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GYA News



GYA Statement on climate action unveiled at COP29

Six GYA working groups have collaborated on the GYA Statement “Young researchers and scholars’ proposals for action for a sustainable present and future”, which was presented at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.

GYA alumnus Renard Siew (Centre for Governance and Political Studies, Malaysia) introduced the Statement.

[Read more, and download the GYA Statement here.](#)



GYA member wins the Falling Walls Women's Impact Award

won in the Women's Impact Award category for her work helping to make Tuberculosis screening more inclusive and holistic.

Also of note, Immediate Past Co-Chair [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana) was a member of the Falling Walls Engage Jury helping select the Science Engagement Project of the Year.

[Read more here.](#)



GYA supports early-career researchers at 2024 World Science Forum

The [2024 World Science Forum](#), which took place in Budapest, Hungary, hosted leading scientists and decision-makers from the world of politics, industry, representatives of civil society and the media from all over the world to engage in dialogue about pressing global challenges.

Together with the [InterAcademy Partnership](#), the GYA organized an interactive workshop for 25 early-career researchers at the Forum. The GYA also co-convoked a panel on "Research Assessment", and contributed to the closing declaration.

[Read more and see the photo galleries here.](#)



GYA members pitch science-media projects at Silbersalz Festival

Tomislav Meštrović (University North, Croatia) and Encieh Erfani (Mainz University, Germany) were invited to pitch science-media projects at the Industry Days of Documentary Campus, which took place in connection with the science-media Silbersalz Festival in Halle (Saale), Germany.

[Read more about their projects here.](#)



Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the African Science Leadership Programme

The [Africa Science Leadership Programme \(ASLP\)](#) celebrated 10 years of empowering researchers as thought leaders to drive scientific progress across Africa and beyond. The ASLP has since inspired numerous GYA member-led science leadership programmes and workshops around the world.

Celebrations of this milestone in Pretoria, South Africa, included 15 GYA members and alumni, among them past Co-Chairs and current and past Executive Committee (EC) members.

[Read the article here.](#)



2025 International Conference of Young Scientists and GYA Annual General Meeting

The GYA's 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and International Conference of Young Scientists - "Confluence of Visionaries: Empowering Science for Global Change" - will take place in Hyderabad, India from 10-13 June 2025.

The Programme Organizing Committee (POC) and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) are working hard on the detailed AGM & Conference Programme, Conference panel invitations and other details.

The confirmed venue for the event and campus accommodation is the [IIT Hyderabad](#). You can find a programme outline here: [Home - Annual General Meeting and International Conference](#)

More updates will be made to this AGM webpage early in 2025.

Registration will open by mid-February 2025 - stay tuned!

News from members and alumni

GYA Executive Committee Member [Sri Fatmawati](#) (Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember, Indonesia) has been named among the Top 100 Asian Scientists of 2024 by Asian Scientist Magazine. [More information is available here.](#)

GYA Executive Committee Member [Hussam Hussein](#) (Jordan) co-authored a correspondence article in Nature titled "Western science diplomacy must rethink its biases and treat all partners equally". [You can read the article here.](#)

in Jordan” ([link available here](#)).

A number of GYA members and alumni have been selected by the ISC for its [Global Roster of Experts](#), among them [Natisha Dukhi](#) (Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa), [Mohammad Hosseini](#) (Northwestern University, United States), and [Anet Režek Jambrak](#) (University of Zagreb, Croatia), and alumna [Karly Kehoe](#) (Saint Mary’s University, Canada).

GYA alumna [Karly Kehoe](#), in her role as a member of the ISC Freedom and Responsibility in Science standing committee, has co-authored a blog post on the right to science ([link available here](#)).

GYA Activities



**GLOBAL
YOUNG
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Webinar series around "The Interplay of Industries, Sustainable Communities, and the UN SDGs in the Face of Climate Change"

Webinar #1

The Interconnectedness of Energy Industries, Communities, and the SDGs



Date :
3 December 2024



Zoom

Register here



Time :
11:00 - 13:00 UTC



MEET OUR GYA SPEAKERS

Discussion And Insights



Dr Stella Tsani

GYA member, Associate Professor at the Department of Economics National at the Kapodistrian University of Athens

As the global shift toward renewable energy grows, communities are central to balancing energy development and stakeholder interests. This webinar will explore how both energy sectors can engage with communities, manage conflicts, and contribute to SDG 7 and SDG 13.



