



# GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY

## April 2019 Newsletter

April has been an exciting month for everyone at the GYA, and as this newsletter is circulated, we are just days away from the Anniversary Annual General Meeting and International Conference of Young Scientists! More than 160 members and alumni from all over the globe will join us for the multifaceted programme throughout the week.

In non-AGM news, in April, the GYA was formally invited to become a full member of the InterAcademy Partnership, the global network of 138 academies of science, engineering and medicine. The official announcement took place at the IAP Conference and General Assembly in Songdo, Korea, on Thursday 11 April 2019 during the joint InterAcademy Partnership meeting.

For those of our partners not attending our Annual General Meeting, please keep on the lookout for updates on our website and social media channels - and please retweet and share!

[#gyagm2019](#)

Happy reading!

Tolu Oni (UK) and Connie Nshemereirwe (Uganda)

On behalf of the GYA Executive Committee

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## GYA news

### GYA International Conference and Anniversary Annual General Meeting

Our anniversary meeting, taking place at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina in Halle (Saale), Germany, is just a few days away!

We are happy to announce that we expect more than 160 members and alumni from all over the globe to join us for the multifaceted programme throughout the week.

On the conference theme '**Re-enlightenment? Truth, reason and science in a global world**', invited speakers with a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds will give short talks to provoke discussions amongst all participants, related broadly to the relationship between science and society, and relevant to the core values of the GYA.

This year, several outstanding workshops and events will accompany the Annual General Meeting, from science education outreach for schoolchildren to presentation coaching, science advice and fundraising methods.

**In addition, the GYA working group 'Science+Art=Peace+Justice'** is preparing an art exhibit to run parallel to the AGM and Conference at the Art Museum Moritzburg, located across the street from the Leopoldina. The exhibit, 'Finding Affinities – At the Nexus of Art and Science', co-organised with **ArtSci Nexus, focuses on collaborations between** the arts and sciences and will present Arrhythmia, Neural Module, Bacteriality, and the Well-Tempered Brain. **Opening concerts, with guest** sound artist Miriam Akkermann from the German Young Academy (Die Junge Akademie), will be held on Sunday 28 April and on Monday 29 April (see detailed programme here).

Please also remember to check our website and social media throughout the AGM and share and re-tweet as much as possible!

We look forward to seeing you at this amazing event!

#gyagm2019

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## GYA becomes full member of InterAcademy Partnership

In recognition of its growing influence in the global science community, the GYA has been named a full member of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), the global network of 138 academies of science, engineering and medicine. The official announcement took place at the IAP Conference and General Assembly in Songdo, Korea, on Thursday 11 April 2019 during the joint InterAcademy Partnership meeting.

[Read more here.](#)

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## GYA and European Union Joint Research Centre hold workshop for at-risk scholars

The first skills training workshop for early-career at-risk scientists and scholars in the context of the [GYA At-Risk Scholars Initiative](#) was held in collaboration with the [EU Joint Research Centre](#) from 9-10 April, in Ispra, Italy.

[\*Read more here.\*](#)

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Two GYA members spoke at the [third IAP Science for Poverty Eradication Committee \(SPEC\) Conference](#), which took place from 27-29 March 2019, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference addressed the topic 'How Can Science and Technology Contribute to the Reduction of Poverty and Inequality', and was supported by the Brazilian Development Bank, the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel, and the Museum of Tomorrow, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences.

[Read more here.](#)

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## Science Advice working group represented at EU Group of Chief Scientific Advisors

GYA Executive Committee member [Koen Vermeir](#) (France) was an expert at a meeting of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors of the European Union. Koen co-founded the GYA [Science Advice](#) working group and has been active as an expert and science advisor.

[Read more here.](#)

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## GYA supports #FridaysForFuture: official statement released

The GYA congratulates the young activists who are drawing the public's attention to the necessity to act on climate change now. The GYA believes that scientists, and science and research, are fundamental to realizing the goals of keeping global warming below 1.5° C and identifying pathways to sustainability development.

[Read more here.](#)



## GYA brings you Halle's March for Science 2019

As part of this year's Annual General Meeting of the [GYA](#) at the Leopoldina in Halle, we invite the public to join us on a **March for Science** in the form of two GYA-organised events.



