Report of the President – June 2025 Hélène Rey

EEA Central Office

The EEA continues to be very grateful to Antonio Cabrales who is now serving his 10th year in the role of Executive Vice-President of the EEA - we thank him for his continuous work and huge energy in undertaking the enormous task. He is assisted by Gemma Prunner-Thomas, who continues to manage the running of the central office.

Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA)

JEEA is now in its 23rd year of publication and is published six times a year by OUP.

Publishing JEEA remains one of the main activities of the EEA, and JEEA continues to achieve major results in terms of impact factor, profile and the number of submissions received.

In 2024, we welcomed Matthias Doepke, Theirry Mayer, Christopher Roth and Alp Simsek to the editorial board. We also welcomed Maia Güell as JEEA 1st Data Editor. Now is a good time to mention that in during the first half of 2025, Vasiliki Skreta and Romain Waczairg have confirmed their terms (latter as JEEA Managing Editor) for a further and final 2-year term.

We thank all JEEA Editors for their dedication and service to JEEA over their terms.

Additional information on JEEA will be found in the Report of JEEA Editor.

European Job Market Committee

EJME 2024/25 Season

After the decision taken by the EJME early 2024 that the EJME would be virtual for the foreseeable future (with dates set), the <u>EJME Committee</u>, chaired by David Schindler (representing EEA), spent the remaining months of 2024 putting into motion a number of developments, namely:

- Mirroring job ads by European institutions from Econjobmarket.org to our EJME platform
- Developing a signalling mechanism for candidates. In essence all candidates signed up with profiles on our Candidate Directory could send up to 10 signals to recruiters whose ads were mirrored across from econjobmarket.org.

The signalling mechanism was activated in November. 805 candidates signed up on our platform. Over 6050 signals were sent.

The EJME committee is currently evaluating the signaling process. What went wrong

and what went well. To this end, they have conducted surveys among all recruiters and had some qualitative interviews with select employers on how they perceived the signaling mechanism. They will decide on whether to change the signaling mechanism over the summer.

Alongside the services we offer to EJME candidates through the EJME candidate Directory platform and the virtual sessions organized in the run up to the interviews, for the 2nd year running, we set up mock interviews for candidates, calling on EEA members to act as mock recruiters. Over 25 members signed up for this initiative and we managed to set up 10 interviews. The initiative will be repeated for EJME 2025/26 and we will once again join forces with the ECQE Committee.

All information regarding the EJMEs can be found on the EJME website

Standing Committee on Economic Education

Committee Composition

Since January 2025, the Education Committee is chaired by Cloda Jenkins. Cloda is assisted by Constantin Bürgi, Anna Göddeke, Pedro Rey-Biel and Eileen Tipoe.

Initiatives

• Conversations With.....Series

This conversation series showcases innovating teaching ideas that academics across universities are using in their day-to-day teaching. The videos are housed on the EEA You Tube channel.

Resources

There is a section on the Education Committee webpage dedicated to a collection of valuable resources and external links outlining various teaching and assessment techniques. These can be useful to Professors, teaching fellows, and tutors looking to diversify their teaching method and delivery while also maintaining an active student engagement in the virtual environment.

A Research Assistant has been taken on over the past few months to work specifically on enlarging the Conversations with..Series, with new videos due to be showcased over the summer.

Awards & Seed Grants

The Education Committee has been awarding 2 types of prizes to academic economists who have made a significant contribution to spreading knowledge on economics through their teaching since 2022. The 2025 Awards have just been announced. The Committee were very pleased with the numbers of applications they received from across Europe. The prizes will be awarded to the winners at the 2025 Bordeaux Congress Education Workshop.

In late 2022, the Committee launched the Seedcorn Fund, which supports the development and implementation of small-scale innovative projects aimed at improving the delivery of higher education and the undergraduate or postgraduate student learning experience. 5 educators have already benefitted from this grant of €2,000 per grantee. The 2025 nomination cycle will open shortly.

Recipients of the Teaching Awards and the Seedcorn Funds have also explained the value of these awards for their teaching and innovation in two online webinars this year, showcasing the great teaching happening across Europe.

Education Committee at EEA 2025

The Committee is organising an interactive workshop - *Economics Education in a world of GenAI - embrace or avoid?* - at EEA 2025. In this interactive workshop, the workshop leaders will look at how economists are currently responding to GenAI in their teaching and assessments across European universities and consider when it is appropriate to embrace the technology and when there is a need to redesign how we teach and assess to manage impacts for academic integrity. The discussion will be facilitated by the workshop leaders (committee members) who will provide brief insights on their experiences responding to GenAI and share the results of a survey on how those attending Congress are responding. The attendees will be encouraged to engage in small group discussion activities, focused on how to identify an appropriate balance between embedding GenAI in economics teaching and attempting to avoid it. Learnings from the workshop will be shared through a blog post after the Congress.

