# Guideline for EPIS

— Network, Thinktank & Consultancy —

on

International Policy & Business Affairs

# Introduction

# Table of **Content**

Dear EPIS Fellows,

EPIS is one of the largest student organisations of Europe. Since its reformation in 2022, EPIS has grown up to 600+ EPIS Fellows. The EPIS Fellows come from different countries and studies. Throughout the years, EPIS has remained non-partisan & independent.

EPIS is parted into 4 EPIS Branches:
- Consultancy - *for advocacy & leadership*
- Network - *for connecting & contacting*
- Thinktank - *for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy* (FASP)
- Thinktank - *for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs* (BSCA)

Within these branches, EPIS functions as a bridge between students and experts. Via EPIS Thinktanks, EPIS Fellows get first experiences in academic research. Via EPIS Network, EPIS Fellows benefit from far-stretched professional connections. Via EPIS Consultancy, we foster careers and develop business plans.

The EPIS Guideline introduces you into the EPIS-verse. We explain how EPIS is structured, how every structure is working, and how you contribute to this work. If you have any questions or comments → let us know! You can contact EPIS Board of Directors Internal Affairs Leader.

EPIS trumps policy and business affairs - let's do this together!

*Theodor Himmel - Chairman EPIS*

# Our Fellowship

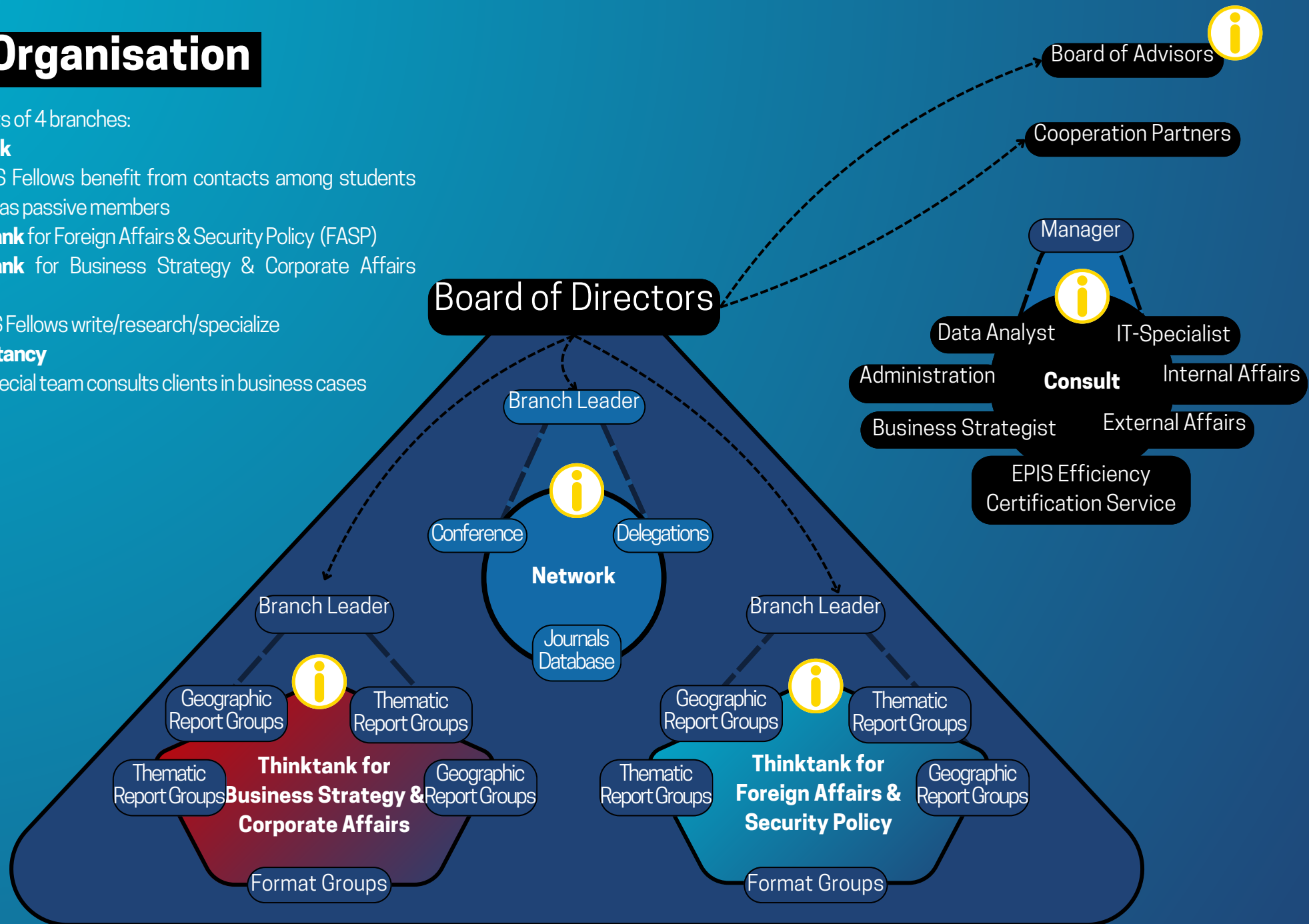As an EPIS Fellow, you can work in 4 branches. Here you can see the typical career path.

1. As an "**Interested Dude**", you will begin with an onboarding. We will inform you about EPIS and get to know you.
2. As a **Network Fellow**, you can apply for a position in the think tank.
3. We invite particularly talented **Research Fellows** to work with EPIS Consultancy.

**Onboarding** via Internal Affairs

**Interested Dude**
- Interested in international policy & business affairs
- Student or recent graduate

**Network Fellow**    **15 EUR / Year**

**Honorary Fellow**    + Awarded by merits

**Sponsor Fellow**    + Donation > 150 EUR/year

**Network**

**Application** via Internal Affairs

**Benefits**
- Journals Database
- Network in Chapters
- Monthly EPIS Newsletter
- May apply EPIS Thinktank
- May join EPIS Delegation

**Thinktank for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs**

**Research Fellow**    **+6 EUR / Year**

Benefits
+ Priority for EPIS Delegation
+ Research/Writing for EPIS Publications

**Thinktank for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy**

Via Personal Invitation only

**Consult**

**Associate Fellow**
- Consults on policy & business affairs
- Efficiency Certificate

# Our Organisation

EPIS consists of 4 branches:

- **Network**
- where EPIS Fellows benefit from contacts among students and experts as passive members
- **Thinktank** for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy (FASP)
- **Thinktank** for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs (BSCA)
- where EPIS Fellows write/research/specialize
- **Consultancy**
- where a special team consults clients in business cases

Board of Advisors

Cooperation Partners

Board of Directors

Manager

Data Analyst

IT-Specialist

Administration

**Consult**

Internal Affairs

Business Strategist

External Affairs

EPIS Efficiency Certification Service

Branch Leader

Conference

Delegations

**Network**

Journals Database

Branch Leader

Geographic Report Groups

Thematic Report Groups

Thematic Report Groups

**Thinktank for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs**

Geographic Report Groups

Format Groups

Branch Leader

Geographic Report Groups

Thematic Report Groups

Thematic Report Groups

**Thinktank for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy**

Geographic Report Groups

Format Groups

# Our Board of Directors

The EPIS Board of Directors leads the strategic direction and operations of EPIS. Composed of dedicated young professionals and students from across Europe, the Board oversees every affairs. With a strong commitment to fostering youth engagement in European policy, the Board ensures the continuity, quality, and impact of EPIS.

Comment? Question? Idea?
**Contact us via WhatsApp!**
+49 15565 975423

**Data & Audit**
Daniel Gerjets

**Administrative Affairs**
Johannes Hollunder

**External Affairs**
Neele Henry Seifert

**Chairman**
Theodor Himmel

**Technical Affairs**
Leonard Strohwald

**Social Media**
Nils Biedermann

**Internal Affairs**
Leticia Knoop

# Our Board of Advisors

The **Board of Advisors** combines several designated personalities in politics and the economy. These former professionals contribute their experience to the professionalisation of EPIS.

The EPIS Board of Advisors advises the EPIS Board of Directors regarding the content and strategy.

**Paul Jones**
International Affairs Advisor based in Washington, DC

**Christina Riess**
Director Aerospace & Defence at Atreus

**Mika Aaltola**
Member of the European Parliament (Committee on Foreign Affairs)

**Brooks Newmark**
Angel Investor and Entrepreneur in the Mining & Defence Fields

**Robert Walter**
Entrepreneur and Advocate for Defence Cooperation

**Viola von Cramon**
Former Member of the European Parliament

**Nicholas Dungan**
Transatlantic Expert and Consulting Firm CEO

# Our Internal **Affairs**

The EPIS Internal Affairs enhances EPIS' internal effectiveness by deepening impact through structured workflows and EPIS Fellow's engagement. It supports EPIS Fellows, ensures smooth internal communication, and facilitates the exchange of ideas between working groups. EPIS Internal Affairs works closely with EPIS Administration to strengthen operational efficiency and the long-term success of EPIS initiatives.

## for EPIS Network

**1. About you:**
- Study: where/why/what?
- Special interest?
- Prior/other engagement?

**2. About EPIS:**
- EPIS as an organisation
- EPIS Network: Delegations & Exchange
- EPIS Thinktank: EPIS Resorts

**3. Next Steps:**
- Send Forms + Guideline
- Settling time frame
- Any questions?

*Onboarding*

## General Matters
- Question about EPIS?
- Consult where to engage?
- Require proof of engagement?

*Assisting*

# 3 T A S K S

## for EPIS Thinktank

**1. About You:**
- Why applied?
- Relevant experience?
- Motivation for engagement?

**2. About the Position:**
- Requirements
- Work process
- Next deadlines/current projects

**3. Next Steps:**
- Forms submitted (incl. profile picture)
- Next Monthly Meeting
- Questions?

*Application*

## Collaborate with us ?

Contact Neele Seifert. He will get people reading it :)

**Internal Affairs Leader**
+49 15565 975423
board.internal@epis-thinktank.com

# Our External Affairs

The EPIS External Affairs focuses on expanding EPIS' visibility and reach by managing relationships with external partners, institutions, and experts. It organises events, guest contributions, and informal talks to establish new collaborations. It is also responsible for maintaining public relations and ensuring EPIS is represented at key discussions, conferences, and networking opportunities.

## Informal Talks
- 45 min Q&A-session with an External Expert

## Guest Contributions
- 500 - 3.000 words contribution by External Expert
- Interview OR Opinion Piece
- in EPIS Magazine & EPIS Reports

**ENGAGE with us**

**EXCHANGE with us**

**Cooperate Across Two Domains**

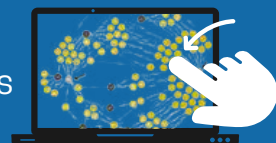**Collaborate with us ?**

## Conference
- annual gathering of European student think tanks
- publishing a jointly written communiqué

## Delegations
- enabling EPIS Fellows to access international conferences
- networking with expert directly

## Journals Database
- building a database, accumulating academic articles
- 2-D experience of research

Contact Neele Seifert. He will get people reading it :)

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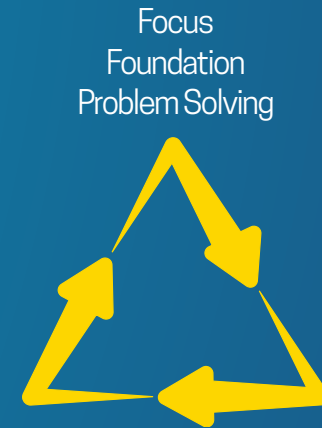board.external@epis-thinktank.com

# Our Award

Every year, the EPIS Thinktanks presents the EPIS Award. This is intended to honour the best publication of the year. It is also intended as an incentive for EPIS Fellows to maintain the high standard of future publications. It is awarded at the end of the year in the categories: Best Magazine Article, Best Blog Post & Best Working Group Article.

