

## **Guidelines for the Elections of ESIL Interest Group Conveners**

### **A. Background/framework:**

The IG Policy Guidance requires elections for IG conveners (“the Coordinating Committee”) to be held at intervals of no longer than two years and the elections must allow for the effective participation of all members of the group. The Coordinating Committee should be composed of at least three members.

For newly established Interest Groups, the initiators may provisionally function as the Coordinating Committee and conduct the business of the group for the first year. During this time, an election shall be held.

In the past, some groups have experienced logistical and practical difficulties in running the elections for a Coordinating Committee. During the breakfast meeting held in Oslo in September 2015, the ESIL Board proposed to the IG conveners that the ESIL Secretariat organises the elections. This administrative assistance was welcomed by the IG conveners present at that meeting.

### **B. General Conditions for Elections:**

The term of office for IG conveners can be two or four years (it is for each IG to decide).

If the term is established for two years, all IG conveners will be renewed at each election. If the term lasts four years, elections should be held every two years to partially renew the IG leadership.

There is no limit to the number of mandates, and IG conveners can be re-elected indefinitely.

### **C. Options for the Elections:**

In principle, all members of IGs can stand for election and all members of IGs can vote. However, in view of the large number of members of some groups, IGs may define criteria that would restrict the number of candidates that can stand for elections. Examples of such criteria are prior involvement in IG activities, three supporting signatures, etc. Each IG can determine such conditions subject to the approval of the Board.

### **D. Conduct of the Elections and Communication of the Results**

#### **Elections will be held as follows:**

1. The ESIL Secretariat will send a **call for candidates** to all IG members. If applicable, candidates are required to present proof that they comply with the eligibility criteria as previously established by the group (e.g. provide supporting signatures, detail their previous involvement in IG activities, etc.)

The call for candidates will allow at least 2 weeks for members to put forward their candidature.

2. Having – formally – checked the eligibility of the candidates, the ESIL Secretariat will inform the IG conveners of the total number of candidates.
3. If the number of candidates equals the number of slots, no elections will be held.
4. If there are more candidates than slots, **online voting** will be conducted. IG members will be given a minimum of 1 week to make their choice. The maximum number of votes should not exceed the number of available slots (i.e. 3 slots, maximum of 3 candidates to be voted for).
5. The **results** will be sent to all the candidates and to the IG conveners. Thereafter, the ESIL Secretariat will communicate the results to the entire IG membership and the names of the newly elected IG conveners will be posted on the ESIL website.