



International Institute of Forecasters

ISF26 Members Meeting

5.15-6.15pm, Tuesday 30 June 2026



Agenda



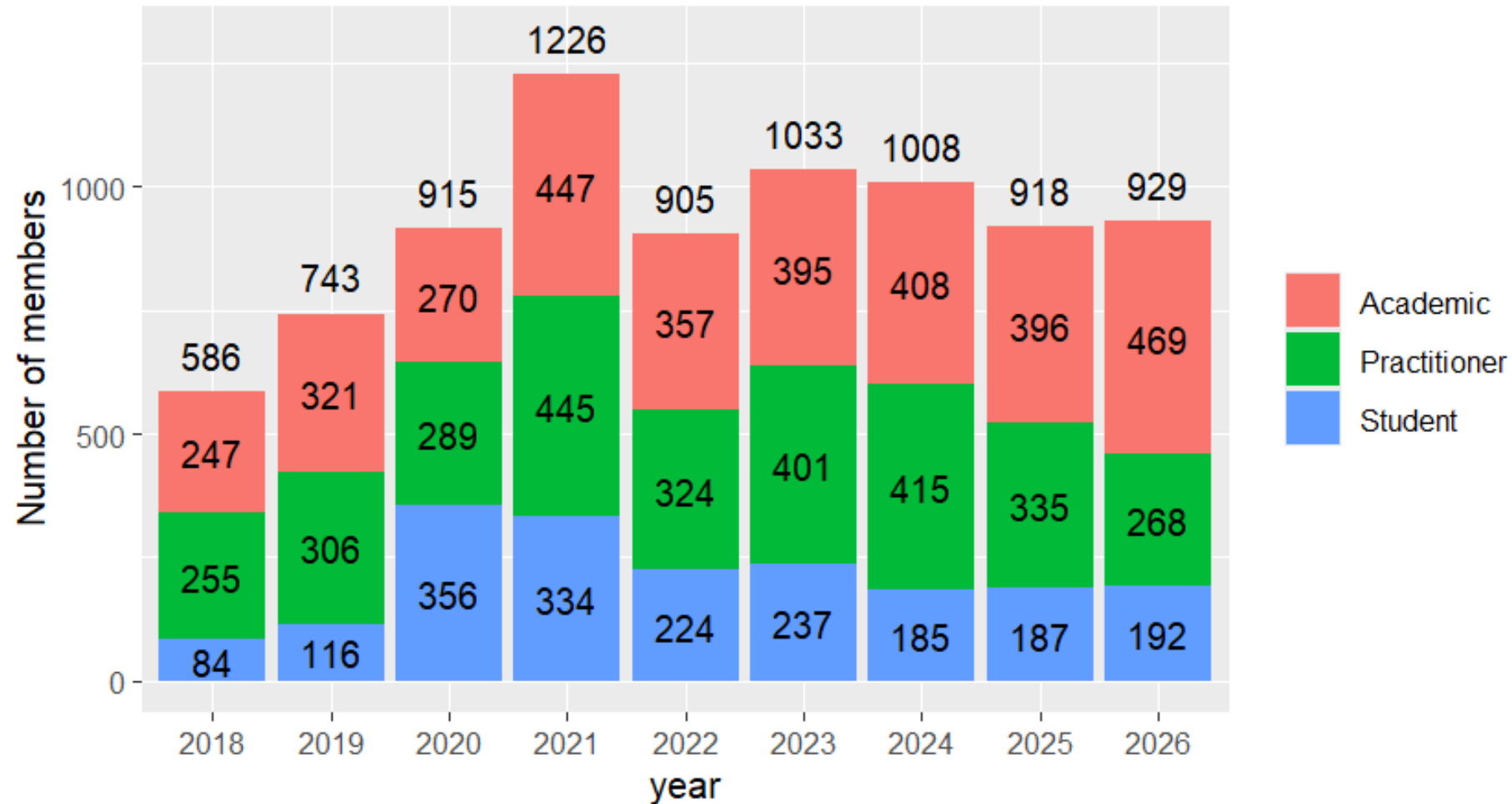
- Introduction (Laurent Ferrara)
- Treasurer's report (Greg Ganics)
- Awards (Ulrich Gunter)
- Forecasting Summer School (Malvina Marchese)
- Accreditations (Malvina Marchese)
- Workshops (Tim Januschowski)
- Distinguished Lecture Series (Ulrich Gunter)
- IIF and Foresight (Pierre Pinson & Mike Gilliland)
- Practitioners Section (Chris Fry)
- Future ISFs (Laurent Ferrara & George Athanasopoulos)
- Q&A (All)

