



## 2018 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Antonio Loprieno, New President of ALLEA: "Academies are in an irreplaceable position to bring science closer to society"

Professor Antonio Loprieno assumed his position as President of ALLEA during the General Assembly in Sofia at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences on 17 May 2018. In his first editorial, Loprieno reflects on the role of ALLEA in today's Europe, and the importance of European academies as institutions of their society, not of particular governments. "More than ever we need to keep the doors of science and scholarship open to society. We should not forget that academies were pioneers not only in producing science but also spreading knowledge. Academies are in an irreplaceable position to bring science closer to society", he affirms. Read editorial on [page 2](#).

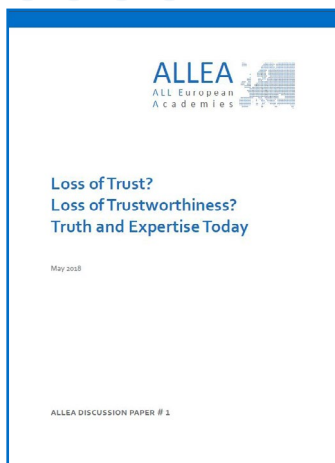
*ALLEA delegates during the General Assembly at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia on 17 May 2018. ->*



## Loss of Trust in Science and Expertise?

ALLEA publishes a discussion paper on the alleged loss of trust in science and expertise. The paper focusses on how trust in expertise is placed or refused, highlights the affective dimension of epistemic trust, and discusses the danger of a 'context collapse' in digital communication.

[Read more](#)



## Contents

<b>Editorial</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ALLEA General Assembly</b>	<b>3</b>
European Academies welcome new ALLEA President	
Meet the new ALLEA Board	
Symposia: From trusting science to shaping science advice	
<b>SAPEA</b>	<b>8</b>
Novel Carbon Capture and Utilisation Technologies	
Improving Authorisation of Processes of Plant Protection Products	
<b>Working Groups</b>	<b>9</b>
New Discussion Paper on the alleged loss of trust in science	
FP9 Working Group Horizon Europe meeting in Stockholm	
European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity translations	
<b>Projects</b>	<b>13</b>
Health Inequalities	
How to use data in the 21st century?	
<b>Latest News</b>	<b>15</b>

Dear colleagues,

It is a pleasure to address you for the first time as President of ALLEA in this Newsletter. After six very successful years under Günter Stock's leadership, I would like to start this editorial by thanking him and the previous ALLEA Board for the remarkable work they have performed in connecting academic excellence in Europe. It is my intention for the next years to continue on the path of asserting the primacy of science in our European society.

ALLEA is a diverse federation of almost 60 academies across more than 40 countries with an extraordinary pool for scientific performance and intellectual richness that is unparalleled in Europe. Our primary mission is to facilitate and foster scholarly exchange and collaboration among European academies, and to represent them in their interaction with the political sphere, nationally and globally, whenever this is necessary or desirable. To serve this purpose, I am committed to promoting and defending our common values, which are based on humanism, enlightenment, and critical thinking.

European academies are institutions of society, not of particular governments. Unfortunately, this obvious statement cannot be reaffirmed enough these days. Science must be recognised as a central driving force determining economic, social and cultural progress on our continent and in the world. In this respect, one of ALLEA's exceptional features is its inclusiveness of both national and non-national academies, and its openness to all academic disciplines. The cultural diversity and interdisciplinarity of our members provide a unique network for scientists and scientific institutions to address today's global issues, becoming one of the widest possible sources of expertise in the provision of science policy advice across Europe.

Addressing these challenges is ever more pressing in today's times of contested expertise. In a sense, we need to constantly remind ourselves and the society in which we operate that we all share the values the academies were built upon: as motors of a continuous process of enlightenment, as defenders of our common cultural heritage, and as platforms for knowledge exchange and encounter. More than ever we need to keep the doors of science and scholarship open to society. We should not forget that academies were pioneers not only in producing science but also spreading knowledge. Academies are in an irreplaceable position to bring science closer to society.

It is therefore necessary to promote the development of a cohesive culture that reinforces the institutional identity of our academies in society. We need to visualise the role of European academies as knowledge creators and science-policy-society brokers in our knowledge-based European society. Moving in this direction, European academies should become a reflection of the society they serve. Under the primacy of scientific and scholarly quality, ALLEA seeks to work closely with its members in exploring new ways towards a more inclusive scientific environment and a more intergenerational approach within academies. We should recognise the role of gender and diversity in generating both trust and societal acceptance for science and scientific institutions.



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*We need to visualise the role of European academies as knowledge creators and science-policy-society brokers in our knowledge-based European society.”*

European academies, as the backbone of the Enlightenment era, have a long-standing commitment to reflecting on the future of Europe. We want to contribute to this common enterprise in a substantial and constructive way and shape the societal discourse on European identity. Furthermore, we want to build new bridges for the visibility of European science and scholarship and its impact at the global level, especially towards Africa and Asia. This is particularly important at a time of our history when migration movements are changing our human capital and will certainly also modify our scientific landscape.

Finally, let me thank the ALLEA Member Academies for their trust, commitment and collaboration. Following our successful annual event in Sofia last month, I hope to meet you, if not before, during our next **General Assembly** which will be hosted by the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences in Berne on 8-10 May 2019. In the meantime, I am looking forward to working closely and collegially, from peer to peer, with the ALLEA board, with our working groups, and with all of you in advancing our common goal: promoting science for our knowledge-based European society.

With kind regards,

Antonio Loprieno  
President of ALLEA

## European Academies welcome new President and elect new Board in Sofia

Antonio Loprieno, President of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences and former rector of the University of Basel, takes over the Presidency of ALLEA for the 2018-2021 term during the General Assembly at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. A new ALLEA Board was elected for the next two years.

