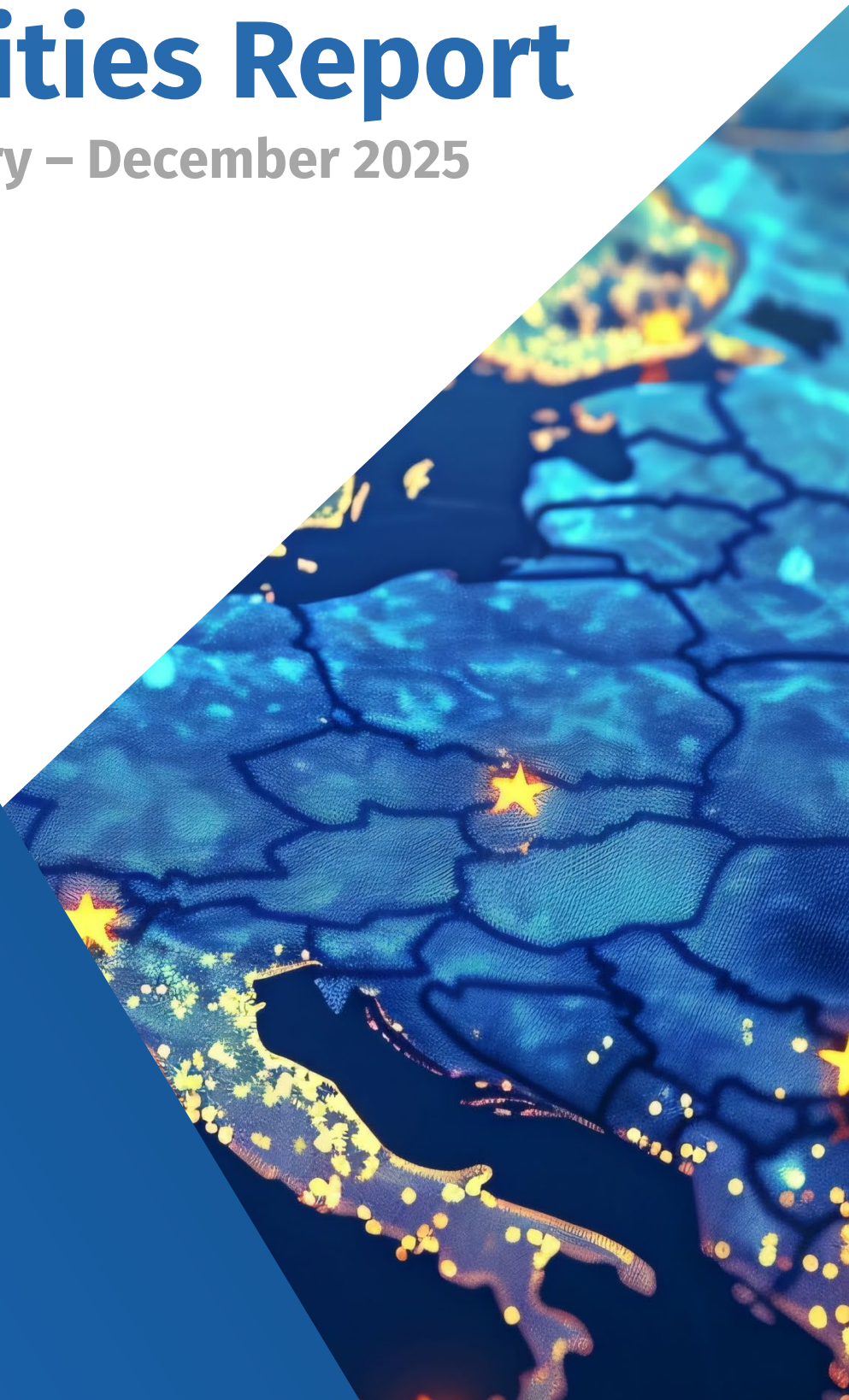


Activities Report

January – December 2025



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1. FOREWORD

A Year of Change – and Renewed Commitment to First Principles

Dear reader,

The past year has been one of transformation – of strengthening our structures, sharpening our focus, and renewing our commitment to the principles that have guided ALLEA for more than three decades: safeguarding academic freedom and institutional autonomy, promoting trust and inclusivity in science, and ensuring that policymakers and societies can rely on independent, timely, and rigorous scientific advice. At a time when science is increasingly shaped by geopolitical uncertainty, technological disruption, and growing societal polarisation, these principles have become more relevant – and more urgent – than ever.



Paweł Rowiński, © Piotr-Terlecki

In early 2025, ALLEA responded firmly to mounting threats to academic freedom worldwide. Through our statements on political interference, censorship, and research funding cuts in the United States, as well as our explicit solidarity with our member academy, the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts (KVAB), we reaffirmed a simple but fundamental conviction: science must remain independent, international, and open. The overwhelming support for these efforts from hundreds of institutions across Europe and beyond has demonstrated that defending academic freedom is not only a European goal (and duty), but a universal one.

The year also marked an important turning point in ALLEA's own development. At our General Assembly in Copenhagen, members adopted ALLEA's Strategic Plan 2025-2030 with a fresh set of Strategic Objectives, setting an ambitious course for the years ahead and aligning our work with global frameworks such as the UNESCO Decade of Science for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We have now moved decisively from strategy to implementation. Our newly established Science-Policy Standing Committee held its inaugural meeting in Berlin to identify and address key challenges at the interface of science, policy, and society, and discuss how best to shape and coordinate ALLEA's science policy work going forward. We also created, at the behest of the ALLEA Board, the Research Ethics and Integrity Committee to continue core activities on safeguarding research integrity, especially given the increasing ubiquity of artificial intelligence (AI). Our three new task forces – on Protecting and Sharing Data, Strengthening Trust in Science, and Integrating Research Security and Academic Freedom – have also begun their important work. At this juncture, I would like to thank our Member Academies, the ALLEA Board and Vice-Presidents, our partners, task force and committee members, and the Secretariat for ably guiding ALLEA through these changes with both their expertise and unwavering support.

ALLEA has continued to strengthen its contribution to evidence-informed policymaking through several channels. As part of SAPEA and the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM), we served as lead academy network for the advice on the responsible use of AI in emergency and crisis management – an increasingly important policy area at the intersection of technological innovation, public safety, and democratic accountability. Furthermore, through our new pilot project with the European Parliament, ALLEA is pioneering innovative forms of science advice by bringing high-quality knowledge from the academies in a timely fashion directly into the deliberations of the different parliamentary committees.

Beyond these formal advisory roles, we have also helped shape international debates on several issues of critical importance to both the research community and society at large. In October 2025, together with the European Commission and eleven partner organisations, ALLEA co-organised the European Flagship Conference on Research Security in Brussels, which saw more than 600 participants from across Europe discuss how sustainable and coherent approaches to research security can be developed without compromising the international collaboration and academic freedom that underpin scientific excellence. Our decision to join the newly established International Coalition for Science, Research, and Innovation in Ukraine similarly reflects our enduring commitment to ensuring that Europe remains both open and resilient in an increasingly complex geopolitical environment, and that science continues to be upheld as a global public good.

That same commitment also guides our engagement beyond Europe. I had the distinct pleasure of representing ALLEA at the 2025 IAP Triennial Conference and General Assembly in Cairo, Egypt, which brought together 164 representatives of academies and scientific organisations from 68 countries to address pressing challenges at the intersection of science, policy, and society. At the same time, 2025 marked 10 years of partnership between ALLEA and the Breakthrough Prize in engaging the European research community for its nomination process, helping to ensure that the diversity, breadth, and excellence of European research are strongly represented in one of the world's most prestigious scientific awards.