Dr Renard Siew

GYA alumni, Climate Advisor for the Centre for Governance & Political Studies (CENT-GPS)



Dr Luisa Diele-Viegas

GYA member, Researcher at University of Mississippi and collaborator professor at the federal University of Bahia and State University of Santa Cruz



Dr Patrick Cobbinah

GYA alumni, Associate professor of urban planning and Co-Director of the Informal Urbanism Hub, Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning, The University of Melbourne

MODERATED BY:



Dr Mercedes Caron
GYA member, IMBIV- CONICET, Argentina & European Forest Institute, Spain



Dr Reem Abou Assi
GYA member, Lecturer at the College of Pharmacy at Al Kitab University, Iraq



Dr Wilson Alavia Medina
GYA member/Co-Lead CCDRR WG, Founder & CEO Disruptive Sustainable Technologies for Positive Change SpA, Chile



Dr Ovie Edegbene
GYA member/Co-Lead CCDRR WG, Deputy Director, Institute of Global Health and Health Security (Climate Change & Health), Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo, Nigeria

Organizing Committee:

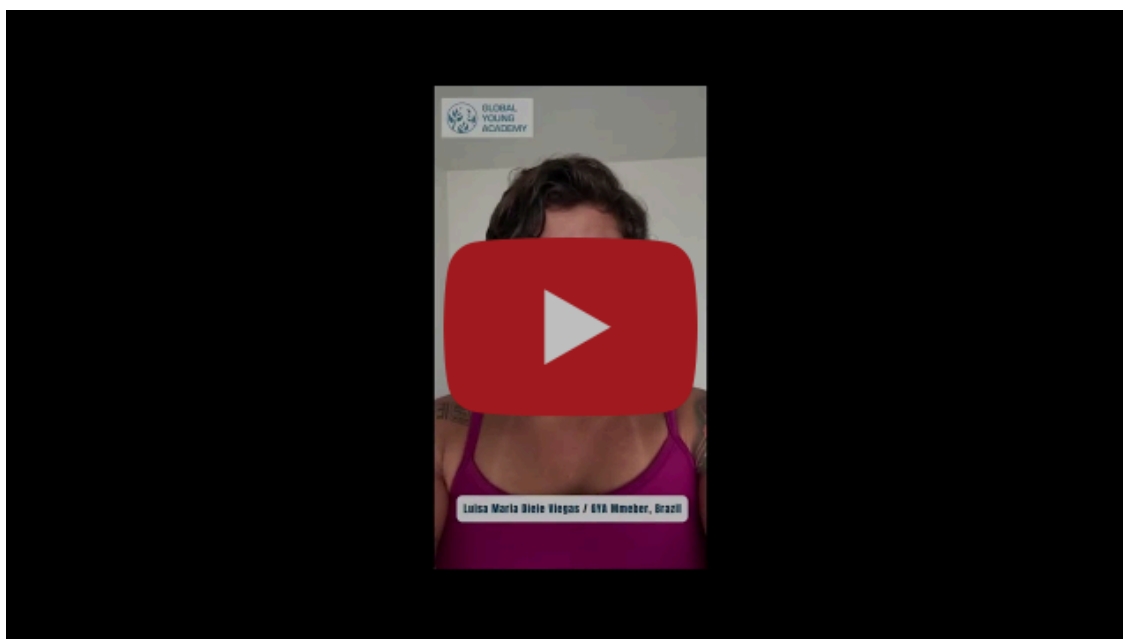
Wilson Alavia Medina, Ovie Edegbene, Mercedes Caron, Reem Abou Assi, Natisha Dukhi and Mohamed Mahmoud

Webinar on Energy and the SDGs

The GYA working group (WG) on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction is organizing an online panel on "The Interconnectedness of Energy Industries, Communities, and the SDGs" on 3 December 2024, from 11:00 - 13:00 UTC.

