

newsletter

Issue #11 | May 2017

ALLEA
ALL European
Academies



■ A Code of Conduct for European research

The ALLEA Permanent Working Group Science and Ethics released the revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*. This publication, which will serve as a reference document for Horizon 2020 Grant Agreements, is an important step in creating and emphasizing the need for a unified understanding of what good research practice entails in Europe.

[Read more](#)



Dear Reader,

ALLEA is committed to building public trust in science and research and helping the academic community to navigate the complexity and changes of today's academic landscape. As part of this mission, we devoted much of our time in the last months to releasing the revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*. I congratulate the ALLEA Permanent Working Group Science and Ethics on this outstanding document, which has been broadly welcomed and greatly appreciated throughout the European research community. In this newsletter issue, we report on the presentation of the document in Brussels, outline the next steps towards spreading the ALLEA Code across Europe and publish a background interview with the lead author of the revised Code, Dr Maura Hiney.

I am also very pleased to present the 2017 laureate of our All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values, Professor of European law and President of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), Koen Lenaerts. In times when European values seem to be increasingly threatened by scepticism and extremism, the ALLEA Prize Jury decided to honour a legal scholar with an impeccable track record in European law. Professor Lenaerts' rich and thorough analysis of the EU judicial system reminds us of the indispensable role of law not only as the basis of our free societies but also at the very basis of the European project.

The prize will be awarded during a festive ceremony in the context of the our 2017 General Assembly meeting, followed by the joint ALLEA – Academia Europaea conference on "Sustainability and Resilience" in Budapest at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on 4-6 September. The registration for the event is open and more information on the programme is available on the [official conference website](#). The conference will bring together eminent scholars and scientists, as well

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as high level officials and the interested public to discuss and enlighten various aspects of Europe's sustainability and resilience: covering questions of heritage, social systems, health, the economy, climate, and the science and research landscape. Let me take this opportunity to encourage you to join us in Budapest!

Finally, this newsletter gives you an update on the recent progress of the EU-funded SAPEA project. Jointly with our partners, ALLEA is working on the latest requests of the European Commission to the Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). We invite you to learn more on these developments in our SAPEA section.

I wish you an enjoyable reading.

Kind regards,

Günter Stock
President of ALLEA

BOARD MEETING

■ Looking ahead: ALLEA Board discusses future challenges and upcoming activities

ALLEA Board Members meet in Berlin in the premises of the Leopoldina and the Union of German Academies of Sciences and Humanities

The ALLEA Board held its first meeting of 2017 in Berlin on 16-17 March on the invitation of its two member academies in Germany, the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, and the Union of German Academies of Sciences and Humanities. The Board members discussed the year ahead for ALLEA, including the release and future implementation of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*, the preparations for the ALLEA General Assembly in Budapest at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on 4-6 September 2017, as well as other upcoming events and initiatives with relevance for the European federation of academies.

Following the recent progress of the SAPEA project and ALLEA's increasing involvement in providing scientific advice to policymakers, the Board underlined the importance of continuing the promotion of policy for science activities, while further strengthening ALLEA's science for policy work within SAPEA. Concrete activities in this regard, including on the SAM work on "Food from the Oceans", were reported and discussed in detail.

Amongst the many on-going activities,



Members of the ALLEA Board and the ALLEA Secretariat in Berlin after the second session of the meeting. Credit: ALLEA

Board members especially commended the successful revision of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, led by the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics, and agreed that substantial efforts should be made in order to disseminate the document widely within the scientific community and across all sectors, both at the European and national levels.

The Board furthermore heard reports from the last meeting of ALLEA's working groups on Intellectual Property Rights and on Framework Programme

9. For the latter, working group chair Professor John Bell (British Academy) joined the ALLEA Board to give a detailed presentation on the scope and objectives of the group, followed by in-depths discussion on its future agenda and work. Board members welcomed and strongly supported the initiative, which follows up on previous work regarding the Horizon 2020 programme by ALLEA's predecessor working group on Social Sciences and Humanities, and expressed gratitude for the efforts and expertise the British Academy dedicates to it.