The EEA thanks the Committee for their immense work!

Standing Committee on Minorities in Economics (MinE)

Committee Composition

Dario Sansone has been chairing the Committee since the beginning of 2025, having taken over from Massimo Morelli. His committee comprises Zeinab Aboutalebi, Lucia Corno, Yajna Govind and Gilat Levy (who represents ES on the MinE Committee). A huge thanks to the initial MinE Committee – Jan Eeckhout, Massimo Morelli, Sulin Sardoschau, Tim Lee and Vincent Sterk – all of whom have now stepped down as Committee members.

<u>Professional Climate in Europe Survey</u>

In early January 2024, the MinE Committee, in collaboration with the German Economic Association's (VfS) Working Group "Code of Ethics", (and financed by the EEA), launched a professional climate in Europe survey.

Survey questions focused on individuals' experiences and perceptions of equality, diversity, and inclusiveness, especially along the dimensions of gender, race and ethnicity, LGBTQ+ status, and disability. Care was taken to ensure that the survey would capture differences in the treatment (or perceived treatment) of individuals across the different countries in Europe. While the survey itself was designed, organized, and monitored by MinE, the actual implementation and storage of data was administered by Dynata, a third-party operator with no prior association with the EEA, to ensure data privacy and anonymity.

The report, which summarizes MinE's work before, during, and after the survey, including an analysis and interpretation of the results is available **here**. VoxEU also published an article. More dissemination of this report is needed so if you have any ideas, please reach out to us.

MinE Best Paper Award

The MinE Best Paper Award is given to the best paper presented in the annual EEA congresses whose focus is on the study of LGBTQ+, Race-Ethnicity-Religion and/or Disabilities will be presented for the 4th time at EEA 2025.

The Hub for Equal Representation at LSE will once again sponsor the award with a prize fund of €5 000. 58 papers were submitted for the Award – 27 have made it to the shortlist.

MinE at EEA Congresses

Since 2022, the research field "LGBTQ+, Race-Ethnicity-Religion, Disabilities" is on the list of fields of research on EEA congress programme and there is a special call for papers / sessions on MinE topics on our calls.

The MinE Committee has funded through its annual budget the successful networking event for supporters of inclusion & diversity in economics at the EEA-ESEM past 3 congresses.

Moreover, from EEA 2025, jointly with the WinE Committee, a demographics survey has been introduced and participants will have a QR code on their name badge linked up to the survey. Another novely this year from the MinE Committee is to accept requests for reimbursements of costs involved with having to process Schengen visas to attend the congress.

Other Uses of MinE Annual Budget

The Committee is open to evaluating proposals for co-funding economic workshops in Europe or another initiatives. These should specifically and solely focus on topics related to race, ethnicity, disability, and/or LGBTQ+ status in order to be eligible. So far in 2025, MinE has funded ($\pounds 500$) one of two **Outstanding Paper Awards** at the 5th Virtual Discrimination and Diversity workshop.

Bringing "Discover Economics" to Europe

The MinE Committee has started a conversation to partner with **Discover Economics**, a UK-based campaign, partly funded by the Royal Economic Society, who work to:

- Broaden the appeal of economics to potential students
- Change their perceptions of economics and economists
- Attract more students from under-represented groups (women, state school and further education college students, minoritised ethnic groups members of the LGBTQI+ community and more).

The lack of diversity among economics students is a problem because economists – who occupy key policy roles in government departments and the central banks – need to reflect the society that they are helping to shape. We want to be part of the drive to reduce this lack of civersity.

Discover Economics is achieving recognition in the UK and one extremely successful initiative to broaden the appeal to potential students is their **Young Economist of the Year Award**, aimed at high school students, in their final years of study and considering what to study at university. In 2024, over 3,000 entries were received! If you can help

us with the launch, please reach out to us.

<u>Inclusion Initiatives virtual workshop</u>

In September 2024, the MinE Committee hosted the 1st *Inclusion Initiatives virtual* workshop where institutions could present any new practice or policy its department has introduced in the last 3 years that aims to increase diversity and inclusion of underrepresented minorities (either of their student body or their faculty). This workshop complemented the EEA climate survey to allow the MinE to get a better view on inclusion best practice in Europe and to offer potential new directions. A second workshop will be held in 12 months time.

MinE Research Virtual Series

The MinE Committee has organized 9 virtual interactive sessions with researchers of MinE-related topics showcasing their research since the interception of the Committee.. Whilst the average attendance in the virtual sessions has been lower than hoped, the sessions are recorded, uploaded on YouTube and promoted widely.

Mentoring of EJME Minority Candidates

The MinE Committee, alongside members of the ECQE Committee, set up a mentoring workshop for candidates on the 2022/23 EJME. The turnout was low. For the 2024/25 EJME, the ECQE Committee joined forces with the EJME Committee and be part of the organization of the mock interviews for candidates. Once again turnout was low so the Committee will evaluate continuing it or not.

