

Council elections 2017

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

CONSTITUENCY: **EUROPE AND EURASIA**

Number of vacancies to be filled: **Two**

Candidates (order of names drawn by lot)



1. Emil Yiannopoulos FCA

Clients, Markets, Strategy, PwC

Personal Statement

I was seconded by the UK legacy firm of PwC to Greece for a 2 year term in October 1993 to establish the corporate finance advisory service offering and team; I chose to remain with my immediate family in Athens, our home now for 23 years. From my arrival to this day I have been a fervent and active promoter of the many benefits to my staff, my firm and my clients of promoting ICAEW membership to our graduates and other recruits.

I have strongly advocated that membership and all that it entails, represents one of the best possible foundations for an engaging and fulfilling professional career, both within and outside of public practice. This also brings value and professionalism to our business and wider community. My requiring and supporting the graduate recruits into my team to become ICAEW members I believe is one of the key factors behind the success and growth of our business and each of their careers.

The recently established scheme between ICAEW with the Greek accounting institute opens up the path for ICAEW membership to become the bedrock professional qualification for aspiring, talented professionals. Replicating this in other territories is a worthy ambition to explore.

I want to join Council to enhance connection between ICAEW with the business community, members and students and to articulate the benefits and high value contribution that ICAEW offers to territories. As part of this, I am of course keen to understand members views and needs and how this might guide the ICAEW executive to ensuring its ongoing relevance and attraction. Promoting diversity in the business community is also high on my agenda.

Through my work and wider family I maintain close connections with the UK. My professional profile is available on <https://gr.linkedin.com/in/emil-yiannopoulos>

Nominated by

Fotini Manolaki MSc FCA
Director Assurance, PwC

Demetris Mili MSc BEng FCA
Senior Manager, PwC

Socratis Leptos-Bourgi BSc FCA
Partner, PwC

Marios Psaltis BSc FCA
Partner, PwC

Neil Thomson MA ACA
Selector, European Commission



2. Christopher Naudi FCA

Tax Partner, Ernst & Young

Personal Statement

As a Fellow of the Institute with almost 30 years under my belt I believe that it is now time for me to give back to the institute and future chartered accountants a small contribution of my time after having benefitted from being a member all these years. I had already started this in a small way a few years ago by volunteering to become the Institute's Contact Member for its members based in Malta but now would like to increase that contribution somewhat.

The Institute is pushing hard to grow its member base and has looked to the European continent to do so. This has been very successful in places such as Cyprus but although an initiative was started some two to three years ago in Malta the Institute has had limited success in attracting similarly large numbers towards the profession. By putting myself up for nomination to the Council as a candidate for the European and Eurasia Region I hope to contribute to changing this.

In addition with the Brexit negotiations drawing closer each day, I would like to take on a more active role within the Institute to assist its overseas members in these uncertain times and to be a part of the voice for the Institute in Europe both during and after the Brexit negotiations. In this way I would be able to assist the Institute as it continues to help all our members during these uncertain times. I believe that an elected candidate for the European and Eurasia Region would have an important role to play in this.

As a former lecturer and examiner of the local institute in Malta and the local office QRPT for EY it is my intention to continue to assist students along their journey to qualification.

Nominated by

Michael Lyonette FCA
Company Director, Notreville Advies BV

Leslie Birch OBE MA FCA
Faculty Member, Seed School for Executive Education & Development

Stephen Huyton BA FCA
Group Financial Director, Thermopatch International BV

Mark Azzopardi-Holland FIA FCA CPA
Sole Practitioner

Christopher Bull MA FCA
Retired



3. Milena Domanova ACA

Manager, Deloitte

Personal Statement

"United in diversity", "colliding perspectives", "globalised complex environment" - all fancy words we hear constantly. But what is their impact for us as individuals and as professional chartered accountants.

As a young and continuously developing leader, I believe I have something to contribute to ICAEW and its members in the region. We live in a rapidly changing globalised world, where our new and potential members have different views, marked by constantly improving technology, by diversity and by challenges we did not have to face in the past.

I am a representative of the generation who has already overcome its emotional rushes, but keeps an open mind to the changes of the modern world. I have been working for around 10 years in Europe starting from statutory auditor to currently managing multinational organisations operating globally. I was born in one country, I qualified as an ICAEW member in a different one and for the past five years I have been working in a third country. I do know what professionals look for, the potential difficulties and what it takes to become an ICAEW member. I know that our membership comes with a great responsibility, so I am ready to share my knowledge and experience with others.

