



# President and Executive Board Report

Delivered on 26/04/2025 at the 2025 Ordinary General Assembly in compliance with article 15.5.a of the Constitution.

This 2025 *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**. When delving into a prospective, forward-looking point of view, *italics* are added.

## **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 has taken steps to reach other European institution such as European Olympic Committee, European Union and European Boating Association. Through Turkish Sailing Federation, EUROSAF is working to include sailing for the first time at European Games 2027. EUROSAF is effectively working with EUROSAF Members to apply for European Union grants such as Erasmus projects. European Boating Association and other European bodies are invited to participate at EUROSAF initiatives.

## **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 physically brings value to Members and delegates.

The 2024 General Assembly took place in Balatonfüred, Hungary, under the invitation of the Hungarian Sailing Federation, 19 delegates representing 28 members have attended. On top of the usual administrative topics, a series of presentations were held.

*The General Assembly will need to decide on its meeting location for 2026 and Malta Sailing Federation has shown interest. The floor will be open for venue proposals for 2027 and beyond.*



## 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, EUROSAF's secretariat is 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. Doris resigned at the end of December 2024 and supported the Race Officials Exchange Meeting 2025. Since Doris's resignation, Roland Regnemer is back in the position of General Secretary.

In December 2021 the funding was renewed for three years thanks to the Austrian Sailing Federation support. 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 was the last year with the current arrangement, we are still in negotiations and waiting for a decision by the Austrian Ministry of Sports and the Executive Board in parallel is open to offers and/or support from other Members as well.*

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.

### 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 2025 ROEP meeting took place on 11/01/2025 in London (Great Britain). Thanks to the efficient organization by the Royal Yachting Association, delegates representing 28 Members attended the meeting and allocated places for race officials at sailing events on the Continent for 2025. Nino Shmueli (ISR) and Anastasia Weinberger (AUT) led the two rounds of allocations. 149 events in 27 member countries were brought to the meeting table, including national and Continental championships and some major European sailing events. 219 spots were offered; at the end of the meeting 116 spots were allocated and additional ones have been allocated after the meeting. After the Race Officials exchange itself, Tom Rutsbridge, ROE Delegate for GBR, explained the new programme by RYA regarding development of race officials. Freya Mason and Nicole Ames presented their experiences having participated in the programme. Niall McLeod (GBR) gave an inside on Sail GP umpiring techniques and Andres Perez, ROE Delegate for ESP, gave a presentation about the new racing rules.

*The next EUROSAF ROEP meeting will take place on **10/01/2026** in the EUROSAF Academy, **Murcia**, Spain, at the invitation of the Royal Spanish Sailing Federation.*

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



EUROSAF has announced the EUROSAF Sailing Champions League - European Championship 2025 at Punat, Croatia from 28/05 to 01/06/2025. EUROSAF as the owner of the brand/title and being approached by several Members, in accordance with ISLA (International Sailing League Association) has created an event on the bases 'by the sailors for the sailors' with reasonable cost. The event will be held in the European wide booming league sailing format with. The plan is to have further collaboration with ISLA regarding a Europe wide league sailing program whilst structuring league sailing in Europe.

- 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**, 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.
- Develop and apply sustainability goals.
- 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.

*These Regulations will be updated in 2025.*

- 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.

Following Events have been sailed in **2024 under EUROSAF umbrella.**

- EUROSAF BENETEAU First 18 SE & Seascape18 Open European Championship, Germany, May 2024
- EUROSAF Match Racing, Open European Championship, Italy, June 2024
- EUROSAF Match Racing, Women’s European Championship, Italy, June 2024 – cancelled
- EUROSAF 69F Youth European Championship, Italy, June 2024
- EUROSAF BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascape27 European Single-Handed Championship, Denmark, September 2024
- EUROSAF 69F European Championship, Italy, September 2024
- EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship, Italy, October 2024
- EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship, Italy, October 2024 – cancelled
- EUROSAF eSailing European Championships, December 2024

These Events are scheduled for 2025:

- EUROSAF Sailing Champions League - European Championship 2025, Croatia, May 2025
- EUROSAF European Championship Pirate 2025, Czech Republic, July 2025
- EUROSAF First 18 SE European Championship, Slovenia, August 2025
- EUROSAF First 27 SE Singlehanded European Championship, Denmark, September 2025
- EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship, Italy, September 2025
- EUROSAF Match Racing, Open European Championship, Croatia, October 2025
- EUROSAF Inclusive European Championship, Italy, October 2025

*Members who are interested in hosting the 2025 Match Racing Women’s European Championship or the 2025 Match Racing Youth European Championship are welcome to contact the office.*

*Still all 2026 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. A simpler process for checking Notices of Race and Sailing Instructions was set up.*



- Ensure a EUROSAF representative attends all EUROSAF Events.

