

# Origins and Mission

Academia Europaea was founded in 1988 as an international, nongovernmental association of individual scientists and scholars from all disciplines, who are experts and leaders in their own subject areas as recognised by their peers. We are now a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and a registered charity.

### The Academia Europaea will:

- -- Seek to promote a wider appreciation of the value of European scholarship and of research.
- Seek to encourage interdisciplinary and international scholarship in all areas of learning of relevance to Europe.
- Identify topics of trans-European importance to science and scholarship, and propose appropriate action to ensure that any such topics are adequately addressed.
- -- Provide independent and impartial advice to European institutions, governments and international agencies concerning matters affecting science, scholarship and academic life in Europe wherever it is appropriate to its expertise.

### The Academia will endeavour to:

- -- Encourage achievement of the highest possible standards in scholarship, research and education.
- -- Promote a better understanding among the public at large of the benefits of knowledge and learning, and of scientific and scholarly issues that affect society, its quality of life and its standards of living.

We achieve these aims through a programme of activities which include the organisation and promotion of meetings, study groups, expert workshops; through the election of eminent scientists and scholars to membership of the Academia; and through scientific and other publications, including the Academia's quarterly journal, the European Review.

We are entirely funded through members' contributions and donations from foundations, public organisations and sponsorship.

# Membership

The Academia has three individual membership categories: Ordinary, Foreign and Honorary. There is also a category of membership for organisations – 'Associates'.

The Academia's current membership is 3500. Foreign members (143) are eminent scholars who are not based in Europe, but who have strong research links with European institutions. Membership is open to the best scientists and scholars from anywhere. The Academia particularly welcomes nominations for women members and for candidates who are under 55 years of age, from all disciplines.

The method of election of members is based on a nomination by existing members from different countries and disciplines. The process includes a peer review by an expert Section (disciplinary) committee; a general comparative assessment across Sections in a defined class and an election made based on a recommendation by each of the four Classes. The four classes are: Class A1 – Humanities; Class A2 – Social and Related Sciences; Class B – Exact Sciences and Class C – Life Sciences. Newly elected members are then invited to accept the honour of membership of the Academia. Membership is a lifetime award.

There are no quotas either disciplinary or geographical.

### Young Academy of Europe (YAE)

Since 2012, The Young Academy of Europe (YAE) has been affiliated to the AE. The YAE invites nomination and elects those emerging talents from across Europe who can demonstrate evidence of exceptional promise across the academic sections of the senior Academy.

Website: http://www.yacadeuro.org

### **Member Profiles**

The main corporate web portal of the AE lists individual member profiles. This website has information about each member of the Academia Europaea: their personal activities, research and other items of interest to the general public. It also describes all activities of the Academia Europaea, The Young Academy of Europe and has links to our four regional Knowledge Hubs. The website URL is: www.ae-info.org

# **Activities**

### **Annual Scientific Meetings**

The AE holds an annual congress meeting of all members. These have been thematic, multidisciplinary meetings usually held over three days and hosted by members at different institutional venues throughout Europe. Many of the papers presented at the annual meetings are subsequently published in our journal, the European Review.

### The Erasmus Lecture and Medal

The Erasmus Lecture and Awards of a Medal were introduced into the program of the annual meeting in 1992. The award is made following a call for nominations and a selection by the Council of the Academy. The basis of the award is 'lifetime scholarly excellence, achievement and impact'. The award and the associated lecture provides an opportunity for Academia members and others to hear a renowned scholar.

Past Erasmus lecturers have included: Janos Kornai, Ernst Mestmäcker, Lawrence Freedman, Alain Touraine, Hubert Markl, Paul Crutzen, Peter Burke, Raoul van Caenegem, Kristof Glamann, Edoardo Boncinelli, Georgio Bernardi, Harold Kroto, Carl Djerassi, Stig Strömholm, Pierre Léna, Bert Sakmann, Francisco Márquez Villaneuva, Semir Zeki, Jean Fréchet, Carlo Ginzburg, Manuel Castells, Geoffrey Burnstock, Tomas Hökfelt, Norman Davies, Kurt Mehlhorn, Edith Hall and Martin Rees.

Over the past six years, the Lecture has been sponsored by the Heinz-Nixdorf Foundation

### The Burgen Scholars

In order to recognise the contribution to learning of younger scientists and scholars, the Academia Europaea organising committee of each annual conference selects up to ten 'Burgen Scholars'. The Scholars are named after the Academia's founding President. They are outstanding, younger post-doctoral academics from the country hosting the annual conference. Burgen Scholars are invited to participate fully in the Annual Meeting and to present summaries of their work.