I plan to bring a fresh eye, provide a different point of view and promote the international development of ICAEW. A true leader is someone who has followers, someone who understands what is to be united in diversity, what "colliding perspectives" stands for. I am confident that I am that kind of person, a person who will be of an extreme value because of the internal motivation, the energy and the courage I have to stand as a member of the Council. Tomorrow is today and impossible is nothing.

Nominated by

Barry Stamps FCA
Chairman - Chief Executive Officer, Algonquin Trust SA

David Lipton BSc FCA
Auditor, Self-employed

Neil Thomson MA ACA
Selector, European Commission

Mehmet Yagcioglu ACA
Business Controller, Atlas Copco Makinalari Imalat AS

Stamatios Anthis MSc BA ACA
Audit Manager, European Commission



4. Julia Kuznetsova ACA

Audit Manager, Deloitte

Personal Statement

My name is Julia Kuznetsova and I am running for ICAEW Council member elections 2017.

I was born and raised in the south of Russia. My mother worked hard to give me better opportunities than she had. I was inspired by her dedication and strived to succeed at school and in my profession in Moscow and later in Helsinki. An Audit Manager for Deloitte, I now manage audits of high profile international companies and want to become a true leader.

I am keen to contribute to ICAEW's future development and hope you will vote for me.

Our profession needs to adapt to globalisation, technological advances and UK's decision to leave the EU. As I see it the key issues affecting ICAEW Chartered Accountants are:

- Global political and economic instability leading the general public, business and government to rely on our profession as never before;
- The growth of machine learning and AI transforming industries and our profession;
- Helping ICAEW grow internationally yet keeping the rigorous standards of the ACA;
- Increasing the recognition of ACAs worldwide;
- Making ICAEW relevant to all members irrespective of their location and career path

I like to think of myself as a cosmopolitan person surrounded by my Russian-Finnish family, friends and colleagues from all over the world. A newly qualified chartered accountant, I would bring a fresh perspective, first-hand experience of how audit teams will use artificial intelligence and data analytics technology over the coming years and a lot of empathy in debating key issues faced by ICAEW Chartered Accountants.

If you want to learn more about me you can visit my **Facebook** and **LinkedIn** pages and view my candidate statement on **YouTube**.

I believe our profession has a great future and I am asking for your support to help shape it.

Nominated by

Evgeniy Drozdov ACA
Deloitte

Evelina Zhuravleva ACA

Natalia Regentova ACA

Marina Ivanova ACA

Sarvar Ilyassova ACA
Manager, Deloitte



5. Ayoob Rawat FCA

Principal, Cabinet Comptable Ayoob Rawat

Personal Statement

I am a Fellow ICAEW Member with 40 years of Financial Services' experience in London, Geneva, and across the world.

My mission is to equip and assist our Members with the tools and strategies to fix problems in Financial Services, as I believe Chartered Accountants are the best professionals equipped to do so.

As a UK citizen, with experience of living and working across the globe, I believe that I have excellent experience, all the better to understand and support the needs of our ex-UK members.

If elected, I plan to, principally, look after the interests of:

- i) European and International Members;
- ii) "SME" Members; and
- iii) Non-practising members, with a particularly focus on members living outside the UK, to better support them in their business and career.

I have been active in the Institute since 2010, as a member of the Financial Services Faculty. In 2014, I was chosen to be one of two ICAEW Contact Members for Switzerland.

With other volunteers, and with the Institute's blessing, we created the ICAEW "Members in Switzerland Association", of which I am Chairman.

My mission, since 2014, has been to harness the combined expertise of local Members, as they are better placed to guide the Institute on how to support co-Members outside of the UK.

I will, of course, work diligently with my fellow Council Members to make the Institute better for you and for all our Members.

Here is a publicity video, where I promote membership of ICAEW <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2il1YCFmB30>

I hope you vote for me and look forward very much to serving and promoting the ICAEW, if elected. Thank you very much!

Nominated by

Timothy Moss BSc FCA
Finance Director, Regent

Gavin Crompton Pell BSc FCA
Corporate Finance Partner, Aurora Partners GMBH

Sushil Premchand BA FCA
Managing Director/Group Chairman, PRS Services AG

Mark Kissack BA FCA
International Corporate Finance, Kissack Consulting

Laurence Burgess MA FCA
IT Director, Credit Suisse



6. Iriini Kyriacou ACA

Internal Auditor, European Commission

Personal Statement

Thanks to the financial crisis of 2009 I became a Chartered Accountant. It was the year I graduated Imperial College London, and the year where my expectations of the job market were confounded. This was my moment of 'disruption' as the technologically savvy would say. I changed direction, reassessed my skills and possibilities and opted for a solid profession and I am so glad I did.

