



EUROPEAN  
SCIENCE  
FOUNDATION

Expert Committee  
European Polar Board <sup>EPB</sup>



# Expert Committee

## European Polar Board



© Delphin Ruché/IPEV

### What is the European Polar Board?

The European Polar Board (EPB) is Europe's strategic advisory body on science policy in the Polar Regions. Established in 1995, it acts as a voice and high-level facilitator for cooperation between European national funding agencies, national polar institutes and research organisations.

The EPB is concerned with major strategic priorities in the Arctic and Antarctic and has members from national operators and research institutes in 20 countries. The Board is taking a central role in the coordination and management of Polar Initiatives at a European level. Major focus areas are the implementation of a new Polar Framework MOU, the launching of joint research programmes such as PolarCLIMATE, the coordination of Polar research Infrastructures, and policy issues in the context of the European Research Area for the polar regions.

The EPB is actively liaising with major polar programmes outside Europe including those in the USA, Russia and Canada. It has also been involved in discussions with other international agencies such as the World Meteorological Organization and in international research cooperation and Environmental monitoring in the Polar Regions.

*The EPB is an Expert Board of the European Science Foundation (ESF). The ESF is an independent organisation, owned by 79 Member Organisations among which are funding organisations and research organisations, academies and learned societies from 30 countries. ESF promotes collaboration in research itself, in the funding of research and in science policy activities at the European level.*

Emperor penguins  
colony in  
the Antarctic

© Astrid Richter/  
Alfred-Wegener-Institut





### 3 European Polar Board

#### EPB mission

**Influencing** European Institutions (European Commission Services, European Parliament, and important supranational actors) in regard to Research investment and strategies in the Polar Regions.

**Enhancing** relations between Europe and key international partners with the aim of achieving critical mass.

**Seeking** opportunities for a long-term Europe-wide effort to convince the public and politicians of the importance of research in the Polar Regions, and to secure continued investment.

**Enabling** the development of Polar research or infrastructure partnerships at the European level (based on initiatives of mutual interest identified by several European countries).

**Facilitating** mechanisms for European-level coordinated policy advice on Research in Polar Regions especially in relation to the European Commission.

#### Mission statement

The European Polar Board (EPB) is Europe's strategic advisory body on science policy in the Arctic and Antarctic. It is a platform for European engagement in international science programmes and provides strategic science policy advice to the European Commission and international bodies.

- A Memorandum of Understanding for a European Polar Framework which provides an operational platform for future EPB activities was signed in June 2009.





## Main activities

### Policy and strategy

#### Green Paper

A Green Paper on the future orientation of the European polar research in the context of the European Research Area (ERA) is currently being developed in order to guide future planning for national funding agencies and contribution to EC Framework Programme 8.

#### Funding Programmes

##### PolarCLIMATE

PolarCLIMATE is a funding programme developed in the context of a European Polar ERA-NET. Six major projects have been financed at the European level equivalent to about 10 million € of research investment.

Climate variability across the globe, indicators of change and the forecasting of future threats are the focus of joint projects under PolarCLIMATE. The research will address the major climate indicators at the regional level obtained from both European and international platforms, including oceanographic vessels, research stations, and orbiting satellites.

► [www.esf.org/polarclimate](http://www.esf.org/polarclimate)

#### Research Infrastructures

##### ERICON AURORA BOREALIS

ERICON AURORA BOREALIS is a preparatory-stage infrastructure project funded by EC Framework Programme 7, which deals with the planning of financial, legal, scientific and political structures necessary for the implementation of the facility at the European level. As sea ice decreases and the polar environment changes, research in the Arctic is becoming increasingly challenging. With EC support, the research icebreaker AURORA BOREALIS, will build on technological innovations to cut its way through Arctic research throughout the year. The multinational vessel will help polar scientists answer pressing questions in the coming decades.

► [www.esf.org/ericon](http://www.esf.org/ericon)

##### Coordination of Research Stations

In the context of the Memorandum of Understanding, the European Polar Board is developing a concept of coordinating European polar research stations in the Antarctic and the Arctic to support enhanced research programmes and collaboration between many countries.



© Nicolas Genton / IPEV

#### Networking activities

##### EuroPICS

EuroPICS was established under the umbrella of the European Polar Board to coordinate scientific disciplines and technical capacity associated with ice core science. Studying ice cores can provide unique insights into past climate and environmental conditions on timescales spanning from decades to hundreds of millennia, which then provide clues about how the atmosphere affects climate change.

