



# EUROPEAN SAILING FEDERATION

THE CONTINENTAL ASSOCIATION FOR SAILING IN EUROPE  
SUPPORTING SAILING IN EUROPE SINCE 1998

## President and Executive Board Report

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Delivered on 13/04/2024 at the 2024 Ordinary General Assembly in compliance with article 15.5.a of the Constitution.

This 2024 *President and Executive Board Report* follows the text of the [Key Priorities \(v.4.1\)](#) approved on 11/05/2021 by the Executive Board, with small amendments. Where a development has occurred, an explanation is presented **in blue type**; sometimes it relates to several items in a section and also to several sections. When delving into a prospective, forward-looking point of view, *italics* are added.

### 1. Vision: More Sailors, More Fun, More Success

“Let’s help create the conditions to bring more people to have fun sailing and to succeed as sailors and as persons with sailors at the centre of our attention.”

The Executive Board wants to take what is probably a core goal of EUROSAF Members to the Continental level. How? By leveraging EUROSAF’s vantage position to coordinate projects across Europe and to facilitate resource and knowledge sharing among Members, by increasing cooperation, and by working constructively and inclusively for sailing in Europe.

### 2. Value for the sailing community: EUROSAF’s *Raison d’Être*

EUROSAF must bring value to the sailing community: EUROSAF Members, clubs, classes, race officials, coaches, and—ultimately and foremost—sailors. The Executive Board shall implement projects to that end.

The Executive Board believes that attending meetings must distract as few resources as possible from sailing activities and that EUROSAF meetings must bring value to Members and delegates.

After three years with online annual meetings because of the COVID pandemic and the war in Ukraine, EUROSAF reverted to a physical meeting on 11/03/2023 in Rome, Italy. Delegates could again reap the benefits of physical meetings they recognized in 2018 and 2019, in terms of added value and networking opportunities, and celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of EUROSAF also in Rome in 1998. EUROSAF took the opportunity to thank some of those who have contributed to its mission along these 25 years: all past presidents but one and all past general secretaries but one where present; those who could not attend where also recognized and missed. Deep thanks go to the Italian Sailing Federation, its president, Francesco Ettorre, and his team (with Elisa at the forefront) for a wonderful organization and a very generous hospitality.

The 2024 General Assembly takes place in Balatonfüred, Hungary, under the invitation of the Hungarian Sailing Federation, which must also be thanked. On top of the usual administrative topics, a series of presentations is planned to bring more value to delegates and to allow for exchange of experience and ideas.

*The General Assembly will need to decide on its meeting location for 2025, when elections to the Executive Board will be convened. The Austrian Sailing Federation has submitted a bid to hold it in Neusiedl-am-See, close to Vienna, date TBD. The floor will be open for venue proposals for 2026 and beyond.*



### **3. Short-Term Goals: Expand Sailing Grounds**

The Executive Board shall undertake to:

#### **Consolidate the Secretariat**

- Ensure the secretary general and the supporting staff deliver an outstanding level of service to all EUROSAF stakeholders.
- Secure financial support for the secretariat from 2022 onwards.

On 10/03/2017 the Executive Board signed an agreement with the Austrian Sailing Federation. EUROSAF was granted the gratuitous right to use office, archive, parking, and meeting space on their premises in Neusiedl-am-See, Austria, some 40 km away from Vienna airport, for a 10-year period, against a limited contribution for running expenses, as long as EUROSAF's secretariat was seated there. The same year the Austrian Sailing Federation obtained a contribution towards the remuneration of the secretary general from the Austrian Ministry of Sport. Doris Gstatter took over the position of secretary general on 01/10/2020 with the continued support of Roland Regnemer. As recognized by several Members and stakeholders, the level of service provided by the secretariat improved dramatically with this arrangement. In December 2021 the funding was renewed for three years thanks to the Austrian Sailing Federation support. The 2022-2024 agreement is helping EUROSAF reach a new level of service to its Members and to the sailing community. In 2023 the Austrian Sailing Federation occupied the office the Secretariat had been granted in 2017 and informed EUROSAF of its impossibility to fully fulfil its obligations under the contract; an expectedly temporary, not quite satisfactory solution has been provided where the Secretariat uses a shared meeting room as a working space and has a cabinet to store its growing documents and material.

The Ministry conceives the funding as a way to help EUROSAF consolidate its administrative structure and secure steady income streams. Thus it revises the agreement yearly to ascertain EUROSAF fulfils its commitment to increase its annual expenses up to an agreed amount, while paying a reduced sum accordingly.

*As 2024 is the last year with the current arrangement, the conversation goes on with the Austrian Sailing Federation to try and find other ministerial sources of funding for 2025 and beyond.*

Yearly from 2017, and except in 2020 because of the pandemic, the Executive Board holds a physical meeting in Neusiedl-am-See, on top of two other physical meetings and weekly online meetings.

*The Executive Board expects to hold its 2024 autumn meeting in Neusiedl-am-See by end September.*

#### **Scale up the Race Officials Exchange Programme**

- Continue managing the EUROSAF Race Officials Exchange Programme (ROEP) and organizing an annual meeting of Members to agree on exchange activities and provide valuable content.
- Enhance the web-based tool's functionality and usability.
- Support Programme meetings.



- Encourage participation in the Programme by all Members, their national race officials, and their international event organizers, even if they do not take part in the exchange.

The 2018 EUROSAF ROEP Meeting took place in Valetta, Malta; 2019's in Athens, Greece; 2020's in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland; 2021's online, split in two meetings; 2022's in Palma de Mallorca, Spain; and 2023's in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. All but the Athens and the online meetings included the presence of the Executive Board.

The 2024 ROEP meeting took place on 13/01/2024 in Limassol (Cyprus). Thanks to the efficient organization by the Cyprus Sailing Federation, delegates representing 27 Members attended the meeting and allocated places for race officials at sailing events on the Continent for 2024. Nino Shmueli (ISR) and Anastasia Weinberger (AUT) led the three rounds of allocations. 121 events in 24 member countries were brought to the meeting table, including national and Continental championships and some major European sailing events. More than 230 spots were offered; at the end of the meeting 158 were allocated and onesome more have been allocated after the meeting. After the Race Officials exchange itself, delegates were presented the Winds of Change project from Sophia Papamichalopoulos (CYP) that aims to build peace between divided communities in Cyprus. Led by president Josep M. Pla, delegates discussed possible extensions to the programme; non-exclusionary options explored were: offering training opportunities to ROs and expanding geographically; including non-European Mediterranean MNAs as a natural option that would help them in growing the number and quality of their ROs; Asian Sailing Federation's (ASAF) strong interest in both including its members in the programme and helping it set up a similar programme. Delegates approved continuing conversations with both North African MNAs and ASAF to devise meaningful collaborations that will benefit them and also European ROs. The meeting finished with a discussion, led by vice-president Timo Hass, about general awareness of the programme in Members and urgent adaptations. The evening peaked with a wonderful dinner at the invitation of the Cyprus Sailing Federation in central Limassol.