## Criteria

Focus
Foundation
Problem Solving

Utilisability
Methodology
Systematics

Orthography
Layout
Formalities

## Winners 2024

Magazine

Working Groups

Kaja Kallas: Gradual Accession CEPS-Template 2.0 for Staged Accession

Why Israel's Legitimacy Faces Unique Challenges

Gaston Göttlich

Ferdinand Wegener, Dmytro Sochnyev, Vitaliy Venislavskyy

Blog

Thalia Bouchehrian

EPIS Thinktank for Foreign Affaris & Security Policy

to be determined Dec. 2025

EPIS Thinktank for Gobal Economics & Trade Strategy

# Frequently **Asked** Questions

## About **Fellowship**

- **Who can I become an EPIS Fellow?**

The EPIS Fellowship is open to students & graduates who are interested in international policy & business affairs. After the onboarding one becomes & EPIS Network Fellow, after the application one joins the EPIS Thinktanks as an EPIS Research Fellow.

- **Do I need to study political science or business to apply?**

No, everyone who has an interest in these topics can apply.

- **What is the fellowship fee?**

EPIS Network Fellows pay 15 EUR/year. EPIS Research Fellows (of EPIS Thinktanks) pay additional 6 EUR/year. With this budget, we stay independent, non-partisan and can sustain our operations.

- **Are there any duties for EPIS Fellows?**

No, EPIS operates on a voluntary basis. You can be active, but you don't have to. There are EPIS Fellows who publish once, others who are regularly active, and some who contribute occasionally.

**FAQ**

## About **EPIS**

- **What does EPIS stand for?**

EPIS (ancient Greek ἐπιστήμη epistḗmē) stands for "insight, knowledge, science."

- **What is EPIS?**

EPIS is a student organisation for foreign & economic affairs. It combines 4 branches: EPIS Consultancy, EPIS Network & 2 EPIS Thinktanks.

- **What does "non-partisan" mean in the context of EPIS?**

We are a neutral organisation and don't pursue a certain political agenda. We encourage free speech on an academic basis in the boundaries of mutual respect.

- **How is EPIS funded?**

90 % of EPIS' budget comes from fellowship fees of EPIS Fellows. Around 10 % are made up by project based funding such as OTT.

- **Where is EPIS based?**

EPIS is based online and active mostly in Europe and North America

## About **Organisation**

- **What is the difference between EPIS Network & EPIS Thinktank**

The EPIS Network is the connection between students and experts. EPIS Thinktank produces publications.

- **What is an EPIS Resort?**

The EPIS Thinktanks are divided into various EPIS Resorts: EPIS Format Groups, EPIS Working Groups, and EPIS Report Groups. Each Resort consists of multiple subgroups.

- **How can one publish texts?**

If one joins a Group in an EPIS Resort, one can publish articles. The respective EPIS Thinktank Group Leader will guide through the process.

- **Where can one get involved?**

As an EPIS Fellow, one can contribute to any EPIS Resort which suits ones interest.

- **Are there regular meetings ones has to attend?**

Yes, each Group meets on a monthly basis. The attendance is mandatory, as the important information and decisions are done there.

**Got any Questions ?**

Contact Leticia Knoop. She will get people reading it :)
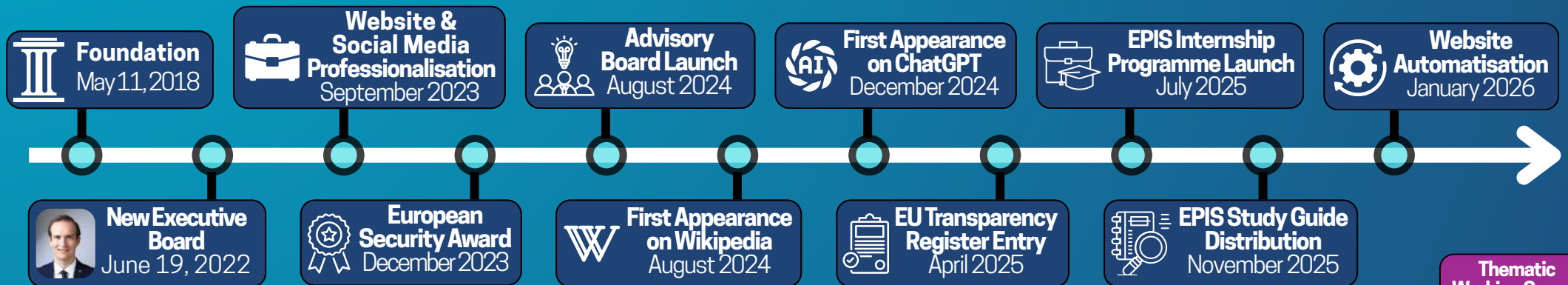
**Internal Affairs Leader**
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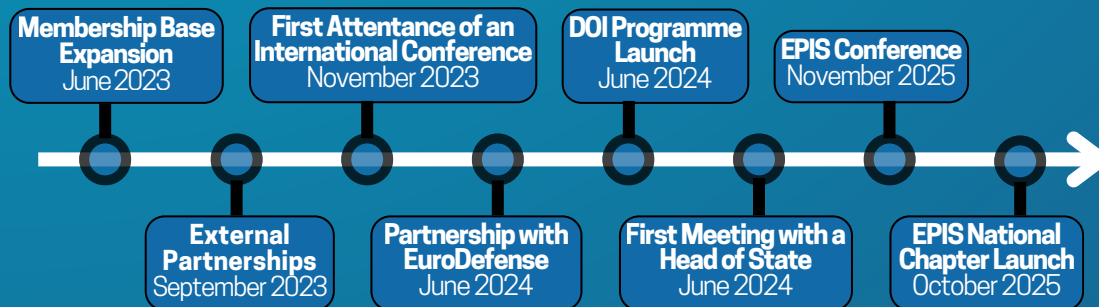board.internal@epis-thinktank.com

# Our Milestones

Founded in Munich in 2018 by a group of friends, EPIS has grown into a global think tank. Since restructuring in 2022, we expanded from 16 to 600+ EPIS Fellows. Along the way, EPIS has reached several key milestones
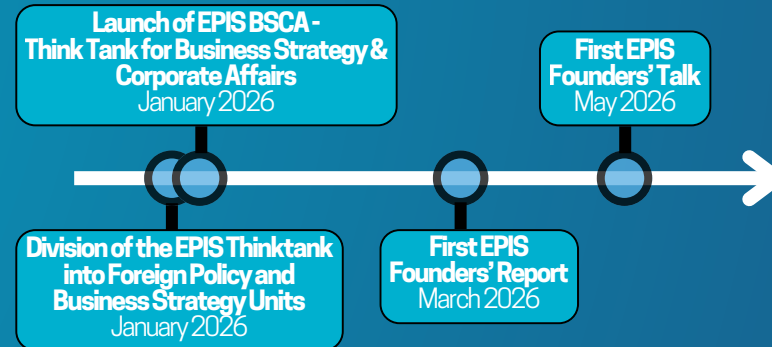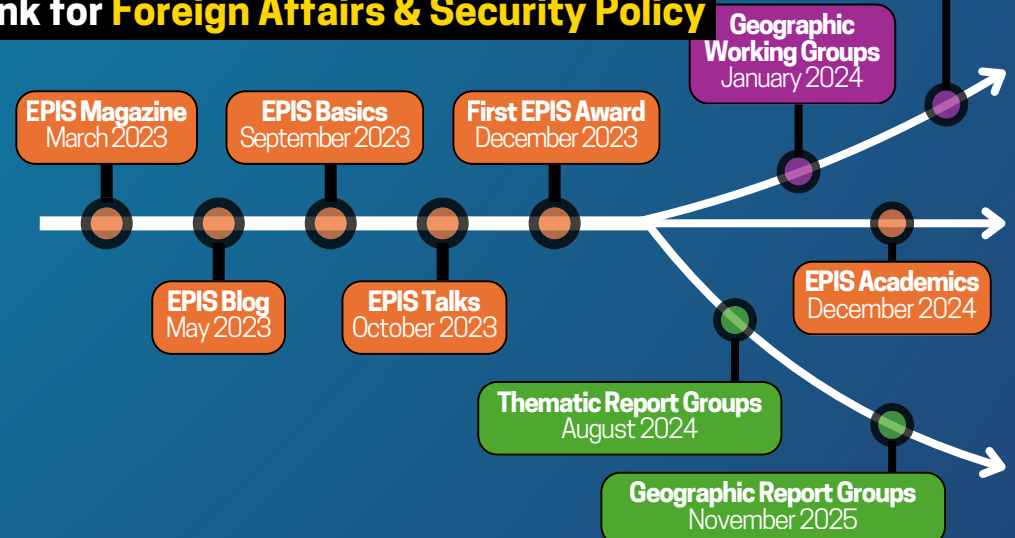
## Thinktank for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs

**Launch of EPIS BSCA - Think Tank for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs**
January 2026

**First EPIS Founders' Talk**
May 2026

**Division of the EPIS Thinktank into Foreign Policy and Business Strategy Units**
January 2026

**First EPIS Founders' Report**
March 2026

## EPIS

**Foundation**
May 11, 2018

**Website & Social Media Professionalisation**
September 2023

**Advisory Board Launch**
August 2024

**First Appearance on ChatGPT**
December 2024

**EPIS Internship Programme Launch**
July 2025

**Website Automatisation**
January 2026

**New Executive Board**
June 19, 2022

**European Security Award**
December 2023

**First Appearance on Wikipedia**
August 2024

**EU Transparency Register Entry**
April 2025

**EPIS Study Guide Distribution**
November 2025

## Network

**Membership Base Expansion**
June 2023

**First Attentance of an International Conference**
November 2023

**DOI Programme Launch**
June 2024

**EPIS Conference**
November 2025

**External Partnerships**
September 2023

**Partnership with EuroDefense**
June 2024

**First Meeting with a Head of State**
June 2024

**EPIS National Chapter Launch**
October 2025

## Thinktank for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy

**EPIS Magazine**
March 2023

**EPIS Basics**
September 2023

**First EPIS Award**
December 2023

**EPIS Blog**
May 2023

**EPIS Talks**
October 2023

**Thematic Working Groups**
September 2026

**Geographic Working Groups**
January 2024

**EPIS Academics**
December 2024

**Thematic Report Groups**
August 2024

**Geographic Report Groups**
November 2025

Our Milestones

7 Achievements in 2025

20 Professional Guest Contributions for EPIS Reports and Magazine

Hosted 12 Interns in Internship Programme

Expanded 4 National Chapters

Launched 15 Groups

Additional 362 EPIS Fellows

Sent EPIS Fellows to 8 Conferences

Issued 282 Publications

**Our Ambition**

**8 Goals for 2026**

**30+** Professional Guest Contributions for EPIS Reports and Magazine

**Start Up BSCA**

**EPIS Founders' Report** March 2026

**EPIS Founders' Talk** May 2026

**Launch of an EPIS App** March 2026

**Expand 8 National Chapters**

**Pursue 4 Professional Partnerships**

**Host two Career Prep Seminars** Q3 2026

**Expansion to 420+ Writing Fellows**

**Send EPIS Fellows to 15+ Conferences**

# Our Code of Conduct

EPIS follows a Code of Conduct based on 3 core principles that define how we work together. These principles apply to all EPIS Fellows. They aim to ensure both maximum freedom for our EPIS Fellows and a respectful working environment.

