

**RICS**the mark of  
property  
professionalism  
worldwide**Europe****NEWS RELEASE**

www.joinricsineurope.eu

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**For immediate release**

## **RICS establishing its presence in Finland - local board aims at increasing membership**

*RICS, the world's leading qualification for property professionals, has increased its popularity in Finland, with 35 members having joined the organisation so far. RICS qualification is regarded as a recognised mark for professionalism, resulting from compliance with international standards and high ethics. RICS is now establishing its presence in Finland by nominating a local board.*

The RICS Finland board is chaired by **Hanna Kaleva FRICS**, Managing Director, KTI, and comprises seven experienced professionals as members, including **Joona Suomela MRICS**, Associate, Asset Management Cornerstone RE Advisers, **Kai Keituri FRICS**, Managing Director, Newsec, **Matti Ahrelma MRICS**, Chairman, Tuloskiinteistöt Oy, **Pertti Vanhanen FRICS**, Head of Fund Management, Property, Aberdeen Asset Management, **Seppo Koponen MRICS**, Head of Valuation Advisory & Research, Realia Management, **Tero Lehtonen MRICS** Head of Research and Valuation, Jones Lang LaSalle and **Vesa Immonen FRICS**, Managing Director, Tapiola Real Estate Ltd.

One of the board's first tasks will be to raise awareness of RICS as an organisation and increase recognition of its standards in Finland in order to attract more members. RICS Finland is a part of RICS Nordic network, which was officially launched in 2010, and has now over 200 qualified members mainly in Denmark, Sweden and Finland. Most Nordic members have qualifications in Real Estate Transactions, Valuation, Asset Management and Investment.

"I believe that RICS can provide added value for the Finnish property market by increasing the level of professionalism and transparency, and thereby further increase the visibility and recognition of Finland internationally. For professionals themselves, the main motivation for qualification is the ability to officially demonstrate that they comply with the highest technical, professional and ethical standards. For their clients, RICS qualification is an assurance of quality and professionalism in the services they deliver", says Hanna Kaleva.

In order to obtain RICS membership, property professionals should attend a RICS final assessment in one of the nearly 20 professional pathways. Qualification in this assessment entitles the professionals to use the "MRICS" identification. The letters "FRICS" indicate fellow membership awarded based on professional achievements. Apart from a globally recognised qualification, RICS membership offers real estate professionals international networking and lifelong learning opportunities, as well as increased career opportunities and earning potential.

"I am excited for the opportunity to work with this distinguished board. During the past years, Finland has become an integral part of the European property marketplace, and is now acknowledged as an attractive business environment for property investment and management. I trust that the adoption of internationally recognised professional standards will further strengthen our international competitiveness and appreciation", says Hanna Kaleva.

***For more information, please contact Hanna Kaleva at +358 40 5555 269***





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**Notes to editors:**

**About RICS**

RICS is **the world's leading qualification** when it comes to professional standards in land, property and construction.

In a world where more and more people, governments, banks and commercial organisations demand greater certainty of **professional standards and ethics**, attaining RICS status is the recognised **mark of property professionalism**.

Over **100 000 property professionals** working in the major established and emerging economies of the world have already recognised the importance of securing RICS status by becoming members.

RICS is an **independent** professional body originally established in the UK by Royal Charter. Since 1868, RICS has been committed to setting and upholding the **highest standards of excellence** and **integrity** – providing **impartial, authoritative advice** on key issues affecting businesses and society. RICS is a **regulator** of both its individual members and firms enabling it to **maintain the highest standards** and providing the basis for **unparalleled client confidence** in the sector.

For further details [click here](#).

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