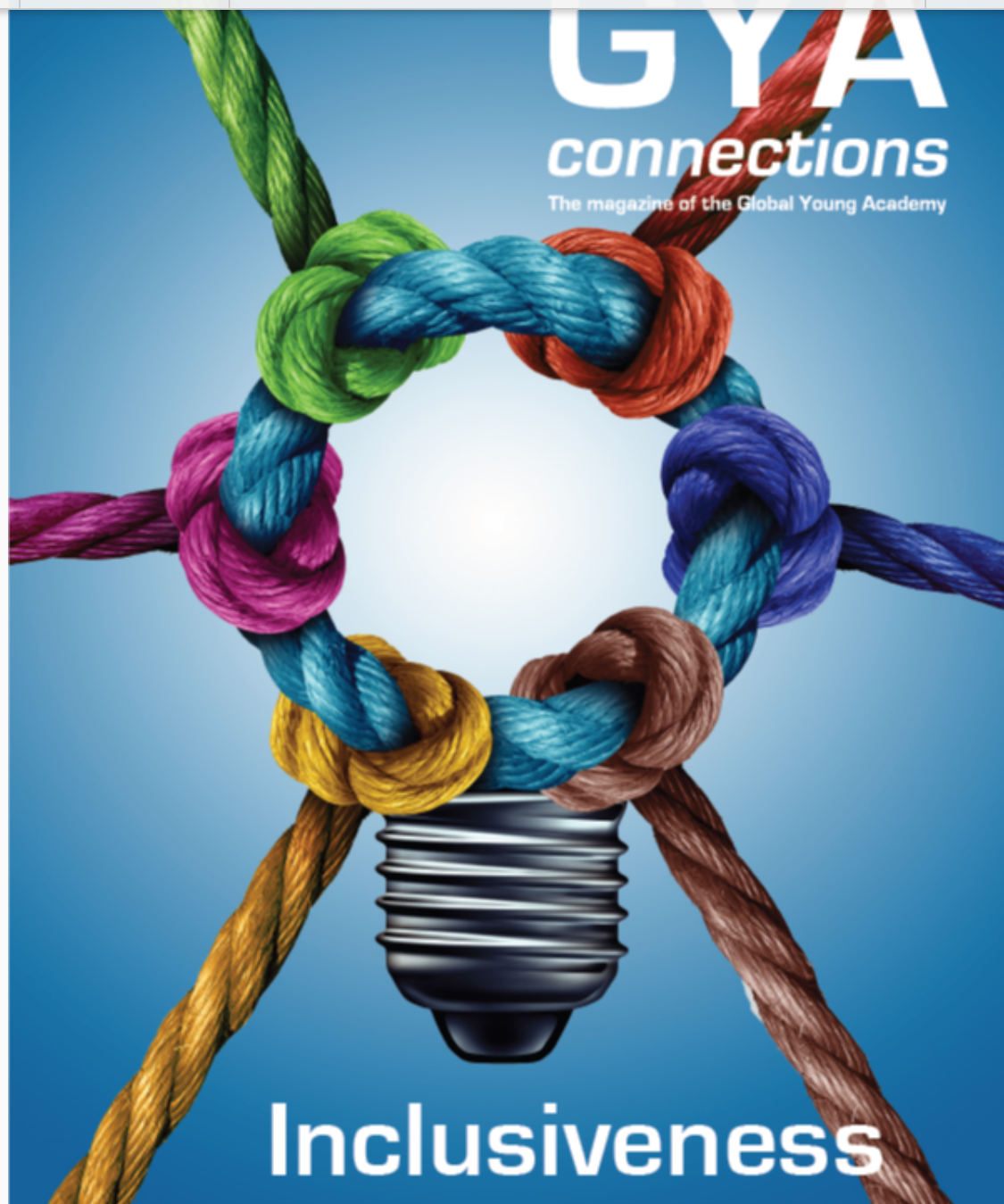
## **GYA Executive Committee member Koen Vermeir represents GYA at the European Commission Open Science Policy Platform**

GYA Executive Committee member [Koen Vermeir](#) (France) represented the GYA at the European Commission's Open Science Policy Platform meeting in Bucharest, Romania, on 11 April 2019, where the future of scholarly communication and new indicators for open science were discussed.

[Read more here.](#)

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## A bonanza of GYA publications

The GYA Media Office rolled out four new publications this month:

[2019 Quarterly Bulletin I](#), featuring news about the GYA being made a full member of the InterAcademy Partnership, as well as a member of the World Science Forum Academy's Steering Committee.

[GYA connections 2019](#). This year's edition features sections on 'Inclusiveness', GYA in Memories, and a section presenting our 2019 New Members.

[2018 Yearly Report](#). This year's report highlights GYA capacity-building activities,



The GYA pamphlet has been updated and features a new look. Can you guess what the cover image is?

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## Readings of interest



### Medicinal Herbs from Indian Ocean Island Found to Stop Growth of Cancer Cells

The work of [Alexander Kagansky](#) (Russia) and GYA alumna [Vidushi Neergheen-Bhujun](#) (Mauritius), which began with the 2015-16 GYA North-South Interdisciplinary Grant for their research proposal 'Connecting Epigenetics and Natural Resources: The Road Towards Cancer Management and Biodiversity Conservation', has been featured in *Newsweek*.

An excerpt: 'Chemicals present in the leaves of the *Acalypha integrifolia*, *Eugenia tinifolia* and *Labourdonnaisia glauca* plants were found to stop esophageal squamous carcinoma cells in a lab. The plants were found to contain a chemical that switches on the signaling pathway of the AMPK protein, and in turn prevent cancer cells from growing.'

[Read the article here.](#)

[Leave your thoughts on GYA news here](#)

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## GYA in the media

[Closing the gap in science leadership](#)

[Leave your thoughts on GYA in the media here](#)

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## News from our members

A paper on medicinal plant extracts by GYA member [Alexander Kagansky](#) (Russia) and alumna [Vidushi Neergheen-Bhujun](#) (Mauritius) has just been published in *Acta Naturae* (Vol. 11/1). More information is available [here](#).

