

Year Report EASAC Foundation 2024

Executive summary

This year report of EASAC foundation describes the main activities of the board since its foundation in June 2024. It also includes a brief overview of its finances.

Foundation of Stichting EASAC/EASAC Foundation

EASAC Foundation, or *Stichting EASAC* as its official Dutch name is, was formally founded in June 4 in the Netherlands by notarial deed at the office civil-law notary Maria van Fulpen of 'Lubbers en Dijk Notarissen' in Amsterdam. The founding members were prof. Jos W. M. van der Meer, former EASAC president and member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences KNAW, prof. Brian Norton, vicepresident of EASAC and member of the Royal Irish Academy, and prof. Wim van Saarloos, president of EASAC and member of the KNAW.

The founding members also form the first board of EASAC, with van der Meer serving as chair, Norton serving as treasurer, and van Saarloos as secretary. The foundation was registered at the Kamer van Koophandel (Chamber of Commerce) in the Netherlands under number 94050945.

The aim of the EASAC Foundation is to raise money from organisations, funds and individuals to support science for policy advice by academies on themes like climate, energy, environment and biosciences and public health, themes which the network organisation [EASAC](#) presently focusses on.

EASAC Foundation relies on voluntary work by everyone involved, so board members receive no remuneration for their activities.

Application for charity (ANBI) status approved after slight revision of the statutes

Following the foundation, the board prepared an application a formal status of charity under Dutch tax law, so-called ANBI status ("Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling"). Dutch law requires an charity/ANBI to have all information on the foundation to be available publicly on specific website of the foundation. Required public information includes formation on the composition of the board, clear information whether or not board members receive remuneration for their activities, as well as a policy plan and budget plan.

In order to meet these requirements, a [policy plan](#) and budget plan were drawn up, and a domain easacfoundation.eu was claimed. Subsequently, a website was developed by the secretary using Wordpress; the hosting is provided by Hostinger.

The Dutch tax office initially informed the secretary that the initial statutes of the foundation linked the foundation too intimately to the network organisation of academies [EASAC](#) to

allow it to grant EASAC Foundation ANBI status. Following the suggestions by the Dutch tax office, the statutes were therefore changed by the notary public. The main changes were to broaden the mission of EASAC Foundation to

The objectives of the Foundation are: promoting the provision of science-based advice to Europe on topics such as climate, energy, environment and public health, in collaboration with European academies, their organizations, and their members, and to perform all such further acts and activities as are in the widest sense connected therewith, incidental thereto and/or which may be conducive thereto.

In addition, in the article about the composition of the board, the revised statutes include a requirement that at least one of the board members is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), which itself has ANBI status.

The advantage of these revised statutes is that they also allow money being raised for projects done jointly with academies or other networks of academies, like [ALLEA](#) or [FEAM](#).

Once these new statutes were formally adopted, the Dutch tax office granted EASAC Foundation ANBI status in early November 2024. The RSIN number associated with the ANBI status is 866618077.

First fundraising activities of the board

The board also started to explore various possibilities for fundraising, in accord with the policy plan established by the board (and available via the website). For approaching possible donors, a list of possible propositions were drawn up, as well as a draft [gift agreement](#) and a list of possible donors and organisations that might be interested in supporting science for policy advice through academies.

Important input for this was provided through informal advice by colleagues who have been involved either in fundraising, or who have had or have leadership roles in funds themselves. Board members interviewed several of these to identify the most promising propositions and funders.

The board is well aware that fundraising is a long-time effort, and that fundraising starts with friendraising, and with being introduced to people who are involved with a particular fund or organisation. Getting introduced in turn often starts with knowing colleagues who have contacts with those involved or individual donors. Some first contacts which were established may only pay off in later years.

The secretary of the board has also opened an EASAC Foundation bank account with the Dutch ABN-AMRO bank; any transfer made from this account can only be made once it has been approved by two board members, in accord with the four-eyes principle. The IBAN of bank account is NL66 ABNA 0136311075.

Board meetings

Most of the fundraising activities were initiated through email exchanges, but the secretary and treasurer of the board have had several online meetings and interviews. In addition to this, the board met once online to prepare for the adjustment of the statutes, during the application process for ANBI status.

A first commitment

Just before the year 2024 ended, [COFRA Philanthropy](#) informed the board informally that it was intending to make a donation of order €36750 for the [Meat Alternatives project](#) undertaken by EASAC. This is the first donation received by the foundation. Since the official confirmation letter was sent in 2025, the donation is not yet formally included in the financial reporting below. Nevertheless, the announcement just before the year came to a close was a very positive sign for the future. It stimulated the board to step up its efforts.

Financial overview

Since the network organisation of academies working together on science for policy advice under the name EASAC offered to pay for the notary costs to establish EASAC foundation, the foundation started mid 2024 with essentially zero budget and no income.

There were essentially only two types of expenses in 2024:

- 1) The bank account of EASAC Foundation at ABN-AMRO bank costs about €13,30 per month. The total expense during 2024 for maintaining the bank account came to €52,66.
- 2) For developing and hosting the website of easacfoundation.eu, an account at Hostinger was opened with a five-year subscription, for €173,66.

These two expenses imply that EASAC foundation ended the financial year 2024 with a net negative result of -€226,32. The overhead from the abovementioned donation by COFRA will result in a positive result in 2025.

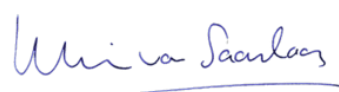
This year report was approved by the board on June 24 2025



Jos van der Meer,
chair



Brian Norton
treasurer



Wim van Saarloos
secretary