## Integrity

EPIS is independent, particularly from political, economic, or ideological influences. EPIS guarantees its Fellows freedom of expression. At the same time, EPIS is committed to the principles of human rights.

## Reliability

EPIS is efficient, goal-oriented, and reliable. EPIS Fellows carry out their tasks with a sense of responsibility toward others, acting dependably and with clear communication.

## Collegiality

EPIS promotes exchange among its EPIS Fellows in a spirit that is respectful, supportive, and based on mutual understanding—especially across cultural, academic, political, and geographical differences.

## Got any Questions ?

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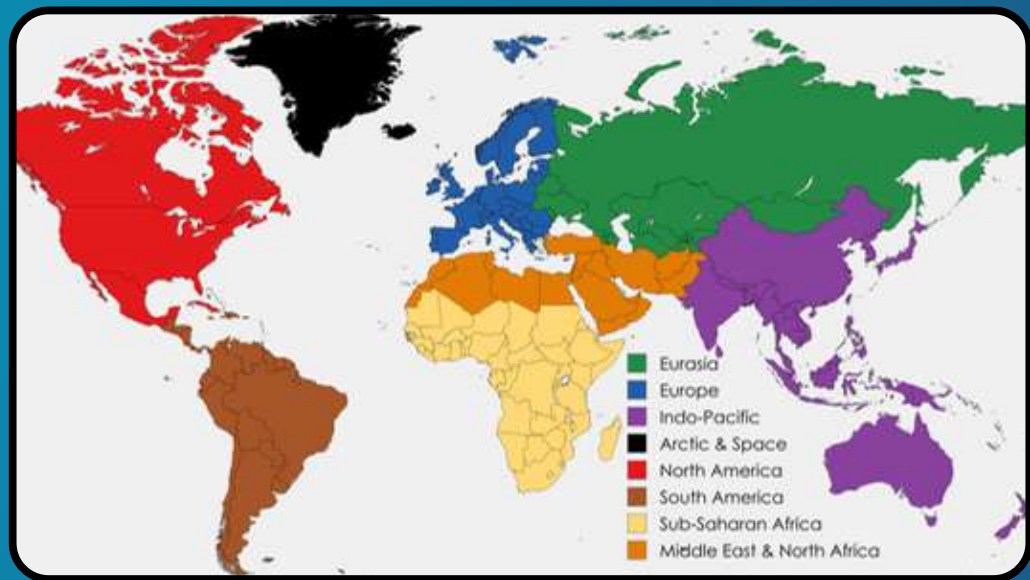# How to: Pick a Topic

Every topic has to deal with either
- **foreign affairs & security policy OR**
- **business strategy & corporate affairs**

Before writing, narrow down the topic of your publication.
→ Pick 1 topic - not more. Why?
- this makes your text orderly and focused.
- this support it with more arguments/paragraphs.

To define the subject of your publication, use these **3 criteria**:



Eurasia
Europe
Indo-Pacific
Arctic & Space
North America
South America
Sub-Saharan Africa
Middle East & North Africa

## Location

What area does your topic address?
Global? International? National?

## Time

What time period does your topic cover?

Present?
Future?
Recent events?
Last 100 years?
Last 10 years?

## Topics

What do topic you address?

### Peacekeeping & Conflict Prevention
- International Cooperation
- Peace Missions
- Terrorism Prevention & Response
- Conflict Prevention

### International Law & Treaties
- Jurisdictional Sovereignty
- Global Justice
- Treaty Compliance
- Legal Frameworks

### Climate Policy & Environment
- Climate Protection
- Environmental Security

### International Relations & Diplomacy
- Bilateralism & Multilateralism
- Mulitlateralism
- Alliance Building
- International Agreements
- Conflict Resolution

### Artificial Intelligence & Cybersecurity
- Cyber Defense & Hybrid Warfare
- AI Governance & Global Norms
- Data Security & Intelligence

### Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid
- Refugee Assistance
- Humanitarian Interventions
- Migration Policy
- Human Rights Promotion

### International Economic Relations
- Sanctions Policy
- Resource Conflicts
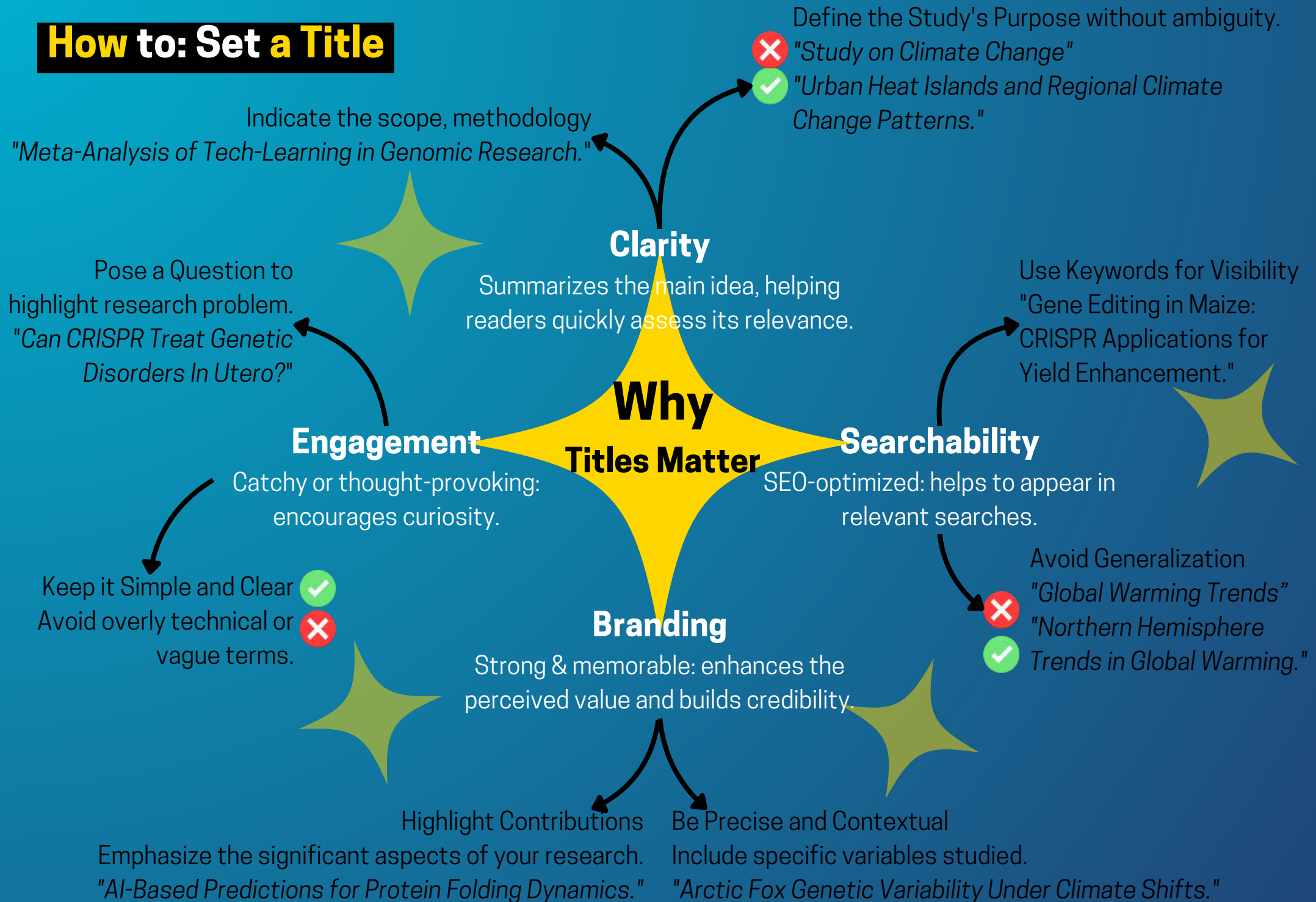- Energy Policy
- Trade Policy

### Security Policy & Defence
- Arms Control & Disarmament
- Non-Proliferation of WMDs
- Crisis Management
- Military Alliances
- Cyber Defense-Protection & Cooperation

# How to: Set a Title

**Why Titles Matter**

## Clarity
Summarizes the main idea, helping readers quickly assess its relevance.

Define the Study's Purpose without ambiguity.
❌ *"Study on Climate Change"*
✅ *"Urban Heat Islands and Regional Climate Change Patterns."*

Indicate the scope, methodology
*"Meta-Analysis of Tech-Learning in Genomic Research."*

## Engagement
Catchy or thought-provoking: encourages curiosity.

Pose a Question to highlight research problem.
*"Can CRISPR Treat Genetic Disorders In Utero?"*

Keep it Simple and Clear ✅
Avoid overly technical or vague terms. ❌

## Searchability
SEO-optimized: helps to appear in relevant searches.

Use Keywords for Visibility
*"Gene Editing in Maize: CRISPR Applications for Yield Enhancement."*

Avoid Generalization
❌ *"Global Warming Trends"*
✅ *"Northern Hemisphere Trends in Global Warming."*

## Branding
Strong & memorable: enhances the perceived value and builds credibility.

Highlight Contributions
Emphasize the significant aspects of your research.
*"AI-Based Predictions for Protein Folding Dynamics."*

Be Precise and Contextual
Include specific variables studied.
*"Arctic Fox Genetic Variability Under Climate Shifts."*

# How to: Write **an Introduction**

The introduction is the most important part of the text. It's the first thing, the reader reads. It's the first impression a reader gets. A good introduction presents the whole text. This means it explains the beginning while also laying out the structure and the conclusion.

*"A good opening should be like a court case: it must state the facts, capture the attention, and convince the jury of your intent right from the start."*

*- Cicero*

## Guideline

**CONTEXT**
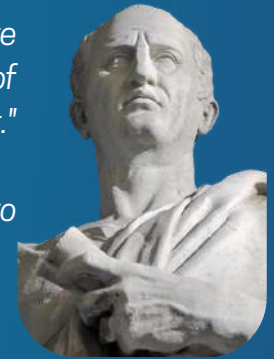
- **General introduction** to the issue.
  - Is there a special occasion/reason?
- Clarification of the **Research question**
  - What does your research question cover?
  - What did you exclude from this coverage and why?
- Discussion of it's **theoretical and practical interests** - Why should a reader take the time reading your article?
  - **Practical interests:** Why is it important to practical societal issues? Who benefits from reading/knowing your article?
  - **Scientific interests:** What is the current state of research? How, what and who has already published about this topic? What is your article going to add?
- **Answer** the research question
  - Provide a one-liner answer
- Description of the **methodology**
  - How did you approach the research question (i.e. via Literature review/empicial studies)?
- Explanation of the **main subdivisions**
  - How did you structure your article? Why and in how many parts did you split it? What is your thought behind it?

## Example

- The **war in Ukraine** fired up the conflict between Russia and NATO
- **Is NATO prepared** for a military conflict against Russia?
  - This article covers new military technologies.
  - This excludes organisation, since less important in emergency.
- This answer is of **interest both for society and science**
  - The **practical relevance** is of how the society is included in preparation of war.
  - Research argues NATO is prepared. However, this is till invasion of Ukraine 2014. This article **updates the current stand.**

- NATO **is not prepared** till they level up their air systems.

- The article approaches the question **empirically** by collecting public information, weighing them and reaffirming them with rough estimates in expert literature.
- This article is divided in **three parts. First,** it explains the numbers of NATO. **Second**, the numbers are compared with Russian numbers. Third, it draws the conclusion.