ROME

■ G7 Science Conference: The role of academies and academy networks in policy advice

ALLEA President Günter Stock participates in international conference organised by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

The conference, organised by Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei under the auspices of the G7 Academies initiative and Italy's Presidency of the G7 2017 summit, brought together in Rome on 3 May prominent representatives of academies, as well as Italian high level officials to discuss the role of national academies and international academy networks in providing policy advice to institutions.

ALLEA President Günter Stock participated in a panel discussion with representatives of international academy networks from Africa, Asia, America and Europe, and brought to the table a European perspective on the roles and



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Günter Stock, ALLEA President

responsibilities of academies to advise institutions. President Stock highlighted both the achievements of European academies in shaping the framework conditions for research in Europe and more recent efforts in the field of science

for policy by providing science advice on societally-relevant matters on the European level.

Recalling the most recent political developments in Hungary and Turkey, President Stock emphasised the challenges ahead for science and academies to defend the principles of academic freedom in the face of political attacks to science and facts. "We can no longer afford to sit in our ivory tower or we are running in real danger of drifting into obscurity, in modern terms we would call it alternative facts", said President Stock. Click here for information on the conference.

STATEMENTS

■ ALLEA takes a stand on US developments, Brexit and Central European University

ALLEA issues a number of statements and supports several causes to promote academic freedom and international scientific cooperation

Open letter on communication and mobility of researchers in the USA

ALLEA co-signed an open letter by European science organisations calling on European Institutions and national governments in Europe to protect the freedom and autonomy of science. The letter responds to some of the first actions of the newly inaugurated US President Donald J. Trump, which show a blatant disregard for the universal values and principles of science and research. [Read more](#)

Support to joint statement of UK and Irish Academies

ALLEA supported upholding the principles outlined in a joint statement on "Higher Education, Research and Innovation: After Triggering Article 50", issued by, among others, five ALLEA Member Academies. Joining them, ALLEA seeks to flag the importance of ensuring the best possible conditions are in place for future scientific collaboration between the EU and the United Kingdom. [Read more](#)

ALLEA stands with Central European University

ALLEA sent a letter to the Hungarian Minister for Human Capacities, Mr Zoltán Balog, in light of proposed legislative changes in Hungary that threaten the existence of the Central European University. "We consider the proposed legislation a fundamental threat to basic and internationally valid principles for conducting science and research", states ALLEA President Günter Stock. [Read more](#)

PRAGUE FORUM

■ International conference in Prague discussed the future of non-university research

ALLEA President Professor Günter Stock participated in a forum on the future of non-university research organised by the Czech Academy of Sciences in honour of its outgoing President Professor Jiří Drahoš

The international conference "Prague Forum" on 8 March 2017 brought together high level research, university and academy representatives to reflect on and discuss challenges and developments of non-university research beyond 2020. President Günter Stock represented ALLEA in the event, which was organised by the Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS) on the occasion of the conclusion of Professor Jiří Drahoš' presidency.

The future of non-university research institutions and research infrastructures, their future development and their societal roles were among the main themes of the forum, which took place in Prague under the aegis of the Czech Deputy Prime Minister for Science, Research and Innovation Pavel Bělobrádek. Experts and officials exchanged opinions and experiences on the challenges and opportunities for scientific excellence and the widening concept, the question of open science as a new paradigm of the European Research Area, and the necessity of a successful dialogue between science, policy and the wider public.



I translate the widening concept into something like structural support programmes with competitive elements to bring up more academic institutions to a level where they can truly compete in this Europe-wide race for example for European Research Council grants"

Günter Stock, ALLEA President

The ALLEA President participated in a panel dedicated to the topic "Scientific Excellence and the Widening Concept". In his presentation, Professor Stock reflected on how scientific excellence and the widening concept can be considered an "opportunity for inclusion" in various perspectives, from including more disciplines in the search for solutions to pressing problems, to connecting science with policy-making and the general public. Particularly he underlined the necessity to be more inclusive with



ALLEA President Günter Stock during his participation in the Prague Forum. Credit: Czech Academy of Sciences

and supportive of lower performing research institutions in Europe in order to enable them to compete at the highest level. "I translate the widening concept into something like structural support programmes with competitive elements to bring up more academic institutions to a level where they can truly compete in this Europe-wide race for example for European Research Council grants", said Professor Stock. The conference also focused on non-university research in Central and Eastern Europe.