Professor Antonio Loprieno assumed the Presidency of the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities, ALLEA, at the [Bulgarian Academy of Sciences](#) in Sofia. He takes office for the term 2018-2021, following his election in 2017, and succeeds Professor Günter Stock, who was ALLEA's President for the years 2012-2018.

Antonio Loprieno, current President of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences and former Rector of the University of Basel, was unanimously elected by the delegates of ALLEA Member Academies during the 18th General Assembly in Budapest on 4 September 2017. The hand-over of the Presidency and the election of the ALLEA Board for the term 2018-2020 both took place during the 2018 General Assembly.

In his acceptance speech, Loprieno underlined the importance of academies as interdisciplinary and independent centres of scientific excellence serving the public above politics and national entities.

"I look forward to working closely with academies across Europe to give science the prominence it deserves. In times of fiercely contested facts in the public debate, the role of academies is ever more indispensable as non-partisan institutions designed to help science and research flourish in our knowledge societies."

### From university rector to Academies' President

Antonio Loprieno studied Egyptology, linguistics and Semitic studies at the University of Turin in Italy. In the 1980s, he taught at various European universities, including the University of Göttingen in Germany and the University of Perugia in Italy. From 1989 to 2000, he was Professor of Egyptology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He served



From left to right, Daniela Jezova (Past ALLEA Vice-President), Günter Stock (Past ALLEA President), Antonio Loprieno (ALLEA President) and Ed Noort (Past ALLEA Vice-President). Credit: Maria Tzaneva

first as Professor at the University of Basel from 2000–2006 and then as Rector from 2006–2015. Among other positions, he was President of

the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS) from 2008–2015, and currently holds the Presidency of the Austrian Science Board.



*In times of fiercely contested facts in the public debate, the role of academies is ever more indispensable as non-partisan institutions designed to help science and research flourish in our knowledge societies."*

Antonio Loprieno, ALLEA President

### SAVE THE DATE

## 25 Anniversary of ALLEA: 8-10 May 2019

The [Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences](#) will host the 2019 ALLEA General Assembly. On this occasion, we will be celebrating the 25th ALLEA Anniversary. Save the date and join us in Bern, Switzerland on 8-10 May 2019.

Learn more at:

[www.alleageneralassembly.org](http://www.alleageneralassembly.org)

#ALLEA25yrs



## Meet the new ALLEA Board



**Susanne Albers**

*Leopoldina and Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities*

Susanne Albers is Professor of computer science at the Technische Universität München. She studied mathematics, computer science and business administration at the University of Osnabrück. Thereafter, she moved to Saarland University and the Max Planck Institute for Informatics, first as a Ph.D. student and subsequently as a senior researcher. Her research interests are in the field of efficient algorithms. The focus of her scientific work is the design and analysis of online and approximation algorithms. She was awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize in 2008. In 2016 she received an ERC Advanced Grant. She is a member of Leopoldina, the German National Academy of Sciences, and the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz.



**Hubert Bocken**

*Royal Flemish Academies of Belgium for Science and the Arts*

Hubert Bocken is honorary President of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts. Educated in law at Ghent University and the Harvard Law School, Professor Bocken taught law of obligations, comparative law and environmental law at Ghent University, where he also served as member of the Board of the University, as Dean of the Faculty of Law, and as Chair of its foreign relations committee. He presently is co-chair of the Commission for the revision of Belgian Tort Law established by the Belgian Minister of Justice. Since 2016 he is part of the ALLEA Board and was reelected in 2018.



**Graham Caie**

*Royal Society of Edinburgh*

Graham Caie CBE is Emeritus Professor and Professorial Research Fellow in English Language and Linguistics at the University of Glasgow, where he previously served as Vice Principal. His research interests include Old and Middle English language and literature, the history of the English language, Scots language, and interdisciplinary medieval studies. He is Fellow and former Vice President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and he was Vice Chair of the Board of the National Library of Scotland, where he remains as Deputy Chair. He is on the Advisory Board of the British Council, Scotland, and on the Court (governing body) of Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. Since 2014 he is part of the ALLEA Board and was reelected in 2018.



**Luke Drury**

*Royal Irish Academy*

Luke Drury has a degree in pure mathematics and experimental physics by the Trinity College Dublin, and a Ph.D. in astrophysics by the Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge. He has previously worked in the Max Planck Institut für Kernphysik in Heidelberg before returning to Ireland as Senior Professor in the Cosmic Ray Section. He was President of the Royal Irish Academy from 2011 to 2014. His research interests include plasma physics, particle acceleration, gas dynamics, shock waves, and cosmic ray origin.



**Gheorghe Duca**

*Academy of Sciences of Moldova*

Gheorghe Duca is President of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. He graduated from the Faculty of Chemistry of the State University of Moldova, where he also earned his doctoral studies in chemical sciences. He later pursued his postdoctoral studies at the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences. From 1988-1992, Gheorghe Duca served as Head of the Physical Chemistry Department of the State University of Moldova, and later as Director of the Research Center of Ecological and Applied Chemistry from 1991-1998. Throughout his career, Gheorghe Duca has authored 1,565 edited works, including 624 scientific articles, 139 patents, 42 monographs, 25 textbooks and methodical works.



### Maarten Prak

*Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences*

Maarten Prak is Professor of Social and Economic History at the Department of History and Art History, Utrecht University, Netherlands. He is an expert of early modern history, having authored and edited several publications on Dutch national history, comparative history of Europe, and global history. His research work has focused on a wide range of topics, including citizenship, institutions, cultural industries, guilds and human capital. In the past, Maarten Prak has been visiting scholar at prestigious universities around Europe. He chaired the Humanities Board of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research NWO (2014-16), and he presently serves as a member of the governing board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW).