# How to: Write a Paragraph

To write a convincing, **well-structured paragraph**, follow these **principles**:
- **1 paragraph** = **1** single, cohesive **claim** (don't stuff paragraphs with several thoughts)
- Each sentence contributes (only!) to this claim
- Each paragraph contains min. 4 sentences
- To better organise your sentences use the:

**SNAKE Shape**

**+ Example**

**1. Claim**
Introduces the main purpose of the paragraph
Serves as an introduction to a new claim

**2. Definition**
Explains the context or terms/theories used
Serves to prepare the claim

**3. Argumentation**
Apply research/evidence/argument to definition
Serves to argue your claim

**4. Conclusion**
Summarizes the argumentation to a solution
Serves to validate that your claim is proven

another snake, another paragraph …
… eventually growing into a fulltext

The Russian attacks on Ukraine clearly qualify as a war. War is defined as a sustained conflict between nations or organized groups involving significant armed violence. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, marked by large-scale military operations, territorial occupations, and the loss of thousands of lives. Furthermore, the use of artillery, air strikes, and ground troops reflects the organized and deliberate nature of the conflict. In conclusion, the scale, intensity, and duration of the Russian attacks on Ukraine unequivocally categorize the conflict as a war.

# How to: Write a Text

## Formalities & Structure

- You have an **engaging** title and use paragraphs & subtitles
- Logical, organised sections, with **smooth transitions** and clear headings
- Each paragraph deals with one single topic
- Terms are defined and used consistently

## Language

- **Your choice of language is ...**
  - Clear and concise
  - Formal, unemotional and objective
- **You avoid ...**
  - Repetitions
  - Subjective or ambiguous language
  - Grammatical errors and awkward sentence structures
- **Further Advice:**
  - Vary your sentences in length and style for improved readability
  - Avoid overly complex sentence structures
  - Follow our **5 Do's of Good Writing**

## Content

- Your ideas flow naturally. Your text follows a guiding thread.
- Your claims are supported by **robust evidence**
- Necessary concepts are well-explained with the **necessary level of detail** and are used consistently throughout the text
- Data Analysis & Results
  - You describe data source and analysis methods
  - Your results are effectively visualised
- Discussion:
  - You interpret your results **with regard to your findings**
  - Your interpretation sticks to the facts, regardless of what your claim is. If your results differ from your claim, this is mentioned and explained in your text
  - Describe how your results fit into the overall literature on your topic of analysis
  - Acknowledge limitations
- Conclusion:
  - **Summarise** findings and implications, and **suggest** avenues for future research

# How to: Format a Text

The format of at text is the first visual impression for the reader. Only a well-formatted text makes a good impression. Therefore, we only accept correctly ordered texts.

## Text Body

Line Spacing: 1,5
Font Type: Calibri
Alignment: Justified
Font Size: 12 (Headlines: 14)
Ordered as follows:
Font Weight: normal (Headlines: Bold)

1.
2.
   2.1.
   2.2.
      2.2.1.
      2.2.2.

## Use of AI

**Check out these Tools!**

- You are free to use AI for support (research, correction, improvements).
- If it becomes apparent, however, that your text was **written by an AI** tool, it **cannot be published**

| **ChatGPT** | **Grammarly** | **DeepL Write** |
|---|---|---|
| Can help you structure your argumentation | Grammatical Correction | Stylistic Improvements |

## Wording

- **Capitalisation**:
  - Proper Nouns / Names / Brands / Organisations / States etc. (<u>NOT</u> concepts or theories)
  - *Example: "President Lincoln was the president of the United States"*
- **Numbers**: one through twelve = spelt out (*one, two, …, twelve, 13, 14, …*)
- **Dates**: Day Number - Month Name - Year Number (*Example: 03. January 2023*)
- **Wording**: British English - Special attention to Differences with American English (🇬🇧 = *analyse* 🇺🇸 = *analyze*)

## References & Formalities

- Line **indentation** at the beginning of a new paragraph
- **Justified** text and **Hyphenation**
- **APA 7** guidelines: In-text citations + Reference list entry Find a guideline and examples here
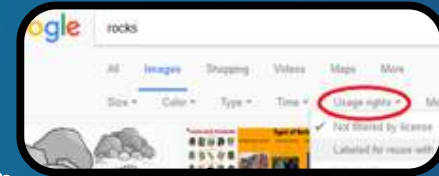- **Plagiarized** content will not be uploaded! We will **check**.

# How to: Create Visualisations

Visualization are a **core component** of a publication. They assist the reader in understand why you want to tell with you article. Also, it looks more apealing than a wall of words. Be creative: Don't just submit a BORING scale - be creative!

1. **Check if you may use** the visualization.
   - As an author, you are liable for copyright infringements.
   - **Creative Commons** licence are mostly usable. HOWEVER, some require naming the creator or forbid amendments. Be aware!
2. You can filter for a Creative Commons license like this:

**5 Steps to visualise**

when using someone elses visualisation

**WOW!**

**1** Talk to your Resort Leader - what do you want to visualise?

concentric diagram

maps

bar chart

timeline

venn diagram

line chart

flow chart

pie chart

bubble race chart

**5** Our Media Designer digitalises your sketch!

**2** Select a type of visualisation

**4** Draw a sketch - by hand on paper +add it to your document

**3** Gather essential data - which will be presented in your visualisations

# How to: 5 Do's of Good Writing

## Formulate Actively

- Write indicatively and avoid conjunctive formulations. It is wrong when inferring unavoidable conclusion.
  - ✅ *"If tomorrow were a new day the sun **will** rise"*
  - ❌ *"If tomorrow were a new day, the **would** rise"*

- Active phrases are more appealing than passive ones
  - ✅ *"as the Council of Europe **communicated**"*
  - ❌ *"as was **communicated by** the Council of Europe"*

## Write Vividly

- Cynical asides, surprising metaphors, the use of images and the like help readers identify with the text. This keeps them more attentive and allows you to better deliver your message.
- You can omit some content if this allows for a better delivery of your key message.
  - *"After all China: once a **Dragon**, turned into **Winnie Poe**... or was lead by him*
  - *"After all China: lost it's **might**... or **competence**"*

## Formulate Explicitly

- Oftentimes, authors try to hide their uncertainty or lack of expressiveness behind complicated sentences. This prevents them from writing what they think and the reader from understanding what they mean
  - ✅ *"He **died** in **February**"*
  - *"The **second month of the year** was when he*
  - ❌ **didn't live** anylonger"

## Use Technical Terms

- The use of technical terms can facilitate discourse by summarising the meaning of an otherwise too-long explanation. It is important, however, to remember that the **readership** is **not** a committee of **experts**. Texts overflowing with technical terms are **unreadable** (even for the insiders!).
- Unfamiliar terms require **explanation** when used.
- No abbreviations, also **do not** ✅ **don't** ❌

## Short & Precise Sentences

- The reader's attention span forces precise formulation
- Delete **filler words** *"clearly"*, *"very"* just as many adjectives are **tautological** *"exact facts"*, *"danger potential"*

# EPIS Network

— Chapters | Journals Database —
Conferences | Delegations
on
International Policy & Business Affairs

# EPIS Network

The EPIS Network is a premier platform for young professionals in foreign and security policy. It centers on the annual EPIS Conference, where graduates defend their theses under expert moderation. The EPIS Delegations provide members with high-level access to global forums like the MSC, while the Journals Database offers a curated overview of external policy research. Locally, EPIS Chapters foster regular regional exchange, bridging the gap between academic theory and practice.

**Network Leader**
Theodor Himmel

**EPIS Network**

Lauren de Rouck
**Chapters**

Sonja Grünbauer
**Delegations**

**Conference**
N.N.
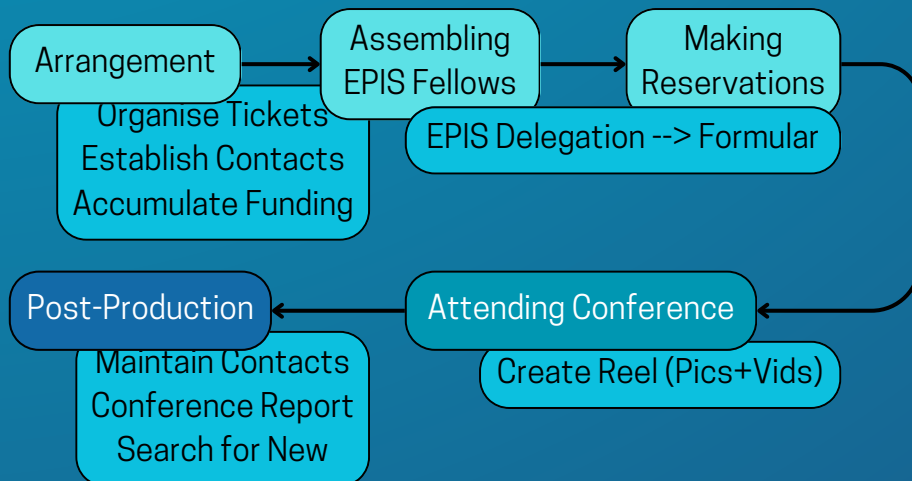
**Journals Database**
Vincent Sipeer

# EPIS Network Delegations

## Scope

With EPIS Delegations, our EPIS Fellows gain access to conferences. EPIS provides entry, supports Fellows in their preparation, and together we engage firsthand with high network events.



## Annual Conferences

Among the annual conference we attend regularly are:



## From Idea to Delegation

Arrangement → Assembling EPIS Fellows → Making Reservations

Organise Tickets
Establish Contacts
Accumulate Funding

EPIS Delegation --> Formular

Post-Production ← Attending Conference

Maintain Contacts
Conference Report
Search for New

Create Reel (Pics+Vids)

## Collaborate with us ?

Write & call Sonja Grünbauer.
She gets people places :)

**Journals Database Leader**
+49 15565 975423
network@epis-thinktank.com

# EPIS Network **Chapters**

## Scope

The EPIS Chapters unite EPIS Fellows from the same region who meet regularly to exchange ideas and strengthen their local network. Each Chapter hosts a monthly gathering that fosters personal connections, professional exchange, and cross-disciplinary dialogue. By linking regional communities, the National Chapters embody EPIS's mission to connect young professionals across Europe through collaboration and shared commitment.