■ Koen Lenaerts, 2017 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize Laureate

Professor Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, honoured with ALLEA Prize for his outstanding scholarly contribution to European law

Professor Koen Lenaerts will be awarded the 2017 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values to honour his extensive scholarly work on European law and his reflections on European jurisdiction. Professor Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), will be the fourth scholar to be awarded the ALLEA Prize, with the friendly co-sponsorship of Compagnia di San Paolo.

The 20,000 EUR Prize will be awarded on the occasion of the ALLEA General Assembly in the Hungarian Academy of

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Law is at the origin of the European idea and the basis for free societies, and this year the Prize Jury decided to honour a scholar with a truly European track record in law. President Lenaerts is an outstanding scholar and at the same time an exceptional promoter of European jurisdiction”

Günter Stock, ALLEA President

Sciences in Budapest on 4 September 2017. As a Professor of European Union law, his scholarly work represents a thorough and impeccable analysis in understanding the EU's judicial system and the democratic values for which it stands.

The Prize serves to remind us that despite variations in definition and geographical boundaries over the centuries, there has always been a deep-rooted understanding of European culture as rooted in an inherent openness supported by a dynamic and vigorous intellectualism.

Professor Günter Stock, ALLEA President and Chairman of the Prize jury said: “This Prize feels especially pertinent this year - in a time when the cultural diversity of Europe seems to be increasingly threatened by scepticism, extremism and instability. Law is at the origin of the European idea and the basis for free societies, and this year the Prize Jury decided to honour a scholar with a truly European track record in law. President Lenaerts is an outstanding scholar and at the same time an exceptional promoter of European jurisdiction.”

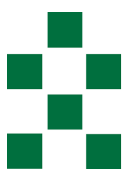
Koen Lenaerts, born in 1954 in Mortsel (Belgium), is professor of European Law at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and, since 2015, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union. His work represents not only an invaluable



Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union and Professor of European Union Law.

contribution to the understanding of the judicial system of the European Union, but also a wealth of analysis on the case law of the Court of Justice. His publications include: “Exploring the Limits of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights” (2012), “How the ECJ Thinks: A Study on Judicial Legitimacy” (2013), “The Principle of Democracy in the Case Law of the European Court of Justice” (2013), “La vie après l’avis: Exploring the principle of mutual (yet not blind) trust” (2017), among others. To read more about ALLEA Prize, please [click here](#).

■ Compagnia di San Paolo, co-sponsor of the 2017 ALLEA Prize



Compagnia
di San Paolo

The prize is kindly co-sponsored by the Compagnia di San Paolo. The Compagnia di San Paolo, founded in 1563 as a charitable brotherhood, is today one of the largest private-law foundations in Europe. It pursues aims of public interest and social use, in order to foster the civil, cultural and economic development of the community in which it operates. The Compagnia is active in the sectors of Research and Health, Art, Cultural Heritage and Activities, Cultural Innovation, Social Policies, and Philanthropy. To read more about the organisation, [click here](#).

ALLEA PUBLICATION

ALLEA publishes revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*

The European Commission will implement the ALLEA Code as a reference document for research integrity for all EU-funded research projects

The revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity* was officially published on 24 March 2017 and presented to the European Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, in Brussels. The document will serve the European research community as a framework for self-regulation across all scientific and scholarly disciplines and for all research settings. The new Code addresses recent and new challenges emanating from emerging developments, such as open science, citizen science and the increased use of social media, among other areas. It sets out principles of research integrity, criteria for good research practice, and describes how to prevent violations of research integrity.

The revision was motivated by current developments in the European research funding and regulatory landscape, changing institutional responsibilities, and evolving review procedures. In addition, the Code is applicable to

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I warmly thank ALLEA and its member academies for producing this new Code of Conduct for Research Integrity. I am sure it will serve as a model for organisations and researchers across Europe”

Carlos Moedas, EU Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation

expanding open access publishing, and the use of digital repositories, and takes into account new ways of communicating science and involving citizens in research.

The Code seeks to empower individual researchers and a variety of research bodies, funding agencies and publishers by creating a common understanding of how research should be conducted.