### Pere Puigdomènech

*Institute of Catalan Studies and Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts of Barcelona*

Pere Puigdomènech has a degree in Physics from the University of Barcelona, and a doctorate in biological sciences from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. His current field of research is Plant Molecular Biology and Genomics. He has published 150 scientific articles in refereed journals and books, 2 patents, 5 books on popular science and scientific fiction, and supervised 18 Ph.D. theses. He has published more than 500 articles on science in renown Spanish as well as international scientific journals. Puigdomènech has been a member of the scientific staff of the Spanish Research Council (CSIC) since 1981, and he presently serves as Research Professor in the CSIC's Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics in Barcelona.



### Paweł Rowiński

*Polish Academy of Sciences*

Paweł Rowiński holds a degree in computer sciences and mechanics with emphasis in applied mathematics by the University of Warsaw, and a doctoral degree in earth sciences with a specialisation in geophysics by the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences. Among others, his research interests include mathematical methods in geophysics, geophysical flows, river hydrodynamics, and fluvial hydraulics. Paweł Rowiński has published more than 150 refereed scientific publications and one book on earth and planetary sciences, and he serves as Associate Editor for several prominent scientific journals and publications. Since May 2015, he serves as Vice-President of the Polish Academy of Sciences.



### Oliver Jens Schmitt

*Austrian Academy of Sciences*

Oliver Jens Schmitt studied Byzantine studies, Modern Greek studies and Eastern European history in Basel, Vienna, Berlin and Munich, and holds a Ph.D. by the University of Munich. His research foci include fascism in Eastern Europe (with a focus on Romania) in the framework of comparative fascist studies, eastern Mediterranean urban societies in the 19th century, society and politics in the late Ottoman Empire, among others. He has been Professor of Southeastern European history at the University of Vienna since 2005, and since 2017 he also serves as President of the Division of Humanities and the Social Sciences of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW).



### Krista Varantola

*Council of Finnish Academies*

Krista Varantola is member of the Council of Finnish Academies and of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters. She is Professor and Rector Emerita of the University of Tampere in Finland. Her academic field is English linguistics. She is currently Chair of the University Board of the University of Jyväskylä in Finland. Varantola has a long-standing interest in research integrity. She chairs the National Board on Research Integrity in Finland and is member of the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Science & Ethics. She was one of the drafting group members of the 2017 revised edition of The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity. She also acts in an advisory role for research integrity in a number EU-funded research projects. Since 2016 she is part of the ALLEA Board and was reelected in 2018.



ALLEA PRIZE

## ■ Andrea Pető receives the 2018 ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize

European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel awarded the Prize to Andrea Pető, Professor at the Central European University, during a festive ceremony at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia.

Andrea Pető, Professor in the Department of Gender Studies of the Central European University in Budapest (Hungary), received the 2018 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia. She was honoured for her outstanding scholarly contribution on Europe's memory of the Second World War, the Holocaust and political extremism from a gender perspective.

Professor Pető is the fifth scholar to be awarded the 20,000 EUR Prize, at the initiative of ALLEA, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities, with the co-sponsorship of the Italian foundation [Compagnia di San Paolo](#).

European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel handed over the Prize certificate during an award ceremony organised as part of the European academies' annual meeting. Commissioner Gabriel



*From left to right, Alberto Quadrio Curzio (Accademia dei Lincei), Commissioner Mariya Gabriel, Luisa Passerini (Laudatory speaker), Andrea Pető (laureate), Günter Stock (Past ALLEA President), Julian Revalski (Bulgarian Academy President). Credit: M.T.*

praised Pető's ingenuity in approaching Europe's history and memory.

"Andrea Pető is a worthy recipient of this year's Mme de Staël prize for her groundbreaking intellectual contributions in her work on women's history in Eastern Europe. The Mme de Staël prize is unique in highlighting the importance of the social sciences and the vision of a common European identity. My congratulations to Andrea

Pető for this prize and to ALLEA for choosing such an outstanding scholar", Gabriel said.

In her acceptance speech, Pető reminded the audience to remember the "great women predecessors" in science such as Madame de Staël, who have fought for Europe's common values.

[Read more](#)

BUSINESS MEETING

## ■ ALLEA Member Academies present proposals for research cooperation at Horizon Scanning Session

ALLEA delegates discussed proposals for research cooperation during the business meeting at the General Assembly in Sofia.

ALLEA seeks to bring together European academies to foster scientific cooperation in science and research in topics relevant at the European level and among European regions. During the business meeting at the ALLEA General Assembly, Member Academies' delegates presented their proposals for research cooperation.

Academies from Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Poland and Switzerland discussed, among other issues, multilinguism in science, brain drain from the Western Balkans, regulatory frameworks for nanomaterials, the concept of research-intensive universities, and digitalisation and the need to foster education and



*Prof. Dr. Muris Čičić (Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina) during his presentation at the Horizon Scanning Session.*

training. As these subjects were presented, initiatives got the support from other European Academies, sparking discussions and potential for collaboration. The topics presented were only a selection of a wide range of topics put forward by the Academies for this session.

## ■ Science in Times of Challenged Trust and Expertise

Speakers from across Europe debated the challenges posed to science in its role as a trusted source of evidence and expertise during the ALLEA General Assembly at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS).

On 16 May 2018, renowned scholars and an international audience discussed the underlying causes and consequences of the alleged loss of trust, as well as questions on how scientific evidence can and should be acquired and communicated across academic disciplines and traditions.

Susan Owens (British Academy), Cathrine Holst (University of Oslo) and Boris Grozdanoff (BAS) constituted



Ed Noort (Past ALLEA Vice-President), Susan Owens (British Academy), Cathrine Holst (University of Oslo) and Boris Grozdanoff (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) during the first panel of the symposium. Credit: M.T.



*What kind of attributes generate trust? Epistemic authority and autonomy! They must actively be constructed and maintained."*

Susan Owens, British Academy

the panel of the first session. "What kind of attributes generate trust? Epistemic authority and autonomy! They must actively be constructed and maintained," Owens argued. The panel discussed how we think about expertise and its role in the policy process, why trust in expertise is considered to be in decline, how advisory systems should

look like to be trustworthy and trusted, and why it is especially challenging to establish such systems in complex and contested fields such as environmental policy.