### The Gold Medal

The Academia's Gold Medal is awarded rarely, to institutions or to individuals who through their inspiration, political efforts, managerial skills, or financial means have supported European science and scholarship. The medal

has been awarded to: The Royal Society of London, Heinz Riesenhuber, George Soros, Paul Sacher, Jacques Delors, Klaus Tschira, the Max Planck Society, The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, The Riksbankens Jubileumsfond and The Wenner-Gren Foundation.

### Symposia and working groups

The Academia Europaea also organises ad hoc special working groups and workshops and international symposia, to address particular topics of scientific or academic interest. Ideas can originate from within and through the Sections and also increasingly directly associated with programs developed by the four regional Knowledge Hubs – Barcelona, Bergen, Cardiff and Wrocław. For example recent workshops on "MOOCs"; Earth Sciences "TOPO-EUROPE: Topological Geosciences" and in History: "Overcoming European Civil Wars" and "Regimes of Memory". Also on "Linguistics", on "Islamic Art", "Medieval Music" and on "Neurosciences".

The other major themes of particular importance have been initiatives that respond to higher education issues and culture, through our Higher Education, Research and Culture in European Society group known as the "HERCulES" group. Symposia and volumes are on topics such as: The Impact of Information Technology on Society, Higher Education in the 21st Century, The Impact of Migration on Modern European Institutions of Higher Education and the Profession. These symposia are always organized in collaboration with major foundations.

In addition the Council establishes expert groups to address European Policy initiatives, such as for example: "The Role of the Humanities in the European Research Area" and "The Future of Mathematics Education in Europe". Members are regularly asked to serve on expert panels and to represent the AE in policy forums and workshops.

### Prizes and funding schemes

Since 1993 the Academia has organised a highly valued scheme for giving prize awards to young scientists and scholars from the republics of the former Soviet Union. Significant financial support for this scheme has been given by a number of European and international foundations, Russian companies and from individuals. The scheme has helped to promote further support of young scholars within these countries.

### The Adam Kondorosi Prize

The Adam Kondorosi Prize is new and will be awarded for the first time in 2016/2017. The award named in honour of the eminent plant scientist Adam Kondorosi, will provide recognition to a young emerging scholar, in the field of plant biology, especially nitrogen fixation biology and microbiology. In alternate years there will also be a senior prize, awarded to an outstanding, established researcher in plant molecular sciences.

### The Hubert Curien Fund

Since 2015 the fund (named in honour of the second President of the Academia Europaea) has provided small (5,000 Euro max.) grants to members for international, interdisciplinary and transboundary activities. These activities (workshops, publications, videos) are always collaborations with other partners. The aim is to finance up to ten projects per year.

### **AE Knowledge Hub Schemes**

In addition to central prize and funding schemes, each Knowledge Hub itself is free to organise events and activities, including initiatives with a specific regional dimension. These may be for example, summer schools and training events for regional young scholars - Wrocław summer schools program (funded by the Swedish Riksbankens Jubileumsfond); the annual 'Disputatio' debates - Barcelona (co-funded by the AE and Catalan Foundations). The Norwegian consensus conferences - Bergen (co-funded by the regional authorities). The Hubs are open to offers to establish named and sponsored prize schemes that fit into their regional and thematic missions.

# **Publications**

The Academia publishes a quarterly journal: the European Review. It is international in scope, peer reviewed and carries an impact factor. It is produced on our behalf by Cambridge University Press. The journal is distributed electronically in online form to members and is also available in print from CUP on private and institutional subscription. The European Review includes high quality papers, of an interdisciplinary character. Many editions also include specific 'Focus' features consisting of several related articles on a topic of European concern. Abstracts can be viewed online at: http://journals.cambridge.org/journal\_europeanreview. We also include sponsored supplements, where collected papers from symposia are published. These are Free Access or Open Access issues.

The Academia increasingly uses the web as its principle channel for communication. Electronic 'E-zines' are regularly produced for corporate and individual Hub activity and distributed to members of the Academy, Young Academy of Europe and guests. An annual directory of Members is also published, along with the annual activity report and

audited accounts. Policy papers and opinions are published on an ad hoc basis.