The publication of the Code is the



result of a ten-month revision process led by ALLEA's **Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics**. The revision process included an extensive stakeholder consultation process at the European level, involving major actors in European research, both public and private, including civil society organisations, private institutions, universities, publishers and the European Commission.

■ ALLEA Code: A tool for navigating today's changing research environment

The ALLEA Code is presented in Brussels to the European Commission as a reference guide for all European researchers and research organisations

In a meeting in Brussels, the publication was presented by the ALLEA President, Professor Günter Stock, the lead author of the drafting group, Dr Maura Hiney, and the chair of the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics, Professor Göran Hermerén, to European Commissioner Carlos Moedas, who welcomed the publication. "The public needs full trust in science, and this can only be achieved if the highest level of research ethics and integrity are guaranteed. This goes hand in hand with our Open Science agenda to ensure open access to scientific publications and data. I warmly thank ALLEA and its member academies for

producing this new Code of Conduct for Research Integrity. I am sure it will serve as a model for organisations and researchers across Europe", said Commissioner Moedas.

President Günter Stock underlined the efforts of ALLEA in supporting the scientific community in the field of research integrity and particularly in keeping pace with the changing conditions of the research environment. "Through the revision process, the Code helps researchers to navigate the changing and increasingly complex research environment they are facing today and in days to come. At the same time it reveals to the general public

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Günter Stock, ALLEA President

how researchers reflect on their work and what principles they follow”, said President Stock.

Professor Hermerén explained the main aspects of the revision. “This new Code of Conduct for research integrity differs from its predecessor in, among other things, that there is more focus on the research environment and on institutional responsibility. It also discusses problems raised by new forms of publication (open access) and repositories (open data) – as well as contentious issues like self-plagiarism. An attempt has been made to avoid repetitions and to present a condensed, clear and crisp text. The aim is to provide a framework and basic principles, not to regulate in detail. The Code of Conduct concentrates on how to

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Professor Göran Hermerén,
Chair of the ALLEA Permanent
Working Group on Science and Ethics

protect and promote research integrity, not on how to use research findings for policy advice.”



ALLEA President Günter Stock presents the ALLEA Code to EU Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation.
Credit: European Commission

■ Next steps on the implementation of the ALLEA Code across Europe

The Code will be translated to all official EU languages and a number of research organisations, including from Japan and Turkey, are working on translations into their respective languages to spread implementation beyond the EU

The Code seeks to serve as a basis for national codes of conduct for research integrity, to foster the harmonisation of procedures, to promote a common understanding on what good research practice and proper research behaviour means, and to help the research community respond adequately to violations of research integrity. In the preamble the authors set out that the primary purpose of the Code is to “realise this responsibility and to serve the research community as a framework for self-regulation”.

Understood as a “living document”, the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics will review the Code every three to five years and revise it as necessary to take into consideration evolving concerns and newly emerging developments.

To increase the outreach and implementation of the Code on the national level, translated versions will be made available over the next few months in all official EU languages. Additionally, a number of research organisations including academies and universities in Japan and Turkey, are working on translations into their respective

languages to spread implementation beyond the EU.

The Code will also prominently feature at the upcoming 5th World Conference on Research Integrity in Amsterdam on 28-31 May 2017.

The European Commission sees the code as a tool “to assist Member States and research institutions in developing their own policies and practices and contribute to a more coherent governance of EU

research and innovation. The Commission will support the inclusion of the Code at national level and, at the European level, will implement it as the required standard of research integrity for projects funded by Horizon 2020, the EU’s research and innovation funding programme.”

For more information, check the European Commission’s [news alert](#) and the [Factsheet](#) on the key aspects of the publication.

Fundamental principles of research integrity for good research practices

- **Reliability** in ensuring the quality of research, reflected in the design, the methodology, the analysis and the use of resources.
- **Honesty** in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full and unbiased way.
- **Respect** for colleagues, research participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage and the environment.
- **Accountability** for the research from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision and mentoring, and for its wider impacts.

