

# **Euromontana Board of Directors**

## *Comité directeur d'Euromontana*



En ligne | 20 sept 2024

Online | 20 Sept 2024

# Bienvenue! Welcome!

## If you are joining through Zoom

- ▶ *Mute your microphone when not speaking*
- ▶ *Use the function to raise your hand to intervene or ask a particular item to be translated.*
  - ▶ *Make use of the chat for anything else*

## Si vous êtes connecté via Zoom

- ▶ *Désactivez votre micro quand vous ne parlez pas*
- ▶ *Utilisez la fonction "lever la main" pour poser une question ou demander de traduire un passage en particulier.*
  - ▶ *Pour tout le reste, utilisez la fonction "chat"*

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# Programme

# Programme

# Agenda

1. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting (10.00-10.05)**  
*Approbation des minutes de la précédente réunion (10.00-10.05)*
2. **Validation of the agenda of the General Assembly and next Board (10.05-10.30)**  
*Validation du programme de l'Assemblée Générale et du prochain Comité Directeur (10.05-10.30)*
3. **Election of the 2024-2028 Board of Directors (10.30 – 11.30)**  
*Election du Comité Directeur 2024-2028 (10.30 – 11.30)*
4. **Network development (11.30 – 11.40)**  
*Développement du réseau (11.30 – 11.40)*
5. **European Mountain Convention (11.40 – 12.00)**  
*Assises Européennes de la Montagne (11.40 – 12.00)*

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# Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 29.05.2024

## Approbation des minutes de la réunion du 29.05.2024



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## **Approval of the agenda for the General Assembly and the next Board Meeting**

**Validation du programme de  
l'Assemblée Générale et du prochain  
Comité Directeur**

2.

## General Assembly & Board agendas

*Agendas de l'AG et du Comité Directeur*



► **15 Oct 2024 | 16.00 to 18.00 | Puigcerdà**

Welcome words by the President (16.00-16.05)

Presentation of the new network members (16.05-16.15)

Presentation of the programme and the election process of the Board of Directors (16.15-16.25)

Presentation of activity reports 2023 and 2024, accounts, activity plan 2024-2025 and votes (16.25-16.45)

Presentation of the candidates to the Board of Directors for the 2024-2028 mandate (16.45-17.05)

Questions & answers (17.05 – 17.15)

Approval of the new Board of Directors' composition (vote by show of hands) (17.15 – 17.20)

End of the General Assembly

2.

## General Assembly & Board agendas

*Agendas de l'AG et du Comité Directeur*



► **15 Oct 2024 | 16.00 to 18.00 | Puigcerdà**

Part reserved for newly elected members of the Board of Directors:

**Election by the new Board of the Directors of the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer and agreement on the date of the first strategic meeting of the new Board of Directors (17.20 - 18.00)**

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# 2024 Board elections

## Election du Comité Directeur

## 3.1

# 2024 Board elections

## *Status of applications*

# Election du Comité Directeur

## *Etat des lieux des candidatures*

# 1. 2024 Board elections

## *Election du Comité Directeur*

COUNTRY	Seats	Candidates
ANDORRA	1	-
BULGARIA	1	Mountain Milk   Dilyana Slavova
CROATIA	1	Sensum   Danijel Bertovic
		Teruel Province   Laura Gascon
SPAIN	4	Basque Country   Juanan Gutiérrez
		CREAF   Bernat Claramunt
FRANCE	4	Chambre Agriculture France   Christophe Leger
		FNSEA   Dominique Fayel
		ERSAF   Fabio Losio
ITALY	4	UNIMONT   Anna Giorgi
		Cia Agricoltori   Mario Grillo
		Federazione Trentina della Cooperazione   Elena Badeanschi
GREECE	1	Crete   Goerge Alexakis
NORTH MACEDONIA	1	-
		Buskerud County   Anne Kristine Norman
NORWAY	3	Innlandet County   Hanne Alstrup Velure
		Inland Norway University   Kjell Overvåg
POLAND	1	-
PORTUGAL	1	Mountain Research Center   Simaho Pinho
CZECH REPUBLIC	1	-
ROMANIA	2	ROMONTANA   Radu Rey
		Maramures County Council   Ionel Ovidiu BOGDAN
UNITED KINGDOM	2	-
SLOVENIA	1	Regional Development Agency for Podravje – Maribor   Klavdija Gornik
SWITZERLAND	1	-