GYA Alumna and former GYA Co-Chair [Orakanoke Phanraksa](#) (Thailand) will be a speaker at the 2019 ASEAN Emerging Researchers Conference.

GYA alumnus and former EC member [Yusuf Baran](#) (Turkey), has been named the President/Rector of Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey.

[Leave your thoughts on News from our members here](#)

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## GYA activities

### *Working Group and Strategic Project highlights*

#### New 2019 YSAP missions

The GYA [Young Scientist Ambassador Programme](#) has awarded funding for two new missions in 2019. [Mahesh Kumar](#) (India) will travel to Israel to partner with [Mona Khoury-Kassabri](#) (Israel) and researchers at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem to initiate research on sustainable development and to conduct experiments with students at the university and local high schools. [Alex Godoy](#) (Chile) will initiate a project with [Lahcen El Youssfi](#) (Morocco) to research and transfer knowledge on sustainable water use for securing food production in dry areas, and to develop an exchange programme for graduate students between Chile and Morocco.

These two missions plant a seed for a larger collaboration by transferring knowledge, building capacity, and creating cultural exchanges for research. Together, these missions give a voice to young scientists, promote science as a career choice for young people, narrow the gap between developed and developing nations, and help create new approaches to problems of international significance.

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## National Young Academies updates

### Vietnam Young Academy news bulletin

The Vietnam Young Academy publishes a monthly news bulletin. Their April 2019 issue is available [here](#).

[Leave your thoughts on NYAs here](#)

## GYA strategic conferences updates



### Women in Science without Borders 2019

From 10-14 March 2019, the World Forum for Women in Science took place in Cairo (Egypt) with a focus on 'Science Diplomacy for Sustainable Development'. The Global Young Academy was present thanks to the participation of its members and alumni from Thailand, Peru, Ghana, Tunisia and Egypt. GYA alumna [Amal Amin](#) (Egypt) continues to act as the Conference Chair. In addition, the GYA [Science Advice](#) working group presented the panel 'Catalysing Science Diplomacy for the Global South' during the workshop on Science Diplomacy at this conference. This panel presented three initiatives in Latin America, Africa and South Asia that are promoting science diplomacy with the aim of empowering young researchers and professionals in the southern hemisphere.

The panel was formed by GYA alumna and past Co-Chair, [Orakanoke Phanraksa](#) (Thailand), Science Advice working group Co-Lead [Clarissa Rios](#) (Peru) and GYA member [Meron Zeleke](#) (Ethiopia), who discussed how crucial the international mechanisms and multi-lateral collaborations are that have been put in place to help train, connect and mobilise young students and professionals around the world.

[Read more here.](#)



## GYA external partners

### Register for The European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) 25th anniversary General Assembly

ALLEA will celebrate its **25th anniversary** during its annual General Assembly. The meeting will take place 8 to 10 May 2019 and will be hosted by the [Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences](#). On 9 May, Co-Chair [Connie Nshemereirwe](#) (Uganda), Executive Committee member [Koen Vermeir](#) (France) and [Michael Saliba](#) (Switzerland) will lead a panel discussion, organised by the GYA, on the values and limits of the (Re-)Enlightenment in today's digital society. More information is available [here](#).

## Upcoming events

Through its membership with the InterAcademy Partnership, the GYA will provide input at the United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) New York, USA, 14-15 May 2019.

The European National Young Academy Meeting on 17-18 May will be attended by Co-Chair [Connie Nshemereirwe](#) and GYA Project Officer Anna-Maria Gramatté.

GYA members are invited to attend the SILBERSALZ Science and Media Festival, Halle, Germany, 20-23 June 2019.

The GYA successfully nominated 3 participants to the 69th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting - Physics, Lindau, Germany, 30 June to 5 July 2019.

Through its cooperation with the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth, the GYA will provide input at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, New York, USA, July 9-18 2019.

The GYA's host academy, the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, is holding its Annual Meeting in Halle, Germany, 20-21 September 2019.

GYA members will participate in the World Health Summit, Berlin, Germany, 27-29 October 2019.

The GYA is planning to hold a Science Leadership Workshop at the World Science Forum in Budapest, Hungary, from 20-23 November 2019. As a member of the Steering Committee of this conference, the GYA is involved in the selection of early-career researchers as presenters in every main session.

29 April-3 May 2019

[GYA Anniversary Conference and Annual General Meeting /Alumni Reunion, Halle, Germany](#)

20-23 June 2019

[SILBERSALZ Science and Media Festival, Halle, Germany](#)

17-18 May 2019

[European National Young Academy Meeting](#)

30 June to 5 July 2019

[69<sup>th</sup> Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting - Physics](#)

29 July–2 August 2019

[4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies, Da Nang, Vietnam](#)

9-18 July 2019

[UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, New York, USA](#)

20-21 September 2019

[Leopoldina Annual Meeting, Halle, Germany](#)

27-29 October 2019

[World Health Summit](#)

20-23 November 2019

[World Science Forum, Budapest, Hungary](#)

1 December 2019

[Science Forum South Africa](#)

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