I hope you will take the time to read this report showcasing a selection of ALLEA's activities in 2025. In keeping with a year defined by both change and continuity, this edition of the Activities Report reflects our evolving organisation by, for the first time, covering the calendar year 2025 rather than the traditional reporting cycle between General Assemblies. Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you in Warsaw, whether virtually or in-person, at the 2026 ALLEA General Assembly, generously hosted by the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Kind Regards,



Paweł Rowiński

ALLEA President

2. STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE

2.1 THE ALLEA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2025 ALLEA General Assembly took place on 3-4 June in Copenhagen, Denmark, kindly hosted by the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters. Bringing together delegates from ALLEA's Member Academies, alongside researchers, policymakers, and representatives from civil society, the annual gathering once again provided a platform for dialogue on critical issues at the junction of science and policy.

Scientific Symposium

The central public event of the General Assembly was the scientific symposium, titled, *'Europe and the Arctic: Science and Diplomacy'*. The symposium brought together prominent researchers and experts from across Europe to explore how science diplomacy can contribute to sustainable, peaceful, and collaborative futures in the Arctic, a region of growing geopolitical, environmental, and strategic importance.



Prof Lise Øvreås (University of Bergen/Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters)

The symposium opened with a keynote lecture by Lise Øvreås (University of Bergen/Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters), titled, *'Revitalising Arctic Science Diplomacy: From Climate Change to Security and Resource Management'*, which examined the interconnected challenges facing Arctic ecosystems and societies, as well as the role of international scientific cooperation in addressing them.

The keynote was followed by a high-level panel discussion on *'Research in the Arctic and the Need for Global Cooperation'*, featuring Aviâja Lyberth Hauptmann (Ilisimatusarfik – University of Greenland), Professor Øvreås, and Minik Thorleif Rosing (University of Copenhagen, Denmark), moderated by Monika Szkarłat (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland). The discussion explored how climate change, shifting security dynamics, resource governance, and indigenous knowledge systems are reshaping the Arctic research landscape, while underlining the importance of science diplomacy as a tool for cooperation, trust-building, and conflict prevention. The panel highlighted the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on scientific collaboration in the Arctic, the growing security concerns affecting access to critical resources and data, and the need to balance global scientific cooperation with local and regional priorities.

Madame de Staël Prize Lecture



From L to R: ALLEA Vice-President Annette Grüters-Kieslich, Prof Viola Priesemann, ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński

As part of the public programme, the 2024 ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize was formally presented to Viola Priesemann, physicist and Board Member of *Die Junge Akademie*. Following the laudatory speech by ALLEA Vice-President, Annette Grüters-Kieslich, Professor Priesemann delivered her lecture, titled, 'From Physics of Complex Systems to Pandemic Preparedness', in which she reflected on the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, trustworthy science

journalism, and evidence-based decision-making in addressing societal crises. In particular, Prof Priesemann drew links between how the brain processes information and the spread of misinformation during the pandemic, thus demonstrating the significant interdependence of basic research, applied science, and public policy.

Business Meeting

During the annual business meeting on 4 June, delegates from ALLEA's Member Academies convened to discuss matters concerning the organisation's governance, strategic direction, and science-policy priorities. A key milestone of the meeting was the formal adoption of ALLEA's new Strategic Plan 2025-2030, which will guide the organisation's priorities and activities in the coming years. Delegates also discussed the implementation of ALLEA's new science-policy structure, including the transition from long-standing Working Groups to the newly established Standing Committee and Task Force model.

Member Academy Exchange Forum

In addition to the formal proceedings, the General Assembly featured several dedicated networking and exchange formats, including a Member Academy Exchange Forum chaired by the ALLEA Presidency. The session opened with welcoming remarks by Susanne Ditlevsen, President of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, followed by introductory remarks from ALLEA Vice-President Marie Louise Nosch. Ewa Dębska, Chargé d'affaires a.i. at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Copenhagen, and Nils Agerhus, Director at the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science, subsequently presented the science, research, and innovation priorities of the Polish and Danish EU Council Presidencies. The session concluded with an interactive discussion and exchange with participants.



ALLEA Vice-President Marie-Louise Nosch

Photos and videos of the 2025 ALLEA General Assembly are available in the [Media Room](#).

The 2026 ALLEA General Assembly

The next ALLEA General Assembly will take place on 26-29 May 2026 in Warsaw, Poland, hosted by the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS), and co-located with the annual meeting of the European National Young Academies (ENYA). The General Assembly will feature a multi-faceted programme combining delegates-only meetings, joint activities with ENYA, and public events open to the wider research and policy community on key topics such as research assessment reform and inclusivity in science advice.



The public conference, titled, *'Towards a Futureproof European Research Area: Boosting Trust, Integrity, and Resilience'* will contribute to ongoing European policy discussions on safeguarding academic freedom, strengthening research integrity, and enhancing the resilience and competitiveness of the European Research Area, including a keynote by Robbert Dijkgraaf, incoming President of the International Science Council (ISC). The programme will also feature the 2025 ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize Ceremony to honour Maria Leptin, President of the European Research Council, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to European research leadership and frontier science.

To learn more about the programme, including the speakers, visit the [General Assembly website](#).

2.2 THE ALLEA BOARD AND PRESIDENCY

Following the re-appointments and elections of members in 2024 (Presidency and Board), the current ALLEA Board 2024-2027 consists of:

- **Paweł Rowiński** (President | Polish Academy of Sciences)
- **Annette Grüters-Kieslich** (Vice-President | Leopoldina and Union of German Academies of Sciences and Humanities)
- **Marie-Louise Nosch** (Vice-President | Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters)
- **Jūras Banys** (Lithuanian Academy of Sciences)
- **Ylva Engström** (Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences)
- **Kerstin Pahl** (German Young Academy)
- **Jozef Ongena** (Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts)
- **Päivi Pahta** (Council of Finnish Academies)
- **Karin Roelofs** (Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences)
- **Neri Salvadori** (National Academy of Sciences of the Lincei, Italy)
- **Camilla Serck-Hanssen** (Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters)

Steering ALLEA's Activities

The role of the ALLEA Board continues to be central to the organisation's functions: members of the ALLEA Presidency and Board set the strategic direction for its activities, speak on behalf of the European academies on a range of relevant issues, guide the day-to-day business of ALLEA's committees, task forces, and partnerships, and represent ALLEA in high-level expert committees at pan-European events and conferences, as well as in global initiatives and projects.

In 2025, the Presidency and Board met four times, focusing their attention on developing and implementing the [Strategic Plan \(2025-2030\)](#) built around four Strategic Objectives:

- Promoting Autonomy, Integrity, and Trust in Science
- Improving Conditions for Research
- Providing Independent Science Advice
- Engaging with Members, Partners and the Public

Both the Plan and the Objectives are underpinned by our fundamental values – protecting the independence and autonomy of science, promoting research excellence and impact, advancing scientific collaboration across disciplines, sectors, and borders, and fostering diversity within the research community, while strengthening dialogue and trust between science and society.

To support the new Strategic Plan, ALLEA also restructured its Science Policy activities and governance structure between 2024 and 2025, establishing a new [Science-Policy Standing Committee](#) (hereafter, Standing Committee), [Research Ethics and Integrity Council](#) (REIC), and a [Task Force](#) model (see [Section 2.3 and 2.4](#)). In a significant step towards achieving this transition, the ALLEA Board adopted new Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), in early 2025, to create a clear framework for the governance and operations of ALLEA's new model, and reinforce transparency, efficiency, and accountability at every level.

