation

European Consortium for Political Research is a charity within the meaning of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity for tax purposes in line with Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly European Consortium for Political Research is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to its charitable purposes.

p. Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Charity has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity in independently administered funds.

q. Significant judgements and estimates

The more significant judgements and estimates involved in the preparation of the financial statements include assessing the depreciation rates applicable to tangible fixed assets and the way in which certain costs should be apportioned. Further details regarding these points are included within the accounting policies.

2019–2020

2. Income from charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Publications (note 5)	**439,685**	438,624
Conference income	**228,054**	462,718
Other event income	**7,088**	27,903
Joint Sessions income	**-**	67,345
Methods School income	**573,745**	533,036
Total	**1,248,572**	1,529,626

Income from charitable activities can be further analysed as:

	2020 £	2019 £
Income from rendering of services	**808,887**	1,091,002
Income from royalties	**439,685**	438,624
Total	**1,248,572**	1,529,626

3. Subscription from Members

	2020 £	2019 £
Subscription from members	**589,106**	591,400

100% of the subscriptions from members – £589,106 (2019 : £591,400) relates to the provision of services.

4. Investment income

	2020 £	2019 £
Income from fixed-asset investments	**14,822**	13,887
Bank interest receivable	**538**	1,485
Total	**15,360**	15,372

5. Publications income

	2020 £	2019 £
ECPR Press	**(7,147)**	34,080
European Journal of Political Research	**296,700**	285,440
European Political Science (journal)	**79,535**	52,593
Palgrave / Sage / OUP	**536**	675
European Political Science Review (journal)	**41,912**	35,093
European Journal of International Relations	**18,406**	16,163
Political Research Exchange (journal)	**9,743**	14,580
Total	**439,685**	438,624

6. Fundraising expenditure

	2020 £	2019 £
Directly attributable activities for generating funds	**23,603**	21,187
Support costs allocated	**22,572**	17,333
Total	**46,175**	38,520

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs £	Direct wages £	Allocated £	2020 £	2019 £
Publications	142,661	51,872	186,033	**380,566**	206,701
Conference expenditure	22,864	25,932	46,664	**95,460**	420,268
Other event expenditure	-	19,322	18,478	**37,800**	1,438
Standing Groups & Research Networks	34,207	83,438	112,505	**230,150**	307,514
Methods School	361,885	109,323	450,621	**922,829**	879,802
Joint Sessions of Workshops	12,527	19,489	30,617	**62,633**	75,078
Total	574,144	309,376	844,918	**1,728,438**	1,890,800

8. Support costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Office costs	409,293	387,891
Staff salaries and wages	458,197	480,243
Total	**867,490**	868,134

Total support costs are made up of the expenditure for generating funds in note 6 of £22,572 (2019 : £17,333) and the expenditure on charitable activities in note 7 of £844,918 (2019 : £850,801).

Basis of allocation

Support costs have been allocated against charitable activities in line with the percentage of other expenditure directly attributable to the activity as follows:

	Support cost per activity %	Support cost per activity £	Direct cost per activity £
Subscriptions – Allocated	2.60	22,572	–
Subscriptions – Direct costs	–	–	23,603
Publications – Allocated	21.44	186,033	–
Publications – Direct costs	–	–	194,533
Conferences – Allocated	5.38	46,664	–
Conferences – Direct costs	–	–	48,796
Other event expenditure – Allocated	2.13	18,478	–
Other event expenditure – Direct costs	–	–	19,170
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Allocated	12.97	112,505	–
Standing Groups & Research Networks – Direct costs	–	–	117,645
Methods School – Allocated	51.95	450,621	–
Methods School – Direct costs	–	–	471,360
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Allocated	3.53	30,617	–
Joint Sessions of Workshops – Direct costs	–		32,016
Total	**100.00**	**867,490**	**907,123**

Included within support costs are £44,579 (2019 : £124,069) of expenditure which relates to governance costs. This is broken down as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Executive Committee expenses, and Director remuneration	**30,169**	110,394
Audit fee (note 10)	**14,410**	13,675
Total	**44,579**	124,069

All members of the Executive Committee are reimbursed travelling and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their duties.