EUROSAF thanks the Cyprus Sailing Federation, president Yiannos Photiou and his team— with Elena and Magda at the forefront—, Stasi and Nino, and all participants for this successful meeting.

*The next EUROSAF ROEP meeting will take place on 11/01/2025 in London, UK, at the invitation of the Royal Yachting Association.*

### **Support Race Officials training**

- Expand the Race Officials Exchange Programme into training in collaboration with existing training structures and in line with the EUROSAF European Sailing Academy goals.

*The Executive Board plans to promote the use of an online learning platform to offer courses to race officials, coaches, and sailors in Europe and create new training opportunities without the burden to run and finance setting up and running them. This will help EUROSAF and its Members to reach a broader audience and generate attention among participants for EUROSAF and its programmes.*

- Broaden the RO Training Study, a research into RO distribution and training systems across Europe.

*The Executive Board aims to broaden the field covered by the **Determination of Current Situation and Dissemination of Race Officials' Training in European National Sailing***



***Federations** report (presented at the 2020 ROEP Meeting and later published by Edizioni Quapeg in Geografia, Geopolitica e Geostrategia dello Sport. Tra governance e mondializzazione) to give Members a better understanding of the different RO systems used among them and help them grasp best practice.*

## **Develop EUROSAF Events**

- Continue setting up EUROSAF Class Cups in collaboration with class associations to promote enhanced and cross-European participation in class events.

EUROSAF and the **International 420 Class Association** jointly set up the **EUROSAF 420 Cup**, a series of regattas within Europe to foster and promote two-person dinghy sailing. EUROSAF awards medals to the top placed Boys/Mixed U19, Girls U19 and Open U17 teams across the retained events. The best boys' and girls' teams under 19 and the best team under 17 are eligible for an extra starting place (over the quotas for their nations) at the *420 Junior European Championship*, with the entry fee waived by the Class.

*The Cup is expected to continue after a brief interruption and a revision to the ranking system.*

Building on this successful experience, in 2021 EUROSAF launched the **EUROSAF Inclusive Cup** that includes events sailed in 2.4mR boats in different countries. EUROSAF awarded medals to the best three sailors overall and to the best female sailor. The Cup ended in 2023 due to the national class associations' own efforts to organise a Cup-like competition.

In 2022 EUROSAF partnered with Formula Kite Series Spain (FKSS), a project to establish a European Kite Series that was successfully launched in Spain and is expected to expand to other southern-European countries.

Such cups or circuits are a great opportunity for sailors from all over Europe to meet, exchange, and compete at an international level. By traveling further afield than their home waters they discover new regattas and new fellow sailors and enhance their experience. By being consistent in their results they have a European recognition within reach. In addition, the selected regattas experience an increase in participation, especially from other parts of Europe.

Cups are also an effective way to enhance existing events' reach, to increase participation, and to bring value to all parties involved, especially the participating events' organizing authorities, without cluttering an overcrowded calendar.

The **ranking** that goes with EUROSAF Cups is a valuable service EUROSAF offers sailors who attend the events; it promotes participation and gives more value to sailors, classes, and organizing authorities without adding events to the calendar. EUROSAF Cups are open to all classes wishing to link events spread throughout Europe.

*EUROSAF is in talks with **Star Sailors League** to organize a **EUROSAF SSL European Championship** in 2025.*

*The Executive Board plans to revise the ranking system in collaboration with classes involved to make Cups more attractive and relevant to sailors and organizing authorities. It looks forward to expanding collaboration with Classes and invites them to organize Cups jointly (series encompassing existing events and giving winners a European title and further tangible benefits).*



- Set up EUROSAF Cups in cooperation with major event organizers previously involved in the EUROSAF Sailing Champions Cup.

The Executive Board held talks with major European event organizers to define a realistic, gradual set of actions and related calendar to launch a European Olympic Classes circuit, with a limited number of classes to start with, inspired by the successful EUROLYMP circuit of old. Organizing authorities contacted have been reluctant to enter into further discussions.

- Welcome classes wishing to hold EUROSAF European Championships in line with EUROSAF Events policy.

As a way to fulfil EUROSAF's vision, the Executive Board teams with Classes wishing to hold EUROSAF Class European Championships and enhance their reach, such as the **Bénéteau First 18** and **First 27** Classes, the **L30 OD Class**, the **Pirat Class**, the **Platu25 Class**, and the **69F Class**.

*The Executive Board aims to expand collaboration with Classes and invites them to organize EUROSAF European Class Championships jointly.*

- Enhance communication about EUROSAF Events and foster participation.

All EUROSAF events have been publicized to Members and posted on both the website and the Facebook channel with all the information received from organizers.

*The Executive Board expects event organizers to provide as much information as possible about their event, both in advance for its promotion and during the event itself to enhance public reach, and plans to extend the reach of its communication by actively collaborating with Members' channels. An additional step could be to include mandatory communication services in EUROSAF Events and thereby enhance their value.*

- Bring value to EUROSAF Events organizers and sponsors.

*The Executive Board looks forward to creating series of existing events under a EUROSAF Cup flag to bring value to Classes, event organizers, and sailors, as explained above. Including mandatory communication services in EUROSAF Events would also have a positive impact for all stakeholders and is being pondered by the Executive Board.*

- Develop and apply sustainability goals.

EUROSAF has teamed up with **BioDesign Foundation**, a Swiss nonprofit entity, to include cleanup actions during events, starting with one such action in Los Alcázares, Murcia, Spain, before the Formula Kite European Championship, where 4 tons of waste were collected by over 150 people with the support of the Los Alcázares municipality, volunteers, and local associations. The BioDesign Foundation promotes research and implementation of solutions and actions to ecological challenges and has created "The Custodians Plastic Race" to clean the planet from plastic dispersed in nature through coordinated, simultaneous, and capillary interventions and cleanups in places where waste needs to be removed. The Executive Board recognizes sailing requires a healthy sea and a clean environment, and reckons sailors need to be actively involved in taking care of their sailing grounds to enjoy the sport and to improve the perception of local communities and the general public that sailing has a positive impact on them.

*The BioDesign Foundation will make a presentation to delegates during the 2024 General Assembly meeting to explain its goals and how it works, to present the existing collaboration*



*with EUROSAF and its possible expansion, and to invite Members to be involved in cleaning the planet.*

- Set down EUROSAF Events regulations along the lines of EUROSAF Match Racing regulations.

