

# ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (ADOI)

<b>Title (Prof, Dr, Mr, Ms, Mrs)</b>	Ing.
<b>Name</b>	Rudie
<b>Family name</b>	VELLA
<b>Profession</b>	Engineer
<b>EFSA involvement(s)</b>	Management Board (alternate member)

- Any modification made to the structure and content of the present template will make the document invalid.
- Please fill in all fields, as appropriate.
- Please declare any interest overlapping with EFSA's complete set of responsibility that you or your close family members<sup>1</sup> currently have or have had in the past five years.

<sup>1</sup> "Close Family Member" means: i. a spouse, meant as the person engaged in the marital relationship with the concerned individual; ii. a partner with whom a Concerned individual has contracted a registered partnership, on the basis of the legislation of the relevant legal system; iii. the direct descendants and ascendants who are financially dependent on the Concerned individual.

## I. FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

I. Financial investments	Period <sup>1</sup> From/To (Month/Year)	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>
			NO INTEREST

1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name and location of the organization on which the investment has been made.
3. Please indicate any investment such as economic stake or share in an entity with an interest directly or indirectly falling within EFSA's remit, including its stocks, equities or bonds, or of one of its subsidiaries or of a company in which it has a holding. Please provide a description of the investment, including whether you have influence over it (e.g. "no control as it is a fund managed by a professional company with no possibility of deciding the fund's strategy"; or "complete control as this corresponds to ordinary shares I can sell or buy at will") and the field activity of the organisation on which the investment is made.

## II. MANAGERIAL ROLE

II. Managerial role	Period <sup>1</sup> From/To (Month/Year)	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
	December 2022 – to date	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	Director General (Technical Regulations) heading the Technical Regulations Division (TRD) established under Part VI of the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Act (Cap. 510 of the Laws of Malta). The TRD is the competent authority for food risk assessment,	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> >25%

	January 2021 – December 2022	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	<p>chemicals, PPPs and biocides. The Authority is Malta's contact point with EFSA.</p> <p>Director (Market Surveillance) responsible for the official control on pesticides in and on food and their residues, food quality schemes and other non-food product sectors.</p> <p>The Directorate I headed performed risk management activities to plan its surveillance and control activities, the corrective actions economic operators are required to take and measures imposed on them.</p> <p>I was empowered to validate and/or take management actions/decisions in respect to the above.</p> <p>I was not a member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%
	May 2017 – January 2021	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	<p>Senior Manager (Quality) responsible for the leadership of the quality management system of the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA) which has the Technical Regulations Division (TRD) as one of its entities. The latter is responsible for pesticides in and on food and their residues, food quality schemes, food risk management functions and other non-food product sectors.</p> <p>As a Senior Manager (Quality), I was responsible to manage organisational risks related to quality affairs of the MCCAA. Risk management activities</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%

<b>III. MEMBER OF A SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY ENTITY</b>			performed by the entities, including the TRD, were not under my remit. My empowerment to validate and/or take management actions/decisions were only related to quality affairs. I was not a member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.	
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1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.
3. Please indicate any participation, paid or unpaid, in the internal decision-making process (such as board membership, directorship, etc.) of an entity with an interest falling within EFSA's remit. Please describe your tasks and responsibilities, the remit of the organisation and how its activities relate to the remit of EFSA. Please indicate also whether the organisation carries out risk management activities, whether you are personally empowered to validate or take management actions/decisions and if you serve as a member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.
4. Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication needs to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADofI.

### III. MEMBER OF A SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY ENTITY

III. Member of a scientific advisory entity	Period <sup>1</sup> From/To (Month/Year)	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
			NO INTEREST	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%

1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the entity.
3. Please indicate any participation in the works of a scientific advisory entity with an interest falling directly or indirectly within EFSA's remit and other than those organised by EFSA (such as membership of Scientific Advisory Panels, Working Groups, Peer review meetings, Networks, etc.). Please provide a description of the remit of the advisory entity, the subject matter (e.g. substances, products, guidance documents, policies, etc.), your precise role (e.g. Chair, member, etc.), the nature of the advice delivered (e.g. opinion, statement, advice, etc.), the recipient of the advice, and how the

subject matter of the advisory entity relates to the remit of EFSA and/or of the relevant EFSA scientific group(s). Please indicate whether the entity carries out risk management activities, whether you are personally empowered to validate or take management actions/decisions or not, or whether you serve as member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.

4. Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication needs to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

## IV. EMPLOYMENT

IV. Employment	Period <sup>1</sup> <i>From/To</i> <i>(Month/Year)</i>	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
	December 2022 – to date	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	Director General (Technical Regulations) heading the Technical Regulations Division (TRD) established under Part VI of the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Act (Cap. 510 of the Laws of Malta). The TRD is the competent authority for food risk assessment, chemicals, PPPs and biocides. The Authority is Malta's contact point with EFSA.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> >25%
	January 2021 – December 2022	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	Regular occupation, full-time, paid. Director (Market Surveillance) responsible for the official control on pesticides in and on food and their residues, food quality schemes and other non-food product sectors. The Directorate I headed performed risk management activities to plan its surveillance and control activities, the corrective actions economic operators are required to take and measures imposed on them.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%

	May 2017 – January 2021	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	<p>I was empowered to validate and/or take management actions/decisions. I was not a member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.</p> <p>Regular occupation, full-time, paid. Senior Manager (Quality) responsible for the leadership of the quality management system of the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA) which has the Technical Regulations Division (TRD) as one of its entities. The latter is responsible for pesticides in and on food and their residues, food quality schemes, food risk management functions and other non-food product sectors.</p> <p>As a Senior Manager (Quality), I was responsible to manage organisational risks related to quality affairs of the MCCAA. Risk management activities performed by the entities, including the TRD, were not under my remit.</p> <p>My empowerment to validate and/or take management actions/decisions were only related to quality affairs.</p> <p>I was not a member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%
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1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.
3. Please indicate any form of regular occupation or business, part-time or full-time, paid or unpaid, including self-employment, and any consultancy activities performed in the context of employment or organisation and provided to individual business operators or other private parties and indicate their identities. Please describe the remit of the employing entity or organisation, your precise role, tasks, responsibilities and the nature or area of your work, what the activity is about (e.g. types of substances, products, guidance documents, processes or policies) and how it relates to the remit of EFSA and/or of the relevant EFSA scientific group(s). Please indicate whether the employing entity or organisation carries out risk management activities, whether you are personally empowered to validate or take risk management actions/decisions or not, or whether you serve as member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.

committee advising on risk management matters.

- Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication has to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

## V. OCCASIONAL CONSULTANCY

V. Occasional consultancy	Period <sup>1</sup> From/To (Month/Year)	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
			NO INTEREST	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> > 0% but < 5% <input type="checkbox"/> > 5% but < 25% <input type="checkbox"/> > 25%

- Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.

2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.

- Please indicate any consultancy activity occurring rarely so that it does not become a regular occupation, and in which the you provide advice or services, paid or unpaid, to companies, trade associations or other bodies with an interest falling directly or indirectly within EFSA's remit. Please provide a description of what the consultancy/advice is about, the topic of the delivered consultancy and the nature of the associated deliverable (e.g. study, report, assessment report, etc.). Please indicate whether the occasional consultancy implies risk management activities, whether you are personally empowered to validate or take risk management actions/decisions or whether you serve as member of a regulatory committee advising on risk management matters.

- Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication has to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

## VI. RESEARCH FUNDING

VI. Research funding	Period <sup>1</sup> <i>From/To</i> <i>(Month/Year)</i>	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Does the funding received from the private sector during the two years preceding the submission of the ADoI exceeds 25% of the total research budget that is managed by you for the area under concern <sup>4</sup> ?
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization providing the research funding.
3. Please indicate any funding for research or development work received from any public or private entity either in a personal or professional capacity and falling within EFSA's entire set of responsibilities. It includes grants, rents, reimbursement of expenses, sponsorship and fellowship. Please indicate the topic of the research activity and the nature of the associated output (e.g. study, report, publication, etc.).
4. Please include also research funding received by your employing organisation.