Intro: Elections



- 1 election in 2026:
 - 1) Anna Sroginis (IIF Network)
- 2 mandates ending in 2027:
 - Tim and Elaine

Intro: Membership



Intro: IJF contract



- New contract signed with Elsevier for 5 years starting in January 2025
- A lot of efforts from Pierre and me, with the help of a legal counsel on intellectual property
- Much Less favourable in terms on money ...
=> Vigilance on financial issues

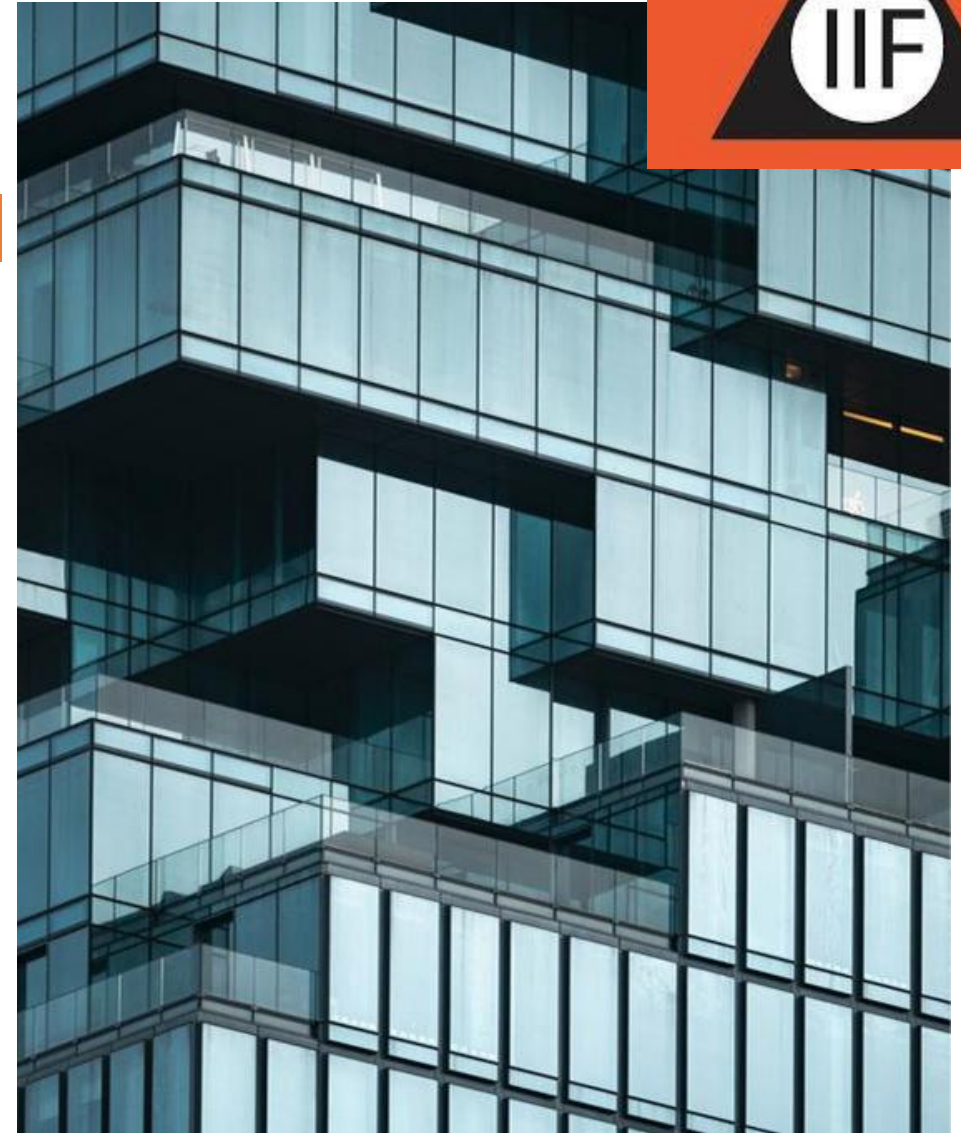


Treasurer's Report

Gergerly Ganics

Our goals

- As a non-profit, we exist to **serve our members** in a **fiscally responsible** manner.
- **Give back to the membership community** while maintaining **strong cash position** to enable this.
- Support **stability, growth**, and continued **investment**:
 - Growing **IIF membership**:
 - Increasing support for students.
 - Increasing engagement with practitioners.
 - Expanding **IIF influence**:
 - Increasing support for research and events.





2025 was a year of relative stability



- We generated an operating loss of \$35,656 (12.4% of revenue)
- Our expenses in 2025 totaled \$323,488, while revenues amounted to \$287,832.
- Main driver of our finances: ISF 2025 was a financial success but zero income from Elsevier
- We remain in a good financial position (cash of \$364k), but careful with sequence of deficits
- Many thanks to all our members supporting the IIF. Also, big thanks to all those who helped solicit sponsors, and thanks to those sponsors for supporting the IIF.

A look into the future



- While the IIF's financial position continues to be good, the Board will still need to ensure that it remains stable in the future.
- Some measures we have taken:
- **Foresight:** Thanks to moving to an online-only subscription model, we have realized significant savings on printing/shipping costs, in addition to this being an environmentally friendly step.
- **IIF Royalties:** After rounds of negotiations, the IIF has made a deal with Elsevier, restoring this source of income.
- We have implemented major **cost-control measures**, including caps on travel grants, workshop support, and decided to reduce some activities generating a loss (FSS on hold, stop the \$100 to students but only a certificate).



Awards and Prizes

Ulrich Gunter

IIF SAS Award