The Executive Board published the [EUROSAF Events Regulations](#) in 2023, expanding the previous EUROSAF Match Racing Regulations.

- Create guidelines for EUROSAF Events following the Key Priorities (e.g. training, development, increased participation in sailing, cultural exchange...) to enhance the value EUROSAF Events bring to Members, race officials, coaches, sailors, and to the European sailing community.

*The Executive Board aims to finalize such requirements for EUROSAF Events.*

- Finalize the bidding and granting process of EUROSAF Events at least one year in advance.

All **2023 EUROSAF Events** were sailed.

- The **EUROSAF Match Racing, Youth European Championship** took place in Nantes, France, from 21 April to 1 May, and was won by Ben Tylecote (GBR), followed by Ange Delerce (FRA) and Ian Garreta (FRA).
- The first **EUROSAF eSailing European Championship** was organized in collaboration with the Italian Sailing Federation, Sombrero Sport, and Virtual Regatta from 17 to 29 May and won by Tristan Peron (FRA) followed by Arthur Farley (GBR) and TRAP-Pichnet (FRA); the Women's title went to Natalia Pryba (POL).
- The **EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship** sailed from La Spezia to Genoa, Italy, from 19 to 24 June and was won by Andrea Caracci/Roberta Fazzana (ITA), followed by Lydia Barber/Josh Dawson (GBR) and Giacomo Nicchitta/Arianna Liconti (ITA).
- The **EUROSAF Match Racing, Women's European Championship** was organized in Ledro, Italy, from 27 to 30 June and won by Team Pauline Courtois (FRA), followed by Team Kenza Courtard (FRA) and Team Sofia Giondi (ITA).
- The **EUROSAF Youth Club Sailing European Championship** was organized in Versoix, Switzerland, from 29 June to 02 July and won by the team of Til Seger (SUI), followed by the team of Simon Kaiser (SUI) and the team of Alexis Pariat (SUI).
- The **EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship** was organized in the EUROSAF Sailing Academy in Murcia, Spain, from 23 to 30 September. Piotr Cichocki (POL) won the Open Individual, the Inclusive Men's Individual, and the Doubles titles; Alina Gelpí (ESP) won the Women's Individual title.
- The first **EUROSAF Female Offshore European Championship** sailed from Venice to Taranto, Italy, from 26 September to 1 October and was won by Elli Driver/Catherine Hunt (GBR), followed by Roisin O'Halloran/Connie Stevens (IRL) and Florencia Lazzari/Helena Schneider (GER).
- The **EUROSAF Match Racing, Open European Championship** was organized in Bedanne, France, from 5 to 9 December and won by Team Ian Garreta (FRA), followed by Team Maxim Mesnil (FRA) and Team Damian Michelier (FRA).

Concerning **EUROSAF Class championships**:



- The **EUROSAF Bénéteau First 18 SE & Seascope18 European Championship** was sailed in Gmunden, Austria, from 7 to 11 June and won by Dejan Presen/Dénes Szilágyi (SLO), followed by Angelika Stark/Martin Pöll (AUT) and Lukas Hobiger/Dieter Schneider (AUT).
- The **EUROSAF Bénéteau First 27 SE & Seascope 27 European Single-handed Championship** took place in Svendborg, Denmark, from 13 to 17 September as part of the Silverrudder race, and was won by Milan Tomek (CZE), followed by Per Cederberg (DEN) and Peder Edman (SWE).
- The **EUROSAF Pirat Junior European Championship** was organized in Csopak, Hungary, from 16 to 23 September and won by Frieder Billerbeck/Julius Rathel (GER) followed by Gabor Sallai/Anna Payr (HUN) and Svenja Thoroe/Karsten Bredt (GER).
- The **EUROSAF 69F European Championship** was run in Puntaldia, Italy, from 19 to 24 September and won by FIN1 Racing (FIN), followed by Group Atlantic Sailing Team (FRA) and Katana Sailing (SUI).

Concerning **EUROSAF Cups**:

- The **EUROSAF Inclusive Cup**, linking six events sailed in 2.4mR boats in three countries (Jesolo, Italy; Velden, Austria; Lovere, Italy; Maurach, Austria; Geierswalder See, Germany; Prien, Germany) went ahead with finally only two events included in the final ranking (Jesolo and Geierswalder See) for lack of enough countries represented in the others and crowned Heiko Gröger (GER), Oliver Thies (GER) and Jürgen Freiheit (GER).

A heartfelt thank-you goes to all organizing authorities, club staff, volunteers, race officials, and of course sailors and their support teams, involved in EUROSAF Events.

Some **2024 EUROSAF Events** are still open for bids. Contact the secretary general to host any of them.

- **EUROSAF Match Racing, Open and Women's European Championship**: scheduled in Ravenna, Italy, from 4 to 9 June.
- **EUROSAF Match Racing, Youth European Championship**: still open for bids.
- **EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship**: still open for bids.
- **EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship**: still open for bids.

Concerning **EUROSAF Class championships**:

- **EUROSAF Bénéteau First 18 SE & Seascope18 Open European Championship**: expected in Seebruck at Lake Chiemsee, Germany, from 29 May to 2 June (TBC).
- **EUROSAF Bénéteau First 27 SE & Seascope27 European Single-handed Championship**: expected in Svendborg, Denmark (dates TBC).
- **EUROSAF Pirat Youth European Championship**: scheduled in Ribnitz-Damgarten, Germany, from 12 to 17 August.

For the moment, no **EUROSAF Cup** is scheduled for 2024.

*All **2025 EUROSAF Events** are open for bids.*

*For all EUROSAF Events the Executive Board keenly requests the **support of all EUROSAF Members**, via participation. Organizers setting them up are eager to run successful, memorable events and want their efforts to benefit as many European sailors as possible. Please pass this information to people in charge in your Federation and support the events by sending teams and sailors to participate. Take part and spread the word!*



- Closely follow up the implementation of events regulations and workflows regarding contracts, payments, and event organization.

The treasurer and the secretary general streamlined the workflow for events by following up the allocation of events with sending of contract and of invoice. This resulted in greater control of the administrative process and shortening of payment terms. The Executive Board drafted a common base contract for EUROSAF Events and EUROSAF Cup events. A simpler process for checking Notices of Race and Sailing Instructions was set up.

- Ensure a EUROSAF representative attends all EUROSAF Events.

In 2023 10 EUROSAF Events were attended by a EUROSAF representative, in most occasions acting as a race official.

*In 2024 such an attendance is expected at all EUROSAF Events and, whenever possible, as race officials through the Race Officials Exchange Programme.*

- Keep on pushing for Para Sailing expansion in Europe and promoting inclusive events.