ALLEA Vice-Presidents Take on New Portfolios

In 2025, ALLEA Vice-Presidents, Annette Grütters-Kieslich and Marie-Louise Nosch, took on distinct portfolios to enable a more efficient governance structure for ALLEA's activities.

Professor Grütters-Kieslich now leads on legal and local affairs, overseeing tasks related to ALLEA's legal status and seat in Germany, maintaining dialogue with German Member Academies and the ALLEA Secretariat, and managing relationships with other local, regional, and national stakeholders. She also provides support to the ALLEA President in his role as treasurer and advises the Secretariat concerning requirements and procedures related to tax declarations, financial reporting, and auditing. In addition, Prof Grütters-Kieslich will lead fundraising efforts in Germany, and facilitate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) efforts and transformation processes within academies.

Professor Nosch's portfolio includes leading the efforts to restructure ALLEA's science-policy work, overseeing activities related to the European Research Area (ERA) and Framework Programmes, and supporting other core initiatives, including ALLEA's work on academic freedom, research culture, and Open Science. Prof Nosch also regularly represents ALLEA in Brussels, including as alternate member of the SAPEA Board, and contribute to matters related to support for Ukrainian science (jointly with the ALLEA President).

ALLEA Welcomes 60th Academy

In May 2025, the ALLEA Membership and Board voted to accept Young Academy Finland as its 60th Member Academy (and seventh Young Academy), thus enabling further inter-generational dialogue. Find more information on Young Academy Finland [here](#).

Representing ALLEA on the European and Global Stage

The ALLEA Presidency and Board regularly represent ALLEA's values, priorities, and positions at national, European, and global forums, helping to not only raise the visibility of our work at the science-policy interface, but also ensuring that the collective voice of Europe's academies is heard in shaping key debates and decisions. A selection of the Presidency/Board's engagements with key stakeholders is presented below:

- On 18 December, ALLEA Vice-President Marie-Louise Nosch represented European Academies at the 2nd European Science Diplomacy Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, organised by the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, in cooperation with the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters and other partners. Professor Nosch took part in a plenary discussion on European Science Diplomacy in a Rapidly Changing World, during which she addressed the current tensions, possibilities, and challenges shaping Europe's approach to science diplomacy – from growing geopolitical fragmentation and research security concerns to the urgent need to defend academic freedom and science as a global public good, and underlined the important role academies play in science diplomacy.
- From 8-11 December, ALLEA President, Paweł Rowiński joined members of the global research community at the [2025 IAP Triennial Conference and General Assembly](#) in Cairo, Egypt to debate a wide range of issues concerning science and society. In addition to moderating a panel on reforming research assessment, Professor Rowiński put forth a proposal to improve science education in Europe during a structured Horizon Scanning session, on behalf of ALLEA and the Royal Irish Academy. The conference also provided an opportunity to strengthen global scientific cooperation through several high-level bilateral meetings with like-minded partners, including IAP (InterAcademy Partnership) and EASAC (European Academies Science Advisory Council).
- On 9 November 2025, the Falling Walls Conference in Berlin hosted an Academy Executive Round Table co-organised by ALLEA, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW), and the Union of German Academies (Akademienunion). ALLEA Vice-President Annette Grüters-Kieslich participated in the Round Table, which brought together leaders from European science and humanities academies to discuss funding mechanisms and strategies for cross-border scientific cooperation. [Read more](#).
- From 4-5 November, ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński participated in an International Conference celebrating the 200th anniversary of one of its most prolific members, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA). Academy presidents from around the world came together in Budapest to discuss the changing role of academies and learned societies, the evolving role of science within societies, and the challenges posed by science mis- and disinformation, among other important topics.
- From 3-4 November, Prof Nosch joined the AI in Science Summit 2025 in Copenhagen, organised under the Danish Presidency of the Council of the EU 2025, with the European Commission and University of Copenhagen (Københavns Universitet), where she took part in launching the ERA Action 'AI in Science' and the Resource for AI Science in Europe (RAISE). During the Summit, Prof Nosch reiterated that academic freedom and research integrity must be at the heart of AI in science, and not an afterthought, and called for an integrated approach across Europe that reduces rather than reproduces inequalities.

ALLEA Board Stands with Our Member Academies

In 2025, the ALLEA Board was called on to stand in solidarity with two Member Academies.

In December, long-standing member of ALLEA, the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts (KVAB) penned an [open letter](#) to the Flemish government outlining the anticipated implications of its decision to cut structural funding to the academy.

The open letter highlighted the importance of sustained public support for independent academies in advancing scientific excellence, fostering exchange between science and the arts, and contributing to informed public debate. In solidarity with KVAB, ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński signed the appeal, calling on the Flemish government to reconsider its decision and safeguard the academy’s ability to fulfil its public mission.

In August, the ALLEA Board published a [statement](#) expressing its full support for the public [message](#) issued by Professor David Harel, President of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The Board expressed their shared concern for the suffering of civilians in Gaza and called for an immediate and sustained resolution.

2.3 A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

In June 2025, ALLEA’s Member Academies formally adopted the new [Strategic Plan](#) (2025-2030) at the General Assembly in Copenhagen. Developed through extensive consultation with members, the Plan will guide ALLEA’s work in the years ahead, providing a clear blueprint for the organisation’s values, strategic priorities, and collective ambitions.

In the second half of the year, an ‘Action Plan’ to operationalise the high-level strategy was developed as a ‘living document’. It will be presented to the Member Academies in the 2026 ALLEA General Assembly in Warsaw (26-29 May) and published in the second half of 2026.

2.4 RESTRUCTURING OF SCIENCE-POLICY ACTIVITIES

Alongside the development of the Strategic Plan, ALLEA also began the restructuring of its science-policy activities in 2024 – and completed the transition in 2025. As part of the new structure, Academies nominated members to the Standing Committee, REIC, and Task Forces. The composition of these bodies was finalised in 2025. You can read more about the restructuring process in our last [Activities Report](#) (2024-2025).

ALLEA Standing Committee Hosts Inaugural Meeting

In November 2025, the Standing Committee held its first meeting in Berlin at the BBAW – marking an important milestone in the implementation of ALLEA’s new science-policy structure. As ALLEA’s central body for science-policy engagement, the Committee was created to ensure that the Federation’s activities remain timely, relevant, and strategically aligned with the rapidly evolving European research and innovation landscape.



Chaired by Godelieve Laureys, President of the KVAB, the Standing Committee brings together leading experts from across Europe to guide ALLEA's science-policy activities, including the work of its Task Forces. During its first meeting, members discussed priority areas for the coming years, explored ways to enhance cooperation among academies, and laid the foundations for a more coordinated and impactful academy voice in European policy debates.

Research Ethics and Integrity Council Established

Following the 2025 ALLEA General Assembly, the ALLEA Board decided to establish the REIC, primarily to produce the next edition of the [European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#). Member Academies nominated representatives to the REIC, of which 17 were selected to serve on the Council. Chaired by Maura Hiney (Royal Irish Academy), the REIC will play a fundamental role in safeguarding research integrity in an increasingly complex world, advise on emerging ethical challenges, and contribute to ALLEA's broader mission of strengthening trust in science, defending academic freedom, and embedding ethical awareness and integrity at the heart of research and innovation in Europe.