► [www.esf.org/europics](http://www.esf.org/europics)

##### EuroANDRILL

EuroANDRILL was developed under the umbrella of the European Polar Board to coordinate scientific disciplines. Antarctica has been frozen for about 34 million years but its ice sheets have fluctuated considerably and are a major driving force in climate change. EuroANDRILL will create a European network with the goal of increasing future involvement of Europe's researchers in the ANDRILL (ANTarctic geological DRILLing) Programme.

► [www.esf.org/euroandril](http://www.esf.org/euroandril)



## EPB membership

- **Professor Carlo Alberto Ricci** (Chair),  
National Programme for Research  
in Antarctica, Earth and Science  
Department, University of Siena, Italy
- **Professor Susana Agustí Requena**,  
Council for Scientific Research, Marine  
Technology Unit, Department of Natural  
Resources, Mediterranean Institute of  
Advanced Studies, Barcelona, Spain
- **Dr Yves Frenot**,  
French Polar Institute Paul-Émile-Victor,  
Brest, France
- **Dr Magnus Friberg**,  
Swedish Research Council, Department  
of Research Funding, Swedish  
Research Council, Stockholm, Sweden
- **Dr Margarita Yela González**,  
General Direction of Programmes and  
Transfer of Knowledge, Ministry of  
Science and Innovation, Madrid, Spain
- **Professor Aleksander Guterch**,  
Division VII Earth and Mining Sciences,  
Institute of Geophysics, Polish  
Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland
- **Professor Philippe Huybrechts**,  
Research Foundation Flanders, Earth  
System Sciences & Department of  
Geography, Free University of Brussels,  
Belgium
- **Dr Gérard Jugie**,  
National Centre for Scientific Research  
(CNRS), France
- **Dr Heidi Kassens**,  
German Research Foundation,  
Leibniz-Institute for Marine Sciences  
(IFM-GEOMAR), University of Kiel,  
Germany
- **Professor Antoine Kies**,  
National Research Fund, Faculty  
of Science, Technology and  
Communication, University of  
Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- **Professor Kari Laine**,  
Academy of Finland, Department of  
Botany, University of Oulu, Finland
- **Professor Karin Lochte**,  
Helmholtz Association, the Alfred-  
Wegener-Institute for Polar and Marine  
Research, Bremerhaven, Germany
- **Dr Harald Loeng**,  
Research Council of Norway, Institute  
of Marine Research, Bergen, Norway
- **Dr Naja Mikkelsen**,  
The Commission for Scientific  
Research in Greenland, Geological  
Survey of Denmark and Greenland  
(GEUS), Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Professor Nicholas Owens**,  
Natural Environment Research Council  
(British Antarctic Survey), United  
Kingdom
- **Professor Christo Pimpirev**,  
Bulgarian Antarctic Institute, University  
of Sofia, Bulgaria
- **Dr Sergey Priamikov**,  
Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute  
(AARI), Russian Federation
- **Professor Pavel Prošek**,  
Czech National Centre of Polar  
Investigations, Faculty of Science,  
Department of Geography, University of  
Masaryk, Brno, Czech Republic
- **Professor Andreas Richter**,  
Austrian Science Fund, Department  
of Chemical Ecology and Ecosystem  
Research, University of Vienna, Austria
- **Professor Christian Schlüchter**,  
Swiss National Science Foundation,  
Institute of Geological Sciences,  
University of Bern, Switzerland
- **Dr Magnus Tannerfeldt**, Swedish  
Polar Research Secretariat,  
Department of Zoology, University  
of Stockholm, Sweden
- **Professor Jean-Louis Tison**,  
National Fund for Scientific Research,  
Sciences Faculty, Free University of  
Brussels, Belgium
- **Professor Rein Vaikmäe**,  
Institute of Geology at Tallinn,  
University of Technology, Tallinn,  
Estonia
- **Dr Dick van der Kroef**,  
Council Earth and Life Sciences,  
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific  
Research, The Hague, The Netherlands
- **Professor Gonçalo Vieira**,  
Foundation for Science and  
Technology, Geographical Studies  
Center, University of Lisbon, Portugal

