

***Modus Operandi* of the ECREA Temporary Working Group “Communication and the European Public Sphere”**

1. Statute

- 1.1 The ECREA TWG “Communication and the European Public Sphere” is an integral part of the ECREA and follows entirely ECREA’s statute and bylaws.
- 1.2 The TWG is established for a period of 4 years. At the end of the 4-year period, the TWG can be renewed for another 4 years only, upon the request of the Chair or it can be granted the status of a permanent Section within the ECREA.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The ECREA TWG “Communication and the European Public Sphere” comprises all ECREA members that express their interest in joining the TWG.
- 2.2 The TWG may also comprise other scholars who are interested in the field and willing to become ECREA members.
- 2.3 All ECREA members can join the TWG by indicating their membership on the ECREA’s website.

3. Management of the TWG

- 3.1 The management of the TWG “Communication and the European Public Sphere” is assured by a Management Team comprising a Chair and two vice-Chairs.
- 3.2 The Chair and the Vice-Chairs are ECREA members and hold a Ph.D. They are responsible for the day-to-day running of the TWG.
- 3.3 The members of the Management Team are elected by the members of the TWG for a period of two years.
- 3.4 Any member of the Management Team can serve a maximum of 6 consecutive years (3 consecutive terms).
- 3.5 The elections will take place by e-mail. A simple majority of votes is necessary to reach a decision regarding the composition of the Management Team. 4 months before a Management Team mandate expires, members of the TWG can put themselves as candidates for new election by sending an e-mail to the Chair.
- 3.6 The results of the election will be communicated to all members by e-mail within 2 weeks.
- 3.7 The decisions made by the Management Team are not definitive until they are approved by the TWG business meetings.

4. Business meetings of the TWG

- 4.1 The TWG “Communication and the European Public Sphere” business meetings are the decision-making body that coordinates the activity of the TWG and determines the direction

that the TWG should take (e.g. topics to be discussed, changes to TWG's objectives and modus operandi, etc.).

- 4.2 The TWG business meetings decisions cannot take decisions that go against the ECREA's statutes and bylaws, and the ECREA Executive Board maintains the ultimate decision power.
- 4.3 The TWG business meetings are held annually and are opened to all ECREA members and conference participants.
- 4.4 The business meetings shall take place at the same time with ECREA major events (whenever possible).