The EEA thanks the Committee for their immense work!

Standing Committee on Research in Economics

Committee Composition

Nezih Guner has been chairing the Committee since the beginning of 2023. He was joined by Jaime Arellano-Bover and Paula Gobbi. In 2024. Chris Rauh (University of Cambridge) joined the Committee.

The terms of Jaime Arellano-Bover and Paula Gobbi are ending in 2025. The Chair is proposing the following three new members: Maia Guell (CUNEF), Aline Bütikofer (Norwegian School of Economics), and Gabriel Ulyssea (UCL) as new members.

Research Committee Panel at EEA-ESEM 2024 & EEA 2025

For EEA-ESEM Rotterdam 2024, Chris Rauh organised a very well-attended workshop on survey design. The workshop covered how to elicit beliefs, set up a survey, deal with survey companies, and practicalities to keep in mind when collecting primary survey data. The workshop also covered in detail how to elicit and analyze beliefs using hypothetical surveys and how to go about the implementation of a randomized information treatment. Other discussions included trade-offs involved in terms of survey length, complexity of survey questions, and scales to quantify beliefs.

Chris Rauh is also organising the Research Committee workshop at EEA 2025 Bordeaux - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Economics: A User's Guide. We will report on this at our next meeting.

Collaboration with the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE)

In 2021, the EEA Council approved the joining of the EEA to the ISE. The guiding mission of the ISE is to bring issues of common interest of the research community to the attention of policymakers, primarily with the European Commission, the European Council and the European Parliament, and when appropriate with national governments and parliaments.

In 2023, Paula Gobbi joined this interdisciplinary panel and the Committee approached Manuel Arellano, Mathias Dewatripont, Andreu Mas-Colell, and Reinhilde Veugelers to sign, on behalf of EEA, a statement supporting the Horizon Europe programme.

During EEA-ESEM 2024, Paula organised a panel entitled Interdisciplinarity in Economics. Nothing is being organised for EEA 2025.

ERC Grants

At EEA-ESEM 2024, an informative panel session providing info on ERC research grants was organised and well-received. ERC Grant Writing Events are mainly targeted to researchers who plan to apply to the Starting Grants.

For 2025, as the deadline for the Starting Grants will be in October/November, the Committee will organise a virtual session with Q&As and direct feedback from ERC staff in early September. Information will be sent out shortly on date.

Going Forward

A key focus of the Committee will be to organize a web page that provides links to various administrative data sets in Europe, along with basic Q&As on the application process, highlighting best practices as well.

The EEA thanks the Committee for their immense work!

Standing Committee on Women in Economics (WinE)

Committee Composition

Paula Bustos has been chairing the Committee since the beginning of 2024. We are awaiting for news of 2 new incoming members.

WinE Mentoring and Networking Retreat

In August 2024, Paula Bustos, Chair of WinE, alongside the ES co-Chair of the WinE Retreat, Caterina Calsamiglia, and 4 other mentors, ran the 13th WinE Retreat for 23 mentees.

The 2025 Retreat will be held in Bordeaux. 29 eligible junior economists will attend.

The Retreat would not be possible if it were not for the support of the main sponsor - The Review of Economic Studies. Thanks go also to the European Central Bank, for the financial support received.

Since EEA-ESEM 2024, the CEPR women's network - WE_ARE Women in Economics – have organised a coffee break for all female economists attending the annual congress. Thanks to CEPR for this support.

Attempts to advertise the Retreat to eligible female economists are encouraged.

WinE Panel at EEA-ESEM 2024 & EEA 25

We thank WinE member, Jose De Sousa for organising the WinE panel session during EEA-ESEM 2024 entitled *Children Before Tenure? How Children Shape the Gender Gap in Academia.* The session, for the 2nd year running, was followed by a networking event supporters of inclusion and diversity within the economics community

Jose De Sousa is currently organising the 2025 WinE panel session on the survey results of various surveys, including WinE's own, of status of female representation in economics.

<u>Annual Survey of the European Economic Association's Women in Economics</u> (WinE) Standing Committee

In mid-February, WinE launched an annual survey promoting the collection of data on the gender composition of faculty and students in PhD granting and non-PhD granting European Economics departments, business schools, central banks, and other research institutions. The data is currently being analysed so we will share the findings with you through our website.

Other initiatives of the WinE Committee and Future Projects

Other initiatives of the WinE Committee continue to include the WinE Bibliography, a collection on research on women in economics, and "Research Highlights", an initiative that sees female economists write short non-technical summaries of some of their recent work, and a joint virtual panel with the CEPR's WE_ARE group.

Over the past few months, the EEA has received funding from FBBVA to update a study undertaken between 2019 and 2022 about the underrepresentation of women in the economics profession. We share this study once completed. We thank the FBBVA for this funding, without which, an update would not be possible.

