Shaping Europe‘s Drone Economy

UAVDACH

ASSOCIATION FOR UNMANNED AVIATION

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About UAV DACH

Our strong community

- European Association for Unmanned Aviation
- Established in year 2000
- More than 260 organization united from 10+ countries
- Heterogene membership: manufacturers, operators, researchers, users
- A remarkably powerful voice for the European drone economy

Our mission

- Clearing obstacles to commercial UAS operations

Our goals

- Support a growing and competitive European drone industry
- Enable real world use cases through clear and practical rules
- Build public acceptance through visibility, transparency and safety
- Counter and sanction abusive or illegal drone activities

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Benefits of the UAV DACH community

Why joining the association

- UAV DACH is successfully committed to creating a technical, legal, operational, social and political influence for establishing sustainable UAS-based business models.
- UAV DACH provides direct and regular contact with national and European regulatory and approval authorities.
- UAV DACH is a recognized player in Europe and is closely engaged to important technical and regulatory bodies and committees at international level (EASA, ICAO, JARUS, EUROCAE, CEN CENELEC etc.).
- UAV DACH engages on the most prominent events such as Xponential Europe and connects CEOs, authorities, politicians and operators.

Inform – Connect – Shape   The toolbox of UAV DACH

Inform

- Reliable and qualified information from all areas of the drone economy
- Knowledge advantage compared to non-members, wide range of expertise and support by members for members
- Flow of information between UAV DACH, its members and the public in line with needs, topics and content

Connect

- Comprehensive network with partners from all areas of the drone economy
- Access to intensive exchange with other experts in our Competence and Application Groups
- Result-, interest- and relevance-driven networking between association, its members and society

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Shape

- Members develop and define the positions that UAV DACH represents towards politics, authorities and the general public
- Monitoring of current developments in the UAS industry in to identify and take opportunities at an early stage
- Creating and utilizing result-, innovation- and success-oriented initiatives for the association and its members

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Shape the future of drones in Europe and strengthen the foundation for your own economic success.

The Executive Board

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Dr. Gerald Wissel, Chairman

Chairman of the Board at UAV DACH, Dr. Wissel leads the association's strategic direction and international representation. He focuses on advancing unmanned aviation in Europe, including contributions to ICAO's AAM initiatives.

Oliver Lichtenstein, Deputy Chairman

As Deputy Chairman, Oliver Lichtenstein connects UAV DACH with Europe. He maintains close links to the European Commission, EASA and the Parliament. He ensures that member requests and information reach the relevant authorities and organisations.

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The Executive Board

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Jan Schönberg

As Executive Board Member in charge of Events and Communications, Jan Schönberg leads the planning and execution of UAV DACH's major events, including the European Drone Forum, and manages the association's outreach and public relations.

Michael Wieland

As Managing Director and Board Member, Michael Wieland is responsible for the operational leadership of UAV DACH. With extensive experience in aviation and lobbying, he advocates for the social and economic integration of unmanned systems across Europe.

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The Executive Board

Markus Rossol

Markus Rossol oversees technical operations and the development of industry standards for Airspace management. He plays a key role in fostering innovation and ensuring compliance with evolving regulations.

Thorsten Fiolka

Thorsten Fiolka is responsible for the coordination of research organisations and tender programs within UAV DACH. He supports the professional development of drone operators and the implementation of industry best practices.

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René Wagner

Rene Wagner brings his expertise in legal and regulatory frameworks. His focus is on ensuring that UAV DACH's members meet compliance standards and contribute to the development of safe, sustainable drone operations.

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Competencies – Working Groups

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Design (DSG)

Focuses on the technical aspects of UAS, particularly for operations in the "Open," "Specific," and "Certified" categories, with experts evaluating, commenting on, and developing technical requirements such as EASA's Operational Safety Objectives (OSOs) and Means Of Compliance (MOC). This competence group is crucial in assessing the practicality and economic feasibility of new guidelines and standards from the UAS industry's perspective, ensuring UAS are built to meet high safety and innovation standards while keeping production and approval processes economically viable.