The 2023 **EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship** was sailed in Los Alcázares, Spain, from 23 to 30 September, in Hansa 303 boats. The **EUROSAF Inclusive Cup**, sailed in 2.4mR boats, linked six events across three countries.

*The 2024 **EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship** has not yet been granted; a proposal from Italy has been received and will be reviewed by the Executive Board. The **EUROSAF Inclusive Cup** will not take place in 2024 because of the national class associations' own efforts to organize a Cup-like competition.*

- Continue supporting World Sailing in re-introducing Para Sailing into the Paralympic sports programme.

*As is apparent from the upholding of the **EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship** and the creation of the **EUROSAF Inclusive Cup** described above, and in spite of sad and frustrating decisions concerning both Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028, the Executive Board is committed to continue supporting Para Sailing, especially in inclusive set-ups, as a support to sailors and a contribution to gaining back inclusion in the Paralympic Games sports programme in the future.*

- Promote the inclusion of sailing into the European Games.

Thanks to the direct involvement of the Turkish Sailing Federation (TSF), whose president Özlem Akdurak attended a General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) in Istanbul and has been following up with local authorities after the next **European Games** were granted to the city, the introduction of sailing in this continental competition appears within reach, even though it was not included in the previous three editions. The EOC has voiced concerns about costs that need to be addressed before its General Assembly decides about sports included in a future meeting. The Executive Boards thanks TSF and its president for their continuous involvement and support in this important project.

*The Executive Board invites Members to approach their National Olympic Committees to express support in the EOC General Assembly for the inclusion of sailing in the European Games and aims at coordinating the effort.*

### **Expand involvement into e-sailing**

- Link EUROSAF Events to e-sailing counterparts.
- Develop an e-sailing strategy in collaboration with EUROSAF stakeholders.





After a mixed 2020 experience with an online regatta linked to the EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship that brought some 14,000 entrants but low engagement, EUROSAF organized in May 2023—in collaboration with the Italian Sailing Federation, Sombrero Sport, and Virtual Regatta—the first **EUROSAF eSailing European Championship**. The winners were Tristan Peron (FRA) and Natalia Pryba (POL); vice-president Marco Predieri presented a medal to the winner during the Ocean Race finals in Genoa.

The Swedish and the Turkish Sailing Federations have partnered under the leadership of the Polish Yachting Association to set up **DigiSail**, an Erasmus+ project approved and funded by the EU that was presented to EUROSAF Members in a EUROSAF Webinar.

*For 2024 a proposal connected to the Italian Sailing Federation is explored and another one from the Polish Yachting Association is expected.*

### **Broaden development projects**

- Keep up development webinars.

Following six webinars organized in 2021 and again in 2022, two were organized in 2023:

- 22/02/2023: **Sailing for Better Future** by Monika Pacheco (POL), project manager.
- 19/04/2023: **Orca Project** from the Cruising Association, by John Burbeck (GBR), project chair.

- Look for answers to the Millennial Problem: “instant gratification” and “no commitment.”

The Executive Board believes the change in mentality, goals, and ways of life of younger generations creates a challenge for sailing and the business model of many stakeholders, especially Members and their clubs. Millennials (people born after 2000) are said to seek *instant gratification* (having fun now and not in the future after a long training process) and accepting *no commitment* (not being ready to invest, as opposed to spend, time and money, especially when fun is not guaranteed). This approach seems at odds with the way sailing is generally proposed to new entrants and with business models based on selling boats and renting moorings; it requires new value propositions to gain their interest and participation.

*The Executive Board aims at teaming up with Members and interested stakeholders to explore this situation and look for effective action plans.*

- Promote further collaboration between Members, especially with projects including exchange and training.

EUROSAF promoted a series of projects from Members aiming to bring value to them and to participants, such as the **Optimist On Tour** project from the Royal Dutch Watersports Association bringing sailing to young people in a fun and accessible way and keeping them connected to the sport, later adapted by the German Sailing Federation as the youth sailing programme “Segelsport vor Ort – Seglerjugend Road Show”; the **EUROSAF European U23 Team Race Championship and Team Race Clinic** for athletes, coaches, and umpires that had to take place in Campione del Garda, Italy, and include training for sailors, coaches, and race officials; the **College Placement Programme** from the International Junior Sailing Academy in Italy, with scholarships for promising young athletes given through their MNAs; the **Double Handed Academy** that had to take place in Genoa, aimed at female sailors willing to be up to speed in offshore sailing.

*The Executive Board is open to collaborating in and promoting promising projects.*



- Encourage Members thinking about a sailing project or solving a sailing problem to turn to EUROSAF to connect with Members sharing their goal or having already found a solution and thus create a multiplier effect.

When you are thinking about a sailing project or solving a sailing problem, bring EUROSAF into the equation. Probably other Members share your goal or may even have found a solution. Put your thoughts and efforts in common or seek expert advice from fellow Members. Come on board and enjoy **EUROSAF's multiplier effect!**

### **Aim for the European Sailing Academy**

- Continue researching into race officials training systems across Europe.  
See the explanation about the completed study in *Support Race Officials Training* above.  
*After the successful publication of the study, the Executive Board aims to continue its collaboration with research institutions to deepen this first study and develop it into further areas of interest.*
- Redefine the ESA-WEST project taking advantage of COVID-adapted online training and meeting tools and launch a first edition.
- Set up the ESA-WAVE project as a one-week test event for the ESA-WEST project.

The **ESA-WEST** project aims at bridging the gap between knowledge producers (research) and its users (athletes, coaches, officials, and administrators) in all fields relating to or having an impact on sailing in a dynamic, challenging, and rewarding environment. It wants to improve the interest of sailing as a field of study, and thus enlarge the body of knowledge about the sport, put such knowledge within easy reach, and show sailing's potential as an educational tool. It also plans to benefit EUROSAF Members directly by providing improved education in and about sailing, increased visibility and impact of sailing-related research, more research in sailing-related fields, new sailing-related knowledge, job opportunities for sailors reaching end of sailing career, and useful networking and collaboration occasions.

*The Executive Board aims at teaming with a university to redefine the project and adapt it to post-pandemic tools and ways.*

The Executive Board has reached an agreement with the regional government of Region de Murcia, Spain, to set up a permanent training centre in Los Alcázares, on Mar Menor, and provide Members with a facility they may use year-long for training sessions and other sailing activities, especially in winter and early spring. The Mar Menor, accessible from Alicante airport one hour away, is the largest salt-water lagoon in Europe and has virtually no waves, making it an excellent location for foiling disciplines. The **EUROSAF Sailing Academy** is inserted in the *Centro de Alto Rendimiento Infanta Cristina*, a high level, multi-sport training centre that belongs to the regional government of Murcia and provides auxiliary services, such as accommodation, meals, classrooms, gyms, etc., managed by the Region. The agreement runs for five years and creates no financial obligations for EUROSAF, which must organize a European level championship yearly. The EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship in 2023 and the Formula Kite European Championship in 2024 fulfilled this obligation with honours. The Academy started its winter training activities by hosting the GBR 49erFX promise team that works towards the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games; under RYA's Crew4Gold programme, the athletes attended training sessions in Murcia until end February; after the Formula Kite event three Polish teams of windsurfers trained there and prepared for summer competitions. To manage the Centre on EUROSAF



behalf, the Executive Board has teamed, against a fee, with Univela Sailing, a local company led by Rafa González (ESP), a former vice-president of EUROSAF with more than 20 years' experience in running international events.