The EEA thanks the Committee for their immense work!

EEA Audit Committee

I would like to thank the EEA Audit Committee – Ricardo Reis (Chair), Davide Cantoni and Jordi Galí– for the work that they do auditing the EEA annual accounts. More on this is covered in the report of the EEA Executive Vice-President.

JEEA-FBBVA Lecture at ASSA Meeting

The BBVA Foundation continues to sponsor a lecture at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association. This lecture is intended to increase the visibility of the JEEA, and the EEA in general, in the US. Pol Antras gave the 2024 lecture on *The Uncharted Waters of International Trade*. The 2025 JEEA-FBBVA lecture, given by

Silvana Tenreyro on *Negative Interest Rates and the Impact of Monetary Policy*, took place at the ASSA meetings in January and at the FBBVA headquarters in Madrid in May. Philip Lane acted as discussant while Soledad Núñez, Deputy Governor of the Banco de España, chaired the lecture,

Both lectures in Madrid have been extremely well-attended.

The 2026 JEEA-FBBVA lecture will be given by Francesco Caselli.

Thanks to all speakers and to the FBBVA for their continued support.

Awards Presented in 2025

Yrjö Jahnsson Award

Julia Cagé and David Yanagizawa-Drott were announced winners of the 2025 **Yrjö Jahnsson Award** in late March. Thanks to the 2025 Yrjö Jahnsson Award Committee, Kalina Manova (Chair), Esther Duflo, Nicola Fuchs-Schündeln, Ari Hyytinen and Marco Ottaviani.

Role Model in Economics Award

This year, the Award will be given to economists 45 or older. The Committee, Davide Cantoni, Margaret (Meg) Meyer, Anna Salomons and Galina Zudenkova, are deliberating. The winner will be announced shortly. As for all EEA awards, nominations are open to EEA members. This year 27 people were nominated.

Congress Awards

During the annual congress, we will present 3 **Young Economist Awards** for best papers (funded by UniCredit Foundation). For the 4th year running, we will also present the **MinE Best Paper Award**, given to the best paper presented in the annual EEA congresses whose focus is on the study of LGBTQ+, Race-Ethnicity-Religion and/or Disabilities. The Award will once again by sponsored by the Hub for Equal Representation at the LSE.

Nominations for EEA Scientific Council Elections

Nominations for election to the Scientific Council have been made, and candidates have been selected. On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Oriana Bandiera and the other committee members. Online elections for officers begin in September and take place for a month.

EEA members can nominate suitable candidates (or self-nominate) for EEA Scientific Council elections through admin@eeassoc.org. The EEA central office will pass all nominations on to the EEA Nominating Committee Chair.

EEA 2025 and its 40th Congress

EEA 2025 marks our 40th congress. The Congress will be held at the Bordeaux School of from Monday, August 25 to Thursday, August 28.

We very much look forward to welcoming you there.

I thank the Programme Committee, chaired by Abi Adams and Johannes Boehm, who have performed amazingly and have stuck to the tightest deadlines. I also want to thank Bordeaux School of Economics who are busy preparing to warmly welcome all to their institution and to Bordeaux. Lastly, I thank all of our presenters who will come to Bordeaux. and have chosen to spread their research at our EEA congresses.

Details of the Congress are available on the EEA 2025 website - www.eea2025.org

In light of the celebration of the 40th congress, we are working with an economic historian who is tracing the history of the EEA and its foundations. We are very much looking forward to reading the research and sharing it with our members. We are also working on a very short documentary, which we hope will be ready soon. We will also be launching a fund raising campaign.

EEA Seed Grants for Applications to ERC Research Funds

The EEA continues to fund seed grants of the amount of €1,000 (Euro) for each application submitted to the PANEL SH1 of any European Research Council (ERC) grant programme. The EEA does this as it wishes to promote an increase in the number of applications for the ERC grant programme but does not intend to interfere with the process of selection of grants.

Jobs for Economists in Europe Hub" (JEEH)

Since 2022, there is a section on the EEA website where pre- docs & post-docs positions with a minimum duration of 9 months are posted. Since its launch, it has hosted over 30 postings.

Please do encourage your institutions to make use of JEEH.

Building Bridges Across Countries Initiative

One of EEA's main goals since 2023 has been to build bridges across countries. One of the first bricks in this construction has been EEA's promotion of conferences in eastern European countries, and where possible, an active hands-on role in facilitating logistics. More recently, we have started to do some research on improving networks with African scholars and are working with the GAIN Initiative to bring a number of their alumni to EEA 2025.

If you have any ideas on conferences that can be promoted, or how we can improve our outreach, please reach out to us through admin@eeassoc.org

Additional information on all the activities of the EEA and the activities of the standing committees is available on the EEA website.