EA REPORT TO GLOBAL ACCREDITATION COOPERATION INCORPORATED & REGIONS

JUNE - DECEMBER 2025

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I - Structural status as at December 2025

1 - EA Membership

Because the San Marino Accreditation Service (SMAS), the National Accreditation Body of San Marino, ceased to meet the requirements imposed for the membership in the *EA Articles of Association*, and further to its suspension until 15 September, the EA General Assembly has decided on 20 November 2025 to terminate the EA Membership of SMAS.

EA has a total of 47 Members.

The complete list of EA Members together with their details and their EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA) status is available on the EA website at https://european-accreditation.org/ea-members/directory-of-ea-members-and-mla-signatories/

2 - Signatories to the EA MLA

44 Members are signatories to the EA MLA.

The individual EA Multilateral and Bilateral Agreement Signatories are listed by EA MLA scope on EA-INF/03: *Signatories to the EA Multilateral and Bilateral Agreements.*

	Calibration (EN ISO/IEC 17025)	Testing (EN ISO/IEC 17025)	Medical Examinations (EN ISO 15189)	Inspection (EN ISO/IEC 17020)	Management System Certification (EN ISO/IEC 17021-1)	Product Certification (EN ISO/IEC 17065)	Person Certification (EN ISO/IEC 17024)	Validation and Verification (EN ISO/IEC 17029)	Proficiency Testing Provision (EN ISO/IEC 17043)	Reference Material Production (EN ISO 17034)
Number of Members signatories to the EA MLA	41	42	39	43	35	38	32	27	22	14

Recapitulative table of signatories by MLA scope

3 - EA Recognised Stakeholders

EA cooperates with more than 40 Recognised Stakeholders, whose complete list is available on the EA website at https://european-accreditation.org/about-ea/ea-stakeholders/

Four new Recognised Stakeholder agreements were concluded with the following associations, most of which are very familiar with EA, in the second semester of 2025:

- ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute), whose previous Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was turned into a Recognised Stakeholder agreement;

- FAMI-QS (The Quality & Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients), whose previous agreement had been terminated in July 2022;

- Eurocer-Building (the association of product certification bodies in Europe active in the construction sector);

- ExNBG (European Coordination Group of ATEX Directive (2014/34/EU) Notified Bodies).

II - EA MLA and peer evaluation issues

1 - New and remaining signatories to EA MLA scopes

Upon decisions made by the MLA Council (MAC) at its 53rd meeting held on 1 October 2025 in Brussels, Belgium, and through electronic ballots carried out in the second semester 2025:

- ACCREDIA, the National Accreditation Body (NAB) of Italy, remained an EA MLA signatory in the field of certification of products (EN ISO/IEC 17065).

- ATCG, the Montenegrin NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration (EN ISO/IEC 17025) and testing (EN ISO/IEC 17025) including medical examinations (EN ISO 15189).

- COFRAC, the French NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing including medical examinations, inspection (EN ISO/IEC 17020), certification of management systems (EN ISO/IEC 17021-1), certification of products, certification of persons (EN ISO/IEC 17024), validation and verification (EN ISO/IEC 17029), proficiency testing providers (EN ISO/IEC 17043) and reference material producers (EN ISO 17034).

- DANAK, the Danish NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing including medical examinations, inspection, certification of management systems, certification of products, certification of persons, validation and verification, proficiency testing providers and reference material producers.

- EAK, the Estonian NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing including medical examinations, inspection, certification of management systems, certification of products, certification of persons, and validation and verification.

- FINAS, the Finnish NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing including medical examinations, inspection, certification of management systems, certification of products, certification of persons, validation and verification, and proficiency testing providers.

- ISAC, the Icelandic NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the field of inspection.

- SWEDAC, the Swedish NAB, remained an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing including medical examinations, inspection, certification of management systems, certification of products, certification of persons, validation and verification, and proficiency testing providers.

2 - Latest developments relating to EA peer evaluations

2.1 - Peer evaluations in 2025

For 2025, the MAC scheduled 17 peer evaluations, 8 of which had been carried out by the end of June 2025.

