I. Mission

The Steering Committee of The European Physical Journal (EPJ) consults the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) on scientific matters that concern EPJ, such as the scientific and ethical policy of the different EPJ journals, how to maintain and increase the high visibility and good reputation of EPJ, and the trends in research to be covered in the different journals. The SAC advises the Steering Committee on choosing the editors-in-chief, as well the associate editors. As a consequence, a SAC-delegate is expected to have affinity with EPJ, to be interested in scientific publishing and to be aware of the latest editorial and scientific trends in his/her discipline.

II. Specific tasks

- The members of the SAC make proposals to solve specific editorial matters that are brought to their attention by the Steering Committee.
- The members of the SAC make suggestions for new associate editors and editors-in-chief when requested by the Steering Committee of EPJ.
- The members of the SAC use the network of their physical society, for instance their websites, to promote EPJ.
- The members of the SAC promote EPJ at national conferences and major scientific events.
- The members of the SAC encourage the scientists in their country to support the EPJ, for instance by publishing their best and most innovative results in EPJ.
- The members of the SAC are requested to report back decisions taken by SAC to their learned societies.

III. Appointment of a new Physical Society into the SAC

The EPJ journals will be published under the auspices of the SAC of EPJ. Physical societies or academies of science may become members of the SAC by invitation of the Steering Committee only. The academies of science or societies represented as members of the SAC are listed on the portal of the EPJ as well as on the front matter of each issue.
IV. Appointment of a new delegate

The SAC is made up of delegates. Each member Society appoints one delegate to the SAC. The delegates are appointed for a term of 3 years with the possibility of one extra term. Each delegate has one vote. In case that one country sends more than one delegate to the SAC only one vote is counted. The SAC decides on a simple majority. In case of a draw, the decision is taken according to the three Chairs’ vote.

V. Election of the Chairperson

The SAC elects its chairperson. Only delegates of the SAC are eligible. The chairperson presides over the SAC for one year, starting on January 1. The chairperson and the chairperson elect remain members of the SAC until their term expires. The chairperson stays in office for the calendar year, serves as vice chairperson and chairperson elect the year before, and then as vice chairperson and past chairperson for one more year. At the beginning of his/her term he/she should preside over the election of the person who shall act as chairperson elect during the year after, and as chairperson two years after. The chairperson assisted by the past chairperson and the chairperson elect are responsible for running the affairs of the SAC.

VI. SAC meeting

The SAC meets at least once a year. The chairperson of the SAC presides over the meetings and organizes the meetings in cooperation with the Steering Committee. The three SAC Chairs should prepare the agenda with input of all SAC members. In case a reduced SAC meeting is preferred, the SAC Chairs decide who, among the delegates, to invite. The SAC Chairs always participate in the SAC meeting, as well as the current publishing societies involved in EPJ, Società Italiana di Fisica (SIF), Société Française de Physique (SFP) and The European Physical Society (EPS). The members of the Steering Committee of the EPJ are eligible to attend the meetings of the SAC.

The chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee (or his/her delegate) is invited to the open sessions of the meetings of the Steering Committee of EPJ.

An acting SAC delegate can propose to the acting SAC chair a deputy who will take part at SAC meetings on his/her behalf. Notice of this must reach the acting SAC Chair at least three weeks before the actual meeting takes place.

VII. Commissioners for specific EPJ publication matters

The SAC may install and propose members for task forces any time, on its own decision or through commissioning by the Steering Committee, with the objective to investigate EPJ-related publication matters of urgent relevance and to communicate the results to the Steering Committee as soon as the task is completed.