

## Revision of membership fees

### Action required:

- The EC is asked to note the results of the revision, discuss them and agree of the next steps

### 1. Background

In 2016, a new membership fee model was introduced, which remained in place until 2021 when the Board of Directors agreed at the AGM in Brussels on a new model. As the new model brought changes both in reductions and in rise, it was agreed that those with increased fees had to pay them only from 2023 on.

A revision of the fee model is necessary from time to time, and as announced already in the beginning of 2025, the Secretariat has been reviewing the model.

Following a discussion with the person from the British Library's finance department who introduced the model to discuss how they proceeded to calculate the model then, the Secretariat recommends to keep the current fee model with updated numbers:

The current review is based on the same methodology, considering two factors for each member: **GNI per Capita (PPP)** and the **2024 operational budget**.

- **GNI per Capita (PPP)** reflects the average annual income per person, adjusted for purchasing power. We used official World Bank figures, converted into "international dollars" for comparability. Members were grouped into economic bands, each linked to a factor. Compared to 2021, the band thresholds were raised by 30%, reflecting the average increase in GNI/Capita (PPP).
- For **operational budgets** we applied the same six-tier system as in 2021, but raised thresholds by 25%, in line with the average budget increase across members.

The 2021 calculation model was thus updated for 2026. Each member's final tier was determined by averaging the two factors.

*Fee levels themselves remain unchanged; the review only ensured that each country is assigned to the correct tier based on current data.*

We believe that it is a fair and reasonable model, and recalculated the fees using current numbers.

The results are shown in the following table:

<u>Country</u>	<u>2016 (old)</u>	<u>2021 (Current)</u>	<u>2026 (new)</u>	<u>change in %</u>	
Albania	1.250,00 €	750,00 €	1.000,00 €	33%	+ 1
Armenia	750,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	0%	
Austria	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	0%	
Azerbaijan	1.250,00 €	750,00 €	1.000,00 €	33%	+ 1
Belgium	3.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	0%	
Bosnia and Hercegovina	1.250,00 €	750,00 €	750,00 €	0%	
Bulgaria	1.250,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	90%	+ 1
Croatia	1.250,00 €	1.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	200%	+ 2
Cyprus	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Czech Republic	2.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Denmark	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	0%	
Estonia	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Finland	4.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	33%	+ 1
France	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Georgia	750,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	0%	
Germany	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Greece	1.250,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Hungary	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Iceland	2.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Ireland	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Italy (Florence)	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Italy (Rome)	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	3.000,00 €	58%	+ 1
Latvia	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Liechtenstein	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Lithuania	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	3.000,00 €	58%	+ 1
Luxembourg	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Malta	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Montenegro	1.250,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	0%	
Netherlands	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Norway	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Poland	2.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
Portugal	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Moldova	750,00 €	750,00 €	1.000,00 €	33%	+
Macedonia, FYR	1.250,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	0%	
Serbia	1.250,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	0%	
Romania	1.250,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Slovakia	2.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	-37%	- 1
Slovenia	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	3.000,00 €	58%	+ 1
Spain	3.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	4.000,00 €	0%	
Sweden	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Switzerland	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
Türkiye	2.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	90%	+ 1
Ukraine	750,00 €	750,00 €	750,00 €	0%	
United Kingdom/BL	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	0%	
UK/Scotland		1.900,00 €	1.900,00 €	0%	
Vatican City	2.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	0%	
UK/Wales (new)	-	-	1.900,00 €		

In the following cases, an individual decision was made:

**Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Assignment to Level 1 due to the unsecured budget.

**Liechtenstein:** As no GNI per capita (PPP) is listed by the World Bank, it is assumed that the GNI is comparable to that of Switzerland, given the stable currency.

**Ukraine:** Classification at Level 1 due to the ongoing war situation and based on the assumption that the fees will be suspended again.

**Scotland:** No separate GNI per capita (PPP); therefore, the fee level has been maintained as before.

**Wales:** No separate GNI per capita (PPP); level in line with Scotland.

**Vatican City:** No GNI per capita (PPP) listed by the World Bank. The budget is comparatively small, nevertheless, the fee level has been maintained as before.