META≡NET

**A Network of Excellence forging the
Multilingual Europe Technology Alliance**

Statutes of META-NET

---

1   Introduction

META-NET is a Network of Excellence dedicated to fostering the technological foundations of a multilingual European information society. Its members are listed in Appendix 1. META-NET has received funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme through CRACKER (grant agreement no.: 645357), from the EU's 7th Framework Programme through T4ME (grant agreement no.: 249119) and from the EC's ICT Policy Support Programme through CESAR (grant agreement no.: 271022), METANET4U (grant agreement no.: 270893) and META-NORD (grant agreement no.: 270899).

2   Objectives and Actions

The main objectives of META-NET are to establish the Multilingual Europe Technology Alliance (META) as an open alliance of all stakeholders and to foster a multilingual European

information society in which Language Technologies enable communication and cooperation across languages, secure users of any language equal access to information and knowledge, and build upon as well as advance functionalities of networked information technology.

To achieve these goals, META-NET pursues three lines of actions: (1) Fostering a dynamic and influential community around a shared, collaboratively created vision and strategic research agenda; (2) Designing and implementing an open resource exchange facility (META-SHARE); (3) Building bridges to relevant neighbouring technology fields.

2.1 Dissemination and Communication

META-NET's external communication is based on the following principles:

a. Using and adhering to one brand (i.e., META-NET) is mission-critical for the success of the initiative.
b. To establish a recognisable identity, the META-NET/META logos and branding are used. Related logos such as, for example, META-FORUM and META-SHARE are prepared by META-NET Management and used for related initiatives and actions.
c. The URL of the META-NET website is http://www.meta-net.eu. All communication channels (facebook page, LinkedIn group etc.) are shared tools in the Network of Excellence and must not be duplicated.

META-NET and META closely cooperate. When no explicit reference to the Network of Excellence is needed in external communication activities and when there is an emphasis on sustainable, long-term goals, the use of META is preferred over META-NET.

2.2 META-SHARE

The open resource exchange facility META-SHARE, designed and implemented by META-NET, plays a central role in the Network of Excellence. Members of META-NET shall register all or part of their Language Resources and Language Technologies with META-SHARE. Members of META-NET shall actively extend the user base of META-SHARE (see Appendix 2 for the description of META-SHARE that is currently in use on the META-NET website).

2.3 META-TRUST

In order to further the progress of Europe's Language Technology community along the lines of META's and META-NET's goals, META-TRUST was established. Inter alia, META-TRUST as a legal person in its own right is meant to act as a supporting entity, as a trustee of IPR, as a central licensor for public sharing, as an entity able to participate in tenders as well as able to represent META-NET as a whole in international research projects and, last but not least, as a sustainable base for a common mission. META-TRUST consists of natural persons only, i.e., of some of the most respected and long-standing members of the META community of researchers. META-NET is involved and represented in META-TRUST's operation by the EB also serving as META-TRUST's advisory committee.

2.4 Mobilisation – Outreach – Community Building

Among the goals of the META-NET outreach, mobilisation, community building efforts are:

1. To identify relevant projects, researchers, politicians, industry representatives, language communities and representatives from relevant additional stakeholder groups.
2. To inform them and to get them to support META-NET and also META.
3. To get them to use META-SHARE (i.e., to share LRs and LTs).
4. To get them to provide additional (national) funding etc.

The division of labour in these activities is as follows:

a. Individual META-NET members are responsible for national or regional promotion, dissemination, mobilisation, awareness-raising activities under the META-NET brand, carried out in coordination with META-NET Management.
b. META-NET as a whole handles the European and international level. Transnational or EU-wide efforts are coordinated with META-NET Management. When in the scope of international, transnational or EU-wide efforts, META-NET as a whole addresses national and language stakeholders, this communication is coordinated with the main contact for that country, region or language.
c. META-NET uses a shared database of relevant stakeholders. Members are expected to provide, among others, contact information (i.e., name, phone number, affiliation, email and postal address) on the international and especially on the national level of representatives of the following stakeholder types: research, politics, administration, funding agencies, LT user industries, LT provider industries, journalists, language communities, other.