Task Forces Begin Operations

ALLEA's Working Groups concluded their operations between 2024 and 2025 following the decisions reached at the 2024 General Assembly. They were replaced with a Task Force model – units with defined objectives, specific outputs, and limited timeframes. As of 2025, there are five operating [Task Forces](#):

- Strengthening Trust in Science – Exploring the Role of Scientific Evidence in Policymaking and Scientific Literacy to Counter Mis- And Disinformation
- Integrating Research Security and Academic Freedom – Ensuring That Research Security Measures Uphold Fundamental Academic Values and International Collaboration
- Protecting and Sharing Data – Addressing Challenges in Open Science, IPR, Data Governance, and the Balance Between Security and Accessibility
- Net Zero – Promoting Climate Sustainability in the Academic System
- EDI in Research – Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in European Academia

The detailed activities of the Task Forces in 2025 are presented in the relevant sections below.

3. RESEARCH CULTURE

3.1 RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND ETHICS

Research integrity and ethics are critical for the scientific community to carry out its work within accepted, and continually updated, ethical frameworks in order to encourage good research practices that result in high-quality outputs and trustworthy science. As this is a foundational principle for ALLEA, a new [Research Ethics and Integrity Council](#) (REIC) was established in 2025 to drive ALLEA's leadership in promoting trustworthy, ethical, and transparent research practices across Europe, and build on the work of ALLEA's Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics (PWGSE). One of its main tasks will be to revise and update the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity.

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity – Revised Edition 2023



The flagship publication of the PWGSE, [the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#), was revised in 2023 and is regarded as one of the most comprehensive guides for responsible research practices.

Further, the European Commission recognises the Code as the primary standard for upholding research integrity across research projects funded by the EU, including Horizon Europe grants. Given its widespread use in Europe and beyond, the Code has been translated into 26 European and non-European languages to date. The next edition is scheduled to be published in 2027.

For more information visit our dedicated [Code of Conduct webpage](#).

ALLEA Statement on Ethical Problems in Research Collaborations with Commercial Entities

In January 2025, ALLEA published a [statement](#) examining the ethical challenges arising from growing collaboration between research institutions and commercial partners. While such partnerships can support innovation, access to resources, social impact, and transdisciplinary research, ALLEA highlighted potential risks related to conflicts of interest, academic freedom, data ownership, Open Science, and undue influence on research agendas.

The statement called on research institutions to implement contracts with commercial entities predicated on robust ethical frameworks, establish arm's-length oversight, ensure transparency and accountability mechanisms, and review collaborations regularly to safeguard scientific values and maintain public confidence.

3.2 RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

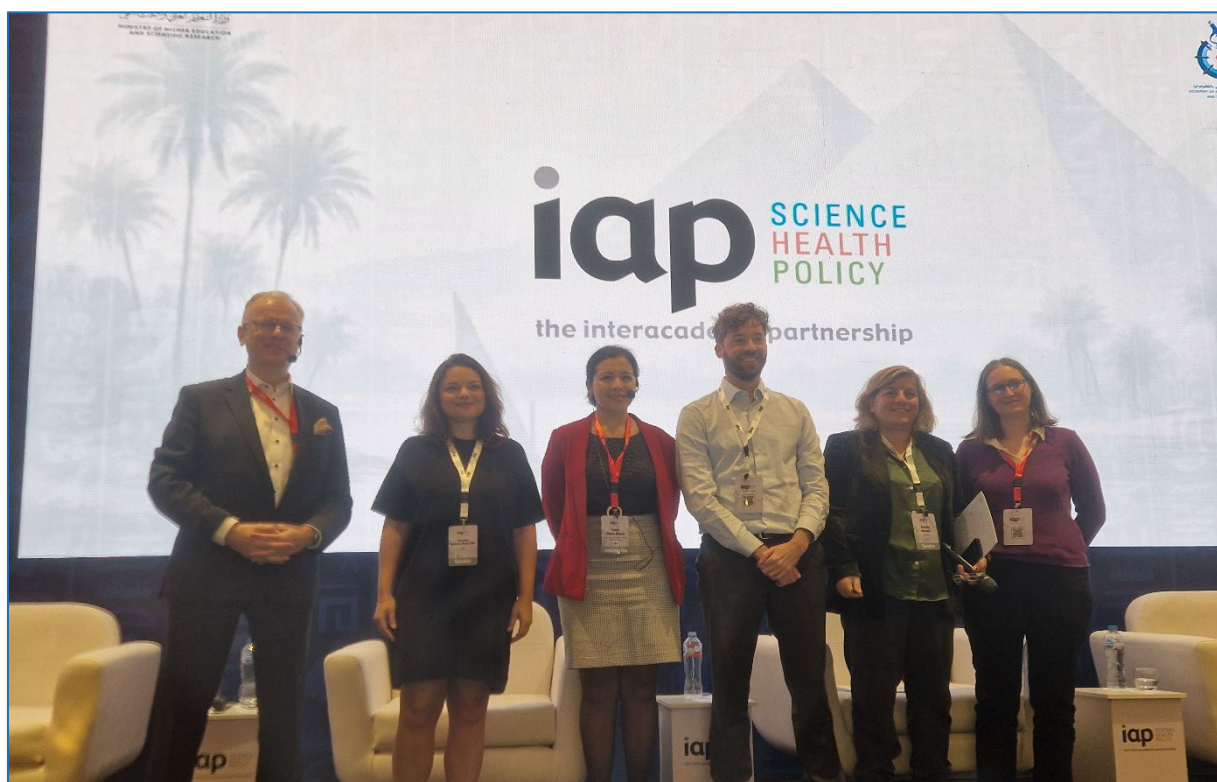
Research assessment shapes research quality, cultures, funding decisions, researchers' careers and their well-being. At the societal level, it impacts scientific progress, the integrity of evidence for policymaking, and public trust in science. Given its strategic interests in improving research cultures in Europe, as well as supporting evidence-based policy, ALLEA was one of the early signatories of the European Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment ([ARRA](#)) and joined the associated Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment ([CoARA](#)).

As part of the Coalition, ALLEA advocates for a shift away from narrow quantitative metrics towards more holistic and qualitative approaches that better recognise the diversity of research contributions and outputs.

To advance such research assessment reform, ALLEA also became part of [CoARA Boost](#) in 2023, a Horizon Europe-funded project that supports the operationalisation of the CoARA commitments. As part of CoARA Boost, ALLEA supports three working groups in their efforts to integrate ethics into research assessment in the era of AI ([CoARA-ERIP](#)), recognise and reward peer review appropriately ([CoARA WG on Recognising and Rewarding Peer Review](#)), and help organisations to transition towards open infrastructures for responsible research assessment ([OI4RRA](#)). We also work with our CoARA Boost partners to increase the reach and membership of CoARA in Europe and beyond.

Panel at the IAP Triennial Conference

In December 2025, ALLEA organised a panel at the [2025 IAP Triennial Conference and General Assembly](#) in Cairo, Egypt, titled, *'From Metrics to Meaning: How Reforming Research Assessment Drives Innovation, Impact, and Trust in Science'*, in collaboration with the Global Young Academy (GYA). Moderated by ALLEA President, Paweł Rowiński, and GYA Co-Chair, Yensi Flores Bueso, the panel debated how global research assessment systems could be redesigned to incentivise research excellence and socially impactful research – and thereby foster greater public trust in science.



From L to R: ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński, Giovanna Lima (DORA), Yensi Flores Bueso (GYA Co-Chair), Mathijs Vleugel (Helmholtz Open Science Office), Natalia Manola (OpenAIRE), Carina Geldhauser (ETH Zurich)

You can read more about the panel [here](#) and watch a [recording](#) of the session.

Workshop at the ALLEA General Assembly 2025

At the 2025 General Assembly in Copenhagen, ALLEA and the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters co-organised a workshop on CoARA's efforts to reform research assessment. Titled, '*Beyond Metrics: Challenges and Opportunities for Research Assessment Reform in Europe*', the discussion explored how current evaluation models may inadvertently pervert research quality, funding priorities, career development, and researchers' well-being, and highlighted growing concerns over the continued reliance on bibliometric indicators, such as the journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index, which can contribute to a "publish or perish" culture and exacerbate systemic inequalities.