The Concordia Station in Antarctica is a French-Italian research facility  
© Katell Pierre/IPEV



## EPB member organisations

- **Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung in Österreich (FWF)**  
*Austrian Science Fund, Austria*
- **Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)**  
*Fund for Scientific Research, Belgium*
- **Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO)**  
*Research Foundation Flanders, Belgium*
- **Politique Scientifique Fédérale (BELSPO)**  
*Belgian Science Policy Office, Belgium*
- **Българският Антарктически Институт**  
*Bulgarian Antarctic Institute (BAI), Bulgaria*
- **České národní středisko pro polární Výzkum, Přírodovědecká fakulta, Masarykovy univerzity**  
*Czech National Centre of Polar Investigations, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Czech Republic*
- **Kommissionen for Videnskabelige Undersøgelser i Grønland**  
*The Commission for Scientific Research in Greenland, Denmark*
- **Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia**  
*Estonian Academy of Sciences, Estonia*
- **Suomen Akatemia/Finlands Akademi**  
*Academy of Finland, Finland*
- **Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)**  
*National Centre for Scientific Research, France*
- **Institut Polaire français Paul-Émile-Victor**  
*French Polar Institute Paul-Émile-Victor, France*
- **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)**  
*German Research Foundation, Germany*
- **Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren (HGF)**  
*Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, Germany*
- **Programma Nazionale di Ricerche in Antartide (PNRA)**  
*National Programme for Research in Antarctica, Italy*
- **Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR)**  
*National Research Fund, Luxembourg*
- **Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO)**  
*Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research, The Netherlands*
- **Norges Forskningsråd**  
*Research Council of Norway, Norway*
- **Polska Akademia Nauk (PAN)**  
*Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland*
- **Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)**  
*Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal*
- **Арктический и антарктический научно-исследовательский институт**  
*Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute (AARI), Russian Federation*
- **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)**  
*Council for Scientific Research, Spain*
- **Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN)**  
*Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain*
- **Polarforsknings-sekretariatet**  
*Swedish Polar Research Secretariat, Sweden*
- **Vetenskapsrådet (VR)**  
*Swedish Research Council, Sweden*
- **Schweizerischer Nationalfonds (SNF)**  
*Swiss National Science Foundation, Switzerland*
- **Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) British Antarctic Survey**  
*United Kingdom*



## Contact details

### **Professor Carlo Alberto Ricci**

EPB Chair  
Professor at the University of Siena  
President of the Italian Scientific  
Commission for the Antarctic  
Email: [riccica@unisi.it](mailto:riccica@unisi.it)

### **Dr Paul Egerton**

Head of Life, Earth, Environment  
and Polar Sciences Unit  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 71 74  
Email: [pegerton@esf.org](mailto:pegerton@esf.org)

### **Dr Roberto Azzolini**

EPB Senior Science Officer –  
Science Development  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 21 74  
Email: [razzolini@esf.org](mailto:razzolini@esf.org)

### **Dr Bonnie Wolff-Boenisch**

EPB Senior Science Officer –  
Programme Management  
ERICON-AB Coordinator  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 71 03  
Email: [bwolff-boenisch@esf.org](mailto:bwolff-boenisch@esf.org)

### **Dr Anastasiya Kozubovskaya-Pellé**

Legal Project Manager, ERICON-AB  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 21 48  
Email: [akozubovskaya-pelle@esf.org](mailto:akozubovskaya-pelle@esf.org)

### **Mr Julien Weber**

Financial Project Manager,  
ERICON-AB  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 21 75  
Email: [jweber@esf.org](mailto:jweber@esf.org)

### **Ms Lisa Moriamé**

Unit Coordinator, Life, Earth,  
Environment and Polar Sciences  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 21 65  
Email: [lmoriamé@esf.org](mailto:lmoriamé@esf.org)

### **Ms Barbara Weber**

Administrator, ERICON-AB and EPB  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 71 35  
Email: [bweber@esf.org](mailto:bweber@esf.org)

-----  
**European Polar Board**  
**Life, Earth, Environment**  
**and Polar Sciences Unit**

European Science Foundation  
1 quai Lezay-Marnésia • BP 90015  
67080 Strasbourg cedex • France  
Email: [epb@esf.org](mailto:epb@esf.org)  
[www.esf.org/epb](http://www.esf.org/epb)