Sponsorship and advertising is possible in all of these channels of communication. Wherever possible, workshops and study groups are published as Academia papers, as supplementary or special issues of our journal, and in several cases as books, including the following:

- -- The Social Impacts of Virtual Information, recommendations from the Paderborn conference, The Tree Issue 15, 2000.
- -- The need for High Bandwidth Computer Based Networking in Europe. A joint statement with the European Science Foundation, Number 7, February 2000.
- -- Science and Higher Education in Croatia. A report on a visit by the Academia Europaea, June 2000.
- -- The Virtual University, Edited by Henk van der Molen, Published by The Portland Press, 2001, ISBN 1-85578-145-X (HERCulES group).
- Collaboration and Ownership in the Digital Economy
   CODE, Edited by Michael Century, Published by MIT Press, 2003.
- -- CODE synopsis of the conference and forward look, Edited by John Howkins, Published by the Arts Council of England and The Academia Europaea, 2002, ISBN 0-7287-0896-5.
- -- Clues to Excellence in Higher Education, Rapporteurs report, Ute Lanzendorf and An Verburgh, 2002.
- -- Excellence in Higher Education, Edited by Erik de Corte, Published by The Portland Press, London, 2003-10-01, ISBN 1-85578-152 (HERCulES group).
- -- The Formative Years of Scholars, Edited by Ulrich Teichler, Published by The Portland Press, London, 2006, ISBN 13 978 1 85578 164 1 (HERCulES group).
- -- Quality Assessment of Higher Education in Europe, Edited by Alessandro Cavalli, Published by The Portland Press, London, 2007, ISBN 978 1 855781719 (HERCulES group).
- -- The University in the Market, Edited by Lars Engwall and Denis Weaire, Published by the Portland Press, London, 2008, ISBN 978 85578 168 9 (HERCulES group).
- Diversification of Higher Education and the Academic Profession, Supplement to the European Review, May 2012, Volume 18, Edited by Alessandro Cavalli and Urlich

Teichler, Published by Cambridge University Press, ISSN 106207987

- -- World Literature: World Culture, Edited by Karen-Margrethe Simonsen and Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen, Published by Aarhus University Press, 2008, ISBN 978 87 7934 408 2.
- -- Trust in Universities, Edited by Lars Engwall and Peter Scott, Published by The Portland Press, London, 2013, ISBN 978-1-85578-194-8 (HERCulES group).
- -- Emerging Models of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education: From Books to MOOCs? Edited by Erik de Corte, Lars Engwall and Ulrich Teichler, published by The Portland Press, 2016, ISBN 978 1 85578 200 6.

The AE Knowledge Hubs also undertake their own publication of volumes, reports and journal articles as they arise from their regional Hub activities.

# Independent advice

One of the principles underlying the foundation of the Academia was the perceived need for impartial expert independent advice to public and private bodies. The Academia considers that with a membership of 3500 eminent scientists and scholars from many disciplines and cultures, able to comment independently of any national or organisational viewpoint, it is well placed to offer advice on scientific or academic matters to appropriate bodies in Europe.

The following are examples of policy advice provided by the Academia Europaea:

- -- The Academia was invited by the Conference of European Science Ministers to advise on research into the human genome, at a time when many of the implications of this type of research, and the scale of the task, were poorly understood. The Academia created an international expert group whose report was presented to European ministers and helped to clarify some of these issues at a high level.
- -- The Academia was invited by the State Committee of the Ukraine for Science and Technology to conduct an evaluation of the quality of science in the Ukraine, and to advise on the reorganisation of the country's science and research.
- Advice has been given to the European Parliament and Commission on proposed directives on the patenting of biological inventions and on the harmonisation of copyright.

- -- At the invitation of the Parliament of Croatia, the Academia has provided an assessment on Science and Higher Education in Croatia. In a wider regional context the Academia in collaboration with UNESCO (the AE has official 'consultative' status), has been a lead player in activities aimed at the rebuilding of scientific co-operation in the countries of South East Europe.
- -- The Academia has issued a number statements to the institutions and governments of the European Union which identify priorities for action. These include:
  - Virtuality and the European Citizen
  - The need for a European Research Council
  - International Academies as Interlocutors between International Scholarship and Supranational Policy, D. Coates and S. Strömholm, Published in The IPTS Report, vol 70, 2002.
  - Towards a European Research Council: A Further Contribution to the Debate
  - The Role of Universities in the Europe of Knowledge
  - The Role of the Humanities in European Research Policy – a statement
  - The future of Mathematics Education in Europe
  - A commentary on the European Commission strategy: "Europe 2020"
  - European Commission Green Paper on CSF (Common Strategic Framework), an AE response
  - On the situation of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe
- The Academia Europaea was a founder member of the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC): a grouping of major European National Academies of Science that provide independent analyses of the impacts and implications of science on issues emerging and potential policy areas, such as on Energy, Environment, Health and the impact of emerging areas of science, by drawing on Academies' own members EASAC can publish comprehensive analyses of the latest science that might be useful as a guide to policy making. Full information and publications can be found on the EASAC website at www.easac.eu.
- Science advice for European Policy: The AE has joined with several other European Academy umbrella organisations: ALLEA (All European Academies), FEAM (Federation of European Academies of Medicine), EASAC

