

Frequently Asked Questions on EACD Membership

- I. What is the difference between a full membership and a supporting membership?
- II. How much does it cost to join the EACD?
- III. Which services does the EACD offer?
- IV. My company pays my membership fee. Who can claim membership of the Association – the company (because it pays), or myself as the individual named?
- V. Is a change in membership fees possible?
- VI. I changed my name and/or relocated. Do I have to inform the EACD?
- VII. Does my membership end if I lose my employment?
- VIII. I am ceasing work as communication professional. Do I have to inform the EACD?
- IX. How can I relinquish my membership?
- X. I resigned from the EACD. Will I get a part of my membership fees back?
- XI. How can I get in touch with the EACD if any questions remained unanswered?

I. What is the difference between a full membership and a supporting membership?

Full membership of the EACD is reserved to in-house communication directors, press spokespersons or those in a similar function responsible for communications in a multinational enterprise, European Institution, European association, or other public body.

Supporting members are individuals who do not qualify for full membership, but identify with the EACD's aims and wish to show their support for the Association. All supporting members are listed in a special section on the EACD website and regularly receive the EACD magazine 'Communication Director', as well as other EACD publications such as service brochures and reports, and are invited to selected events. Supporting members do not have the right to vote.

II. How much does it cost to be a member per year?

Members of the EACD present at its foundation meeting on November 8th, 2006 decided that the contribution per calendar year is:

- a) 140 Euros for members who are natural persons and are accepted as members eligible for voting,
- b) 280 Euros for members who are legal entities or natural persons who have been accepted as supporting members
- c) 140 Euros for members who were accepted as natural persons eligible for voting and whose eligibility for voting is temporarily inactive (Alumni).

Fees include all publications, services and admissions to EACD events (unless stated otherwise, as for the European Communication Summit).

Please note that annual membership stands per calendar year (i.e., 01.01.2010 -31.12.2010) and not for twelve months after the application date. Membership renews automatically at the beginning of each calendar year, and an invoice for that year's membership will be sent to you at the start of the year.

III. Which services does the EACD offer?

The EACD offers you the following services:

- Publications:
The bi-monthly EACD newsletter, our quarterly magazine 'Communication Director', surveys and service brochures
- The EACD Website and EACDnet (the association's online social platform)
- Working Groups in areas such as: CSR, Education, Energy, European Institutions, Evaluation, Finance and Insurance, Health, Social Media and Transport
- Further training
- Regional Debates in all capital cities across Europe for regionally-based members
- Our annual two-day conference in Brussels: The European Communication Summit and the European Communication Award (please see: www.communication-summit.eu)

IV. My company pays my membership fee. Who is member of the association – the company (because it pays), or myself, as the individual named?

EACD membership is not transferable. Passing on one's rights and duties as a member of the organisation is not permissible. If you are accepted as a full member, it is you as natural person who is entitled to member's rights and duties, not your company, even if they pay the fee according to an internal agreement. As such, your membership does not end when you undertake new employment and your new company does not want to pay the fee. This holds true, except in the following case: a legal entity is accepted as supporting member, and has named you to act on its behalf in exercising its rights. In this case, you are merely acting as an agent of the supporting member, and as such, responsibility for paying EACD membership fees lie with the organisation.

V. Is a change in membership fee possible?

A change in fees rest upon a decision by EACD members: all members must pay the membership fee in accordance with the terms of accession for the calendar year in which they joined the Association. Terms of accession for following years of membership, including subscription fees, are suggested by the EACD Board and voted upon at the EACD General Assembly.

VI. I changed my name and/or relocated. Do I have to inform the EACD?

Yes. Every member is obliged to inform the Association of a change in their name and/or address. Costs incurred by the Association arising from investigations in such matters must be reimbursed by the member. If applicable, costs arising from legal action against a member must also be reimbursed to the Association.

VII. Does my membership end if I lose my employment?

No. Membership is only terminated by the resignation or death of a natural person, or by the dissolution of a legal entity, or by exclusion from the Association in either case.

Communication professionals who have lost their employment will be registered as alumni members of the association in the year of their unemployment and also in the following year (during which time they receive the same benefits and undertake the same responsibilities as full members). Thereafter the association will reevaluate their status. If former full members take up a position that does not fulfil the criteria for full membership (e.g. by joining a communications consultancy) their membership will be continued as a supporting membership.

VIII. I am ceasing work as a communication professional. Do I have to inform the EACD?

Yes. Every member must inform the President immediately about any uptake, interruption or termination of their function as a Communication Director, press spokesperson or similar function responsible for communications. Any infringement of this rule may result in exclusion.

IX. How can I relinquish my membership?

Giving up one's membership of the Association must be undertaken in writing, to a member of the Representing Board no later than six months prior to the calendar year in question, in order to avoid being held liable for payment for the next calendar year. Please note that if there are outstanding invoices against your membership, you will be held responsible for settling those.

X. I resigned from the EACD. Will I get a part of my membership fees back?

No. The termination of a membership does not entitle the former member to any claims to the association's assets.

XI. How can I get in touch with the EACD if any questions remained unanswered?

Our service-team would be very happy to answer all your questions concerning the EACD. Please don't hesitate to contact us at:

European Association of Communication
Directors (EACD)
Service Team
Square de Meeûs, 37
B-1000 Brussels

Tel. +32 (0)2 219 22 90
Fax +32 (0)2 219 22 92

service@eacd-online.eu
www.eacd-online