GYA members will act as speakers and lead a discussion on the global energy landscape's transformation and the impact of this shift towards renewable and green energy sources on local communities around the world. The session will explore how both traditional and green energy sectors can engage with communities for mutual

[Register here for the event.](#)



Videos for Anti-Microbial Resistance Awareness week

On the occasion of the World Anti-Microbial Resistance Awareness Week in November 2024, the [Global Health](#) WG, together with GYA Executive Committee Members [Wasim Sajjad](#) (National University of Medical Sciences, Pakistan), [Siok Yee Chan](#) (Universiti Sains Malaysia), and [Sri Fatmawati](#) (Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember, Indonesia), produced a series of videos, including “Stop! Self-prescribing antibiotics today could endanger 10 million lives tomorrow. Say no to self-medication —consult your doctor”.

In the video (link above), this message is presented by 15 GYA members in 15 different languages.

[Further such videos are available on our YouTube channel here.](#)

In November 2024, the [Science Education for Youth WG](#), together with the [Women in Science WG](#), organized a two-part online symposium on communication skills, led by Science Education for Youth co-lead [Reem Abou Assi](#) (Al-Kitab University, Iraq). Up to 60 early-career researchers attended presentations by a number of GYA members and alumni, and learned about effective science communication, how to craft a professional CV or poster, and learned how to enhance their professional communication skills and build a stand-out personal researcher brand. A brief report is forthcoming.

GYA member attends GESDA Summit

In October 2024, [Jovana Milic](#) (University of Fribourg, Switzerland), co-lead of the GYA WG on [Science Advice](#), participated in the [Geneva Science Diplomacy Anticipator \(GESDA\) Summit](#), which brought together 1,000 scientists, diplomats, policymakers, and others from around the globe in a dialogue on using science and the acceleration of new technologies in addressing global challenges. [Read a brief report here.](#)



News from the GYA and the UN SDGs group

In October 2024, [The GYA and the UN SDGs WG](#) co-lead [Stella Tsani](#) (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece) was part of a COP29 side event titled “A farewell to fossil fuels? Perspectives and dialogues pre-COP29” in Baku, Azerbaijan. The event was organized by Khazar University, the British Embassy in Baku, the University of Reading, Reading Youth Council, the Centre for EuroAsian Studies at

international policy dialogue and actions, the position of hydrocarbon exporting countries, and the role of youth in catalyzing the necessary transformations.

Also in October 2024, The GYA and the UN SDG's WG member [Peter Gan Kim Soon](#) (Ministry of Health Malaysia) participated in the "Act on Climate: A Convening on Planetary Health and Just Transition", held in Bogotá, Colombia, and organized by the Atlantic Institute and Dejusticia, a Colombia-based research and advocacy organization dedicated to the strengthening of the rule of law and the promotion of social justice and human rights in Colombia and the Global South.

This event brought together a diverse group of researchers, activists, and policy-makers dedicated to exploring the intricate relationship between climate change and equity. The discussions were framed around the urgent need for a just transition, and frameworks and approaches were developed that will provide a robust foundation for action and collaboration on effective climate action.

[Read Peter's report here.](#)

Empowering Food Security in Mauritius: advancing crop and livestock production

An overview with recommendations
to policymakers



August 2024

Book on food security advice in Mauritius

Earlier in 2024, the GYA WG on [Science Advice](#), co-led by [Jovana Milic](#) (University of Fribourg, Switzerland) and [Laura Zimmermann](#) (University of Georgia, United States), took part in a three-month project led by the Mauritius Academy of Science and Technology ([MAST](#)) on “Strengthening science advice capability of the Mauritius Academy of Science and Technology (MAST): focusing on food security”.

[Learn more and download the booklet here.](#)

2025 Letten Prize call for applications

Are you a young researcher working within the fields of health, development or environment in any aspect of human life?

Then apply to the Letten Prize, which is open to researchers under the age 45 from all corners of the world.

