The Steering Committee of NEPS is committed to safeguard a proper democratic process within the association. Following this principle, the Steering Committee of NEPS has decided unanimously in the meeting in Milan held at the 13th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference to approve some voting rules. They amend the rules included in the article 4 of the Statute.

1) The Steering Committee is responsible for management of elections of new councilors.

2) The Steering Committee has decided that every year only individuals and organizations that are already NEPS members at the time of annual conference can be considered eligible voters.

3) The Steering Committee has chosen to adopt the mechanism of Approval Voting with no truncation. This implies that each voter has to cast a number of votes that equals the number of vacancies. Ballots with a different number of votes are not allowed and are to be considered invalid.

4) If some candidates get the same amount of votes, the SC applies progressively the tie-breaking rules listed below (§4, §5 and §6) in order to proclaim new elected councilors.

5) First tie-breaking rule. Among candidates with the same amount of votes, female candidates will be elected. This rule follows a global growing attention for gender balance in academic societies. If this rule is not applicable, the second tie-breaking rule is applied directly.

6) Second tie-breaking rule. If the first tie-breaking rule either does not apply among candidates with the same amount of votes, those with longer professional experience are to be elected. Longer professional experience is measured by means of years after Phd.

7) Third tie-breaking rule. If rules §4 and §5 do not allow to proclaim elected councilors, the SC would launch a new ballot between candidates who got the same amount of votes.