

03/09/2025

Administrative and Management Board (AMB) REPORT

iPSRS 



ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER

Intelligent Photonics for Security Reliability Sustainability & Safety

AMB meeting report
EMJM IPSRS

Meeting Report – Administrative and Management Board (AMB)

During the AMB meeting, participants discussed programme updates, administrative procedures, student selection, deliverables, financial agreements, and project communication.

1. PSRS Final Report

The final PSRS report is to be prepared and submitted by the end of January 2026. Attachments will be prepared in September and October, the project description and statistics in November, and consortium validation will take place in December. Scholar numbers were confirmed, and minimum targets have been reached.

2. iPSRS Administrative Coordination

Administrative coordination has been assigned to a new Administrative Coordinator, replacing previous holders of both the administrative and project development roles. Standard procedures were documented in July by the previous coordinator, and a chatbot will assist with processes and FAQs. A WhatsApp group has been established to facilitate coordination.

3. Student Selection

Regarding student selection and scholarships, 20 students have been confirmed, including seven women, representing 35% female participation. Two students are awaiting visas and will follow online courses, one woman and one man. In total, 19 EMJM scholarships are available, including 10 NDCI scholarships, and one self-funded student is confirmed, with two others pending. The AMB discussed the possibility of awarding a scholarship to top students to support participation in conferences such as EOSAM and Biosmart, with the Administrative Coordinator tasked with identifying potential sponsors.

For the joint diploma, templates are to be completed by each partner and returned in September to the Academic Coordinator. The consortium agreed that physical signatures will be used.

4. iPSRS Sustainability Report – EACEA Reporting

The Sustainability/Business Plan report is due on January 13, 2026, with a first draft expected by November 15. The Brussels Sustainability Workshop will be held on November 20–21, and the Administrative Coordinator will attend to finalize the report before the end of November. Each partner will validate the report in December. Monthly reporting will be coordinated by the Administrative Coordinator and will cover dissemination activities, communication actions, events, and trainings.

5. Financial Agreement

A dedicated meeting on the financial agreement is scheduled for October 8, 2025, at 09:00 CET. A budget shortfall was identified due to fewer self-funded students than initially planned (eight expected, one confirmed, two pending). The tax d'apprentissage will be collected and redirected to iPSRS. Erasmus+ scholarships are available for self-funded students for semesters three and four, while BRMIE scholarships funded by the AURA Region will cover semesters two and four depending on mobility. To date, 22 student agreements have been signed. The invited lecturers list will also be updated on the website.

6. Tutoring and Mentorship

Mentorship is highly appreciated by students, with a maximum of three meetings per year. Follow-up with cohort one mentors will be carried out in September by the Administrative Coordinator. Recruitment of 22 mentors for the second cohort is expected by the end of September, with each AMB member playing a role. Students will provide a short description of their career goals to assist mentors in selecting mentees. Tutors are provided at UJM and UEF and are valued by some students, while optional for others.

7. Communication Strategy

The PSRS website will be updated in September, coordinated by UJM, with a new design expected before mid-October using the same web address. UPEC is responsible for creating a new application and evaluation portal, expected by mid-October, pending confirmation from the local coordinator. The website redesign and restructuring should be completed before October and will be coordinated by the Administrative and Academic Coordinators. The new structure, design, and updated content may involve students to reduce costs. Paid targeted ads and the associated budget scope are to be clarified, with a focus on specific regions and countries. Communication channels include Instagram for students, LinkedIn for institutions, partners, and students, as well as local, European, and specialized press coverage. Influencer collaborations are planned, such as with Local Food Tour in Saint-Étienne. Continuous engagement with alumni and industry partners is encouraged.

A local AI guide created by students for students will be launched, with an introductory meeting led by the Administrative Coordinator, and updates will be shared with the consortium. A proposal for collaboration with Cité du Design for the 2027 Biennale (Photonics meets Design) will be prepared by the Administrative Coordinator by the end of September. Potential industrial and academic partners have been identified, including Photonics21, SPIE, SMEs, and STMicroelectronics. Opportunities for scholarship sponsorships, particularly for EOSAM and Biosmart, will be explored. Local sponsorships and industry collaborations are encouraged, and visibility at local running events is planned, including the City Run, Sainté Rose, Sainté Lyon, Sainté Urban Trail, and Pilat events.

8. Application Dates

Online Open Days are scheduled from October 2025 to January 2026. The selection timeline for the 2026–2028 intake will start in October 2025, with team-building activities included in the schedule. Application deadlines have been set for February 8 for scholarship holders and April 15 for self-funded students. The selection meeting will take place on March 19-20 at UPEC.

The next Induction Week is planned for August 31–September 4, 2026, in Saint-Étienne. The date and strategy for the next EAB meeting are yet to be determined. Preparations for the next iPSRS project proposal, starting in 2028, will be carried out by UEF.