3   Bodies of META-NET

The following bodies are relevant for the governance of META-NET and for the purposes related to the overall goals of the Network of Excellence (see Section 1):

1. META-NET Executive Board (EB):
    a. Composition and roles of members:
        i.   Chair
        ii.   Deputy Chair
        iii. Deputy Chair
        iv.   General Secretary (formerly known as "Network Manager")
        v.   Ten additional members
    b. Votes and attendance: All members of the EB have one vote each. At least 50% of the members must be represented for the board to be quorate and take decisions. Votes are decided by simple majority. In case of a tie vote in which both the Chair and the General Secretary participated, the vote of the General Secretary will be discarded. In all other tie votes, the Chair or the General Secretary will take on the role of tiebreaker.
    c. The EB can decide, with a two/thirds majority, to accept new META-NET members (including status of main contact).
    d. The EB can decide, with a two/thirds majority, to extend its own composition.
    e. The EB can decide, with a two/thirds majority, to invite an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the goals of META-NET as an Honorary Member or Honorary Chair of META-NET. The EB can also decide to remove this title again. Proposals for honorary chairs or members may be made by any member of META-NET.
    f. Frequency and style of meetings: The EB meets on a biannual basis. Additional meetings can be called at any time by majority agreement amongst the members of the board. A minimum of 14 days notice shall be given for any meeting. Meetings shall preferably be face-to-face and will be co-located with important events such as META-FORUM whenever possible. Meetings may also be held via tele- or videoconference (including voting).
    g. The EB is the ultimate authority in the running of META-NET. It directs its strategic orientation and safeguards the interests of all members. Its main responsibility is to ensure that META-NET is making satisfactory progress on its mission to forging META.
    h. Conflict resolution: Should there be a conflict that cannot be resolved within the EB, the conflict is to be resolved by a smaller group in which either a member of the EB or an external party acts as an impartial mediator.

      i.   The normal legislative period of the EB is two years.
      j.   The General Assembly elects a new EB.
      k.   Members of the EB can be reelected without any restrictions.
      l.   EB candidates can be nominated by any member up until eight weeks before the election.

2. META-NET General Assembly (GA):
   a. The GA consists of all META-NET members.
   b. The GA is to be co-located with META-FORUM, if possible.
   c. At the GA the Chair reports on the progress of the initiative. All META-NET members can present individual findings and results and discuss open questions and issues with the EB.
   d. The GA elects the EB based on simply majority. Three members of META-NET who are not members of the EB organise and carry out the election.
   e. The GA can adopt a modified version of the Statutes (this document) if decided with a two/thirds majority vote.

3. Technology Council (TC):
   a. The Technology Council is a group of external experts from the global Language Technology research and development community (including industry); the TC is META-NET's Advisory Board.
   b. The majority of the members of the TC should not be members of META-NET.
   c. The META-NET EB appoints the chair of the TC; the chair of the TC can be a member of META-NET (for example, an Honorary Chair).
   d. The META-NET EB and the Chair of the TC suggest members of the TC, discuss and agree upon its composition and invite members into the TC. Initially, the Technology Council will be based on the "old" META-NET Technology Council that was initially formed to provide input to the META-NET Strategic Research Agenda for Multilingual Europe 2020 (published in 2013).
   e. The TC should have a minimum number of 15 and a maximum number of 50 members.
   f. Membership in the TC is not limited to a specific term.
   g. The TC meets at least once per year (virtual meeting or face-to-face).
   h. The Chair of the TC organises the meetings (including invitation, agenda, topics etc.) and is supported by the General Secretary of META-NET.
   i. In the TC meeting, the Chair of the EB (or another member of the EB) reports on the current state of META-NET (including activities, results, strategic goals, future plans etc.).
   j. After the meeting, the Chair of the TC provides written recommendations to the Chair of the EB.

4. Honorary Chair:
   a. The EB can invite one or more individuals to be appointed Honorary Chair.
   b. For an individual to be appointed Honorary Chair of META-NET, this individual must be a member of META-NET.
   c. This title does not entail any specific rights or obligations that go beyond the typical rights and obligations of a member of META-NET.

5. Honorary Member:
   a. The EB can invite an individual to be appointed Honorary Member.
   b. For an individual to be appointed Honorary Member of META-NET, this individual does not have to be a member of META-NET.
   c. This title does not entail any specific rights or obligations.