*If your sailors need a place to train year-round, and especially in wonderful winter and spring conditions, check the EUROSAF Sailing Academy in Murcia, Spain.*

- Keep on taking part in Erasmus+ projects funded by the EU that can have a positive impact on sailing.

*After helping Members in the dissemination efforts of their Erasmus+ projects, especially through webinars, EUROSAF is ready to be a partner in Erasmus+ projects promoted by Members and other stakeholders.*

- Take part in the SKILLS by SPORT 4 MED (SBS4Med) project promoted by ASAG – Catholic University Milano as an Erasmus+ call.

In November 2019 the European Commission funded the SKILLS by SPORT 4 MED project promoted by Forum Sport4Impact that plans to train and educate people to develop or change work skills and competencies, set up an experimentation in Mediterranean countries, create awareness, and construct a set of open educational resources to support soft and professional skill development through sport. After the data was collected and a first conference was cancelled due to the pandemic, a second international Conference in five instalments, available online, was attended by EUROSAF Members and Executive Board members, geared towards designing and activating private public policies to address four key issues in the framework of UN Sustainable Development Goals.

On 03/02/2023 vice-president Alexandru Micu attended online a meeting held in Larnaka, Cyprus, providing input regarding using sailing to build a sustainable developing system and giving the example of Viana do Castelo (Portugal); on 24/02/2023 first vice-president Pinar Coşkuner Genç attended online a meeting held in Beirut, Lebanon; on 31/03/2023 vice-presidents Alexandru Micu (online) and Marco Predieri (on site) attended a meeting in Milan, Italy.

*The Executive Board will continue to support the project in accordance with its goals and the coordinator instructions.*

- Continue developing a European network of collaborating universities and higher education institutions.

EUROSAF signed Memoranda of Understanding with two universities defining collaboration goals, both expired. The pandemic put a stop to further agreements to create a European network of collaborating institutions to give the sailing community easier access to sailing related knowledge and the sport of sailing wider recognition as a fruitful field of study.

*The Executive Board aims to resume partnerships with universities active in the field of sailing.*

### **Grow EUROSAF funding**

The 2023 **accounts** show that the income from Member subscriptions was slightly lower than planned. One Member has not paid the 2023 membership fees until today. The payment of Ukraine for 2023 (including the membership fee for 2016) was suspended. Except for two organizers, all event fees from 2023 were received. Because all events were carried out as planned, the events fees for the Inclusive Cup were increased, and one class



European Championship for the 69F class was added, the income from event fees was significantly higher than expected.

Most of the **expenses** concerning running costs developed as expected or below budget. Significant deviations in running costs occurred in the costs of travelling of members of the Executive Board and Committees as visits and travels were combined to keep these costs low. Expenses on investments need to be addressed separately. Costs for promotion include the production of roll ups and the costs of waterproof notebooks handed out at meetings in 2022. To be able to set-up the European Sailing Academy a provision of 3,500 Euros was created. Contrary to expectations, the development of the software and IT infrastructure for the ROEP could not be carried out and had to be rescheduled for 2024. Expenses for Marketing/Events/Awards include the purchase of new medals (3,750 Euros) and additional costs for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary that were not budgeted for 2023. To keep the protection for EUROSAF trademarks after their expiration in 2023, a competent law firm was mandated with the renewal; these costs were not budgeted for in 2023.

The 2023 **balance** shows that the reserves have been reduced as budgeted. The outstanding accounts relate to membership fees, of which 470 Euros are covered by an agreement with the relevant Member. 705 Euros relate to membership fees of one Member that declares to have difficulties in transferring money to EUROSAF/EU bank accounts. Unsettled event fees sum to 1,135 Euros. One invoice from 2021, that was received in 2022, is still open for payment thus resulting in the liabilities shown in the balance sheet. The provisions amount to a total of 15,600 Euros, of which 2,500 Euros are allocated to the development of the ROEP software, a further 7,500 Euros are designated for the additional costs of the website development and 3,500 Euros relate to the European Sailing Academy; 1,200 Euros are free provisions. An amount of 470 Euros concerning the agreed payments by Ukraine in 2023 had to be written off as irretrievable.

The 2024 **budget** is based on the experience from previous years and contains investments that are planned in 2024. The funding from the Austrian government, negotiated by the Austrian Sailing Federation, is confirmed until the end of 2024 with an increasing share of costs to be borne by EUROSAF. Investments include costs for the software and IT infrastructure for the ROEP, the European Sailing Academy, and promotional items such as flags and commemorative gifts.

- Find a title sponsor for EUROSAF or for one or more of its projects.

The Executive Board has revived a former project that investigated insurance needs of Members, clubs, organizing authorities, race officials, coaches, and sailors.

*The Executive Board aims at launching an online survey to understand better the needs of Members and what risks are insured in different countries and how, and what opportunities for useful insurance services may exist. The next step for the Executive Board would be to look for a European-wide insurer who can offer insurance policies to cover such risks for a competitive premium, adapted to Members needs and their national legislation.*

- Finalize recovery of outstanding bills.

The treasurer has been collecting past dues actively. An agreement is in place with one Member whereby arrears are paid in addition to annual membership fees. One Member is in arrears with the payment for three consecutive years (2021 to 2023) due to difficulties in transferring money to EUROSAF/EU bank accounts. Two event organizers are in arrears with payments from 2023.



## Further a good relationship with World Sailing

- Expand the collaboration with World Sailing.

In November 2020 first vice-president Tomasz Chamera was elected World Sailing vice-president and assumed the responsibility of liaising with EUROSAF. In February 2021 vice-president Pinar Coşkuner Genç was nominated chair of World Sailing's Development and Regions Committee and member of the Race Management Sub-Committee; vice-president Yana Dobzhitskaya vice-chair of World Sailing's Match Racing Sub-Committee and member of the International Judges Sub-Committee; vice-president and treasurer Timo Haß member of World Sailing's Ethics Commission and Race Officials Committee; vice-president Anne Mallédant member of World Sailing's Race Management, Match Racing, and Youth Events Sub-Committees; and vice-president Marco Predieri member of World Sailing's Events Committee. In February 2022 first vice-president Pinar Coşkuner Genç was appointed Principal Race Officer at the 2024 Olympic Games.

