



European Society for Evolutionary Biology
Settled in Wageningen

Annual report 2023



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ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

European Society for Evolutionary Biology
Molenstraat 156
6712 CW Ede

Ede, 19 July 2024

Dear board,

We hereby offer you the rapport concerning the annual report 2023 for European Society for Evolutionary Biology, Ede.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

Our qualified conclusion

We have reviewed the financial statements 2023 of European Society for Evolutionary Biology based in Ede.

Based on our review, except for the effects of the matter described in the 'Basis for our qualified conclusion' section of our report, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position of European Society for Evolutionary Biology as at 31 December 2023 and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The financial statements comprise:

- the balance sheets per 31 December 2023, Balance total € 1.275.447;
- the income statement over 2023, Income Statement total € 133.789; and
- the notes comprising of a summary of the accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for our qualified conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 2400 'Opdrachten tot het beoordelen van financiële overzichten' (engagements to review financial statements). A review of financial statements in accordance with the Dutch Standard 2400 is a limited assurance engagement.

Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the review of the financial statements' section of our report.

We are independent of European Society for Evolutionary Biology in accordance with the Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore we have complied with the Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics).

We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified conclusion.

Our responsibilities for the review of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to plan and perform the review in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient and appropriate assurance evidence for our conclusion.

The level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially less than the level of assurance obtained in an audit conducted in accordance with the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the review, in accordance with Dutch Standard 2400.

Our review included among others:

- Obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment and the applicable financial reporting framework, in order to identify areas in the financial statements where material misstatements are likely to arise due to fraud or error, designing and performing procedures to address those areas, and obtaining assurance evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion;
- Obtaining an understanding of the entity's accounting systems and accounting records and consider whether these generate data that is adequate for the purpose of performing the analytical procedures;
- Making inquiries of management and others within the entity ;
- Applying analytical procedures with respect to information included in the financial statements;
- Obtaining assurance evidence that the financial statements agree with, or reconcile to, the entity's underlying accounting records;
- Evaluating the assurance evidence obtained;
- Considering the appropriateness of accounting policies used and considering whether the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management appear reasonable;
- Considering the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures; and
- Considering whether the financial statements and the related disclosures represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that gives a true and fair view

Responsibilities of management for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Furthermore, management is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

Ede, 19 July 2024

Boschland Accountants & Adviseurs

A. Stegerman AA



GENERAL

General information

The European Society for Evolutionary Biology was founded in the year 1987. On January 27 2010 the society placed its constitution on record in a notarial deed. The society is registered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce with registration number 09216606.

Purpose

The purpose of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology is to support the study of organic evolution. For this reason the society:

- releases The Journal of Evolutionary Biology,
- releases the magazine Evolution Letters together with the Society for the Study of Evolution (first issue in 2017);
- organises congresses and scientific meetings;
- supports scientific research concerning organic evolution;
- supports activities to get a scientific view on organic evolution in education and research.

Board

On December 31 2023, the board of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology consisted of the following members:

- T. Chapman (President)
- E.I. Decaestecker (Secretary)
- C.H.J. van Oers (Treasurer)
- M. Reuter (JEB Editor-in-chief)
- M.G. Ritchie (President Elect)
- J. González Pérez (Vice President)
- R.R. Snook (EL Officer)
- A. Groot (Past President)

Approval annual report

The annual report regarding the year 2023 will be approved during the ESEB Members Meeting in 2024.

Should you have any questions regarding this annual report, please contact your contact person at our office.



MANAGEMENT REPORT

The management report regarding 2023 is available for those who are interested.



ANNUAL ACCOUNTS


BALANCE SHEETS PER 31 DECEMBER 2023
(After proposal of appropriation of result)

	31 December 2023		31 December 2022	
	€	€	€	€
ASSETS				
Current assets				
<i>Amounts receivable</i>				
Taxes and social security charges	260		-	
Other amounts receivable	265.312		343.519	
Accrued assets	71.660		-	
		337.232		343.519
<i>Current securities</i>		329.418		328.982
<i>Cash at banks and in hand</i>		608.797		493.523
Total of assets		1.275.447		1.166.024



INCOME STATEMENT OVER 2023

	2023		2022	
	€	€	€	€
Net turnover		440.539		369.950
Journals related costs	5.258		7.418	
Congress costs	5.687		-3.655	
Initiatives and prizes	145.344		74.447	
Officers related costs	26.839		5.892	
General costs	139.867		163.240	
Total operating expenses		<u>322.995</u>		<u>247.342</u>
Operating result		117.544		122.608
Financial benefits and expenses		<u>16.245</u>		<u>-61.758</u>
Result		<u><u>133.789</u></u>		<u><u>60.850</u></u>

Appropriation of the result

The board proposes to add the result of this financial year to the general reserve. In anticipation of the adoption of the annual accounts, this proposal has been incorporated into the annual report for this financial year.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Entity information

Registered address and registration number trade register

The registered and actual address of European Society for Evolutionary Biology is Molenstraat 156, 6712 CW in Ede. European Society for Evolutionary Biology is registered at the Chamber of Commerce under number 09216606.