6. The term "META-NET Management", as used within this document, refers to the General Secretary of META-NET who is supported by the META-NET Office (located at DFKI Berlin, Germany).

4   Membership

META-NET is a Network of Excellence consisting of centres of excellence and individual members. META-NET seeks to have at least one member in every country in Europe.

META-NET distinguishes between the following two types of members:

    a. **Node:** a centre of excellence in the field of Language Technology.
    b. **Individual member:** an individual such as, for example, a researcher, administrator or official representing a language, region or a technology area that is not otherwise represented in the Network of Excellence.

New nodes and individual members can be suggested by all members of META-NET (in writing). The EB decides upon suggested new members.

If META-NET has more than one member in a given country, one member must be selected as the dedicated main contact. The status of main contact is appointed by the EB. Nodes are preferred over individual members as dedicated main contacts.

4.1   Members Rights and Obligations

Members work towards ensuring that their languages, geographic regions and technology areas are represented in the strategies and joint actions. They have the following obligations:

    a. Members actively further the goals of META-NET, distribute its message and support its activities.
    b. Members adhere to the META-NET brand and communication strategy for all communication concerning META-NET (logo, name conventions, shared META-NET website, presentation and document templates etc.).
    c. Members initiate awareness-raising activities in their countries.
    d. Members share knowledge and provide information, e.g., on ongoing projects and developments and the state of the art in academic and industrial LT research, development and use in their countries.
    e. Members collect contact details for all stakeholder groups in their countries and share them with META-NET Management.
    f. Members provide, for their languages and coordinated by the respective country's main contact, translations of the core components of the META-NET website.
    g. Members add all or part of their LRs/LTs to META-SHARE and mobilise additional users/providers, especially from their own countries, from all types of stakeholders.

The META-NET members have the following rights:

    h. Members actively participate in the decision making processes of META-NET, work in committees and working groups subject to nomination and election procedures (see Section 3).
    i. Members get access to the META-NET communication channels so that they can disseminate news such as, e.g., significant results from their projects.
    j. Members can include a "Member of META-NET" logo on their organisation's website.
    k. Members are listed as such on the META-NET website.
    l. Through the GA members elect the EB.

4.2   Criteria for Membership

META-NET may be joined by legal entities established under civil or public law and having their registered/main office in Europe provided that such entities conduct regular activities in the field of research and development in the area of Language Technology or related areas.

In exceptional and justified cases, individuals can be members of META-NET. Members of META-NET are expected to exhibit the following attributes:

- Quality: Members of META-NET are expected to demonstrate technological or scientific excellence and to contribute to the general welfare of META-NET and META;
- Networking: Members should have contacts to important stakeholders in politics, industry, or research in their respective areas and countries and be willing to share and utilize them in pursuit of the initiative's main objectives.
- Contribution: Membership in META-NET demands the willingness to share knowledge, to provide information and facts, e.g., on ongoing projects and developments and the state of the art in LT research, development, and usage in their respective countries. Members are expected to add LRs/LTs to META-SHARE.

Legal entities having their registered/main office outside Europe might be admitted as associated members by the EB. Associated members neither have the rights nor obligations which regular members have but are expected to support META-NET activities in their respective regions.

4.3 Becoming a Member

The entities listed in Appendix 1 are members of META-NET. Candidate members can be accepted into the Network of Excellence by a resolution of the EB taking into account the attributes detailed above. New institutional members must name a representative that can communicate in the name of the member with META-NET.

4.4 Ending of Membership

1. Membership can be terminated by the member itself through written notice to the EB.
2. Membership shall end if a member has ceased to exist,
3. Membership shall end if a member was excluded because it systematically acted against META-NET's aims and interests. The EB can pronounce the end of the membership with a two/thirds majority vote. The member will get the opportunity to explain its behaviour.

4.5 List of Current Members

The list of current members and also these Statutes are published on the META-NET website.

4.6 Process of Handling Membership

META-NET handles membership in the following manner:

1. The EB invites a new member into the Network of Excellence.
2. The invitee signs the META-NET Statutes via the membership form (this document).
3. The invitee sends the signed Statutes to META-NET Management via email.
4. Only applicants invited by the EB can become members.
5. META-NET Management assures that the online-list of members is updated.
6. If a membership is ending, META-NET Management modifies the list of members on the META-NET website accordingly.

