

## Assessment of the interests declared pursuant to Article 13(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the EFSA Management Board

The present note provides an assessment on whether the interests newly declared by Board members before their 74<sup>th</sup> meeting represent a potential conflict in accordance with EFSA's internal rules and Code of Conduct. Based on this assessment, the Board should reach a conclusion and where appropriate recommend a follow-up.

The following evaluation concerns newly declared interests. The advice takes into account the employment and activities of the member, his/her role in the Board and the responsibilities of the Board in view of the fact that, in terms of impact on EFSA's business, it primarily looks at the regularity of the appointment and selection processes of EFSA's Scientific Committee or Panels and of EFSA's outsourcing programmes.

If an identified conflict that is substantially affecting the work of the Board or EFSA's reputation is not resolved by the proposed assessment and a member of the Board is not fulfilling his/her obligations in relation to independence in such a manner that this is substantially affecting the work of the Board, the Board, acting on a two-thirds majority, may ask for his or her replacement<sup>1</sup>.

### Raymond O'Rourke

**DoI submission date:** 17 August 2017

**New declared interests:** Occasional consultancy to the Lattanzio Group, from May to August 2017. End of consultancy to Agrotec with regards to technical assistance project in favour of the Kosovo<sup>2</sup> Food & Veterinary Laboratory.

**Assessment:** Between May and August 2017, Mr O'Rourke provided consultancy services to the Lattanzio Group being involved in the implementation of an EU funded project in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia aimed at providing technical assistance for the harmonisation of the country's veterinary health law in line with Directives 2005/36/EC and 2013/55/EU.

With the Council decision adopted on 12 June 2014, Mr O'Rourke was appointed as a member of the EFSA Management Board with background in organisations representing consumers<sup>3</sup>. It is unlikely that this interest may lead to a conflict of interest, but as a precautionary approach, it is suggested that the Board re-examines its relevance to assess whether specific conflicts may exist when it

<sup>1</sup> Article 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board.

<sup>2</sup> The designation of Kosovo is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

<sup>3</sup> Article 25(1) of the Regulation (EC) 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council.

discusses EFSA's outsourcing programmes (scientific).

## András Székács

**DoI submission date:** 26 September 2017

**New declared interests:** Research activity funded by the National Research, Development and Innovation Office of Hungary started in February 2017. End of research activity funded by the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund.

**Assessment:** In February 2017, Mr Székács started activities as coordinator of a research aimed to develop a modular immunofluorescence and laser plasma spectroscopy for in situ complex water assessment. The research is funded by the Hungarian National Research, Development and Innovation Office. The Management Board primarily looks at the regularity and legality of EFSA's processes. Hence, it is unlikely that this interest may lead to a conflict of interest.

Annex:

- DoI Raymond O'Rourke
- DoI András Székács

## ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (ADoI)

*(Please note that high quality of scientific expertise is by nature based on prior experience and that therefore having an interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest)*

**Name:** O'ROURKE, Raymond

**Title:** Mr

**Profession:** Lawyer

**Current EFSA involvements:** Vice-Chair-Management Board (MB)

Nature of Activities	Period	Organisation	Subject matter
<b>I. Economic interest</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>II. Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure</b>	06/2015 - now	-Name: Bord Bia, Dublin. IRELAND, IRELAND	Bord Bia is the Irish Government's trade development & promotion body for the Irish food sector. The Management Board is responsible for any assets owned by Bord Bia, the keeping of proper Accounts and the prevention & detection of fraud.
	02/2008 - now	-Name: Consumers Association Of Ireland (CAI)	CAI Council Member since 2009 and appointed Chairperson of CAI in June 2013. The CAI is a BEUC affiliated Consumer NGO.
	02/2013 - 01/2016	-Name: Food Safety Authority of Ireland, IRELAND, Dublin	Board Member, Chair of Audit Committee
<b>III. Member of a scientific advisory entity</b>	03/2004 - 06/2014	-Name: GMOs Advisory Committee	Irish Government's Advisory Committee on GMOs established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to give advice to the EPA on all GMO applications. Membership expired on 30 June 2014
<b>IV. Employment</b>	01/2005 - now	-Name: Food & Consumer Lawyer	Own-practice providing legal services in the areas of food & consumer affairs

