



Science and Research in Europe - past, present and future: 15 Years of Lisbon Agenda

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Dear Reader,

The months since our March issue have been very exciting for ALLEA. After a period of uncertainty following the decision not to renew the Chief Scientific Adviser mandate, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker [recently announced the new Scientific Advice Mechanism](#) which directly connects Academies of sciences to evidence-based policy making. Strengthening our Member Academies' position in this area has been a major pillar of ALLEA's mission, and I am very pleased to see that our efforts are bringing real developments that could mean great opportunities for Academies to contribute their expertise to the European policymaking process.

In April, the ALLEA academies sent their delegations to Portugal, where the 16th annual [General Assembly](#) took place at the marvellous Academy of Sciences of Lisbon. The Assembly was exceptionally well-attended and delegates took advantage of the chance to share experiences with their peers as well as build their own networks in the course of the meeting.

On the first day of the Assembly, the great hall of the Academy was open to the public for the ALLEA Scientific Symposium on the topic "Science and Research in Europe – Past, Present and Future: 15 Years of Lisbon Agenda". Speakers from numerous European countries and coming from the worlds of policy, academia, and research (often with experience in all three areas) gave lectures on this topic from a myriad of different perspectives, including

those of early career researchers. These presentations and their ensuing discussions with the audience in turn provided an excellent foundation for the announcement of the Academies' [Joint Declaration](#) on the state of science and research in Europe.

In the evening, European Commissioner Carlos Moedas joined us at the Academy to hand over the [ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize](#) for Cultural Values to this year's laureate, Dame Helen Wallace. Dame Helen is Foreign Secretary of the British Academy and has dedicated her scholarly career to the study of the European Union and the integration process. Movingly sincere speeches and a virtuosic classical concert rounded out the evening as the first day of the Assembly came to a close.

At the internal business meeting on the following day, the ALLEA delegates voted to welcome the [Learned Society of the Czech Republic](#) as our newest member. I hope that ALLEA will continue to reach even more Academies in the future. I am also very grateful to my colleagues for entrusting me with a second term as ALLEA President and especially pleased that the ALLEA Board [has re-elected our Vice-Presidents](#). I very much look forward to continuing our work together on behalf of the science community.

Kindly yours,

Günter Stock

Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas receives ALLEA President

On 9 April 2015, the European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Mr Carlos Moedas, invited the ALLEA President, Professor Günter Stock, to discuss a number of current issues and on-going developments in the science and research landscape in Europe. Among other topics, the discussions included the European Fund for Strategic Investment and ALLEA's position and proposals towards ensuring that future investments benefit the science and research sector.

On the invitation of the Commissioner, the ALLEA President took the opportunity to present ALLEA's mission and activities and to elaborate on the role and potential of European Academies for the science and research sector in Europe. At the General Assembly that took place two weeks after the meeting between Professor Stock and Commissioner Moedas, the Commissioner delivered a speech and award the All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize

for Cultural Values Prize to Professor Dame Helen Wallace, Foreign Secretary of the British Academy.

The ALLEA President discussed the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) signed between five academy organisations in Europe (Academia Europaea, ALLEA, EASAC, EuroCASE, and FEAM) and discussed with the Commissioner the added value of coordinated joint activities and interdisciplinary advice which academies in Europe could provide via their networks.

On the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI), the discussion focussed on the question of to what extent scientists and scholars could be involved in and help with the evaluation of investment projects in order for the funds to benefit the science and research sector in Europe and therewith compensate for an impending loss of resources originally provided through the Horizon 2020 programme.

Professor Stock also raised the question of how the impact of research in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), a core activity of ALLEA, could be increased for the prosperous development and well-being of the European society.

As a related issue, it was discussed how the potential of SSH can best be harnessed to efficiently contribute towards tackling the big challenges that Europe faces, both through a substantial embedding of SSH in the funding programme and via the separate funding line "Europe in a changing world" (Societal Challenge 6). To that end, it would be instrumental to first and foremost increase the opportunities for SSH applications to be successful in the upcoming calls.

Photo courtesy of the European Commission



European Academy Organisations respond to Commission announcement of a new mechanism for independent scientific advice

After months of unrest within the scientific community following European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker's autumn 2014 decision not to renew the Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) mandate and his early 2015 announcement of his plans to use Horizon 2020 funding to help finance the anticipated European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI), the issue of evidence-based science policy advice has returned to the table, much to the relief of many European academics and academic organisations including ALLEA.

After his decision not to renew the CSA mandate, President Juncker charged the Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, with the task of developing a new strategy for how the Commission could best achieve fast and reliable scientific advice in addition to existing

in-house services and external expertise. In the [Commission's statement from 13 May](#), it is acknowledged that many forms of providing scientific advice exist in numerous countries. However, common requirements include the independence from partisan interests, the ability to deliver advice from diverse disciplines, and transparency.

The Commission's statement furthermore announces that President Juncker has "endorsed Commissioner Moedas' recommendation to set up a mechanism for high quality, timely, independent scientific advice. The future mechanism will draw on the wide range of scientific expertise in Europe through a close relationship with national academies and other bodies, coordinated by a High-Level Group of Independent Scientists".

When regarding this news in light of the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) which was signed in March by the Presidents of five major European academy networks (ALLEA, Euro-CASE, EASAC, FEAM and Academia Europaea, respectively), it is an excellent sign that the Commission is ready to involve Academies of sciences and humanities in its new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). With meetings and discussions already underway, ALLEA is committed to working with its partner organisations in order to ensure that SAM develops into a reliable, effective tool for ensuring that European political decisions are taken on the basis of scientific evidence.

In response to the Commission's announcement, ALLEA and its four partner organisations released the statement below.

