



Words from the Chair

Eugenia Eftimie Totu

Dear colleagues and friends,

Over the past year, Eurachem has continued to grow as a collaborative network, committed to supporting quality in analytical measurements across Europe and beyond. I am pleased to share just a few of the highlights that reflect both our ongoing work and our evolving vision.

We organised a number of successful webinars and workshops, including the well-attended webinar *“Production of Qualitative Reference Materials”*, which brought together over 330 experts and practitioners from different regions of the world. The webinar introduced ISO 33406’s principles for producing reference materials with qualitative properties, explained how to report traceability and uncertainty, presented the new Eurachem/CITAC Guide on evaluating and reporting uncertainties for qualitative results, and featured experiences from RM producers applying the standard. Events like this are essential in keeping the Eurachem community connected and informed, especially as we continue to navigate the growing complexity of analytical challenges. In March 2025, the Eurachem Workshop *“ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards”* was organised in Nicosia, Cyprus. The event is already becoming a tradition, being in its 6th edition.

In connection with the Eurachem Week 2025, another workshop on *“Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards and Accreditation”* took place on 25-26 May 2025 in Bucharest, Romania. The workshop was connected to Eurachem’s mission, emphasising clear communication and impact to show how emerging techniques advance measurement quality while supporting sustainability and accessibility. There were 84 participants from 19 countries, 20 speakers, three focused breakout sessions, and a poster session featuring 39 posters.

Also, Eurachem and EUROLAB co-hosted on 19 June 2025 a webinar on *“VaMPIS – Validation of Measurement Procedures Including Sampling”* – explaining how to validate measurement procedures that include primary sampling, with worked examples and practical QC/management points from the new Eurachem guidance. The webinar targeted laboratory and accreditation stakeholders seeking accreditation-ready, sampling-integrated method validation, recording over 120 participants from all over the world.

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In terms of outreach, Eurachem was active on the international stage, participating in scientific events and conferences. These platforms allow us to share our expertise, learn from others, and strengthen our ties within the global scientific community.

One particularly exciting development has been the creation of a new joint Working Group with the Digitisation Working Group from EUROLAB, as *Digital Transformation Working Group*. This initiative is a direct response to the rapid digital transformation in laboratories. Together, we aim to address challenges and opportunities related to data integrity, digital records, and the digital competence of laboratory personnel. It's a step forward in ensuring that our guidance keeps pace with modern laboratory practices.

We also recognise the importance of engaging young scientists and students – not just as future professionals, but as active contributors to today's quality landscape. In this spirit, we have been exploring ways to make our activities more visible and accessible to younger generations. In this sense, there was organised an interactive Discussion Forum during the 41st GA meeting with the topic: *"Eurachem sustainability: Securing the Future through Collaboration and Engagement, Sustainable Practices and Active Networks."* The output of such a vivid and interactive session underlined that Eurachem should develop more interactive content, increase the presence on social media, and create entry-level explanatory materials tailored for those just beginning their careers in science. Such initiatives reflect our commitment to sustainability and future growth, ensuring that our work remains relevant and forward-looking.

Our technical work has also moved forward. We published new editions of several guidance documents, including an updated version of *"The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods: A Laboratory Guide to Method Validation and Related Topics: Third edition (2025)"* developed by the Eurachem Method Validation Working Group.

These updates reflect the latest developments and best practices in our field. In addition, there were released new leaflets covering practical topics such as method validation and decision rules, which are now available in multiple languages thanks to the dedicated efforts of our WG teams and national representatives. The impressive number of translated materials this year – over a dozen new language versions – has significantly improved our reach and impact.

All these achievements have been made possible thanks to the dedication of our members and working group contributors. I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your continued support, engagement, and enthusiasm.

I, personally, consider that active participation by Eurachem in the development and responsible adoption of AI technologies is pivotal for safeguarding scientific rigor while accelerating innovation in laboratory practice and accreditation. As a trusted voice on quality in analytical measurement, Eurachem is uniquely placed to translate metrological principles – fitness for purpose, traceability, uncertainty evaluation, and comparability – into practical guidance for data-driven and machine-learning workflows now permeating sample preparation, instrument control, data reduction, and decision-making. By shaping harmonised criteria for validating and verifying AI models (covering dataset representativeness, data integrity, bias and drift control, robustness, explainability, and human oversight), Eurachem can help laboratories demonstrate conformity with ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 processes for example, and management requirements across the full AI lifecycle – from problem definition and training through deployment, monitoring, and change control. Its leadership can also catalyse proficiency testing that includes AI-enabled pipelines, reference and synthetic datasets for benchmarking, and uncertainty budgets that explicitly account for model and data-driven components.


Further, Eurachem can promote FAIR and interoperable metadata standards, model documentation ('model cards'), secure audit trails and versioning, and risk-based decision rules and guard-banding when AI influences conformity assessments. This engagement will equip assessors and accreditation bodies with consistent criteria and training, support ethical and legal compliance (e.g. data protection), and encourage trustworthy uses such as real-time QC, anomaly detection, predictive maintenance, and adaptive calibration – delivering efficiency without compromising comparability or defensibility of results. In short, Eurachem should also get involved to ensure that AI strengthens, rather than avoids, the foundations of quality assurance and international confidence in measurements.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering knowledge sharing, building strong networks, and inspiring the next generation of analytical scientists.

Warm regards,

Eugenia Eftimie Totu

Chair of Eurachem



Eurachem General Assembly 2025

GA41 welcomes Republic of Moldova

The Executive Committee.

The Eurachem Week 2025 hosted in Bucharest – 26-30 May 2025 – started with a scientific workshop, continued with the meetings of the working groups (Education and Training, Qualitative Analysis and Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability), Executive Committee meetings and the 41st General Assembly.

Amid packed agendas and brisk votes, Eurachem's 41st General Assembly wrapped in the halls of the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA with a clear message: continuity, fresh momentum on sustainability, and sharper tools for the labs it serves.

Eurachem members approved the meeting agenda and prior minutes, then moved swiftly through reports from the Secretariat, Treasurer and independent auditor – all accepted without objection. The session opened with a tribute to the late Wolfhard Wegscheider, a former Chair remembered for two influential mandates.

In a unanimous step that broadens the Eurachem network, delegates approved the Republic of Moldova as Eurachem's newest member following a formal application led by Dr. Aculina Aricu; a website update and announcement will follow.



During Eurachem 41st GA meeting

Elections confirmed Hanspeter Andres and David Milde to new terms on the Executive Committee, with Daniel Petre unanimously reappointed Treasurer. Jelena Bebić agreed to continue as Financial Examiner for 2025, ensuring continuity in oversight.

Members unanimously adopted a disciplinary amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding, clarifying procedures and voting for disciplinary decisions at GA sessions. The updated MoU will be published, closing a process first aired at GA40.

On the technical front, Eurachem reported a third edition of *The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods* and two supplements now under GA review. A new leaflet – “Basic Instructions for Participants in a Proficiency Testing Scheme” – is out, with Czech and German translations online and more underway.

Working groups signalled steady progress across education, uncertainty and traceability, qualitative analysis, proficiency testing (including EEE-PT), reference materials, sampling uncertainty and equipment/system

qualification. A consultation on revising *Quality Assurance for R&D and Non-Routine Analysis* drew 27 responses, highlighting needs in method validation for flexible settings, better access to reference materials/PT, and uncertainty estimation outside routine workflows.

The meeting's pulse quickened during a facilitated 'Discussion Forum' led by leadership and inclusion specialist Oana Yücel, where members tackled risks from knowledge loss to dwindling youth engagement – and voted on concrete solutions. Top-ranked

ideas: build an active digital presence (LinkedIn, YouTube, modern tools), create a youth network with real responsibilities, fund scholarships and mentoring for early-career scientists, and convert static guidance into interactive, e-learning style toolkits.

'Provide interactive content for guidance materials, expand beyond PDFs, and involve digital-native volunteers in content creation.'



The General Assembly dinner





The 35 national delegates present at the 41st GA in Bucharest enjoyed a pleasant evening out. At Locanta Jariștea, everybody slipped straight into Bucharest's interbelic charm: violins and cimbalom threading classic Romanian melodies through a room of warm wood, soft lamplight, and easy laughter. Platters of Romanian favourites made the tables feel like a generous family feast. Glasses rose for friendly toasts, conversations flowed across languages and disciplines, and the music coaxed a few spontaneous steps between courses. It was one of those effortlessly good evenings – unhurried, flavourful, and full of connection – where everyone left a little lighter and a little closer. In such lively atmosphere the '25 Years' celebration cake for the Eurachem – România Association was cut.

Eurachem formally discontinued X (Twitter) due to low reach, doubling down on LinkedIn (now 2,000+ followers) and a steadily growing YouTube channel. The e-news list holds ~2,300 contacts. Training and dissemination remain a through-line of Eurachem's mission. On the near horizon were mentioned: VaMPIS webinar — *How to Validate Measurement Procedures Including Sampling*, 19 June 2025 (online, with EUROLAB); IMEKO Joint Conference special session on sampling validation, 14-17 Sept 2025, Torino, Italy; Eurachem Week 2026, 11-15 May, Lisbon; PT Workshop, Sept 2026, Alicante.

GA41 set practical guardrails and growth paths at a time when analytical science faces rapid shifts

in technology. Eurachem leaves Bucharest with both a sturdier framework and a bolder brief: make its know-how easier to learn, share and use.

Eugenia Eftimie Totu

Chair of Eurachem

Events

Eurachem Week 2025

2 Day Workshop

Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards, and Accreditation | 26-27 May 2025, Bucharest

Eurachem's two-day workshop, *"Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards, and Accreditation,"* that took place during the Eurachem Week 2025, convened 84 participants from 19 countries, reflecting the broad relevance of the topic across analytical science and quality infrastructure. Attendees included specialists in material science, forensics, legal medicine, environmental and clinical analysis, radiochemistry, quality control, and quality assurance – underscoring the event's truly interdisciplinary character.

Building on this diversity, discussion in plenary and informal sessions returned to a shared goal: aligning practices so that robust, reproducible measurements travel well across sectors and borders. That cross-community energy – visible from coffee breaks to Q&As – set a collaborative tone for the program.

With 20 speakers covering analytical methodologies, quality control procedures, and the implementation of accreditation standards across diverse laboratory settings, the workshop emphasised a transversal design. Rather than narrowing in on a single theme, the program integrated multiple perspectives – an approach that participants appreciated for helping them build cross-cutting strategies applicable to their own contexts.



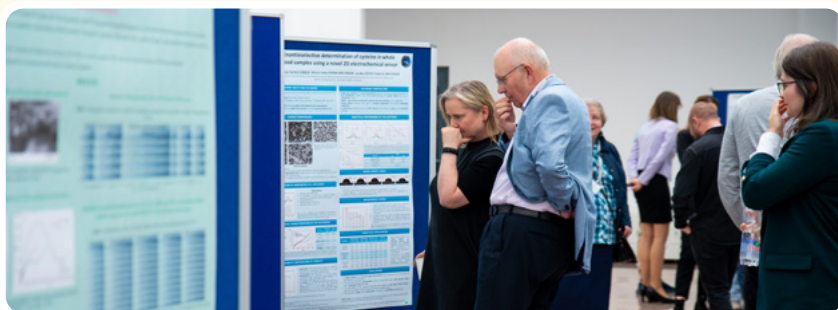
This 'whole-ecosystem' structure meant sessions spoke to one another: talks on method design and verification connected naturally to accreditation practice and day-to-day quality assurance, giving attendees a clearer picture of how choices at the bench influence conformity assessment and, ultimately, decision-making. Participants cited this multidimensional perspective as a key reason for the event's value.



Interesting breakout sessions gave participants space to exchange experiences and dig deeper into practice: (1) *Innovations in chemical complex matrix analysis/Machine learning and artificial intelligence usage to interpret complex matrix*

analysis results – Chair Edouard Salingros and Stephen Ellison;
(2) *Qualitative versus quantitative results when analysing chemical complex matrices* – Chair Ricardo Bettencourt da Silva and Alice Mosca;
(3) *Specific challenges/case studies*

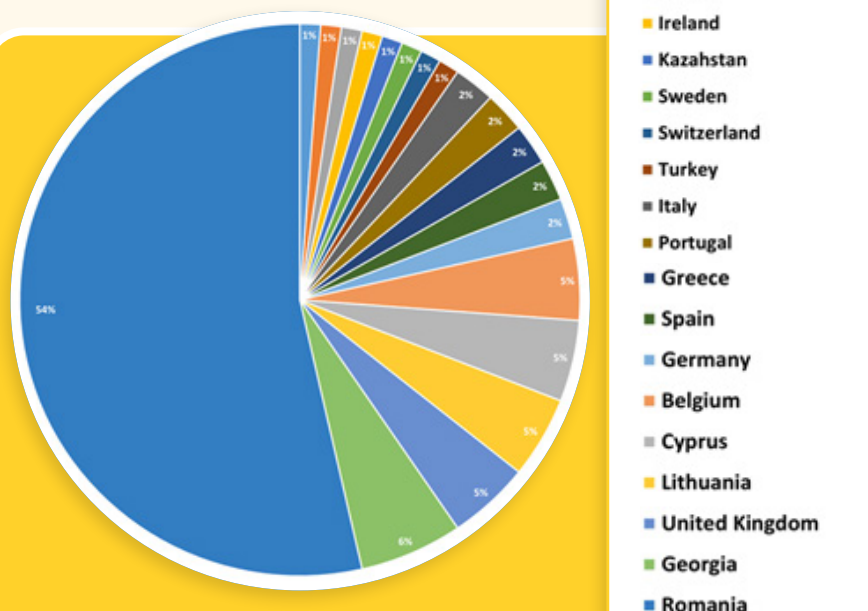
from participants' fields – Chair Helen Cantwell and Georgeta Stoian. Interest in these breakout sessions was particularly strong, with lively exchanges around data interpretation and the realities of reporting results from difficult matrices. The format encouraged practical problem-solving, from framing uncertainty in qualitative findings to sharing case-based protocols for challenging samples – outcomes participants highlighted as especially useful.



A lively poster session showcased innovative research and real-world applications. The *Constantin Luca Prize* – honouring the founder of Eurachem-Romania and marking the 25-year anniversary of the association – went to Andrada-Ioana Ștefan for “*Green electrochemical sensor for determination of betamethasone in semi-solid pharmaceutical formulations.*”



Beyond recognising an excellent contribution, the prize connected early-career work to Eurachem's heritage and mission. The emphasis on clear communication and impact underlined how emerging techniques can advance measurement quality while supporting sustainability and accessibility goals in laboratories.



Eurachem workshop in numbers:

- 84 participants
- 19 countries represented
- 20 speakers
- 3 focused breakout sessions
- One poster session with 39 posters

Together, these figures speak to the workshop's reach: a pan-European (and broader) audience, a balanced program, and substantial room for peer exchange. That combination – scale plus interaction – helped translate technical insights into concrete take-aways for varied laboratory contexts.