General notes

The most important activities of the entity

The activities of European Society for Evolutionary Biology consist mainly of supporting the study of organic evolution. For this reason the society:

- releases The Journal of Evolutionary Biology,
- releases the magazine Evolution Letters together with the Society for the Study of Evolution (first issue in 2017);
- organises congresses and scientific meetings;
- supports scientific research concerning organic evolution;
- supports activities to get a scientific view on organic evolution in education and research.

General accounting principles

The accounting standards used to prepare the financial statements

The financial statement is drawn up in accordance with the Dutch Accounting Standards, as published by the Dutch Accounting Standards Board ('Raad voor de Jaarverslaggeving'). Especially the Standard RJK C1 'for small, non profit organisations' has been used.

Assets and liabilities, profits and losses are generally valued using historical costs. Unless another method of valuation is mentioned, assets and liabilities are valued at nominal value.

Conversion of amounts denominated in foreign currency

Items included in the financial statements of European Society for Evolutionary Biology are valued with due regard for the currency in the economic environment in which the society carries out most of its activities (the functional currency). The financial statements are denominated in euros; this is both the functional currency and presentation currency of European Society for Evolutionary Biology.

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated at the rates as at the balance sheet date.

Basis of conversion and processing of exchange rate differences relating to foreign currency transactions for the balance sheet

Items included in the financial statements of European Society for Evolutionary Biology are valued with due regard for the currency in the economic environment in which the society carries out most of its activities (the functional currency). The financial statements are denominated in euros; this is both the functional currency and presentation currency of European Society for Evolutionary Biology. Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated at the rates as at the balance sheet date.



Accounting principles

Receivables

Receivables are initially valued at the fair value of the consideration to be received, including transaction costs if material. Receivables are subsequently valued at the amortised cost price. Provisions for bad debts are deducted from the carrying amount of the receivable.

Current securities

Listed securities that are held for trading are carried at current value (fair value). The fair value of listed securities is the same as the market price. Fair value gains of securities measured at fair value are directly recognised in the income statement. Fair value losses of securities measured at fair value are also directly recognised in the income statement.

Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of securities are directly recognised in the income statement.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at banks and in hand represent cash in hand, bank balances and deposits with terms of less than twelve months. Cash at banks and in hand is valued at nominal value.

Current liabilities

On initial recognition current liabilities are recognised at fair value. After initial recognition current liabilities are recognised at the amortised cost price, being the amount received taking into account premiums or discounts and minus transaction costs. This is usually the nominal value.

Accounting principles for determining the result

The result is the difference between the realisable value of the services provided and the costs and other charges during the year. The results on transactions are recognised in the year in which they are realised. Costs are calculated using the historical cost principle. Costs are matched to the year that they are connected with (accrual principle) and are taken into account when they are foreseeable before the financial statement has been drawn up.

General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses comprise costs chargeable to the year that are not directly attributable to the cost of the goods and services sold.

Other operating expenses

Costs are determined on a historical basis and are attributed to the reporting year to which they relate.

Financial income and expenses

Interest income and expenses are recognised on a pro rata basis, taking account of the effective interest rate of the assets and liabilities to which they relate. In accounting for interest expenses, the recognised transaction expenses for loans received are taken into consideration.

Exchange differences that arise from the settlement or translation of monetary items are recorded in the profit and loss account in the period in which they occur, unless hedge-accounting is applied.

Dividends to be received from securities not carried at net asset value are recognised as soon as European Society for Evolutionary Biology has acquired the right to them.

Changes in the value of financial instruments recognised at fair value are recorded in the income statement.



DISCLOSURE TO THE BALANCE SHEETS

Current assets

Amounts receivable

	<u>31-12-2023</u>	<u>31-12-2022</u>
	€	€
<i><u>Taxes and social security charges</u></i>		
VAT	260	-
<i><u>Other amounts receivable</u></i>		
Amounts to be received concerning the Journal of Evolutionary Biology	264.373	340.331
Trust Account	939	3.188
	<u>265.312</u>	<u>343.519</u>
<i><u>Accrued assets</u></i>		
Advance payment for editorial manager 2024	71.660	-
Securities		
Insinger Gilissen .817, securities account	329.418	328.982
Cash at banks and in hand		
ING Bank account .481, savings account	547.342	474.690
ING Bank .481, current account	37.897	8.130
Insinger Gilissen .817, current account	23.558	10.703
	<u>608.797</u>	<u>493.523</u>



Equity

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
<i><u>General reserve</u></i>		
Capital and reserves as of 1 January	117.603	56.753
Result	<u>133.789</u>	<u>60.850</u>
Capital and reserves as of 31 December	<u><u>251.392</u></u>	<u><u>117.603</u></u>
<i><u>Continuity reserve</u></i>		
Capital and reserves as of 1 January	250.000	250.000
Capital and reserves as of 31 December	<u><u>250.000</u></u>	<u><u>250.000</u></u>

As agreed during the ESEB Meeting in 2019, a Continuity Reserve of € 250.000 has been formed. In addition a guarantee of € 200.000 concerning ESEB congresses is always issued.