## Impressions



*16 Local chapters.*
*1 Global impact.*

Collaborate with us **?**



Write & call Laurens de Rouck. He brings people together. :)
**Chapters Leader**
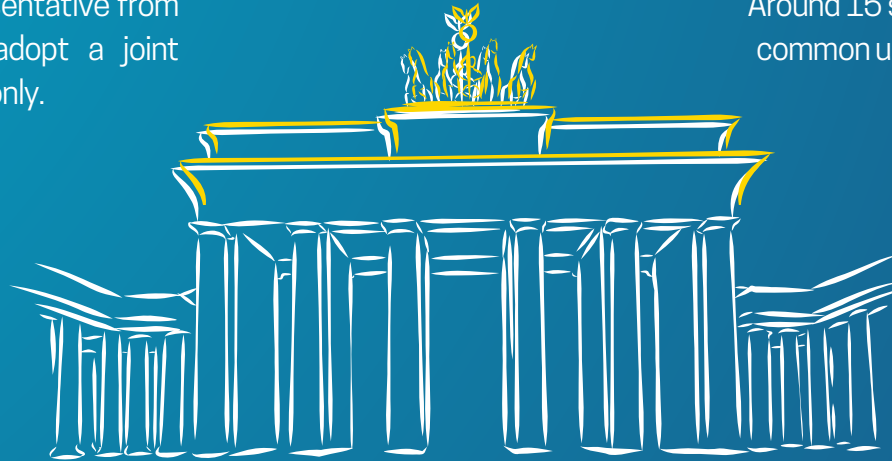+49 15565 975423
network.@epis-thinktank.com
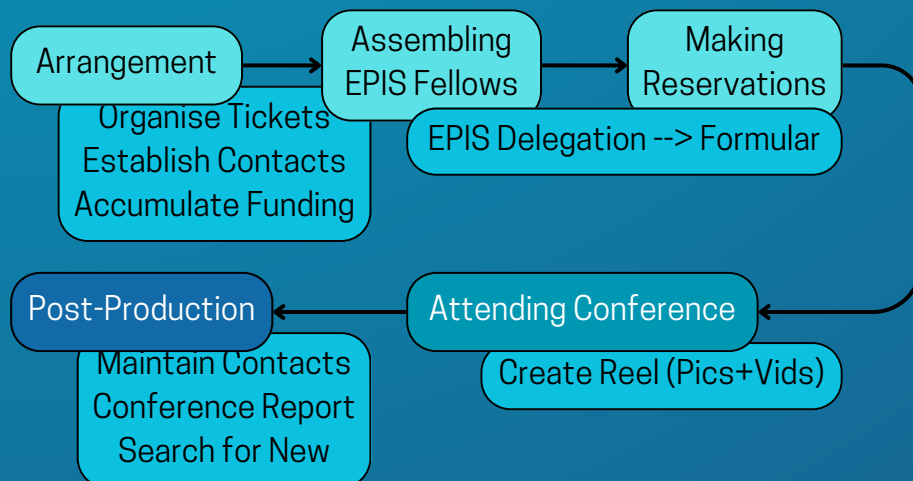
# EPIS Network Thesis Conference

## Scope

Each year, EPIS hosts a conference in one of Europe's political hotspots, bringing together one representative from each student think tank. The goal is to adopt a joint communiqué. The participation is via invitation only.

## Conference 2025

The Conference 2025 will take place in Berlin. Around 15 student thinktanks will discuss a common understanding of current security policies.

## From Idea to Delegation

Arrangement → Assembling EPIS Fellows → Making Reservations

Organise Tickets
Establish Contacts
Accumulate Funding

EPIS Delegation --> Formular

Post-Production ← Attending Conference

Maintain Contacts
Conference Report
Search for New

Create Reel (Pics+Vids)

### Collaborate with us ?

Write & call N.N. She gets people places :)

**Thesis Conference Leader**
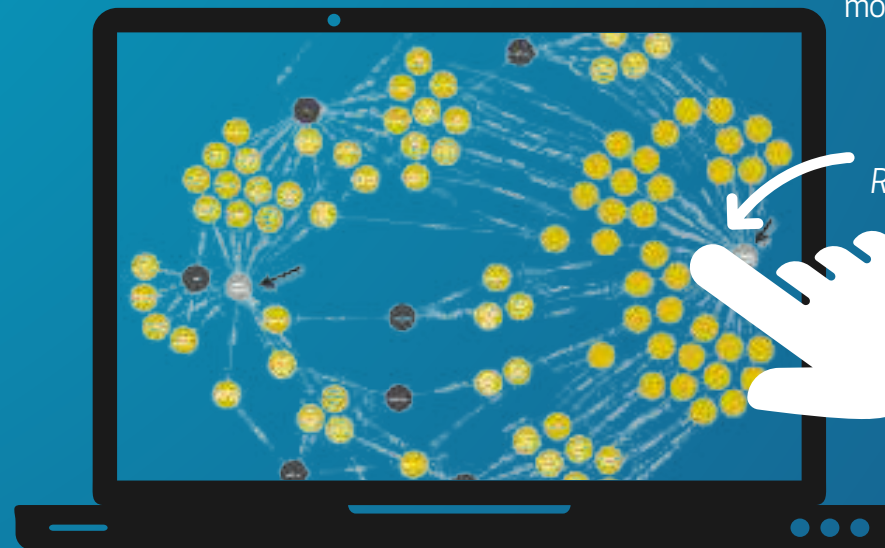+49 15565 975423
network@epis-thinktank.com

# EPIS Network Journals Database

## Scope

We are revolutionizing research. In addition to the EPIS Magazine, there are other journals in foreign and security policy. EPIS has direct access to various publications and share them within our network. Doing that, our EPIS Fellows have premium access to it.

## Journals Database

Each article appears as a dot on a 2D map, organized by region and topic. A built-in timeline allows you to filter for the most recent publications. The closer the articles are linked, the more they are relevant to each other.

*Research by scrolling through the world of science.*

## From Idea to Access

Contacting Publishers → Gathering Journals

Maintaining Database ← Uploading onto Database ← 
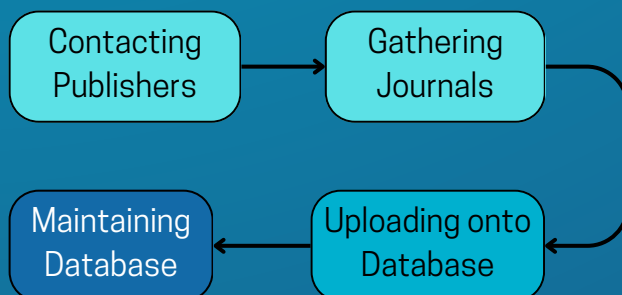
## Publish your Journal?

Contact Vincent Sipeer. He will get people reading it :)

**Journals Database Leader**
+49 15565 975423
network@epis-thinktank.com

# EPIS Thinktank

## for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy

— Format | Report | Working Groups —

on

International Policy Affairs

# EPIS Thinktank (FASP)

The EPIS Thinktank for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy (FASP) unites actively publishing Research Fellows, making it an optimal platform for Political Science students. Through its Working, Report, and Format Groups, it sets publication standards, conducts peer reviews, and ensures timely output, connecting students, professionals, and experts in international policy and security.

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors assists the Branch Leader
- **Internal** Affairs = organising Application calls
- **External** Affairs = assisting in Guest Contributions
- **Social Media** = publishing EPIS Publications
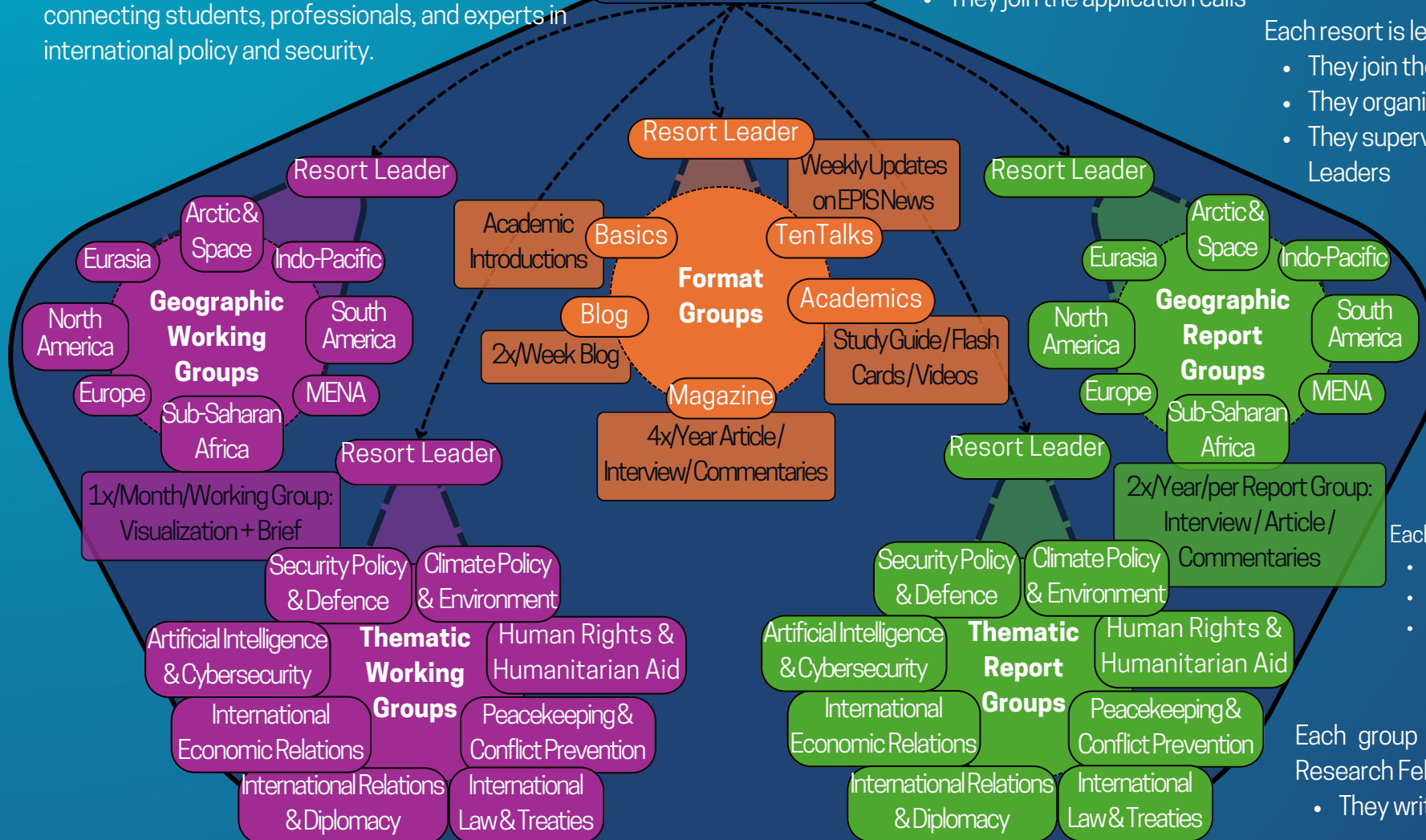- **Media & Design** = layouting EPIS Publications

## Branch Leader

The Branch of Thinktank (FASP) is led by the **Branch Leader**
- They supervise the tasks of the Resort Leaders
- They join the application calls

Each resort is led by a **Resort Leader**
- They join the application calls
- They organise Guest Contributions
- They supervise the tasks of the Group Leaders

Each group is led by a **Group Leader**
- They join the application calls
- They organise the publications
- They supervise the tasks of Research Fellows

Each group is formed by the Research Fellows
- They write the publications

### Resort Leader — Geographic Working Groups
- Eurasia
- Arctic & Space
- Indo-Pacific
- North America
- South America
- Europe
- MENA
- Sub-Saharan Africa

### Resort Leader — Thematic Working Groups
1x/Month/Working Group: Visualization + Brief
- Security Policy & Defence
- Climate Policy & Environment
- Artificial Intelligence & Cybersecurity
- Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid
- International Economic Relations
- Peacekeeping & Conflict Prevention
- International Relations & Diplomacy
- International Law & Treaties

### Resort Leader — Format Groups
- Academic Introductions / Basics
- Weekly Updates on EPIS News / TenTalks
- Blog — 2x/Week Blog
- Academics — Study Guide / Flash Cards / Videos
- Magazine — 4x/Year Article / Interview / Commentaries

### Resort Leader — Geographic Report Groups
- Eurasia
- Arctic & Space
- Indo-Pacific
- North America
- South America
- Europe
- MENA
- Sub-Saharan Africa

### Resort Leader — Thematic Report Groups
2x/Year/per Report Group: Interview / Article / Commentaries
- Security Policy & Defence
- Climate Policy & Environment
- Artificial Intelligence & Cybersecurity
- Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid
- International Economic Relations
- Peacekeeping & Conflict Prevention
- International Relations & Diplomacy
- International Law & Treaties

# Thematic Report Groups

The EPIS Thematic Report Groups focus on critical global issues, providing in-depth analyses and policy recommendations across a range of topics. These groups address key areas such as climate policy, human rights, international relations, and security, producing reports that contribute to shaping informed discussions and solutions for today's pressing challenges. By engaging experts and thought leaders, EPIS Report Groups offer valuable insights to policymakers and the global community.

