

Dear members of the European *Drosophila* Society (EDS),
The goal of this message is to give you an update from the [European *Drosophila* Society](#). You received this message because you have registered to the EDS website. You are also welcome to share it with colleagues even if they are not registered.

1. Election in 2023

The aim of the European *Drosophila* board is to represent the full diversity of the European *Drosophila* Research community, while maintaining a board size that is sufficiently small that in-depth discussions do not become unwieldy. [Representation rules](#) were agreed following detailed discussions by the European *Drosophila* board in September 2022. Elections will be held every two years, to renew up to half of the board. We are happy to inform you that we will have the first election this year.

Election timeline:

- **March 2023:** solicit nominations for openings.
- **June-July:** electronic election
- **September:** newly elected members announced at [EDRC 2023](#)

Look out for the call for nominations by email and on Twitter/Mastodon in March!

2. Opening of bank account:

One of our priorities was to consolidate the EDS by establishing it as a charity/association with a legal status and a formal bank account. We are glad to inform you that we have been able to open a bank account in Switzerland, by creating an official non-profit organization named 'EDS-Swiss Chapter'. The EDS Swiss chapter will be the financial arm of the EDS and is under the control of the board. We can now raise funds to support activities of the European *Drosophila* Society. Contact us if you know donors, sponsors or foundations that are willing to help us. Our first mission will be to secure enough funds in the coming years to better support the EDRC meeting series.

3. *Drosophila* and outreach

Outreach towards the public is an important mission of the EDS. We are pleased to inform you that a rich collection of information related to outreach using the *Drosophila* model has been centralized on a webpage graciously hosted by the Jacques Monod Institute (Paris). We encourage you to visit this page, which includes many resources on the history, breakthroughs and diversity of research using *Drosophila*, and to email Virginie (virginie.courtier@ijm.fr) if you would like to suggest additional information to be present on this page. We take this opportunity to thank the important contribution of Andreas Prokop (University of Manchester) and the [EDS working group](#) on outreach led by Ilona Grunwald-Kadow.

4. Fly shipping

There are recurrent *Drosophila* shipping issues in the absence of coherent international regulations. Although most of us have found ways to send and receive fly stocks, the situation is far from optimal with delays, custom blockages or excessive custom taxes. We are pleased to inform you that a shipping working group, led by Alex Gould, has been created to deal with these questions in Europe. As the situation is different in each country, we would like to have one ‘fly shipping’ representative member for each country as a national contact. Please contact Alex (Alex.Gould@crick.ac.uk) if you would like to be the representative of your country.

5. European *Drosophila* Research Conference in Lyon in 2023

The [27th European *Drosophila* Research conference](#) will be held in Lyon on October 20-23rd

We encourage to all of you to register to make this event a vibrant scientific gathering. You will have the opportunity to talk members of the board at this meeting.

6. Call for organizing the 29th European *Drosophila* Research Conference in 2027

The EDRC 2025 meeting will be at Alicante, Spain (main organizer María Domínguez). We have received two propositions for organizing the 2027 EDRC. Contact Marco Milan (marco.milan@irbbarcelona.org) if you wish to submit an application. We will select the hosting city in Spring 2023.

Finally, we also want to thank all of you who contributed to Flybase by paying your annual fee, this is an important contribution to sustain this critical resource.

We wish you all a Happy New Year 2023 and hope to see you all at Lyon for EDRC 2023

With best regards,

Eileen Furlong and Bruno Lemaitre, on the behalf of the European *Drosophila* Board