The remaining peer evaluations were carried out as follows by end of December 2025:

- 3 re-evaluations started before June 2025 and continued as follows: BAS (Bulgaria) second stage, NAB-MALTA (Malta) third stage and RENAR (Romania) third stage;
- 2 re-evaluations: ATS (Serbia), BATA (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- 1 re-evaluation with extension to biobanking: RvA (The Netherlands);
- 1 initial evaluation: ARMNAB (Armenia);
- 1 extension evaluation to management system certification: ALGERAC (Algeria);
- 2 extraordinary evaluations: ACCREDIA (Italy), HAA (Croatia);
- 2 progress reports dedicated to inspection: ISAC (Iceland).

2.2 - Peer evaluator trainings

Newcomer training sessions

The next newcomer training session will take place in June 2026.

Refresher training sessions

Three refresher training sessions were organised in 2025.

After a first session remotely targeted on 23-24 June at Team Members authorised in product certification and inspection, a second refresher training session gathered Team Members authorised in medical examinations and proficiency testing provision on 5-6 November 2025 in Paris, France.

The third session put together Team Leaders and Deputy Team Leaders on 10-11 December 2025 in Brussels, Belgium.

3 - EA MLA for biobanking

The General Assembly approved in May 2025 that EA Resolution 2023 (53) 14 on the EA MLA for biobanking comes into immediate effect, based on the recent confirmation of EN ISO 20387:2018 *Biotechnology – Biobanking – General Requirements for Biobanking* as the harmonised standard.

Supported by trained evaluators and a functioning system since 2023, and further to the EA Resolution adopted in May 2025, the Secretariat has scheduled several peer evaluations for biobanking based on the outcome of a 2025 survey showing at least 9 NABs willing to undergo evaluation.

The EA MLA for biobanking will be launched when a minimum of two members are successfully peer evaluated.

EA has applied to ILAC for the extension as a recognised region for the scope "Biobanking – ISO 20387". The extension will take place together with the re-evaluation of EA, which is scheduled to begin not later than July 2026.

III - Status of EA's recognition in Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (former IAF/ILAC)

The next re-evaluation of EA by Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated is scheduled to begin not later than July 2026.

On 1 August 2025, EA was recognised by IAF for the following sub-scopes:

Level 3 standard: ISO/IEC 17065

- FOS 0001 - Certification Procedure, Audit Guidance for Friend of the Sea (FOS) Standards

Level 3 standard - ISO/IEC 17021-1

- Compliance Management Systems (CMS)
- Anti-Bribery Management Systems (ABMS)

IV - Status of EA documents

1 - Documents published since July 2025

EA-1/15	*EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders*
EA-2/02	*EA Procedure for the Evaluation of a National Accreditation Body*
EA-4/22	*EA Guidance on Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed*
EA-4/24	Guidelines for the Accreditation of Laboratories carrying out Genetic Testing using *Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Techniques*

2 - Documents under revision

EA-0/08	*Procedure for EA Management Reviews*
EA-1/17 S3	*Procedure for the Investigation and Resolution of EA Complaints and Appeals*
EA-1/21	*EA Internal Procedure for Liaison Activities*
EA-1/22	*EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members*
EA-2/02	*EA Procedure for the Evaluation of a National Accreditation Body*
EA-2/17	*EA Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes*
EA-3/02	*EA Policy for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies Providing Certification of PDO (Protected Designations of Origin), PGI (Protected Geographical Indications) and TSG (Traditional Specialities Guaranteed)*
EA-4/14	*The Selection and Use of Reference Materials*
EA-4/20	*Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories Against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)*
EA-4/21	*Guidelines for the Assessment of the Appropriateness of Small Interlaboratory Comparisons within the Process of Laboratory Accreditation*
EA-5/02	*Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC 17020 in Vehicle Inspection*
EA-6/03	*EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive*

EA-INF/04   *Statement on Acceptance and Recognition of Activities under the EA MLA*

EA-INF/14   *Communication with the European Commission and its DGs*

3 - New documents under development

EA-2/02 S6   *Guidance on File Review during a Peer Evaluation Process*

EA-4-XX   *Guidance on Flexible Scopes for Proficiency Testing Providers*

EA-4/XX   *Guidance on the Assessment of Sampling, including Stand-Alone Sampling*

4 - Documents withdrawn since July 2025

None.

