

ESPGHAN Constitution Updates – Proposals for 2026

Current and proposed text	Reason for update
Current text: Article 5 Trainee Member: Trainee members shall be members with less than five years' experience in PGHN and must practice/reside within Europe*; trainee membership lasts up to five years; after that period, to remain in the Society, trainee members should apply for full membership. An age limit for applicants of forty years old will be applicable. Special dispensation will be given for applicants who began their training at a later stage. Proposed updates: Trainee Member: Trainee members shall be members with less than five years' experience in PGHN and must practice/reside within Europe*; trainee membership lasts up to five years; after that period, to remain in the Society, trainee members should automatically transition to full membership (upon payment of full membership fee). An age limit for applicants of forty years old will be applicable. Special dispensation will be given for applicants who began their training at a later stage.	Reason behind proposed change is to cut down on administrative burden for members to re-issue support letters and for transitioning members to go through the process of application and voting again. An automated system can be set on the database, and will ensure a more efficient changeover of membership status.
Current text: Article 5 Proposals for all categories of membership should be made in writing to the General Secretary twice a year (exact deadlines are defined in the Rules & Regulations of the Society), supported in writing by a full or emeritus member who is not serving at that time on the Council. Alternatively, for AHP Membership applications, the letter of support can be written by an established AH. Each proposal shall be accompanied by the curriculum vitae and list of publications of the candidate.	Reasoning behind proposed change: Several comments and issues raised by potential Corresponding Members who have difficulties in sourcing a letter of support from a Full ESPGHAN Member, limiting the ability for them to join the society. Change will enable a wider pool of ESPGHAN Members.



ESPGHAN

Proposed updates:**Article 5**

Proposals for all categories of membership should be made in writing to the General Secretary twice a year (exact deadlines are defined in the Rules & Regulations of the Society), supported in writing by a full or emeritus member who is not serving at that time on the Council. Alternatively, for AHP Membership applications, the letter of support can be written by an established AHP Member **and for Corresponding Membership the letter of support can be written by an established Corresponding Member.** Each proposal shall be accompanied by the curriculum vitae and list of publications of the candidate.