

Instructions for referees of applicants to the Global Young Academy



The Global Young Academy seeks to identify and appoint to its membership the world's leading researchers in basic and applied science, engineering, social sciences, arts and the humanities who are committed to contributing to the betterment of society through scientific engagement. Candidates may work in academia, government or private industry. The total membership of the GYA is limited to 200; thus, successful applicants must be amongst the leading young researchers at the national level with demonstrated contributions to society.

In addition to their demonstrated research excellence, candidates should also be able to show an ongoing commitment to service or to helping others benefit from their work.

Successful applicants are expected to demonstrate a career significantly in advance of their peers of similar age, as evidenced by a combination of the following:

- Academic research excellence (e.g., publication record of excellence; early appointment to a professorship or other senior tenured position; successful leadership and completion of major research projects; heading a research laboratory or group, etc.).
- Industry achievements or excellence outside of academia (e.g., patents; impactful research outcomes; appointment or election to senior roles in national or international academic organisations or professional societies; starting a successful company to develop and commercialize research, etc.).
- Receiving major national or international awards.
- Service on national committees (government, national academy or similar).
- Appointment to a national academy; involvement in establishing a National Young Academy, or appointment or election to a senior role in an existing National Young Academy.
- Demonstrated impact of research.

Please include the following information in your individual letter of support for GYA member application:

- A brief description of your current professional position and qualifications.
- Details of how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant.
- An explanation of why you believe that the applicant should be considered one of the top-ranked young researchers at the national level, as evidenced by the criteria listed above, or similar achievements.
- Your opinion on the commitment demonstrated by the applicant to the delivery of impact from their research, which might include economic, social, environmental or other benefits.
- Your opinion on how the applicant could both contribute towards and benefit from the activities of the Global Young Academy.

The GYA is a strong supporter of the [Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment \(CoARA\)](#) and is thus committed to avoiding the inappropriate use of quantitative metrics. We are interested in the quality and rigour of the applicant's work, along with their ability to further advance knowledge and innovation. *Please do not provide any bibliometric indicators such as cumulative impact factor, number of citations received, or h-index.* We will ignore all documents containing such information.

All information supplied will be treated in confidence and used only for the purpose of judging applications to join the Global Young Academy.

About the Global Young Academy

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 presently counts members and alumni from over 100 countries. The GYA administrative Office is publicly funded and 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.