

# **Overview of Applications for Advisory Board of EGEA**

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**for 2023/24**



\*applications are displayed in the order of receiving in the email

# Advisory Board Application 1



**Jakub Růžička**  
**EGEA Prague**

Dear EGEAns,

My name is Jakub Růžička, I am from EGEA Prague and this is my application for the position in the Advisory Board of EGEA 2023/2024.

## Why do I candidate?

This question has a very simple answer – because I went to the Summer OSM in Münster (thanks EGEA Münster for hosting us)! This might be a confusing answer but it's actually true. After I had been a Vice President of EGEA 2019/2020, I wasn't very active. It was partly caused by the pandemic and travel restrictions but honestly said I partly felt that my EGEA career has come to an end. I could not have been more wrong! During the last year, I joined the Strategic Plan 2023-2027 working group, I led a workshop at the ERC23 but it was not until the great OSM in Münster where I seriously started thinking about candidating to the AB!

## Which skills and competences do I have?

I have always been showing during my EGEA career that I am a reliable and hard-working person. I am a master of time-management and I always meet deadlines. I am very experienced in working in teams and I have good leadership and mentoring skills. I have a friendly and quite outgoing personality and you will rarely get bored with me. I have tons and years of EGEA experience on almost all organisational levels of the Association, as you can read about in the next paragraph – I will try to keep it short! :)

## My EGEA experience

I joined EGEA locally in the first year of my university studies in fall 2013 (oh yes, I am that old :) ). My first international event was the Annual Congress in the Netherlands in 2015. I had been a CP of EGEA Prague for a few years, I (still) am a long-time member of the Media Team (former Communication and Media Committee) with being its representative for two consecutive years, I was a Regional Assistant for East and as I have mentioned already, the peak of my EGEA career was serving the Association as the Vice President of EGEA in 2019/2020.

I (co-)organised numerous local and international events in Prague and Czechia; worth emphasising is being the Scientific Coordinator of the Eastern Regional Congress 2017 and the Annual Congress 2019. In my whole EGEA career, I went in total to ten congresses, numerous OSMs, a lot of exchanges and countless local events.

## About me

To conclude, let me share a few facts about myself. I finished university with a doctoral degree and I currently work as a natural catastrophe modeller in an international company in Prague. In my free time I am an active person and I am keen on being outside in a forest or a field walking, wandering, cycling, and skiing in the winter.

This is it, thank you for spending your time reading my application. Should you have any questions, please text me or write me an email to [jakub.ruzicka@egea.eu](mailto:jakub.ruzicka@egea.eu).

I wish you all the best and see you somewhere in Europe!

Yours,

Jakub

# Advisory Board Application 2



## Esther de Winter EGEA Nijmegen

My name is Esther de Winter and I'm an oldie/alumni member of EGEA Nijmegen. I've graduated from my master's degree in urban planning in July 2021. EGEA has meant many things for me in the past years: unexpected friendships, an incredible amount of travelling, getting enviously proficient in English, taking up leadership positions while being young and better understanding of all the different cultures Europe is rich of. I'm thankful that EGEA has made it through the corona crisis and I would be honored to be part of the Advisory Board to support EGEA for a final round.

### Motivation to apply

My vision on being part of the Advisory Board is to be the BoE's Big Sister. The management of EGEA is in the hand of the board and they are in charge of shaping that year with their ideas. Just like a big sister, they can always approach the AB for advice, but the AB is on the background while the board decides which goals they prioritize for their year. As AB member, I hope to support the board in a way that they can realize what they wish for personally and EGEA wise. I'm emphasizing the personal part here, since many board members will develop themselves as person exponentially. As AB member it is possible to guide and mentor the board, so they will feel proud and happy at the end of their term.

I'm also motivated to focus on approachability of the advisory board. A simple message to show interest in the board is something I see as helpful. Just like an RA checks in with entity CPs or a board member checks in with other officials. Most importantly, I would like to be an AB member with whom the board always feels comfortable to talk about both personal challenges and EGEA issues.

