



Co-Chairs:
Connie Nshemereirwe (Uganda)
Koen Vermeir (France)

Managing Director:
Beate Wagner

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Young Academies declare joint principles and issue calls to action

Halle (Saale), Germany - Young Academies of sciences around the globe have developed a declaration on their joint core principles of operation titled the “Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies”. The signatories feel strongly that they have a key role to play in helping solve global challenges, and aim to help improve the world through scientific discovery.

The Declaration is a direct outcome of the Fourth Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies in July 2019, which was hosted in Da Nang, Vietnam, by the Vietnam Young Academy, and co-organised by the Global Young Academy (GYA).

With the GYA’s support, the network of Young Academies continues to grow, from just a handful in 2014 to currently more than 40 across all global regions. With these increasing numbers, the need for a consensus on the core principles and values that Young Academies hold has become apparent in terms of continuing to build this active and growing community.

Coordinated by the GYA, almost 40 young academies from all over the world have come together in recent months to develop a set of guiding principles that include the following: Excellence; Diversity & Inclusivity; Responsibility; Knowledge-based Evidence; Independence & Transparency; and Integrity.

The Declaration includes a number of calls to action, including one to young scholars worldwide to establish a Young Academy in countries where none exists. Other calls are targeted at existing Young Academies to continue aligning their actions with the newly-codified core principles, and to “Senior” Science Academies to work with and support their Young Academy counterparts.

The Declaration will be launched at the World Science Forum in Budapest, Hungary, on 20 November 2019 from 12:30-13:00 (UTC +1) at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Kodály Hall. GYA leadership will be on hand, as will leaders from Young Academies from around the world. To attend the event, please register at wsvinvitation@office.mta.hu.

The Declaration is available here: <https://globalyoungacademy.net/declaration-young-academies-2019/>

Media contact: GYA Press Officer, James.Curtiss@globalyoungacademy.net

#YoungAcademy

#WWMYA2019

About the Global Young Academy

The Global Young Academy (GYA) was founded in 2010 and aims to give a voice to young scientists around the world. The GYA empowers early-career researchers to lead international, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational dialogue by developing and mobilising talent from six continents. The GYA's purpose is to promote reason and inclusiveness in global decision-making. Members are chosen for their demonstrated excellence in scientific achievement and commitment to service. Currently, there are 200 members and 258 alumni from 83 countries. The GYA is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, and received its seed funding from the Volkswagen Foundation. Since 2014, the GYA has been funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and supported by the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) and other international donors.

The Global Young Academy and the network of National Young Academies

Young Academies are academies formed by early- and mid-career young scientists and scholars who typically have been selected for the excellence and impact of their research and their commitment to service. These Young Academies work as the voice of young scientists for the advancement of issues of importance to society and to young scientists.

One of the major aims of the GYA is to support the establishment and development of National Young Academies (NYAs) and similar bodies, to cooperate with them and provide opportunities for networking and capacity enhancement. Overall, more than 40 NYAs and more than 10 similar bodies now exist worldwide – many having been established with support from the GYA and its members. The global network of Young Academies continues to grow dynamically, with ever more NYAs being established all over the world, and up to six new academies expected to be established in the coming months (see <https://globalyoungacademy.net/national-young-academies/>).

The GYA is an active facilitator and supporter of its members and NYA partners worldwide.