

Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts

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Foundation date of the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (further MASA)

The Science Society of Montenegro, founded in 1956, was transformed by Law to the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, in April 1976. According to the Law, Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts is the supreme institution in the field of sciences and arts in the Republic of Montenegro.

Activity of MASA

- it strives for freedom of scientific and artistic creativity;
- organizes, initiates and implements the scientific research, by itself or in cooperation with other scientific institutions;
- organizes, by itself or in cooperation with others, scientific meetings, symposia, scientific speakers' platforms, scientific debates, consultations and exhibitions;
- renders assistance to individual scientific and artistic work of its members and scientific and artistic work in other institutions;
- takes part in establishing the programme of scientific and artistic significance for the Republic;
- assists in training and specialization of young scientists and artists;
- issues publications in the field of science and arts;
- makes incentives and cherishes scientific and artistic critique;
- collects, arranges and studies scientific materials in the field of science and arts;
- participates, as needed, in assessment of the results of scientific and artistic creativity;
- makes initiatives, proposals and opinions to state authorities and other holders of economic, cultural and public life aimed at the improvement of conditions for scientific work and artistic creativity;
- cooperates with scientific, cultural, economic and professional organizations and institutions in the country and abroad.

Membership

MASA members are: full members (academicians), associate members and corresponding members. Full and associate members create MASA's working body.

Presently there are 43 members (38 full and 5 associate members) in the working body of the Academy and there are 33 corresponding members.

The number of women members counts three (3) for now, but with overall tendency to increase in the near future, not only in the MASA membership structure but in the country as well, following the trends and opportunities that opens for female engagement in science in the region and in Europe. Elections for Academy members, as a rule, are performed every third year.

3. The Statute of MASA does not prescribe the age limit to be fulfilled when nominating the candidates for election for academician. Besides this, the organization of MASA work is so structured that it enables and stimulates active involvement and participation of younger researchers in conveying its activity that has both national and international orientation.

Within the Academy there are 24 project committees, which in their programmes involve more than 350 prominent scientists and artistic creators from universities, scientific institutes and artistic associations.

The Organization of MASA

Actual MASA authorities:

- Assembly consists of all MASA members in the working body;
- Presidency of the Academy: president, vice-president, secretary general, and divisional secretaries;
- President of the Academy is academician Momir Djurović
- Vice president is academician Mijat Šuković
- Secretary General is academician Ranislav Bulatović.

MASA carries out its activity through departments, sections, committees and other working bodies and aspects of organization and work, established pursuant to the MASA Statute.

Departments

There are three (3) departments:

- Department of Natural and Technical Sciences
- Department of Social Sciences
- Department of Arts

The department at its session:

- considers questions from the area of science and art it is formed for;
- establishes program proposal of scientific activity within MASA in the area of sciences, i.e. arts, for which it has been formed, and in which establishes the manner, aspects and dynamics of its realization;
- undertakes activities in order to assure successful realization of the work program;
- establishes and submits to the Presidium requests for funds for accomplishing projects and other scientific, i.e. artistic activities, determined by the work program;
- considers and formulates reports on its activity;
- considers drafts and proposals of particular projects, reports on scientific activity, other documents and normative acts that are submitted to the MASA Assembly on adoption and prepares their review;
- establishes and submits to the Presidium and MASA Assembly initiatives for overcoming of certain problems from their competence;
- presents to the Presidium and the MASA Assembly opinions on particular questions, when asked for them;
- considers, receives, refuses or returns to authors on revision their works submitted to MASA to be published in its editions;
- considers the matter of particular projects elaboration and by its attitude stimulates and directs the review of such documents;
- considers and approves work plans and reports on activity of sections, boards and research and study units and coordinates their activity;
- proposes to the MASA Presidium method of conveying and realizing of scientific multidisciplinary projects for review and realization of which collaboration of several MASA departments is required;
- proposes to the MASA Presidium organization of lectures, exhibitions and other kinds of scientific and artistic activity development;
- presents its opinions and proposals to the scientific and other institutions, on its own initiative or on their request, about the issues of importance for the organization or development of science and art;
- proposes candidates for MASA president, vice-president and secretary general and determines candidates for these positions by secret voting in the manner stipulated in Article 43, item 5 and 6;
- proposes the forming of sections, boards and other MASA operating bodies;

- passes decisions on forming project, organizational and other boards and bodies and defines their structure;
- elects and releases of duty department' secretary and his deputy;
- executes also other affairs ensued by the realization of its assignments.

Secretary of the department manages the activity of the department and represents the department in the MASA authorities.

Sections

The section is formed for particular branches of science and art within the departments.

The MASA Assembly reaches the decision on forming the section, on the suggestion of the department and the Presidium.

The member appointed by the department manages the section activity.

The section meetings are held when needed.

