

PRACE Council welcomes a new Chair and Vice-Chair

At the 37th PRACE Council Meeting on 17 June 2020 – which was held remotely to account for the travel restrictions and physical distancing rules due to the COVID-19 pandemic – the PRACE Members elected a new Chair and Vice-Chair. The new incumbents will fulfil their mandates for two years.

Dr **Janne Ignatius**, Adjunct Professor and Programme Director at CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd. in Finland, who had been PRACE Council Vice-Chair [since 2018](#) and delegate for Finland since 2013 took over from Prof. Dr Thomas Lippert, Director of the Institute for Advanced Simulation and Head of Jülich Supercomputing Centre in Germany, as Council Chair.



Janne Ignatius, Chair of the PRACE Council

Philippe Lavocat, President and CEO of GENCI, and delegate for France, was elected as the new Vice-Chair.



Philippe Lavocat, Vice-Chair of the PRACE Council

"PRACE is deeply grateful to Thomas Lippert for steering PRACE during the past two years as Council Chair." said Janne Ignatius, "As the new Chair, I will work for the benefit of PRACE, its members, and the European HPC ecosystem. We will work together and in fruitful collaboration with EuroHPC. PRACE continues to be of utmost importance in advancing science and industry in all areas where top-level HPC is the central instrument for research."

Both Janne Ignatius and Philippe Lavocat have been members of the PRACE Strategy Working Group (SWG) since 2016. Janne also represents Finland on the Management Board of the PRACE-IP Projects, and chairs the Optional Programme Committee on Tier-1/DECI cycle exchange.

The PRACE Council, the highest decision-making body in PRACE, welcomes its new leadership.

About PRACE

The Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (PRACE) is an international non-profit association with its seat in Brussels. The PRACE Research Infrastructure provides a persistent world-class High-Performance Computing service for scientists and researchers from academia and industry in Europe. The computer systems and their operations accessible through PRACE are provided by five PRACE members (BSC representing Spain, CINECA representing Italy, ETH Zurich/CSCS representing Switzerland, GCS representing Germany and GENCI representing France). The Implementation Phase of PRACE receives funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (2014-2020) under grant agreement 823767. For more information, see www.prace-ri.eu

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Or contact Marjolein Oorsprong, Communications Officer: Telephone: +32 2 613 09 27 E-mail: [communication\[at\]prace-ri.eu](mailto:communication[at]prace-ri.eu)