V - Activities to promote the IAF MLA and ILAC MRA

EA contributed to the IAF newsletter published on 30 September 2025 with a few articles about the publication of the *EA Annual Report 2024*, the meeting of the EA Laboratory Committee Working Group (WG) Health Care in June 2025, and the European Quality Infrastructure Network (EQIN).

On 24 October 2025, EA also published a specific homepage news to promote the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated General Assembly meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 23-24 October 2025.

Besides, EA is part of the team responsible for developing the communications strategy of the new international accreditation cooperation, particularly for defining the graphical chart, elaborating on the strategy to launch the new organisation and creating the website.

For further information, please see EA's website and social media which have been reporting on the latest developments in EA.

VI - Major other activities/developments in EA

Launch of the EA MLA mark

According to the *EA Strategy 2025* aiming at establishing a MLA mark for the purpose of identifying EA MLA signatories and their accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs), and to the plan approved at the EA General Assembly in May 2025, the EA MLA mark has been officially launched on 1 September 2025.

This new tool is for EA Members and their accredited CABs to demonstrate competence, compliance and confidence in the services they offer. It can now be used in those 43 countries where the NAB is an EA MLA signatory, and where the MLA mark is registered as a collective mark of the EU with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and at the international level with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). These countries are the following: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine and United Kingdom. The last national office is expected to give a positive response to EA's application very soon.

The application of the EA MLA mark should remain voluntary for NABs signatories of the EA MLA, which are entitled to use the MLA mark in combination with their logo. CABs accredited by a MLA-signatory NAB have the right to use the MLA mark in combination with the national accreditation symbol. The *Rules on the Use of EA MLA Mark*, EA-3/01 Supplements 1 and 2, have been published in June 2025. A dedicated webpage has also been designed to explain the whys and wherefores of the mark, including what it means on a report or certificate:

https://european-accreditation.org/mutual-recognition/ea-mla-mark/

25th EA anniversary

2025 marked the 25th anniversary of EA. Paved by the unwavering commitment to setting up accreditation as the best tool to demonstrate competence and impartiality in controls about conformity and confidence in services and products, this 25-year journey has been shaped by the dedication of EA Members working together and building upon their cultural differences to harmonise their approaches and evolve with one European voice, and sharing the commitment to promote the European Accreditation Infrastructure across the globe.

While it is bound by Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, EA's strength also lies in the following:

- 47 members collaborating to form a strong, non-competitive alliance;
- over 35,000 accreditations delivered by EA Members under the EA MLA framework;
- nearly 150 EU regulations and directives referencing accreditation – and increasing confidence from the European regulator, directly impacting the benefit of the European Single Market;
- 40 stakeholders working daily with EA to ensure that the European accreditation system remains credible and effective across all sectors.

EA celebrated its 25th anniversary at the open General Assembly meeting on 20 November 2025 with a video highlighting, through several speakers, the main values of EA, its history and the challenges to be tackled in the years to come. To watch the video, please click here.

Brand-new EA website

EA has released its new website during the General Assembly meeting in November 2025.

It is a fully responsive and SEO (search engine optimisation) - oriented website that aims to facilitate the understanding of accreditation and conformity assessment for a broader audience. The General Search now scans all EA documents, and the FAQ system has been revised. This will enable visitors to easily find the right information and documents, and the answers to their questions.

To visit the EA website, please click at https://european-accreditation.org/

EA Strategy 2030

Further to the *EA Strategy 2025* which produced the expected accomplishments (see our previous Report dated June 2025), EA is continuing paving the way for the future and, at the General Assembly in November 2025, has endorsed its *Strategy 2030: Building Trust, Innovation and Global Impact.*

This new Strategy sets clear ambitions: to stay adaptable and future-ready, to foster consistency and coherence across all EA members, to strengthen EA's voice with European policymakers, and to deepen the collaboration both within Europe and globally. At the heart of this strategy lies EA's commitment to competence, transparency and partnership — values that ensure accreditation remains a trusted foundation for sound regulation, fair trade and public confidence. The strategy embraces digital transfor-

mation, capacity building and the modernisation of the peer evaluation system. These steps will make accreditation more agile, risk-based and efficient, meeting the needs of regulators, businesses and society in a rapidly evolving world facing digitalisation, sustainability imperatives, emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and evolving global trade dynamics.