Current liabilities

	<u>31-12-2023</u>	<u>31-12-2022</u>
	€	€
<i><u>Taxes and social security contributions</u></i>		
VAT	-	<u>92</u>
<i><u>Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income</u></i>		
Special Topic Networks	272.780	225.049
Congress Barcelona 2025	200.000	200.000
Congress Montreal 2024	200.000	200.000
Global Training Initiative	24.000	24.000
JMS Prize	12.500	5.000
Progress Meeting in Evolutionary Biology	10.000	20.000
Conference Travel Awards	6.053	11.920
Sponsoring EMPSEB congress	4.000	5.000
Stearns Graduate Student Prize	2.000	-
Godfrey Hewitt Mobility Award	1.100	15.000
Outreach Initiative Fund	402	-
Equal Opportunities Initiative	-	21.140
EvoKE support	-	20.000
Policy Committee	-	10.000
Provision for subsequent taxes	35.000	35.000
Accountant fees	6.000	6.000
ING Business Creditcard	120	120
Staff costs	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>774.055</u>	<u>798.329</u>

The European Society for Evolutionary Biology has agreed to sponsor congresses that will take place in the future. The society will also cover losses on congresses up to an agreed maximum. If some congresses will produce a profit, the society is entitled to a part of these profits. Assets, liabilities, profits and losses related to sponsored congresses are stated at the best estimate.

Off balance sheet rights and liabilities

Disclosure of off-balance sheet commitments

Journals:

The society has contracts with a publisher about the publication of journals. ESEB is entitled to a part of the profits of the journals. When the journals result in a loss, ESEB is reliable for a similar part of these losses.



DISCLOSURE TO THE REPORT OF BENEFITS AND EXPENSES

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
Net turnover		
Profit share Journal of Evolutionary Biology	264.373	328.627
Bonus signing contract Oxford University Press	145.294	-
Membership fees	30.872	38.883
Royalties Evolution Letters	-	2.440
	<u>440.539</u>	<u>369.950</u>
Journals related costs		
Subscription fee	<u>5.258</u>	<u>7.418</u>
Congress costs		
Incurred costs congress Prague 2022	<u>5.687</u>	<u>-3.655</u>
Initiatives and prizes		
Special Topic Networks	97.494	5.049
Global training initiative	24.000	12.000
Outreach initiative fund	16.600	-3.097
Sponsoring EMPSEB congress	12.000	-769
JMS prize	11.080	2.837
Stearns graduate student prize	2.210	3.018
Distinguished fellow	1.241	-1.723
Progress meeting in evolutionary biology	-	10.000
Sponsoring to other projects	-	3.002
EvoKE support	-	-3.570
Conference Travel Awards	-24	15.000
Godfrey Hewitt Mobility Award	-2.167	15.500
Equal opportunities fund	-7.090	17.200
Policy committee	-10.000	-
	<u>145.344</u>	<u>74.447</u>
Officers related costs		
Costs meetings officers	<u>26.839</u>	<u>5.892</u>



	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
General costs		
Fee office manager	99.231	66.356
Pension premium office manager previous years	12.622	20.195
Consultancy fees	10.272	12.234
Accountant fees	7.464	6.100
Automation costs	7.054	11.524
Insurances	3.179	2.552
Contributions and subscriptions	43	1.013
Differences in payments	2	-
Provision for subsequent taxes	-	35.000
Salary administration	-	1.380
Processing scientific articles	-	3.503
Web access	-	58
ESEB stand merchandise	-	3.325
	<u>139.867</u>	<u>163.240</u>
Financial benefits and expenses		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
Income securities		
Coupon rate	2.939	2.894
Dividend	1.991	1.873
	<u>4.930</u>	<u>4.767</u>
Financial benefits		
Interest yield	<u>4.651</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in value securities		
Price result securities	<u>8.361</u>	<u>-61.449</u>
Financial expenses		
Banking costs	<u>1.697</u>	<u>5.076</u>



OTHER NOTES

Average number of employees

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Average number of employees over the period working outside the Netherlands	<u>1,00</u>	<u>1,00</u>
Total of average number of employees over the period	<u><u>1,00</u></u>	<u><u>1,00</u></u>

Ede, 19 July 2024

European Society for Evolutionary Biology

T. Chapman
President

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Secretary

C.H.J. van Oers
Treasurer

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Past President