The Board of Governmental Representatives approved the STEP1 submission of the EPOS ERIC establishment

Agata Sangianantoni, Carmela Freda, Massimo Cocco, INGV, Italy

Dear EPOS community,

We are glad to announce that on February the 24th, 2017 during its 8th meeting in Warsaw the Board of Governmental Representatives endorsed EPOS to proceed with the STEP 1 submission of the EPOS ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium) establishment.

Countries delegates from Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, and, United Kingdom discussed and unanimously approved the EPOS ERIC Statutes (Denmark abstained) including the EPOS ERIC budget to set and operate EPOS ERIC and the Scientific and Technical Description. Presently, 11 countries, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, and United Kingdom, have formally expressed their intention to join the EPOS ERIC already at the Step 1. Three more countries, Germany, Norway, and The Netherlands, declared their intention to join EPOS ERIC at the Step 2 submission.

This is a paramount result for EPOS demonstrating its successful progress toward construction of a novel pan-European Research Infrastructure. This result also corroborates the EPOS central role for solid Earth science in Europe both at the level of the scientific community and national authorities.

Having the government’s endorsement, EPOS can now submit to the European Commission the request to become a ERIC.