Extracted from *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity* (2017)

INTERVIEW WITH DR MAURA HINEY, LEAD AUTHOR OF THE EUROPEAN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH INTEGRITY

“Creating a supportive climate for research integrity is the next big challenge for the academic system”



The lead author of the revised European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, Dr Maura Hiney, elaborates on the key aspects of the new edition. In addition to her involvement in ALLEA, Dr Maura Hiney was chair of the Science Europe Working Group on Research Integrity during its remit, and is Head of Post-Award and Evaluation at Health Research Board (HRB) in Ireland, which includes the development of policy for the organisation.

Could you give us a few examples of main new challenges covered in the revised version?

MAURA HINEY: I see three main areas of change. Firstly, even in the space of seven years, there have been significant changes in the research environment in Europe. With a recognition of the importance of the ‘knowledge economy’ many countries have increased the level of public funding for research, but have married that with increased targeting and prioritisation of research areas. There has also been an increased demand for application-driven research and for partnering with the enterprise sector. Secondly, there have been many technology-driven changes for research and for how researchers interact and communicate their findings, which are sometimes collectively termed ‘Open Science’. Thirdly, there have been societally-driven changes, with a more science-literate and interested public who want greater access to, and understanding of, the evidence unpinning many facets of their lives such as health and environment; the emergence of crowd funding of research and citizen science projects; and a greater appetite among the public for transparency and accountability in research following high-profile misconduct cases in many pillar institutions.

So what is new in the revised Code of Conduct?

M.H.: The revised Code includes a number of important innovations. The Code is written as a description of what IS done to ensure integrity in the research process, rather than what SHOULD be done, which can sometimes be interpreted as optional. Research Environment is placed first among the good research practices,

to stress the vital role that research institutions and organisations play in establishing, nurturing and supporting a climate of research integrity. The section on Training, Supervision and Mentoring is greatly expanded to reflect a growing understanding of the pivotal role that these play in improving the skills of researchers at all levels of their career, not just in research integrity and

“*Training, Supervision and Mentoring is greatly expanded to reflect a growing understanding of the pivotal role that these play in improving the skills of researchers at all levels of their career”*

ethics, but also in design, methodology and analysis. Likewise, a new section on Collaboration reflects the increasing cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral and cross-border nature of research activity. The chapter on Violations of Research Integrity includes some important unacceptable practices which were not captured in the original Code.

Could you tell us a little more about the consultation and how it contributed to come to a final revised version of the Code?

M.H.: The stakeholder consultation was a vital component of the revision of the Code. We chose, for practical reasons, to consult with representative organisations and associations for researchers (both established and emerging), universities, funding agencies, publishers, the enterprise sector and policy-driven groups and in total 22 of these stakeholder organisations became involved in the consultation process. This provided us with a wide range of perspectives on

what a Code of Conduct should cover, but also helped to ensure that the Code would be widely applicable across Europe and beyond. Overall, we could not have produced a relevant and comprehensive revision of the Code of Conduct without this generous and intensive input from the research community in all its forms.

The competitive nature of the academic career system is often considered to increasingly disincentivise research integrity. What would you suggest to overcome this challenge?

M.H.: Yes, there is certainly a significant body of evidence to support the impact of competition for career advancement and funding on the behaviour of researchers. Unfortunately, as in any resource constrained system competition will remain a feature of the academic world. That is why I think that improvements in the research environment are so important. There is a growing body of evidence to demonstrate that providing a supportive climate for research integrity, from strong organisational policies and practices, to encouraging open discourse among colleagues about the challenges they face on a day-to-day basis, coupled with adequate training and mentoring, can enhance research integrity and ethical behaviour. Creating such a climate is the next big challenge for the multitude of actors in the academic system from research organisations, to funders, publishers, governments and of course the research community itself.

In your view, how could the Code be applied and implemented on the national level in order to best serve the research community across Europe?

M.H.: I do not believe that a truly harmonised policy and regulatory environment across Europe is a realistic goal. However, the revised European Code of Conduct can continue to provide a common framework from which national and local codes and policies can be developed or updated to reflect current challenges. This will be important in ensuring consistency at a high level and promoting a common understanding of what constitutes good practice in research. That can only benefit the European research community and enhance public trust in their research outputs. | [Click here to read full interview.](#)

SCIENCE FOR POLICY

■ SAPEA: Moving forward in big steps

The consortium of European Academy Networks was involved in the provision of science advice for the recently released Scientific Opinion of the High Level Group of Scientific Advisors on the topic “Cybersecurity in the Digital Single Market” and the explanatory note “New techniques in Agricultural Biotechnology”

ALLEA, jointly with other European Academy Networks, is fully involved in the first big steps of SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies), the EU-funded project that brings together Academies across Europe as part of the **Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM)**, working closely with the SAM High Level Group of Scientific Advisors (HLG).

