
United European
Gastroenterology (UEG)
Wickenburggasse 1
A-1080 Vienna, Austria

T +43 1 997 16 39
F +43 1 997 16 39 10

Austrian Register of
Associations
N° 570340662

office@ueg.eu
ueg.eu

UEG Elections 2020

Job description and personal requirements for the position of Chair of the Public Affairs Committee

I. Role of the Chair of the Public Affairs Committee

The European Union (EU) plays an important role in improving the understanding, prevention, and management of diseases through various initiatives including funding opportunities. Developing a strong presence in the EU arena is thus a key activity for European umbrella organizations.

UEG is devoted to raising awareness of Digestive Health at a public and political level, thus strengthening the UEG brand, increasing its visibility, reach, and influence.

Tasks of the Public Affairs Committee:

- Representing and advocating European Gastroenterology and Digestive Health towards the public and in national and European institutions, including EMA and WHO
- Creating a favourable policy environment to secure adequate research funding for the improvement of Digestive Health; advocacy in the area of research, health/food policy
- In cooperation with the Research Committee, engaging in EU research policy, particularly in the development of research framework programmes (Horizon Europe), indulging the annual working programmes and topical priorities set by the European Commission
- Running targeted campaigns and connecting in collaboration with specialist and national member societies to harmonize advocacy efforts
- Coordinating the work of the Digestive Health Group: UEG has established a Digestive Health Group at the European Parliament. The group is comprised of the members of the European Parliament who are ambassadors of Digestive Health.
- Maintaining and building links with other medical organisations in Europe involved with the EU and Public Affairs
- Working with patient organisations to promote their activity and improving their links with UEG

The Public Affairs Committee Chair's role is to establish, implement, and develop Public & European Affairs on behalf of UEG as described above and in accordance with the UEG Strategic Plan. Together with the EU Policy Advisor, the Chair is responsible for preparing a yearly business plan including a detailed budget. He/she is obliged to report to Council and attend Executive Committee meetings upon invitation to agree on strategic directions.

In conjunction with the EU Policy Advisor, the Chair prepares and chairs committee meetings and telephone conferences and maintains and encourages active contribution from committee members.

The Chair of the Public Affairs Committee is a member of UEG Council and through this role fulfils the responsibilities of Council Members as defined by Article 12 of the UEG Statutes.

II. Required knowledge, qualification, and experience

The candidate must

1. show interest and experience in promoting the Digestive Health agenda on the public, corporate, and political level.
2. command a broad experience in Gastroenterology and related fields.
3. be well known and acknowledged within the GI community.
4. be able to demonstrate strategic and diplomatic leadership skills, and the ability to work across organisational and cultural boundaries.
5. interact with politicians and patients and be able to engage with lay audiences and present complex information in simple terms.
6. maintain good relationships with UEG Member Societies, functionaries, patient organisations, and other stakeholders and be well acknowledged by the Digestive Health community.

A detailed account of how each of these six requirements will be fulfilled by the candidate must be given in the mission statement (refer to each specific point above). Please limit your statement to max three A4 pages.

Furthermore, the position of UEG Public Affairs Committee Chair requires a very good command of spoken and written English.

III. Volunteer commitment

The candidate must attend and chair three committee meetings a year, attend and report during four Council meetings and the annual Meeting of Members and other business meetings or telephone conferences.

Most importantly, the candidate must be capable and willing to spend a substantial amount of time for this position, even though it is on a volunteer basis. This includes regular visits and interaction with the EU Policy Advisor as well as meetings with EU institutions and politicians in Brussels.

IV. Term of office

Following Article 11 of the UEG Statutes, Chairs of the Committees are elected already one year before the term of their predecessor ends, to allow for a smooth handover of business. The Chair Elect will assist the currently serving Chair for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. He/she will then start his/her regular four-year term on January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025 as Chair of the Public Affairs Committee, which includes a seat on UEG Council.

V. How to apply

The right to nominate candidates for eligible Council positions remains with UEG Member Societies, including both specialist and national societies. Interested colleagues are requested to seek support from a relevant society for their application and to use the online application form.

Deadline for applications: September 09, 2020

Mandatory documents for upload with the online application:

- Mission statement referring to the outlined requirements (max. three A4 pages)
- Curriculum Vitae (max. one A4 page)
- Supporting letter from at least one UEG Member Society

UEG unites members of all genders, ages, backgrounds, ethnicities, abilities, and experiences. We are proud to have achieved increased participation of women and young talents in the last few years. We continue to strive for equality of opportunity and inclusion and invite a diverse field of applicants for this position.

Elections will be held during the virtual Meeting of Members, Saturday, October 10, 2020.

For further information, we recommend that candidates view the [UEG Strategic Plan 2019-2022](#) and the [UEG Statutes](#).