Since 2018 the president has formally invited World Sailing presidents to EUROSAF Annual Meetings. World Sailing vice-presidents Tomasz Chamera (POL) and Özlem Ardurak (TUR) attended the 2023 General Assembly and addressed the meeting in representation of World Sailing.

*World Sailing president Quanghai Li (CHN) and vice-president Tomasz Chamera will attend the 2024 General Assembly. The Executive Board aims at further expanding its collaboration with World Sailing.*

- Define and promote a better integration of EUROSAF and other Continental Associations into World Sailing institutions.

The president and first vice-president have attended Regional Associations' meetings that started around a development project in Oceania, finalized with input from all regions and presented to World Sailing. The constructive discussions brought together representatives from all Regional Associations and resulted in a general willingness to keep the participation forum working and open to exchange. Meetings then focused on how to define a relevant role for Continental Associations in World Sailing and resulted in a proposal presented to the Board of World Sailing to create a **Continental Associations Commission** as an advisory body for development matters to the Board, together with draft terms of reference. A meeting was held during the World Sailing annual conference in Málaga, Spain, where a list of tasks for the Commission was drafted and later presented at the Development and Regions Committee meeting.

*The Executive Board expects the Commission to be formally created by the World Sailing Board and entrusted with terms of reference.*

## Maintain good communication with Members

- Keep on sending bimonthly emails to EUROSAF stakeholders and interested parties.

The president sent three informative emails with current activities and projects to Members and interested parties in 2023. All president's messages are available on EUROSAF's website.

- Continue meeting with Members' delegates during World Sailing meetings.

Since the World Sailing mid-year meeting in 2017, up to the last **Annual Conference in Málaga** in 2023, a EUROSAF promoted meeting with Members' delegates has taken place



at each World Sailing physical meeting. 43 delegates from 29 Members gathered with Executive Board members in Málaga to be updated about EUROSAF projects. Following the welcome to delegates from president Josep M. Pla, first vice-president Pınar Coşkuner Genç presented the upcoming ROEP meeting in Limassol and gave a report about the 2023 webinars. Rafa González informed about the EUROSAF Sailing Academy in Murcia, Spain, and invited all Members to benefit from the wonderful winter sailing conditions there. Vice-president Timo Hass spoke about the good standing of EUROSAF's finances, thanks to the generous contribution of the Austrian Ministry of Sport and the Austrian Sailing Federation. In addition, he informed Members about plans to create educational material to support Members with small structures in creating a group of race officials and coaches capable of running high level events in their regions. Members were also asked to provide input about a new possible event that would crown the best European sailing nation and show-case a new, mixed and team-based, discipline. The president explained the process that brought the Continental/Regional Associations Commission to be presented to the Board of World Sailing for creation as an advisory body for development matters; he described the constructive discussions that brought together representatives from all Continental Associations around a development project in Oceania and the general willingness to keep this participation forum working and open for exchange. Vice-president Yana Dobzhitskaya spoke about EUROSAF Events and the bids still open in 2024 and 2025 and about EUROSAF Events Regulations that combine regulations for all EUROSAF events in one document.

Edo Fantela (CRO) requested support from EUROSAF and its Members to reactivate sailing activities in the Balkan region. Maciej Szafran (POL) informed about the possibilities of using the Erasmus+ EU funding programme for cooperative projects among Members and with EUROSAF. Charles Glover (GBR) thanked the Executive Board members for their presentations and asked the treasurer to give a detailed report in the upcoming General Assembly on the support from the Ministry and the cost of the staff in Austria.

Thank you to all Members' delegates who took part in the meeting.

*The Executive Board aims to continue meeting with Members' delegates during World Sailing physical meetings, the next one being scheduled in Singapore next November.*

- Create opportunities for personal contact with and between stakeholders.

As reported above, the **2024 ROEP Meeting** took place in Limassol, Cyprus, on 13/01/2024. The **2024 General Assembly** is taking place in Balatonfüred, Hungary, on 13/04/2024 with time for networking and side meetings as demanded by delegates. The **2025 ROEP Meeting** will take place in London on 11/01/2025.

*The Executive Board is committed to holding physical meetings, unless health or travel restrictions forbid them or Members decide otherwise.*

Since 2019 the Executive Board sends a representative to each EUROSAF Event, in line with *Develop EUROSAF Events* priorities.

*The same presence goal is set for all future EUROSAF Events.*

- Continue updating and collecting contact details of key people Members want to keep informed.

Although the Executive Board regularly informs EUROSAF Members at the official address they have provided the Secretariat, communication is not always direct with people in charge of EUROSAF matters. When information does not reach them, Members who want to be punctually informed and swiftly access projects of their interest are clearly hindered.



To improve communication, the secretary general launches an updating process every end of year.

Members may submit contact details of additional key people they want to keep informed to ensure that no opportunity is lost to them, without disabling any official channel of communication. As noted above, the Executive Board informs Members and stakeholders of EUROSAF developments through all available channels: website, email, social media, Basecamp, and personal contact when possible.

- Understand Member's needs, especially those that can be solved through cooperation projects.

The EUROSAF Sailing Academy in Murcia described in *Aim for the European Sailing Academy* and the insurance project presented in *Grow EUROSAF funding* are examples of identifying possible Members' needs and looking for ways to provide for them.

*The Executive Board is open to proposals from Members to help them fulfil their needs through cooperation with other Members and other stakeholders.*

### **Apply good governance principles in line with IOC recommendations**

- Statement concerning war in Ukraine

Following the start of the war in Ukraine on 24/02/2022, EUROSAF joined [recommendations of the International Olympic Committee](#) and the [World Sailing statement of 1 March](#) and decided the following, as confirmed by the General Assembly:

- EUROSAF suspends participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in EUROSAF Events until further notice. This is especially to ensure the safety of all participants. EUROSAF has no events planned in Russia or Belarus in 2022.
- The Executive Board strongly recommends all Members and event organizers to implement this measure and to suspend participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in their competitions and events. This also includes race officials' spots allocated through the EUROSAF Race Officials Exchange Programme.
- The Executive Board strongly recommends not sending athletes and officials to Russian and Belarusian events.
- The upcoming EUROSAF General Assembly on 12/03/2022 will not take place in Croatia as planned due to the current situation in Europe, but online. The Executive Board considers it is important to keep lines of communication open, so delegates from Russia and Belarus are also welcome in this online meeting.
- The Executive Board expresses its appreciation for Yana Dobzhitskaya as a EUROSAF Executive Board member from Russia with enormous knowledge and commitment to European sailing sport. She will therefore continue to be involved and attend all meetings. However, she will not participate in decisions concerning Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine.
- The Executive Board is committed to helping Ukrainian sailors as much as it can. Only last year, the very first international sailing championship took place in Ukraine, under the EUROSAF umbrella. As a first measure, the Executive Board has decided to waive both the EUROSAF membership fee for the Sailing Federation of Ukraine and the entry fee for Ukrainian sailors in EUROSAF Events in 2022. Our thoughts are with our friends in the Ukrainian sailing community, whom EUROSAF will support in any way it can.



