

Individual Member Representatives report to the ECA Council

Three new Individual Member Representatives for the period 2022-2024 were elected in December 2021. This report concerns the period August 2021 - July 2022.

The IM Representatives unanimously agreed that one of the important actions to be taken is to improve the participation of ECA Individual Members in the local crystallographic associations. The first discussion has already been going on in the Executive Committee of the Spanish Crystallographic Association. In this local discussion it soon appeared as evident the ignorance of this possibility of affiliation to the ECA; some initiatives have been thought to inform the Spanish associates of this possibility. As soon as we get feedback from different national associations, we plan to implement the different proposals among them.

Making people become IMs and having IMs talking with the IM representatives is important to find out the IMs needs with respect to ECA. One important point is to have good arguments to make potential IMs interested, and a second one to reach them (address groups, persons and mailing lists). Those were also the main obstacles we as IM representatives faced in reaching our set aims for the past period.

The IM Representatives decided to talk in person at the upcoming ECM33 in Versailles to the National Representatives to ECA to boost interactions among ECA IMs and encourage Individual Membership to ECA at the national levels, advertising it at the local crystallographic meetings across Europe.

A potential possibility to find new and address existing members could be a dedicated IM meeting at future ECMs. It needs to be taken into account that there are already many meetings and secondly that such a meeting would need a dedicated slot without parallel events to direct the flow of participants towards the event.

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