In the second session, Milena Žic Fuchs (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts) and Nikolay Vitanov (BAS) debated the dramatic change of the universities' role in European societies as examined by ALLEA's President Antonio Loprieno in his keynote lecture. The panel exchanged their opinions on how the scientific community should deal with this challenge.

The closing session debated challenges

posed by the rise of social media and digital platforms. José van Dijck (Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences), Christiane Wooten (University of Cologne) and Vassil Kirov (BAS) examined a disruption of institutional systems of trust, leading to the spread of misinformation and 'fake news'. The panellists agreed that phenomena such as 'confirmation bias', 'context collapse' and 'polarisation push' should be more prominently observed in new forms of digital communication and that they require not more but better scientific communication and public engagement. [Read more](#)

## ■ Shaping European Science Advice: Insights and Experiences

On 17 May 2018, SAPEA held the symposium *Shaping European Science Advice: Insights and Experiences*, at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. This event explored different experiences in providing science advice for policy, and what we can learn from these experiences to shape the future of policy advice in Europe.

The symposium started with remarks from Professor Bernard Charpentier, Chair of SAPEA, and Professor Pearl Dykstra, Deputy Chair of the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors. They presented the [Scientific Advice Mechanism \(SAM\)](#), including the specific contributions from the European academies project [SAPEA](#) and the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors respectively.

The discussion continued with the presentation of Counsellor Karina Angelieva (Head of Section Education and Research, Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the

EU), who provided insights on how to develop scientific based policies and economies in Europe, based on research data and analyses. She stated that the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) sends a strong signal to Member States regarding the importance of evidence-based policymaking. She particularly underlined how critical it is to have permanent bodies in place to facilitate science advice for policy in order to give stability to the mechanism.

In the first panel discussion, different national perspectives on science for policy were discussed. Professor

Peter Halligan (Chief Scientific Advisor for Wales), Professor Frans Brom (Council Secretary and Director of the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy) and Dr Siyavuya Bulani (Senior Liaison Officer, Academy of Science of South Africa) presented some key aspects of science policy advice in their respective countries, giving the audience the opportunity to compare different mechanisms and experiences. Amongst many points discussed, the question of trust between scientists and policy-makers was raised. [Read more](#)



## SAPEA publishes new Evidence Review Reports, with more on the way

In May and June, SAPEA published two Evidence Review Reports on *Novel Carbon Capture and Utilisation Technologies: research and climate aspects*, and on *Improving Authorisation Processes for Plant Protection Products in Europe*. The Consortium will next look at the topic *Transforming the Future of Ageing* and contribute to the topic *Making Sense of Science under Conditions of Complexity and Uncertainty*.

The second **SAPEA Evidence Review Report on Novel Carbon Capture and Utilisation Technologies: research and climate aspects (CCU)** was published in late May. The report was elaborated in response to a request by European Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete, and informed the Scientific Opinion produced by the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (GCSA). To supplement the scientific work, SAPEA has organised several public events on the topic. In collaboration with the Netherlands Academy of Technology and Innovation (ACTI) and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences and Arts (KNAW), SAPEA held a symposium at the Amsterdam Public Library on 9 April attended by around 100 participants. Additionally, the Slovenian Academy of Engineering hosted a CCU event on 10 May. Further outreach events in Romania and Sweden are planned. The **SAPEA Evidence Review Report** informed the **GCSA's Scientific Opinion on CCU**.

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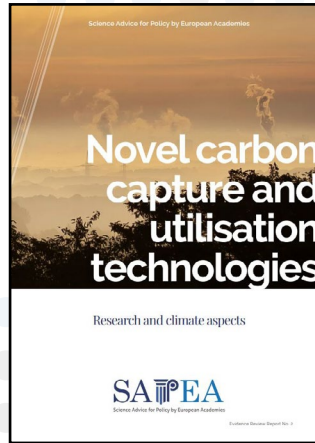
*When Europe scrapped its chief scientific adviser role and instead installed a committee of experts in 2016, there were questions about how well the system would function. Very well indeed, is the answer — at least if a report released by the expert group on 4 June is anything to go by”.*

Nature Editorial

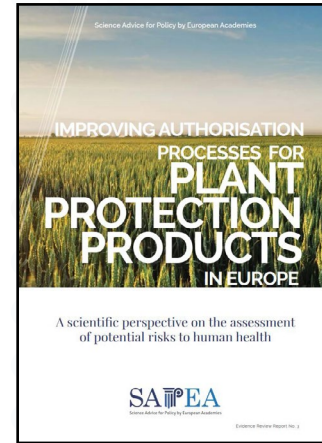
## Open Call for evidence for project 'Transforming the Future of Ageing'

On its own initiative, linked to a horizon-scanning presentation during the 2016 ALLEA General Assembly, and led by the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM), SAPEA has taken up the topic *Transforming the Future of Ageing*. The working group on the topic will produce a report by spring 2019, tackling questions on how the EU can support Member States in achieving inclusive, fair and sustainable systems of health and social care while ensuring continued innovation in ageing societies. An open call for evidence was issued; evidence may be submitted [here](#).

Furthermore, SAPEA will be involved in the topic *Making Sense of Science* under conditions of complexity and uncertainty, which was adopted on the own initiative of the GCSA. In addition, SAPEA continues to collaborate with academies on public engagement events on Food from the Oceans, such as a recent breakfast meeting at the **Royal Irish Academy** and an outreach event at the **Academy of Sciences of Lisbon**.



On 4 June 2018, the third SAPEA Evidence Review Report was published on the topic **Improving Authorisation Processes for Plant Protection Products in Europe (PPP)**. Again, the report, together with a report of a workshop on **Risk Perception and the Acceptability of Human Exposure to Pesticides** organised by ALLEA, informed the similarly titled Scientific Opinion produced by the GCSA. The request came from



European Commissioner for Health & Food Safety, Vytenis Andriukaitis. The SAPEA workshop report on Risk Perception and the Acceptability of Human Exposure to Pesticides can be accessed [here](#). The GCSA's Scientific Opinion on PPP is available [here](#).