► **19 expressions of interest**

# 2024 Board elections (update)

## *Election du Comité Directeur (mise à jour)*

### ► Candidates for Presidency

- Laura Gascon, Province of Teruel

### ► Candidates for Vice-Presidencies

- Mario Grillo, Cia Agricoltori Italiani
- Juanan Gutierrez, Basque Country
- Dominique Fayel, FNSEA
- Radu Rey, Romontana

### ► Candidate for Treasurer

- Danijel Bertovic, Sensus

## 3.2

# Joint proposal for a strengthened governance

**Proposition conjointe pour une  
gouvernance renforcée**

*By / par Laura Gascon, Mario Grillo, Juanan Gutierrez*

### « People need mountains, and mountains need people »

#### ► GROWING THE ORGANISATION

- Keep expanding the network (more members)
- Making the reality of mountain areas more visible (more lobbying)
- Increase cooperation with other networks

#### ► CHANGING THE NARRATIVES

- Avoiding biased and obsolete narratives about life in mountain communities
- Developing a positive discourse about the attractiveness and innovation potential of those territories
- Mountains are not just territories to extract resources
- Highlighting the crucial role of women as promoters of the social fabric of mountainous rural areas

### ► Why?

- The new Board mandate coincides with a new European policy cycle, with major policies (cohesion policy, CAP) to be debated, and a renewed European Parliament.
- The Secretariat has gained financial stability for the foreseeable future, and increased staff thanks to EU-funded projects. We need to capitalise on this to revitalise and boost our political influence.
- A stronger involvement of the Board is needed to capture this momentum and prevent the organisation from spreading itself too thin between its different ambitions: growing the network, increasing the political influence, and delivering tasks in EU projects.

## Joint proposal for a strengthened governance

*Proposition conjointe pour une gouvernance renforcée*



### ► How?

- Create a **role of “First Vice President”** to work more closely with the President and act as her/his backup.
- Reinforced roles for Vice-Presidents, with responsibilities over **thematic and/or geographic areas**.
- Invite other Board members to volunteer and take thematic/geographic responsibilities (optional)

Vice Presidents with **geographical responsibilities** would be first persons of contact to represent the organisation in regional events. Those with **thematic responsibilities** would be first persons of contact for the Secretariat for expertise and support in the relevant thematic areas, in particular for policy work or participation in expert groups.

### ► Proposal

- **Laura Gascon, President**
  - With special thematic responsibilities on Cohesion policy and culture.
- **Mario Grillo, First Vice President**
  - With special thematic responsibility on Agriculture & pastoralism at large (incl. agro-tourism, food products, generational renewal, etc.) & digitalization.
    - Note: for the sake of continuity and increased impact, CAP-related work could be shared with Dominique Fayel.
- Other geographical and thematic portfolios to be discussed at the first Board meeting of the new mandate.

3.3

# A joint vision for the 2024-2028 mandate

## Une vision conjointe pour le mandat 2024-2028

*By / par Laura Gascon, Mario Grillo, Juanan Gutierrez*

### ► TOWARDS DIVERSIFIED ECONOMIES

- Supporting all sectors that contribute to making mountains dynamic and lively places.
- Supporting the better recognition and valorisation of mountain products, including handicrafts products.
- Continue the work to assess and promote the use of the Optional Quality Term “Mountain product”.
- Developing a position of Euromontana regarding the industrial uses of the mountains, whether mining, both materials and data, energy or servers, which are located in high-value environments, but with low population with a purely economic and extractive ambition of both landscape, water and other raw materials
- Developing a position on the potential of rural energy communities for income diversification

### A joint vision for the 2024-2028 mandate

*Une vision conjointe pour le mandat 2024-2028*



#### ► PLACES FOR LIVING AND INNOVATING

- Protecting mountain culture as a means of safeguarding and attracting talents
- Focus efforts on improving access to services (transport, digital access) that facilitate place-based entrepreneurship and innovation projects, thus contributing to the productivity and competitiveness of mountain economies
- Promoting mountain territories as pilot areas for innovative and sustainable economic models, to favour economic development and attract talents.