### Evidence of sufficient EGEA experience to fulfil an advisory function

I feel more than ready to become an advisory board member. Since I started to get active for EGEA, I have attended 10 congresses. In addition, I went to other events like West CP training, three BeNDeLux Weekends, an Italian Weekend, five Organisation and Strategy Meetings (OSMs) and I organized various exchanges. On top of that, I have had a broad range of responsibilities in EGEA, which I have listed below:

- ERC 2023: Trainer of 5h-long 'Workshop Masters' training with Marek Kasner (EGEA Prague)
- 2021–2022: Vice-President of EGEA in the board of 21/22
- 2019–2021: Main Coordinator of the (online) Annual Congress 2020 & 2021 by EGEA Nijmegen & EGEA Utrecht
- 2019: Main Coordinator of 5-day event 'The Selfmade Land' for approx. 20 PAX in July 2019 by EGEA Nijmegen
- 2018–2019: Team coordinator of Events Team with Victoria Stoyanova (EGEA Paris)
- 2017–2018: Regional Assistant for Team West with Swen Schmitz (EGEA Aachen – RCP) and Fabian Konrad (EGEA Mainz - RA)
- 2017: Co-organiser of the Live-Meeting of the European Geographer by EGEA Nijmegen
- 2016–2018: Contact Person for EGEA Nijmegen, co-organised 4 exchanges

Fun fact: Although I have hosted for various exchanges, due to various reasons I have never been to the re-exchange. Luckily, many EGEAns have hosted me on other occasions <3.

## Your relevant skills and competence

The first skill I would like to point out is a technical one: I have co-designed (together with among others Rhune van Cleemput) our current official documents. One of the Advisory Board's tasks is to advise on the official procedures of EGEA. Together with my experience and the fact that I have written large pieces of the official documents, I feel competent to advise the current board on these procedures.

On the soft skill side, I'm a communicative person with a critical attitude. Especially EGEA helped me grow my communication skills and how to apply them in an intercultural context. For my master thesis and my work, I gained experience in communicating easy, understandable and straightforward. I'm also not afraid to discuss sensitive topics, but I've also learned in the previous years how to have difficult conversations with compassion and tact. I don't mind speaking in front of groups of people, but I find one-on-one contact much richer as group dynamics are less at play and there's more room for deeper conversations.

# Advisory Board Application 3



## **Dorina Juhász** **EGEA Budapest**

My name is Dorina Juhász, from EGEA Budapest and this is my Advisory Board application. I joined EGEA in 2016 and since then I am trying to be as active as my abilities and free time let me. As soon as I joined EGEA, I became the Contact Person of EGEA Budapest, then in 2019/2020 I used to be the Regional Contact Person for East. As a RCP I had to face with COVID, where none knew what to do, how to solve these kinds of problems. In my opinion we succeeded well.

After my RCP year I felt I needed a break, but soon I missed being active in EGEA, therefore I decided to organize the Annual Congress 2022, the first Annual Congress in person after 2 years, in the middle of a war and a financial crisis. During the congress I was already being asked, if I would like to apply for the Advisory Board, but needed a break again and concentrating on my Master Thesis.

Now I feel I need a nice closure of my EGEA journey, and the position of the Advisory Board would be perfect for that. In my opinion, during my EGEA years I had to handle very unpredictable situations, lead and supervise international teams. These problem solving skills, which I developed during the past years, would like to implement as part of the AB.

Furthermore, I am familiar with the “burning out” situations as from my personal life, as from the EGEA life. In the positions of BoE, this can happen as well, when they will need someone to talk to. If I were part of AB, I could support the BoE not only in the official business, but in their mental health as well.

Thank you for reading and taking into consideration my application.

Greetings,  
Dorina



# Advisory Board Application 4



## **Micol Alessandri** **EGEA Malta**

Hello EGEAns,  
I'm Micol Alessandri, and this is my Advisory Board application.

In the past 5 years I was quite active in the association. I started my EGEA journey as Euromed Regional Assistant (2019/20), and when I realised how fun it is EGEA, I planned how to stay forever, or better 6 years, in the association...

So the plan continued and I then took the position as EuroMed Regional Contact Person (2020/21), then got motivated to become the President of EGEA (2021/22) and lastly, and outside of the plan, got convinced to become one of the AC23 Main Organisers.

This EGEA journey got crazier and crazier with each position, but they all gave me a complete knowledge of the association and more importantly, they shaped me as a person and they made me understand all the possibilities I want in life. EGEA gave me the gift of a lifetime experience that I'm trying to recreate in my worklife, wish me luck. Considering all that EGEA taught me and how it deeply helped me, I find it only fair to give back a little of my time, experience and knowledge...

