

Call for expression of interest to the ESMA Securities and Markets Stakeholder Group (SMSG)

1 Introduction

1. ESMA is committed to ensure strong stakeholder outreach and engagement with entities and individuals impacted by ESMA's activities. In this context, the establishment and the functioning of the Securities and Markets Stakeholder Group (SMSG) (hereinafter referred to as "the Group") plays a pivotal role.
2. The current SMSG is composed of 30 members appointed by ESMA's Board of Supervisors, following an open and transparent selection procedure taking into account geographical and gender balance. The SMSG members represent, financial market participants operating in the Union (14), their employees' representatives (1), consumers (6), users of financial services (3), representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises (2) and independent top-ranking academics (4).
3. The mandate of the SMSG is coming to an end on 30 June 2024. However, due the fact that some SMSG members had to leave the group, ESMA is launching a call for candidates with the intention to create a reserve list of candidates to be potentially appointed as member of the SMSG between now and 30 June 2024.
4. ESMA is therefore publishing this call for the expression of interest from stakeholders to become a member of the SMSG. The successful candidates will be included in the reserve list.
5. This call for expression of interest is open to applicants representing stakeholders across the European Union.¹

2 The Authority

ESMA is an independent European Union Authority and part of the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS), with a mission to enhance investor protection and promote stable and orderly financial markets. The Authority is located in 201-203 rue de Bercy, 75012 Paris, France.

E-mail: stakeholders@esma.europa.eu

¹ Including the Member States of the European Economic Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway)

Webpage: www.esma.europa.eu

3 Call for Expression of Interest

6. The Authority invites persons wishing to be included in the reserve list of successful candidates to become member of the SMSG to apply in accordance with the provisions of this call.
7. The Authority will draw up a list of candidates who meet the criteria set out under “Criteria for inclusion in the list” below. Once the long list has been constituted, ESMA’s Board of Supervisors will select the candidates to become included in the reserve list of candidates of the SMSG. In making its decision, the Board of Supervisors shall, to the extent possible, ensure an appropriate reflection of diversity of the securities and markets sector, geographical and gender balance and representation of stakeholders across the Union. The individuals on the reserve list shall be selected according to their qualifications, skills, relevant knowledge, and proven expertise.
8. There is no specific date when the potential mandate of a future member will start, as it depends on whether and what kind of vacancy will arise within the SMSG.

4 Description of tasks

9. According to Article 37 of the ESMA Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010, the main tasks of the SMSG are:
 - to advise ESMA on actions taken in accordance with the above-mentioned Regulation concerning regulatory and implementing technical standards, guidelines and recommendations (to the extent that they do not concern individual financial market participants);
 - The SMSG may submit advice on any issue related to ESMA’s tasks with a particular focus on the areas listed above and on the following ones:
 - contributing to the ESMA’s efforts to establish a European common supervisory culture and consistent supervisory practices;
 - advising ESMA on its peer review activity;
 - requesting, as appropriate, ESMA to investigate the alleged breach or non-application of Union law;
 - contributing to ESMA’s assessment of market developments.
10. SMSG members are bound by confidentiality requirements in relation to all non-public information they are provided with while performing their tasks.

11. SMSG members are committed to adhere to the highest standard of moral and ethical conduct in carrying out their mandate.
12. The SMSG meets at least four times a year at the Authority's premises in Paris or through a videoconferencing system. The SMSG holds joint meetings with ESMA's Board of Supervisors at least twice a year. Failure to attend three SMSG meetings in a twelve month period shall be deemed a failure to perform the member's duties. In such a case, upon consultation with the SMSG Chair, ESMA may ask the Board of Supervisors to vacate the current position and to select a new Group member.
13. ESMA ensures adequate secretariat support to the SMSG and makes public the Group's advice and the results of its consultations. The Authority is also committed to make best efforts to give a high degree of visibility to the work of the Group in carrying out its tasks.
14. All opinions and advice of the Group shall be drafted in English, being the working language of the Authority. Interested candidates should note that language interpretation will not be available in the Group's meetings.

5 Place of provision of services

15. The Group meets virtually or at ESMA's premises in Paris.

6 Compensation

16. Compensation can be provided to SMSG members that represent non-profit organisations including academics. Travel and accommodation expenses for meetings, together with any allowances for attending meetings will be reimbursed in accordance with the reimbursement policy and procedures adopted by the Authority.

7 Criteria for inclusion in the reserve list

17. Individuals selected for the reserve list of the SMSG are selected by ESMA according to their qualifications, skills, relevant knowledge and proven expertise.
18. To assess the eligibility of individual candidates the following mandatory criteria will be used:
 - A minimum of four years of experience in the financial services sector shall be required for those representing financial market participants;
 - For employees' representatives, consumers, users of financial services, SME representatives, and academics, a minimum of four years of experience relevant to the financial services field shall be required;

- Availability to participate in meetings at least four times a year and commitment to carry out significant work to prepare the output of the Group (advice, feedback statements, reports...);
 - Good written and oral communication skills (in English) to actively participate in all the aspects of the work of the Group.
19. Expressions of interest received from interested candidates who are relevant stakeholders should include documentation (see below) demonstrating that the candidate meets the above criteria.
20. The Group is composed of categories of persons listed under Article 37(2) of the ESMA Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010 as referred to in paragraph 2 of this call for candidates, representing relevant stakeholders in the field of activities of the Authority. In order to ensure an unbiased judgement, each member of the Group must only represent one category of stakeholders and not be in a situation of conflict of interest with another category represented in the Group.
21. Please note that being included in the reserve list does not necessarily mean that the successful candidate will become a member of the SMSG. Only in case of vacancies arising, ESMA staff will invite the applicants from the reserve list according to their profile in relation to the specific requirements of the post to be filled.

8 Selection of applicants

22. Individuals accepted for the Group membership serve in their personal capacity including when they represent relevant organisations (EU industry associations, EU consumer associations, EU SME associations...). In the event of a successful application, only the natural person appointed by ESMA shall be admitted to the Group. No substitution or alternates shall be permitted.
23. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures set out below including:
- Application form;
 - Curriculum Vitae (CV); and
 - Motivation letter.
24. The application form is available from the following address: <https://www.esma.europa.eu/SMSG> and should be accompanied by a CV. The model European CV (recommended) can be downloaded at the following address: <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae>

25. Candidates are invited also to provide a letter clearly stating their motivation for the application as well as main expectations as to the candidate's future contribution to the work of the Group.
26. Applications must be submitted by no later than **23.59 CET on 16 September 2022** (the date of receipt is taken as proof) by email to the following email address: stakeholders@esma.europa.eu
27. When submitting the application, candidates shall complete all requested information that may be of relevance for the purpose of the selection. The application should be signed by the applicant.
28. This selection procedure is intended to establish a reserve list of successful candidates. Should a vacancy arise, ESMA retains the right to make use of the reserve list to select candidates. Once selected and appointed, the Authority will publish the details of the new member (i.e. full name, nationality, employer, category represented) on its website as well as short biography of the member.

9 Other information

29. The procedure ESMA22-106-2062, available on the ESMA website² is applicable for this call for expression of interest.
30. Applicants are obliged to keep the Authority informed of any change in their professional situation or address, so that their application may be kept up to date.
31. The Authority, as an EU body, applies the data protection principles and rules as laid down in the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.
32. At ESMA we believe in equality & diversity. ESMA is an equal opportunity organisation committed to providing a welcoming environment. We welcome applications from all qualified candidates, irrespective of their age, gender, ethnicity or social origin, political or religious affiliation, disability or sexual orientation.

² www.esma.europa.eu