<b>V. Occasional consultancy</b>	10/2014 - now	-Name: Agrotec, Rome, ITALY	EU Technical Assistance PAZA-2 project in Albania in the area of food & veterinary affairs. Legal Drafting advice
	05/2017 - 08/2017	-Name: Lattanzio Group, Milano, ITALY	EU Technical Assistance project in Macedonia - to provide recommendations on the harmonisation of the current national Veterinary Health Law with Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications provisions for the Veterinary profession with Directives 2005/36/EC & 2013/55/EU
	11/2015 - 03/2017	-Name: Agrotec, Rome, ITALY	Short-term legal expert for KAHN project Technical Assistance for the Animal Health Department of the KVFA and the Food & Veterinary Laboratory (Kosovo).
	05/2015 - 09/2015	-Name: GFA, Hamburg, GERMANY	EU Trade Policy project in Kosovo. Further technical assistance to Kosovo Food & Veterinary Agency and Kosovo Ministry of Agriculture on plant health and food labelling issues as a follow-up to work completed in 2014
	01/2011 - 05/2015	-Name: Country Markets Ltd	Legal advice to a co-operative organising country markets throughout Ireland every week. Work has been completed by means of a Hygiene Guide published by the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)
	06/2014 - 10/2014	-Name: DMI Associates, Lyon, FRANCE	EU Technical Assistance project - PLAC - in Serbia. Drafting EU compliant laws on Food Contact Materials and Nutrition & Health Claims
	04/2014 - 06/2014	-Name: GFA, Hamburg, GERMANY	EU Trade Policy project in Kosovo. Provided technical assistance to Kosovo Food & Veterinary Agency and Kosovo Ministry of Agriculture on plant health and food labelling issues.
	01/2014 - 02/2014	-Name: Cardno, Brussels, BELGIUM	EU-China Trade Project II - provided legal advice and completed a Workshop on Food Safety Liability Insurance (Beijing, China)
	03/2013 - 10/2013	-Name: GFA, Hamburg, GERMANY	EU Market Surveillance project in Serbia. Drafted EU-compliant laws on Organic Food & Food Contact Materials.
	08/2013 - 09/2013	-Name: Transtec, Brussels, BELGIUM	EU- Indonesia Trade Support Project. Gave legal advice and completed three 2-day Workshops on EU Rules on Exporting Food Products to the EU.
	04/2010 - 07/2013	-Name: Agrotec, Rome, Italy	EU technical assistance project in Albania. Gave legal advice & drafted a new Veterinary Law and secondary legislation in line with the EU <i>acquis communautaire</i>
	12/2012 - 03/2013	-Name: West Cork Distillers Ltd, Ireland	Legal advice on an application to get approval to produce Irish Whiskey
	10/2012 - 12/2012	-Name: Kelkin Ltd, Ireland	Legal advice on the labelling of food products (breakfast cereals) and food supplements
	02/2012 - 12/2012	-Name: Qatar National Food Security Programme (QNFS)	Drafted a new Food Safety Law and gave advice on the establishment of a Qatar Food Safety Authority
	01/2011 - 11/2012	-Name: Agrotec, Rome, Italy	EU technical assistance project in Montenegro. Drafted legislation on classical swine fever & rabies in line with EU <i>acquis communautaire</i>
<b>VI. Research funding</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>VII. Intellectual property rights</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>VIII. Other memberships or affiliations</b>	08/2016 - now	-Name: European Consumer Consultative Group (ECCG) - alternate member (Ireland)	European Commission Advisory Grouping 3 year mandate as of August 2016 Commission Decision (2016/C 306/05) of 18th August 2016
	10/2010 - now	-Name: Irish Codex Committee	Advises Government on Codex Alimentarius issues
	05/2009 - now	-Name: Food Lawyers Network (FLN)	Co-operative network of Food Lawyers
	02/2006 - now	-Name: Taste Council	The Taste Council assists the Irish artisan and speciality food sector.