(see above) and Euro-CASE (The European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering) to form a consortium that will deliver independent scientific advice for policy to the European Commission. This is a 6m Euro project, spread over four years and is a response to a targeted call made by the European Commission, under the Horizon 2020 funding programme. The AE engagement will be coordinated on a day-to-day basis from the Cardiff Knowledge Hub.

Further information on all of these activities can be found on www.ae-info.org

# Relationships with other bodies

The Academia Europaea maintains close relationships with other bodies concerned with European science and scholarship, including the European Commission and its scientific advisory bodies, with UNESCO (where the AE has formal operational status), the Council of Europe, the network of European national and regional Academies (ALLEA), the International Council for Science (ICSU), Euroscience, the European Research Council and the COST organisation. Contacts and exchanges of information and literature are also maintained with national and regional academies and other international academies such as the Third World Academy.

Our individual members serve on many international and national committees, boards and panels, for example – the Scientific Council and subject panels of the European Research Council; heads of national funding agencies and as officers of a number of National Academies of Science(s), Arts and Humanities.

## **Finance**

As an independent, charitable and 'not-for-profit' body: the Academia Europaea exists through the generous financial support from a wide range of sources, including from a number of national government agencies and the research funding councils of several European countries, from private foundations and charities. The members are also asked to make an annual donation, although, to recognise that both national traditions and the great differentials across European country economies may present individuals with occasional difficulties, the Trustees provide for generous exemptions for individual cases.

The majority of our conferences and activities are externally supported by funds which are negotiated by the Academia and often passed directly from sponsors to the local organisers.

This ensures an active and relevant involvement at the local and regional levels. We do not trade, sell, or carry out any profit making activities. We have no shareholders. We submit our audited annual report and accounts to the UK authorities: to the Charity Commission of England and Wales and to the UK Companies House.

As an example of funding sources:

- -- Our Regional Knowledge Hubs are all financed locally under agreements made with partner organisations; including several City authorities; Bank Foundations and state funding agencies or regional governments and hosting University institutions.
- -- The Heinz Nixdorf Foundation currently sponsor the Erasmus Medal and Lecture.
- -- The Cambridge University Press support the annual Burgen Scholarships.
- -- The symposia of the HERCulES group are supported financially by the Wenner-Gren Foundations (Sweden); the Compagnia di San Paolo (Turin) and the Volkswagen Stiftung (Germany).
- -- The Russia Prizes scheme is sponsored by Rosbusinessbank bank and International Academic Publishing Company (MAIK) "Nauka/Interperiodica".

Individual projects or programs, including specific activity such as for example, conference series; summer schools and communication developments, have been, or are sponsored by a wide range of governmental, non-governmental and private sector organisations. By way of example only: the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (Sweden); The Klaus Tschira Foundation (Heidelberg), The Royal Society of London and The Leopoldina (National Academy of Germany); The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, The Ralph Kohn Foundation and The Leverhulme Trust, UNESCO, the Max Planck Society and Deutche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Private individuals also support activities and named prizes, including for example George Soros, Arnold Burgen and Eva Kondorosi.

The audited annual accounts and consolidated annual activity reports are open to scrutiny on the corporate website and via the UK Charity Commission website.

# Organisation

The Academia Europaea is run by a Board of Trustees, who are also Directors of the registered Company and Charity. The elected President chairs the Board and the advisory Scientific Council. The President is supported by a number of Vice-Presidents and the Honorary Treasurer. The Board of Trustees are the executive management board of the Academia Europaea. The Executive Secretary acts as the company secretary and secretary to the Trustees and is the de facto chief executive officer. Academic interests are represented both in the Board of Trustees, the Council and through twenty two academic Section committees.

These are aggregated into four Classes:

- -- A1: Humanities;
- -- A2: Social and Related Sciences;
- -- B: Exact Sciences:
- -- C: Life Sciences.

