

PRESS RELEASE

Eurosif welcomes newly elected Board Directors



Brussels, 15 April 2024

Eurosif is pleased to announce that Cecilia Cisana, Helena Charrier, Pablo Esteban and Verena Menne, representing Swesif, FIR (France), Spainsif and FNG (Germany) respectively, have been appointed as Board Directors.

In the context of Eurosif's Annual General Meeting and General Assembly that was held on 11 April, four seats for Board Directors representing member SIFs (sustainable investment fora) became vacant. This was due to the natural conclusion of respective sitting mandates as well as the resignation of Susanne Bolin-Gartner.

Elections were held with the full participation of the Eurosif membership to select candidates for these seats dedicated to SIF representatives. The successful candidates: Cecilia Cisana (Swesif), Helena Charrier (FIR, France), Pablo Esteban (Spainsif) and Verena Menne (FNG, Germany) were then officially confirmed as Board Directors during Eurosif's General Assembly and will serve for a term of three years.

Commenting on the election of new Board Directors, Eurosif Executive Director Aleksandra Palinska said:

"I am delighted to welcome Cecilia, Helena, Pablo and Verena to the Eurosif Board, and I look forward to working with them closely and to supporting the Board during this crucial next phase for Eurosif, in which we will continue to develop the organisation to ensure its growth and deliver on Eurosif's mission to promote sustainable development through financial markets".

Eurosif would like to take this opportunity to thank its outgoing Board members: Will Oulton, Andrea Gonzalez Gonzalez, Francesco Biciato, James Alexander and Susanne Bolin-Gartner for their dedication to Eurosif and years of service, in which the association has expanded to incorporate new European markets and made numerous structural and organisational improvements. During Eurosif's Annual General Meeting, Eurosif members also expressed their gratitude to the outgoing Board members for their immense contribution to the organisation and its work over the last years.

Eurosif looks forward to continuing this excellent work with its new Board members Cecilia, Helena, Pablo and Verena, and to further developing and expanding the organisation so that it continues to lead discussion and advocacy efforts to promote sustainable finance at a pan-European level.

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Notes for Editors

Cecilia Cisana is a Board member of Swesif and has spent the past two years focusing on developing seminars and thought leadership that the Swesif brings to members, as well as the retail-focused “Sustainability Profile” tool that creates transparency around fund ESG credentials for Swedish investors. Meanwhile, in various client-facing roles at Morningstar Sustainalytics, Cecilia has spent over a decade working with investors across Europe on their ESG data needs and sustainable investment strategies. Most recently as Global Head of Clients at Sustainalytics, and currently as Senior Vice President of ESG client solutions for Europe. Cecilia has a deep understanding of ESG data, research and ratings, and how investors implement ESG in their compliance processes, client reporting and investment decision-making, etc.

Prior to moving back to Sweden in 2019, Cecilia accrued diverse international working experience from the UK, Brazil and the US, implementing a signatory reporting project at the Principles for Responsible investment. She also worked on a Brazilian environmental education programme, and as a compliance analyst at Barclays and Deutsche bank. Cecilia holds an MSc in Environmental Policy from the London School of Economics and an undergraduate in Economics and International Affairs from the University of Colorado.

Helena Charrier is currently the Vice-Chair of the Forum pour l’Investissement Responsable (FIR), a position she has held since 2017. In her day-to-day role, she has been head of SRI Solutions for the LBP AM group since October 2021, and leads a team of nine to oversee the development of ESG policies, methodologies, and platforms, and the rolling out of associated analysis, active ownership, and exclusions across portfolios. She is also responsible for sustainable finance regulatory affairs, standard implementation, and stakeholder engagement. LBP AM is a European asset-management company with about €70bn AUM invested in a sustainable fund range, comprising a hundred funds benefitting from the French SRI label and committed under NZAMI to align 80% of its assets on a Net Zero pathway by 2030.

Before that, she led Responsible Investment activities in the Caisse des Dépôts group, which she joined as RI project director in 2012 before becoming deputy director for group sustainable policies. Previously, she trained as an ESG analyst at ODDO BHF and AXA IM. Helena is a member of the French Market Regulator Climate and Sustainability Commission since 2022. She holds a master in finance and strategy from Sciences Po, a master in social entrepreneurship from ESSEC business school, a certificate in economics from Mount Holyoke College (MA) and is a Certified International Investment Analyst (CIIA).

Pablo Esteban is Deputy General Manager of Spainsif, where he coordinates the Working Groups of Experts on “European Public Regulation” and “Sustainable Financing and Debt Issuance” and is a member of the “Impact Investment” Group. Pablo has 25 years of experience in international banking and development banking in Europe and Latin America, focusing on sustainable finance, public-private partnerships, international financing, and guarantees.

Pablo holds a Ph.D. in Economics and Business Administration from the Complutense University of Madrid and is accredited by ANECA as a contract Ph.D lecturer, he teaches undergraduate and

postgraduate courses in subjects related to the Financial System, Sustainability, Sustainable Finance and Investment, Ethics and Business, Human Rights, and Corporate Social Responsibility. He is also part of the UNED University research group on sustainability and sustainable finance. He has authored academic articles and publications on the banking sector and sustainability and is a co-author of the book "The Contribution of Sustainable Finance to Sustainability".

Verena Menne is currently the Executive Director of Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG). She joined FNG in 2022 as a regulatory policy expert and initiated a working group focusing on EU legislation and regularly represented FNG at the Eurosif level. Before joining FNG, she worked for over a decade in occupational pensions. At the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für betriebliche Altersversorgung in Berlin she focused on EU policy and regulation at a time when legislators took the first steps in sustainable finance regulation. Before that, she conducted an annual survey for what is now the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association in London. She has also worked for a think tank in Westminster, covering topics such as unemployment benefits and behavioural economics.

Verena holds an undergraduate degree in Cultural Studies from the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) and an MSc in European Political Economy from the London School of Economics.

About Eurosif

Eurosif is the leading pan-European association promoting sustainable finance at the European level - encompassing the European Union (EU), the wider European Economic Area (EEA) and the United Kingdom (UK). Eurosif is a membership organisation of European based national Sustainable Investment Fora (SIFs). Many of the SIFs have a broad and diverse membership including asset managers, institutional investors, index providers and ESG research & analytics providers. Eurosif and its members are committed to the growth and development of sustainable finance and support the ambition of European and global policymakers in enabling a fully transparent and high-quality sustainable investment market through appropriate and well-designed regulation and industry best practice.

Eurosif's activities involve contributing substantively to public policy development and conducting research that enables a better understanding of ESG implementation, the sustainable finance market, and the obstacles encountered by sustainability-oriented investors.

Further information can be found at www.eurosif.org.

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