**Resort Leader**

Alisa Grunert

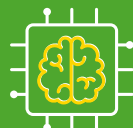**Peacekeeping & Conflict Prevention**

Paul Behne

**International Economic Relations**

Donat Olah

**Climate Policy & Environment**

N.N.

**Security Policy & Defense**

Felix Heuner

**Thematic Report Groups**

**International Relations & Diplomacy**

Marie Klostermeier

**Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid**

Lovely Bernardo

**Artificial Intelligence & Cybersecurity**

Belen Bringas

**International Law & Treaties**

Maximilian Schlenker

# Geographic Report Groups

The EPIS Geographic Report Groups focus on critical global issues, providing in-depth analyses and policy recommendations across a range of topics. These groups address key areas such as climate policy, human rights, international relations, and security, producing reports that contribute to shaping informed discussions and solutions for today's pressing challenges. By engaging experts and thought leaders, EPIS Report Groups offer valuable insights to policymakers and the global community.

**Resort Leader**

Tobias Pfahl

Geographic Report Groups

**Indo-Pacific**
Aymane Guenaou

**North America**
Sevastiana Roumeliotti

**Eurasia**
Youri de Brabander

**Sub-Saharan Africa**
Luca Agostini

**South America**
Lana von Lücken

**Europe**
Fernanda Marin

**Middle East & North Africa**
India Zirner

**Arctic & Space**
t.b.d.

EPIS Thinktank

# Thematic Working Groups

The EPIS Thematic Working Groups are specialized teams of the EPIS Thinktank that focus on different regions of the world and publish monthly reports on current political developments to provide in-depth analysis and insights into regional and global contexts.

**Resort Leader**

Dmytro Sochnyev

**Peacekeeping & Conflict Prevention**

Jan Fritsche

**International Economic Relations**

Aliya Woodcock

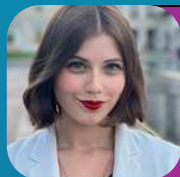**Climate Policy & Environment**

Deniz Terzi

**Security Policy & Defense**

Sveva Musumeci
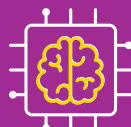
**Thematic Working Groups**

**International Relations & Diplomacy**

Karolina Kisiel

**Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid**

Jay Thenot-Wrobel

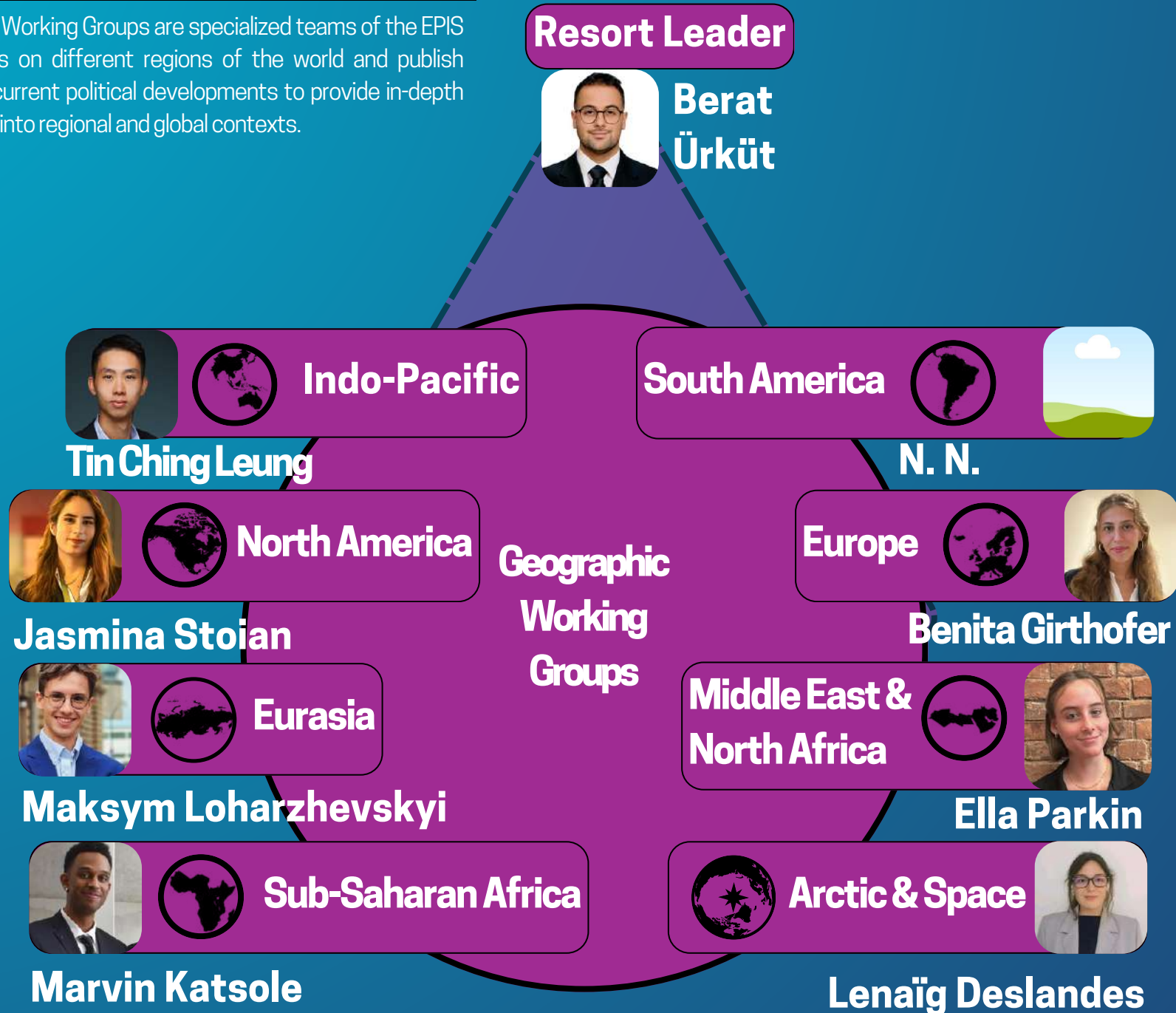**Artificial Intelligence & Cybersecurity**

Hanna Zylowski

**International Law & Treaties**

N.N.

# Geographic Working Groups

The EPIS Geographic Working Groups are specialized teams of the EPIS Thinktank that focus on different regions of the world and publish monthly reports on current political developments to provide in-depth analysis and insights into regional and global contexts.

**Resort Leader**

Berat Ürküt

Geographic Working Groups

**Indo-Pacific**

Tin Ching Leung

**North America**

Jasmina Stoian

**Eurasia**

Maksym Loharzhevskyi

**Sub-Saharan Africa**

Marvin Katsole

**South America**

N. N.

**Europe**

Benita Girthofer

**Middle East & North Africa**

Ella Parkin

**Arctic & Space**

Lenaïg Deslandes

# Working / Report Groups

## Scope

Each Report + Working Group meets in a **Monthly Meeting**.
- set in time & date (example: every 2nd Thursday 19:15 CET).
- take ~ 45 min
- during the meeting → the group fills out the **EPIS Protocol.** It serves as a meeting guideline + entails details (the Board requires), such as:
  - about next publications (for Social Media + Media & Design)
  - about External Experts (for External Affairs)
  - about Fellowship (for Internal Affairs)

## Monthly Meeting

+

## Protocol (Google Forms)

## Schedule

| | |
|---|---|
| Welcome | 5 min |
| Detailing Articles | 10 min |
| Describing Visualisations | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Guest Contribution incl. Questions | 5 min |
| Selection of Top News | 20 min |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Holiday, Missing Fellows, Questions) | 5 min |

## Publication (Google Forms)

Submission: 28th **each month**

## Process

**6 MONTHS**

- to find topic
- to write introduction
- to write first draft
- to submit final draft
- to check layouting
- to publish

**1 MONTH**

## Report Groups

- **Editorial** (written by Group / Resort Leader)
- **Articles** (2.000 - 3.000 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = *objectively* present an argument **OR** comparing different perspectives
- Opinionated **Commentary** (500 - 1.000 words)
  - = *subjectively* present opinion
- **Guest Contribution** (interview OR commentary)
- **Policy Recommendation** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - Written Objectively as insight view into an organisation
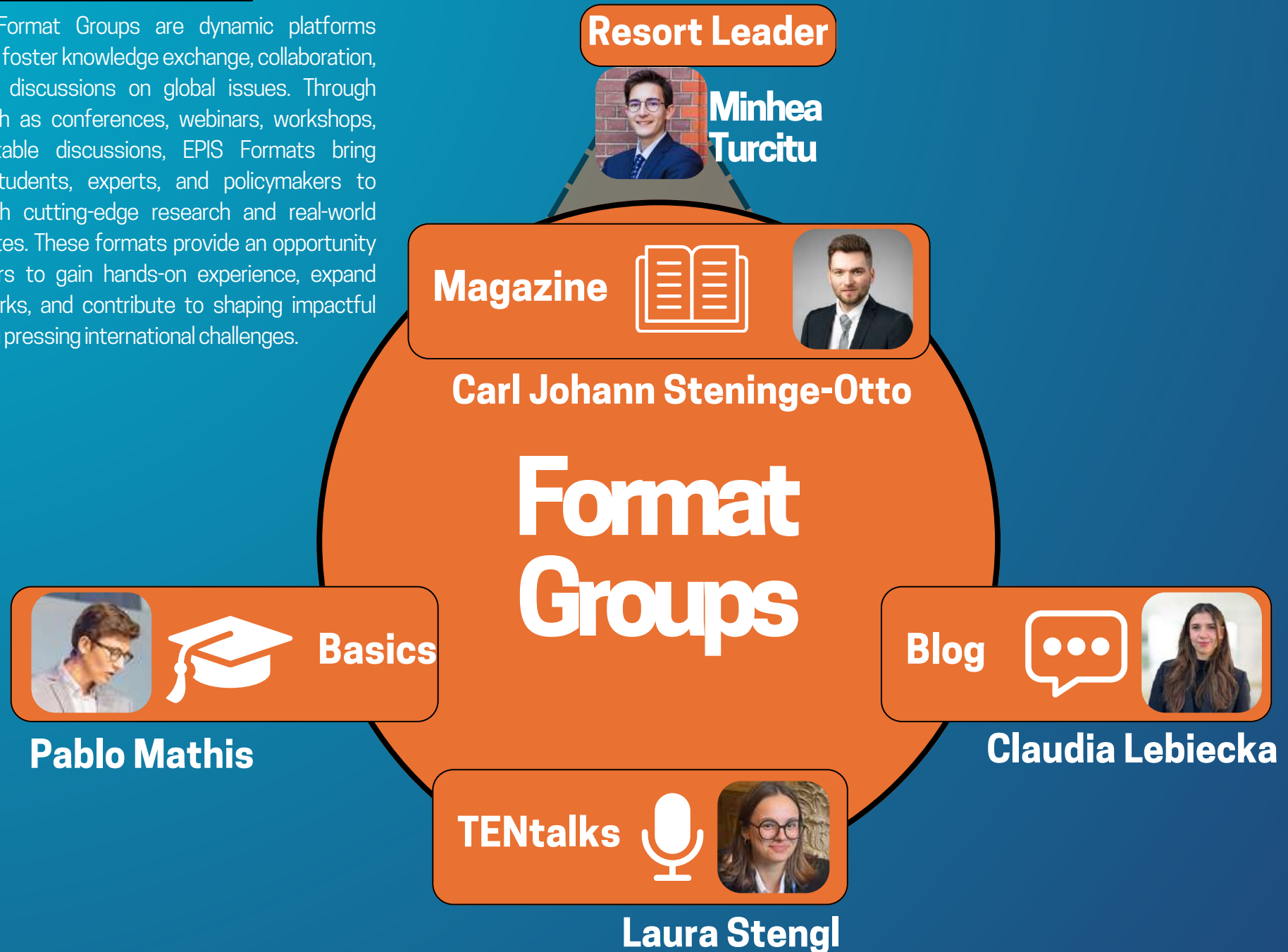- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)

## Working Groups

- **Articles** (1.000 - 2.000 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = *objectively* present an argument to rethink a perspective OR comparing different perspectives, original and by the author; supported by references

# Format Groups

The EPIS Format Groups are dynamic platforms designed to foster knowledge exchange, collaboration, and critical discussions on global issues. Through events such as conferences, webinars, workshops, and roundtable discussions, EPIS Formats bring together students, experts, and policymakers to engage with cutting-edge research and real-world policy debates. These formats provide an opportunity for members to gain hands-on experience, expand their networks, and contribute to shaping impactful solutions on pressing international challenges.

