

**President's summary report of the Academia Europaea activities and highlights in 2022**

Dear members.

On behalf of the Board of trustees, I would like to thank all of the organisations that have sustained the Academia through their generous general financial sponsorships. In particular the authorities supporting the Academia Europaea Regional Knowledge Hubs and the German National Academy of Sciences (Leopoldina) - a Patron member of the Academia Europaea in 2022. The trustees also thank those other foundations and organisations that have contributed to the running of specific events and activities of the Academia during the period of this report. The support of these organisations is identified in various places within this report and in the separate annual accounts and have been identified within the various individual Hub reports annexed to the main report that you can find on our website. The full trustees report (2022) is available as a pdf on the ae-info website.

I confirm that in 2022, the trustees have been active in their engagement in the affairs of the Academia and a majority have attended every meeting of the trustees. The trustees wish to express their gratitude to the elected officers of the Academy for their additional work on behalf of the membership. In particular, we would like to thank Ole Petersen, for his very long service and for his representing the AE in external project boards and meetings, including in the Horizon Europe SAPEA and SAPEA plus project. Professor Petersen will step down from the Board at the end of 2022.

In 2022, the AE was able to return to a more substantial programme of real-time international events (conferences and workshops) and to maintain a programme of online activities (webinars and streamed events). Some of these are reported in the main report and in more detail in the individual Hub annual reports. A number of delayed COVID impacted activities were run in 2022. The Horizon 2020 funded SAPEA activity continued mostly virtually (see later report). The European Review continued to be published and generated royalty income (see below).

The trustees wish to record their thanks to the Technical University of Graz data centre staff for their continuing and dedicated I.T. and corporate web support and to Professor Balazs Gulyas for his management of the AE Erasmus Medal process. The Board would also like to thank Professor Gulyas for his work in establishing a new AE Class prize (for life sciences) – the Sydney Brenner Prize. The first prize will be awarded at the annual conference of 2023 in Munich.

The trustees are pleased to report, that in 2022, our inter – organisational links were further strengthened with a number of European federation organisations (ALLEA, FEAM, EASAC and euroCASE) and also continued with our engagement as a member of the EASAC consortium. the AE was a signatory to a range of European Research and Higher Educational policy initiatives, including for example, initiatives for the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment, The initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) – “Build a Bridge – UK Petition”, relating to UK participation in European Horizon Research.

The President and other trustees engaged in a number of specific activities that responded to policy issues across Europe. A thematic transdisciplinary task force on Environmental sustainability was

established and its first substantive activity will take place in summer 2023. In addition, each of the seven Regional Knowledge Hubs has its own distinct mission and identity that respond to local and regional priorities. The trustees recognise the immense support provided by the sponsors for these Hubs. None of the hubs receives core financing from the centre for their day-to-day operations. This model helps to increase local responsiveness.

The trustees are pleased to report a further widening of the membership of the Academia Europaea with the election in 2022 of 470 scholars across a four classes. The full 2022-election list is at annex 1 of the main report. Member statistics can be found on the AE website at [ae-info.org](http://ae-info.org). Unfortunately, there has only been a very slow improvement in gender balance, whereas the disparity in terms of disciplines has been reduced somewhat over the year. The trustees also continued to support the further development of the Young Academy of Europe, in recognition of the AE mission to promote young researchers.

In recognition of the tragic situation that has unfolded in the Ukraine, the trustees were pleased to allocate some funds to support bona fide academics who fled the Ukraine. Support was marshalled through three of our regional knowledge Hubs (Wroclaw, Budapest and Tbilisi). The AE provided funds to the Wroclaw Knowledge Hub who organised a local support grant scheme to enable refugee researchers to continue some of their work outside of the Ukraine. In addition, membership fees were waived for impacted scholars from the region.

The AE has a membership of individuals that are drawn from the whole continent of Europe and Foreign members from beyond Europe. The majority of AE members are resident and working outside of the UK and the majority of these are based in EU member states. The trustees have concluded, that following the completion of the BREXIT process, the risks to the continuation of the Academia as a UK registered and domiciled charity should be reviewed. One significant driver will be to secure continued AE eligibility to be a beneficiary in future EU funded research collaboration programmes. The outcome of these deliberations will be reported to members at the AGM.

The Trustees wish to place on record, that it were their belief that at the time of the compilation of this report, there were no additional or unforeseen risks that would place the continuation of the charity in jeopardy.

On behalf of the Board of trustees, I am pleased to report that the Academia is on a growth trajectory and **I recommend members TO ADOPT THE 2022 Trustees report.**

The report will be submitted to the UK regulatory authorities and will be made available to members online.

Marja Makarow

President

Helsinki

September 2023