Alongside the scientific program, Eurachem Week participants enjoyed a social excursion to Peleş Castle in Sinaia and Bran Castle – widely known as 'Dracula's Castle.' The outing offered a relaxed setting to connect across countries and disciplines, and it was warmly appreciated by attendees, with many noting that the informal conversations helped spark new collaborations.

Participants were invited to complete a feedback form via QR code, and early impressions indicate the workshop not only met but often exceeded expectations, reinforcing the value of inclusive, interdisciplinary platforms for advancing best practice in complex-matrix analysis and alignment with accreditation frameworks.



Organisers will review input to refine future events – prioritising topics and formats that support hands-on learning, shareable resources, and stronger links between method development, routine QA/QC, and accreditation practice. The goal is to carry forward what worked best while creating space for deep dives where demand is strongest.

Warm thanks go to Eurachem-Romania Association and the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest for hosting and organisation, to the Eurachem Education and Training Working Group for their support, and to all Eurachem members who delivered engaging, high-quality presentations.



Special appreciation also goes to the session chairs and volunteers whose behind-the-scenes work ensured smooth logistics and fruitful discussion – an effort reflected in the strong engagement across plenaries, breakouts, and posters.



Eugenia Eftimie Totu

Chair of Eurachem

Workshop

ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards, 12-13 March 2025, Nicosia, Cyprus



The Division of Quality Assurance of the Pancyprian Union of Chemists (PUC) and the Education and Training Working Group (ETWG) have organised a successful series of training workshops in Cyprus. Following these, a 5th event was organised by PUC and ETWG in Nicosia, on 12-13 March 2025.



The programme included presentations on various aspects such as practical approaches to documenting metrological traceability, risk scenarios, uncertainty arising from sampling, use of uncertainty in conformity assessment, practical use of precision and trueness data for uncertainty evaluation, personnel qualification in a testing laboratory, QA in the academic and research laboratories; last but not least, an overview of recent publications on quality

assurance, with an emphasis on recent revisions of Eurachem guides.

The event included presentations and practical workshop sessions. Participants were invited to submit posters and share their practical experience of quality assurance and accreditation in short presentations. Approximately 40 participants attended from countries within and outside Europe.

Kyriacos Tsimillis

Eurachem Cyprus

Guides and leaflets

All guides and leaflets are available from the Eurachem website,
www.eurachem.org/index.php/publications

The fitness for purpose of analytical methods, 3rd edition

This guide was first issued in 1998 and the second edition published in 2014. Over the years it has been one of the most popular of the Eurachem guides. Since the release of the first edition, however, there have been many changes in terminology, working practices, reference documents and requirements. This third edition, produced by the Eurachem Method Validation Working Group, forms a thorough revision of the 2014 edition.

This third edition includes a section on sampling and sample handling as ISO/IEC 17025:2017 introduced a focus on sampling associated with the testing or calibration being carried out by the laboratory, and further guidance on assessing the calibration function has been included. The Guide is also now supported by a number of supplementary guidance documents – please see the section on supplementary guidance below.

Method Validation Working Group

New guides



Joint Task Group on VaMPIS

Validation of measurement procedures that include sampling, 1st edition

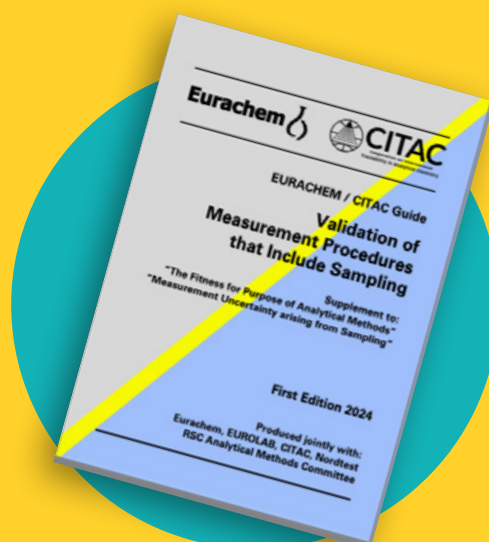
Guidance is given on how to validate a measurement procedure that includes the primary sampling (VaMPIS). It is a supplement to existing Eurachem guidance on "The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods" and "Measurement Uncertainty arising from Sampling". The overall aim is to extend the concept of 'validation of a measurement procedure' beyond the validation of the analytical method (or procedure) alone, in order to include the primary sampling (and physical sample preparation) within the validation process.

Ideally, VaMPIS can be applied to validate the whole measurement procedure simultaneously. Alternatively, VaMPIS can be applied sequentially by using an analytical procedure that has already been validated for this purpose in isolation, but then extending it to include the sampling step.

The key characteristic that enables validation of both the sampling and the analytical procedures is the measurement uncertainty, when supported by the performance characteristics that apply to the analytical procedure, which are already described in the Fitness for Purpose guide.

**Uncertainty from Sampling Working Group and
Method Validation Working Group**

Two worked examples are provided to demonstrate how VaMPIS can be applied to both ex situ analysis in a laboratory of an extracted sample, and also to in situ analysis made 'in the field', without extracting a physical sample. Guidance is also given on the management and QC issues that are needed in order to integrate the sampling and the analytical steps, which have previously usually not had a unified and coordinated approach to data quality.



Performance assessment of binary output examinations in medical laboratories

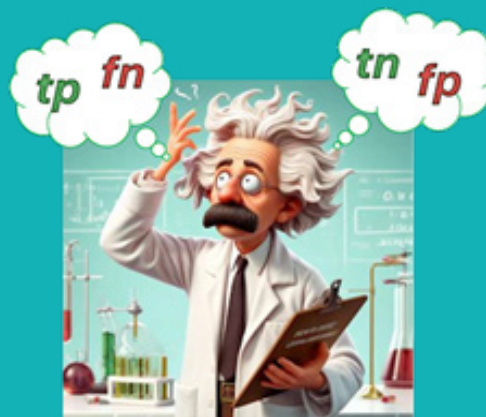
The determination of clinical sensitivity and specificity of tests for binary disease detection is critical to ensure these tests are sufficiently reliable.

Clinical Sensitivity (SP), also known as the True Positive Rate, describes the probability of correctly detecting a disease case. Clinical Specificity (SS), also known as the True Negative Rate, expresses the ability to correctly identify the absence of a disease.

Since the accuracy of the determined SP and SS depends on the number of tested known disease cases, it is important to determine the confidence intervals for estimates of the performance parameter. These confidence intervals are subsequently used to decide if the actual performance and its quantification method

Qualitative Analysis Working Group

are adequate. This leaflet provides an overview of what is involved in these crucial assessments.

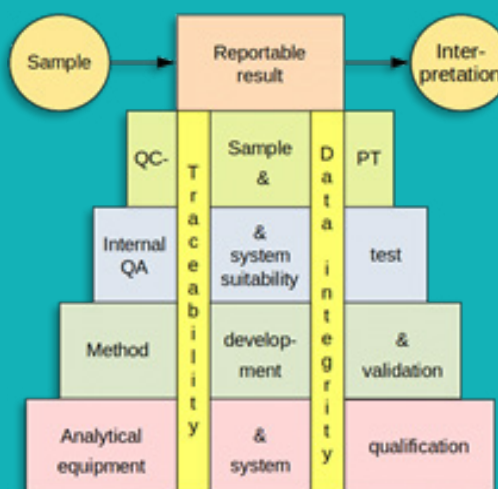


Fitness for the intended use of analytical equipment and systems

Analytical equipment is a fundamental part of all chemical and biological analytical laboratories. It is crucial to make sure that equipment is fit for its intended use ('qualified'), properly installed, operating correctly, stable and suitably calibrated.

This leaflet outlines the role and handling of analytical equipment and systems in a laboratory dealing with the analysis of chemical elements and molecules. It forms an introduction to topics being considered by the Eurachem Analytical Equipment and Systems Qualification Working Group.

Analytical Equipment and System Qualification Working Group



Basic instructions for participants in a proficiency testing scheme

This leaflet is intended as a comprehensive checklist outlining the key steps to consider when participating in a proficiency testing (PT) scheme. Selection of an appropriate PT scheme must be ensured. It provides essential tips to help participants avoid common mistakes and achieve successful outcomes. The main

Proficiency Testing Working Group

stages of PT participation are covered, from receipt of PT items through to the review of received evaluations. Documentation of outcomes for many of the topics addressed below is recommended, particularly for accreditation purposes.

VaMPIS – Validation of measurement procedures that include sampling

Validation of analytical methods (i.e. procedures) usually excludes the primary sampling, but this is now widely recognised as the first step in the measurement procedure. Validation of the whole measurement procedure therefore requires consideration of a performance characteristic that reflects the quality of all of the steps (including sampling and physical sample preparation). The uncertainty of the final measurement value is the key characteristic that unifies this whole measurement procedure and enables its validation, particularly when supported by performance characteristics that have an established role in the validation of an analytical procedure as a standalone activity.

This leaflet summarises the new Eurachem/CITAC guidance on the Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling (VaMPIS). It can be applied to

the whole measurement process either simultaneously, where the sampling and analytical procedures are validated as a unified measurement procedure, or sequentially when the analytical procedure has previously been validated in isolation.



Uncertainty from Sampling Working Group and Method Validation Working Group

New translations of guides and leaflets

All translations are available from the publications section of the Eurachem website.

Guides

Terminology in Analytical Measurement: Introduction to VIM 3, 2nd edition

Czech

Leaflets

Understanding PT performance assessment

French, Italian, Spanish

Understanding PT statistics

French, Italian, Spanish

Proficiency testing – how much and how often?

Spanish

PT Schemes for sampling

Spanish

Let's call a PT scheme a PT scheme!

French, Spanish

347 189 downloads of guides

(223 428 English versions, 123 761 translations)

92 321 downloads of leaflets

37 410 English versions, 54 911 translations)

*Figures for April
2024-March 2025*

News

Eugenia Eftimie Totu (centre), together with Ana Maria Joşceanu (right) co-founder of the Eurachem-România Association, and Professor Elena Diacu (left).

Association Eurachem România



Celebrating 25 Years of existence

The Eurachem-România Association was formally established in 2000 as the national organisation supporting the Eurachem network's efforts to advance quality assurance and traceability in analytical chemistry. From its inception, the association has played a key role in supporting education, method validation, traceability, and the proper application of metrology principles in chemical measurement.

The association's vision was strongly influenced by the legacy of its founder, Professor Constantin Luca, a respected chemist and visionary in Romanian analytical science. His work laid the groundwork for the country's alignment with international quality frameworks. His successors, notably Professor Gabriel Lucian Radu and then Professor Eugenia Eftimie Totu, have further strengthened the association's role through academic leadership and international collaboration. Under their guidance, Eurachem-România has established strong ties with universities, research institutes, and national accreditation and metrology bodies.

Eurachem România Association organised thematic workshops focused on critical aspects of quality assurance in analytical chemistry, such as measurement uncertainty, method validation, traceability, and the use of reference materials, with specific applications in bioanalysis. These

workshops served both academic and professional audiences, helping to raise national standards in laboratory practices.

In support of its educational mission, the association published a periodic newsletter, highlighting recent developments, Eurachem updates, new guidance documents, and opportunities for professional development. It also disseminates Eurachem documents, ensuring that Romanian laboratories, educators, and students stay connected to international best practices and evolving technical standards. An essential part of the Association's activity is dedicated to supporting the students' efforts through the organisation of an annual "Analytical Chemistry and Coordination Chemistry Students Contest". Additionally, for years, Association

Eurachem-România has supported the Student Scientific Communications Session, Analytical Section, by awarding the best scientific communication in the domain of method validation.

In partnership with the University Politehnica of Bucharest, the Association took charge of hosting Eurachem Week 2020, initially planned for May 2020 in Bucharest. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was reconfigured: the 36th Eurachem General Assembly was held online on 27-28 May 2020, followed by the international

workshop "Quality Assurance Elements for Analytical Laboratories in the University Curriculum" on 14-15 July 2020. Despite being fully online, the meetings were described as 'very well organised by Eurachem-Romania,' marking a notable achievement for the national association. Following its successful online events, Eurachem România continued to support Eurachem's working groups and contributed to webinars and hybrid events aligned with Eurachem's initiatives.

On the leadership front, Professor Eugenia Eftimie Totu played a pivotal role both in organising the 2020 and 2025 events and representing Romania within the Eurachem Executive Committee. By May 2022, she was elected Vice Chair of Eurachem, and by May 2024, she became Chair of Eurachem – a significant acknowledgment of Romania's presence on the Eurachem stage.

The Eurachem Week 2025, held from 26-30 May 2025, in Bucharest, was organised by the Eurachem-România Association in conjunction with the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest and the valuable support of the Eurachem Education and Training Working Group. It provided the framework for celebrating 25 years of the national organisation's existence in a warm and friendly atmosphere within the Eurachem family.

Eurachem remembers

Professor Wolfhard Wegscheider



It was with deep sadness that we learned of the passing of Professor Wolfhard Wegscheider in March 2025, a distinguished and valued member of the international analytical chemistry community.

As a dedicated member of Eurachem since its formation, Professor Wegscheider played a major role in promoting quality assurance in chemical analysis. His contributions to Eurachem were particularly significant.

As the only Chair of Eurachem to have served two separate terms in the role, he provided valuable leadership, encouraging international collaboration and promoting best practices in chemical measurement.

His work as an active member of the Eurachem Working Group on Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability, contributing directly to Eurachem's first Guide, further strengthened the scientific basis of uncertainty evaluation and assisted its adoption through analytical chemistry laboratories worldwide. His contributions to the Education and Training WG and to the Qualitative Analysis WG were similarly valued.

Beyond his outstanding professional achievements, Professor Wegscheider was a dedicated mentor and generous colleague.

His passing is a great loss to the Eurachem community, but his contributions will remain a testament to his dedication and expertise.

Professor Wolfhard Wegscheider will be remembered with deep respect, admiration and gratitude. He will be greatly missed.

People news

Eurachem welcomes re-elected EC members

David Milde



Elected member Dr. David Milde is an associate professor of analytical chemistry at Palacky University in Olomouc, Czech Republic.

He also works in a GMP certified laboratory at Palacky University and is responsible for elemental impurities determination in pharmaceuticals.

He obtained his PhD in analytical chemistry in 2002. He has been a national delegate to Eurachem since 2006 and a member of the Education and Training Working Group since 2009. David became Vice-Chair of the Working Group in May 2025. He served as Eurachem Chair from 2016-2018.

His research and teaching activities are focused mainly on atomic spectrometry (ICP-MS, AAS), chemometrics and metrology in chemistry. He is an author of 60 scientific papers, an editor and author of 13 textbooks.

He is also a Chair of Eurachem Czech Republic and represents Eurachem-CZ in several technical and expert committees of the Czech Accreditation Institute and the National Board of Metrology.

Hanspeter Andres



Hanspeter finished his chemistry studies at the University of Berne, Switzerland, in 2000. After a post-doctoral stay in the US, back in Switzerland, he joined a private company. In 2007 he moved on to the Federal Institute of Metrology METAS as head of the analytical chemistry sector.