The sections submit to the department annual, and when needed temporary, reports on their activity.

The Committees are being founded for particular areas of sciences and arts in MASA, as permanent aspect of the MASA assignment accomplishment.

Research and study units

Within its structure, MASA may, autonomously or with other scientific institution, form research, study and other scientific, i.e. artistic units (hereinafter referred to as: MASA units).

Within MASA, these units are founded:

- Institute for Language and Literature "Petar II Petrović Njegoš"
- Centre for Lexicology "Eneko"

The decision on founding of the MASA units is reached by the MASA Assembly on the Presidium proposal.

The assignments, the unit status, as well as manner of managing are determined by the founding act.

The MASA Presidium makes the selection of scientific and specialized associates.

Within its structure, as a special unit, MASA has the Library and the Archive.

Both the Library and the Archive are of the open-book kind.

The Organs of MASA

The organs of MASA are MASA Assembly and Presidium.

The Assembly of MASA

The Assembly is consisted of all MASA members who are in operating structure.

The corresponding MASA members have the right to partake in the Assembly's work, but without voting right.

The MASA Assembly:

1. passes the Statute of MASA
2. schedules the elections for new MASA members and determines the number of members who will be elected for the particular areas of science and art, i.e. for particular departments;
3. elects MASA members and states termination of the membership in MASA;
4. decides on forming of the MASA departments and sections;
5. elects president, vice-president and secretary general of MASA;
6. adopts MASA program of activity and development;

7. adopts the report on the MASA work and the report on financial issues;
8. adopt the financial plan and MASA closing account;
9. passes the decision on forming of research, study and other scientific i.e. artistic units within MASA;
10. awards prizes for scientific and artistic creation to its members, according to the appropriate regulation book;
11. awards MASA Reward for encouragement of creation among the scientific and artistic youth;
12. executes also other affairs established by the Statute.

The MASA Assembly is convoked at least once a year.

MASA president convokes the Assembly.

If by the Statute is not arranged otherwise, or if the Assembly does not decide otherwise, the Assembly passes the decisions by public voting.

The Assembly may form permanent and temporary commissions and committees.

The Assembly's work is public, except in case of elections or in other cases when the Assembly decides otherwise.

The Assembly may decide for the election session to be public.

The Presidium of MASA

The executive MASA organ is the Presidium.

The Presidium consists of: president, vice-president, secretary general and departments' secretaries.

The president, vice-president and secretary general are elected on a four-year term, with the possibility to be elected for another term period.

The president is elected within the full members' structure, and vice-president and secretary general are elected, as a rule, within the full members' structure.

The MASA Presidium performs especially these jobs:

1. manages the overall MASA activities between the Assembly sessions;
2. passes the decision on Assembly convocation and takes care of the execution of all its decisions and conclusions;
3. MASA submits to the Assembly the proposal of MASA work program on the suggestion of its departments and working bodies;
4. determines proposals of financial plan and MASA closing account and submits them to the Assembly for adoption;
5. submits to the Assembly the report on MASA activity and proposal of the report on its activity;
6. passes decisions on the department' proposal regarding the forming of boards and other working bodies and their composition;
7. determines candidates for the MASA corresponding members;
8. elects and releases of duty head of the MASA Administration;
9. organizes the preparation of material for the Assembly sessions and submits to the Assembly proposals of its stand points and conclusions;
10. establishes the proposal of the MASA Plan of publishing activity for every year;
11. formulates and submits to the Assembly the proposal of the Statute amendments, regulation book and other normative acts brought by the MASA Assembly;
12. determines systematization of working places in the MASA Administration;
13. decides on the reception, coordination and termination of work engagement of the Administration employees and on other working-legal issues according to the Law;
14. on proposal of the Commission for publishing activity, determines the amount of author's compensations for works published in the publications and other MASA editions;

15. confirms the election of scientific and specialized labourers for operating engagement in the MASA units and appoints unit manager;
16. names and delegates MASA representatives in the managing organs of scientific, artistic and other organizations and in other organs and bodies;
17. maintains relations with the academies of sciences, scientific and artistic institutions and organizations in the country and abroad;
18. carries out other affairs within the MASA activity that are out of Assembly's competence;

The Presidium sessions are held, as a rule, once a month.

The decisions, conclusions and standpoints are reached by the Presidium by majority of all the Presidium members' votes.

The Presidium reaches the decision on establishing the candidates for corresponding members by secret voting.

The MASA president convokes and manages the sessions' work.

For the execution of particular assignments from its competence, the Presidium may form permanent operating commissions and other working bodies.

The Presidium permanent commissions are:

- Commission for scientific and artistic creation;
- Commission for the publishing activity;
- Commission for international and inter-academy co-operation;
- Library council and the Archive

The Commission members and presidents are elected for a four-year term.