Against a backdrop of open science, impact-driven research, and emerging technologies such as generative artificial intelligence (AI), participants discussed the urgent need for assessment systems that better recognise (and reward) the diversity of research contributions and outputs. The event highlighted the growing momentum behind ARRA and reform movements such as CoARA in translating these principles into practice.

Bringing together representatives from academies, research funders, universities, and early adopters of reform, the event examined practical challenges and opportunities in implementing more qualitative, responsible, and inclusive approaches to research evaluation, including how to minimise bias, support reviewers, and maintain high standards while enabling cultural change across the research ecosystem.

Recognising and Rewarding Peer Review of Scholarly Articles, Books, and Funding Proposals: Recommendations by the CoARA Working Group on Recognising and Rewarding Peer Review

In July 2025, ALLEA supported the CoARA Working Group on Recognising and Rewarding Peer Review in publishing its [recommendations](#) on how the research community could acknowledge, and appropriately reward, peer review as a critical scholarly contribution. Peer review is a cornerstone of the scientific enterprise, yet its contribution often remains invisible. This document sets out targeted recommendations to change this status quo for research-performing organisations, funders, publishers, editors, and individual researchers, including the use of verifiable certificates, dedicated time for review activities, digital infrastructures for recognising peer review contributions, and the integration of peer review into career progression and performance evaluation.

ALLEA supported both the editorial and community consultation process to facilitate the publication of this timely set of recommendations. The recommendations will be submitted for formal endorsement by the CoARA Steering Board in 2026.

3.3 EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

ALLEA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Research Hosts Inaugural Meeting

In December 2025, ALLEA's [Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion \(EDI\) in Research](#) held its first meeting under its renewed mandate, bringing together eight newly appointed members alongside returning experts from Member Academies. The meeting marked an important milestone in defining the Task Force's priorities, objectives, and working methods for the years ahead.

Initiated by the British Academy (BA) and co-chaired by Molly Morgan Jones, Director of Policy at the BA, the Task Force promotes fairness, transparency, intersectionality, and inclusiveness across the European research landscape. It aims to provide a platform for sharing policies and best practices that improve access to research opportunities, address bias and support early- and mid-career researchers.

Running until at least 2026, the Task Force will continue to develop evidence-based guidance and recommendations to strengthen [EDI across Member Academies](#) and the European Research Area, contributing to more open, resilient, and excellent research cultures across Europe.

4. RESEARCH POLICY

4.1 EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

The European Research Area (ERA) is the European Union's vision of a borderless research and innovation ecosystem that promotes the free circulation of researchers, knowledge, and technology in order to strengthen scientific excellence and cooperation across Europe. Originally launched in 2000, the efforts to bolster the ERA saw a resurgence in 2020 with the establishment of a new [ERA governance framework](#) shaped by the [Pact for Research and Innovation \(R&I\) in Europe](#) and the [ERA Policy Agenda](#).

The ERA Policy Agenda and its implementation are coordinated in the [ERA Forum](#) for Transition, which includes ALLEA among its stakeholder groups. Representing the European Academies, ALLEA supports the European Commission and the Member States in delivering the [ERA Policy Agenda Actions](#) and [Structural Policies](#), which cover a wide range of our priorities and expertise including Open Science, research assessment, science for policy, academic freedom, research integrity, international cooperation, trust in science, citizen engagement, diversity and equality, and climate sustainability, to name a few.

Since September 2025, ALLEA's contributions to advancing the ERA are helmed by the Science Policy Standing Committee, Task Forces, and REIC, which build on the important work of the (now concluded) Working Group on the ERA.

ALLEA Supports Joint Proposal by European Research Community for Amendments to Framework Programme 10

In December 2025, ALLEA welcomed and endorsed a joint proposal by leading organisations representing Europe's research and innovation community, that presented a coordinated set of amendments to the European Commission's plans for the 10th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Framework Programme 10-FP10). The initiative called for Europe to act with greater ambition, speed, and scale in order to strengthen its global leadership in research and innovation.

The proposal was led by [CESAER](#), the [Coimbra Group](#), European University Association ([EUA](#)), [EU-LIFE](#), The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities ([The Guild](#)), Young European Research Universities Network ([YERUN](#)), and the League of European Research Universities ([LERU](#)), which together represent more than 900 universities and research institutes across Europe. The proposed amendments aim to ensure that FP10 is equipped to support excellent research, attract global talent, and deliver meaningful scientific, societal, and economic impact.

ALLEA strongly supports this collective effort and remains committed to advocating for an ambitious FP10 that reinforces Europe's scientific leadership, strengthens the ERA, and enables the research community to fully contribute to Europe's resilience, competitiveness, and long-term prosperity.

You can read the full list of proposed amendments [here](#).

Contributing to the Development of the ERA Act

In September 2025, ALLEA, on behalf of the European academies, responded to the European Commission's Call for Evidence on the proposed ERA Act, welcoming it as an important step towards a more integrated and competitive European research ecosystem. ALLEA emphasised that the Act should build on existing ERA initiatives, rather than create parallel structures, legally anchor foundational values such as academic freedom and research integrity, and find the right balance between short-term priorities and continued

support for curiosity-driven fundamental research. The response also highlighted the need to improve framework conditions for researchers by supporting attractive and sustainable career pathways, enhancing mobility, advancing Open Science, and reducing unnecessary administrative burdens.

Read the full text of the response [here](#).

Calling for Enhanced and Early-Stage Collaborative Research in FP10

ALLEA joined 11 prominent research organisations to issue a [statement](#) calling on the European Commission, European Parliament, and Member States to appropriately recognise and safeguard the central role of early-stage collaborative Research & Innovation (R&I) funding within the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and FP10. Early-stage collaborative research plays a vital role in strengthening Europe's capacity to address global challenges, as well as to maintain strategic autonomy and long-term competitiveness. By supporting open, curiosity-driven inquiry, early-stage collaborative research fosters diverse scientific communities and creates the conditions for cross-border, cross-sectoral, and interdisciplinary collaboration that drive scientific breakthroughs and resilient innovation ecosystems. Some recommendations in the statement include:

- Fund early-stage collaborative R&I to ensure that vital cross-sectoral, transboundary, and interdisciplinary research is supported.
- Anchor early-stage collaborative R&I in FP10 principles with tailored mechanisms that support open, flexible, excellent and curiosity-driven collaboration, free from the constraints of overly prescriptive calls.
- Unlock the potential of early-stage collaborative research in Europe, by ensuring that FP10 addresses current structural weaknesses in Horizon Europe's Pillar II

4.2 RESEARCH SECURITY

ALLEA Co-Organises Flagship Conference on Research Security

From 28-30 October 2025, ALLEA co-organised the [European Flagship Conference on Research Security](#) in Brussels, together with the European Commission and eleven partner organisations, including Science Europe, YERUN, LERU, and the Coimbra Group.

Bringing together more than 600 participants from across Europe, including researchers, funders, policymakers, diplomats, and industry representatives, the conference explored how Europe could develop sustainable approaches to research security while preserving the openness, international collaboration, and academic freedom that underpin scientific excellence.

As part of the programme, ALLEA and Science Europe co-hosted a session, titled, '*Not a Trade-off: Integrating Academic Freedom and Research Security*', which highlighted the need for proportionate, researcher-led security measures, consensus across the European Research Area on what constitutes risks to research security and academic freedom, and the need to work coherently to mitigate the risks and minimise the trade-offs.