Together with its members, stakeholders and international partners, EA will continue to strengthen Europe's quality infrastructure and ensure that European accreditation remains globally recognised and respected.

To read the *EA Strategy 2030*, please click here.

Artificial Intelligence in EA

A specific Working Group Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been set up under the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (HHC) to develop a harmonised approach among EA-Member NABs accrediting CABs using AI and performing conformity assessment activities of AI systems. The WG AI, whose terms of reference have been adopted and co-conveners nominated, will analyse the current practices, identify gaps and coordinate technical guidance to support consistent accreditation across Europe when AI is resorted to by CABs.

In November 2025, the EA General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Certification Committee, endorsed the mandatory application of ISO/IEC 42006:2025 I*nformation technology – Artificial intelligence – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of artificial intelligence management systems* as the appropriate Level 4 standard to be used for the accreditation of management system certification bodies that certify Artificial Intelligence Management Systems (AIMS).

Furthermore, EA organised a large two-part remote workshop on the use of AI by NABs on 9 and 30 October 2025. Almost 200 participants attended each part of the workshop during which, notably, the following topics have been presented:

- AI hype cycles;
- Using Generative AI in accreditation tasks;
- Which tasks can be automated, and what shall be controlled by a human?
- How AI will change NABs' way of working?
- The agent revolution: AI frameworks act as decision makers;
- AI workflows and implications for the accreditation process;
- Experiences from NABs using AI in its processes.

EA taking part in the Global Accreditation Cooperation Inc.

All the operational activities of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) have been transferred to the Global Accreditation Corporation Incorporated by the end of 2025. The exact launch and celebration of the new organisation should take place in April 2026, provided that its logo and acronym are fully protected.

EA resolved in September 2025 to apply for membership in the new organisation. Like all six of the existing Regional Cooperation Bodies, EA has been approved in October 2025 to join Global Accreditation Corporation Incorporated, ensuring an uninterrupted transition to the new Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA).

EA has raised several issues about the Constitution of the Global Accreditation Corporation Incorporated, especially from the European perspective; these concerns are being addressed and should be solved out in a revised Constitution to be presumably approved in April 2026.

VII - EA meetings

Please visit the EA website https://european-accreditation.org/information-center/newsroom/events-2/

VIII - EA representatives in IAF and ILAC Committees as at December 2025

From 1 January 2026, Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated will become the single international authority assuming the roles of IAF and ILAC, whose committees will be reshuffled in the new international organisation.

IAF Committees

General Assembly (GA)	Andreas Steinhorst (EA Executive Secretary)
Executive Committee (EX)	Maureen Logghe (EA President)
Technical Committee (TC)	Casper van Erp (RvA, Netherlands)
MLA Committee (MLAC)	Maria Papatzikou (ESYD, Greece)
MLA Management Committee (MLA MC)	Sergio Guzzi (ACCREDIA, Italy), Andreas Hönnerscheid (DAkkS, Germany)
Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC)	Amandine Combe (EA Communications Manager)
Development Support Committee (DSC)	Andreas Steinhorst
Database Management Committee (DMC)	Herman Van den Langenbergh (BELAC, Belgium)

ILAC Committees

General Assembly (GA)	Andreas Steinhorst
Executive Committee (EX)	Andreas Steinhorst
Accreditation Committee (AIC)	Sergio Guzzi
Marketing & Communications Committee (MCC)	Amandine Combe
Arrangement Committee (ARC)	Andreas Steinhorst
Arrangement Management Committee (AMC)	Maria Papatzikou, Daniela Ionescu (MAC Secretary)
Arrangement Council (AC)	Andreas Steinhorst
Inspection Committee (IC)	Marek Wilgos (PCA, Poland)

Joint IAF/ILAC Committee meetings

Joint Executive Committee (JEX)	Maureen Logghe, Andreas Steinhorst
Joint Management Committee (JMC)	Maria Papatzikou, Daniela Ionescu Andreas Hönnerscheid, Sergio Guzzi
JWG Communications and Marketing (JCMC)	Amandine Combe
JWG Developing Countries	Andreas Steinhorst
JWG A-series	Maria Papatzikou, Daniela Ionescu

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