In 2019 he was appointed as head of the chemistry and biology division and member of the Executive board. Since 2021 he is vice-director of METAS.

Hanspeter engages in several national and international organisations. Since 2008 he is an active member of the consultative committee of amount of substance and the European counterpart. In 2012, he joined the Division Analytical Sciences of the Swiss Chemical Society and became the Swiss Delegate to Eurachem.

"I feel honoured to continue my contribution to the excellent work of Eurachem, particularly in disseminating best practice and guidance in analytical chemistry and sciences at large."

Hanspeter Andres

Membership news

Republic of Moldova joins the Eurachem community

We are pleased to announce that the Republic of Moldova has officially become a new member of the Eurachem community. This significant milestone was marked by the acceptance of Moldova during the Eurachem General Assembly 2025, through the participation of the Institute of Chemistry of Moldova State University (ICMSU).

The Memorandum of Understanding formalising this membership was signed by Eugenia Eftimie Totu on behalf of Eurachem and by Aculina Aricu on behalf of the Institute of Chemistry of Moldova State University.

Founded in 1959, the Institute has undergone several structural and research-related transformations and now comprises three key scientific centres:

- Centre of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry
- Centre of Ecological Chemistry and Environmental Protection
- Centre of Organic and Biological Chemistry

The Institute's main research directions include:

- Advanced research in physical, coordination, bioinorganic, and computational chemistry
- Target synthesis of biologically active organic compounds, including natural analogues
- Studies of physico-chemical processes and mechanisms; development of methods for analytical control of ecosystems and eco-friendly technologies.

In addition to its established fields, the Institute has developed numerous innovative solutions and materials, including:

1. Development of coordination compounds with useful properties: molecular magnets, catalysts, macrocyclic colorants, materials for ion-selective electrodes, anticorrosive agents, and more
2. Creation of biologically active coordination compounds with anticancer, antiviral, antibacterial, and antidote properties, including plant/algae growth regulators
3. Production of odorants, aromatisers, and terpene-based biologically active substances for use in tobacco processing, perfumery, and medicine
4. Innovative synthesis methods for psycho-stimulating, anticonvulsant, sedative, tranquilizing, antimycotic, and tuberculostatic agents, as well as cardiac activity regulators
5. Procedures for producing and regenerating activated carbons from vegetal waste, used in medicinal preparations, water purification catalysts, and adsorbents

6. New functionalised ionic liquids as renewable catalysts for chemoselective redox processes

7. New grape seed-based products (ENOXIL-M and ENOXIL-A) for use in medicine, veterinary science, and agriculture

8. New plaster compositions for interior building surfaces

9. Effective analytical methods for detecting heavy metals (Pb, Cu, Cd, Fe, Ni, Zn, Mo) in food and environmental samples

In line with their scientific mission and focus on quality assurance of measurement results, the Institute of Chemistry of Moldova State University is committed to contributing actively to Eurachem. They aim to engage in collaborative activities and development of guidance documents specific to their fields of interest, particularly in ensuring the reliability and traceability of analytical measurements conducted in their laboratories.

Moldova's accession marks a promising expansion of the Eurachem network and highlights the Institute's dedication to scientific excellence and international cooperation, and reinforces the country's commitment to quality research and analytical excellence.

Eugenia Eftimie Totu

Chair of Eurachem



Scientific staff of the Institute of Chemistry of Moldova State University

Eurachem Future Sustainability Commitments – Discussion Forum

(29 May 2025, Bucharest)



At the Eurachem General Assembly in Bucharest, 35 participants – mainly on site, with some also joining online – took part in a dynamic Forum Discussion on Sustainability, facilitated by Oana Yücel (Business Coach & Trainer). The session combined small-group exchanges, plenary presentations, and real-time Mentimeter voting, ensuring both inclusivity and clear prioritisation of ideas.

Why this forum?

Sustainability is at the heart of Eurachem's future relevance. Members recognised that without immediate action, the organisation risks losing knowledge, expert engagement, younger members, and digital connection, while potentially becoming outdated or absorbed by other organisations.

A shared vision for Eurachem's future

When asked to describe Eurachem's future in one word, participants highlighted:

Write your one word for Eurachem's future.



The most frequent words were collaboration, international, network, exchange, and vibrant excellence.

Strategic commitments – priority actions identified

Six topics structured the debate. Each concluded with a concrete, voted priority action:

- **Attracting and motivating young experts** → proactive marketing through conferences, teaching materials, podcasts, and social media.
- **Gradual delegation of responsibilities** → creation of a youth network to contribute to strategy and innovation. This idea received the highest support (15 votes):

Topic 2: Gradual delegation of responsibilities

Create a special network / group for young Eurachem representatives and task to work on future strategy, dedicated workshops, other	1. Part of publicity – social networks, etc.	2. Ways how to approach young people with our mission.	3. Mission is so important that voluntary involvement is worthy.
15	4	4	2

- **Bridging the generation gap** → offering opportunities for young people to express ideas and be directly involved in activities and documentation.
- **Adapting best practices** → empowering early-career members, launching mentoring and creative competitions.
- **Digital transformation** → raising awareness about digital tools, interactive guidance documents, sustainable online platforms.
- **Networking beyond Europe** → expanding global collaboration while safeguarding Eurachem's identity.

Closing reflections

The atmosphere at the end of the session was one of optimism and energy. When asked what they took away, participants highlighted:

Describe in one word or expression with what did you remain today:



Key words such as hope, future, next generation, creativity, quality for all, and yes-we-can summarised the collective spirit.

Describe in one word or expression with what did you remain today:

yes-we-can

Next steps

Participants recommended turning the top-voted actions into implementation plans, assigning leads, and ensuring both senior and junior members contribute. These commitments will be further considered by the Executive Committee as part of Eurachem's strategic planning.

With appreciation, Eurachem Chair and Oana Yücel thank all participants for their insightful contributions and their commitment to the future of the community.



Reported by Oana Yücel, Business Coach & Trainer

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The European Metrology Network for Pollution Monitoring

The European Metrology Network for Pollution Monitoring (EMN POLMO, <https://www.euramet.org/european-metrology-networks/pollution-monitoring>) was created in 2022. Its aim is to provide metrology support to the environmental community and industry involved in the monitoring of a variety of pollutants, including chemical pollutants, radionuclides, biological & microbiological, and nano and micro particles, in the three environmental compartments (air, water and soil).

A recent example is the project 23IND13. Recently, light pollution and noise pollution have been included in the scope of the network. One of the main goals of POLMO is to bridge the interests of the different stakeholder and end-user, and to contribute to environmental sustainability through the provision of tools and resources, required to perform accurate, comparable measurements.

Since May 2024, Eurachem has been a member of POLMO's Stakeholder council. Strengthening relations between POLMO and Eurachem is vital since both organisations have common interests with the goal to improve comparable and reliable measurements by providing fit for purpose tools (e.g. reference materials, interlaboratory comparisons, quality controls).

The first POLMO Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) identifies the key measurement challenges and opportunities in pollution monitoring and sets out a roadmap for future research and development. It was approved in September 2024 and is available at <https://www.euramet.org/european-metrology-networks/pollution-monitoring/strategy/strategic-research-agenda>

SRA priorities include the need to:

- Develop and validate **new methods for measuring contaminants of emerging concerns**, which are known or suspected to be **harmful to human health and the environment** but for which **regulations** have only been established or are still in development
- **Improve the relevance, accuracy and precision of measurements of existing pollutants**, in order to ensure the **reliability of pollution data, for informed decisions**
- Develop and validate **new methods for measuring the combined effect of multiple pollutants**, to understand their complex interactions and to assess the **overall risk to human health and the environment**
- Develop and validate **new methods for measuring pollutants in the fields in real time**, in order to **monitor pollution levels and respond to pollution incidents**, particularly in areas difficult to access.

Technical Task Groups were launched in 2024 to tackle some cross section priorities identified in POLMO SRA, such as radionuclides, PFAS, micro/nanoparticles, sensors, light pollution, noise pollution and environmental DNA. These Task Groups align with other EURAMET Technical Committees and EMNs (e.g. EMN Radiation Protection, TC Ionizing Radiation, TC Photometry, TC Acoustics, TC Chemistry).

Recently, during the EMN POLMO Stakeholders workshop held on June 25th 2025, experts gathered for a high-level roundtable to tackle a growing challenge: how to reliably measure **PFAS and microplastics** in the environment and food.

Scientists from metrology institutes, research centres, and EU partnerships highlighted major gaps in current methods. While these pollutants are under increasing regulatory scrutiny,

robust and harmonized measurement tools are still lacking.

Topics of interest for Eurachem WGs discussed during the roundtable were:

- Reference materials and the metrological pyramid
- Measurement challenges
- Regulatory context and challenges in metrology
- Toxicology, risk assessment and measurement prioritization
- The role of AI and data science

Most of the discussion focused on the slow and complex path toward the development of certified reference materials (CRMs). It was agreed that current offerings largely remain at the level of quality control materials or candidate reference materials, especially for microplastics. Producing CRMs is however hindered by a lack of consensus on reference methods and by the complexity of the analytes, particularly due to:

- Diversity of microplastics properties (size, shape, polymer type, environmental aging)
- PFAS complexity, with thousands of compounds, limited analytical standards, and varying behaviours in different matrices

The need for clear and standardized definitions was also raised as a critical issue, especially for microplastics. The definitions of size classes (e.g. nano vs. small micro), polymer types, and what constitutes a "relevant" measurement vary significantly across sectors and jurisdictions.

It was also pointed out that the largest uncertainties often come from the sampling process, not the analysis itself. For instance, stack emission measurements for PFAS require precise control of collection, preservation, and sample transport, which often dominate the total uncertainty budget.

EMN PolMo website : www.euramet.org/pollution-monitoring

EUROLAB – working together to support the laboratory community. Message from Laura Martin, EUROLAB Secretary General

EUROLAB continues to develop the implementation of its new evolutionary strategy to enlarge the membership by mirroring the already existing structure of the national members and enhancing the representation of the entire conformity assessment community. This strategy opens the direct EUROLAB membership to national associations of testing, inspection, certification, notified bodies, individual CABs, Sectorial Associations and Stakeholders. As part of this, EUROLAB will be hosting its members in Zadar, Croatia from 11-12 November together with its member CROLAB for the EUROLAB Extraordinary General Assembly, National Members' Meeting and accompanying events. Experts are invited to also join the 20th International "Laboratory Competence 2025" Conference. The conference will follow the EUROLAB National Members' Meeting and it will take place in Zadar from 12 – 14 November in Hotel Kolovare. More information about the program, practicalities and registration is available on the CROLAB website.

In addition, EUROLAB has a partnership with UNIDO. As part of this collaboration, the two organisations will host a series of seminars under the UNIDO Global Quality and Standards Programme (GQSP). This joint initiative between UNIDO and Switzerland's State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) seeks to boost national quality infrastructure systems and standards compliance to support sustainable trade, inclusive growth, and SME market access. The first EUROLAB-UNIDO webinar: "Rethinking Sustainability: Ensuring the long-term viability of laboratories," took place online on 30 September 2025, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST.

The event will be free of charge. This event will introduce sustainability as a condition for the viability, competitiveness, and resilience of laboratories, placing emphasis on how sustainable practices ensure efficiency, continuity of operations, and the capacity to adapt to economic and regulatory challenges. More information is available here. To register, see the link here.



EUROLAB received a grant for the Erasmus+ Project proposal "Lab of The Future: Empowering VET centres and Digital Labs with AI, VR, and Cloud-Integrated LIMS." Some of the project activities developed with the established consortium, will be mirrored in the EUROLAB Digitalisation WG. Follow the LinkedIn page for more info.



EUROLAB, together with the Italian member ASSOTIC, successfully organized a seminar on "Certified Reference Materials- trends, challenges, and opportunities" on September 17 that was held alongside the IMEKO Joint Conference TC8-TC11-TC24 in Torino, Italy. The seminar focused on Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) and how they play a critical role for laboratory analyses and tests by providing standardized and traceable benchmarks to ensure the reliability, accuracy, and consistency of measurements and analytical results.

For any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at: info@eurolab.org

To be kept updated on the EUROLAB activities, you can follow us on LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/eurolab-aisbl/>) and check our website (<https://www.eurolab.org/news>) with all latest news. To be added to our mailing list, please contact info@eurolab.org



Communications Task Group update

Since its formation in May 2020, the Communications Task Group (CTG) has focussed on developing and delivering Eurachem's marketing and publicity plan. The aim is to raise awareness of and increase engagement with Eurachem activities, while harmonising the 'look and feel' of communications. To achieve these aims the CTG distributes regular e-newsletters, produces this annual newsletter, manages the Eurachem website and social media channels, and develops marketing material and templates. One of the best ways to keep in touch with Eurachem activities is via our LinkedIn page at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/eurachem/>. Eurachem also has a YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@EurachemEurope>).

If you haven't yet done so, you can subscribe to the e-newsletter at <https://www.eurachem.org/subscribe>. In the past year the CTG has updated the Eurachem poster templates. The

new Eurachem poster and a number of Working Group posters were displayed during the General assembly week. To further meet the aim of harmonising the design of Eurachem's promotional material, the group is updating the Eurachem PowerPoint template and developing a set of brand guidelines. The CTG also coordinates Eurachem's activities in support of 'World Days'. These range from social media posts highlighting relevant Eurachem guidance, through to videos and blogs – a great way to promote Eurachem as a focus for analytical chemistry in Europe. On 10 November, Eurachem marked World Science Day for Peace and Development 2024 with a blog describing how Eurachem helps to promote science for sustainable development. The theme of World Environment Day on 5 June 2025 was "Beat Plastic Pollution". The Joint Task Group on Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling (VaMPIS) published a blog highlighting

the importance of sampling in the reliable measurement of pollutants such as microplastics. Finally, to support World Accreditation Day on 9 June 2025, a LinkedIn post highlighted the Eurachem guidance available to support laboratories in carrying out effective method validation studies.

Vicki Barwick

Chair, Communications Task Group



Linked in
2055 followers
(79% increase on 2023/24)
58 000 impressions
(61% increase on 2023/24)

YouTube
763 subscribers
(30% increase on 2023/24)
4600 views (no increase)

Website
243 000 page views
(10% increase on 2023/24)
108 500 user sessions
(10% increase on 2023/24)

(Figures for April 2024 - March 2025)

Working Group reports

Period May 2024-May 2025

EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP (ETWG)

The Education and Training Working Group has met twice since the last report to the GA – in person on 15 May 2024 and online on 12 November 2024. The group also met in person during the GA week in Bucharest in May 2025.

Revision of Eurachem reading list

The aim is for the reading list to be reviewed annually. The 2024 revision was published towards the end of May 2024. The 2025 review was completed in April and the updated list was published on the website in May.

Revision of the Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry

A key focus for the WG in the last year has been the revision of the Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry. The Guide was submitted to the General Assembly for approval on 7 March 2025. The feedback received was discussed at the ETWG meeting on 28 May 2025.