From L to R: Javier Moreno Fuentes (Spanish National Research Council), Laure Ognosis (SNSF), Arne Jarrick (ALLEA/Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities/Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences), Krzysztof Józwiak (National Science Centre, Poland), Alexandra Lewis (ALLEA/British Academy), Marijk Van Der Wende (Utrecht University)

The panel discussion included two members of the newly minted Task Force on Integrating Research Security and Academic Freedom, Arne Jarrick (Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities/Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences) and Alexandra Lewis (The British Academy). The Conference also served as a backdrop for the kick-off meeting for this Task Force.

Read more about the Flagship Conference [here](#).

5. SCIENCE ADVICE

5.1 SCIENCE ADVICE FOR POLICY BY EUROPEAN ACADEMIES (SAPEA)

Science Advice for Policy by European Academies (SAPEA) is part of the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM), along with the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (GCSA) and the SAM Secretariat. The three units of the SAM work together to provide independent evidence and



policy recommendations to the European institutions by request of the College of Commissioners. SAPEA, which is a consortium of six European Academy Networks, brings together outstanding expertise from the natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical, health, agricultural and social sciences, and the humanities, in order to independently study, review, and synthesise scientific evidence to inform the policy recommendations of the Advisors.

The six European Academy Networks in SAPEA, which combine the expertise of around 120 academies, young academies, and learned societies in more than 40 countries across Europe, are:

- Academia Europaea (AE)
- The European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA)
- The European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC)
- The European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering (Euro-CASE)
- The Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM)
- The Young Academies Science Advice Structure (YASAS)

As one of six networks of academies taking part in the SAPEA Consortium, ALLEA provides scientific advice by involving experts nominated by its Member Academies, coordinating the production of evidence review reports, lending support in any other science advice activity in which the consortium is involved, and contributing in all cross-cutting activities. ALLEA also leads SAPEA's work package on communications, dissemination, and public engagement.

To demonstrate the integral role of the SAM, and by extension SAPEA, in promoting evidence-informed policies, the European Commission published a [report](#) on the impact of the Mechanism over five years (2019-2024), which showcases 11 case studies, addressing a range of issues from crisis management to One Health.

Science Advice on Artificial Intelligence in Emergency and Crisis Management

On 11 December 2025, the SAM published its [rapid evidence review report](#) (RERR), coordinated by ALLEA, and [recommendations](#) by the GCSA on the use of artificial intelligence (AI)¹ in crisis and emergency management. The report was commissioned by the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) to inform efforts to advance the use of AI within the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) and crisis centres throughout Europe.

¹ AI can be understood as an 'umbrella term' that includes a diverse set of technologies, methodologies and applications, including machine learning, computer vision, and natural language processing.



The central question for SAPEA's RERR was: *“What are the characteristics, opportunities and risks associated with the use of AI in crisis preparedness and response? According to the literature, how can these risks be mitigated?”*

ALLEA, as the lead academy network for this advice, assembled an interdisciplinary working group chaired by Tina Comes, Scientific Co-Director of the Institute for the Protection of Terrestrial Infrastructures at the German Aerospace Center (Deutsches

Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR), which produced the evidence brief over a concentrated timeframe (less than six months rather than the usual 9-12 months for a complete ERR). The report examined the opportunities, risks, and limitations associated with the deployment of AI across three areas of crisis management: monitoring and predicting, assessing, and decision-making. It also identified areas where the use of AI is not appropriate or is problematic. Some key insights from the RERR include:

- AI excels at standardised, data-intensive tasks typical in frequent disasters such as floods, wildfires or droughts.
- AI can effectively support environmental monitoring, early-warning systems, damage assessment from satellite imagery, and processing of social media data.
- It can provide valuable insights in well-defined crisis management tasks, particularly those that involve rapid processing and pattern recognition of large volumes of heterogeneous data.
- AI has difficulty interpreting complex or varied contexts or handling new situations with a lack of adequate training data.
- The use of AI is not appropriate where moral choices are involved.

Based on the evidence, the RERR also presented a series of policy options for consideration, including, among others:

- Establishing a European Data Preparedness Framework
- Integrating AI literacy into crisis training programmes
- Developing AI evaluation benchmarks and knowledge-sharing platforms
- Ensuring full compliance with legal frameworks
- Clarifying legal responsibilities in trans-border and public-private operations

The report emphasised the significance of careful monitoring to ensure that AI tools comply with legal and ethical frameworks, avoid algorithmic biases, and maintain human control and accountability over AI decisions.

A series of outreach activities and stakeholder engagements have since been organised to disseminate the findings and support the uptake of this advice across Europe. For more information on the Rapid ERR and the GCSA's Scientific Opinion on AI in emergency and crisis management, as well as the outreach events on the same, visit the dedicated [webpage](#).

Promoting Best Practices in Science Advice

The SAM organises dissemination and outreach events for diverse stakeholders to facilitate dialogue on effective science advice. As the responsible network for SAPEA's work package on communications, dissemination, and public engagement, ALLEA plays a key role in promoting the wide exchange of perspectives on, and best practices in, science advice across Europe. A selection of engagement activities is presented below. For the full list, see [here](#).

Upholding Integrity in Science Advice: Key Principles and Challenges

In November 2025, ALLEA organised a SAPEA workshop, titled, '*Upholding Integrity in Scientific Advice: Key Principles and Challenges*', as part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Bringing together academy members, science advisors, policymakers, and early-career researchers from across Europe, the half-day workshop provided a timely forum to reflect on one of the foundational pillars of science and science advice – research integrity.

During the workshop, ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński highlighted the close relationship between integrity, trust, and academic freedom, underlining their inseparability and importance in an era marked by geopolitical instability and growing mis- and disinformation. Over the course of the programme, participants and panellists also addressed emerging issues such as the impact of the growing use of AI in research and policy advice, threats to the integrity of scholarly publishing from paper mills, the role of policymakers in safeguarding research integrity, particularly when applying findings to real-world decisions, and the need for better science communication strategies in an increasingly polarised world.

The workshop formed part of ALLEA's broader efforts to support a vibrant European community of practice in science-for-policy and to ensure that scientific expertise remains a trusted foundation for democratic decision-making. Read more about the workshop and watch the recording [here](#).

Building Bridges: Shaping Europe's Science-For-Policy Landscape

The SAM organised its biggest ever conference for the science-for-policy community in Vienna on 26-27 May 2025 at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, a long-standing member of ALLEA. The primary goal of the conference was *"to explore how scientific evidence and expertise can best support policy making in today's complex, fast-moving, and often polarised policy environment, and how Europe's science-for-policy ecosystem can be strengthened and made more resilient for the future"*.

The conference, which opened with an address by Eva-Maria Holzleitner, Austria's Minister for Science, gathered, online and in-person, about 650 science-for-policy practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and representatives from academies and organisations engaged in science-policy interactions for a rich two-day agenda built around three central themes:

- Science Advice in Politics and Society
- Designing Better Institutions
- Building Skills and Practices



In September, SAPEA published a [detailed report](#) that provides an overview of the sessions, debates, and exchanges that took place, from high-level plenaries and interactive debates to parallel sessions, workshops, and side events. It shares lessons learned, highlights best practices, and is designed to enable further dialogue on how to build a stronger, more inclusive, and resilient science-for-policy ecosystem in Europe.

You can also watch recordings of the conference [here](#).

5.2 ACCOMPANYING EXPERTISE PROVISION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Modern evidence-based policymaking relies on independent, high-quality expertise. In 2025, ALLEA launched a new pilot collaboration with the Policy Departments of the European Parliament, helping to pioneer an innovative model of ‘*Accompanying Expertise*’ designed to bring timely, academically rigorous, and policy-relevant scientific input directly into parliamentary decision-making. For more information, see [here](#).