Infrastructure Airspace (INA)

The group actively defines the framework for detect & avoid and conspicuity systems while implementing the European U-Space concept, always prioritizing economic viability and practical applicability for UAS operators

Operations (OPS)

Supports the complete drone lifecycle—from developing viable operational concepts and ensuring compliance with legal regulations to simplifying complex rules like the German Aviation Regulations (LuftVO) and removing operational barriers for sustainable drone usage. Through collaborative dialogue with regulatory authorities, UAS industry experts streamline application processes and develop widely accepted procedures for safe operations, significantly enhancing the interface between regulators and industry to enable commercial drone operations

Infrastructure Ground (ING)

In both urban and rural areas, drones will shape everyday life, making the development of practical and scalable standards for vertiports and drone take-off/landing zones a key focus of this competence group.

Qualification & Training (QUT)

With the growth of the drone economy, the demand for qualified professionals is rising and entirely new roles are emerging, from pilots and flight planners to maintenance and service personnel. The Qualification & Training Competence Group in UAV DACH plays a crucial role in developing, defining, and harmonizing European standards, aiming to establish comparable training and certification programs that meet the requirements for safe and sustainable UAS operations

IT Security & IT Safety (ITS)

The operation of unmanned, automated systems poses several IT and cybersecurity challenges, and the experts in our IT Safety & Security Competence Group, in collaboration with oversight and regulatory authorities, develop fundamental security measures (IT baseline profiles) to ensure resilient UAS operations. Furthermore, the group creates data protection concepts to ensure compliance with the European GDPR, safeguarding individual and company data from misuse, and provides practical guidelines to minimize cybersecurity risks

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Competencies – Working Groups

Maintenance (MRO)

Develops a consolidated response concerning OSO (Operational Safety Objectives) in the medium risk level of SAIL III and IV regarding "Maintenance". The main objective is to provide a deeper understanding of the maintenance requirements when operating in a "specific" category (SAIL III & IV), focusing on OSO No. 03 for the requirement of a "maintenance program", an understanding of the structure of a maintenance manual provided by an OEM to deal with continuing airworthiness as well as "release to service", and the qualification of maintenance personnel

Drone Detection & Countermeasures (DDC)

Develops a consolidated response concerning OSO (Operational Safety Objectives) in the medium risk level of SAIL III and IV regarding "Maintenance". The main objective is to provide a deeper understanding of the maintenance requirements when operating in a "specific" category (SAIL III & IV), focusing on OSO No. 03 for the requirement of a "maintenance program", an understanding of the structure of a maintenance manual provided by an OEM to deal with continuing airworthiness as well as "release to service", and the qualification of maintenance personnel

Line Inspection (LIN)

Public Security & Defense (PSD) is an Application Group inside UAV DACH – Association for Unmanned Aviation. Chaired by German Army Lt Col René Achten, it provides a neutral forum where end-users from police, fire & rescue, civil protection and the armed forces meet technology suppliers, academics and regulators to turn drone capabilities into safe, interoperable solutions for security and defence missions

Public Security & Defense (PSD)

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Aerial Photography (APH)

The Working Group Aerial Photography supports the professional use of camera drones across Europe. It focuses on high quality imaging and surveilling standards, safe flight operations and compliance with European regulations. The group brings together experienced operators, manufacturers and service providers to advance best practices and enable reliable commercial applications in media, surveying and documentation.

Medical Rescue (RES)

Medical Rescue (RES) focuses on the use of unmanned aircraft systems in emergency response and life-saving operations. Its goal is to connect industry, research, and authorities to develop practical UAS solutions that support faster medical assistance, improve coordination, and strengthen the resilience of rescue services across Europe.