- For the past 19 years, the IIF, in collaboration with SAS®, has provided financial support for research on how to improve forecasting methods and business forecasting practice
- Two \$10,000 grants are awarded each year: one in methodology and one in applications
- Early career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply

IIF SAS Award



- **Mahdi Abolghasemi and Raja Jurdak**, Queensland University of Technology in the category of Methodology
 - *Federated Hierarchical Forecasting*
- **Marco Zanotti**, University of Milano Bicocca in the category of Applications
 - *Towards Accurate Stable and Sustainable Forecasting Systems*

Travel Awards



- The IIF grants travel awards to enable individuals from all over the world to attend the International Symposium on Forecasting.
- They are primarily for students in the area of forecasting.
- There were 25 applications this year.
- Travel awards were awarded to 6 applicants

Travel Awards



- **Jannik Steenbergen**, *Aarhus University*
- **Jessica Helmer**, *Georgia Tech*
- **George Marinos**, *National Technical Univ. Athens*
- **Joost van der Haar**, *KU Leuven*
- **Michael Vitali**, *Imperial College London*
- **Tianyi Wang**, *University of Warwick*

Student Awards



- Prizes of \$100 and complimentary one-year membership awarded to the best performing student in forecasting courses (no more \$100 starting from next year)
- We have 23 institutions participating from 9 different countries and for both undergraduate and postgraduate programs.
- To participate the course must be:
 - a) taught by an IIF member at a recognised and reputable university
 - b) have significant forecasting content, and
 - c) be a substantial course with at least 20 hours contact time

Student Awards



- **Borel Peguy Ntsafack Nguimfack**, George Washington University
- **Muhammad Abdullah Sabir**, Cardiff University
- **Sara Beever Salinas**, Lancaster University
- **Evan Dixon**, Monash
- **Thevni Kalansuriya**, Monash
- **Tamer Hassan**, Monash
- **Anastasia Askouni**, NTU Athens
- **Hengjun Qiu**, Tsinghua



Forecasting Summer School

Malvina Marchese

FSS: Overview



2018: Econometrics -> David Hendry, U. of Oxford

2019: Probabilistic forecasting -> T. Gneiting, KITS, DE

2020: Energy -> H. Madsen, Technical Univ. of Denmark.