And in this upcoming year, I believe the best way to do so is to join one last official position, as AB, some I gained with each position time knowledge that I believe would help me do a good job... Plus the plan made in 2019 said AB... RA made me understand the importance of clear communication and of knowledge transfer. Being an RCP, I understood how leadership and good management is necessary for every team. Being President made me learn that it is important to understand that we are not all the same, and that it is important to pay attention to the other people, and your own, working straight and weakness, and how to take difficult decisions. Being an AC main orga made me learn that time management and self care are essential for a long, productive and good work.

I believe that thanks to my EGEA knowledge and my personal growth, I would be able to mentor the new BoE, and help them advise not only the official business, but also, if they would like, in a more emotional and empathetic way, that from experience, can be quite beneficial in such important positions. This is something that I would like to implement if I was given the possibility to become AB.

Thanks for reading my application

Hope to see you at AC  
Micol

# Advisory Board Application 5



**Marie Johanna  
Univer  
EGEA Tartu**

Dear Henrik, Josefa, Jared, Sigrid, Patrycja and Daniela,

As an oldie (I joined EGEA in September 2016) I would like to apply for the position of Advisory Board 2023/2024.

During my board year of 2021/2022 Advisory Board was the support we needed in times of crisis. Russian invasion of Ukraine and the urgent need to adjust Code of Conduct while maintaining civil manners in communicating with EGEAns both online and offline were just some of the tasks we couldn't have managed to complete without the input by the AB. I strongly feel that 2023/2024 is the time when I am suitable enough to take on the task of "crisis support" and a shoulder to cry on. Jokes aside, restructuring of the regions will cause changes in the Statutory Base and Protocols, which ironically only during the Annual Congress of 2022 in Hungary I started to become obsessed with...

That being said, I will happily keep a keen eye on all the details regarding the changes in official documents and gladly help the new board prevent any mishaps.

Past experience:

- Secretary of BoE 2021/2022
- Regional Assistant of North & Baltic 2019/2020
- Media Team leader 2019/2020 (involved with the EGEA Newsletter 2018-2020)
- Main organiser of North & Baltic Regional Congress 2023, Green Team member of
- Annual Congress 2023, main organiser of Summer OSM 2022 and Winter OSM 2022, co-organiser of Newbie Weekend 2019, co-organiser of CP Weekend 2018, co-organiser of Baltic Weekend 2017, numerous exchanges, etc.

Finally, If elected, I would love the new Advisory Board to be a bit more visible and active not only towards the members of BoE 2023/2024 but also to the general audience in EGEA.

We might be experienced (read: old), but we can still turn up the party!

Marie Johanna Univer, EGEA Tartu

# Advisory Board Application 6



**Stanisław  
Konieczny  
EGEA Warsaw**

Dear BoE,

I am thrilled to send you my application for the role of the AB member of 2023/2024.

## Evidence of sufficient EGEA experience to fulfil an advisory function

EGEA has for many years been an important part of my life. I have been an active member of our association since October 2016. Since then I was a member of a board of EGEA Warsaw for three years (one year as a CP), exchange leader, Newbie Weekend Organiser, ActCom (Events Team) and EGEA Podcast Coordinator, member of the ERC 19 Orga Team, RCP for East, BoE Event & PR Advisor and the main Organiser of the ERC 22.

I feel that I experienced in EGEA everything that I really dreamed of. Quite often, even without holding an official position, I was asked for advice. I think it proves that people trust me when facing a challenge in an EGEA context. I am confident that I have a sufficient EGEA experience and I can contribute to the good of our association.

## Your relevant skills and competence

- Leadership (main Orga of the ERC 22, RCP for EAST 20/21, Board member 21/22, and beyond EGEA)
- Profound knowledge of official documents and decision making processes in EGEA Advising (Event & PR Advisor of EGEA 21/22, RCP for EAST, member of a mentoring programme at University of Warsaw)
- Wisdom (gained by being active in EGEA for many years)
- Strategic thinking (wrtting policy paper, leading teams and project in EGEA and beyond, creating strategic documents)
- Inclusive communication
- Project management (in EGEA and beyond)

## Motivation to apply

- Willingness to:
  - help the Board of EGEA of 2023/2024
  - gain experience in advising
  - work with a group of experienced EGEAns
  - stay active in EGEA
  - communicate and work in English
  - learn new things and meet new people
- Confidence that my skills and competence can contribute for the good of our Association
- Clear idea on how I want to approach my tasks

Best regards,  
Stanisław Konieczny



Voting for the Advisory Board members for 2023/2024  
will take place at the General Assembly III in Austria,  
Attersee on 08/09/2023, 14:00 CEST.