Leaflets

ISO 15189

The WG prepared a leaflet covering the revision of ISO 15189. This was published on 18 June 2024.

Terminology associated with method validation

A joint Task Group has been formed with the Method Validation Working Group to develop leaflets covering terms used in method validation which may cause confusion. The first three planned leaflets will cover precision, bias and accuracy. The leaflets will cover definitions and a summary of how the performance characteristics can be evaluated. They will be used to promote both the terminology guide and the revised Fitness for Purpose guide. The TG held its first meeting on 24 April.

Poster

The WG has updated its poster using the new template developed by the Communications Task Group.

Video

The WG prepared a short video “The importance of a common language in analytical measurement” to promote the revised terminology guide. It was published on the Eurachem YouTube channel in July 2024 and has been viewed ca. 500 times to date.

Events

Thanks to the efforts of Kyriacos Tsimillis and colleagues in the Division of Quality Assurance of the Pancyprian Union of Chemists (PUC), a successful 2-day training event on “ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards” was held in Nicosia on 12-13 March 2025. The workshop attracted 39 participants from Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Lebanon, Poland and Slovenia. The programme included presentations on: risk scenarios (Alice Mosca); measurement uncertainty arising from sampling, and validation of measurement procedures including sampling (Mike Ramsey); use of uncertainty in conformity assessment, and practical use of precision and trueness data for uncertainty evaluation (Steve Ellison); reference materials selection and use, and interpretation of the metrological traceability statements in certificates (Marina Patriarca); QA in the academic and research laboratories (Eugenia Eftimie Totu); QA in the university syllabus (Kyriacos Tsimillis); an update on Eurachem guidance (Vicki Barwick); and how the Accreditation for Microbiological Laboratories (AML) Guide can help microbiological and medical laboratories (Despina Charalambous).

The WG has also supported the organisation of the workshop on “Complex matrices: Applications, Laboratory standards, and Accreditation” which will be held during the GA week.

ETWG Vice-Chair/Secretary

Elena Sanchez stepped down from her role as WG Vice-Chair/Secretary at the meeting in May 2025. David Milde was appointment as the new Vice-Chair/Secretary during the May meeting. The WG thanks Elena for the support she has provided to the group since taking on the role in 2022.

Vicki Barwick

Chair, Eurachem ETWG

METHOD VALIDATION WORKING GROUP (MVWG)

Meetings

The MVWG have met twice since the 2024 General Assembly. In October 2024, our colleague Marios Kostakis kindly hosted our meeting in Athens.

The first of our bi-annual meetings each year is held virtually and, in February 2025 we met online. Our next meeting is due to take place in Turkey in October.

Activities

- The third edition of the *Fitness for Purpose* Guide has been published.
- A revision of the two supplements *Blanks in Method Validation and Planning and Reporting Method Validation Studies* has been completed. These supplements have been circulated to the GA for approval.
- The posters have been revised and will be presented at the Eurachem week workshop.
- The leaflet The importance of fitness for purpose has been revised and has been circulated to the GA for approval.
- Work has started on a video to accompany the new revision of the Guide.
- The MVWG reviewed and updated the method validation section of the reading list.
- The MVWG is liaising with Eurachem members regarding translations, particularly of the new revision of the fitness for purpose guide.
- Task groups are working on supplements in the areas of:
 - » Method validation and response curves;
 - » Extent of validation/verification;
 - » Examples of validation and verification.
- Members of the MVWG contribute to Joint Task Groups (JTG) as follows:
 - » JTG on validation of sampling procedures;
 - » JTG with AOAC-E on validation of non-targeted methods;
 - » A new JTG is being set up, in conjunction with the ETWG to work on some new leaflets.
- Members of the MVWG have given presentations as follows:
 - » Validation and uncertainty assessment of sampling steps in complex food matrix analysis by Perihan Yolci Omeroglu at the 2025 Eurachem Workshop: Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards and Accreditation;
 - » Mass spectrometry and matrix effect, challenges with complex matrices by Marios Kostakis at the 2025 Eurachem Workshop: Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards and Accreditation;

- » Update on Eurachem guidance by Vicki Barwick at ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards, Cyprus, 2025.

Helen Cantwell

Chair, Eurachem MVWG

MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY AND TRACEABILITY WORKING GROUP (MUTWG)

Membership

The Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability Working Group is a joint working group with CITAC. The group currently has 30 members, including three 'Observer' members. The reduction from 32 in May 2024 reflects the sad loss of Prof. Wegscheider in 2025 and one other member stepping down.

Meetings

The WG has met four times (excluding drafting task group meetings) since the last Eurachem General Assembly, including the meeting to be held in person in Bucharest in May.

Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability guidance

The Eurachem Working Group on Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability is responsible for four current Eurachem guides and six information leaflets, as follows:

Guide	Publication year
Quantifying uncertainty in analytical measurement	2012
Traceability in chemical measurement	2019
Use of uncertainty information in compliance assessment	2021
Setting target measurement uncertainty	2015
Information leaflet	Publication year
Information leaflet for lab customers concerning the quality of chemical analyses	2001
Traceability of analytical results	2019
Use of uncertainty information in compliance assessment	2021
Using repeated measurements to improve the standard uncertainty	2015
Treatment of an observed bias	2022
Target uncertainty	2018

In addition to these, the group is preparing a guide on evaluation of measurement uncertainty using validation data to complement the existing measurement uncertainty guide (see work programme, below).

The measurement uncertainty guide is under revision via a small drafting group. Initial work is focused on incorporating

errata discovered since publication. Further, technical, amendments will follow the findings of the task group on asymmetry and on any updates needed after publication of the “Uncertainty from in-house validation data guidance” (see below).

The WG is also considering a draft of a new Information leaflet on the ‘Two one-sided t test’ (TOST) procedure for confirming equivalence of two values.

Current work programme

The current work programme includes:

- Preparation of draft guidance on the evaluation of uncertainty from in-house validation data. A draft is currently under review for comment by GA members.
- Revision of the main guide, Quantifying Uncertainty in Analytical Measurement (see above)
- Work on handling asymmetry in the context of compliance assessment continues. Simulation work to date has shown that, for two-sided compliance intervals, asymmetry does not greatly affect the overall producer and consumer risk, but the risks of incorrect conformity decisions at the upper and lower end of the interval can change considerably.
- The WG is investigating the effect on measurement uncertainty of non-linearity in measurement models, with a view to preparing brief guidance on the degree of nonlinearity that can be accepted before it becomes necessary to use advanced methods such as Monte Carlo analysis.
- The WG is continuing to collect examples of measurement uncertainty evaluation using ‘bottom-up’ models with a view to possible publication.
- Preparation of a new Information leaflet on the ‘Two one-sided t test’ (TOST) procedure for confirming equivalence of two values.

Workshops

The WG will be supporting a workshop on measurement uncertainty in conjunction with the GA in Lisbon, 2026.

Steve Ellison

Chair, Eurachem MUTWG

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS WORKING GROUP (QAWG)

The working group met on 26 March 2025 to finalise the leaflet on ‘Bayes Theorem’, before GA members consult, and to discuss the preparation of a working group poster to be used in events to disseminate their activities. The working group also discussed their involvement in managing a session of the Eurachem workshop to be held in Lisbon in May 2026.

The activity plans of the working group include elaborating additional guidance on the validation of qualitative analysis methods in collaboration with the MVWG. The production

of guidance on the quality control of qualitative analysis is also foreseen. The working group will produce a short video advertising the qualitative analysis guide.

Ricardo Bettencourt da Silva

Chair, Eurachem QAWG

PROFICIENCY TESTING WORKING GROUP (PTWG)

The Eurachem Proficiency Testing Working Group (PTWG) has continued to make progress on several work activities over the past year:

- An expanded task group, consisting of PTWG members, along with some other invited experts, has been established to continue the work on reviewing and investigating practices for performance evaluation in qualitative and interpretative PT schemes. The objectives of the work are:
 - » Update current practices in non-quantitative PTs through another survey
 - » Following the survey, identify elements for harmonisation
 - » Provide guidance on this issue for the related standards and guides or the outcome of the survey could be a guide for non-quantitative PT assessment.

The survey has been completed, and a short report on a summary of the results has been published on the Eurachem website. The PTWG is now developing a guide on the matter, and will reach out to the Eurachem qualitative WG for input.

- Three new PT leaflets have been published during the year:
 - » Understanding PT Statistics
 - » Understanding PT Performance Assessment
 - » Basic instructions for participants in a proficiency testing scheme
- Translation of the PT leaflets into various languages has continued, with the leaflets in multiple languages available on the website.
- A number of papers from the 10th PT Workshop have now been published in a special issue of the Journal of “Accreditation and Quality Assurance” (<https://link.springer.com/collections/hfjiahcugd>)
- The organisation of the 11th PT Workshop is now underway. It will be hosted by IELAB in San Juan (Alicante), Spain – 28 September-1 October 2026.
- The PTWG poster has been updated to the new Eurachem poster design.

Brian Brookman

Chair, Eurachem PTWG

EA-EUROLAB-EURACHEM WORKING GROUP: PROFICIENCY TESTING IN ACCREDITATION (EEE-PT)

The EEE-PT WG has continued to make progress on several work activities over the past year:

- The WG provides guidance for harmonisation during the implementation of ISO/IEC 17043. Following the publication of the revised standard in May 2023, this work is expected to gain momentum. Given the inclusion of ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 17034 as normative references in the revised standard, the EA asked the EEE-PT WG to discuss and form a position on:
 - » ISO/IEC 17043 assessment of the measurement and testing activities using ISO/IEC 17025
 - » ISO/IEC 17043 assessment of the PT item production using ISO 17034
- At the request of EA, a revision of EA-4/21 INF:2018 ("Guidelines for the assessment of the appropriateness of small interlaboratory comparisons within the process of laboratory accreditation") is being undertaken.
- At the request of the EA, the WG is developing guidelines for flexible scopes for PT providers, covering how to formulate the flexible scope and possible assessment approaches, and definition of boundaries.

Brian Brookman

Chair, EEE-PT Working Group

REFERENCE MATERIALS WORKING GROUP (RMWG)

The RMWG is a joint working group with CITAC.

Membership

A new member from Turkey joined the RMWG now counting 31 members. The collection of members' short biographies has been updated.

WG activities

- Meetings: following the GA 2024, the RMWG met virtually several times (6 June 2024, 12 September 2024, 16-17 October 2024, 6 March 2025). The next meeting is planned for the 11 June 2025.
- Revision of the Eurachem Guide on RMs: progress and difficulties of the Drafting Task Groups for the revision of the Eurachem Guide on RMs were addressed. The results of the online survey regarding criticalities for the selection and use of RMs (22 April-31 May 2024) and the comments received during the 'Discussion Forum' held on the same topic during the GA 2024 were discussed in the meeting held on 6 June 2024. Contributions to the revision of the Eurachem Guide on RMs were delivered by the end of July 2024. The first draft of the revised Guide was circulated to the WG for comments on 23 August 2024. Comments were discussed at meetings on 12 September 2024 and 16-17 October 2024. It was agreed to consider the following issues:

- » include an introduction to explain the evolution of metrology and the consequent greater role of RMs
- » rearrange the content of some chapters to avoid repetitions
- » include more examples
- » collate more comments.

A revised draft, including the results of the discussion and additional contributions in response to the issues noted, was distributed to the WG for comments on 12 February 2025 and discussed at a meeting held (virtually) on 6 March 2025. After collecting these comments, a new draft was distributed to the WG for comments on 1 May. Comments will be discussed at the (virtual) meeting planned for 11 June 2025.

- Contributions to Eurachem (and other) events:

The RMWG supported the Eurachem/CITAC webinar – Production of Qualitative Reference Materials (19 September 2024) organised by the QAWG.

Two talks were presented at the Eurachem Workshop "ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards" (Nicosia, Cyprus, 11-12 March 2025) addressing the perceived gaps in guidance for the selection and use of C/RMs and the understanding of traceability statements in CRM certificates. The RMWG survey regarding gaps in guidance for the selection and use of RMs was extended to the participants in this workshop. The collated results from now 142 participants will be considered as input to the Guide.

A lecture on "Selection and use of reference materials" is included in the Eurachem Workshop "Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards, and Accreditation" (Bucharest, Romania – 26-27 May 2025).

The activities of the RMWG and the results of the survey will be presented at the 16th International Symposium on Biological and Environmental Reference Materials (BERM16), hosted by the National Research Council of Canada in Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1-4 June 2025.

The challenges of the selection and use of RMs in analytical laboratories will be addressed in a talk at the upcoming joint EUROLAB-ASSOTIC Seminar on "Certified Reference Materials – trends, challenges & opportunities" (17 September 2025, Turin, Italy), organised alongside the IMEKO Joint Conference TC8-TC11-TC24.

Other activities:

The RMWG contributed to the revision of the Eurachem Reading List.

The RMWG page on the Eurachem website was updated.

The RMWG is informed regularly about Eurachem activities (Eurachem e-News, Eurachem Newsletter, Eurachem events).

Marina Patriarca

Chair, Eurachem RMWG

Silke Richter

Vice-Chair, Eurachem RMWG

UNCERTAINTY FROM SAMPLING WORKING GROUP (UfSWG) and Joint Task Group on VaMPIS

1. The Eurachem-UfSWG (jointly with RSC/AMC UfS-EWG) meets (on-line) every four months, and last met on 5 March 2025.
2. Nathalie Guigues has been appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Eurachem-UfSWG.
3. The UfSWG continues to participate in the Joint Task Group (JTG) with the Eurachem Method Validation WG on VaMPIS (*Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling*). This Supplementary Guidance on VaMPIS, also supported by CITAC and Nordtest, was published on 18 December 2024.
4. A new joint Eurachem-AMC Leaflet has been prepared to publicise the VaMPIS Guide, entitled *Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling*. It has been reviewed and approved by the EC and has been published on the Eurachem website. <https://www.eurachem.org/index.php/news/newsarts/547-nws-il-vampis2025>
5. A brief invited presentation was made online to introduce the VaMPIS Guide to Eurolab/Eurachem-Germany on 4 December 2024.
6. Presentations on VaMPIS have been, and will be made in 2025 at:
 - a. Eurachem Training Workshop “ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards”, Cyprus, 12-13 March 2025
 - b. PTB Conference “Practical aspects of evaluating measurement uncertainty”, Berlin 19-20 May 2025
 - c. Eurachem Workshop on Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards, and Accreditation, Bucharest 26-27 May 2025
 - d. Eurolab/Eurachem Webinar: How to Validate Measurement Procedures Including Sampling (VaMPIS), 19 June 2025 (6 presentations on VaMPIS by JTG members)
 - e. IMEKO/Eurolab/Eurachem 2025 IMEKO Joint Conference, (TC8 – Traceability in Metrology, TC11 – Measurement in Testing, Inspection and Certification, TC24 – Chemical Measurements), Special Session with five presentations by JTG members on different aspects of VaMPIS, Turin, 14-17 September 2025
7. A short video (~5 mins) outlining key points was prepared in February to promote the VaMPIS Guide and the Joint Webinar (6d) and has been uploaded to the Eurachem YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/18Zx6j9Ga9w>
8. A new Eurachem poster on VaMPIS has been prepared (by WG member Andrea Paul) for display at Eurachem meetings in Berlin, Bucharest and Turin (see above).