## VII. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

VII. Intellectual property rights	Period <sup>1</sup> <i>From/To</i> <i>(Month/Year)</i>	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
			NO INTEREST	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25%



VIII. Other membership or affiliation			<input type="checkbox"/> >25%
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1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.
3. Please indicate the all works resulting from human intellectual creativity (e.g. patents, trademarks, inventorship, etc.) for which you have been granted rights, irrespective of whether they grant a financial gain, and that fall, directly or indirectly, within EFSA's remit. Please indicate if the intellectual property is still valid or if it expired and provide a description of the topic covered by the granted right (e.g. GMO, pesticides, feed, etc.), your role (e.g. patent holder, contributor etc.) and how the intellectual property right relates to the remit of EFSA and/or of the EFSA relevant scientific group.
4. Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication has to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

### VIII. OTHER MEMBERSHIP OR AFFILIATION

VIII. Other membership or affiliation	Period <sup>1</sup> From/To (Month/Year)	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
			NO INTEREST	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%

1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.
3. Please indicate any membership or affiliation with entities with an interest falling within EFSA's remit not falling under the categories defined above and relevant for the purposes of the EFSA decision on Competing Interest Management. This shall include roles and membership in professional associations, learned society, Non-Governmental-Organisations and comparable entities. Please provide a description of your precise role, tasks, responsibilities, the activities of the entity or person with whom the activity is engaged, of its remit, and when possible of its funding , and how the activity relates to the remit of EFSA and/or of the EFSA relevant scientific group.
4. Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication has to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

## IX. OTHER RELEVANT INTEREST

IX. Other relevant interest	Period <sup>1</sup> <i>From/To</i> <i>(Month/Year)</i>	Organisation <sup>2</sup>	Subject matter <sup>3</sup>	Impact on annual earnings <sup>4</sup>
			NO INTEREST	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% <input type="checkbox"/> >0% but <5% <input type="checkbox"/> >5% but <25% <input type="checkbox"/> >25%

1. Please specify the relevant period of time each activity took place in month/year.
2. Please indicate name, legal nature and location of the organization.
3. Please indicate any interest not falling under the other eight categories above (such as prizes, gifts, awards and hospitality) and relevant for the purposes of the EFSA decision on Competing Interest Management. Please provide a description of the interest, such as the subject matter of the activity (e.g. GMO, pesticides, feed, etc.), your precise role, tasks, responsibilities, deliverables and, if any, the context in which the activity takes place, the field of activities of the organisation and how these relates to the remit of EFSA and of the EFSA relevant scientific group(s).
4. Please indicate the impact of the activity on your annual earnings, by selecting one of the values provided. This indication has to be given also for past interests older than one year prior to the submission of the ADoI.

I confirm that:

I think **I do not have a conflict of interest** with respect to my activity(ies) at EFSA

OR

I think **I have a conflict of interest** with respect to the following EFSA activity \_\_\_\_\_ and for the following reasons \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare that I have read the [EFSA Decision on Competing Interest Management](#) implementing EFSA's Policy on Independence and that the above declaration is truthful and complete.

Date: 07/05/2024

Signature: (either physical or electronic signature)



If you need more sheets to declare your interests, do not hesitate to use blank ones or to ask for them, but please sign each one of them and attach them to this form.

#### Note regarding the processing of personal data:

EFSA processes all Declarations of Interests (DoIs) in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. DoI processing is necessary in order to safeguard the independence of EFSA and enable the Authority to carry out its mission and comply with its obligations under Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.

The Executive Director of EFSA is the data controller with respect to the handling of DoIs.

Concerned individuals have the right to access, rectify, erase and object to the processing of their ADoI at any time. Nevertheless, for certain categories of individuals (e.g., experts), it may be a mandatory requirement to submit a DoI to EFSA so as to verify the absence of conflicts of interests and thus protect the independence of EFSA. Concerned individuals will be contacted if EFSA becomes aware of information that is not consistent with the declared interest such as on the occasion of compliance monitoring activities outlined in the relevant [Standard Operating Procedure](#).

Certain ADoIs shall be made publicly available in accordance with Article 38(1)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002. Furthermore, ADoIs may be transferred to bodies in charge of monitoring, auditing or inspection in conformity with EU Law.

The conservation period for ADoIs per category of data subjects is 10 years from the date of submission of the relevant ADoI.

Concerned individuals may direct any queries regarding personal data processing by EFSA to the data protection officer [DataProtectionOfficer@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:DataProtectionOfficer@efsa.europa.eu). They are entitled to submit a complaint at any time to the European Data Protection Supervisor: <http://www.edps.europa.eu>

The legal basis for ADoI processing is provided for in Articles 22, 37 and 38 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.