2021: Nowcasting -> M. Marcellino, Bocconi University, IT

2022: Machine learning techniques for forecasting: 2 for 1

->G. Bontempi, U. Libre de Bruxelles, BE, on-line

->N. Kourentzes & T. Januschowski, on-site at U. Oxford

2023: Modeling and Forecasting the International Dimensions -> Menzie Chinn (U. Wisconsin)

2024: Bayesian Forecasting -> Francesco Ravazzolo, BI Oslo and U. Bolzano,

2025: Tommaso Proietti (U. Roma, Italy) on High-frequency modelling (54 students)

FSS: 2026 Montreal



June 27-28

Domenico Giannone (IMF) : Risk Forecasting (12 students)

Linked with ISF Keynotes

Given the structural deficit, the BoD decided to put FSS on hold for 2027



Certifications

Malvina Marchese

Certificate of Forecasting practice



Ongoing

- Lancaster university MSc Data Science
- Timberlake Academy
- Certificate in Strategic Forecasting Practice in BioPharma — Biopharma Forecasting Program
- Bayes Business School MSc Quantitative Finance
- St John's University MSc Data Analytics
- Bolzano University

Certificate of Forecasting practice



New partners in 2026

- Bayes Business School , MSc Global Finance
- Ben Khalifa University , Qatar MSc Economics
- Bayes Business School, Msc Quant Finance
- CalLutheran (renewed) Msc Econmics and Forecasting

Certificate of Forecasting practice



Potential new partners

- Atlas Skill Tech University
Mumbai
- UIBE, University of International
Business and Economics ,Beijing
- KAIST, Seoul, Korea

Way forward



- We have moved to a business model which commits the partner to a fixed contribution (250/300 dollars per student)
- Yearly contribution to IIF: ~ 7000\$ in 2026
- Explore Mena Region, Qatar, Abu Dabhi, Dubai and China, India
- Please send me any contact ! Malvina.Marchese@city.ac.uk



Workshops

Tim Januschowski

Workshops



- The International Institute of Forecasters sponsors workshops, each of which focuses on a specific forecasting theme.
- The purpose of these workshops is to hold smaller, informal meetings where experts in a particular field of forecasting can discuss forecasting problems, research, and solutions
- Virtual events are also supported: e.g., latest workshop on “Revisiting and improving prediction tools for central banks”.
- Following the usual refereeing process, papers from the workshops can be included in a special issue, or invited papers with discussions, of the IJF
- Workshop guidelines are available in the IIF website and feel free to contact Tim Januschowski tim.januschowski@gmail.com

Workshops



- Workshop organisers may apply for up to \$5,000 to support the organisation of an event.....anywhere in the world (or virtual).
- We will actively seek organising workshops in emerging forecasting regions and supporting the soon to be formed IIF-Practitioner Section
- We encourage members to propose workshops.
- For more information on all workshops supported by IIF please visit:
<https://forecasters.org/events/iif-workshops/>

2025 sponsored workshops



26-27 June: Open Source Forecasting. Mitchell O'Hara (general chair)

24 & 25 October: Conference on Real-Time Data Analysis, Methods, and Applications in Macroeconomics (Malte Knueppel, Deutsche Bundesbank)

Overview:

<https://forecasters.org/events/iif-workshops/>

2026 sponsored workshops





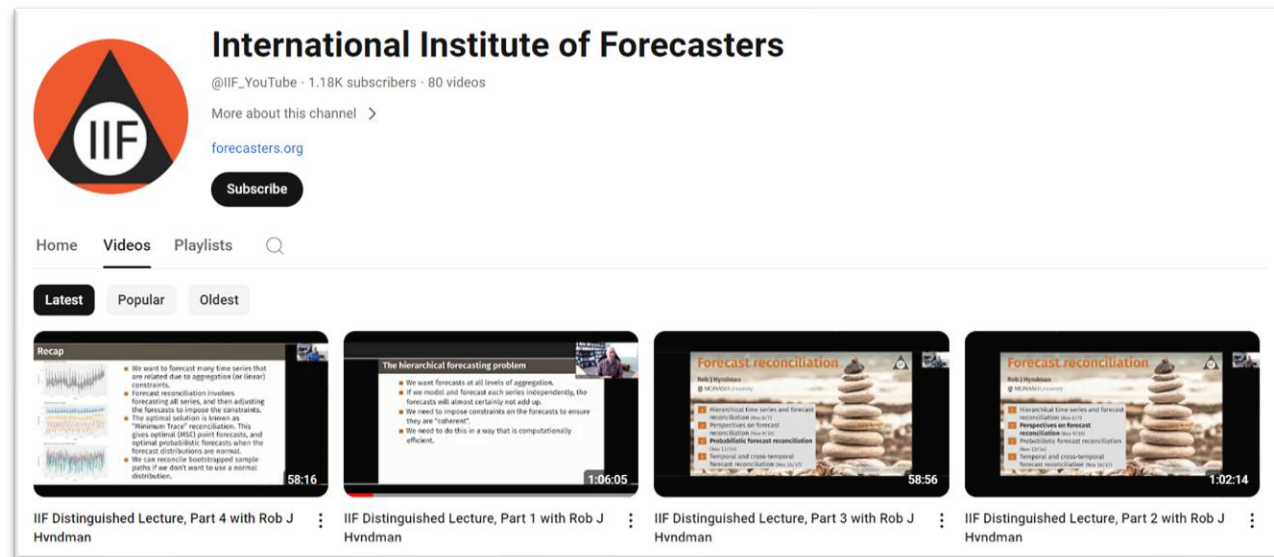
Distinguished Lecturer Series

Ulrich Gunter

IIF Distinguished Lecturers



- Rob Hyndman
 - Forecast Reconciliation
 - <http://robjhyndman.com/fr2023>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@IIF> YouTube/videos



Next Distinguished Lecturers



- Rafal Weron (SWEET)
 - Electricity Price Forecasting
 - March 2024
 - <https://p.wz.pwr.edu.pl/~weron.rafal/>
- Christiane Baumeister (U. Notre Dame) on Energy Forecasting and Methods in 2026
- Call for Nominations through
 - IIF editorial boards
 - Foresight editorial boards
 - IIF Sections



International Journal of Forecasting

Pierre Pinson

We have recruited 2 new Editors...



Anastasios Panagiotelis



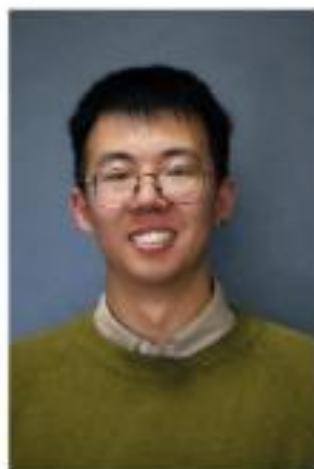
Tilmann Gneiting

... And we have recruited 14(!) new Associate Editors:

- Feng Li (Peking University, China)
- Florian Huber (University of Salzburg, Austria)
- Florian Ziel (University of Duisburg Essen, Germany)
- Giorgio Corani (IDSIA, Switzerland)
- Han Li (University of Melbourne, Australia)
- Ines Wilms (Maastricht University, the Netherlands)
- Malte Knüppel (Bundesbank, Germany)
- Pablo Montero Manso (University of Sidney, Australia)
- Rainer Alexander Schuessler (Aalborg University, Denmark)
- Ricardo Jorge Bessa (INESC TEC Porto, Portugal)
- Luca de Angelis (University of Bologna, Italy)
- María Óskarsdóttir (University of Southampton, UK and Reykjavik University, Iceland)
- Sebastian Lerch (University of Marburg, Germany)
- Timo Dimitriadis (Goethe University, Frankfurt)