*In 2024 10 EUROSAF Events were attended by a EUROSAF representative, in most occasions acting as a race official.*

*In 2025 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.
- 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.

### Expand involvement into e-sailing

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

### Broaden development projects

- Keep up development webinars.
- Look for answers to the Millennial Problem: “instant gratification” and “no commitment.”
- Promote further collaboration between Members, especially with projects including exchange and training.
- 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.



EUROSAT partnered together with Famagusta Nautical Club, Istanbul Sailing Club Turkish Sailing Federation, Progeu – Progress in European Union Istituto per lo Sviluppo, Hrvatski Akademski Sportski Klubovi Mladost Sveucilista U Zagrebu, Istituto Internazionale Italiano Studi Sport Società, The Sail Coach Foundation and the Nautical Club of Thessaloniki for CrystalWater project. The project is still under consideration.

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

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 **EUROSAT 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 EUROSAT, which must organize a European level championship yearly. There have been six trainings and two clinics on national and international level organized at EUROSAT Academy.

*If your sailors need a place to train year-round, and especially in wonderful winter and spring conditions, check the EUROSAT 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, EUROSAT 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 EUROSAT 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 Pınar 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 2025 budget is based on the experience from previous years and contains investments that are planned in 2025.

- 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.

### **Further a good relationship with World Sailing**

- Expand the collaboration with World Sailing.



EUROSAF President Josep Pla has been elected as World Sailing Vice President, therefore needed to resign on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Pinar Coşkuner Genç took office. She is currently chairing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee of WS which also has a chair at the WS Council, whilst representing EUROSAF at WS's Growth of Sailing Committee and is a member of WS Race Management Sub Committee. EUROSAF Treasurer and Vice President Timo Hass is a member of WS Race Officials Committee. EUROSAF Vice President Alexandru Micu is Council Member for Group C. EUROSAF Vice President Anne Malledant is chairing WS RMSC and Vice Chair of Match Racing SC. EUROSAF Vice President and former President Marco Predieri is WS Parasailing Committee. Since 2018 the president has formally invited World Sailing presidents to EUROSAF Annual Meetings. World Sailing President Quanghai Li and World Sailing vice-presidents Tomasz Chamera (POL) and Özlem Ardurak (TUR) attended the 2024 General Assembly and addressed the meeting in representation of World Sailing.

*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 Singapore, 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.

*President's Message will be sent quarterly.*

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



Since the World Sailing mid-year meeting in 2017, a EUROSAF promoted meeting with Members' delegates has taken place at each World Sailing physical meeting. 37 delegates from 26 Members gathered with Executive Board members in Singapore to be updated about EUROSAF projects. Following the welcome to delegates from president Josep M. Pla, first vice-president Pinar Coşkuner Genç presented the upcoming ROEP meeting in London. Vice-president and Treasurer 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. Vice-presidents Anne Malledant and Yana Dobzhitskaya spoke about EUROSAF Events and the bids still open in 2025 and 2026.

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

- Create opportunities for personal contact with and between stakeholders.

As reported above, the **2025 ROEP Meeting** took place in London, on 13/01/2024. The **2025 General Assembly** is taking place in Neusiedl am See, Austria on 26/04/2024 with time for networking and side meetings as demanded by delegates. The **2025 ROEP Meeting** will take place in Murcia, Spain.

*The Executive Board is committed to holding physical meetings.*

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 Executive Board is committed to helping Ukrainian sailors as much as it can. 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 2025. 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 EUROSAT'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 EUROSAT'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 **EUROSAT Code of Ethics** proposed by the Executive Board that refers to all relevant ASOIF guiding codes and is adapted to EUROSAT's Continental role, in effect keeping EUROSAT 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 EUROSAT's governance, the Executive Board plans to keep up with the ongoing process without overtaxing EUROSAT'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 EUROSAT with relevant expertise and inspiring projects that make the most of EUROSAT Members capacity and willingness to cooperate and exchange and expects them to be driving forces behind EUROSAT'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 2023 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 implemented 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 provider completed the work at the end of December 2025.*

## **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 2024 EUROSAF organized the sixth **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.



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- 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.

*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.
- 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. EUROSAF is represented at World Sailing's Growth of Sailing Committee.

### Marketing & Media

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



EUROSAT Secretariat is active in all sailing international media and at its social media tools.

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

The creation of the **EUROSAT Sailing Academy** in Murcia, Spain, is a step in this direction.

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