The General Assembly gave the Executive Board authority to amend and to terminate the statement according to the development of the situation and to IOC and World Sailing recommendations. In January 2023 the IOC launched a consultation to confirm or modify its guidance.

*The Executive Board looks forward to peace returning immediately and to sailing resuming in friendly competition. It will continue to monitor the situation and stand ready to amend EUROSAF's statement following any new IOC and World Sailing guidelines, in the strong belief that acting in line with the sports community will enhance our common response and that discussion and negotiation, rather than exclusion and termination of communication, are the correct way to bridge gaps, however wide.*

- Keep on applying the principles of good governance set forth by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), namely transparency, integrity, democracy, sports development/solidarity, and control mechanisms.
- Measure the improvement in their application by a yearly assessment following ASOIF recommendations.

Although non-compulsory, in 2017 the Executive Board decided to improve EUROSAF's governance by following the principles of good governance set forth by the **Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF)** for its members, namely transparency, integrity, democracy, sports development/solidarity, and control mechanisms. The Executive Board believes the criteria defined in the *ASOIF Governance Task Force International Federation Self-Assessment Questionnaire* set a course for improvement and provide a yardstick to measure it. Hence, the Executive Board identified and decided on a wide set of actions to improve EUROSAF's governance, as measured by compliance with ASOIF criteria, and decided to apply them as an on-going process.

In 2021 the General Assembly approved the **EUROSAF Code of Ethics** proposed by the Executive Board that refers to all relevant ASOIF guiding codes and is adapted to EUROSAF's Continental role, in effect keeping EUROSAF up-to-date regarding all ASOIF recommended guiding codes. The Executive Board and the Secretariat have continued applying actions identified as improving compliance with the ASOIF criteria.

*To continue improving EUROSAF's governance, the Executive Board plans to keep up with the ongoing process without overtaxing EUROSAF's resources and capabilities.*

### **Make the most of consulting bodies' expertise**

- Adopt a team approach for projects and bring together experts in specific consulting bodies according to their skills and availability.
- Set precise goals and deadlines for each consulting body in their Terms of Reference and measure their achievement; if needed, reshuffle their membership according to achievement and participation.

After the 2021 General Assembly decided, on a proposal from the Executive Board, to change the consulting bodies' structure, the **Legal Committee** continued operating, as well as the **ROEP Guidelines Working Party**—set up to bring forth guidelines for running the Programme and matching race officials to events—and the **ROEP IT/Software Working Party**—set up to define the structure for a Programme's IT tool—, that has fulfilled its task.

At the 2023 General Assembly it was proposed to set up an **Ice Sailing Working Party**, pending because of lack of candidates, and a **Games of the Small States of Europe Working**





**Party**, aiming at securing sailing presence in all editions of the Games, which started operating during the Games of the Small States of Europe held in Malta in 2023.

*The Executive Board looks forward to continue implement a team, results focused approach whenever it sets up new consulting bodies.*

- Coordinate and foster consulting bodies' projects.

The Executive Board fondly thanks all current consulting bodies' members for their work and involvement.

*The Executive Board expects consulting bodies to proactively provide EUROSAF with relevant expertise and inspiring projects that make the most of EUROSAF Members capacity and willingness to cooperate and exchange and expects them to be driving forces behind EUROSAF's projects.*

- Bring all communication and collaboration within consulting bodies under Basecamp.

People are used to emails and, recently, Whatsapp. These tools, however useful, lack features needed when working on several projects with different teams changing in composition. Structuring and archiving, to name just two basic functions, are key for team members to contribute meaningfully and efficiently and to easily access past discussions and documents. Further tools, such as task assigning, deadline setting, progress tracking, and more, are bonuses available on **Basecamp**. However compelling, these capabilities have a tough time overcoming resistance to change and the learning curve needed.

*The Executive Board will continue using Basecamp and offering it as consulting bodies' communication and collaboration tool for all to benefit from its capabilities.*

### **Sustain online communication**

- Deliver one-to-one communication with EUROSAF stakeholders; use a suitable IT platform (currently Basecamp) to communicate with the relevant people in member MNAs.

The Executive Board uses **Basecamp**, an online collaboration platform, to communicate and coordinate actions almost daily. All consulting bodies' members have been granted access to Basecamp and some use it regularly.

*To help Members keep their information updated and mutual channels of communication open, a [form](#) is available on the website.*

- Continue including in the website past information from the previous website and other sources, when available.
- Adapt EUROSAF's website structure to include more information and improve usability.

In 2022, the Secretariat launched a project to bring the website up to date with the latest technology together with a professional provider. After selecting one of the bids received (from Austria and Turkey), the project was implemented in the second half of 2023. The work took significantly longer than planned; the **new website** was finally presented in December and involved a change of provider.

- Grow EUROSAF's communication impact.

EUROSAF activities are regularly posted on the website and on Facebook and Instagram channels, together with connected events and activities that expand EUROSAF's reach and increase its partners' goodwill.



*The Executive Board looks forward to all people related to EUROSAF with an active Facebook account to “like” EUROSAF and to “like” all announcements, thus helping to expand their reach and impact.*

*The Executive Board encourages all stakeholders with news or graphic material related to EUROSAF to share them with the secretary general and thus expand their reach and enrich EUROSAF channels; it plans to extend the reach of its own communication by actively collaborating with Members’ channels.*

The Secretariat regularly sends news and developments related to EUROSAF to all Members or to those persons of the National Federations who have been named as contact for such information. In addition, a list of interested persons anchored in European sailing has evolved over the past years.

*The Executive Board plans to implement an integrated data management to put communication with all stakeholders on a more professional footing. The goal is to source all web solutions that go beyond standard products from a single provider to ensure their interoperability. The order has been placed together with the website order, and first preparations together with the provider started in December, with completion expected in the course of 2024.*

#### **4. Long-Term Goals: From Cooperation and Development To Knowledge, Unity, and Trust**

The Executive Board shall endeavour to:

- Give rise to new opportunities for the benefit of European sailors, coaches, race officials, and sport administrators.
- Impact sailing at Continental level in a positive, strong, and lasting way.
- Foster unity and trust in Europe to grow sailing into a powerful Continental sport.