We have established a whole reproducibility team:

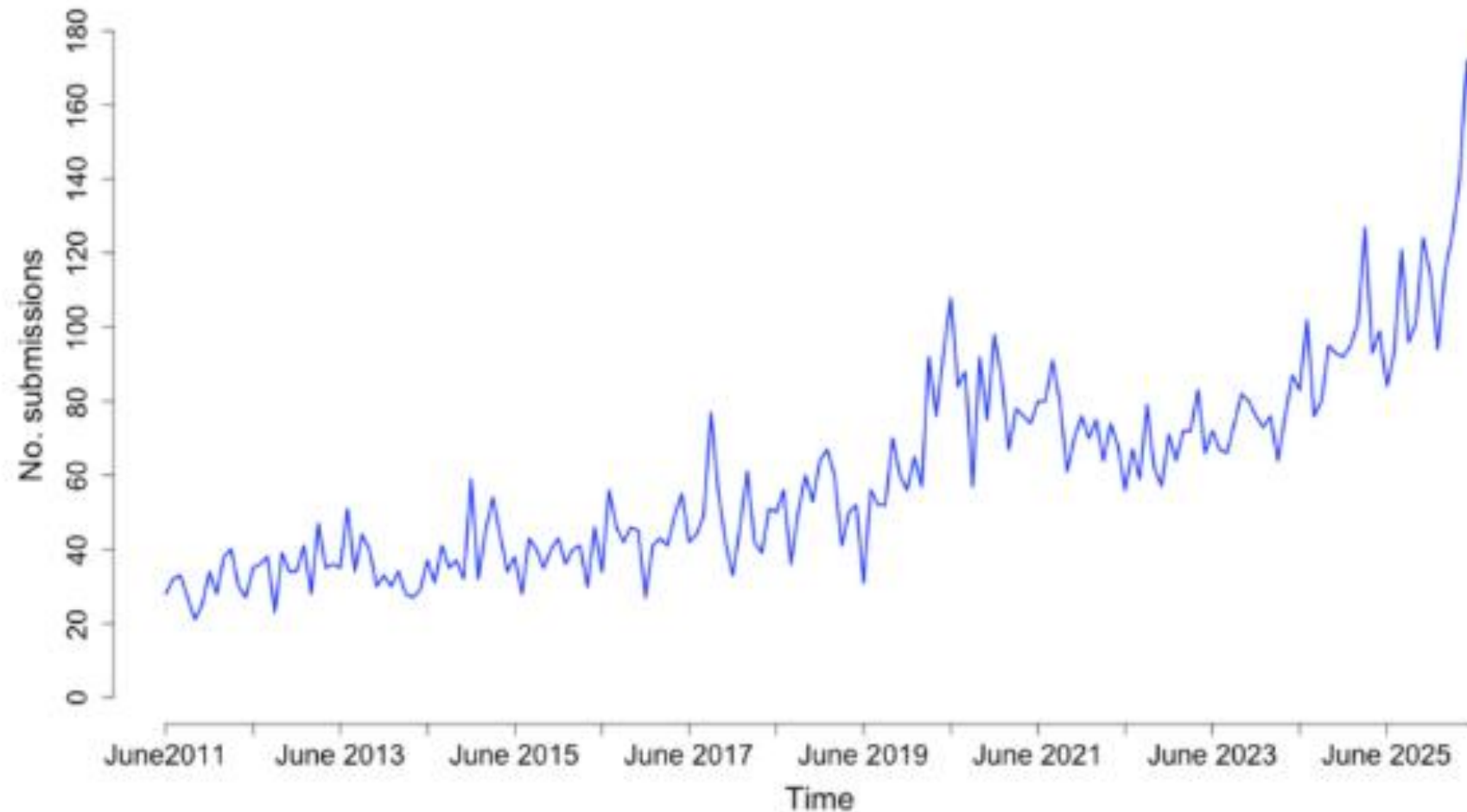
- 1 Reproducibility Editor (Bahman Rostami-Tabar)
- 3 Reproducibility Associate Editors (Miguel Herculano, Yang Fln Yangzhuoran, Daniele Girolimeto)
- contract with CASCaD



We are now reaching steady state, and recruiting for 1-2 more AEs.