**Resort Leader**

Minhea Turcitu

**Magazine**

Carl Johann Steninge-Otto

**Format Groups**

**Basics**

Pablo Mathis

**Blog**

Claudia Lebiecka

**TENtalks**

Laura Stengl

# Format Groups

## Scope

Each Format Group publishes in a different format.
- the **Blog** provides small opinion pieces
- the **Magazine** contributes larger academics articles
- the **TENTalks** offers news + career insights
- the **Basics** gather quick info bites

## Basics

- Short Video
  - 60 seconds
  - = objective presenting regimes / personalities / theories



4 key offences
- War Crimes
- Genocide
- Crimes Against Humanity
- Crimes of Aggression

EPIS Basics - International Criminal

## TENTalks

### 3-Part Structure

**1. Person**
- Focus: Portraying an interesting person from the domains of politics & economy
- Topics: Personal path, experiences, challenges in the context of foreign & security policy

**2. Field / Institution**
- Focus: Analysis of a current issue. Portraying the work of the interviewed actor with regard to this challenge.
- Topics: Conflict zones, strategic developments, innovations

**3. Career**
- Focus: Advice for listeners who aim for a career in international politics
- Topic: Practical tips, soft skills, etc.

## Publication (Google Forms)

Submission: 28th **each month**

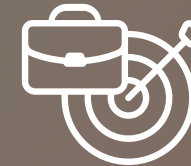### Process

- to find topic
- to write introduction
- to write first draft
- to submit final draft
- to check layouting
- to publish

1st March / June / Sept. / Dec.

## Magazine

3 MONTHS

- **Editorial** (written by Group
- **Articles** (3.000 - 4.000 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = *objectively* present an argument **OR** comparing different perspectives
- Opinionated **Commentary** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - = *subjectively* present opinion
- **Guest Contribution** (interview OR commentary)
- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)



EPIS
Issue VIII
November 2023
epis-thinktank.com

When Strategy Meets Uncertainty
Power in Transition, Policy under Pressure

INTERVIEW WITH
VIOLA VON CRAMON-TAUBADEL

## Blog

1 MONTH



Climate Policy & Environment

Power Struggles in the Energy Transition
Why China's Mineral Leverage Defines the Energy Transition and the Rise of New Regional Dependencies

- Opinionated Commentary (500 - 1.000 words)
  - = subjectively present opinion

# EPIS Thinktank (BSCA)

The EPIS Thinktank for Business Strategy & Corporate Affairs (BSCA) unites actively publishing Research Fellows, making it an optimal platform for Economical Science students. Through its Working, Report, and Format Groups, it sets publication standards, conducts peer reviews, and ensures timely output, connecting students, professionals, and experts in global economics and trade policy.

**Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors assists the Branch Leader
- Internal Affairs = organising Application calls
- External Affairs = assisting in Guest Contributions
- Social Media = publishing EPIS Publications
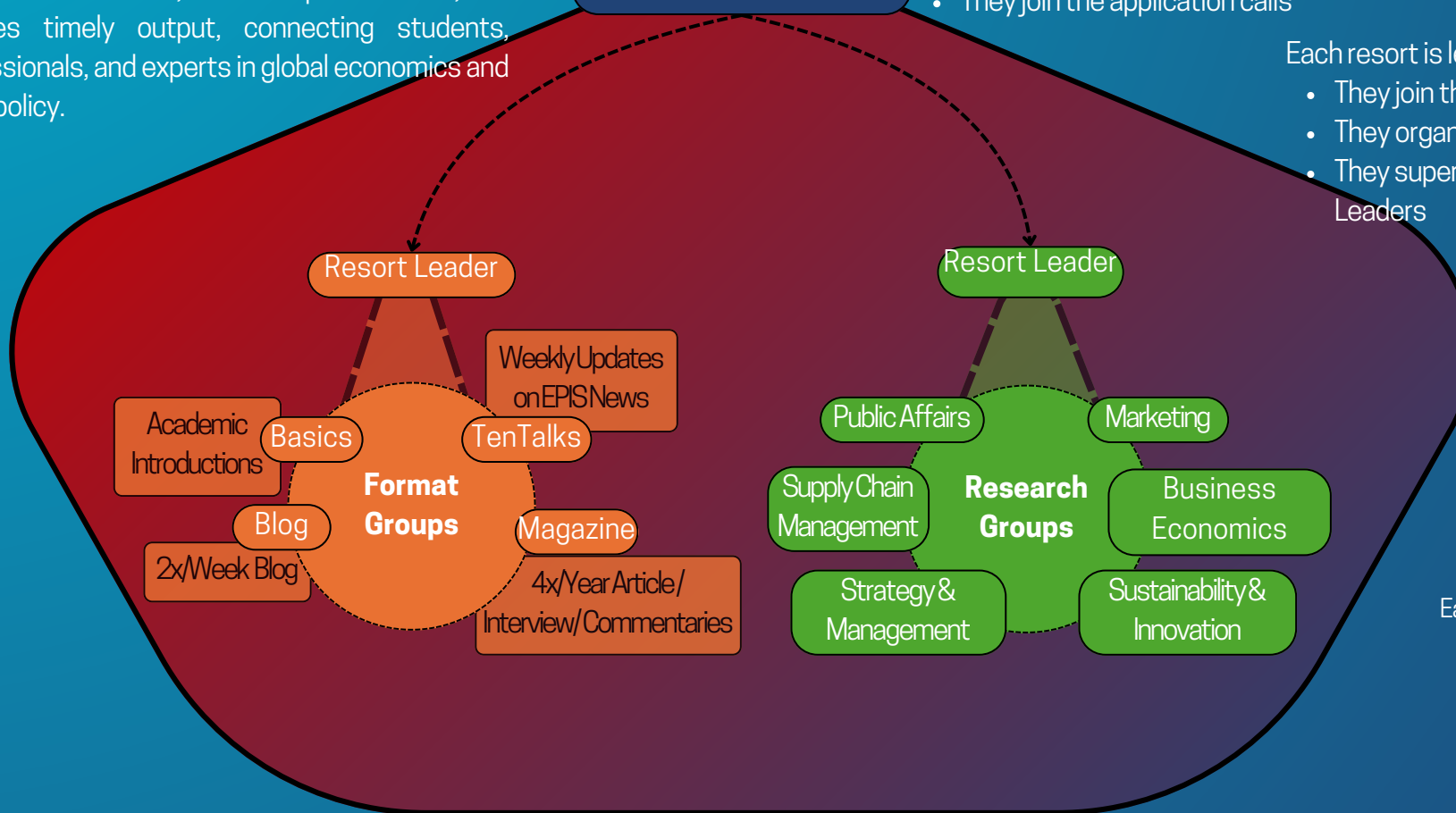- Media & Design = layouting EPIS Publications

**Branch Leader**

The Branch of Thinktank (BSCA) is led by the Branch Leader
- They supervise the tasks of the Resort Leaders
- They join the application calls

Each resort is led by a Resort Leader
- They join the application calls
- They organise Guest Contributions
- They supervise the tasks of the Group Leaders

Resort Leader

Resort Leader

**Format Groups**

- Academic Introductions
- Basics
- TenTalks
- Weekly Updates on EPIS News
- Blog
- 2x/Week Blog
- Magazine
- 4x/Year Article / Interview / Commentaries

**Research Groups**

- Public Affairs
- Marketing
- Supply Chain Management
- Business Economics
- Strategy & Management
- Sustainability & Innovation

Each group is led by a Group Leader
- They join the application calls
- They organise the publications
- They supervise the tasks of Research Fellows

Each group is formed by the Research Fellows
- They write the publications

# Thematic Report Groups

**Resort Leader**

t.b.d.

t.b.d.

t.b.d.

**Public Affairs**

**Marketing**

**Thematic Report Groups**

t.b.d.

t.b.d.

**Supply Chain Management**

**Business Economics**

**Strategy & Management**

**Sustainability & Innovation**

t.b.d.

t.b.d.
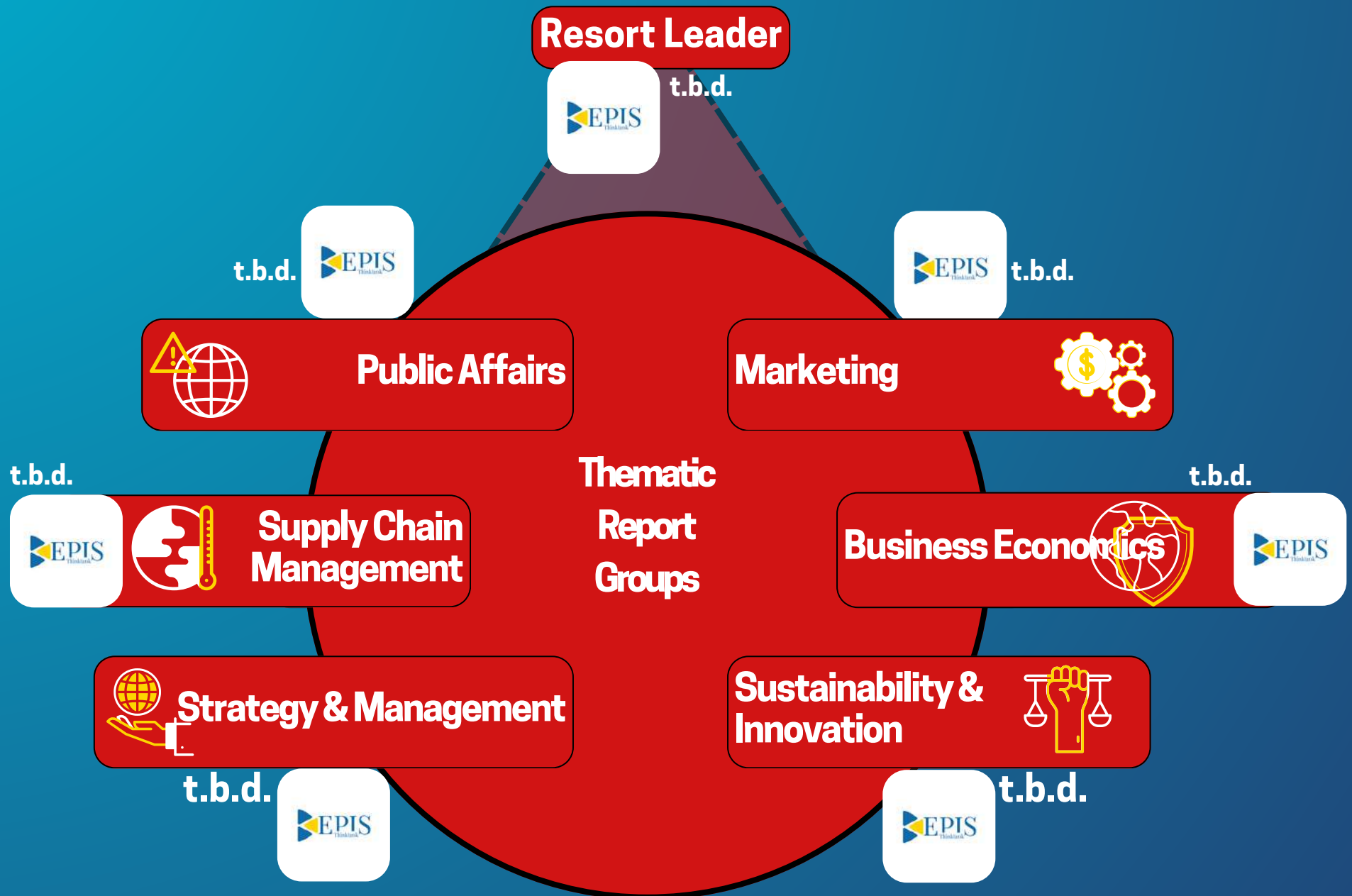
# Report Groups

## Scope

The EPIS Report Groups focus on critical global issues, providing in-depth analyses and policy recommendations across a range of topics. These groups address either certain regions in the Geographic Groups or topics in the Thematic Groups producing reports that contribute to shaping informed discussions and solutions for today's pressing challenges. By engaging experts and thought leaders, EPIS Report Groups offer valuable insights to policymakers and the global community.