¹ Ramsey M.H., Rostron P.D., Raposo F.C. (eds) Eurachem/EUROLAB/CITAC/Nordtest/AMC Guide: Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling, Eurachem (2024). Available from the Eurachem secretariat. <https://eurachem.org/index.php/publications/guides/vampis>

9. A new software package called OptiMU has been written by WG member Peter Rostron, to support the VaMPIS Guide, with financial support from the Analytical Methods Trust via the AMC. It calculates the level of Optimal Uncertainty which can be used as the Target Uncertainty for judging fitness for purpose within VaMPIS. A first version of this Excel based programme has been circulated for comment to members of both the UfSWG and the JTG. The final version has now been made freely available on the AMC website at: https://members.rsc.org/site/content/Community/SubjectCommunity/Analytical_Science_Community/AMCSoftware.aspx

Mike Ramsey

Chair, Eurachem UfSWG and Co-Chair of JTG on VaMPIS

Marios Kostakis

Co-Chair of JTG on VaMPIS

ANALYTICAL EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEM QUALIFICATION WORKING GROUP (AESQWG)

Since the last Eurachem GA, six virtual meetings of the working group have taken place. The first meetings showed that the idea of equipment qualification is not very deeply rooted in the world of ISO/IEC 17025 and related standards. The need for fundamental discussions was there. In order to clarify the basis, it was decided to write an introductory leaflet, which was published on the Eurachem website on 25 January 2025.

The first edition of the guide is being fine-tuned following the extensive consultation process in the GA. It will be ready for publication shortly.

Work is now underway on the first supplements. One supplement will contain a very practical guide to writing the User Requirement Specification (URS), classifying devices and qualifying suppliers. It was clear from the outset that more practical instructions would have to be provided for the equipment types. The structure should be as similar as possible. This structure is currently being worked on. Balances and pH meters serve as test objects. We have recognised experts in the WG for both types of equipment.

Ernst Halder

Chair, Eurachem AESQWG



National Reports

Period May 2024-May 2025

The work within our national Eurachem organisations is one of the most important channels to convey our message to laboratories and our stakeholders. Below you will find reports about activities in the national organisations.

AUSTRIA

National coordination and representation

Eurachem-Austria continues to represent national interests in analytical quality assurance, chemical metrology, and laboratory competence within the wider Eurachem framework. While Austria does not maintain a formal national Eurachem committee, representation is ensured through collaboration between universities, the Austrian metrology community, and analytical chemistry networks especially within ASAC (Austrian Society for Analytical Chemistry) who nominated Thomas Prohaska as a national representative after the resignation of Prof. Wolfhard Wegscheider as national representative of Austria.

Collaboration with ASAC

A strong and active collaboration with ASAC has supported the dissemination of Eurachem's mission and principles in Austria. Joint initiatives have promoted the importance of metrological traceability, method validation, and uncertainty estimation in both research and applied laboratory contexts. ASAC has also supported communication between academic, governmental, and industrial stakeholders regarding developments in analytical quality assurance.

Development of training curriculum

A new national curriculum for the training course "Quality Assurance in the Chemical Laboratory" at the Montanuniversität Leoben was developed in 2024 with support from Eurachem-Austria experts and will start from October 2025.

The course is online and currently available in German and has been implemented in academic and continuing education settings across Austria. Translation into English is in progress, with the goal of offering this curriculum to a wider European audience and contributing to the harmonisation of QA education across the Eurachem network.

Scientific and technical activities

Austrian experts actively contributed to the Eurachem Working Groups on "Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability", "Education and Training" as well as on the Working Group on "Qualitative Analysis".

Input was provided on new and revised Eurachem guidance documents, including the Validation of Qualitative Methods guide and terminology resources.

Education and capacity building

Eurachem principles have been integrated into university teaching and professional training courses, with continued use of guidance documents as teaching tools.



Future priorities and outlook

Continued efforts will be made to formalise a Eurachem-Austria structure within ASAC and expand national coordination. Key focus areas include:

- Broader implementation of the new QA training curriculum
- Promotion of digital tools in analytical quality assurance
- Enhanced training of early-career scientists in metrology and QA
- Supporting multilingual access to Eurachem resources in Austria and beyond

Thomas Prohaska

BELGIUM

Belab is the association of Belgian Laboratories and organisations involved in accreditation. Belab is a member of Eurachem and Eurolab. The association has an Executive Board with eight members and counts 40 members-laboratories in the General Assembly.

The members are laboratories from different sectors (textile, water, clinical, pharmaceutical, calibration, inspection, ...) and different organisations (private, university, authorities, ...).

Members of the Executive committee of Belab are represented in different boards of Belac (Belgian accreditation authority): Commission of coordination (management of Belac) and National Council (advisory board of Minister of Economy). Belab represents the laboratories in the Belac Board of Appeal.

Belab organised in 2024 an online informative session for their members. The following items were covered:

- Guidelines for the management of digitalised systems in laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 (E. Salingros, Uliège)
- Understanding Burn-out in laboratories (F. JEAN, coach, facilitator FredInc)
- Belac activities and novelties (E. Somers, Belac)

Belab chaired Eurachem for two years (May 2022-May 2024) with Isabelle Vercruysse as Chair and Philippe Maesen as Eurachem secretary. Philippe Maesen is now member of the Eurachem Executive Committee since May 2024. Isabelle Vercruysse is past Chair of Eurachem since May 2024.

Some members of Belab are very active in different WG of Eurachem and Eurolab.

Every year the activities and information of Eurachem and Eurolab are diffused by a presentation on the General Assembly of Belab, via the website and by emailing newsletters to the members of Belab at regular intervals.

Isabelle Vercruysse

BULGARIA

The Union of Metrologist in Bulgaria and Bulgarian Institute of Metrology represent Eurachem in Bulgaria by established section BULCHEM.

In 2024 BULCHEM's activities were related to the organisation of courses and seminars for our members.

Two training events were organised covering the following topics:

- In June 2024: Identification of risks and opportunities – approaches to their containment and management in the performance of laboratory activities (testing, sampling and calibration) in relation to the applicable structure, resources and processes. Provision and management of documents and records (conventional and electronic).
- In November 2024 – Requirements for the management of technical measuring instruments according to BDS EN ISO 9001:2015 and BDS EN ISO 17025:2018.

BULCHEM determined a representative to the Proficiency Testing Working Group. Seven information leaflets related to Proficiency Testing were translated.

The BULCHEM Section within the Union of Metrologist in Bulgaria continue good collaboration with the Bulgarian Accreditation Service and Non-governmental organisations such as CLUB 9000, Union of quality specialists in Bulgaria etc.

Dimka Ivanova

CROATIA

The Association of Croatian Laboratories (CROLAB) aims to improve laboratory infrastructure in Croatia to enhance production and the economy in a competitive market. It achieves this by leveraging the collective knowledge and strengths of its members.

As the largest association of conformity assessment bodies in Croatia, CROLAB connects testing, analytical, measurement, and verification laboratories, as well as certification and inspection bodies, including external members like agencies and administration.

CROLAB's 19th International Conference Laboratory Competence 2024.

CROLAB's 19th International Conference on Laboratory Competence 2024 took place in Brijuni from 23-25 October 2024. During the conference, CROLAB welcomed over 103 participants, including several from neighbouring countries and other parts of Europe.

The plenary lectures featured engaging presentations from EUROLAB representatives Paulo Moscatti and Luara Martin on topics such as Digitalisation and Sustainability Management: The Human Factor, and the work of EUROLAB.

National Reports

The conference served as a platform for active participation and knowledge exchange, with 30 lectures covering a wide range of topics. Some of them included:

- Digitisation as a modernisation strategy for laboratory processes in quality management systems
- Quality Key Performance Indicators
- Conformity assessment and the placing of products on the market
- Development activities to ensure metrological traceability of precise length measurements in industry
- Temperature-and humidity-controlled enclosures – calibration and comparison methods
- Reference calibration and measurement capabilities for flow rate of various gases
- Reaccreditation of the Croatian Institute of Transfusion Medicine Laboratory in accordance with HRN EN ISO 15189:2022
- Cybersecurity and accreditation within the field of cybersecurity

Overall, the conference highlighted important advancements and discussions in the domain of laboratory management and quality assurance.

Additionally, an engaging workshop on the importance of teamwork in the laboratory was conducted as part of the conference. The poster session attracted a significant number of attendees, and throughout the event, sponsors and equipment exhibitors showcased their offerings. The conference concluded with a forum that addressed the latest news and challenges related to accreditation. This forum included lectures and a regional discussion featuring accreditation bodies from neighbouring countries.

CROLAB education and seminars

Organising seminars is a vital part of CROLAB's activities, as it helps fulfil its responsibilities to its members. These seminars focus on laboratory-related topics and other areas of interest for various conformity assessment bodies. Each seminar allows CROLAB to present its work to the public, enhance understanding among members, and provide a platform for exchanging ideas and promoting collaboration. Recently, the seminars have covered a variety of topics, including sampling and measurement uncertainty, control charts, internal audits, personnel competence, and the digitalisation of laboratory processes.

Next event: CROLAB's 20th International Conference Laboratory Competence 2025.

Save the dates! The annual international conference, Laboratory Competence CROLAB, will be held in Zadar from 12-14 November 2025. This year's conference will highlight the crucial role that laboratories play in the economy, particularly in testing, analytical and measurement laboratories, as well as inspection and certification bodies. The event aims to clarify the position and importance of laboratories within the EU and to foster partnerships with government bodies, universities, institutes, and agencies.

If you are interested in attending, visit www.crolab.hr for more information and registration.

Marija Trkmić

CYPRUS

Introduction

Cyprus joined Eurachem in May 1997 during the General Assembly hosted in Dublin when it became an Associate Member. Since then, the Cyprus Eurachem Committee (part of the Pancyprian Union of Chemists, PUC) is actively involved in Eurachem activities locally, regionally and on the European level. In 2000 it was upgraded to a Full Member, during the General Assembly hosted in Berlin.

Participation in Eurachem activities

The Division was extensively involved in the activities of Eurachem, at various levels, namely the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, some of the Working Groups (mainly Education and Training Working Group, ETWG) as well as the EA LC Healthcare Working Group, representing Eurachem. Members of the Division contributed substantially to the recent revision of the Guide for Quality Assurance in Analytical Laboratories (QAC). Furthermore, there was a contribution in the Newsletter and other publications.

Regional cooperation

The Division is actively promoting regional cooperation through a series of training events with a particular emphasis on hosting events in Cyprus that bring together colleagues from neighbouring countries. This year, a two-day training course was organised to enhance skills, and share best practices among participants in the chemical and medical laboratories.

The 5th training event in cooperation with ETWG

On 12-13 March 2025 a two-day training workshop was hosted in Nicosia on "ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards". This was the fifth one in a series of highly successful sessions co-organised with the ETWG since 2019. Eight speakers from Romania, UK, Italy, Portugal and Cyprus discussed various aspects of the topic in an engaging, interactive way. The event brought together 40 participants from laboratories, accreditation bodies and academia across seven countries: Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Poland, Lebanon, Slovenia and Cyprus.

It is unfortunate that colleagues from Palestine could not attend for the second consecutive year. The local organising committee expressed their wishes that by the next event, Cyprus is liberated and lasting peace in the region will prevail!

Medical Laboratories discussed at the Parliament

The Division represented the PUC in the discussion held in the Parliamentary Committee on 'Health' dealing with a proposed regulation on medical laboratories. Issues addressed in ISO 15189 and the importance of accreditation was underlined. The topic is of interest to public and private

medical laboratories, a significant number of which have been accredited for a long time now.

Cooperation with the Cyprus Accreditation Body

The Division contributes to the accreditation activities of the Cyprus Accreditation Body. Two of its members are external Lead Assessors (ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189). Training is another field of cooperation; this year there was a training of a group of candidate Lead Assessors for Medical Laboratories.

Kyriacos Tsimillis

Despina Charalambous

CZECH REPUBLIC

Eurachem Czech Republic (Eurachem-CZ) has been working as an independent organisation since 1993, currently with about 60 members. We have been closely cooperating with the national accreditation body, EUROLAB-CZ, and the national metrological institute on the base of platform EEEE. Local experts have continued to contribute to the technical board for physical and chemical testing of the Czech Accreditation Institute.

In November 2024 we published a new textbook as the 29th volume of the KVALIMETRIE edition (Qualimetrics). This volume brings official Czech translation of the 2nd edition of Terminology in Analytical Measurement: Introduction to VIM 3. The textbook contains also practical guidance dealing with competence of the chemical laboratory. This part of KVALIMETRIE 29 was prepared by Czech experts. The translation and issuing of this textbook was funded by the Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing.

Thanks to close cooperation with the national accreditation body Eurachem-CZ contributed significantly to the joint workshop for laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 standard. The full day workshop took place in Prague in February 2025 and in Brno in March 2025. All together about 250 participants attended the workshop. Eurachem experts focused on the topic of method validation in their presentations.

We also translated several revised Eurachem PT leaflets into Czech – Understanding PT performance assessment, Understanding PT statistics, Let's call a PT scheme a PT scheme!.

Eurachem-CZ members contribute to activities of the Education and Training and Reference Materials Working Groups.

Our organisation distributed among our members two issues of the Eurachem-CZ Newsletter. Our members can find up-to-date information about our activities as well as many freely accessible leaflets, on our website – www.eurachem.cz.

David Milde

DENMARK

- Meeting of network for Microbiology, 10 April 2024.
- Determination of Scatol and method validation workshop.
- EUROLAB A.i.S.b.l General Assembly, TCQA (Technical Committee Quality and Accreditation) and members meeting, Vienna, 18-19 April 2024.
- Members meeting, network for Working Environment, 28 August 2024, Sorting of waste and handling of chemicals, chemical risk assessment.
- Meeting in network for Analytical Chemistry and Quality Assurance, 10 October 2024, Verification of software and equipment, internal quality control.
- TKAK, Technical Committee for Accredited Calibration, 22 October 2024. Agenda: Technicalities regarding calibration.
- Members meeting, 24 November 2024. Agenda: Activities in the lab, remote calibration and field measurements, info about new accreditation documents.
- EUROLAB General Assembly 2025, 28-29 April 2025. Cookbooks, Technical reports, White paper, digitisation, sustainability (ESG), cooperation with EA, ISO, ILAC, IAF, OIML, Eurachem, EUARMET, etc.

Generally, EUROLAB Denmark is representing the accredited laboratories in Denmark in relation to the Danish Accreditation Body, DANAK (appointing/supporting members for the various advisory groups within DANAK). Especially the discussions in the advisory groups related to Environmental Testing and another related to Food Testing are followed closely in the Network for Analytical Chemistry, as well as in the board for EUROLAB Denmark.