On 5 June, **Nature's Editorial** was dedicated to this scientific opinion, which was built on the evidence provided by SAPEA. The editorial



says: "When Europe scrapped its chief scientific adviser role and instead installed a committee of experts in 2016, there were questions about how well the system would function. Very well indeed, is the answer — at least if a report released by the expert group on 4 June is anything to go by". You can read the full editorial [here](#).



## Loss of Trust? Loss of Trustworthiness? - New ALLEA Discussion Paper

ALLEA's discussion paper focusses on how trust in expertise is placed or refused, highlights the affective dimension of epistemic trust, and discusses the danger of a 'context collapse' in digital communication. Experts from academies across Europe reflect on the current situation in which expertise and particularly research and science operate, and what has changed in relation to trust and trustworthiness.

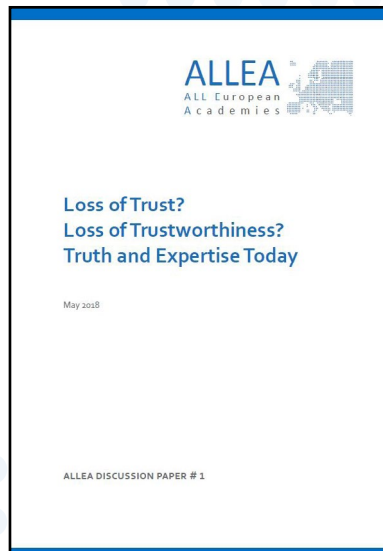
On 29 May 2018, ALLEA published the first issue of a new discussion paper series with the title "**Loss of Trust? Loss of Trustworthiness? Truth and Expertise Today**". The paper addresses current discussions on the so-called "post-truth" era and draws attention to the questions of placing and refusing trust in expertise, and how expertise and scientific evidence are contested in a changing landscape of communication.

Based on discussions of ALLEA's international and interdisciplinary **Working Group Truth, Trust and Expertise**, the paper proposes to refocus the debate on the alleged loss of trust in expertise beyond people's generic attitudes of trust and mistrust reflected in polls. In doing so, it delves into the question of how people place and refuse trust in expertise, and warns that trust in expertise is "valuable when placed in trustworthy agents and activities, but damaging and costly when misplaced".

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*Experts and expertise are not monolithic, and we need to engage with the importance of cultural differentiation locally and around the world.*

Particularly the "affective conditions in which trustworthiness is determined" should be more strongly taken into account. When people place trust in the information provided, they are "taking a chance in trusting someone" - putting themselves at risk and tolerating vulnerability. Judgements on an expert's trustworthiness thus carry affective (as well as social and political) aspects that determine how people trust expertise. For example, "in order to understand a lack of trust in children's vaccines", the paper suggests that "we need to be aware



of communication between experts and their audiences but also of the vulnerability that parents experience in conditions of a perceived or real uncertainty".

The process of placing and refusing trust might also be different from place to place. "Experts and expertise are not monolithic, and we need to engage with the importance of cultural differentiation locally and around the world. Understandably, this can lead to situations where trust is refused not for lack of credibility or confidence, but due to shortcomings in the delivery of the affective and social aspects of judgements of trustworthiness".

### Digital communication and the "context collapse"

In addition, digital communication has changed the relationship between expertise and the public. The digitisation of information has led to an idea of knowledge as something that can be searched and found on the internet. This online environment often provides "little clarity about who says what in which context and on the basis of what authority or expertise".

The paper warns that new landscapes

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*The initial response to claims that experts were not trustworthy was to regulate them more closely. [...] We need to know whether our accountability systems support the intelligent placing and refusing of trust.*

of communication sometimes imply a "context collapse": "in an online environment where everything is content, the truthfulness of text, image, and sound can often no longer be determined directly from the context. In addition, whether something is true or trustworthy on social media is far less important than whether it is liked, and what is liked has economic value without any account to expertise".

Finally, another crucial point raised by the paper is that the importance of achieving transparency and accountability whilst still encouraging academic freedom needs to be thought through further. "The initial response to claims that experts were not trustworthy was to regulate them more closely. [...] We need to know whether our accountability systems support the intelligent placing and refusing of trust".

The discussion paper reflects the conclusions of a workshop held by the ALLEA Working Group "Truth, Trust & Expertise" at **The British Academy** in London in February 2018. The expert group, chaired by Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve and Professor Ed Noort, is a transnational platform for perspectives on the nature and relationship between truth, trust and expertise in the field of science and research.

[Read more](#)

## WORKSHOP

## Trust in Expertise: Spectra of Science and Knowledge Production

ALLEA's Working Group Truth, Trust and Expertise organised a thematic workshop at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences on 15 May to look at different disciplinary perspectives on how to create trustworthy knowledge.

On 15 May 2018, the ALLEA Working Group Truth, Trust & Expertise held its second of three thematic Workshops. Chaired by Professor Ed Noort, Co-Chair of the Working Group, this workshop discussed the role of science and research in relation to the trustworthiness of methods and evidence across different academic disciplines. Participants presented different disciplinary perspectives on how to create trustworthy knowledge, discussed how greater inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation could be made possible, how historical,



Participants of the workshop during their discussions at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia on 15 May 2018.

*A third workshop on "Changing Landscapes of Communication" will take place in Amsterdam on 31 August 2018 at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW).*

geographical and ethical contexts matter, and how changing norms and practices are impacting the mode of scientific production and publishing. Some of these and previous

discussions were followed up on the next day at the scientific symposium "Science in Times of Challenged Trust and Expertise", as part of ALLEA's General Assembly (see [page 7](#)).