As part of this initiative, ALLEA identifies leading scholars from its Member Academies, partners, and wider expert networks to support both the legislative and non-legislative work of parliamentary committees, complementing traditional policy studies with ad-hoc expertise tailored to immediate policy needs. This novel approach aims to ensure that the work of European policymakers is informed by the best available evidence – delivered at the right time, and with the highest academic quality standards.

To date, ALLEA has responded to nearly twenty requests on a wide range of topics, particularly from the European Parliament’s ENVI (Committee on Environment, Climate and Food Safety), ITRE (Committee on Industry, Research and Energy), and SANT (Committee on Public Health). In more than 60% of the completed cases, experts selected from ALLEA’s suggestions provided input to the European Parliament.

5.3 TRANSITIONING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

The transition to sustainable food systems is one of Europe's most pressing and complex challenges, requiring a careful balance between food security, environmental sustainability, rural livelihoods, and innovation. This transition is also taking place at a time of growing environmental, economic, and geopolitical uncertainty – and increasingly polarised publics.

ALLEA, as part of the Task Force on Sustainable Food Systems and Innovation led by Brussels-based think-tank Re-Imagine Europa, works to advance the cause of sustainable food systems in Europe by:

- Developing and promoting a shared understanding of sustainable food systems among different stakeholder communities with distinct goals, priorities, and values
- Addressing polarisation and science mis- and disinformation in the debates on sustainable food
- Exploring how scientific and technological innovation can support a socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable future for European agriculture

Reimagine Food & Agriculture: A Strategic Summit on the Narratives that Shape our Reality

On 5 June 2025, ALLEA joined more than 100 experts, policymakers, scientists, and civil society representatives at *'Reimagine Food & Agriculture: A Strategic Summit on the Narratives that Shape our Reality'*, convened by Re-Imagine Europa and hosted by ALLEA member academy, the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts (KVAB) in Brussels.



The summit, which took place under the patronage of the European Parliament, explored how Europe can move beyond polarised debates to build sustainable, resilient, and competitive food systems in the face of rising geopolitical instability, climate urgency, and social division. Building on its [three-part series of expert workshops](#), ALLEA contributed scientific perspectives on sustainable agriculture, depolarising debates, new genomic techniques, and evidence-based food policy, helping to advance constructive dialogue on the subject of achieving sustainable food systems in Europe.

You can read more about the Summit on the Re-Imagine Europa [website](#).

6. SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

6.1 TRUST IN SCIENCE

As mis- and disinformation and social polarisation in Europe rise, against a backdrop of rapid technological change, ALLEA and its Member Academies have been increasing their efforts to strengthen trust in science. Recognising this as a strategic priority, ALLEA established the [Task Force on Strengthening Trust in Science](#), which kicked off its operations in 2025. The Task Force aims to examine how scientific evidence and advice are produced, communicated, and received across Europe, while complementing ALLEA's broader efforts in the European Research Area (ERA) to enhance trust in science through citizen participation, engagement, and science communication.

Conference on Strengthening Public Trust in Science

In December 2025, ALLEA joined policymakers, researchers, funders, and science communication experts in Paris for a conference on 'Strengthening Public Trust in Science', co-organised by Science Europe and the French National Research Agency (ANR). Held at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, the event provided a timely forum to address one of the most pressing challenges facing democratic societies: how to safeguard and rebuild trust in science amid rapid technological change, global crises, and growing mis- and disinformation.



Participants examined the factors that shape public confidence in science and strengthen engagement, the role of the media in communicating scientific evidence and disseminating knowledge, and practical ways research institutions, funders, and policymakers can strengthen trust in science. In a powerful keynote, Kei Koizumi, Chief of Staff in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) under the Biden Administration, highlighted how political interference, disinformation, and declining information integrity can erode trust in public institutions and, by extension, in scientific evidence leading to several downstream consequences.

Some recommendations from the conference include:

- **Strengthen** integrity and transparency throughout the research ecosystem.
- **Advance** scientific literacy and public understanding of the scientific method.
- **Integrate** trust-building into research policy, governance, and funding structures.
- **Empower and protect** researchers engaging in the public sphere.
- **Encourage** collaboration and co-creation in an increasingly complex information landscape.
- **Define** clear roles and responsibilities in science communication.
- **Maintain the independence** of science in policymaking.
- **Foster citizen participation** and engagement with science.

You can read more about ALLEA's insights from the conference in our [News](#) section, as well as the Conference Report [here](#).

Inaugural Meeting of the ALLEA Task Force on Strengthening Trust in Science

ALLEA's newly established Task Force on Strengthening Trust in Science held its inaugural meeting in Paris against the backdrop of the Paris Conference. The hybrid meeting was attended by 17 members of the Task Force to discuss its purpose and set the stage for activities in the near-term. Members exchanged perspectives on the increasingly complex factors shaping public trust in science, including the rapid spread of mis- and disinformation, growing challenges to evidence-informed policymaking, and the broader societal dynamics that influence how scientific expertise is perceived. Discussions highlighted the importance of approaching public scepticism with openness and curiosity rather than defensiveness, recognising that distrust often reflects genuine experiences, concerns, and societal tensions that merit careful engagement.

The Task Force will lead ALLEA's engagement on this issue at the European level, including our involvement in the [European Research Area \(ERA\) Structural Policy](#) on 'Enhancing Trust in Science through Citizen Participation, Engagement and Science Communication', an initiative co-led by Germany and Sweden in the ERA Forum.

6.2 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Inaugural Meeting of the ALLEA Task Force on Integrating Research Security and Academic Freedom

In October 2025, Members of the newly established Task Force on Integrating Research Security and Academic Freedom came together for their first meeting at the 'European Flagship Conference on Research Security', co-organised by ALLEA with the European Commission and 11 other partners in Brussels.



From L to R: Daniel Kaiser (ALLEA), Hedwig te Molder (KNAW), Daniela Ovadia (British Academy), Martina Feilzer (LSW), Tereza Stöckelová (Czech Academy of Sciences)

Representatives from the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the British Academy, the Turkish Academy of Science (TÜBA), the Royal Irish Academy, the Royal Society, and the Council of Finnish Academies met to discuss the thematic priorities and activities of the Task Force in the next years, their initial ideas on developing strategies to balance academic openness and research security, and ALLEA's efforts to encourage policies that support responsible research collaboration and academic freedom, while allowing for reasonable security measures. Active from 2025 through at least 2027, the Task Force aims to work with policymakers, academies, and universities to contribute, among other things, to the ERA Policy Agenda in order to ensure that academic freedom and global cooperation remain central to Europe's research ecosystem.

ALLEA Supports Joint Statement Against the Introduction of Directionality in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\)](#) is one of the EU's most successful research programmes. Built on the principles of openness, excellence, and researcher mobility, it has consistently attracted and supported outstanding talent from around the world, while making a significant contribution to Europe's leadership in research and innovation.

In June 2025, ALLEA joined 18 high profile European research organisations, including Coimbra Group, EU-LIFE and YERUN, in issuing a statement calling on the European Commission and Member States to preserve the bottom-up structure of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA). The statement responds to a proposal to introduce 'directionality' in the 2026-2027 Work Programme by steering project calls towards predefined themes and topics, which would introduce a more 'top-down' approach to the MSCA – and compromise researcher freedom and fundamental research. Signing the joint statement is a reiteration of several ALLEA principles, including preserving institutional autonomy and academic freedom, promoting interdisciplinary and blue-sky research, and improving conditions for research(ers).

