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# PHILATELIC LITERATURE

## NEW REGULATIONS PROJECT



# FEPA LITERATURE REGULATIONS PROJECT

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The project addresses the need for a change of approach in the text of the FIP regulations and the related documents. Key points:

- To rethink the concepts rather than modify the existing text; in other words, the new regulations should be rewritten entirely.
- Its text should be generic enough to avoid the need for constant updates as the publishing world changes.
- They should also be suitable for evaluating different types and formats of literature.
- Consequently, the evaluation criteria should be defined in terms of general principles, leaving to the Guidelines the role of providing more specific instructions for evaluating each type of literature. In this way, the Regulations can ensure continuity while the Guidelines are flexible to meet changing needs.
- Furthermore, it is generally difficult to talk about digital entries since its definition is technology-specific. How can we write regulations when technology is moving so fast that we cannot keep up with it ourselves?

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Further considerations:

- The evaluation documents must eliminate some biases, as they are focused mainly in research monographs.
- The Supplementary Rules must be treated separated, as a supplement to the GREX, as they concern organisational aspect of the exhibition, rather than the evaluation of the exhibits.
- In addition, strict consistency should be ensured among all the official documents concerning philatelic literature, whereas today there are holes, duplications, and misused terms.
- New approaches to scheduling and organising the judging activities, with new Application and Synopsis forms, will be provided, along with:
  - a proposal for a consistent identification and description of the entries,
  - a Guide on organizing/planning the judging activities on a suitable timeframe,
  - a Guide on setting up an appropriate area for exhibiting the entries to the public.

# PROJECT ACTION PLAN

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1. Prepare draft of Regulations and Supplementary Rules to GREX (done, GM – AM)
2. Review documents with Wolfgang Maaßen and Ari Muhnen (done at Hafnia 2024)
3. Finalize documents for distribution to Expert Panel (10/24)
4. Involve the Panel of Experts (11/24 – 1/25)
5. Review Panel's remarks and finalize documents (2/25)
6. Present them at the FEPA Congress in Birmingham (5/25)
7. In parallel, prepare the other deliverables.

# PROJECT ACTION PLAN

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## Proposed Panel of Experts:

- Ari Muhonen (\*), Wolfgang Maaßen (\*)
- David Beech, Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi (\*), Gerald Heschl(\*), Peter Suhadolc
- Lars Engelbrecht(\*), Thomas Höpfner, Costas Chazapis (Board Members),
- John Hotchner (\*), Javad Muhammad (\*)

*(\*) also members of the FIP Literature Commission*

# RELATIONS WITH THE FIP

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- Approach: To work as if the project output is for updating the FIP regulations
- The FIP Commission had already agreed to update such Regulations, however, no actions have been finalised yet
- The FIP president was informed of this initiative
- Concepts were already been presented to Wolfgang Maaßen and Peter Suhadolc
- The presence of delegates in the Commission and its Bureau in the Expert Panel may hopefully ensure of a smooth procedure at the FIP level
- The final objective is this work is to agree on a set of documents, or just one document (Guidelines) resulting out of the merge of the SREV and the Guidelines
- FEPA hopes to be of service, once again, to the FIP.  
FIP's recent attention to Narrow Frames exhibits is another proof that FEPA can trigger FIP action. In the unfortunate case of disagreement, modifying it to fit FEPA requirements will be very easy as it concerns just formalities.