President of MASA

The MASA president:

1. represents MASA;
2. convokes the MASA Presidium sessions and presides them;
3. pursuant to the Presidium decision, convokes the MASA Assembly sessions;
4. takes after the execution of the conclusions of both the Assembly and the Presidium;
5. carries out actual MASA activities between the Presidium sessions;
6. executes the Presidium conclusions and the Assembly decisions specially entrusted by the Presidium;
7. takes care of the even and intended spending of the MASA financial and other funds;
8. deals with the issues from the Presidium competence in emergent cases, with the obligation to introduce the Presidium with his decisions in order to ask for its consent at the first next session;
9. carries out other affairs determined by the Law and this Statute, as well as other assignments entrusted by the Assembly and Presidium.

President is responsible for the legality and finances of MASA activity.

Vice-president of MASA represents MASA president when he is prevented from performing his duty.

Vice-president carries out affairs entrusted to him by the Presidium, as well as those handed over to him from the president's competence.

Secretary General carries out especially these jobs:

1. coordinates the activity of scientific, artistic and specialised organization units and working bodies of MASA;
2. takes care of the preparation of materials for the Assembly and Presidium sessions and on the execution of their decisions;
3. collaborates with the departments secretaries and with managers of other MASA organizational units and coordinates their activity;

4. takes care of publishing;
5. editor in chief of MASA publications which, by their content, are not comprised in the work domain of departments and committees;
6. is president of the Commission for publishing activity;
7. on behalf of the Presidium surveys the activity of research, study and other units and MASA Administration activity;
8. carries out other affairs entrusted to him by the Presidium.

Publishing activity - Editions

- Almanacs;
- Heralds of the Departments;
- Proceedings from scientific meetings;
- Special editions;
- Special (selected) papers;
- Collections of papers;
- Historical sources;
- Jubilee editions;
- Critical editions;
- Bibliographies;
- Memorials to deceased members of the Academy;
- Catalogues;
- Joint editions.

In its editions, MASA publishes works of its members and associates, other scientists and artists, as well as reports and other information on its activity.

Funding of MASA

The funds for the MASA activity are provided from the budget of the Republic of Montenegro. For the MASA activity may be used also other funds, endowments, foundations, funds obtained by the contracts with a third person, funds from donors and from other sources, pursuant to the special rules set up by the MASA Presidium.

Contact

Rista Stijovića 5, Podgorica, Montenegro
Telephone: + 382 20 655 450
Fax: + 382 20 655 451
Email: canu@canu.ac.me
Website: <http://www.canu.org.me>

General Summary of MASA activities in 2008:

- a) Scientific-research projects – 31
- b) MASA as coordinator and partner on international projects - 6
- Scientific meetings – 4
- Round tables and scientific discussions – 5

- Scientific workshops – 17
- Promotions - 4
- Publishing activity (Books published – 20)

Most important projects of masa:

- Skadar Lake Project
- Flora and Fauna of Montenegro;
- Sustainable Energy resources for Montenegro;
- Regions in Montenegro with the relatively increased radioactivity;
 - Publishing the sources for the history of Montenegro;
 - Ethnological Properties of Montenegro;
 - Demographic and Population Problems of Montenegro;
 - Linguistic Research;
 - Research in Musicology
- Many individual projects

International Activity of MASA

MASA continues to realize intensive activity at the international and interacademic field. Academy has successfully built up wide network of international contacts. MASA has signed 24 Agreements on bilateral scientific co-operation with other national academies so far.

The Agreements are signed with:

- Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Russian Academy of Sciences
- Academy of Sciences of Albania
- Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
- Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
- Romanian Academy
- Turkish Academy of Sciences
- Latvian Academy of Sciences
- Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
- Estonian Academy of Sciences
- Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
- Academy of Sciences and Arts of Republic Srpska
- Academy of Sciences of Moldova
- Nazionale Accademia dei Lincei – Rome
- Georgian National Academy of Sciences
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Polish Academy of Sciences
- Royal Academy of Economic Sciences and Finances (Spain)

The Agreements signed, enabled MASA to carry out vivid exchange of scientists within study and research visits of its members and associates to abroad and vice-versa. This encourages its international scientific activity and inflicts its results and their dissemination as well as sharing and introducing new academic tendencies and perspectives.

MASA has accomplished active participation in activities of the following international and interacademy associations, as their member:

ALLEA – All European Academies , IUA – International Union of Academies, IACSEE – Inter-Academy Council for the South Eastern Europe, CEEN - Central and Eastern European Network of National Academies, EASA – European Academy of Sciences and Arts, IAP – Inter Academy Panel of International issues, ICSU – International Council for Sciences, EMAN – Mediterranean Inter-Academy Network.

International collaboration includes also participation of MASA members with papers presented at scientific events held abroad, as within realization of joint projects. At scientific meetings and workshops organized by MASA scientists from abroad deliver their papers.