Professor Noort emphasised the necessity for critical (self-)reflection on the role of the countless scientific institutions, disciplines and methods regarding an alleged loss of trust in

expertise. The major talking points and conclusions drawn from the workshop will be published in the second issue of the ALLEA Discussion Paper series. They will also feed into the third workshop on "Changing Landscapes of Communication" in Amsterdam on 31 August 2018 under the chairmanship of Professor José van Dijck (KNAW).

[Read more](#)

## SCIENCE IN SOCIETY

## ALLEA Call for Videos: #TrustingScience in 1 Minute

ALLEA received several submissions in response to its call for videos "[#TrustingScience in 1 Minute](#)" regarding the state and the role of science in times of challenged trust and expertise.

ALLEA received several submissions in response to its call for videos "[#TrustingScience in 1 Minute](#)" regarding the state and the role of science in times of challenged trust and expertise. Among the responses, ALLEA received contributions from the [Global Young Academy \(GYA\)](#).

In her response, Lisa Herzog, Professor of Political Philosophy at the Technical University of Munich, warns against a "market logic" that has taken hold in the production of knowledge, thereby undermining the moral responsibility of scientists and leading to mistrust



in scientific output. Robert Lepenies, research scientist at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, cautions against simple answers to complex social questions coming from both populist policies, but also



from technocratic approaches to policy-making.

If you wish to engage and contribute to this discussion, you may still submit your own video. You can read the guidelines [here](#).



HORIZON EUROPE

## ALLEA's Working Group FPg meets in Stockholm to discuss proposal for Horizon Europe

The ALLEA Working Group Framework Programme 9 met in Stockholm on 4 June 2018 on the invitation of the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities to agree on future actions concerning the European Commission's proposal for the next framework programme for research and innovation *Horizon Europe*.

The experts critically assessed guiding principles, structure, funding lines, and clusters of topics envisioned in the proposal, officially presented by European Commissioner Carlos Moedas on 7 June 2018, which will be discussed both in the European Parliament and the European Council over the next months. Horizon Europe will run from 2021-2027 with a budget, as proposed by the Commission, of approximately 100 billion Euros.

In the coming months, ALLEA's working group will develop a set of activities directed both towards Members of the European Parliament, and to the relevant committees in the Parliament and in the Council in order to help shape and balance the final legislation on Horizon Europe in line with the needs of the scientific community, represented by academies from across Europe.

### Horizon Europe

The proposal foresees a three-pillar structure, with pillar I on "Open Science" including funding for the ERC, for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions,



Participants of the working group meeting at the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities. Credit: KVHAA.

as well as research infrastructures. Pillar II is labelled "Global Challenges" and is supposed to receive the lion's share of the overall budget (more than 50 billion). It hosts five so-called "clusters" (Health; Inclusive and secure societies; Digital and industry; Climate, energy and mobility; Food and natural resources) as well as the European Commission's in-house science service JRC. The newly established European Innovation

Council (EIC) is located in Pillar III ("Open Innovation") alongside the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and funding for 'European innovation ecosystems'. In addition to the three pillars, the proposal includes a funding line for "Strengthening the European Research Area" with a special focus on support to the less competitive research systems in Europe. [Read more.](#)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

## ALLEA's Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights meets in Munich

The ALLEA Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights met in Munich at the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition on 16 April 2018 to discuss the next steps on their deliberations on Artificial Intelligence, blockchain technology, and strategies for IP rights in academic institutions, among other topics.

The [ALLEA Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights](#) met in Munich at the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition on 16 April 2018. The expert group assessed the impact of their latest position papers on the [text and data mining exception](#) and the [ownership of multinational inventions](#). Looking at the next steps, participants examined the ongoing

legislative process of the proposal of a new directive on copyright for the Digital Single Market and the potential impact of this legislation for European research.

New topics were also under discussion in the meeting, including the legal aspects of the Declaration of the European Commission for a [European Open Science Cloud \(EOSC Declaration\)](#). ALLEA was one of the

early endorsers of the declaration and is committed to provide expertise on the topic via its working groups.

Furthermore, the experts also reflected on the potential impact of using Artificial Intelligence technology and blockchain technology on the current IP rights framework, as well as the need for adopting IP rights strategies in academies and other scientific institutions.

## European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity – New set of translations available

In June 2018, ALLEA published another eight new translations: Albanian, Bulgarian, German, Greek, Estonian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Turkish. Throughout the year, ALLEA will be publishing translations of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity in all official languages of the European Union, as well as selected languages from around the globe.

With the support of the European Commission's Translational Services and ALLEA Member Academies, the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity was published in June in Albanian, Bulgarian, German, Greek, Estonian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Turkish. All translations can be found [here](#).

### Implementing the Code

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity serves the European research community as a framework for self-regulation across all scientific and scholarly disciplines

and for all research settings.

The 2017 revised edition of the Code addresses emerging challenges emanating from technological developments, open science, citizen science and social media, among other areas. The European Commission recognises the Code as the reference document for research integrity for all EU-funded research projects and as a model for organisations and researchers across Europe. The revised Code was published originally in English on 24 March 2017.

Since its publication in English, the Code has been used by multiple research institutions and universities across Europe, and presented in various conferences on research integrity and research ethics.

### Make codes for research integrity practical

A correspondence by the lead author of the revised ALLEA Code, Maura Hiney (Royal Irish Academy), was published in [Nature](#) on 25 April 2018 calling for making codes for research integrity more practical.





## SYMPOSIUM

## Health Inequalities – how do different disciplines deal with it?

ALLEA, in cooperation with the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), organised a symposium in Amsterdam on 24 May 2018 to bring together different perspectives of disciplines on the question of the causality of socioeconomic status and health.

The symposium “Health Inequalities – an interdisciplinary discussion on socioeconomic status, health and causality” took place in Amsterdam on 24 May 2018. The event was a joint project initiated by ALLEA in cooperation with the **Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM)**, and the **Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)**.

