New Governance Structure of the CRESSE Annual Conference
July 2026

The CRESSE Scientific Committee decided 2 years ago on a new organizational and governance structure under which in the future the CRESSE Annual Conference will be led by a new independent Scientific Program Committee.

From its inception and until now, the Scientific Committee of CRESSE [currently Joe Harrington, Leslie Marx, Patrick Rey, Nancy Rose, Tom Ross, Frank Verboven, David Ulph, chaired and coordinated by Yannis Katsoulacos] had responsibility for all academic aspects related to the CRESSE Conference, i.e. the combined responsibilities of both the two new Committees mentioned below.

In the new post 2026 organizational and governance structure the Scientific Committee will be replaced by a **Scientific Program Committee (PC)** and an **Executive Committee (EC)**.

The Executive Committee will have only a high level oversight and its main responsibilities will be to search, elicit interest and select the two Chairs of the Scientific Program Committee every three years, and new Members of the Advisory Board. Additionally, the EC may offer suggestions to the Program Chairs about Special Policy Session topics, the main organizational aspects and structure of the Annual Conference, and about the Members of the PC and new CRESSE Associates.

Members of the EC will also propose the person that will give the Annual Dialeksis (given for the first time in 2026 by Jean Tirole). This is a new feature of CRESSE, a Special Annual Lecture on a theme wider than competition policy of significant and topical socio-economic and, potentially, political policy interest.

The EC's Members for the time being at least will be the current Members of the Scientific Committee. Yannis Katsoulacos will coordinate it and continue to coordinate CRESSE's School Activities. EC Members may offer suggestions / advice when considering revisions in or additions to the Schools' programs. Yannis will also continue liaising with the OECD for the Competition Agencies Leaders Executive Program, and coordinate the international activities (e.g. the bi-annual Conferences in China and Brazil).

The Scientific Program Committee will be composed of two co-Chairs and a number of Members with emphasis on maintaining the international character of CRESSE. Our aim is that the two Chairs will be prominent academics, representing Europe and North America (or another country) and ideally satisfying the criterion of gender diversity.

Martin Peitz and Nancy Rose have agreed to be the first two CRESSE PC co-chairs for the next 3 years.

The Program Chair(s) will be responsible for:

- Selecting the Members of the Program Committee for each year. The latter will be responsible for paper evaluation and providing recommendations for paper selection and for Discussants for that year.
- Selecting 3 Keynote Speakers (2 economists and 1 lawyer), aiming to have both European and North America academics.
- Selecting the papers among those recommended by the evaluators for inclusion in the Conference Program and selecting the Discussants.
- Selecting topics for Special Policy Sessions and the speakers to populate them among those recommended by the Advisory Board for SPSs and the EC.
- Selecting 3-4 PC Members to form a Subcommittee for selecting those of the papers accepted that will receive the 3 Young Researcher Awards.
- Liaising with IJIO in relation to the annual or bi-annual Special Issue with CRESSE papers.
- Selecting new CRESSE Associates among academics in competition economics and law, and among enforcers and practitioners, from different countries throughout the world.

For the last 10 years CRESSE also had an Advisory Board [F Jenny, W Kovacic, H Shelanski, F Scott Morton, A Nevo] which essentially has had a very useful advisory role in proposing topics and people for the SPSs. This will now be formalized and will be called the **Advisory Board for Special Policy Sessions.** It will include additional members [J Cremer, A Fletcher, J Haydock, A S Rodriguez, G Z Jin], and will focus on proposing and recommending topics and potential speakers to the EC and the PC.