



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

# EGPA2026 CONFERENCE

24-27 August Rome, Italy

CALL FOR PANELS



Public Governance for the  
Common Good: Human Intelligence  
Serving the Global Community

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## EGPA Specialized Panel 2

### Accountability and governance in and of collaborative organizational arrangements

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Challenges to overall well-being— environmental degradation, poverty, mobility, chronic health issues—remain persistent because they comprise interconnected problems that cross boundaries between private, non-profit and governmental sectors. Such wicked problems or grand challenges have to be tackled through the collaborative efforts of organizations. By participating in these collaborative arrangements, organizations still accomplish their core missions despite increasing interdependencies and achieving a collective output. However, by operating through interorganizational arrangements they also lose part of their sovereignty and collaborating with other organizations can create dependencies and risks that can be hard to manage.

Classical hierarchical accountability arrangements are thus challenged in this context, and the question is what other accountability arrangements are possible, to support the effectiveness of collaborative organizational forms. On the one hand, existing accountability systems often only hold the single organization accountable for their individual performance and as such might even function counterproductive in achieving the common good. On the other hand, the question arises, how can we avoid accountability getting lost in the diffusion or even the evaporation of different responsibilities? In the literature on (the governance of) collaborations and networks, questions of accountability are not often discussed and even somehow seen almost as an oxymoron.

Submissions might be addressed but do not have to be limited to the following questions:

1. How can transparency and accountability be conceptualized and analyzed in collaborative settings?
2. What are the characteristics and effects of existing accountability arrangements in collaborative settings?



3. What is the relationship between specific network governance forms and accountability, transparency, and supervision?

We welcome empirical as well as conceptual papers that focus on the organizational level or the level of the collaboration or explore mutual influences. Empirical settings can be in the private, non-profit or public sector or cover cross-sector collaborations.



## Practicalities

If you wish to present a paper in one of the Permanent Study Group's, Ad Hoc Group's, or Specialized Panel's sessions at the conference, please upload an abstract outlining your proposed conference paper. This may be done through the conference website.

## Important dates

- Deadline for submission of abstracts: April 6, 2026
- Deadline for submission of EGPA Booster Grant applications: April 15, 2026
- Acceptance notification and opening of registrations: April 20, 2026
- Deadline for submission of EGPA Travel Grant applications: April 26, 2026
- Full paper submission deadline and registration deadline: July 19, 2026

## Website

- <https://www.iias-iisa.org/egpa-2026-conference/>

## Submission

- <https://www.conftool.org/egpa2026/>
- Unless specified otherwise, 500-words limit for abstracts

## Contact

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