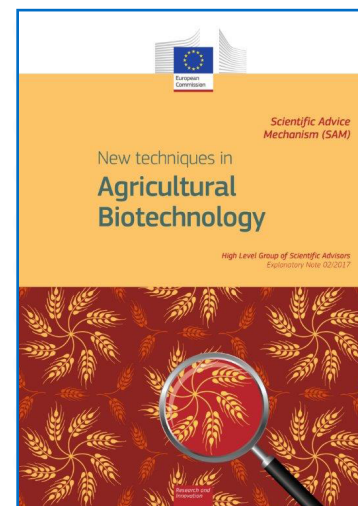
The consortium, chaired by ALLEA President Günter Stock, has put in place all its working structures in several locations across Europe and has set up its first working groups on the topic “Food from the Oceans” (see below). ALLEA Member Academies are already supporting the science-policy activities providing access to its unique interdisciplinary and cross-national networks of experts.

SAPEA is also involved in the SAM topic “Authorisation processes of plant protection products in Europe”

In its first months of operation, SAPEA worked on several policy questions raised by the European Commission. Following several stakeholder workshops in which SAPEA was involved, the HLG



elaborated its second Scientific Opinion on the topic “Cybersecurity in the Digital Single Market” and submitted it on 24 March 2017 to the European Commission. The opinion responds to the request of Andrus Ansip, the European Commission’s Vice-President for the Digital Single Market. In this Opinion, which can be accessed [here](#), the HLG makes a number of recommendations for policy actions making it easier and safer for people and businesses to



operate online in the EU. SAPEA was also involved in the explanatory note for the topic “New techniques in agricultural biotechnology”, which responds to the request of the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis. The document was submitted on 28 April 2017. Furthermore, SAPEA is working closely on the latest SAM topic “Authorisation processes of plant protection products in Europe”. [Click here to read more.](#)

WORKING GROUPS

■ New SAPEA working groups on the topic “Food from the Oceans”

The working groups seek to address the topic of obtaining food from the oceans in a sustainable manner for future generations

SAPEA is taking an even more active role in the SAM topic “Food from the Oceans”, and thanks to a great engagement by the European Academies, two working groups were set up and have started their work on the topic. The issue responds to a question submitted by the European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella, in the area of food and biomass from the oceans: *How can more food and biomass be obtained from the oceans*

in a way that does not deprive future generations of their benefits?

The Commission aims to obtain scientific advice to prepare the next impact assessment for the successor to the European Maritime and Fisheries fund. The issue at stake was firstly assessed in the scoping paper “Food from the oceans” published in December 2016, which can be accessed [here](#). The scientific opinion is expected to be delivered by the end of 2017.

In parallel to the scientific work, SAPEA will be working with European Academies to engage the general public and key stakeholders on the topic through its website, social media and public engagement events. SAPEA aims to increase the visibility of Academies on the European and the local level as well as to enhance the awareness of the role and value of scientific evidence for better policy making. To learn more on SAPEA, [click here](#).

MEETING IN BRUSSELS

■ Kick-off meeting of ALLEA Framework Programme 9 Working Group

The initiative aims at developing suggestions for the next EU research and innovation programme following the conclusion of Horizon 2020

The newly formed **ALLEA Framework Programme 9 Working Group** held its kick-off meeting on 9 February in Brussels at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts to plan and discuss the roadmap for their future actions. The Group aims at developing an ALLEA perspective for the future of EU research and innovation following the conclusion

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It is very important that the academies have a say on the future of research funding in Europe and over the last years we have been able to further increase our sway with the decision-makers in charge of EU research policy”

ALLEA President, Günter Stock

of the Horizon 2020 programme. ALLEA President, Prof. Günter Stock, welcomed the members of the group and pointed to the importance of substantially integrating social sciences and humanities in any forthcoming EU funding project for research.



