

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The GYA continues to support capacity-building for early-career researchers
- GYA members and alumni take on prominent roles during the World Science Forum
- GYA working groups facilitate intergenerational science communication and explore trust in science with online symposium

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

- [Learn more and view photo galleries from the World Science Forum 2024](#)
- [Discover more about the Science Education for Youth working group](#)
- [Learn more about the Women in Science working group](#)
- [Download GYA Connections 12, which examines the theme Transformation](#)

This bulletin provides an overview and highlights of the activities of the Global Young Academy in the fourth quarter of 2024, and complements our monthly newsletters (archive available [here](#); [subscribe here](#)), which provide more comprehensive details.

GYA AND PARTNERS TEAM UP TO ORGANIZE CAPACITY-BUILDING EVENT AT WORLD SCIENCE FORUM

The GYA continues to be committed to capacity-building initiatives for its members and alumni, as well as for early-career researchers (ECRs) from the global network of Young Academies. One such event took place in November 2024 during the World Science Forum (WSF) in Budapest, Hungary.

In collaboration with the InterAcademy Partnership, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Hungarian Young Academy, the GYA hosted a capacity-building side-event for 25 ECRs from around the globe. The workshop focused on “Trust in Science” and featured dynamic discussions on the factors contributing to, or eroding, trust in science, on ethical research practices, and on best practices for strengthening public confidence in science.

The workshop was facilitated by GYA immediate past Co-Chair [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana), alumnus [Tyrone Grandison](#) (Microsoft, United States) and Biljana Gjoneska (alumna of the IAP Young Physician Leaders programme).

GYA member [Natisha Dukhi](#) (Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa), a workshop participant, added that “Trust in science is a multi-stakeholder effort; we need to be exercising trust in science efforts from grassroot levels at the community all the way to government levels; and we need to ensure that trust in science is something we as scientists practice, advocate and speak about openly on all platforms.”

The GYA also collaborated with the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) on a thematic session exploring world regional perspectives

on reforming research assessment. Moderated by GYA member [Carlo D’Ippoliti](#) (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy), and including GYA Co-Chair [Yensi Flores Bueso](#) (University of Washington Seattle, United States), the panel shared studies, current practices and reform processes related to research assessment cultures at a global level, as well as at the regional level in Europe, South Africa, China and South America.

Panelists emphasized the need for dialogue across world regions to learn from best practices in research assessment, and to better empower researchers to focus on quality research.

The GYA has been represented on the WSF Steering Committee since 2019; for the 2024 meeting, immediate past GYA Co-Chair [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) represented the GYA and young scientists worldwide.

In this role, [Priscilla](#) spoke during the Parliamentary Session on the closing day of the Forum ([you can read her speech here](#)), advocating for the voice of science to be inclusive and diverse, and for all stakeholders to foster the participation of ECRs in science-policy dialogues: “Platforms like the GYA connect early-career researchers across disciplines and borders, to foster knowledge-sharing and innovation. These networks provide mentorship, funding opportunities, and opportunities for high-level leadership for young researchers. Further to this, the establishment of the National Young Academies especially in underserved regions demonstrates how networks tailored to regional needs can empower researchers to not be just globally impactful but address challenges that are both immediate and locally relevant.”

The WSF concluded with the Declaration titled “[The science and policy interface at a time of global transformations](#)”.

GYA WORKING GROUPS HOST SCIENCE COMMUNICATION SKILLS ONLINE SYMPOSIUM

In November 2024, the GYA's [Science Education for Youth](#) working group (WG), together with the [Women in Science](#) WG, organized a two-part online capacity-building symposium on communication skills, led by Science Education for Youth co-lead [Reem Abou Assi](#) (Al-Kitab University, Iraq). The event provided a platform for intergenerational knowledge exchange, skill development, and professional growth.

Approximately 60 ECRs (mostly Doctoral or Master's students) attended presentations by a number of GYA members and alumni, and learned about effective science communication, as well as career and personal growth.

Specific topics included science communication principles ([Robert Lepenies](#), Karlsruhochschule International University, Germany), digital science communication ([Luisa Maria Diele-Viegas](#), University of Mississippi, United States), and crafting an impactful CV ([Chan Siok Yee](#), Universiti Sains Malaysia), among others. A standout moment was the demonstration of using AI tools to craft CVs, which left attendees impressed by the potential of integrating technology into professional practices.

Reem commented "By providing tools for leveraging communication in professional and scientific contexts, the symposium not only met its objectives but also set a benchmark for similar future events. The outcomes—ranging from enhanced interactivity and practical learning to fostering a global network—underline its pivotal role in advancing science communication and empowering attendees to make meaningful contributions to their fields. Additionally, the symposium's recognition of all participants, speakers, and organizers through certificates highlighted the collaborative spirit and collective contribution to its success."

The event also provided an opportunity to address the issue of trust in science, which has been a recurring topic of work at the GYA over the past years. In connection with this, GYA alumna [Lisa Herzog](#) (University of Groningen, The Netherlands) presented an overview of the [Science with Society video project](#), a collaboration between the GYA's [Trust in \(Young\) Scientists](#) WG and the German National Institute for Science Communication (NAWik), funded by the Volkswagen Foundation from 2020-2022.

The SCISO short videos ([available on our YouTube channel here](#)) provide insights not only about the practical tools of science communication, but also about the deeper roots of problems, for example, perspectives on scientific integrity or incentives in science.

Building on research in science ethics, sociology of science and science communication, SCISO video clips contain both theoretical content and practical, hands-on tips for getting started in science communication. The films cover topics such as how to interact

with laypeople, taking responsibility for one's research, or opening up the "black box" of science.

The positive feedback garnered from this symposium has inspired the organizers to plan other such events in 2025.

SAVE THE DATE - 2025 AGM & CONFERENCE IN HYDERABAD, INDIA

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 confirmed venue for the event and campus accommodation is the IIT Hyderabad.

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

[More information on the AGM & Conference is available here.](#)

ABOUT THE GYA

The vision of the GYA is *science for all; science for the future*, and its mission is to give a voice to young scientists and researchers around the world. The GYA, founded in 2010, is an independent science academy of 200 outstanding early- to mid-career researchers from six continents who are selected from across disciplines based on their academic excellence and commitment to engage with society. GYA members serve five-year terms, and the GYA counts members and alumni from more than 100 countries. The GYA administrative Office is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. The wide array of GYA activities are supported by a range of international public and private funders. This publication was made possible with the help of GYA's core funding from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German State of Saxony-Anhalt.

GYA Co-Chairs

[Chandra Shekhar Sharma](#) (Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad, India)

[Yensi Flores Bueso](#) (University College Cork; University of Washington in Seattle, Ireland/ United States)

Managing Director

[Beate Wagner](#) (Germany)