I qualified with PwC in London in 2015; gaining experience in financial audit and risk assurance. I moved to Brussels in 2015 to work at Accountancy Europe, an association representing 50 professional organisations of accountants, auditors, and advisors including the ICAEW. This experience was a snapshot of different country perspectives through the state of play of the audit profession within a given regulatory environment.

I am now an internal auditor at the European Commission; a diverse organisation with people from all over Europe. My experience in public service has bolstered my belief in improvement and change from within organisations. I have a strong sense of personal responsibility which is part of my motivation to stand for Council. The other part believes in the need to have a Council that is representative of its members and celebrates diversity on all levels as the only way to remain relevant and proactive towards change.

As a newly qualified member of the ICAEW, and during my time as a student member, I have sought the advice and mentorship of other members. Maintaining this solidarity between members at different career stages is essential for the profession to remain attractive. I have the commitment and tenacity to work to this effect, and kindly ask for your support to be able to do so. Thank you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zv5RuJCztwA&t=15s>

Nominated by

Ekaterini Philaniotou BSc FCA
Head of Unit, European Commission

George Procopiou BA FCA
Budget Officer, European Commission

Mark Cunningham BSc FCA
Founder, Cunningham Executive Search

Susan Downhill ACA
Budget Officer, Commission

Jan Hendricks MSc ACA
Audit Adviser, Federal Express European Services Inc



7. Joseph Smoczyński MA FCA

Management Consultant

Personal Statement

Born 1952, London, Polish parents, married.

Initially worked for IBM, qualifying with Hacker Young (UHYI). Client work (UK, Germany, USA) included multi-jurisdiction consolidations and international tax avoidance planning. 1990-2014 Polish auditor, started and sold two Audit practices. Local Partner in; HLB, BDO, Moore Stephens and Baker Tilly. Clients included; start-ups, SPV's, quoted companies. Specialising in FAS (M&A, DD, valuations) brought me close to problems FCO's and CEO's face running businesses. Attending European and World Association/Network Conferences for 25 years gives me wide international perspective on understanding the needs of Chartered Accountants working abroad.

Retired in 2014, started own business investing in Ukrainian/EU projects, advise others, sit on Charity Boards and Audit Committees. ICAEW Contact Member for Poland and Council Member Europe. I sit on the Members and Commercial Board where policy and service recommendations are made to Main Board. Participation here is key in representing International Members and conveying, their needs and requirements. My commitment to ICAEW matters is reflected by my near perfect attendance and participation which will continue when re-elected.

My practical contributions influenced International Region development including Direct Elections and instigating regular International working sessions with Institute staff. Priorities for next four years include; minimising Brexit fallout for us in Europe, enhancing Brand recognition, increasing services and support for International Members (Business and Practice) and continue voicing views on international policy and service development.

I play a key role in instigating ICAEW changes and seek your vote in the Council Elections to continue implementing Contact Member and International colleagues' views. From the main International rollout 4 years ago, currently 10 Members, we work as a team influencing Council effectively. Walking the Institute corridors, being on Boards and a Council Member team player ensures that relevant policies are passed.

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[linkedin.com/in/joe-smoczyński-8b194b49/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joe-smoczyński-8b194b49/)

[facebook.com/people/Joe-Smoczyński/100013055739547](https://www.facebook.com/people/Joe-Smoczyński/100013055739547)

Nominated by

Owen Lewis BEng FCA
Auditor, PwC

Nicholas Rolt BA FCA
Partner, Proxima

Stephen Huyton BA FCA
European Group Financial Director, Thermopatch International BV

Samuel Cohen BA FCA
Director, Benady Cohen & Co

Roger Gascoigne BA FCA



8. David Crackett BSc FCA

Sole Practitioner, David Crackett

Personal Statement

1. To bring the benefit of my international experience to the Council, particularly with respect to issues regarding Europe and regarding the difficulties expatriate accountants face throughout their career in a foreign country. My privileged position, as a long serving ICAEW Contact Member for Italy and Vice-Chairman of COBCOE, will facilitate this.

2. To fight against bureaucracy with the aim of easing the ever-increasing administrative burden, particularly regarding Small Firms and Sole Practitioners.

3. To face up to Brexit by searching for all possible ways of assisting ICAEW Members resident in Europe to overcome the difficulties they will encounter as a result of the Brexit process.

I am an FCA working in Italy for over forty years. Aged 67, I have significant professional experience working internationally both with Italian corporations and many of the world's major multinationals.

After qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 1974, I transferred to Milan with Deloitte where I was appointed Partner in 1984. I retired from Deloitte in 2010 to set up my own practice as a Sole Practitioner.

I am a Registered Auditor both in Italy and in the UK.

In addition to auditing Italian and UK registered entities, I am actively involved as a professional in assisting businesses with their bilateral trade and investment activities. I also hold a number of corporate governance positions and lecture in accountancy at Milan's prestigious Bocconi and Cattolica universities.

I am a Past President of the British Chamber of Commerce for Italy and Vice-Chairman of COBCOE (Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe). I am also President of the Italian Association of International Accountants and for several years have been the ICAEW Contact Member in Italy.

Contact Information: dcrackett@dcrackett.com

Nominated by

Jeffrey Singer MA FCA CF
Partner, ILV Silver Transactions SL

Nicholas Rolt BA FCA
Partner, Proxima

Paul Hubbard BA FCA

Roger King MA FCA
Sole Partner, Roger King SRL

Barry Stamps FCA
Chairman, Algonquin Trust SA



9. Michelle Fisher BSc FCA
Consultant, Sobell Rhodes LLP

Personal Statement

Can I introduce myself to you? My name is Michelle Fisher and I would like to represent Europe and Eurasia on the ICAEW council.

Up until May 2016 I lived in London and was a partner in Sobell Rhodes LLP, a seven partner firm of Chartered Accountants and winner of the UK Independent firm of the year at the 2012/13 British Accountancy Awards. In June 2016 I emigrated to Israel, where my children and grandchildren now live. I remain a consultant to my practice.

I have been extensively active in Institute affairs for more than twenty years, whether as a committee member of the North West London district society of Chartered Accountants, including three years as chairman, or as a member of the London Society of Chartered Accountants.

Since 2004 I have been involved in spearheading the Assurance Reporting project in the UK, to ensure that there was a recognised report over unaudited accounts between an audit and a compilation report. I chaired the committees which produced the initial guidance in AAF 03/06, and then the subsequent technical release AAF 09/13, which I helped to launch at Moorgate Place in December 2013. I have written and presented frequently on the subject.

I should like to continue my involvement in Institute activities and to "give back" to our profession which I value so highly, particularly as I have the time and the commitment to do so.

My experience in both my district society activities and on the Assurance Reporting project means that I am well placed to represent grass roots members of the ICAEW who may work for smaller practices. I am passionate about ensuring that these members' voices are heard and their interests promoted at the ICAEW and, if elected to Council, I would work tirelessly to do so.

Nominated by

Alan Levenson ACA
Audit Manager, PwC Israel

Lauren Levy BA(Hons) ACA
FKGB Accounting Ltd

Gidon Domnitz ACA
Senior Financial Adviser, KPMG Somekh Chaikin

William Krisman FCA
Partner KPMG Israel, KPMG Somekh Chaikin

Binyamin Radomsky ACA
Partner, Aboulafia Avital Shrensky & Co



10. Christopher Cooke FCA
Chief Financial Officer, Syngenta

Personal Statement

Dear Fellow Members

Following qualification I left the profession to apply my knowledge and expertise in business where I felt and still do, that the training and professionalism of the ACA qualification allows us to provide a unique type of support for industry and commerce. This has never been more important than now when good effective corporate governance and control become ever more necessary.

As British manufacturing industry declined during the 1980's I found myself in roles involving downsizing, plant closure and shifting production to lower cost locations. During this time, I lived and worked in France, Germany and Hungary. Having had a taste of growing businesses rather than downsizing then I then moved to Russia where I have now lived for twenty years. The experience I gained showed me that whilst regulation, law and tax may differ between countries, the needs of young people to have clear objectives for their career is common.

I am a local representative of the ICAEW in Russia and have always encouraged my younger finance employees to go for a professional qualification. I am also part of the team that is working to strengthen the position of the Institute in Russia. This includes working directly with government bodies showing how ICAEW can support them in designing effective regulation.

I would like to further increase my involvement with the ICAEW by becoming a council member. I would bring a different perspective to the Council, not only from industry but also from Europe. My current role of CFO, for a Swiss multi-national, covering CIS gives me plenty of opportunities to experience the volatile and changing situation and why it is so important that people leading a response to these events have the best training and education available backed by a strong professional body.

Nominated by

Kirill Karpov ACA
General Manager, OOO MBE Connect

Maria Ageeva ACA
Finance Business Partner, Syngenta

Tatiana Vyshegorodtseva ACA

Olga Kushnir MSc ACA
Head of Upstream IFRS Reporting, LLC Rosneft

Evgeniy Drozdovc ACA
Deloitte