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Inclusive opinion process

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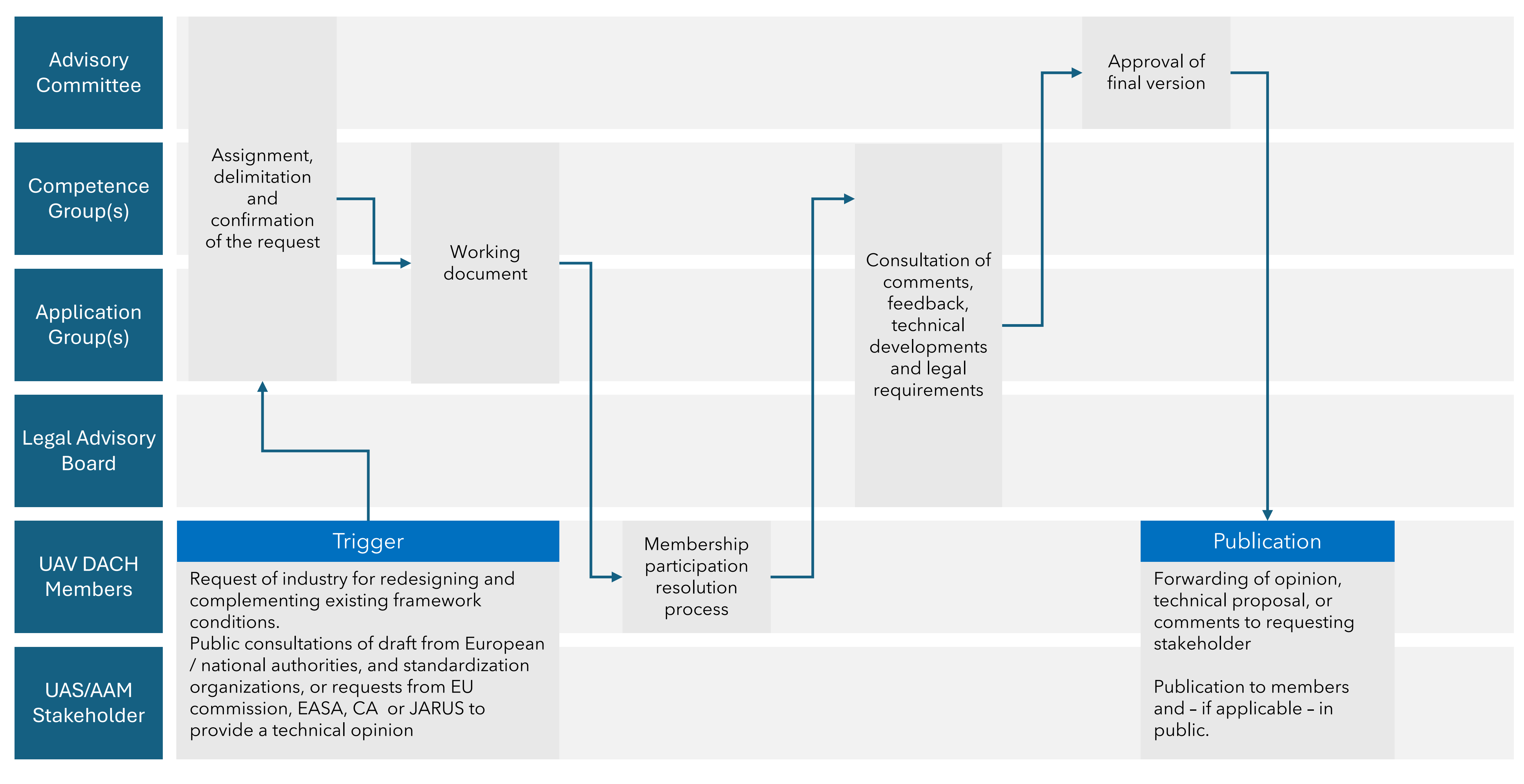

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Current Projects

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Positions and Proposals

- Enable BVLOS Operations with Drones: increase safety in lower airspace by ADS-L
- Counter Drone Measures: Protecting sensitive infrastructure of illegal / dangerous drones
- Job Profile Drone Pilot: Professional Drone Pilot Qualification Program
- Medical Rescue: 1st Responder Drone Europe – reducing time to patient with drones
- Line Inspection: Reduce carbon emission, increase service quality, maintain safety of tracks, power grids, gas and oil pipelines

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Community Networking

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Events and Conferences

- Xponential Europe 24-26. March 2025
  The leading European trade fair for autonomous technologies & robotics
  UAV DACH as Partner for unmanned aviation
- EUROPEAN DRONE FORUM 24. March 2025
  Europe’s leading UAS Expert conference bridigng the gap between industry and authorities embedded in the Xponential Europe
- Participation / stage program and background talks
  at INTERGEO, AERO Expo, Int. Drone Show, Enforce Tac, Perimeter Protection

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Join the strong alliance for the drone economy

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