<b>IX. Other relevant interest</b>	01/2012 - now	-Name: World Food Regulation Review	Member of the Advisory Board
	02/2012 - 02/2015	-Name: University of Ulster, UNITED KINGDOM	Visiting Professor at the School of Biomedical Sciences
<b>X. Interests of close family members</b>			NO INTEREST

<b>Involvements</b>	<b>Potential CoI (*)</b>	<b>Funding (**)</b>
Management Board	No	-

(\*) - Indicates that you consider yourself to be in a potential Conflict of Interest (CoI) with respect to the EFSA activity.

(\*\*) - Indicates that the research (co-)funding received from the private sector during the last budgetary year exceeds 25% of the average annual research budget that is managed by you for the area under concern or that is otherwise benefiting you, including research funding by your organisation.

I hereby declare that I have read both the Guidance Document on Declarations of Interests and the Procedure for identifying and handling potential conflict of interests and that the above Declaration of Interests is complete.

Date: 17/08/2017      Signature: **SIGNED**

## ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (ADoI)

*(Please note that high quality of scientific expertise is by nature based on prior experience and that therefore having an interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest)*

**Name:** SZEKACS, Andras

**Title:** Prof

**Profession:** Specialist in pesticide chemistry and biochemistry

**Current EFSA involvements:** Member-Management Board (MB)

Nature of Activities	Period	Organisation	Subject matter
<b>I. Economic interest</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>II. Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>III. Member of a scientific advisory entity</b>	02/2013 - now	-Name: Gene Technology Advisory Committee (GEVB), Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The Committee advises the Hungarian Gene Technology Authority (Ministry of Agriculture) on issues related to authorization of the use of genetically modified organisms and facilities involved in such activities in Hungary, in accordance with the current Hungarian legislation. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture is voluntary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled monthly. Opinions of the Committee are reached by voting in sub-committees.</p>

	03/2012 - now	-Name: Hungarian Codex Alimentarius Committee, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The The Committee advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture on issues related to food safety and registration of food products and components. The Committe is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture by law is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. I am a Member in the Committee on behalf of the Hungarian National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover issues related to food analysis, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of food components.</p>
	11/2011 - now	-Name: Expert Committee of the National Association for Consumer Protection in Hungary, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The Committee advises the National Association for Consumer Protection in Hungary on issues related consumer concerns in food safety. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled case by case. I am a Member as an independent expert in the Committee. In such capacity, I cover issues of consumer protection related to food analysis, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of food components.</p>
	09/2011 - now	-Name: Plant Protection Committee, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	<p>The Committee advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture on issues related to the national plant protection strategy and policies, pesticide registration, integrated pest management (IPM), pesticides complying with IPM, national authorization guidelines for pesticide preparations, as well as technological, scientific and legislative issues related to plant protection practices. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture by law is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. I am a Member in the Committee on behalf of the Hungarian National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>
	09/2010 - now	-Name: GMO Working Group, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	<p>The GMO Working Group advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture in issues related to authorization / moratorium / risk assessment of GM crops in Hungary, in accordance with the current European Union legislation. The Committe is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. Opinions of the Working Groups are reached by voting by its certain (voting) members. I am a non-voting Member (Expert) in the GM Working Group, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of GM crops.</p>

