TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ESORICS STEERING COMMITTEE

1. Scope
This document aims to set the terms of reference for the Steering Committee of the European Symposium On Research In Computer Security (ESORICS).

The aim of ESORICS is to further the progress of research in computer, information and cyber security and in privacy, by establishing a European forum for bringing together researchers in this area, by promoting the exchange of ideas with system developers and by encouraging links with researchers in related areas.

2. ESORICS Steering Committee
To oversee the long-term planning and success of ESORICS, the Steering Committee plans for future conferences, evaluates how well each conference has achieved the objectives of ESORICS, and implements improvements to better meet these objectives.

The role of the Steering Committee is to:
- promote and maintain the ESORICS conference as the premiere venue for researchers interested in computer security,
- obtain feedback about ESORICS and improve future ESORICS editions,
- invite bids for organizing future ESORICS editions,
- select the sites and dates for future ESORICS editions,
- appoint the General (co-)Chair(s) and the Program (co-)Chair(s) of ESORICS editions,
- provide advice to the current and future chairs of ESORICS,
- deliberate on nominations for and make decisions on awarding the ESORICS Outstanding Research Award and the ESORICS Outstanding Contribution Award, and
- resolve general issues involved with ESORICS.

The Steering Committee has the final authority on every aspect related to the organization and management of ESORICS.

3. Composition of the ESORICS Steering Committee
The Steering Committee is composed of:
- The Chair,
- Honorary members, and
- Members,

3.1 Chair of the Steering Committee
The Chair of the Steering Committee:
- provides overall leadership,
- maintains contact with Springer,
- calls for Steering Committee meetings,
- prepares the agenda for the Steering Committee meetings in consultation with other members,
- chairs the Steering Committee meetings,
- maintains active links with ESORICS current and future General Chair(s) and PC Chair(s),
- calls for nominations for the ESORICS awards, and
receives the votes of the members of the SC when voting through e-mail and announces the result.

The Chair is elected from among the Steering Committee members for a term of 3 years; re-election is possible for one additional term only.

3.2 Honorary Members
The Steering Committee members who have been committed for a long time to the goals of ESORICS, and served as Steering Committee members for 10 years or more, and continue to contribute to various aspects of ESORICS, may join the Steering Committee as honorary members. These members are expected to attend the Steering Committee meetings, share their experience, and participate in the discussions on a regular basis, to guide the future generations of Steering Committee members.

Honorary membership is life membership. Honorary members have full voting rights.

3.3 Steering Committee Members
New members of the Steering Committee are nominated, selected, and appointed by the current Steering Committee members in the Steering Committee meeting held during each ESORICS. Steering Committee members are selected according to their achievements in and contributions to the progress of research in computer, information and cyber security and in privacy in Europe. The achievement of geographical and gender balance in the Steering Committee is also considered in the selection.

The members are elected for a term of 3 years; re-election is possible.

4. Steering Committee Meetings

4.1 Frequency
A Steering Committee meeting is held in each ESORICS. All Steering Committee members are expected to attend these meetings. Members, including honorary members, who missed two consecutive meetings are considered withdrawn from the Steering Committee.

If needed, the Steering Committee may also choose to organize additional meetings, to work via videoconference, e-mail, or to form ad hoc working groups.

4.2 Calling meetings
It is the Chair’s responsibility to call the Steering Committee meetings. To this end, the Chair distributes the final agenda to the Steering Committee members, at least three weeks in advance of the meeting.

Representatives of the organizers (General or Program Chairs) of the last, the current, and the next ESORICS editions are invited to attend the meeting of the Steering Committee.

4.3 Decision making process
The chair leads the Steering Committee in its discussions. Decisions in the Steering Committee are usually taken by consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached, decisions are taken by a simple majority vote, with the chair holding the decisive vote in case of a tie.

During the meetings of the Steering Committee, each member has one vote. General proxy voting shall not be permitted, but on specific issues proxy voting shall be permitted if the Steering Committee Chair is informed beforehand of the intended vote by the absent member. No member of the Steering
Committee may have more than two proxies for the same issue at the same time. Steering Committee members are to be informed sufficiently in advance of any known motions to be voted on during a forthcoming meeting.

More than 50 percent of the Steering Committee members need to be present in order to constitute a quorum.

If it is not possible to reach a quorum in a Steering Committee meeting, the Steering Committee shall anyhow convene and discuss the items on the agenda, with formal decisions to be made through email or videoconference afterwards or, when applicable, in a subsequent regular meeting.

5. Resignation or Removal from Office of member of the Steering Committee

Any member of the Steering Committee may resign from membership of the Committee at any time by giving notice in writing to the Chair. Such resignation shall take effect at the time such notice is received by the Chair, unless a later date is specified in the notice when it shall take effect on that later date.

In extraordinary circumstances, a member of the Steering Committee may be removed from office at a Steering Committee meeting where the member shall be given the opportunity to fully present their case. The question of removal shall be determined by the vote of the members present at such a Steering Committee meeting. There is no right of appeal against a member’s removal from office under this section.

6. Delegation of Powers of Steering Committee

The Steering Committee may delegate any of its powers to a sub-committee consisting of such members of the Steering Committee as the Committee thinks fit. Any sub-committee so formed shall in the exercise of the powers delegated conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the Steering Committee. A sub-committee may elect a chairperson of its meetings.

7. Interim arrangements

These terms of reference of the ESORICS Steering Committee were discussed and agreed upon in the Steering Committee meeting of 6 September 2018.

All current members and the Chair of the current ESORICS Steering Committee will continue to serve on the Steering Committee until September 2020. Thenceforth, the rules set in sections 1-6 above will apply fully.