

FIN3R Board Meeting

15.10.2025, Zoom, 14-15h

Participants: Marianna Norring, Johanna Englund, Hajnalka Nadai, Satu Kuure, Anna Vallius, Brian Mphande, Dario Greco, Sara Sladakovic

Agenda:

1. Meeting Minutes Approval (August): meeting notes were accepted with no objections.

2. Past and future activities: this point will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

3. Annual Symposium: organization is ongoing, without obstacles. There are more than 70 registrants, around 10 people interested in the workshop. Abstract submissions were closed recently. Abstracts were not discussed yet, but that should take place in the next days.

4. R-director applications: more board members should be present to make the final decision. The discussion could be continued during the next meeting or via email. Two applications were submitted – for replacement and refinement. For the reduction director position the board members will approach candidates and invite them to join the board. Satu Kuure suggested candidates from University of Eastern Finland (Riikka Martikainen) and University of Oulu (Renata Prunskaitė-Hyyryläinen). She will share more information about them via email after the meeting. All the board members are welcome to give their own suggestions. All suggestions should be shared with the board and if accepted, invitations should be sent. The process should be finalized during the in-person meeting in Turku. The call will not be open; the third director should be chosen by invitation by the coordinator/chair. It would be nice to keep in mind the diversity of institutions/universities where people come from. Current directors can stay on the board as advisors.

Regarding the applications received: both applicants have good programs and relevant experience, they are well suited for the position. Vassileios Stratoulas is a senior researcher in Mikko Airavaara's group, with the wish to establish his own group. He has experience in research with both animal and non-animal models, and he presented a good program and would be a suitable candidate for this position. Julia Swan is a good candidate for the refinement director. She presented very good and enthusiastic program and is really motivated to join the board and contribute to the FIN3R activities.

5. TOKES update: more information will be presented in the next meeting. Shortly: preparation for the last two-years for the current term are in preparation, and if anyone has any ideas or suggestions please contact Marianna Norring. Fincopa is looking for new members to join the board, some of the current FIN3R members might be interested in these positions. Unfortunately, seems like Ecopa will be closed soon. The amendment to the animal experimentation decree was under public consultation. It will implement updates to the annexes of the EU directive.

6. Financial issues: more details will be available after the Symposium, but so far everything seems good.

7. Other issues:

- Vootele might have more updates about the European 3R network. There is a document in preparation for understanding the 3R network in Europe.

- Reminder for the upcoming meeting in Turku should be sent. It would be possible to join remotely as well, and it is good to have as many members present as possible to keep the voting of the new R-directors.

Meeting adjourned at 14.37. The next meeting will be held in-person on October 28th, 2025.