The symposium gathered representatives from across disciplines that are interested and committed to exploring unresolved issues in the context of substantial differences in health among socioeconomic groups. The discussion was led by experts with backgrounds in various disciplines that ranged from public health, sociology, economics, to genetics. Speakers elaborated on current findings as to what extent factors like income and education determine socioeconomic disparities, and examined various methodological options to analyse the causal relationship between socioeconomic status and health, and the main mechanisms that link low socioeconomic status to ill-health and premature death. Speakers also cast light on the challenges they face when assessing the causal effects and the associated methodologies in place within their disciplines.

Graham Caie (Royal Society of Edinburgh), representing the ALLEA Board, welcomed participants to the symposium and underlined the importance of bringing together a wide range of disciplines in the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences to explore causalities and methodologies and to share data in this important field. “This initiative is an example of how successful and mutually beneficial the collaboration between academies, and indeed their European networks, can be, and how



Jay Kaufman, Professor at McGill University, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, & Occupational Health, delivers a presentation during the symposium at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Credit: Inge Hoogland

their efforts can positively impact our societies.”

Moderated by the Chair of the project’s scientific committee, Professor Johan Mackenbach (KNAW), each of the sessions addressed the framework of mechanisms that generate social inequalities in health, while taking into account that other variables, such as geographical position, are also likely to affect these to a lesser or greater extent.

“

*This initiative is an example of how successful and mutually beneficial the collaboration between academies, and indeed their European networks, can be, and how their efforts can positively impact our society.”*

Graham Caie, ALLEA Board Member



From left to right: Wim van Saarloos (President KNAW), Graham Caie (ALLEA Board Member), George Griffin (President FEAM), Bernard Charpentier (Past President FEAM), Johan Mackenbach (Professor at Erasmus Medical Centre). Credit: Inge Hoogland

## ■ How do we use data in the 21st century?

The new ALLEA project "Flourishing in a data-enabled society", in cooperation with the Royal Society, will look into the implications of using data at the governance level in the 21st century.

Data, in its multitude of iterations and the way we make use of the information it contains, affects nearly all aspects of life today, yet rarely do we consider what the deeper implications at the governance level are. ALLEA joins forces with **The Royal Society** to organise the conference "Flourishing in a data-enabled society". The event will convene experts from academies across Europe and from different sectors in Buckinghamshire (UK) in November, to reflect on how society can best seize the opportunities and cope with the major challenges brought on by new uses of data.

The conference, hosted by The Royal Society at Chicheley Hall on 1 and 2 November 2018, seeks to elaborate a vision for a flourishing data-enabled Europe. In a set of keynotes, panel

discussions and breakout sessions, the participants will consider current and future challenges from a variety of cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral angles.

Breakout groups will enable representatives from different sectors, disciplines and geographical areas to make new connections and to discuss key questions in more detail, particularly exploring how different sectors and societies respond differently to these challenges.

Panels will explore how social, ethical and legal tensions arise across sectors, and how different sectors deal with them, so that data and data-enabled technologies can be used for human benefit. Experts will discuss ways to identify, respond and make the most out of the challenges of 21st



THE  
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century data use. The discussions will furthermore address questions on how the use of data for public good might look like in Europe, how societies navigate the significant choices and dilemmas stemming from new data-enabled technologies, and if it is possible to consider a common European vision of the data-enabled society.

### OPEN INVITATION

## ■ ENERI invites European researchers to join E-community for Research Ethics & Integrity experts

Open online platform to be launched to share Research Ethics and Research Integrity resources among the research community across Europe.

As part of the **ENERI** project, ALLEA is pleased to announce the initiation of the ENERI e-Community. The objective of the platform is to create an open database of Research Ethics and Research Integrity experts and a space for discussion, sharing of information, exchange of good practices and training material.

The e-community is intended to be a place for practitioners in the field of RE&RI to be able to share their experiences and sources of knowledge with their European peers in order to harmonise procedures at a European level.

Interested members are invited to contact [vogt@allea.org](mailto:vogt@allea.org) for further information on the registration process.



eneri

### About ENERI

The "European Network of Research Ethics and Research Integrity" (ENERI) establishes an operable platform of actors in the fields of research ethics and research integrity. ENERI is based on existing networks, projects and infrastructures that

already initiated and developed important steps in sharing information, training and capacity building. Research ethics committees, review boards, ombudspersons' offices, research integrity offices and supporting structures are the established bodies monitoring, accompanying and assisting the process of responsible and justifiable research. Therefore, the European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO) and the European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC) mutually initiated ENERI in collaborations with experts in academic research ethics (RE) and responsible research and innovation (RRI), practitioners in training and education in research ethics, and specialists in e-communication and database design.



## CONFERENCE

## ■ SAPEA at ESOF

From 9-14 July, the French city of Toulouse will host the ESOF conference 2018 under the title **Sharing Science: Towards New Horizons**.

On Wednesday 11 July, SAPEA will hold a joint session with the Scientific Advice Mechanism titled **Carbon capture and utilization for climate change: hype or hope?** The session will take place from 10:15-11:30. The Chair of SAPEA's CCU working group, Robert Schlögl, member of Leopoldina and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, will be among the speakers, in addition to speakers from the European Group of Chief Scientific Advisors as well as other stakeholder groups. If you want to learn more about ESOF and register for the conference click [here](#).