Anders K. Svaneborg

ESTONIA

Eurachem activities in Estonia are coordinated by University of Tartu. Two national representatives are Riin Rebane from the Estonian Environmental Research Centre/University of Tartu and Ivo Leito from University of Tartu. Riin Rebane also participates in Communication Task Group (including being editor of Eurachem annual newsletter) and Ivo Leito is part of the Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability Working Group.

Education is one of the main tasks in Eurachem activities in Estonia. Ivo Leito is responsible for annually organising two Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC): "Estimation of measurement uncertainty in chemical analysis" (<https://sisu.ut.ee/measurement/uncertainty>) and including Riin Rebane "LC-MS method validation" (https://sisu.ut.ee/lcms_method_validation/), which by now have been organised ten and seven times, respectively, and attract hundreds of participants from all over the world every year.

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The overall joint number of registered participants has exceeded 10000 people and the overall number of participants who successfully completed the course is more than 3800. Moreover, there is a web-based free software for validation ValChrom (<http://www.valchrom.ut.ee>) for chromatographers under development, which also contains the Eurachem validation guideline. Now the software also has Design of Experiments possibility.

Eurachem activities in Estonia are strongly connected to the analytical infrastructure network called Estonian Centre of Analytical Chemistry (AKKI, <https://www.akkiee>) which aims for high quality chemical analysis in Estonia. This is also where all the information related to Eurachem activities in Estonia are disseminated.

Riin Rebane

FINLAND

Finntesting Association/Eurachem Finland has meetings with seminars twice a year, nowadays arranged in-person/online combination. Topics of the latest seminars covered new opportunities for monitoring biodiversity via environment DNA measurements, and analytics of unknown samples including quality assurance challenges.

The Executive board of Finntesting Association had virtual meetings, organised quality related activities and disseminated information to the members of the Association via seminars, emails and the website.

The Association continued to award students related to their quality-related theses. Those awarded students gave presentations during the seminar. Mr Aleksi Tiusanen (University of Helsinki) summarised his Master's thesis entitled *Occurrence and Analysis of Oxidised Organic Compounds in the Atmosphere* and Mr Jussi Tirkkonen (Turku University of Applied Sciences) his Bachelor's thesis entitled *Performance verification of liquid scintillation counter*.

The Association has nominated members in Eurachem General Assembly and Eurachem working groups. The Association cooperates nationally, and internationally through Eurachem, EUROLAB and CITAC activities

Anna-Liisa Pikkarainen

FRANCE

BIPEA is a scientific nonprofit organisation gathering more than 3000 laboratories concerned about quality control and analytical accuracy. BIPEA has been a member of Eurachem since 2014.

BIPEA's main activities are focused on education, training and analytical accuracy. We act in the field of laboratory analysis by providing proficiency testing programs under ISO/IEC 17043 accreditation (in the fields of food, water, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals), reference materials under ISO 17034 accreditation and organising training sessions on analytical topics.

BIPEA is involved in standardisation by collaborating with AFNOR, SNIAA and COOP DE FRANCE for standard validations, and participating in standardisation commissions.

Within the framework of Eurachem, main activities of BIPEA are:

- Education and Training:
 - » From July 2024 until June 2025, BIPEA set up an annual plan of eight training sessions by Visio conference:
- Two training sessions for "Method Validation" (November 2024-April 2025)
- One training session for "Uncertainty of measurements and exploitation of quantitative data from the PT report" (January 2025)
- Two training sessions for "Exploitation of qualitative data from the PT report" (December 2024-May 2025)
- One training session for "Concepts and tools to understand and apply ISO/IEC 17025 standard" (November 2024)
- Two training sessions for "Internal Auditors" (October 2024-March 2025)

These training courses of 12 people each are very well appreciated by the participants and included lectures, practical exercises and learning evaluation.

- Participation in working groups:
 - » Ms. Caroline LAURENT, Director of BIPEA demonstrates her implication/involvement in participating in the PT Working Group and the EEE PT Working Group as a Eurachem member.
 - » M. Abdelkader BOUBETRA, Scientific and Technical Manager, demonstrate his implication in participating in Method Validation Working Group.
- Translations:
 - » Leaflets, Guides and other important documents were translated in French.

Caroline Laurent

GEORGIA

The Georgian Laboratory Association (GeLab) is a non-profit legal entity established in 2013. It is governed by a five-member board and currently includes approximately 40 laboratories operating in both the public and private sectors, covering diverse fields such as food and feed, water, pharmaceuticals, construction, and more. Since 2014, GeLab has been a member of Eurachem.

GeLab's core activities focus on consulting, training, and education in laboratory accreditation standards, including ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189, ISO/IEC 17043, and ISO/IEC 17020. Recently, GeLab launched new GMP/GDP training programs for the pharmaceutical sector, accredited by the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement.

GeLab is an active member of several national and international organisations and networks aimed at improving the quality infrastructure (QI) system in Georgia. These include:

- The Civil Committee under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA), contributing to the Agriculture & Rural Development Strategy 2021-2027;
- The National Council of the Georgian Accreditation Centre (GAC);
- The Technical Committee of the National Standards and Metrology Agency (GEOSTM);
- The Quality and Standards Excellence Hub (QSEH);
- The European Business Association (EBA).

Through these partnerships, GeLab works to identify cross-cutting issues between laboratories and related sectors and to coordinate effective strategies to address systemic challenges caused by existing gaps and misalignments.

Additionally, GeLab actively collaborates with international projects aimed at strengthening Georgia's quality infrastructure by supporting and building the capacity of relevant laboratories. Current project involvement includes:

- GiZ (Local Subsidy Project): Enhancing industrial excellence of GeLab;
- PTB Projects: (1) EaP Quality Standards Project (supporting construction laboratories) and (2) QI4GT – establishing PT/ILC working groups and a PT provider network;
- UNIDO-GQSP: Strengthening pesticide management in fruit and vegetable value chains;
- UNECE: Promoting inclusivity through gender mainstreaming in quality infrastructure for trade.

Nino Manvelidze

GERMANY

The EUROLAB-D Chemical Analysis Committee (EDAC), the German Eurachem mirror committee, met once since the last Eurachem GA, on 4 December 2024. Unfortunately, the EUROLAB-D spring meetings coincide with this year's Eurachem Week, so the next EDAC meeting has been postponed to 7 July 2025.

In the last meeting, reports were given on Eurachem activities, in particular on the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, and the Eurachem working groups.

Several leaflets have been translated into German. The translation of the Eurachem guide "Terminology in Analytical Measurement: Introduction to VIM 3" is still in progress.

Michael Koch has published an article in the journal of the German Chemical Society to raise awareness of EUROLAB and Eurachem activities.

Due to Michael Koch's upcoming and well-deserved retirement, a new EDAC Chair will be elected at the next meeting.

On 3 December 2024, a colloquium on "Sustainability and Governance in the Laboratory" was held in Berlin.

Jan Sunderkötter

GREECE

The Association of Greek Chemists represents the Eurachem Greece team.

Professor Georgios Theodoridis, from the Department of Chemistry at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, is Greece's representative and is maintaining a blog to facilitate communication with the team and other Greek scientists. Team members represent the working groups with the following activities:

- Method Validation Working Group: Helen Gika (Aristotle University) and Marios Kostakis (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens). Participation in online WG meetings. Additionally, Marios Kostakis hosted the annual in-person WG meeting at the NKUA establishment in Athens on 14-15 October 2025. Both members participate in online meetings of the Joint Task Group for Validation of Non-targeted Methods.
- Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability Working Group: Vasileios Zonaras participated in online meetings on: 05/2024, 09/2024, 11/2024 and 02/2025.
- Achilleas Lakovakis (Veltia Labs Sindos) and Zonaras Vasileios participated in the Uncertainty from Sampling Working Group. 06/2024, 11/2024, 03/2025.

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- Joint Task Group on VaMPIS: Zonaras Vasileios and Marios Kostasakis; Participation in online meetings: 05/2024, 09/2024 and arrangements for the webinar of EUROLAB for the presentation of new guide.
- The members of Eurachem Greece submitted an abstract, which was presented by Marios Kostakis on 20-21 June at the Greek National Metrology Conference in Athens. The presentation covered the recent amendments to Eurachem's Validation Guidelines (FFP Guide and VaMPIS Guide).

Overall, the Greek participants are active in various fields of Analytical Chemistry, Validation and Metrology: The Hellenic Metabolomics Network and FoodOmicsGR_RI consortium which are headed by G. Theodoridis co-organised a number of on-line meetings in 2022-2023 with participation reaching an average of 60 researchers. We also took part in Omics Science events organised by EpilipidNet Cost Action and MetrofoodRI. G. Theodoridis and H. Gika are active members in the Metabolomics QA & QC Consortium (mQACC), an international think tank aiming to develop collaborative efforts to address key quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) issues in untargeted metabolomics. G. Theodoridis is co-chair of the Best Practices work group of the mQACC. H. Gika and her team edit a Book on Metabolomics Analysis (Springer). H. Gika is also coordinating a Horizon Europe Training network on harmonisation of analytical methods for metabolomics of blood (project HUMAN; <https://human-dn.eu/>).

Georgios Theodoridis

HUNGARY

Cluster of Hungarian Accredited Organisations (ASZEK): Eurachem national organisation since 2018.

Annual ASZEK "Current trends in accreditation" conference held in November 2024 with a focus on new national regulations in accreditation, designation by certification.

"Environmental sampling & analysis" conference took place in May 2024 and "Conference on Air Pollution Prevention" in April 2025.

Consultation on documents related to accreditation.

Two delegates to PTWG, one delegate to EQUALM, six delegates to newly formed AESQ WG.

Csilla Bélavári

ICELAND

The Icelandic laboratory association (Icelab) is a member of Eurachem and EUROLAB. The 16 members of the Icelandic association come from different fields; testing, analytical and pharmaceutical.

The board has five members, the current chairman is Guðrún Eva Jóhannsdóttir and the contact person for Eurachem is Finnbogi Óskarsson.

As the Icelandic laboratory sector is quite small, one of the main goals of Icelab is to encourage collaboration and sharing of experience. To achieve that goal, Icelab has organised seminars (or webinars) and laboratory visits for its members.

In the period May 2024-May 2025, one of the members hosted a laboratory visit, and Icelab organised one seminar on Risk Assessment and Risk Governance, with a focus on ISO 31000 and related standards.

Icelab has also actively shared information on seminars/webinars and conferences both from EUROLAB and Eurachem, and this year a few members have attended these events.

Finnbogi Oskarsson

IRELAND

The Eurachem Ireland Committee comprises people interested in analytical chemistry from the public sector, private sector and the academic sector. Our work focusses on promoting interest in Analytical Chemistry in line with Eurachem objectives. This is done through conference prize sponsorships, workshops and our university Eurachem Analytical Measurement Competition.

Sponsorships

Eurachem Ireland sponsored two prizes focusing on analytical chemistry at the 75th Irish Universities Chemistry Research Colloquium in June 2024 held in Trinity College Dublin. The winner of the Eurachem Best Poster Presentation was Aoife Newman (left photo) of Maynooth University and the winner of the Eurachem Best Oral Presentation was Maria Byrne (right photo) of University College Dublin. They were presented with their prizes by Professor Pat Guiry, President of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland.

We also sponsored the Best Analytical Chemistry Poster Presentation at Environ 2025 which was held in University College Dublin in March 2025. The winner was Raphaela Ferreira from UCD for her research entitled “Impact of microwave-treated polypropylene microplastics on caco-2 cells”.

Eurachem Analytical Measurement Competition

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, the Eurachem Analytical Measurement Competition (EAMC) did not take place in 2025. This annual event for undergraduates is organised and run by the EAMC Committee, Eurachem Ireland Secretariat, and by a host University. It is anticipated that it will resume again in April 2026.

Workshops

On 12 June 2024 Eurachem Ireland held a one-day “Sustainability Lab Workshop”.

This featured a keynote presentation by Dr Una Fitzgerald of NUIG, who is a leader in lab greening, Jack O’Grady of My Green Lab as well as varied contributions from the public and private sectors. The workshop was both very well attended and had great attendee engagement, as demonstrated by the longest Q&A session ever!

Eurachem Ireland held a one-day Workshop on “Understanding ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements for Analytical Laboratories” in June 2025 run by Vicki Barwick and Elena Sanchez from LGC.



Working Groups

Ireland continues to be well represented on Eurachem working groups.

Communication & Publicity

Eurachem Ireland communicates with its members via:

- Mailing list
 - » This is an important tool for our communication. Eurachem Ireland publicises all Eurachem notifications, courses, webinars, workshops, newsletters and items of general analytical interest (in a GDPR compliant manner) to people on the mailing list.
- Website gov.ie – Eurachem (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/57ee5-eurachem/>)
- LinkedIn group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8259308/>
- X @EurachemIreland

Hugh Fay

National Reports

ITALY

Italy is represented in Eurachem General Assembly by Emanuela Gregori, from the National Institute of Health (ISS) and Francesca Rolle, from the National Institute of Metrological Research (INRiM).

For many years, collaboration has been in place with other relevant national organisations, such as the Italian Accreditation Body (ACCREDIA), the Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), the Institute for Environmental Research and Protection (ISPRA), EUROLAB-Assotice and several organisations at regional level.

Activities of Eurachem Italy mainly focus on contributing to Eurachem guidance and its promotion to analytical laboratories at all levels, in particular by translating into Italian Eurachem Guides and leaflets and providing training on specific topics, based on Eurachem guidance.

Participation in National events:

- Eurachem Italy participated, together with EUROLAB-Assotice, in the National Congress of the Italian Chemical Society, held in Milan (Italy) from 25-30 August 2024. During the event, Eurachem and EUROLAB had the opportunity to introduce their organisations to the participants, as there was a dedicated booth for them.
- The ongoing revision of the Eurachem guidance on the selection and use of reference materials was presented at the national exhibition "A&T Nordest 2024" (6-8 November 2024, Vicenza, Italy) during the workshop entitled "*Tecnologia di nicchia o dall'enorme potenziale? La sfida dei materiali di riferimento*" organised by ACCREDIA ("Niche technology or with a huge potential? The challenge of reference materials").
- The Department of Basic and Applied Sciences at the University of Basilicata invited Eurachem Italy to organise seminars for Master and PhD students on the following topics: method validation, measurement uncertainty and reference materials. The seminars were held from 3-11 April 2025.
- Experts from Eurachem Italy actively participate in the Eurachem Working Groups on Education and Training, Proficiency Testing, Method Validation, Reference Materials, Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability, Uncertainty from Sampling, Qualitative Analysis and in the Joint Task Group on Validation of sampling procedures. Marina Patriarca from Eurachem Italy is chairing the RMWG.
- During the last year, Eurachem Italy published some Italian translations of leaflets produced by the PTWG.
- On-going translation projects include:
 - the revised Eurachem Guide "Selection, use and interpretation of proficiency testing schemes (PT) by laboratories", to be followed by the translation of two other documents, developed jointly by the EEE-PT WG;
 - the Eurachem Guides "Metrological Traceability in Chemical Measurement" (rev. 2019) and "Setting and Using Target Uncertainty in Chemical Measurements".
- During the last year, information on Eurachem initiatives, new guidance and upcoming events was promoted through distribution of information to the Eurachem Italy mailing list and to relevant Italian organisations. Electronic copies of the latest Eurachem Newsletter were also distributed to interested parties. The website of Eurachem Italy (www.iss.it/eurachem), has been online from 2021.

