In the year 2020 the Austrian National Group faced substantive organisational changes. In the course of our General Assembly in November 2019 a new Board of Directors was elected. For reasons of age Prof. Dr. Otto F. Müller decided not to stand for president again after having served as the president of the Austrian National Group for several decades. In his stead Prof. Dr. Ernst Eugen Fabrizy – the former vice-president of our National Group – was elected as the new president of the Austrian National Group.

The new board, which will be in power until the end of 2024, consists of the following persons:

President: Prof. Dr. Ernst Eugen Fabrizy, Procurator General (ret.)
Vicepresident: Prof. Dr. Franz Plöchl, Procurator General
Secretary General: Mag. Michael Leitner, Deputy Procurator General
Finance: Dr. Erich Weiss, Senior Deputy Procurator General (ret.)
further members: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christian Gräfl
o. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Frank Höpfel
Mag. Gerhard Jarosch, Senior Public Prosecutor, Eurojust
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Robert Kert
Univ.-Ass. Dr. Mag. Andrea Lehner
Prof. Dr. Roland Miklau
Assoz.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Farsam Salimi
Dr. Gottfried Strasser, Procurator General (ret.)
Dr. Martin Ulrich, Deputy Procurator General
Honorary President: Prof. Dr. Otto F. Müller, Procurator General (ret.)

Coming to the academic activities of the Austrian National Group the year 2020 turned out to be a really challenging year:

With regard to an academic ceremony, which took place in April 2019 in view of the 45th anniversary of our National Group, we published a printed documentation of this ceremony in January 2020.
Due to the current pandemic situation the Austrian National Group unfortunately was not able to carry out any further academic activities for the entire year 2020.

At the end of March 2020 we were forced to cancel a symposium on the topic "artificial intelligence in the field of criminal law", which was planned to take place in April 2020 in the Grand Ceremonial Hall of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Justice.

In June 2020 we decided to organise this symposium again, hoping to realise it in the course of October, but at the beginning of September also this turned out to be impossible.

As the situation turned for the worse during the last weeks, and in view of the current restrictions it now even seems to be very unlikely to carry out the annual General Assembly of our National Group, which should to take place at the end of November 2020 and which should contain also an academic speech of the former Austrian Federal Chancellor and retired President of the Austrian Federal Constitutional Court Dr. Brigitte Bierlein.

Nevertheless the Austrian National Group fulfilled its financial obligations accurately and on time as always.

Prof. Dr. Ernst Eugen Fabrizy, m.p. 
President 

Secretary General