## TOULOUSE

## ■ Conference: Young African Scientists in Europe

On 6 July 2018, the University Toulouse-Capitole will host the conference *YASE 2018 - Young African Scientists in Europe / Jeunes chercheurs africains en Europe*. Its aim is to give African doctoral and post-doctoral scientists who are based in Europe the necessary information and tools to assist them should they decide to continue their scientific careers in Africa. Learn more at the official website of the event: [www.yase-conference.eu](http://www.yase-conference.eu)

## STATEMENT

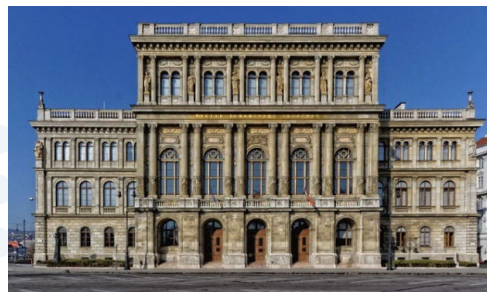
## ■ Future Partnership between the EU and the UK

On 29-30 January 2018, representatives of European research stakeholders convened at the Royal Society at Chicheley Hall to discuss the potential of future partnerships and collaboration between the UK and the EU after Brexit. ALLEA was represented in the meeting by its past President, Professor Günter Stock. One result from this meeting was the statement "An ambitious and close future partnership between the UK and Europe. A Future Partnership Project". The document sets out a shared commitment to an ambitious and close future partnership between the UK and other European countries. This statement is part of the Royal Society and Wellcome Trust "Future Partnership Project". You may read the statement in full [here](#).

## BUDAPEST

## ■ ALLEA Supports the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

In response to the proposed amendment of the Law on the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Law on the 2019 Hungarian state budget introduced for voting by the Hungarian Parliament - which threaten the scientific autonomy and financial independence of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences - ALLEA's President Antonio Loprieno has sent an open letter to the Hungarian Minister of Innovation and Technology, Mr László Palkovics, echoing the Hungarian Academy of Sciences' demands to withdraw the proposed amendments. You can read President Loprieno's open letter [here](#).



## OPEN DATA

## ■ New recommendations on Open Data in Science in Europe

The European Members of the International Council for Science (ICSU) released a statement last May with a set of recommendations for European researchers and institutions pertaining to Open Data in science. The brief statement addresses the 'FAIR' data principles, data repositories, incentives and reward systems, research data management, and research culture, aiming at making data more easily accessible to researchers so as to enhance the overall quality of European scientific output. These recommendations are the result of the workshop "Open Data in Science: Challenges and Opportunities for Europe", organised with the support of ALLEA, which took place in Brussels on 31 January 2018, and organised back to back with ALLEA's workshop "Ethical Aspects of Open Access: A Windy Road", hosted by the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts (KVAB) at the Academy Palace in Brussels on 1 February 2018. You can access the statement at the [Euro ICSU's website](#).

## RE-IMAGINE EUROPA

## ■ ALLEA at the European Parliament

ALLEA was invited to discuss the future of Europe at the European Parliament in Brussels on 11 April 2018. The debate took place at the initiative of **Re-imagine Europa (RIE)**, a new European incubator for fresh civic and political ideas, set up by former French President Giscard d'Estaing, which launched its activities on this occasion. The debate included political and civil society leaders and gave ALLEA the opportunity to represent the voices of European Academies at the Parliament and provide new ideas on how to re-imagine the European Research Area.

ALLEA is a Knowledge Partner of Re-Imagine Europa, and is supporting its activities by contributing with knowledge and academic expertise to RIE's projects, with particular focus on the programme looking at "Democracy in a Post-Factual Reality".

# ALLEA

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## MEMBER ACADEMIES

**Albania:** Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë; **Armenia:** Գիտությունների ազգային ակադեմիա; **Austria:** Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften; **Belarus:** Нацыянальная акадэмія навук Беларусі; **Belgium:** Académie Royale des Sciences des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique; Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten; Koninklijke Academie voor Nederlandse Taal- en Letterkunde; Académie Royale de langue et de littérature françaises de Belgique; **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Akademija nauka i umjetnosti Bosne i Hercegovine; **Bulgaria:** Българска академия на науките; **Croatia:** Hrvatska Akademija Znanosti i Umjetnosti; **Czech Republic:** Akademie věd České republiky; Učená společnost České republiky; **Denmark:** Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab; **Estonia:** Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia; **Finland:** Tiedeakatemia; **France:** Académie des sciences - Institut de France; Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres; **Georgia:** საქართველოს მეცნიერებათა ეროვნული აკადემია; **Germany:** Leopoldina - Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften; Union der deutschen Akademien der Wissenschaften; Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen, Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur Mainz, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Akademie der Wissenschaften in Hamburg, Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften, Nordrhein-Westfälische Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Künste, Sächsische Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig (Associate Members); **Greece:** Ακαδημία Αθηνών; **Hungary:** Magyar Tudományos Akadémia; **Ireland:** The Royal Irish Academy - Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann; **Israel:** האקדמיה הלאומית הישראלית למדעים; **Italy:** Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei; Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti; Accademia delle Scienze di Torino; **Kosovo:** Akademia e Shkencave dhe e Arteve e Kosovës; **Latvia:** Latvijas Zinātņu akadēmija; **Lithuania:** Lietuvos mokslų akademija; **Macedonia:** Македонска Академија на Науките и Уметностите; **Moldova:** Academia de Științe a Moldovei; **Montenegro:** Crnogorska akademija nauka i umjetnosti; **Netherlands:** Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen; **Norway:** Det Norske Videnskaps-Akademi; Det Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskab; **Poland:** Polska Akademia Umiejętności; Polska Akademia Nauk; **Portugal:** Academia das Ciências de Lisboa; **Romania:** Academia Română; **Russia:** Российская академия наук (Associate Member); **Serbia:** Srpska Akademija Nauka i Umjetnosti; **Slovakia:** Slovenská Akadémia Vied; **Slovenia:** Slovenska akademija znanosti in umetnosti; **Spain:** Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales; Reial Acadèmia de Ciències i Arts de Barcelona; Institut d'Estudis Catalans; **Sweden:** Kungl. Vetenskapsakademien; Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien; **Switzerland:** Akademien der Wissenschaften Schweiz; **Turkey:** Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi; Bilim Akademisi; **Ukraine:** Національна академія наук України; **United Kingdom:** The British Academy; The Learned Society of Wales; The Royal Society; The Royal Society of Edinburgh.

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