## Structure

- **Editorial** & Greetings from our Partners
- **Articles** (2.000 - 2.500 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = present an argument to rethink a perspective OR comparing different perspectives, original and by the author; supported by references
- Opinionated **Commentary** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - = written *subjectively* about a recent debate/event
- **Guest Contribution**
- **Expert Interview**
- **Policy Recommendation** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - Written Objectively as insight view into an organisation
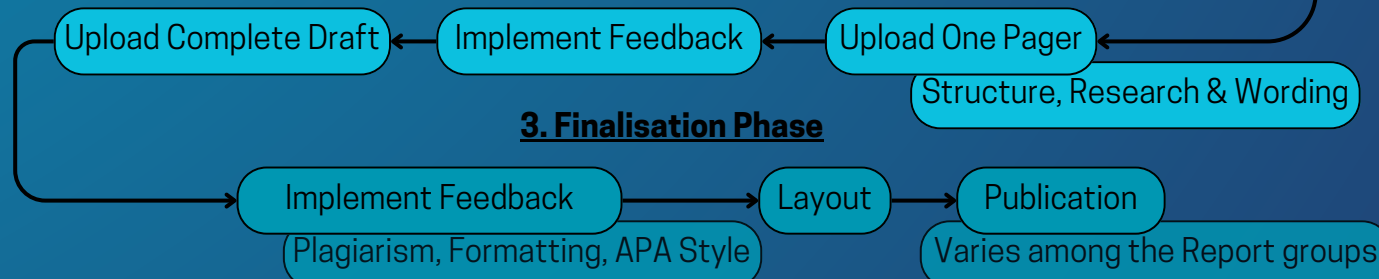- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)

### Resort Groups diagram

- Group Leader
- Research Expert — x2 — Searches & shares important news
- Writing Expert — x6 — Writes articles briefs
- Special Expert — x3 — Expert for specific topic

## Monthly Meeting Schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Welcome | Leader | 5 min |
| Review last Report | Writing Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Topic upcoming Report + Articles | Research Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Guest Contribution incl. Questions | Leader | 5 min |
| Discussion of Recent Topics | Specialist Expert | 20 min |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Holiday, Google Sheets, Social Media) | Leader | 3 min |
| Closing Remarks | Leader | 2 min |

## From Idea to Publication

**1. Preparation Phase**

Formulating the Research Question

**2. Research & Writing Phase**
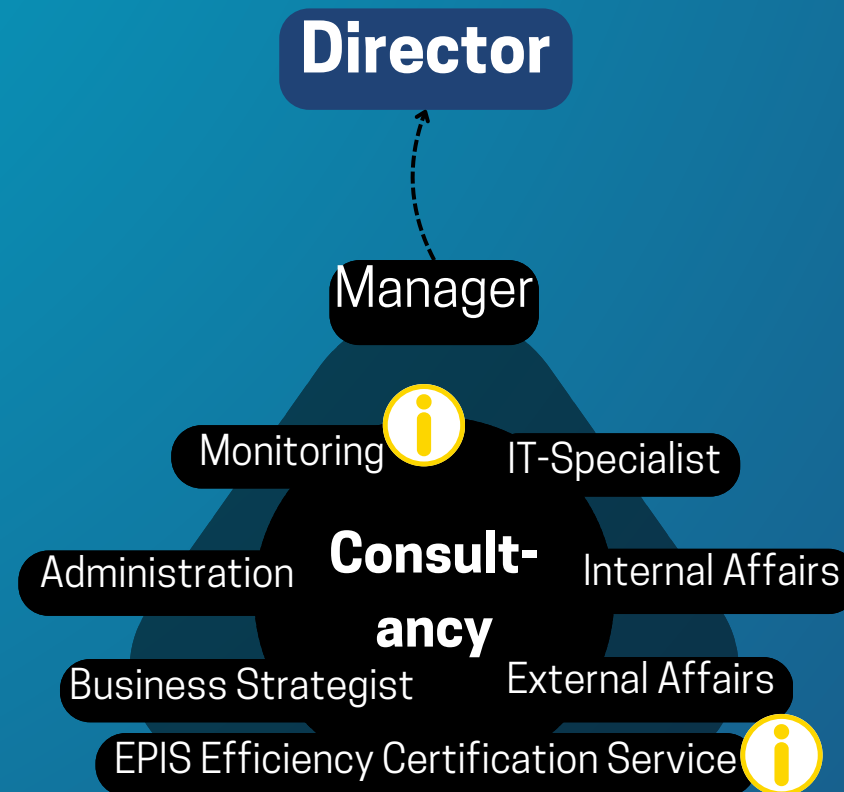
Upload One Pager — Structure, Research & Wording

Implement Feedback

Upload Complete Draft

**3. Finalisation Phase**

Implement Feedback — Plagiarism, Formatting, APA Style

Layout

Publication — Varies among the Report groups

# Our Consultancy

EPIS Consultancy follows 2 strings:
1. Study Consultancy - to foster students careers
2. Business Consultancy - to support security sector

**Director**

Manager

Monitoring ⓘ    IT-Specialist

Administration    **Consult-ancy**    Internal Affairs

Business Strategist    External Affairs

EPIS Efficiency Certification Service ⓘ

# Career **Seminar**

## Scope

The EPIS Working Groups are specialized teams of the EPIS Thinktank that focus on different regions of the world in the Geographic Groups and on various topics in the Thematic Groups. They publish monthly briefs on current political developments to provide in-depth analysis and insights into regional and global contexts.

## Structure

- **Editorial** & Greetings from our Partners
- **Articles** (2.000 - 2.500 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = present an argument to rethink a perspective, original and by the author; supported by references
- Opinionated **Commentary** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - = written *subjectively* about a recent debate/event
- **Guest Contribution**
- **Expert Interview**
- **Policy Recommendation** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - Written Objectively as insight view into an organisation
- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)

### Resort Groups

- Group Leader
- Research Expert — x2 — Searches & shares important news
- Writing Expert — x6 — Writes articles briefs
- Special Expert — x3 — Expert for specific topic

## Monthly **Meeting** Schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Welcome | Leader | 5 min |
| Review last Brief | Writing Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Topic upcoming Brief | Research Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Informal Talk incl. Questions | | 10 min |
| Discussion of Recent Topics | Specialist Expert | 20 min |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Holiday, Google Sheets, Social Media) | Leader | 3 min |
| Closing Remarks | Leader | 2 min |

## From **Idea** to **Publication**

### 1. Preparation Phase

Formulating the Research Question

### 2. Research & Writing Phase

Upload Complete Draft ← Implement Feedback ← Upload One Pager ← Structure, Research & Wording

### 3. Finalisation Phase

Implement Feedback (Plagiarism, Formatting, APA Style) → Layout → Publication (Varies among the Report groups)

# EPIS **Efficiency Certification Service**

## Scope

The EPIS Working Groups are specialized teams of the EPIS Thinktank that focus on different regions of the world in the Geographic Groups and on various topics in the Thematic Groups. They publish monthly briefs on current political developments to provide in-depth analysis and insights into regional and global contexts.

## Structure

- **Editorial** & Greetings from our Partners
- **Articles** (2.000 - 2.500 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = present an argument to rethink a perspective OR comparing different perspectives, original and by the author; supported by references
- Opinionated **Commentary** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - = written *subjectively* about a recent debate/event
- **Guest Contribution**
- **Expert Interview**
- **Policy Recommendation** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - Written Objectively as insight view into an organisation
- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)

### Resort Groups

Group Leader

x2 Research Expert — Searches & shares important news

**Resort Groups**

Writing Expert x6 — Writes articles briefs

Special Expert — Expert for specific topic x3

## Monthly **Meeting** Schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Welcome | Leader | 5 min |
| Review last Brief | Writing Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Topic upcoming Brief | Research Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Informal Talk incl. Questions | | 10 min |
| Discussion of Recent Topics | Specialist Expert | 20 min |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Holiday, Google Sheets, Social Media) | Leader | 3 min |
| Closing Remarks | Leader | 2 min |

## From **Idea** to **Publication**

### 1. Preparation Phase

Formulating the Research Question

### 2. Research & Writing Phase

Upload Complete Draft ← Implement Feedback ← Upload One Pager ← 

Structure, Research & Wording

### 3. Finalisation Phase

Implement Feedback → Layout → Publication

Plagiarism, Formatting, APA Style

Varies among the Report groups

# EPIS Monitoring (by Data Analyst)

## Scope

The EPIS Working Groups are specialized teams of the EPIS Thinktank that focus on different regions of the world in the Geographic Groups and on various topics in the Thematic Groups. They publish monthly briefs on current political developments to provide in-depth analysis and insights into regional and global contexts.

## Structure

- **Editorial** & Greetings from our Partners
- **Articles** (2.000 - 2.500 words + 2 visualisations)
  - = present an argument to rethink a perspective OR comparing different perspectives, original and by the author; supported by references
- Opinionated **Commentary** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - = written *subjectively* about a recent debate/event
- **Guest Contribution**
- **Expert Interview**
- **Policy Recommendation** (1.000 - 1.500 words)
  - Written Objectively as insight view into an organisation
- **EPIS Basics** Entry (500 - 600 words)

### Resort Groups diagram

Group Leader

Research Expert — x2 — Searches & shares important news

Writing Expert — x6 — Writes articles briefs

Special Expert — x3 — Expert for specific topic

## Monthly Meeting Schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Welcome | Leader | 5 min |
| Review last Brief | Writing Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Topic upcoming Brief | Research Expert | 10 min |
| Selection of 1 Informal Talk incl. Questions | | 10 min |
| Discussion of Recent Topics | Specialist Expert | 20 min |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Holiday, Google Sheets, Social Media) | Leader | 3 min |
| Closing Remarks | Leader | 2 min |

## From Idea to Publication

**1. Preparation Phase**

Formulating the Research Question

**2. Research & Writing Phase**

Upload One Pager

Structure, Research & Wording

Implement Feedback

Upload Complete Draft

**3. Finalisation Phase**

Implement Feedback

Plagiarism, Formatting, APA Style

Layout

Publication

Varies among the Report groups