Members of ALLEA's FP9 Working Group during their kick-off meeting in Brussels on 9 February 2017

The ALLEA President thanked the fellows for their commitment and engagement with ALLEA activities, and expressed satisfaction at the wide and keen interest among Member Academies in taking part in the group. “It is very important that the academies have a say on the future of research funding in Europe and over the last years we have been able to further increase our sway with the decision-makers in charge of EU research

policy”, President Stock stated. The Group consists of 20 members representing 15 countries of the Council of Europe region and has already defined the fundamental lines of its programme. Key aspects are the engagement with relevant European institutions, the development of suggestions based on input from the ALLEA Member Academies, and the production of regular updates for the ALLEA Board and Member Academies.

MEETING IN MUNICH

■ ALLEA Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights sets out its roadmap for 2017

The expert group, chaired by Professor Joseph Straus, Director Emeritus of the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, assembles in Munich for its first meeting of the year

The **ALLEA Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights** met in Munich at the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition on 24 February to plan its roadmap for 2017 and to discuss the most pressing developments relevant for science and research in the field of intellectual property rights, including topics such as Human Embryonic Stem Cells (HESC), “Big Data” and scientific publications, among others.

In its first meeting of the year, the Group set its priorities and agreed to focus future activities on deliberating

and producing statements on the patentability of Human Embryonic Stem Cells (HESC), the patenting of products

The Group plans to produce a number of statements and monitor the latest development on Intellectual Property Rights issues

of essentially biological processes, the inventorship of multinational inventions, and the European Commission's proposal for a directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market.

Furthermore, the experts will continue monitoring the latest developments on open access, taking into account the complex negotiations between the publisher Elsevier and several German scientific institutions, among other topics.

The Group has published a series of statements on Open Access scientific publishing in the past, including “Enhancement of Open Access to scientific publications in Europe”, as well as a follow-up statement and a supplementary statement. [Click here](#) to read more about the list of publications.

SCIENCE & ETHICS

■ ALLEA contributes to ENERI Workshop on Research Integrity and Research Ethics

The EU-funded project promotes education and training in the fields of research ethics and research integrity

ALLEA participated on 13 January 2017 in the second workshop of the **European Network of Research Ethics and Research Integrity (ENERI)** as part of its efforts to promote research ethics and research integrity in the European Research Area. This new project, funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme, brings together key players on research ethics and research integrity in the European science environment to create a joint European network and platform that promotes education and training in this field, and to foster the development of and compliance with joint rules and norms in the scientific community.

ENERI brings together key players on research ethics and research integrity to create a joint European network and platform that promotes education and training in this field

The partners and researchers of ENERI gathered in Berlin to discuss the preparation and the planning of the first stage of the

project. The principal issues in the agenda were the design of a training programme on research ethics and integrity addressed to researchers and scientists, and the creation of a database of eminent experts in the

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field. ALLEA, via its Permanent Working Group Science and Ethics (PWGSE), contributes to the project with expertise on research integrity environments and ethics in research institutions, policy advice and emerging issues in technology, among other topics.

ENERI not only seeks to enhance the awareness of ethical standards among the

research community, but also considers the diversity of stakeholders in the process. As a long-term goal the project seeks to

As a long-term goal the project seeks to improve the effectiveness of research and science by creating a culture of honesty within institutions and among scientists

improve the effectiveness of research and science by creating a culture of honesty within institutions and among scientists. The project builds on the work of existing networks, projects and infrastructures that already developed initiatives on dissemination, training and capacity-building on ethics and integrity, including experts, practitioners, and specialists in e-communication and database design. ALLEA's outputs in this field will support the endeavour with contributions such as the statement on "Ethics Education in Science", prepared by the PWGSE. The project was launched in September 2016 and will operate initially until September 2018.

SCIENCE PRIZE

■ Breakthrough Prize and ALLEA start partnership to promote a culture of science

The nominations for the 2018 Breakthrough Prize on Fundamental Physics, Life Sciences and Mathematics, including categories for early career researchers, are open until 31 May 2017. [Click here](#) for further information

The **Breakthrough Prize** and ALLEA initiated a partnership to further the shared goal of promoting a culture where science and scholarship can thrive. With this partnership ALLEA seeks to encourage everyone in the scientific realm to consider nominating colleagues for the Breakthrough Prize.