5 Intellectual Property and Confidentiality

The META-NET public documents are the property of their authors or of META-NET when they are collective documents if authorship is not suitable, needed or should not be identified. Anyone seeking to use all or part of the latter in any form must seek permission from META-NET Management.

The documents and discussions of the META-NET executive bodies are confidential to the participants in those groups and may not be distributed outside of those groups without permission. In exceptional cases, META-NET Management has the authority to decide to share some information externally if it believes that it is in the interest of META-NET.

Membership in META-NET includes agreement and the promise to adhere to these IPR rules.

The confidentiality rules apply for three years from the receipt of any information and they remain in force even if any individual, organisation or company leaves META-NET.

6   Validity of these Rules of META-NET

The rules of the META-NET Statutes (this document) enter into force on adoption by the META-NET General Assembly. They remain in force until the dissolution of META-NET by the General Assembly. Discussion about modification or amendment of these rules might be started at any time on request of more than two META-NET Members. The adoption of modifications and amendments to these rules requires a two/thirds majority vote of the General Assembly.

If a provision of these Statutes is or becomes illegal, invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, that shall not affect: the validity or enforceability in that jurisdiction of any other provision of this Statutes; or the validity or enforceability in other jurisdictions of that or any other provision of this Statutes.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Members of META-NET

1. Deutsches Forschungszentrum für Künstliche Intelligenz, repr. by Hans Uszkoreit, Josef van Genabith and Georg Rehm (General Secretary), DFKI, Germany
2. Barcelona Media, repr. by Toni Badia, BM, Spain
3. Consiglio Nazionale Ricerche – Istituto di Linguistica Computazionale "Antonio Zampolli", repr. by Nicoletta Calzolari, CNR, Italy
4. Institute for Language and Speech Processing, R.C. "Athena", repr. by Stelios Piperidis, ILSP, Greece
5. Charles University in Prague, repr. by Jan Hajic (Chair), CUNI, Czech Republic
6. Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique – Laboratoire d'Informatique pour la Mécanique et les Sciences de l'Ingénieur, repr. by François Yvon, CNRS, France
7. Universiteit Utrecht, repr. by Jan Odijk, UU, Netherlands
8. Aalto University, repr. by Mikko Kurimo, AALTO, Finland
9. Fondazione Bruno Kessler, repr. by Bernardo Magnini, FBK, Italy
10. Dublin City University, repr. by Andy Way, DCU, Ireland
11. Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen, repr. by Hermann Ney, RWTH, Germany
12. Jozef Stefan Institute, repr. by Marko Grobelnik, JSI, Slovenia
13. Evaluations and Language Resources Distribution Agency, repr. by Khalid Choukri, ELDA, France
14. Zentrum für Translationswissenschaft, Universität Wien, repr. by Gerhard Budin, Austria
15. Computational Linguistics and Psycholinguistics Research Centre (CLiPS), University of Antwerp, repr. by Walter Daelemans, Belgium
16. Centre for Processing Speech and Images (ESAT-PSI), University of Leuven, repr. by Dirk van Compernolle, Belgium
17. Institute for Bulgarian Language (IBL), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, repr. by Svetla Koeva, Bulgaria
18. Institute of Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, University of Zagreb, repr. by Marko Tadic, Croatia
19. Language Centre, School of Humanities, repr. by Jack Burston, Cyprus
20. Centre for Language Technology, University of Copenhagen, repr. by Bolette Sandford Pedersen and Bente Maegaard, Denmark
21. Institute of Computer Science, University of Tartu, repr. by Kadri Vider and Tiit Roosmaa, Estonia
22. Department of General Linguistics, University of Helsinki, repr. by Kimmo Koskenniemi, Krister Linden and Timo Honkela, Finland
23. Research Institute for Linguistics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (RILHAS), repr. by Tamás Váradi, Hungary
24. Department of Telecommunications and Media Informatics, Budapest Technical University (TMIT), repr. by Géza Németh and Gábor Olaszy, Hungary
25. School of Humanities, University of Iceland, repr. by Eirikur Rögnvaldsson, Iceland
26. Tilde, repr. by Andrejs Vasiljevs, Latvia
27. Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Latvia, repr. by Inguna Skadina, Latvia
28. Institute of the Lithuanian Language, repr. by Jolanta Zabarskaite, Lithuania
29. Arax Ltd., repr. by Vartkes Goetcherian, Luxembourg
30. Department Intelligent Computer Systems, University of Malta, repr. by Mike Rosner, Malta
31. Department of Linguistic, Literary and Aesthetic Studies, University of Bergen, repr. by Koenraad De Smedt, Norway