### A joint vision for the 2024-2028 mandate

*Une vision conjointe pour le mandat 2024-2028*

#### ► PROTECTING AND VALORIZING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Safeguard the microclimates of mountain landscapes by recognizing and enhancing their role as healing and life-generating environments.
- Raising more awareness about the ecosystem services provided by mountain areas, and exploring ways to better recognise and compensate those services.
- Promoting, developing and sharing local strategies for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, reducing the vulnerability of mountain territories and the direct impact it has on their economic activity ( e.g. tourism- ski , livestock and agriculture).
- Engaging and developing expertise on the topic of water.

### A joint vision for the 2024-2028 mandate

*Une vision conjointe pour le mandat 2024-2028*

#### ► DEFENDING THE SPECIFICITIES AND TRANSVERSAL ROLES OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE

- Better promoting the role of mountain agriculture and pastoral activities in maintaining natural landscapes and mountain communities.
- Exploring and promoting ways to better value and remunerate the ecosystem services provided by mountain agriculture and pastoral activities.
- Continuing to work on ensuring the specificities of mountain agriculture are effectively taken into account in key European policies, in particular in relation to the CAP.
- Promoting good practices for the diversification and digitalisation of agricultural business, as ways to improve their financial sustainability, and foster generational renewal.

3.

### A joint vision for the 2024-2028 mandate

*Une vision conjointe pour le mandat 2024-2028*



#### ► Examples of thematic/geographical areas

(Not necessary to assign all of them to Boar members)

Geographical areas	Thematic areas (critical ones in bold)
Pyrenees	Cohesion Policy
Alps	Rural development, land abandonment
Carpathians	Demography
Scandics	<b>Agriculture &amp; pastoralism at large</b> (incl. agro tourism, food products, smart farming)
Mediterranean mountains	Innovation & Digitalisation Sustainable Tourism Cultural Heritage <b>Climate Change &amp; environment</b> (incl. Water) Entrepreneurship

# 4

## Network Development

Développement du réseau

## *Network development*

### *Développement du réseau*

#### ► Membership applications

- **Bursa Municipality (Turkey)**  
Proposed membership fee: 650€
  
- **Heraklion Development Agency (Greece)**  
Proposed membership fee: 700€



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**European Mountain Convention 2024**

**Assises Européennes de la Montagne  
2024**

5.

# European Mountain Convention 2024

## *Assises Européennes de la Montagne 2024*



**XIII European Mountain Convention**

15 - 18 October 2024

 Puigcerdà - Catalonia

**Shaping the future of mountain economies**

**Registration is open!**

- ▶ Registration closes on **7 October!**
- ▶ Status of organisation
  - Update by Bernat Claramunt & Secretariat

[www.mountainconvention.eu](http://www.mountainconvention.eu)

### ► Agenda in a nutshell

- 15 Oct: study visits & General Assembly / Board meeting
- 16 Oct: opening, high level panel, policymakers meeting (upon invitation), workshops
- 17 Oct: workshops, EU Rural Pact ‘open mic session’, gala dinner
- 18 Oct: workshops, closure panel, Final Declaration

A photograph of a man in a blue jacket and dark pants carrying a child in a grey backpack carrier on his back. They are walking on a grassy, rocky path with mountains in the background under a cloudy sky.

# Thank you !

[www.euromontana.org](http://www.euromontana.org)

[info@euromontana.org](mailto:info@euromontana.org)

+32 (0)2 280 42 83

Euromontana  
Place du Champ de Mars, 2  
1050 Brussels

*Let's keep in touch*