ALLEA considers that European science is excellent in most fields and we believe European scientists and their work would benefit tremendously from the exposure and the remuneration they would receive by winning the prize.

The Breakthrough Prize was founded by Sergey Brin and Anne Wojcicki,

Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan, and Yuri and Julia Milner to celebrate achievements in Fundamental Physics, Life Sciences and Mathematics. In addition to the \$3 million Breakthrough Prize, awards for junior researchers

With this partnership ALLEA seeks to encourage everyone in the scientific realm to consider nominating colleagues for the Breakthrough Prize

in mathematics and physics are also handed out annually.



Official Trophy of the Breakthrough Prize. Credit: Breakthrough Prize

CONFERENCE

■ **ALLEA Code at the WCRI 2017**

The revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity* will be part of the official documentation available at the 5th World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI) in Amsterdam on 28-31 May 2017. As part of her participation in the conference, Dr Maura Hiney, leading author of the Drafting Group of the revision, will be discussing with the research community the changes and key aspects of the revision of the publication. [Read more](#)

SCIENCE FOR POLICY

■ **New members appointed to SAM High Level Group**

The High Level Group of Scientific Advisors of the Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) welcomed Nobel Prize Laureate in Physiology or Medicine and Director of the Francis Crick Institute, Sir Paul Nurse, as the new member in March 2017, following the departure of the Chair, Professor Henrik Wegener, due to his appointment as Rector of the University of Copenhagen. Furthermore, Carina H. Keskitalo, Professor of Political Science at the Department of Geography and Economic History at Umeå University was appointed following Dame Julia Slingo's retirement. Professor Rolf-Dieter Heuer is the new Chair, and Professor Pearl Dykstra the new deputy Chair. [Read more](#)

SCIENCE

■ **#MarchforScience**

Thousands of scientists, researchers and their supporters marched in 500 locations over the world on 22 April 2017 to defend and celebrate science and the need for evidence-based policies. The global event was organised by "March for Science", a self-organised non-partisan group that seeks to "champion robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity". The organisers called upon political leaders and policy makers to enact evidence based policies in the public interest. [Read more](#)

BUDAPEST CONFERENCE

■ **Registration for ALLEA-AE Conference on Sustainability and Resilience is open**

The ALLEA General Assembly 2017 will be held on 4 September in Budapest at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The event will be followed by ALLEA – Academia Europaea joint Conference on "Sustainability and Resilience" (4-6 September) organised in collaboration with the Young Academy of Europe. The official website of the conference can be found [here](#). Registration for the conference is already open! Click [here](#) to enter to the registration portal.

| Deadline for registration: 30 June 2017 |

Important note: Representatives of ALLEA Member Academies benefit from preferential conditions. Should you participate as an academy delegate, please contact the ALLEA secretariat at secretariat@allea.org before registering.

[Register here](#)



DIGITAL HUMANITIES

■ **AGATE's second workshop on digital infrastructure for SSH**

On 16 January 2017, AGATE held its second workshop on "Open – Connective – Sustainable. AGATE: A Community Driven Digital Infrastructure for SSH Research(ers) at the European Academies". More than 50 participants from 12 countries came to Berlin to discuss at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. The technical and organisational aspects of the concept to create a digital infrastructure for European academies' SSH research were presented and debated by the participants. The project is led by the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities. The workshop's objective was to share experiences and know-how, identify common opportunities and challenges of the proposed AGATE, and to pinpoint synergies and possibilities for future collaboration. As the AGATE project is reaching its conclusion, ALLEA is pleased that the Austrian Academy of Sciences has championed a Horizon 2020 proposal based on the outcomes of AGATE. [Read more](#)

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 akademijos; **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 Umetnosti; **Slovakia:** Slovenská Akadémia Vied; **Slovenia:** Slovenska akademija znanosti in umetnosti; **Spain:** Real Academia de Ciencias Morales y Políticas; Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales (Associate Member); Real Academia de Ciencias 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 (Associate Member); **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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