Emanuela Gregori

Francesca Rolle

NORWAY

Reduced activities and change of delegate:

- Elin Gjengedal participant in Method Validation WG and Education and Training WG
 - » Elin retired end of 2024
- Stig Valdersnes new participant in the same WGs from 2025
 - » Experience from AOAC, CCMAS, CEN, DG SANTE WG, EURL, NMKL, NRL, NKS
 - » Teaches "Quality assurance of chemical analyses" at the University of Bergen
 - » Responsible for ISO/IEC 17025 flexible accreditation at the Institute of Marine Research

Stig Valdersnes

POLAND

Eurachem-PL, Section of Polish Chemical Laboratories in Club of Polish Testing Laboratories POLLAB included 133 laboratories at the end of 2024. Eurachem-PL has been led by Andrzej Brzyski (Chair), Ewa Bulska (Vice-Chair) and members of board (Ewelina Chajduk, Dorota Kwiatkowska). The secretariat of Eurachem-PL is hosted by secretariat POLLAB.

The Pollab Club and Eurachem-PL organise two rounds of the symposium every year. Members of the Eurachem-PL are involved in organisation of symposia.

In 2024 we organised two rounds of a symposium (May and September). The main topic at XXIX POLLAB Symposium (2024) was "Laboratory processes and their improvement".

of the symposium was attended by 383 participants (on site). We are very pleased that the number of participants increases every year.

The two rounds of the symposium was attended by 383 participants (on site). We are very pleased that the number of participants increases every year.

We organised some meetings and courses for our members and other laboratories (online and on site). In 2024 participants discussed about the requirements for laboratories resulting from the standard PN-EN ISO/IEC 17025:2018 and their problems.

We organised some rounds of PT/ILC programs. Laboratories often cannot find providers of PT/ILC programs, so they must develop their own programs.

We cooperate with the Polish Centre for Accreditation to improve the management system in laboratories.

Eurachem-PL will continue its present policy to support laboratories in 2025. Our members will attend Symposium POLLAB, section meetings and new PT/ILC programs.

Andrzej Brzyski

PORTUGAL

Between May 2024 and May 2025, the Portuguese delegates and working group members have been actively involved in the activities of the “Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability”, “Qualitative Analysis”, and “Education and Training” Working Groups.

Alice Mosca has delivered lectures on “Risk assessment” at the workshop “ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Experiences and challenges of implementing the revised accreditation standards” (Nicosia, 12-13 March 2025) organised with the collaboration of Eurachem.

Eurachem Portugal has initiated the organisation of the Eurachem Week to be held in Lisbon between 11-15 May 2026 (<https://eurachem2026.events.chemistry.pt/>).

The dissemination of Eurachem activities and guidance has also been performed through training courses and working groups promoted by RELACRE (Association of Accredited Laboratories of Portugal), teaching Analytical Chemistry at the University of Lisbon, “International Summer School on Analytical Science, Metrology and Accreditation” and other training promoted by Eurachem-PT members.

Ricardo Bettencourt da Silva

ROMANIA

During 2024-2025 Asociația Eurachem-Romania (AER) which is a non-profit organisation, acting as professional association under the specific laws in Romania, has been involved in the following activities:

- A training event was organised for the Master Program – Consumer Protection and Product Quality, covering the topics related to the requirements of accreditation standards specifically for ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189.
- There was a sustained support of specific activities of the Romanian Association for Accreditation, RENAR.
- AER organised and supported the Analytical Chemistry Students Contest.
- AER supported the Students’ Scientific Communications for the Analytical Chemistry Section, awarding the best paper promoting the quality in analytical measurements.
- AER disseminated the Eurachem Guides and translated the Eurachem PT leaflets.
- AER supported the students participating to the International Summer School organised by the enthusiastic group chaired by Philip Taylor, that was organised in July 2024 in Krtiny, Czech Republic.
- AER organised the Eurachem Week 2025, 26-30 May 2025 at the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest, Romania.
- AER organised the Eurachem Workshop 26-27 May 2025, “Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards and Accreditation”.

Eugenia Eftimie Totu

SERBIA

The Directorate of Measures and Precious Metals (DMDM), which is a National Metrology Institute of Serbia, represents Eurachem and its activities in Serbia.

Serbia Eurachem representative actively participated in the work of Institute for Standardisation of Serbia, as a member of Technical committees for Air quality, Medical devices, Petroleum fuels and Natural gas. In the framework of this collaboration with ISS, several on-line training courses “Measurement uncertainty as a requirement of SRPS/ISO IEC 17025:2017” were held by the Eurachem NR for Serbia, where Eurachem Guides were also presented, with over 60 participants from the Balkans region.

In 2024 DMDM participated at the Metrology Congress, organised by the Serbian Society of Metrologists. DMDM also participated at the Eurachem Workshop "Quality Assurance in Chemical, Medical and Microbiological Laboratories", held in Vilnius, Lithuania, in the framework of the Eurachem WEEK event.

The continued dissemination of information about Eurachem activities, guidance documents and leaflets was maintained in 2024 for all interested parties, during the trainings held, or via mailing lists. Electronic copies of Eurachem Newsletter were distributed to analytical laboratories in Serbia.

Jelena Bebić

SLOVAKIA

Seminars and workshops

As before, the main activities of Eurachem Slovakia (ES) in 2024 focused on the education in the analytical and microbiological testing. Originally ES planned to organise six specialised seminars, but due to hard financial situation only three of them were organised:

1. *Evaluation of uncertainties from A to Z according to the international documents of BIPM, ISO and Eurachem;*
2. *Quality of measurement in analytical chemistry;*
3. *Proficiency tests;*

Only 12 participants on average attended at the organised seminars in 2024.

Translation and publication activity

Eurachem Slovakia was preparing the Eurachem Guide: Terminology in *Analytical Measurement. Introduction to VIM 3*, 2nd edition 2023 for translation into the Slovak language. The Slovak translation was not published yet.

Cooperation in industrial metrology

Cooperation with other Slovak stakeholders and governmental institutions was still limited. Eurachem Slovakia participated in reviewing of the new *"Slovak concept of the state policy in technical standardisation, metrology, quality, conformity assessment and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies for the years 2025 to 2028"*. Eurachem Slovakia continued in cooperation activities with professional metrology associations operating in the Slovak Republic in the *'area of industrial metrology'*. Despite intensive and repeated efforts, the cooperation in the chemical measurement R&D with metrological authorities of the Slovak Republic has not been developed in any way.

The cooperation with the *Slovak Technical University Bratislava, FCHPT, Department of Mathematics* in ES education and training activities continued successfully. Eurachem Slovakia opened the new cooperation with the *Slovak National Committee of IUPAC* to develop mutual activities in the analytical measurements.

SLOVENIA

In Slovenia, most testing laboratories in chemistry and similar fields are accredited since long ago. Some of them have also actively taken the lead in pioneering activities of metrology in chemistry programmes of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (2000-2009).

Dušan Kordík

In May 2025, we were proudly celebrating 150th anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention as well as 30 years of the Slovenian Accreditation, where I had an honour to serve as the first chair of the Advisory Board.

As for Eurachem in Slovenia, we continue to honour the work of my predecessor in Eurachem Alenka Gogala, MSc, who was the first in Slovenia who recognised the importance of metrology in chemistry at that time and thus joined Eurachem as the Slovenian representative. We maintain high level expertise in this field through training courses organised by the Slovenian Institute of Quality and Metrology led by me and given also by my colleagues, using various mostly freely available resources, such as the ones of the JRC, Eurachem and those developed by Prof. Ivo Leito and his team. At our courses, we continue to actively engage participants, and by doing so learn from each other.

Nineta Hrastelj

SPAIN

- Eurachem Spain, is integrated into the daily operations of EUROLAB-Spain and FELAB, and all EUROLAB-Spain partners have been regularly informed about all the information generated by Eurachem, through memo and newsletters.

Working Groups (WG)

Pedro Pablo Morillas and Francisco Raposo into Method Validation WG.

- Pedro Pablo Morillas into Education and Training WG.

- Raquel Murtula into Proficiency Testing WG and Reference Material WG. During 2024, several documents and leaflets were reviewed within this WG. Also is underway the organisation of the 11th Eurachem PT Workshop – Sept 2026, in Alicante.
- Through FELAB there have been several meetings with the National Accreditation Body (ENAC) about different complementary documents that are applicable in the accreditation processes of the different sectors.

Webinars

EUROLAB-Spain – BREAKFASTS AT EUROLAB-Spain – Spanish Association of Testing, Calibration and Calibration and Analysis Laboratories.

- “What is going on in the ISO/TC 336 Laboratory design? How can it influence your laboratory?”. 28-02-2024.
- “Uses of microbiological reference materials”. 18-04-2024.
- “Innovation as a laboratory’s growth engine”. 01-10-2024.
- “Unlocking the unknowns of proficiency testing evaluation”. 14-11-2024.

Online course

“Estimation and Expression of Measurement Uncertainty”. 08-10-2024 from 8:30 to 14:30.

Conferences

“Labsummit 2024”. EUROLAB-Spain was an institutional partner of labsummit 2024. 16-18-05-2024.

Presentation of the “Application Document of the G-ENAC-25 Rev. 2 Guidance for the Development of risk analysis in relation to the participation in proficiency exercises for internal calibrations”. FELAB-DA-01 Rev. 0 - June 2024. 13-06-2024.

Alfonso González del Rey

Pedro Pablo Morillas

SWEDEN

In Sweden we have a joint national EUROLAB and Eurachem organisation with 22 member organisations.

- Board meetings (6 meetings online)
- One full day meeting in May 2024: discussion with a division manager from the Swedish accreditation body (Swedac), annual meeting and a laboratory visit, at The Swedish Energy Agency, Eskilstuna.
 - » The discussions with Swedac in the meeting included the topic of in-house calibrations. Such calibrations can be non-accredited calibrations of equipment used in accredited test methods that are necessary for obtaining metrological traceability. The requirements

are according to Swedac in principle the same for an in-house calibration as for an external calibration, but no PT-participation is required and it is not necessary to issue a formal calibration report.

- Two online workshops. In November 2024 with focus on calibration in general and on in-house calibration. In March 2025 with focus on requirements for measurement uncertainty depending on type of test.
- The working group on instructions for in-house calibration finalised and published a guiding Nord-test report: In-house calibration and control of piston operated pipettes (NT TR 626) – NORDTEST

Participation and representation

- Eurachem Working groups:
 - » Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability, Bertil Magnusson, Eskil Sahlin
 - » Uncertainty from Sampling, Bertil Magnusson, Eskil Sahlin
 - » Proficiency Testing, Marsha Hanson
- Eurachem General Assembly, Bertil Magnusson, Martin Jönsson
- EUROLAB General Assembly (GA), Magnus Holmgren, Margareta Antonsson
- EUROLAB Technical Committee Quality Assurance (TCQA), Magnus Holmgren
- EA:s “Horizontal Harmonisation Committee” (EA HHC), Magnus Holmgren
- Swedish Institute for standards Technical Committee (SIS TK) 316 “Conformity assessment”, Magnus Holmgren
- ISO standard committee, Bertil Magnusson (Eurachem representative) TC69 SC6 Measurement methods and results:
 - » WG1 Accuracy of measurement methods and results
 - » WG 7 Statistical methods to support measurement uncertainty evaluation

Martin Jönsson

Bertil Magnusson

SWITZERLAND

The Division of Analytical Sciences (DAS) is the Swiss home of Eurachem. DAS represents Switzerland at European level with delegates in the EuChemS Divisions of Analytical Sciences and the Division of Chemistry and the Environment, as well as in Eurachem. DAS is part of the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS) and has around 530 members.

DAS organises specialist conferences and congresses, for example CHAnalysis. At CHAnalysis 2025, the Simon Widmer Award was presented to Prof Róbert E. Gyurcsányi from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary.

The training programme founded by DAS 26 years ago has now been organisationally transferred to the SCS as the SCS Academy. However, the vast majority of the programme still originates from DAS. Eurachem's knowledge is also transferred in this programme.

Ernst Halder

TÜRKİYE

In 2024-2025 reporting period, Eurachem Türkiye has been involved in the activities of the Education and Training Working Group (ETWG), Method Validation Working Group (MVWG), Proficiency Testing Working Group (PTWG), Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability Working Group (MUTWG), Reference Materials Working Group (RMWG) and Uncertainty from Sampling Working Group.

Eurachem MVWG members participated in online meetings held on 26 and 28 February 2025 and contributed to the activities of a task group working on the preparation of a supplementary document featuring practical examples of method validation. A face-to-face meeting of the MVWG is planned to take place in Bursa on 5-6 October 2025. Since 2021, the MVWG has incorporated two joint task groups: the "AOAC/Eurachem Joint Task Group on Validation of Non-Targeted Methods (NTM)" and the "Joint Eurachem/EUROLAB/AMC Task Group (JTG) on Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling (VaMPIS)". Eurachem VaMPIS members participated in online meetings on 18 March 2024 and 18 June 2024.

The members were involved in the preparation of "Validation of Measurement Procedures that Include Sampling (VaMPIS) – Supplement to the Eurachem Guides 'The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods' and 'Measurement Uncertainty Arising from Sampling'", which was published in December 2024. Work has also commenced on developing an informative leaflet based on this guideline. Members of the AOAC/Eurachem NTM/NTS Working Group joined online meetings on 26 February 2024, 18 June 2024, and 11 October 2024.

Eurachem MVWG VaMPIS member and ETWG Member from Türkiye were invited as speakers at the 6th National Laboratory Accreditation and Safety Symposium and Exhibition, held in Istanbul from 16-18 April 2025, where two presentations were delivered on "Validation in Measurement Procedures Involving Sampling" and "Ensuring Continuity of Reliable Chemical Measurement Results: Metrological Traceability and Quality Control Materials". The presentation entitled "Validation and Uncertainty Assessment of Sampling Steps in Complex Food Matrix Analysis." will be presented by Turkish members of MVWG in the Eurachem Scientific Workshop, titled "Complex Matrices: Applications, Laboratory Standards, and Accreditation," which will take place in Bucharest from 26-27 May 2025.

Eurachem RMWG members are currently working on "Eurachem/CITAC Guide, Selection and use of reference materials" and online meetings were attended on 12 September 2024, 17 October 2024, 23-24 October 2024 and 6 March 2025.

Eurachem ETWG members participated to the online meeting on 12 November 2024. Members involved in the revision of the Eurachem Guide "Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry – An Aid to Accreditation" have finalised the draft, which is now ready for General Assembly (GA) voting in May 2025. Additionally, the revised edition of the guide "The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods" was published in February 2025.