##### **Cooperation with and among Members**

- Bring all World Sailing European MNAs into EUROSAF.
- Maximize the benefit to Members from cooperation within EUROSAF.
- Build stronger ties between Members.
- Build strong and mutually beneficial ties with the sailing community.
- Build on Members’ diversity a stronger EUROSAF.
- Work on the following objectives:
  - Bring value to the sailing community through cooperation projects.
  - Develop lasting and rewarding cooperation projects between Members.
  - Maintain a good working relationship with all other sailing stakeholders (World Sailing, other Continental Associations, classes, clubs).

##### **Race Officials**

- Help race officials gain experience for the benefit of sailors and event organizers.
- Give European international event organizers access to highly skilled international race officials.



## Youth

- Strengthen youth sailing in Europe: bring more youngsters to enjoy sailing.  
Vice-president Alexandru Micu has continued developing, trying, and promoting **Express Sailing**, a simplified regatta format to promote sailing to beginners and to the public and to add quickness, visibility, understanding, and fun to beginner events. The format has been tested five times and adjustments have been introduced.  
*EUROSAF members are invited to join the Express Sailing rule developing team to finalize this sailor- and public-attractive sailing format.*
- Work on the following objectives:
  - Introduce more fun into youth sailing.
  - Offer young sailors consistent pathways from grassroots to (top) competitive sailing.
  - Keep young sailors involved in the sport throughout youth and beyond, whether in competitive sailing or not.

## Development

- Promote a lifelong participation in sailing to fulfil the promise that “sailing is a sport for life.”
- Work on the following objectives:
  - Bring more people into sailing.
  - Keep sailing fun.
  - Foster personal growth through sailing.
  - Expand the social reach of sailors, coaches, and race officials’ expertise.

## Events

- Promote and facilitate sailing for all ages throughout Europe.
- Use EUROSAF Events as a way to foster personal growth through sailing.
- Use EUROSAF Events as a testing ground for new formats, ideas, and ways.  
EUROSAF has been supporting the double mixed offshore (DMO) discipline since its very beginning, organizing the first ever championship in 2019 following the criteria setup for the Olympic proposal, forwarding the experience gained to World Sailing (WS) staff, and taking part in the WS Working Group promoting it. In 2023 EUROSAF organized the fifth **EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship**. Its accumulated experience has brought some insights to run a successful DMO event:
  - Equal boats are absolutely necessary and this can only be achieved consistently with a fleet fully owned or managed, 365 days a year, by an organizer.
  - Two nights at sea are a minimum, three being the best option as the game changes completely and team-, sleep-, and food-tactics must be adapted to the discipline, which proves challenging to sailors and enhances the discipline’s interest.
  - Active social media participation by teams during the race must be embedded in the event and gives high returns in terms of fan activation and sponsor return.
  - To attract sailors the financials of the event must be tuned to make it virtually free for teams to attend, which requires the consistent involvement of committed sponsors.



EUROSAF has partnered with Sailing Series International (SSI), led by Riccardo Simoneschi (ITA), who has successfully organized the five EUROSAF European Championships thanks to its organizing and promoting skills and its ongoing partnership with important, reliable, and committed institutions and sponsors. The first two events used L30 boats; because they ceased to be available, the following three events used ten Figaro3 boats directly managed by SSI and always equally rigged, equipped, and maintained. The last two years EUROSAF received shows of interest from organizers in ESP, FRA, GER, NED, and TUR that did not go forward for lack of a local fleet of equal boats or lack of a sound financial model, and very often for lack of both. EUROSAF has been involved in the two DMO World Championships, organized in 2021 and 2022 also by SSI, under the direct control of WS; the EUROSAF European Championship was the European feeder to the Worlds. During this time, SSI has used the Figaro3 boats to provide a wide range of other DMO opportunities with no charter nor entry fees for sailors: round Italy tour by legs from Genoa to Venice (Nastro Rosa Tour; 3rd edition in 2023); round Italy non-stop race from Venice to Genoa (Nastro Rosa Veloce, 3rd edition in 2023; reportedly the longest offshore race in the Med); female-only offshore events; etc., most of which under EUROSAF's patronage. After five years of offering DMO opportunities to mixed teams, attracting ladies remains a challenge; to push for more involvement the **EUROSAF Double Female Offshore European Championship**, a double female-only offshore event, took place in September 2023 from Venice to Taranto, Italy, via Montenegro, with ten teams from eight nations and three continents. Although many supporters of the discipline vanished when the IOC decided not to grant it the Olympic status, EUROSAF continued to toil nonetheless, together with SSI, for a discipline that is challenging for sailors and rewarding for everyone involved, including fans and sponsors.

*The Executive Board reckons the way forward for the DMO discipline is to develop fleets of equally rigged, equipped, and maintained boats together with an ecosystem of fully financed events, linked to Continental and World Championships, that allow teams to focus on the discipline year-long.*

- Help increase participation in and visibility of Para Sailing.

### **European Sailing Academy**

- Give the sailing community easier access to sailing related knowledge and the sport of sailing further recognition as a fruitful matter of study.
- Set up a European Sailing Academy to coordinate, develop, and distribute knowledge, training, and research about all matters related to sailing.
- Work on the following objectives:
  - Bring value to the sailing community through knowledge, training, and research projects.
  - Bridge the gap between sailing knowledge generators and users.
  - Create a repository to collect, store, and distribute knowledge useful to the sailing community.
  - Define and promote European standards of training in sailing.
  - Detect mutually beneficial cooperation opportunities between Members and research or training institutions.



## Classes

- Increase communication.
- Cooperate to foster common projects.

On top of all actions related to classes listed in *Develop EUROSAF Events*, in March 2024 the [Formula Kite European Championship](#) took place in Los Alcázares, Murcia, Spain, in collaboration with EUROSAF. The president attended the regatta and the price-giving ceremony.

- Work on the following objective:
  - Increase participation in class events.

## Other Sailing Continental Associations

- Collaborate for mutual benefit.

EUROSAF has enhanced its ties with other Continental and Regional Associations. See *Define and promote a better integration of EUROSAF and other Continental Associations into World Sailing institutions* above.

## Marketing & Media

- Make EUROSAF actions visible to its stakeholders, to the sailing community, and to the public in general.

In 2023, the Secretariat began to compile an international media distribution list, which already includes key national and supranational (online) sailing media. Although EUROSAF does not have comprehensive media monitoring and therefore only has limited information, the results were already visible in international media coverage.

- Manage EUROSAF's value as an investment for funding partners.
- Consolidate a steady flow of revenue for EUROSAF's projects.

The creation of the [EUROSAF Sailing Academy](#) in Murcia, Spain, is a step in this direction.

- Develop an effective communication strategy.
- Develop a strategy for media relations and awareness.