

# European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC)

## History

EUREC has been founded in 2005. The EUREC Office, located in Bonn, acted as the responsible coordinator for the EURECNET project which started in March 2011. It was based on the results of a previous project EUREC (2006 – 2010) coordinated by the University of Lyon and was funded by the European Commission under Framework Program 7 (FP7). Since September 2012 EUREC Inc. is listed as association in the register of associations.

## Main tasks

EUREC is a network that brings together already existing national Research Ethics Committees (RECs) associations, networks or comparable initiatives on the European level. The network promotes capacity building and assistance for local RECs to cooperate in the European Research Area. As an umbrella organization the network interlinks European RECs with other bodies relevant in the field of research involving human participants like the European Commission's ethical review system and the European Medical Association (EMA). EUREC cooperates with organizations that support research ethics. Such a network forms the infrastructural basis to promote awareness of specific working practices of RECs across Europe, to enhance the shared knowledge base of European RECs, to support coherent reviews and opinions and to meet new challenges and emerging ethical issues.

## Board

EUREC's Board is composed of the Chair (currently Prof. Dr. med. Elmar Doppelfeld), the Vice Chair (currently Prof. Dr. Eugenijus Gefenas), the Secretary General (PD. Dr. Dirk Lanzerath) and three other Ordinary Members. Except for the Head of the EUREC Office, the Members of the Board are elected for terms of 3 years and reelection is possible twice. Only nominated representatives of Ordinary Members can be elected to the Board.

## Membership

Full Membership is open to one national network per member country or the national research ethics committee where only one exists. Nominated networks must be independent having no commercial or other conflicts of interest.

## Contact

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