Furthermore, the Eurachem NTM Task Group is currently working on the development of a guideline titled "Harmonisation of Non-Target Screening in Mass Spectrometry," which includes a glossary of terms related to non-targeted methods. In parallel, efforts have continued to update the Eurachem Reading Lists.

The leaflets entitled "Understanding PT Performance Assessment", "Understanding PT Statistics", and "Let's Call a PT Scheme a PT Scheme" developed by the Eurachem PTWG have been translated into Turkish. Additionally, the Turkish translations of the revised versions of the leaflets "Pre- and Post-Analytical Proficiency Testing", "How Can Proficiency Testing Help My Laboratory?", "Selecting the Right Proficiency Testing Scheme for My Laboratory", "Use of Surplus Proficiency Test Items", "How to Investigate Poor Performance in Proficiency Testing", and "Proficiency Testing – How Much and How Often?" have been updated accordingly.

The translations and revised translations have been submitted to the Working Group Chair for approval and publication. The members contribute to the review of various documents forwarded by Eurachem throughout the year for the purpose of providing opinions, comments, and correction suggestions.

The Eurachem documents are used as guidance documents in the training courses, workshops and seminars, and as supporting materials in the lectures given by the Eurachem WG members at the universities. Throughout the year, announcements regarding various activities such as published guides, reports, trainings, workshops, congresses, and symposiums communicated by Eurachem are systematically shared with relevant stakeholders within the country. These efforts aim to enhance awareness, encourage participation, and support the continuous development of technical and scientific competencies among national partners.

UKRAINE

During the 2024-2025 period, Ukrainian experts have been active in the areas related to Eurachem. An important part of our activities is participation in the Technical Committee of Metrology in Chemistry (TC-MC), which is a Joint EURAMET-Eurachem Technical Committee. Recently EURAMET General Assembly has accepted Ukrmetrteststandart, which is a Ukrainian Metrology Institute designated for metrology in chemistry, as an Associate of EURAMET (A-DI). It allows the institute to take part in major EURAMET activities, including the participation in key comparisons and other projects, submit calibration and measurement capabilities (CMCs) for review and approval, as well as present institute's Quality Management System for peer review by the experts of the EURAMET TC for Quality (TC-Q).

In this respect, worth mentioning is the project "Metrology for standardised moisture/water content measurements in plant origin bulk materials in support of International and European food safety and trade" (23RPT03 GrainMet), which was initiated by the Ukrainian and Italian metrologists and where a number of Ukrainian organisations, together with the national metrology institutes, designated institutes, research companies, universities as well as producer companies from Austria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Italy, Moldova, Switzerland and Türkiye take part. The aims of the project include developing at least one plant-origin matrix CRM and a EURAMET calibration and measurement guide for moisture/water content measurements.

This year TC-MC meeting was held in February, 2025, at the National Metrology Institute of Sweden (RISE). Our delegates attended the meetings of the committee and its subcommittees on gas analysis, electrochemical analysis and inorganic analysis.

Another significant event was the 30th meeting of the Consultative Committee for Amount of Substance: Metrology in Chemistry and Biology (CCQM) held in April 2025 at BIPM. Ukrainian representatives took part in the meetings of CCQM and its working groups dealing with, again, gas analysis (GAWG), electrochemical analysis (EAWG), and inorganic analysis (IAWG).

We continued our participation in the ISO technical committees related to metrology in chemistry: ISO/TC 158 Analysis of Gases, ISO/TC 193 Natural Gas, and ISO/TC 334 Reference Materials, by contributing to the draft documents produced by those ISO TCs.

By now, four Ukrainian representatives are members of the Eurachem Working Groups on Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability (MUTWG), Qualitative Analysis (QAWG), Reference Materials (RMWG), and Analytical Equipment and System Qualification (AE&SQ WG).

Eurachem Guides and leaflets, especially those devoted to measurement uncertainty and traceability, are regularly used for training the personnel involved in metrology not only in chemistry, but also other measurement areas.

Translating the Eurachem documents into Ukrainian goes on. Unfortunately, Eurachem-Ukraine's activities are still hampered by the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Mykhailo Rozhnov

Ovsiy Levbarg

Anton Petrenko

UNITED KINGDOM

Eurachem activity in the UK is coordinated between the Royal Society of Chemistry Analytical Division, mainly through the Analytical Division represented by the Analytical Methods Committee (AMC), and the National Measurement Laboratory (NML) at LGC, which leads the UK Chemical and Biological Metrology programme. The AMC, which includes representation from LGC, operates as the Executive for Eurachem UK. The AMC receives reports on Eurachem activity through the UK national Representatives and AMC members also receive the Eurachem Newsletter.

The AMC (<http://www.rsc.org/AMC/>) has several expert working groups, all concerned with aspects of harmonisation and best practice in analytical chemistry. The AMC publishes reports and Technical Briefs developed by the different expert working groups.

Reports are extended publications in the refereed literature, giving detailed information and recommendations on technical aspects of analytical chemistry. A list of Reports can be found on the AMC web page available via the RSC page at <https://www.rsc.org>².

Technical briefs are short documents giving information on particular technical topics; the AMC has now published 115 Technical Briefs. Technical Briefs since 2012 are published as a themed collection by the RSC journal "Analytical Methods" and are available online; they can also be found, with older technical briefs, by following the 'Technical Briefs' link on the AMC webpage available via <https://www.rsc.org>.

Two new Technical Briefs were published in year to end May 2025:

- AMCTB No. 114: Improved estimates of expanded measurement uncertainty. Analytical Methods, 2024, 16, 5482-5485, <https://doi.org/10.1039/D4AY90083A>
- AMCTB No. 115: Tensile mechanical analysis in cultural heritage. 2024, 16, 6064-6067, <https://doi.org/10.1039/D4AY90097A>

Activities associated with the UK Chemical and Biological Metrology programme are described on the LGC website at <https://www.uknml.com/uk-national-measurement-laboratory/>. This work contributes to maintenance of the UK National Measurement System.

The main activity of interest to Eurachem in the year ending May 2025 was our regular training courses on, for example, measurement uncertainty, analytical method validation and statistics for analytical chemists. Courses are now offered both in person and online. In addition to a scheduled programme of courses (see <https://www.uknml.com/training/>), LGC also offers customised training for individual companies.

Eurachem UK members have also contributed actively to the following Eurachem working groups:

- Education and Training (Chair)
- Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability (Chair)
- Proficiency Testing (Chair)
- EEE Proficiency Testing – "Proficiency Testing in Accreditation" (Chair)
- Qualitative Analysis
- Uncertainty from Sampling
- Method Validation
- Reference materials

Finally, Dr Harrington will be stepping down as a UK representative to the GA after the 2025 General Assembly. We would like to thank him for his support for the UK's Eurachem activities

Steve Ellison
Chris Harrington

² The AMC web page is currently at <https://www.rsc.org/membership-and-community/connect-with-others/join-scientific-networks/subject-communities/analytical-science-community/amc/>

Upcoming events

11 - 12 March 2026 , Nicosia, Cyprus

Workshop

“Establishing and ensuring method performance – Essentials of method validation, internal quality control and proficiency testing”

- The Division of Quality Assurance of the Pancyprian Union of Chemists (PUC) and the Education and Training Working Group have organised a successful series of training workshops in Cyprus. Following these, a 6th event is being held in Nicosia in March 2026.
- The programme will include sessions on planning validation studies, practical approaches to evaluating key method performance parameters, approaches to setting up and interpreting QC charts, getting the most from PT participation, and using validation, IQC and proficiency test data to evaluate measurement uncertainties.

The workshop will include presentations and practical workshop sessions. Participants are invited to submit posters and share their practical experience of quality assurance and accreditation in short presentations.

The training is aimed at those working in accredited laboratories or laboratories seeking accreditation as well as lead assessors/assessors/technical experts, personnel of competent authorities and consultants. Colleagues from Europe and neighbouring countries are welcome!

Further details are available on the Eurachem website.



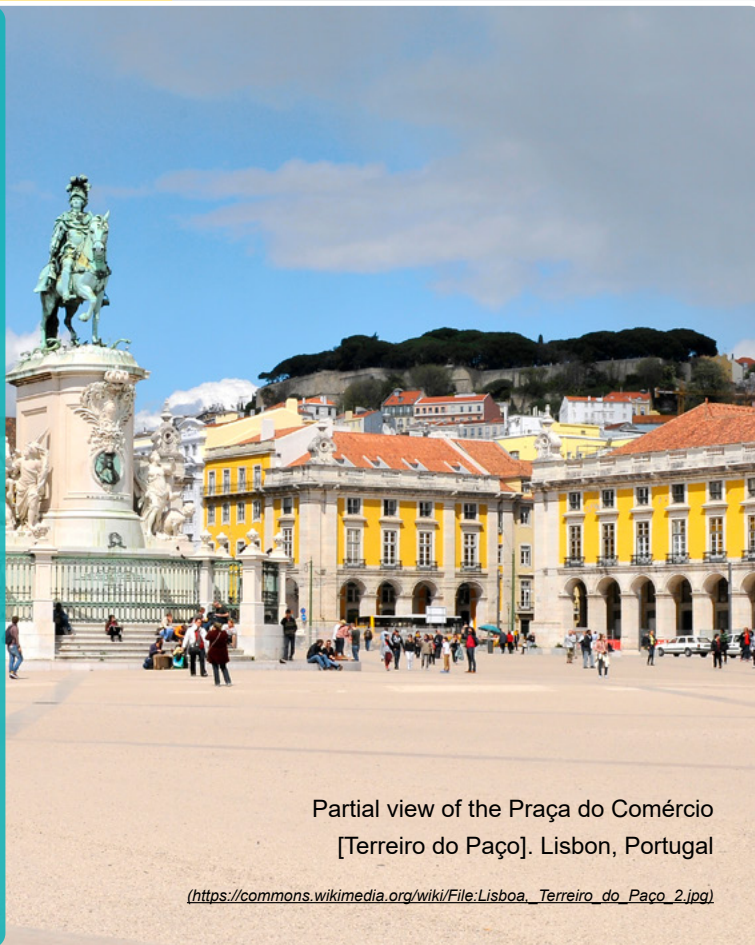
Workshop on Quality in analytical measurements: Uncertainty evaluation and interpretation of results

10-12 May 2026, Lisbon, Portugal

As part of the 2026 General Assembly week, Eurachem is pleased to announce a workshop on the evaluation of chemical analysis uncertainty and how to use this information in interpretation of results, following established and recently published Eurachem guidance.

On Sunday, 10 May 2026, an optional training course on “Evaluation of the measurement uncertainty from in-house precision and recovery data” will be delivered.

Further details are available at <https://eurachem2026.events.chemistry.pt/>



Partial view of the Praça do Comércio [Terreiro do Paço]. Lisbon, Portugal

(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lisboa_Terreiro_do_Paço_2.jpg)

Save the Date!

28 September - 1 October 2026, Alicante, Spain

11th Eurachem PT Workshop: Proficiency testing in analytical chemistry, microbiology and laboratory medicine - Current practice and future directions

Following the success of the 10th Eurachem Proficiency Testing Workshop in Windsor, UK in 2023, the Proficiency Testing Working Group is pleased to announce that the 11th edition of the workshop will take place at the Hotel Complejo San Juan, Alicante, Spain in September 2026.

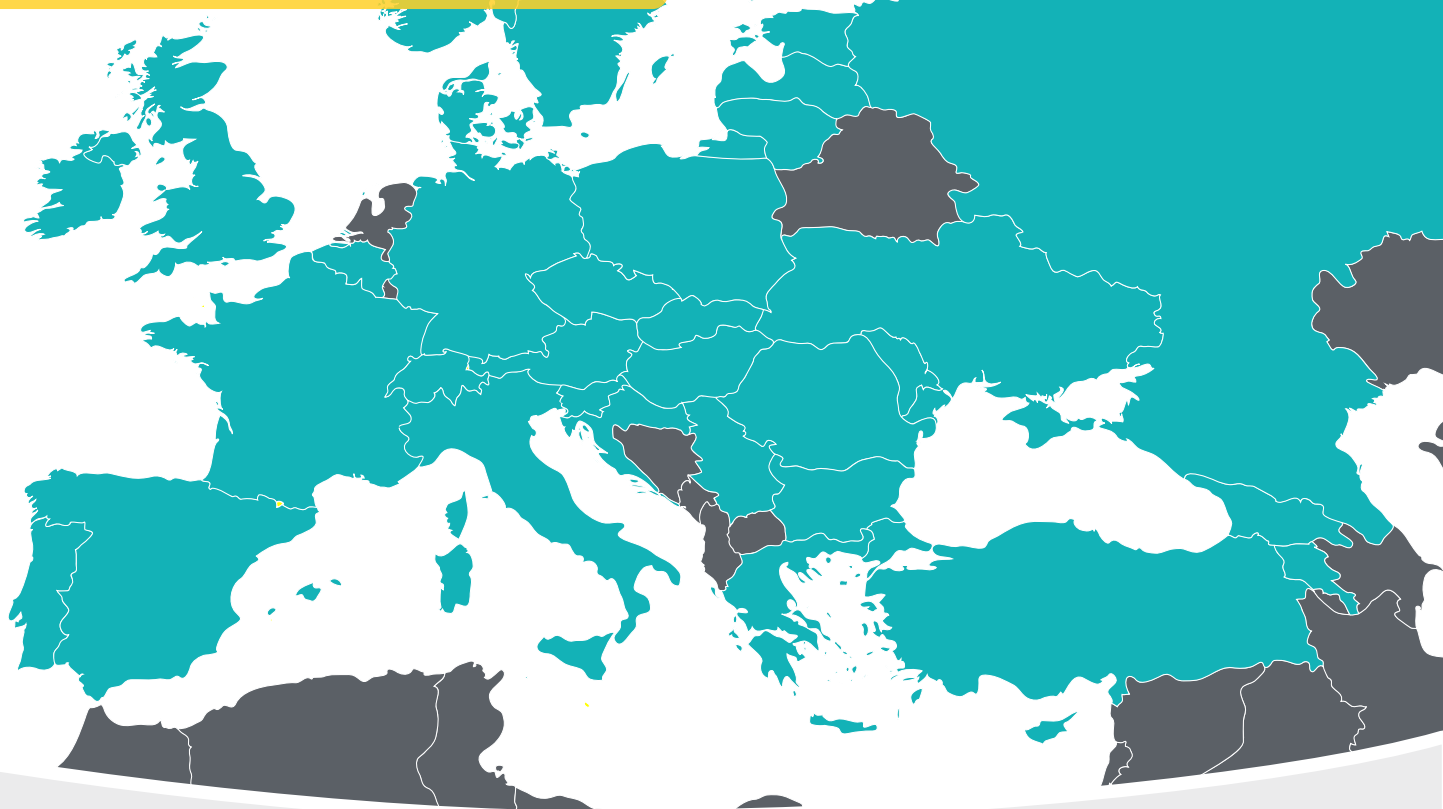
Further details are available on the Eurachem website.



www.eurachem.org

Eurachem Member Countries

Eurachem member countries in blue.



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