32. Institute of Computer Science, Polish Academy of Sciences (IPIPAN), repr. by Adam Przepiórkowski and Maciej Ogrodniczuk, Poland
33. University of Lodz (ULodz), repr. by Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk and Piotr Pezik, Poland
34. Department of Informatics, University of Lisbon (ULX), repr. by Antonio Branco, Portugal
35. Spoken Language Systems Lab, Institute for Systems Engineering and Computers (INESC-ID), repr. by Isabel Trancoso, Portugal
36. Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Romanian Academy (RACAI), repr. by Dan Tufis, Romania
37. Faculty of Computer Science, University Alexandru Ioan Cuza (UAIC), repr. by Dan Cristea, Romania
38. Faculty of Mathematics, Belgrade University (UBG), repr. by Dusko Vitas, Cvetana Krstev and Ivan Obradovic, Serbia
39. Pupin Institute (IPUP), repr. by Sanja Vranes, Serbia
40. Ludovit Stur Institute of Linguistics, Slovak Academy of Sciences, repr. by Radovan Garabik, Slovakia
41. Center for Language and Speech Technologies and Applications (TALP), Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), repr. by Asunción Moreno, Spain
42. Institut Universitari de Lingüistica Aplicada, University Pompeu Fabra (UPF), repr. by Núria Bel, Spain
43. Department of Swedish Language, University of Gothenburg, repr. by Lars Borin, Sweden
44. School of Computer Science, University of Manchester (UNIMAN), repr. bySophia Ananiandou, United Kingdom
45. Department of Computational Linguistics, Saarland University, repr. by Manfred Pinkal, Germany
46. CLCG/Computational Linguistics, University of Groningen, repr. by Gertjan van Noord, The Netherlands
47. Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation, Center for Speech Technology Research, University of Edinburgh, repr. by Steve Renals, UK
48. Department of Computer Linguistics and Artificial Intelligence, Adam Mickiewicz University, repr. by Zygmunt Vetulani, Poland
49. Idiap Research Institute, repr. by Hervé Bourlard, Switzerland
50. Department of Computer Sciences, Bar-Ilan University, repr. by Ido Dagan, Israel
51. Aholab Signal Processing Laboratory, University of the Basque Country, repr. by Inma Hernaez Rioja, Spain
52. Department of Signal Processing and Communications, University of Vigo, repr. by Carmen García Mateo, Spain
53. Dep. of Informatics, Language Technology Group, University of Oslo, repr. by Stephan Oepen, Norway
54. Research Institute of Informatics and Language Processing, University of Wolverhampton, repr. by Ruslan Mitkov, UK
55. Institute for Natural Language Processing, University of Stuttgart, repr. by Jonas Kuhn and Hinrich Schütze, Germany
56. Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Interactive Systems Lab, repr. by Alex Waibel, Germany
57. University of Sheffield, Department of Computer Science, repr. by Robert Gaizauskas, UK
58. University of Le Mans, Laboratory of Computer Science, repr. by Holger Schwenk
59. University of Avignon, Laboratoire Informatique d'Avignon, repr. by Georges Linares
60. TÜBITAK BILGEM, repr. by Mehmet Ugur Dogan

Appendix 2: META-SHARE

The very diverse and heterogeneous landscape of huge amounts of digital and digitized data collections (publications, multimedia files, datasets, applications, etc.) has drastically transformed the requirements for their archiving, publication, discovery and long-term maintenance. Digital repositories provide the infrastructure for storing, preserving, describing, and making this information publicly available in an open, user-friendly and trusted way. Repositories represent an evolution of the digital libraries paradigm towards open access, advanced search capabilities and large-scale distributed architecture.