	07/2006 - now	-Name: Scientific Committee on Pesticides, Hungarian Food Safety Office	<p>The committee advises the Hungarian Food Safety Office on issues related to pesticide residues in food. Issues covered include the occurrence of food/feed/water contamination with pesticides, statistical requirements (number of analyses required, rate and range of outliers allowed in order to meet maximal residue level criteria). The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>The committee holds regular meetings or E-mail discussions at occasions and on topics requested the Hungarian Food Safety Office. I am a Member in the Committee, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>
	05/2006 - now	-Name: Scientific Committee on GMOs, Hungarian Food Safety Office	<p>The committee advises the Hungarian Food Safety Office on issues related to GM crops in food safety. Issues covered include the elucidation of the allowed 0.1% GM contamination limit, statistical issues related to GM determination (copy numbers of transgenes, methodological limits of detection, etc.). The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM crop documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>The committee holds regular meetings or E-mail discussions at occasions and on topics requested the Hungarian Food Safety Office. I am a Member in the committee, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of GM crops.</p>
	09/2005 - now	-Name: GMO Roundtable, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The GMO Roundtable advises the Agricultural Committee and the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Hungarian Parliament on issues related to authorization / moratorium / risk assessment of GM crops. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled case by case. I am a Founding Member of the GMO Roundtable, and serves as its Chair (2009-2013).</p>
	10/2004 - 12/2010	-Name: Pesticide Registration Harmonization Committee, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	<p>The Committee advised the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development on issues related to chemical plant protection (pesticides) and partly to agricultural biotechnology (GM crops). Issues covered included the definition of the range of pesticides entitled to receive environmental subsidy (to the farmers), high education of plant protection products experts in Hungary, compliance of pesticides and GM crops with integrated pest management practices, compliance with EU pesticide regulations. The Committee was not a decision making body, and did not have authorization to examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation was voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>I was a Member in the Committee, selected as an independent researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In such capacity, I covered analytical, biochemical and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>



<b>IV. Employment</b>	11/2011 - now	<p>-Name: Agro-Environmantal Research Institute (AERI), National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC), Budapest, HUNGARY</p>	<p>- Director-General of CFRI (name of institute changed to Central Environmental and Food Science Research Institute in 2012).  - As of Jan 1, 2014, CFRI was merged with other research institutes of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture into legal successor National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC). Within NARIC, Director of the Agro-Environmantal Research Institute (AERI).  - Head of the Extension Department of Ecotoxicology of Szent István University operating at the Institute (the Extension Department Head position does not involve employment by the university,it is being served as a full-time NARIC employee).</p> <p>Research topics (AERI NARIC): research on environmental and food safety; chemical and genetic safety of agricultural technologies; residue analysis and ecotoxicology of pesticides and mycotoxin, environmental risks of GM crops.</p> <p>Disclaimer of involvement in official pesticide registration issues: the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC) is not involved in decision-making regarding registration of any particular pesticide or GM crop. Scientific opinion on pesticide or GM crop issues may be requested on a voluntary and non-honorary basis, but decision-making is the competency of the national authority (National Food Safety Office of the Hungarian Government).  In particular  - NARIC has no rights/ownership on any published RA guidance, methodology, software and/or computational model used in regulatory processes of PPPs,  - NARIC is not involved in the authority regulatory assessment process of pesticides, and  - NARIC has no official capacity of Risk Management (authorisation of PPPs, MRL setting, control activities). Pesticide and GMO monitoring carried out at NARIC serve fundamental aspects in environmental science, and does not constitute part of any official regulatory process.</p>
<b>V. Occasional consultancy</b>	09/2001 - now	<p>-Name: Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary</p>	<p>In certain occasions, delegated environmental expert of the Ministry (earlier Ministry of Rural Development and its predecessor Ministry of the Environment and Water). Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>In this competency, the Ministry has occasionally delegated me, selected as an independent researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences or later the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre, to:  - EFSA discussion meetings at Parma and Brussels (re-registration of MON 810, discussion of EFSA ERA guidelines on GMOs)  - the Open ended Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Managment of LMOs (GMOs) to the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol  - OECD Co-operative Research Programme (CRP) Governing Body, delegate (04/2011 - now); Scientific Advisory Body, member (12/2014 – now)  My participation at these events have been advisory and did not include formal membership in Standing Committees.</p>
<b>VI. Research funding</b>	02/2017 - now	<p>-Name: National Research, Development and Innovation Office, Hungary</p>	<p>- Development of a modular immunofluorence and laser plasma spectroscopy sensing device family capable for in situ complex water assessment  Role: coordinator</p>

