

Constitution of the Global Network on Financial Geography (FinGeo)

Draft approved by the FinGeo Executive Committee as of 30 September 2021

1. NAME

- 1.1. The name of this organization is the Global Network on Financial Geography (FinGeo, thereafter referred to also as the Network).

2. AIMS

- 2.1. FinGeo is an open, democratic and interdisciplinary network of academics, practitioners and experts interested in research on the spatiality of money and finance and its implications for economy, society, and nature.
- 2.2. The key objectives of the Network are to: a. promote and stimulate diversity, innovation and excellence in this field of research; b. facilitate collaboration and sharing of research outputs on a global basis; c. inform private and public strategy and policy; d. contribute to a broader public debate on the role of finance in the world.
- 2.3. To realise these aims the core activities of FinGeo include the collation and dissemination of: a. research outputs in diverse forms; b. information on research initiatives; c. information on funding and collaboration opportunities; d. datasets and other research and teaching materials.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1. Membership of the Network is open to all individuals who share the Aims of the Network, agree to be bound by its Constitution and who sign up for membership on the FinGeo website. Membership is free of charge.
- 3.2. It is the responsibility of individual members to ensure that their contact details provided for the membership purposes are up-to-date.

4. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

4.1. Committee

- 4.1.1. The business of the Network between Annual General Meetings (AGMs) will be carried out by the FinGeo Committee (thereafter as the Committee) elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.1.2. The Committee will consist of no fewer than three members to guarantee the core offices of Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Prior to elections the incumbent committee can stipulate non-core offices including, but not limited to: Working Paper Series Editor(s), Events Officer(s), Impact Officer(s), Communication Officer(s), Early Career Representative(s). Other posts can be created by the Committee according to needs.
- 4.1.3. In between AGMs, the Committee can also co-opt non-elected members as necessary for the proper execution of organizational tasks and/or to safeguard diversity principles. All coopted members must be confirmed in their positions by the nearest AGM for them to continue to hold their offices.
- 4.1.4. All Committee offices shall be for a period of three years and renewable for a second term of three years. Former Committee members can be re-elected to the Committee after a cooling-down period of three years.
- 4.1.5. The core offices of Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer should be elected from those Committee members already holding offices in the Committee for at least one year or from former Committee members after the cooling-down period. The candidate(s) for Chair needs to secure a nomination from at least two FinGeo members. The candidates for positions of Secretary and Treasurer needs to secure a nomination of at least one FinGeo member each to qualify for the election. In case that no suitable candidate(s)

present themselves, who would meet the Committee experience criterion, the post(s) will be open for election for any FinGeo member(s) who secure the required nominations.

4.1.6. Non-core offices can be held by either elected incumbent Committee members, newly elected Committee members, or elected former Committee members after the cooling-down period. Self-nominations are sufficient for non-core offices.

4.1.7. Early Career Representatives will hold Committee positions for three years after which they can be elected for other core or non-core Committee functions.

4.1.8. The Network considers gender and geographical diversity a priority. The core offices of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer should include one person of the opposite gender. A maximum of two thirds of the Committee can be of the same gender. The Network seeks to be geographically inclusive by aiming for representation from all world regions. The Committee shall take steps to encourage group members from underrepresented regions to run for office. The Committee can co-opt members to adhere to the above-described criteria as per article 4.1.3.

4.2. Regional Ambassadors

4.2.1. The Committee will appoint FinGeo Regional Ambassadors to help promote FinGeo Aims in all regions of the world. The offices are held for a term of three years and can be renewed once.

4.2.2. Regional Ambassadors are allowed to simultaneously serve on the Committee and vice-versa.

4.2.3. Regional Ambassadors have to be FinGeo members.

4.3. Advisory Board

4.3.1. The Committee shall be supported by an independent Advisory Board. Members of the Advisory Board shall be nominated by the Committee for a term of three years, which can be renewed once for a second period of three years. Committee members that leave the Committee are automatically invited to join the Advisory Board. A maximum of two thirds of the Committee can be of the same gender.

4.3.2. Advisory Board members cannot simultaneously hold positions on the Committee.

4.3.3. Advisory Board members do not have to be FinGeo members.

4.3.4. The Committee shall consult the Advisory Board on any major issues related to the Network or any matters it deems appropriate. Decisions of the Advisory Board are purely advisory, and the Committee is not bound by them.

5. MEETINGS

5.1. Annual General Meetings

5.1.1. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held annually, no later than fifteen months after the previous AGM.

5.1.2. The AGM may be held as an in-person/face-to-face, hybrid, or online-only meeting. The format of the AGM will be decided by the Committee. Members will be notified in writing (via email and social media) at least 60 days before the date of the AGM, stating the venue, date and time, as well as information of all vacancies to be filled on the Committee. Items to be raised by members should be sent to the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

5.1.3. Applications for Committee positions should be made to the Secretary and will be accepted up to fourteen days before the AGM. The candidate also submits a short CV and a motivation letter of maximum one page detailing the vision and strategy for holding the office. Candidates for the core positions of Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer must also secure nominations as detailed in article 4.1.5. Applications for non-core vacancies can be in the form of self-nomination.

5.1.4. The quorum for the AGM will be 25 members in addition to the majority of the incumbent Committee.

5.1.5. At the AGM:

- The Incumbent Committee will present a report of the work of FinGeo.
- The Incumbent Committee will present the financial accounts of FinGeo for the previous year.
- The Incumbent Committee will conduct elections for vacant Committee positions.

5.1.6. All decisions taken by the AGM (except Amendments to the Constitution) must be approved by at least the simple majority of FinGeo members present. If the number of votes cast on each side is equal, the chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

5.2. Extraordinary General Meeting

5.2.1. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by either the Chair or the majority of the Committee or by any 20 members of the Network.

5.2.2. The Secretary must give notice of at least 30 days of an EGM in writing (via email and social media) to all members of the Network, stating the venue, date and time.

5.2.3. The quorum for the EGM will be 25 members in addition to the majority of the incumbent Committee.

5.3. Committee Meetings

5.3.1. The Committee will meet as necessary and not less than four times a year.

5.3.2. Committee meetings may be called by the Chair or Secretary. Committee members must receive notice of meetings at least seven days before the meeting.

5.3.3. The quorum for Committee meetings is two Committee members or over half of Committee members – whichever number is higher.

5.4. Rules of Procedure for Committee Meetings

5.4.1. All questions that arise at any meeting will be discussed openly and the meeting will seek to find general agreement that everyone present can agree to.

5.4.2. If a consensus cannot be reached a vote will be taken and a decision will be made by a simple majority of members present. If the number of votes cast on each side is equal, the chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

5.5. Meetings between the Committee and Regional Ambassadors

5.5.1. The Committee will meet Regional Ambassadors as necessary but normally at least once a year.

5.6. Meetings between the Committee and the Advisory Board

5.6.1. The Committee will meet the Advisory Board as necessary but normally at least once a year.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

6.1. Amendments to the constitution may only be made at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.

6.2. Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting, at least 60 days in advance.

6.3. Any proposal to amend the constitution will require a two-thirds majority of FinGeo members present in person or online.