All members are elected and assigned to one of the following Sections

- History and Archaeology
- · Classics and Oriental Studies
- Linguistic Studies
- Literary and Theatrical Studies
- · Musicology and History of Art and Architecture
- · Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies
- Film, Media and Visual Studies
- · Behavioural Science
- Social Sciences
- Law
- Economics, Business and Management Sciences
- Mathematics
- Informatics
- Physics and Engineering Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Earth and Cosmic Sciences
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Cell and Developmental Biology
- Physiology and Neuroscience
- · Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
- Translational and Applied Biology
- Clinical and Veterinary Sciences

# Corporate Information

The registered office and headquarters of the Academia Europaea is based in London. This is also the location of the General Secretariat.

In collaboration with local and regional partners, the Academia Europaea has established a number of regional hubs:

### -- The Academia Europaea Wrocław Knowledge Hub

Operational since January 2012 and located in the heart of the city opposite to the City Hall, at Rynek 13, 50-101 Wrocław, Poland [+48 71 770 20 26].

Website: www.acadeuro.wroclaw.pl

### **Hub secretariat:**

Academic Director: Prof. Tadeusz Luty - tadeusz.luty@pwr.edu.pl

Hub Manager: Dr Aleksandra Nowak -

nowak@acadeuro.wroclaw.pl,

Project Coordinator: Katarzyna Majkowska-Kołyszko -

majkowska@acadeuro.wroclaw.pl

### Focus

Knowledge activities, including international events; summer schools, lecture series and high-level expert panels and 'Emeritus' scholarship; support to Central and Eastern European scholars.

### -- The Academia Europaea Barcelona Knowledge Hub

Operational since January 2013 and located in the site of the Institute for Catalan Studies (IEC) at Carrer del Carme, 47, 08001 Barcelona, Spain [+34 932 701 727].

Website: http://barcelona.acadeuro.org/

### **Hub secretariat:**

Academic Director: Prof. Dr. Ricard Guerrero -

rguerrero@iec.cat Hub officer: Anna Wasmer - awasmer@iec.cat

Project coordinator: Rubén Duro - rduro@microbios.org

### Focus:

The Barcelona Knowledge Hub is the Mediterranean and Southern European office of the Academia Europaea.lt focuses on the promotion of multidisciplinary scientific activities that include the perspective of the social sciences and the humanities.

### -- The Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub Region Bergen

Operational since spring 2014 and coordinated by University of Bergen, Bjørn Trumpys hus, Rooms 512, 516, 518, 520, Allegaten 55, N-5007 Bergen, Norway.

Website: http://acadeuro.b.uib.no/

### **Hub Secretariat:**

Academic Director: Prof. Jan S. Vaagen - Jan.Vaagen@uib.no Academic Manager: Prof. Laszlo P. Csernai - Laszlo.Csernai@uib.no

### Focus:

Northern Seas related Resources - Opportunities -Challenges Advancing Europe's Northern Seas Dimension. Energy and Sustainable Development.

### -- The Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub

Start date: September 2015, official launch June 2016 at Cardiff University, Hadyn Ellis Building, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ, Wales, United Kingdom [+44 29 2068 8249] Website: www.aecardiffknowledgehub.wales

### **Hub Secretariat:**

Honorary Academic Director, Vice-President & Honorary Treasurer of AE:

Prof. Ole Petersen - PetersenOH@cardiff.ac.uk

Hub Manager: Louise Edwards - EdwardsL31@cardiff.ac.uk Executive Officer: Judith Lockett - LockettJG@cardiff.ac.uk

### Focus:

Regional network of Wales and the rest of the UK, the Republic of Ireland; Biomedical, Life and Related Sciences but other disciplines are also covered.

### -- Graz Information Centre

Operating since January 2010 and located in the second largest city of Austria, at Inffeldgasse 16c, 8010 Graz, Austria [+43 873 5635].

Website: www.ae-info.org

### **Graz Information Centre Team:**

Technical Director: Dipl. Ing. Helmut Leitner - hleitner@iicm.edu Administrator: Cand. mag. Dana Kaiser - dkaiser@iicm.edu Technical Staff: Dipl. Ing. Robert Hoffmann - rhoff@iicm.edu Scientific Advisor: Prof. Dr. Hermann Maurer - hmaurer@iicm.edu

### Focus:

Host of the corporate website of Academia Europaea, technical development and implementation of membership administration and registration, nomination system, database of knowledge expertise.

# NOTES

### The Academia's corporate office and the General Secretariat are located in London, at:

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### Regional Hubs of Academia Europaea:

### Academia Europaea Barcelona Knowledge Hub

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Website: http://barcelona.acadeuro.org

### Academia Europaea Knowledge Hub Region Bergen

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### Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub

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### Academia Europaea Wrocław Knowledge Hub

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Printed: May, 2016