	02/2015 - now	-Name: NATO	Science for Peace and Security project 'Development of optical bio-sensors for detection of bio-toxins', international collaboration (Hungary, UK, France, Ukraine, Israel) Role: coordinator
	01/2004 - now	-Name: Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	Annual budgets for research on environmental risk identification/assessment of GM crops. Role in the projects: Subcoordinator for Cry1Ab toxin analysis in GM crop (MON 810 maize)
	09/2013 - 09/2017	-Name: Hungarian Scientific Research Fund	- Research on side-effects of pesticide adjuvants and detergents, their possible combined toxicological and ecotoxicological effects with pesticide active ingredients Role: principal investigator
	07/2013 - 06/2016	-Name: FP7 project 'SPICED' (Coordinated by BfR, Germany)	- Research on environmental and food safety in spice production and distribution in Europe within FP7 project 'Securing the spices and herbs commodity chains in Europe against deliberate, accidental or natural biological and chemical contamination (SPICED)' Role: principal investigator
	05/2005 - 04/2011	-Name: Hungarian National Research and Technology Office	- Research projects on pesticide analysis and bioanalysis, immunoassay development for pesticides, mycotoxins, microbial toxins (Cry1Ab), immunosensor development Role: principal investigator - Research projects on pesticide contamination in various modes of agriculture including intensive and ecological (organic) agriculture Role: participant, subcoordinator - Research projects on agricultural biotechnology, environmental assessment of GM crops MON 810 and DAS 59122-7 (the latter followed by a study for Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc., see at bottom *) Role: participant, subcoordinator - Projects on endocrine disrupting effect monitoring/endocrine disruptor detection Role: principal investigator - Projects on environmentally friendly mosquito control, use/analysis of <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> toxins. Role: participant  * as a follow-up Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc. has entered a research collaboration (2009-2011) with our institute (PPI) to carry out insect exposure studies on DAS 59122-7. The Lead Researcher at PPI was Prof. Balázs Barna. As Head of Department, I was a participant.
	01/2008 - 12/2009	-Name: NATO	Collaborative Linkage Grant development of immunosensors for toxins international collaboration (UK, Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary) Role: subcoordinator
<b>VII. Intellectual property rights</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>VIII. Other memberships or affiliations</b>	06/2011 - now	-Name: Hungarian Society of Ecotoxicology	- Member - Member of the Control Committee - Editor-in-Chief of Biokontroll since 2010
	09/2009 - now	-Name: European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility	Critical assessment of emerging technologies Member and Non-Executive Trustee
	09/1990 - now	-Name: Hungarian Biochemical Society	- Member - Secretary of Environmental Biochemistry Division since 1992 - Editor of Biokémia (Quarterly Bulletin of the Hungarian Biochemical Society) since 1995; Editor-in-Chief 1998-2008

<b>IX. Other relevant interest</b>			NO INTEREST
<b>X. Interests of close family members</b>			NO INTEREST

<b>Involvements</b>	<b>Potential CoI (*)</b>	<b>Funding (**)</b>
Management Board	No	No

(\*) - Indicates that you consider yourself to be in a potential Conflict of Interest (CoI) with respect to the EFSA activity.

(\*\*) - Indicates that the research (co-)funding received from the private sector during the last budgetary year exceeds 25% of the average annual research budget that is managed by you for the area under concern or that is otherwise benefiting you, including research funding by your organisation.

I hereby declare that I have read both the Guidance Document on Declarations of Interests and the Procedure for identifying and handling potential conflict of interests and that the above Declaration of Interests is complete.

Date: 27/09/2017      Signature: **SIGNED**