You can read the full joint statement [here](#).

ALLEA Statement on Threats to Academic Freedom and International Research Collaboration in the United States

In February 2025, ALLEA published a [statement](#) expressing grave concern over political developments in the United States affecting the autonomy of scientific research, including funding freezes and restrictions on research topics, language, and methodologies. Warning of the broader implications for global scientific cooperation and progress, the statement reaffirmed the essential role of academic freedom and institutional autonomy in democratic societies.

ALLEA called on its Member Academies, partners, governments, and research organisations in Europe and beyond to endorse the statement and remain vigilant, strengthen efforts to protect independent research, and stand in solidarity against undue political interference in the scientific endeavour. To date, the statement has been endorsed by 178 research institutions², including several Member Academies and a wide range of stakeholders and partner organisations such as European Public Health Association, Coimbra Group, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique-CNRS (France), Independent SAGE (UK), and Science Europe.

² At the time this Activities Report was published.

To underscore the urgency and global implications of the escalating threats, ALLEA issued a follow-up [statement](#) in April 2025. The statement emphasised that the assaults on academic freedom extend well beyond the United States, and reaffirmed the necessity of a strong, collective, and sustained response from the scientific community.

6.3 MADAME DE STAËL PRIZE

The Madame de Staël Prize is awarded to eminent scholars for their significant contributions to strengthening the cultural values of Europe and the idea of European integration, and for promoting an understanding of Europe as multifaceted, intellectual, open, and vibrant.

The 2025 ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize was awarded to Maria Leptin, President of the European Research Council (ERC), in recognition of her outstanding contributions to European research leadership and the advancement of frontier science across Europe.

Beyond her scientific achievements, Professor Leptin has held multiple leading roles in the European and international research community, including as the first woman Director of the European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) and, since November 2021, as President of the ERC, combining her scientific expertise with extensive experience in research policy and management. Speaking on behalf of the Prize Jury, ALLEA President, Paweł Rowiński said, *“Her work embodies the very values honoured by this Prize – promoting scientific excellence, supporting collaboration across borders, and strengthening the impact of research on society.”*



Maria Leptin, ©Jenna Dalwitz

Prof Leptin will accept the prize and deliver the Laureate Lecture at the 2026 ALLEA General Assembly in Warsaw.

You can read more about Prof Leptin [here](#) and the history of the Prize [here](#).

6.4 SUPPORTING AT-RISK SCHOLARS

ALLEA Joins the International Coalition to Support Ukraine’s Research and Innovation Ecosystem

The [Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025](#) in Rome saw the launch of an [International Coalition for Science, Research, and Innovation in Ukraine](#) by the Italian Ministry of University and Research, the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science, UNESCO and the European Commission. The initiative represents an important step in placing science, research, and innovation at the centre of Ukraine’s sustainable, inclusive, and long-term recovery. ALLEA joined the Coalition shortly after, reaffirming its longstanding commitment to academic freedom, international scientific cooperation, and support for researchers and institutions affected by conflict.

Building on ALLEA’s unwavering support for Ukrainian researchers since the Russian war of aggression began, ALLEA will contribute its broad European academy network and science-policy expertise to support the mobility and integration of Ukrainian researchers, facilitate knowledge exchange and institutional capacity-building, and promote the long-term

reintegration of Ukrainian science into the European and global research community. Most importantly, ALLEA will capitalise on the experiences and community of the (EFDS), one of the earliest responses to support Ukrainian science and scientists affected by the war, generously funded by the Breakthrough Prize Foundation.

To date, ALLEA has participated in three technical meetings of the Coalition, which has provided an important forum to explore in depth the pressing challenges faced by researchers and innovators in Ukraine, including sustaining scientific work during war, addressing institutional needs, and fostering brain circulation to ensure that Ukrainian talent remains connected to the national research system.

Upcoming Activities to Support Ukrainian Science

High-Level Meeting in Gdansk

As an early and dedicated Coalition member, ALLEA will be represented by the President at the next high-level meeting of the Coalition, during the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Gdansk, Poland, in late June 2026.

EFDS Follow-Up

With a dedicated side event at the 2026 General Assembly, titled, *'Supporting the Ukrainian Research Ecosystem through International Exchange and Collaboration'*, ALLEA – together with the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Polish Academy of Sciences – will convene the community of former EFDS-supported scholars and delegates of ALLEA Member Academies to facilitate an exchange of experiences and perspectives on the most pressing needs of the Ukrainian research ecosystem, and the role and potential of Ukrainian researchers abroad in supporting science in Ukraine.

Key takeaways from the discussions will feed into the work of the Coalition to help shape future strategies and priorities for Ukrainian science. The event will also provide the framework to kick off an EFDS Alumni Network, a community of former EFDS grantees and representatives that aims to become a platform for further exchanges and collaborations in support of Ukrainian scholarship.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

ALLEA's communications are planned in alignment with the Standing Committee, Research Ethics and Integrity Council, Task Forces, project leads, scientific policy officers, and partner organisations to design, disseminate, and amplify key messages important to ALLEA's mission and strategic objectives.

The communications strategic approach has centred on showcasing ALLEA's portfolio of activities for diverse audiences through various channels, including [LinkedIn](#), the [News section of the website](#) and the [ALLEA Newsletter](#). Different content formats and channels will continue to be tested to increase reach and impact of ALLEA's dissemination efforts.

7.1 ALLEA PRESIDENT BULLETIN

The ALLEA President Bulletin was launched in October 2024 as a new avenue of communication between the Board/Presidency and the Member Academies. It informs members about key developments within ALLEA, including outcomes of Board meetings, strategic discussions, and ongoing initiatives. The Bulletin aims to strengthen dialogue with members and foster collaboration across the ALLEA network. By inviting engagement and feedback from Member Academies, it supports dialogue on the priorities and activities shaping ALLEA's work.

In 2025, three President Bulletins were sent to the Member Academies.

7.2 'MEET THE PRESIDENCY' WEBINAR SERIES

On 17 January 2025, ALLEA hosted the inaugural '*Meet the ALLEA Presidency*' webinar, marking the first edition of a new initiative designed to foster greater collaboration and engagement with our Member Academies. ALLEA President Paweł Rowiński and Vice-Presidents Annette Grüters-Kieslich and Marie-Louise B Nosch held an interactive session to discuss ALLEA's plans for the near-term, address questions from Members, and share insights into ALLEA's new strategy and the restructuring of the network's science-policy activities.

7.3 ALLEA IN THE NEWS

A selection of news about ALLEA and its various initiatives are highlighted below.

- [Academies welcome EU deal on genetically modified crops](#), Research Professional News
- [Research security focus 'must not go too far'](#), Research Professional News
- [Trump casts shadow over Nobels as prize-awarding body warns academic freedom at risk](#), The Guardian
- [Mario Draghi's warning on EU research 'rings true'](#), Research Professional News
- [Prof. Rowiński: in the discussion on the reform of the Polish Academy of Sciences, we focus on stage directions, not on principles](#), naukawpolsce.pl (in Polish)
- [Global science bodies pivot to capitalize on US brain drain](#), C&EN Magazine
- [Europe could be a 'haven' for US researchers, says ERC president](#), Science|Business
- [Science Europe Endorses ALLEA's statement on Academic Freedom](#), Science Europe
- [Trump 2.0: an assault on science anywhere is an assault on science everywhere](#), Nature
- [ALLEA Appeals to Protect Academic Freedom in the Face of U.S. Administration Actions](#), Nauka w Polsce (in Polish)
- [European scientists warn of Trump's censorship](#), Erasmus Magazine
- [Academies issue guidance on commercial collaboration](#), Research Professional News



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