For the period from June 2025 to May 2026:

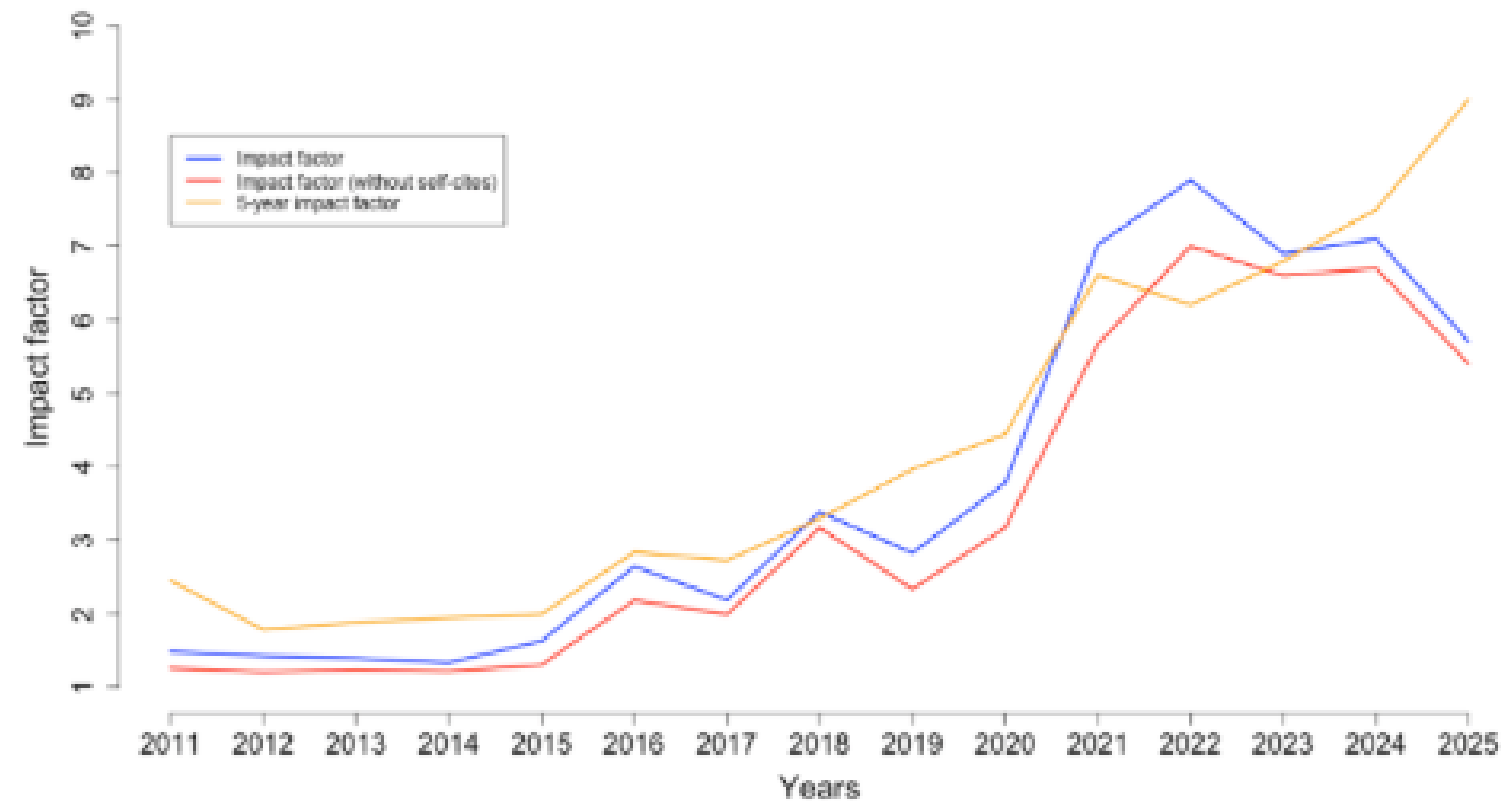
- Number of submissions: 1379 (21% year-on-year increase)
- Acceptance rate: 5.6%
- Desk rejection rate and out of scope: ~75% (350 papers sent for review)