META-NET aims at creating META-SHARE, a sustainable network of repositories of language data, tools and related web services documented with high-quality metadata, aggregated in central inventories allowing for uniform search and access to resources. Data and tools can be both open and with restricted access rights, free and for-a-fee. META-SHARE targets existing but also new and emerging language data, tools and systems required for building and evaluating new technologies, products and services. In this respect, reuse, combination, repurposing and re-engineering of language data and tools play a crucial role. META-SHARE will eventually be an important component of a language technology marketplace for HLT researchers and developers, language professionals (translators, interpreters, content and software localisation experts, etc.), as well as for industrial players, especially SMEs, catering for the full development cycle of HLT, from research through to innovative products and services.

More specifically, META-SHARE will be a freely available facility, supported by a large user and developer community, based on distributed networked repositories accessible through common interfaces. Users (consumers, providers or aggregators) will have single sign-on accounts and will be able to access everything within the repository. Each language resource will be given a permanent locator (PID). One of the key features of META-SHARE will be metadata harvesting, allowing for discovering and sharing resources across many repositories. META-SHARE will also cater for advanced metadata schemata regarding description, harvesting and discovery of resources. It will be accompanied by a search function, so that users can search and navigate through its resources in the most flexible way possible. META-SHARE will allow the easy integration of new functionalities and services. In order to ensure modularity and robustness, it will follow a service-oriented architecture. Moreover, it will handle equally effective diverse file types. Finally, META-SHARE will provide the ability to compile and produce statistical reports, according to the different user types. The repository administrator will be able to supervise all of the above.

META-SHARE will start by integrating nodes and centres represented by the partners of the META-NET consortium. It will gradually be extended to encompass additional nodes/centres and provide more functionality with the goal of turning into an as largely distributed infrastructure as possible.

Appendix 3: Changelog

- Version 1.01 – edited by Georg Rehm
  - Top of first page: Modified the co-funding note.
  - Section 1: Modified to reflect the additional three consortia.
  - Section 3.1.a: Updated the current composition of the META-NET Executive Board to reflect the state that has been agreed upon with CESAR, META-NET4U and META-NORD in the Appendix Y document.
  - Appendix 1: Modified the list of META-NET members to reflect the current composition of 44 research centres from 31 countries.
  - Version: Updated to 1.01.
- Version 1.02 – edited by Georg Rehm
  - Appendix 1: Modified the list of META-NET members to reflect the current composition of 54 research centres from 33 countries.
  - Version: Updated to 1.02.
- Version 1.03 – edited by Georg Rehm
  - Appendix 1: Modified the list of META-NET members to reflect the current composition of 57 research centres from 33 countries.
  - Version: Updated to 1.03.
- Version 1.1 – edited by Georg Rehm
  - New section on the relationship between META-NET and META-TRUST (see section 2.3).
  - Appendix 1: Modified the list of META-NET members to reflect the current composition of 60 research centres from 34 countries.
  - Version: Updated to 1.1.
- Version 1.2 – edited by Georg Rehm
  - Updated the funding notice to include CRACKER.
  - Included the two new roles of Honorary Chair and Honorary Member.
  - Removed mention of the "Communication Working Group" as this group has not been active for quite some time.
  - Removed mention of the "Language sites" on the META-NET website.
  - Removed all mentions of the EU-funded projects in Section 3.
  - Handling of new members streamlined (Section 4).
  - Changed "Network Manager" to "General Secretary".
  - Included "Technology Council" as a new body.
  - Updated the list of members in Appendix 1.
  - Version: Updated to 1.2.

META-NET Membership Form

Please print, sign and scan this form and send the scan as a PDF document to the General Secretary of META-NET (Georg Rehm, georg.rehm@dfki.de).

Note that only organisations or individuals who have been invited by the META-NET Executive Board to join the Network of Excellence can become members.

Organisation   ....

Institute/Centre   ....

Name of representative   ....

Areas of expertise   ....

Position   ....

Street and house number   ....

ZIP code   ....

City   ....

Country   ....

Phone   ....

Fax   ....

E-mail   ....

Date, city   ....

Signature   ....

This membership form applies to Version 1.2 of the META-NET Statutes (May 17, 2016).