During the year reimbursed expenses amounted to £8,166 (2019 : £34,456); this amount is included within governance costs. No emoluments have been paid to any member of the Executive Committee.

In the prior year, the Director and Chair were contractually employed and paid by universities who are not related to the ECPR. ECPR reimbursed their respective employers at an agreed percentage of their employment costs, which totalled £nil for the year (2019 : £75,938).

9. Staff costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	**642,859**	637,577
Social security costs	**57,750**	56,976
Pension costs	**84,254**	81,336
	784,863	775,889
Directly attributable wages (note 7)	**309,376**	295,646
Total wages cost to be included in support costs allocation (note 8)	**475,487**	480,243

The average number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

Management and administration of the Charity	**19**	20

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Executive Committee and the directors who held the position in the year.

The total employment benefits including employer's pension contributions of key management personnel were £71,865 (2019 : £56,080). One employee had employment benefits in excess of £60,000.

10. Audit fee

	2020 £	2019 £
Auditors' remuneration in respect of audit services	**13,300**	13,300
Auditors' remuneration in respect of tax and other advisory services	**1,110**	375
Total	**14,410**	13,675

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office and IT equipment £	Freehold land and buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2019	16,317	446,739	463,056
Additions	3,422	–	3,422
At 30 September 2020	**19,739**	**446,739**	**466,478**
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2019	6,631	40,039	46,670
Charge for year	4,669	9,791	14,460
At 30 September 2020	**11,300**	**49,830**	**61,130**
Net book value			
At 30 September 2020	**8,439**	**396,909**	**405,348**
At 1 October 2019	9,686	406,700	416,386

12. Investments

Assets held for charity use and to provide investment return	2020 £	2019 £
Banco Santander shares	**1,135**	1,135
Funds held with Vanguard Investment UK, Limited	**974,757**	954,333
Total	**975,892**	955,468

The movement in the year is as follows	2020 £	2019 £
Market value as at 1 October 2019	**955,468**	882,121
Gain on valuation	**5,609**	59,598
Dividend accumulated in fund	**14,815**	13,749
Market value as at 30 September 2020	**975,892**	955,468

The investments shown above comprise UK and overseas investments. Below are investment holdings by category:	2020 £	2019 £
Managed funds	**975,892**	955,468

The managed funds with Vanguard relate to two Vanguard LifeStrategy funds. The LifeStrategy 40% equity fund is made up of 40% equity and 60% bonds. The LifeStrategy 60% equity fund is made up of 60% equity and 40% bonds. The investments are split equally between the two managed funds.

13. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors (including subscriptions due)	**241,866**	276,261
Other debtors	**149,541**	96,514
Prepayments		
Conferences	**17,072**	15,519
Insurance	**6,126**	6,302
Rates	**1,094**	1,077
Total prepayments	**24,292**	**22,898**
Total debtors	**415,699**	395,673

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following items for the purpose of the Statement of cash flows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Total cash and cash equivalents	**1,900,487**	1,854,995

15. Creditors

	2020 £	2019 £
Deferred income	671,042	674,703
Accruals	131,295	88,300
Trade creditors	12,640	80,226
Other taxation and Social Security	56,039	38,007
Credit card	5,553	6,779
Total	**876,569**	**888,014**

Amounts invoiced in advance represent income in respect of future events, subscription income from members where the subscription year starts on 1 October 2020 and publications income for the three-month period to 31 December 2020.

16. Financial instruments

	2020 £	2019 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	**391,407**	372,775
Financial assets measured at fair value	**975,892**	955,468
Total	**1,367,299**	1,328,243
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	**130,635**	155,226

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors.

Financial assets measured at fair value comprise listed investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise accruals and trade creditors.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the ECPR are the members of the Executive Committee. The ECPR is controlled by its Executive Committee. No other transactions were identified which should be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

A year like no other

Amid the post-pandemic landscape, in which the insights offered by political science are more valuable than ever, ECPR will continue its mission to serve the academic community. We will forge ahead, building spaces for our members, providing stability and a sense of kinship in a rapidly changing and uncertain world.

2019–2020

Encouraging the training, research, and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

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