

Global Young Academy Alumni Policy

Motion adopted by the GA 2013 on 18 May 2013 | Updated in SGM 2026 on 13 May 2026

Preamble

The GYA constitution recognizes the existence of alumni as follows:

- A. Former members of GYA are alumni.
- B. The General Assembly shall determine the roles and privileges of the Alumni.

As we reach the stage where the initial founders of the GYA are reaching the end of their terms as full members, it is necessary to better define the role of the Alumni. The guiding principle is that the GYA is an organization comprised first and foremost of its members. Whilst alumni can play a valuable supporting role, they must be prepared to step aside from a leadership position and allow new members to shape the future of the GYA.

The GYA encourages and appreciates the involvement of alumni in its activities. However, in accordance with this policy, such involvement technically remains subject to invitation by the Executive Committee. No rights of alumni can be derived from this policy.

Principles

1. Alumni may describe themselves as an Alumnus/Alumna of the GYA
2. All alumni may receive an invitation to attend a separate alumni event in conjunction with a GA meeting. The budget for this day and associated travel costs should not weigh on the GYA, but should be carried by the alumni themselves.
3. Except by invitation of the Executive Committee, Alumni must not claim to represent, make statements, or enter into commitments on behalf of the GYA.
4. By invitation, Alumni may participate in working group activities. However, it is anticipated that their involvement would be in an advisory capacity only, and that Alumni would not take a leadership role, or be responsible for delivery of significant working group goals or projects.

Role

The Executive Committee may invite Alumni to contribute to the GYA in the following ways:

1. Providing advice and mentorship to one or more working groups where the Alumnus/Alumna has special skills or experience.
2. Informal mentoring of new GYA members, for example by contacting, welcoming and explaining the workings of the GYA to newly elected members in their own country.
3. Representing the GYA at national or international meetings.
4. Bringing opportunities for projects, fundraising and member development activities to the attention of the GYA leadership.
5. Promoting the call for new GYA members in their country or region.
6. Acting as a liaison between the GYA and new or existing national young academies.
7. Making use of their personal and professional networks to support the activities of the GYA and national young academies.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive, and the GYA may nominate activities in a similar spirit as it sees fit.