



Call for Nominations

ELIA seeks four new members for the Artistic Research Working Group

Deadline: 18 February 2026

ELIA calls upon its members to propose candidates interested in joining the Artistic Research Working Group. **The AR Working Group is seeking to select four colleagues from four ELIA member institutions** to fill four open seats in the group.

Aim of the Working Group

The Artistic Research Working Group aims to connect and support ELIA member institutions and their researchers, and facilitates ELIA's peer-learning platform on Artistic Research. The group strives to improve the situation and infrastructures surrounding artistic research by identifying challenges and opportunities, offering and facilitating solutions, and articulating the value and importance of artistic research. Through exemplifying artistic research, the working group seeks to foster a vibrant and collaborative research ecosystem and advocates for a strong and sustainable research climate and culture.

This shall be achieved by activating peer communities and promoting peer-learning and sharing among ELIA members, and by encouraging to engage in research as a matter of course.

Strategic Focus Areas

Community Focus

The Working Group strengthens the network of ELIA members engaged in artistic research by fostering collaboration, exchange, and peer learning among researchers, educators, students, and practitioners. It facilitates interdisciplinary dialogue across artistic disciplines, curates ELIA's online platform for knowledge sharing, and organises gatherings in various formats. The group also initiates and contributes to projects that model and advance innovative artistic research practices, aiming to build a dynamic and supportive research ecosystem.

Advocacy Focus

The Working Group raises awareness and promotes the value and significance of artistic research within academia, the arts, and society, advocating for its recognition, autonomy, and legitimacy. It supports ELIA's policy engagement by advising on European and transnational advocacy initiatives, addressing structural barriers such as funding and legal frameworks, and strengthening links with other networks that advance artistic research at institutional and policy levels.

[Read the Artistic Research Working Group Mandate here >](#)

Who Can Apply

General Eligibility

We welcome applications from individuals affiliated with ELIA member institutions who have specific expertise, active involvement, or a strong interest in the focus areas of the group (as described above). Individuals engaged in artistic research, whether through academic roles, leadership positions or as research-enabling professionals or through professional practices engaged with artistic research, are encouraged to apply.

Applications from **early-career researchers** are particularly welcome, though the call is open to candidates at all stages of artistic research practice.

Applicants should be willing and able to commit the time required to actively participate in the Working Group's activities and coordination tasks.

Selection Criteria

In alignment with the [ELIA EDI policy](#), efforts will be made to ensure a balance of gender, cultural background, age, and the academic and managerial experience among members.

The Working Group specifically seeks nominations from countries and disciplines not currently represented in the Group to better represent the broad ELIA Community.

Please check the list of current members of the Artistic Research Working Group before submitting your application. The selection process will take into account the widest possible representation of regions, disciplines, and gender, particularly in relation to the current composition of the Working Group.

The selection process will be guided by the following criteria:

1. Regional Representation

Priority given to candidates from underrepresented regions, in particular:

- Southern Europe
- Non-European countries
- United Kingdom
- Eastern Europe

2. Active Participation and Engagement

- Engagement in artistic research discourses, or community practices within their institution or broader society.
- Involvement in artistic research networks and discourse, including engagement with national or international groups such as AEC, SAR, EAAE, CILECT, GEECT and others relevant to their practice is a plus.

3. Diversity of Research Stage and Profile

The Working Group aims for a balance across:

- Early-career and established researchers
- Different modes and methodologies of artistic research
- Diverse disciplinary backgrounds. Candidates representing collaborative or performing art disciplines (such as film, dance, theatre) are especially welcome.

4. Institutional Diversity

Members should represent different types of higher arts institutions (small/large, applied/research-focused, etc.) with established or not infrastructures of artistic research to reflect the diversity of ELIA.

Group composition and Governance

ELIA's governance rules for Working Groups will apply to the Artistic Research Working Group.

The Artistic Research Working Group is currently chaired by Florian Dombois at [Zurich University of the Arts](#), and the Working Group members are:

- Stephen Broad, [Royal Conservatory of Scotland](#) (linked to AEC)¹
- Michaela Glanz, [Academy of Fine Arts Vienna](#) (linked to SAR)²
- Glenn Loughran, [TU Dublin, School of Creative Arts](#)
- Jørn Mortensen, [Høyskolen Kristiania](#)
- Ellen Røed, [Stockholm University of the Arts](#)
- Veerle van der Sluys, [LUCA School of Arts](#)
- Maria Topolčanska, [Academy of Fine Arts Prague](#)

The minimum term for participation in the Working Group is two years, and the maximum term is 6 years. The Working Group may not incur any costs unless it has received prior approval from the ELIA Executive Group for such expenditure. Travel and accommodation costs incurred by the members of the Working Group need to be primarily covered by their own institutions.

A **letter of support** from the institution is required to apply, indicating the approval of the applicable time and cost of investment.

For the 2026-2028 period, a fixed budget has been allocated to cover travel and accommodation expenses for Working Group members attending the group's annual in-person meetings, up to a specified amount.

The working group is supported by the ELIA Team, which handles scheduling meetings, taking minutes and organising events. The Working Group reports to the ELIA Executive Group.

Role of the Working Group Members

The Working Group sets its priorities in line with ELIA's values and strategic missions as well as relevant developments and challenges affecting the broader ELIA Community. It will develop a two-year activity plan to achieve its objectives.

The Working Group is the driving force behind the Artistic Research ELIA Community Hub, fostering dialogue and actively engaging the community. Its members are dedicated volunteers from the community who are particularly attuned to the focus of the Working Group.

The Working Group is an official Working Group of ELIA and serves as the governing body of the Artistic Research Community, directing and steering the network. Its primary responsibilities include representing the interests of the AR Community from across Europe and beyond, addressing relevant topics and issues for the community,

¹ Term ending in December 2026

² Term ending in December 2026

preparing events, and contributing to the development of the [ELIA Strategy](#) and programmes.

Working Group Members attend meetings and contribute to the activities of the Working Group. The Working Group meets regularly online in bi-monthly meetings, with an estimated average time investment of four to six hours per month, depending on the planned activities of the group. We encourage a fair distribution of tasks between WG members to avoid overload. Once a year, the Working Group will meet in person to manage and collaboratively develop Working Group deliverables (e.g., surveys, research, and policy papers, and events). Members are expected to engage in the development of these collaborative deliverables beyond the plenary meetings as well. Members are encouraged to host physical meetings of the Working Group in their institutions.

Selection Process

Candidates will be selected based on their applications by a selection committee consisting of Representative Board members, current Working Group members and ELIA staff, with the nominated candidates being formally approved by the Executive Group.

Key Dates

- Deadline: **18 February**
- Notification of first-round selection: **23 February**
- First-round selection interviews: **25 February**
- Onboarding session for successful candidates: online on **24 March, 14:00 – 15:30 CET**
- The successful candidates are also expected to join the in-person meeting on **20 - 21 April, in the Netherlands** (exact location to be confirmed)

[APPLY HERE>](#)

For questions or additional information, contact Amalia Smyrnioti, ELIA Community Manager, at amalia.smyrnioti@elia-artschools.org.