Impact Factor values for 2025:

- 2-year IF:
5.7
(down from 7.1)
- 2-year IF
(without self-cites):
5.4
- 5-year IF:
9 (highest ever)



IJF



- Bad news: After 7 years, Pierre is stepping down
- Huge work, congrats !
- A search committee has been launched
- Please spread the word, we are waiting for your suggestions



Foresight

Mike Gilliland

Diagnosing Forecast Adjustment Behavior

Transforming Demand Planning with Agentic AI

Tutorial on Conformal Prediction

Spotlight Interviews

Special Feature

Commentaries on Spyros Makridakis's
Forecasting the Impact of Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)

- The Barriers to AGI Diffusion
- How Will AI and AGI Change the Economy and Societies?
- For Whom? AGI and the Forecasting Blind Spot
- The Singularity's Error Bands
- AGI and the Demand Self-Correcting Loop
- Embrace the Velocity of the AGI Journey



Foresight

*The International Journal of
Applied Forecasting*

Types of Content

- Article (1500-4500 words)
- Commentary (500-1500 words)
- Tutorial (1500-4500 words)
- Minitutorial (1-2 pages, preferably in “infographic” format)
- Opinion-Editorial (~1000 words)
- Book Review (1000-2500 words)



Interested in writing for *Foresight*, or reviewing / editing manuscripts?

mike.gilliland@forecasters.org

Decisions from the Board



- Fully digital
- Make the current issue available to all
=> Over 1000 free subscribers added
- FPCs: 2 profitable conferences (\$10k prize for competition)
2025 Charlotte (45 attendees)
2026 Bruges (35 attendees)
- 2027: 5 & 6 March, in DC



Practitioner Section / FPCs

Chris Fry

Practitioner Section Activities



Foresight Conference & Competition

Oct 2025 - Mar 2026 • 2nd Annual

- ♦ Host IIF Forecasting Practice Competition (4 finalists in 2026).
- ♦ Showcase and highlight exceptional practitioner work.
- ♦ Foresight Issue (2026:Q4 issue) to showcase finalist projects.

Foresight Journal



Outreach & Engagement

Communications

- ♦ **ISF Practitioner Track:** Dedicated ISF Practitioner Track to build engagement.
- ♦ **LinkedIn:** Targeted communications showcasing practitioner achievements.
- ♦ **Active Presence:** Ongoing practitioner outreach at ISF and throughout the year.

Plans for 2027



Foresight Practitioner Conference

- ♦ Targeted for Washington, D.C. - Feb/Mar 2027 (tentative)
- ♦ Moving to an open format and will issue a call for speakers over the coming months
- ♦ Potential additional events in association with local chapters

3rd Annual IIF Forecasting Practice Competition

- ♦ Opportunity to showcase your most impactful forecasting work, and learn about others' successes
- ♦ Initial applications will be due in the fall
- ♦ \$10,000 prize
- ♦ Sponsorship opportunities available

Continued Outreach & Engagement

- ♦ **ISF Practitioner Track:** Dedicated ISF Practitioner Track to build engagement.
- ♦ **LinkedIn:** Targeted communications showcasing practitioner achievements.
- ♦ **What else?** Your suggestions welcome!



Future ISFs

George Athanasopoulos

Future ISFs



- 2027: Paphos, Cyprus, June 20-June 23
 - Spyros Makridakis, George Athanasopoulos, Maria Michailidis, Vangelis Spiliotis
- 2028: Sri Lanka
- 2029: Americas => Any interest among members?



Q&A

All directors