

# Report from the EMS Executive Committee meeting in Protaras (Cyprus), 28–29 March 2025

Enrico Schlitzer

The EMS Executive Committee held its meeting from 28 to 29 March 2025 in Protaras, Cyprus. This report focuses on matters of direct interest to EMS members, particularly the Committee's strategic objectives and positions on relevant issues, leaving aside technical and procedural details. The EMS warmly thanks the Cyprus Mathematical Society and its president, Gregory Makrides, for their generous hospitality in a beautiful and welcoming setting.

The meeting saw the participation of all Executive Committee members alongside invited guests, including Donatella Donatelli (EMS Magazine editor-in-chief), Ann Dooms (chair of the Education Committee), André Gaul (EMS Press managing director), Elvira Hyvönen (EMS Secretariat) and Enrico Schlitzer (Community Engagement Manager).

The Committee welcomed the International Centre for Mathematics in Ukraine (ICMU) as a new member of the EMS, reflecting the Society's continued commitment to supporting mathematics across all regions. The EMS Young Academy continues to flourish with innovative initiatives. Two EMYA members, Jelena Jankov Pavlović from the University of Osijek and Cristina Molero-Río from École Polytechnique, have successfully launched the Mathematics Online Seminar Series (MOSS). The series features distinguished speakers including EMS Prize winners such as Cristiana De Filippis, Thomas Hutchcroft, Adam Kanigowski, Jessica Fintzen and Richard Montgomery, with video recordings made available on the EMS YouTube channel. EMYA is also organizing an in-person meeting at the Banach Center.

The Indo-European Conference on Mathematics is taking shape nicely, thanks to the dedicated work of co-chairs Ramachandran Balasubramanian, Sudhir R. Ghorpade and Susanna Terracini. The event promises to be a truly international affair, bringing together mathematical excellence from across continents with ten carefully selected plenary speakers: four representing European mathematics, four from India's vibrant mathematical community, and two from other regions around the globe. Beyond the main lectures, attendees can look forward to a rich programme featuring ten to fifteen specialized mini-symposia and around 30 contributory talks, selected by the Scientific Committee to showcase cutting-edge research and foster cross-cultural dialogue.



Gregory Makrides and Jan Philip Solovej.

EMS Press continues to demonstrate the success of its Subscribe to Open (S2O) model, with all 26 journals publishing as open access for 2025. This marks the second consecutive year of full open-access publishing across the entire portfolio. Managing Director André Gaul reported steady journal publishing with reduced backlogs, particularly in the *Journal of the EMS*, achieved through increased online-first publishing. The company published ten new books in 2024, adding to a catalogue of over 250 titles. EMS Press welcomed two new team members to enhance technical capabilities: Arne Schlüter joined as Head of Technology in March 2025, and Goulven Schaal was hired as software developer starting in April.

Thanks to their valuable contributions, the EMS is set to significantly strengthen its technological infrastructure, ensuring the Society can keep pace with its expanding digital ambitions while delivering seamless operations across all platforms. For example, the EC decided to invest more substantially in the EMS job portal,



Group photo of the participants at the Presidents Meeting, which took place in the days following the EC Meeting.

recognizing it as important infrastructure for the mathematical community. This aims to enhance the platform's functionality and better serve both jobseekers and employers in mathematical sciences.

The EMS Magazine under editor-in-chief Donatella Donatelli continues its comprehensive coverage of mathematical activities. The magazine successfully maintains its steady output with issues averaging 70 pages and continues publishing articles by the fourteen prize winners from the 9th ECM in Seville. The Problems Corner will be restarted from the September issue, and the Magazine plans to publish two to three articles related to the International Day of Mathematics in each March issue.

Following a comprehensive evaluation, the EC decided to reopen the Strategic Activities programme with enhanced structure and clearer guidelines. A maximum of one strategic activity will be funded each year, and only existing EMS Thematic Activity Groups will be eligible to propose activities. The process will involve two stages: expression of interest, followed by detailed proposals, with specific deadlines established throughout 2025.

The evaluation of the six existing EMS-TAGs revealed that all groups maintain high levels of activity and strong online presence. The Evaluation Committee, composed of Victoria Gould, Barbara Kaltenbacher, Susanna Terracini, and now joined by Alain Valette, will draft guidelines for the renewed Strategic Activities programme.

The Education Committee, under new chair Ann Dooms, has outlined ambitious plans including a series of webinars featuring world-class experts who have contributed through survey papers or extensive educational experience. These webinars will be open to

members of local mathematical societies and affiliated institutions, serving as foundations for policy documents, while being recorded for wider accessibility. The Committee also plans surveys on how mathematicians are involved in secondary school education and will develop materials addressing mathematics and artificial intelligence.

The EMS Code of Ethics framework continues to develop through collaborative efforts involving the Ethics Committee, the Committee for Publications and Electronic Dissemination, and the Women in Mathematics Committee. Updated documents, including the Code of Practice for Mathematical Publication and procedures for raising complaints, have been approved and published on the EMS website. The Ethics Committee is expanding its scope to address broader aspects of professional conduct in mathematics, encompassing research integrity, publication practices, teaching, and practical applications of mathematics.

Community Engagement Manager Enrico Schlitzer reported significant developments across multiple areas of EMS outreach. The inaugural issue of EMS Updates, the Society's new email newsletter, was successfully launched with a structured approach that integrates with the EMS website's news section. A communication campaign is underway to increase EMS membership, focusing particularly on early-career researchers and developing new member benefits. The management of PopMath and the EMS job hub has been enhanced, with approximately 100 mathematics events advertised since the last report. Social media presence has expanded with new Bluesky profiles for both EMS and EMS Press, complementing existing platforms and utilizing improved scheduling tools. The successful implementation of the Good Grants platform has streamlined application processes for various committees, though initial challenges due to higher application volumes have been addressed.

Throughout the meeting, the Executive Committee emphasized its unwavering commitment to diversity in all forms – geographic, gender-based, and across mathematical fields – ensuring that the EMS continues to represent and serve the entire spectrum of European mathematical activity.

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