The Letten Prize is a collaboration between the [Letten Foundation](#) and [The Young Academy of Norway](#). The prize of 2.5 million NOK (ca. 235,000 USD) is awarded biannually.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed, and the winner will be awarded the prize at a ceremony taking place in Oslo, Norway, in September 2025.

More information, eligibility criteria, and how to apply is available [here](#).

Deadline is 6 February 2025.

Israel Young Academy initiates researcher exchange

The [Israel Young Academy](#) is pleased to announce a new initiative aimed at strengthening international research collaborations. They have issued a call for applications, which supports visits by leading researchers from abroad (along with their team members) to Israel for a minimum duration of 14 days. This initiative seeks to promote long-term research partnerships, provide exposure to diverse scientific disciplines, and deepen global connections among researchers.

Applications should be submitted by 31 January 2025, to this email:

israelyoungacademy@academy.ac.il

[Further details are available on their website here.](#)

Y-KAST signs Stockholm Charter for Academic Freedom

In September 2024, the Young Korean Academy of Science and Technology (Y-KAST) joined the "[Stockholm Charter for Academic Freedom](#)", following a proposal from the Young Academy of Sweden, who led the development of the Charter in 2023. The Charter, which advocates for academic freedom and research autonomy, aligns closely with challenges faced by many Korean researchers under economic, institutional, and political constraints. Y-KAST believes that signing the Charter will offer an important opportunity to address these issues both on a domestic and a global scale, and explore solutions collaboratively.

Professor Young Keun Kim, Chair of Y-KAST, highlighted structural problems in Korea's research ecosystem, where R&D funding is heavily concentrated on popular topics and large-scale projects. He emphasized and expressed hope for a positive transformation in Korea's scientific landscape as this mindset gains traction. Based on its engagement with the Charter, Y-KAST plans to host a joint forum with the Ministry of Science and ICT on "The availability of funding for curiosity-driven

support strategies through comparative analysis of similar initiatives.

Young Academies from all over the world are invited to sign the Charter. If your Academy is interested, please use this email to contact the Young Academy of Sweden: sverker.lundin@sverigesungaakademi.se.

Young Academy of Scotland member appointed to King's Council

Usman Tariq, a member of the Young Academy of Scotland, has been appointed to the King's Council. [Read more here](#) about what that role entails and about Tariq's work to make the legal profession more equal, diverse and inclusive.

Tri-Academy Partnership on Indigenous Engagement

In early November 2024, the [College](#) of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists of the Royal Society of Canada was one of the lead organizers for the inaugural conference for the "Tri-Academy Partnership on Indigenous Engagement: Research Summit on Cultural Heritage in an Era of Reconciliation", together with the Australian Academy of Science and the Royal Society TeAparangi, New Zealand. The multi-year collaboration aims to improve understanding of how Indigenous perspectives on the sciences, social sciences, humanities and other areas of scholarly endeavor are not only amplifying voices, but leading to important change within communities of scholarship and research.

[Read more here about the three partners' collective journey toward reconciliation.](#)

Also in November, the College welcomed [Audrey Moores](#) for a two-year mandate as President. In this capacity, she will also serve on the Royal Society of Canada's Board of Directors and the RSC Council.

U.S. New Voices publication

In December 2023, [U.S. New Voices](#) member Umut Gurkan (Cohort 2021-2023) co-organized a workshop "On Leading a Lab: Strengthening Scientific Leadership in Responsible Research". The workshop aimed to address the evolving roles and responsibilities of research leaders, particularly those overseeing cross-disciplinary and multi-institutional teams.

[The proceedings of the workshop are available here.](#)

[International Science Council General Assembly](#)

As a member of the ISC, the GYA will be represented at its [General Assembly](#), an occasion for cross-disciplinary, strategic discussions on challenges and priorities for international cooperation in science. The meeting will be hosted by the [Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation](#) of Oman.

10-13 June 2025

[GYA Annual General Meeting](#)

The 2025 GYA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and International Conference of Young Scientists will take place in Hyderabad, India, co-organized by the GYA, the Indian Young Academy of Sciences (INYAS), the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), and the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad.



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