



3 October 2017
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Questions to the Candidates for President of the EPO

Dear Mr Ernst,

On behalf of the Staff Union of the EPO, we would like to extend our sincerest congratulations on your election as the new Chair of the Administrative Council.

We are in a transition phase: not only the chairmanship of the Council has changed, but we are also soon to welcome a new President of the Office. We are sure you are very keen to work towards a smooth transition and to lay healthy foundations for the new President's future work. As a responsible social partner we will, of course, do our part.

The deadline of 14 September to apply to the position of EPO President has passed. The candidates who fulfil the criteria set up by the Administrative Council are now known. We respectfully ask you to invite the candidates to consider replying to the following questions we would like to ask them:

- What would be your first steps in re-establishing social peace and trust of EPO Staff in Management?
- What steps would you take to re-establish the rule of law at the EPO and make sure that the EPO legal bodies, e.g. Boards of Appeal, Appeals Committee and Disciplinary Committees are genuinely independent?
- Would you consider favourably working with the Staff Representation on an objective assessment of psychosocial risks at the EPO, and on ways to decrease them?
- Do you intend to look at the balance between quantity and quality of the service rendered by the EPO to its users?

We thank you for your kind attention, and remain,

Yours faithfully,

Joachim Michels
Chair SUEPO Central