

## **Background**

Every year, in its discharge report on the budget of the European Union Agencies the Budgetary Control Committee of the European Parliament urges the Agencies to provide information necessary to ensure transparency (especially financial transparency) on their websites. They recommend that lists of the members of their management boards with declarations of their interests be made available.

Members and Alternates of the Management Board are therefore asked to fill out a Declaration of Interests form which will be published on Eurofound's website, accompanied by a short Curriculum Vitae. Members should send the completed forms to [management.board@eurofound.europa.eu](mailto:management.board@eurofound.europa.eu).

## **Potential conflicts of interest explained**

A conflict of interest exists where a Board member or alternate has a personal or vested interest in the outcome of decisions resulting from their role, that go beyond the legitimate interests of the organisation they are representing. Board members must not be involved in any decision during the course of their duties with the knowledge that there is an opportunity to further their personal interests. The central issue at stake is that acquaintances or business relations should not interfere with the obligation to act in an objective and impartial manner in the interest of the European Union and in the public interest.

When completing the form, it is important to declare any fields of potential conflict of interests. There can be a conflict of interest in different fields. The main ones relate to budgetary procedure and public procurement, selection of projects, selection of personnel, provision of [research] opinions and advice, audits and evaluations.

An interest can be of a financial nature (work carried out for a company or institute in Eurofound's research field, assistance and support given to a stakeholder of Eurofound) or an intellectual interest (such as the participation in public interest groups or professional societies).

It should be noted that an interest can be direct or indirect. A direct interest means the interest to the member at the time of the declaration. An indirect interest means the potential influence provided by the member's behaviour.