European Academy Organisations' statement on President Juncker's announcement of the new mechanism for independent scientific advice



The European Academy Organisations welcome President Juncker's proposal for the academies to play an active part in the new mechanism for independent scientific advice in the European Commission.

We very much welcome the proposal of European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to more strongly involve the academies in Europe through their networks in the new mechanism for independent scientific advice for policy making in the European Commission.

With the resources of 90 academies across Europe assembling more than 10,000 eminent experts from all scientific disciplines we are well placed to provide objective independent evidence to the EU policy making process, and to contribute to debates about the benefits and risks of possible new and existing EU policies.

We recognise that the new approach seeks to better organise the demand and supply of scientific advice and welcome the opportunity to work with other sources and services providing scientific advice to the European Commission.

We are ready to work closely with the European Commission to finalise the details of the new mechanism and to ensure close and efficient interactions with the High Level Group of eminent scientists.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 26 March 2015, confirming the preparedness of our five European academy organisations to deepen their already close and fruitful inter-academy cooperation in Europe.

Signed by: Professor Sierd Cloetingh, President of Academia Europaea; Professor Günter Stock, President of ALLEA; Professor Jos van der Meer, President of EASAC; Professor Reinhard Hüttel, President of Euro-CASE; Professor Dermot Kelleher, President of FEAM

German Chancellor Angela Merkel reaffirms role of Academies and importance of state support for science at ceremonial address for ALLEA President

In her ceremonial address on 6 June 2015 in the context of the "Liebniz Day" festivities organised by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, German Chancellor Angela Merkel emphasised the importance of fostering strong national science programmes. As part of her address, she honoured ALLEA President Günter Stock, whose ten years as the President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy have now concluded.

Addressing an audience of nearly 1,600 guests in the neoclassical Konzerthaus Berlin, Chancellor Merkel spoke about the relationship between the political world and that of science while reaffirming her government's goal to reach the 3% GDP investment in research and development. She emphasised the need to continue to invest in all

areas of science, especially in view of international competitiveness, promoting excellence in science, and providing quality opportunities for early career researchers.

Chancellor Merkel furthermore underlined the significance of quality education, science and innovation systems for society as a whole. They would determine how far society can come towards providing technology, services, and intellectual answers that are in demand today and directly influence prosperity levels, standards of living, and progress worldwide.

Moreover, Chancellor Merkel attributed the role of functioning as a bridge for the cooperation between nations and regions to science. She noted that in the science landscape, international cooperation has long been practically self-evident and that

this cooperation serves as an example for policymakers that they can best tackle common challenges through a united effort.

Honouring ALLEA President Günter Stock for his now completed ten years in office as President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy, Chancellor Merkel specifically highlighted his role as the President of ALLEA, the network of Academies at the European level. On the functions of Academies, the Chancellor noted that Academies contribute towards leading innovative national and international projects, bring science to civil society, represent the voices of scientists towards their governments, and help develop new interdisciplinary approaches and projects, thereby reaffirming their indispensable role for science and society.



*From left to right: Martin Grötschel, designated President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities; Angela Merkel, German Chancellor; Günter Stock, ALLEA President
Photo: BBAW, news aktuell, Oliver Mehlis*

ALLEA welcomes Commission response to the “Stop Vivisection” ECI on the use of animals for scientific purposes

ALLEA welcomes the European Commission's [response](#) to the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) “Stop Vivisection” which sought to repeal the European Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes and ban their use in research. While the Commission acknowledges its commitment to phasing out animal testing, it also recognises that the current Directive is needed in order to protect animals until the necessary alternative methods are available to ensure that complex research on behalf of human, animal and environmental health may be carried out.

ALLEA has been involved in various efforts to support the European Directive. It is a signatory of a [joint statement](#) in support of the Directive which has also been signed by fellow academy organisations Euro-CASE, Aca-

demia Europaea, EASAC and FEAM. It is also a signatory of the “[Statement supporting European Directive 2010/63/EU](#)” prepared by the Wellcome Trust.

The Directive sets forth one of the most rigorous standards on animal testing in the world and has played a key role in implementing strict standards across the EU, including the mandatory use of alternative methods when possible. The Directive stipulates that the ultimate goal is indeed to phase out animal testing, which the Commission has confirmed in its communication.

However, the necessary alternative methods are not yet available that would allow the complete phasing out of animal research. If the Commission were to repeal the current Directive, it would have a major negative impact

on the biomedical research sector in particular. Although the sector has developed many advanced alternative approaches that reduce the need for animal testing, alternatives do not yet exist for some studies that significantly contribute to human, animal and environmental health – for example, studies on complex diseases such as cancer which affect multiple organs and thus require investigations into how the complete organism functions and interacts. Thus, a complete ban on the use of animals in research would be premature at the present time and would hinder the advancement of our understanding of diseases that have a massive impact on our world. Until we have developed enough alternative methods to ensure this scientific advancement, the European Directive is indispensable for upholding the highest animal welfare standards possible.

ALLEA reiterates its support for Open Access to scientific publications in Europe

In November 2013, ALLEA issued a [Statement on the Enhancement of Open Access to Scientific Publications in Europe](#). The recent developments at national level, in particular in the Netherlands, offer a good opportunity for ALLEA to reiterate its support for the Open Access model in a follow-up statement to the [original document](#).

With the Internet, it is now possible to share the research results at a low cost throughout the world, including in more remote or less developed regions. The results of publicly funded research should be made freely accessible online. Open Access publications can more easily be identified and are thus read and quoted more often. Open Access publishing is beneficial

to science and researchers, but as well to the users, the public and society as a whole.

Both the green and the gold routes to Open Access should be envisaged taking into account the specificities of the various academic fields (natural sciences vis-à-vis humanities and social sciences).

It is advisable that authorities define targets for the implementation of an Open Access policy. The transition to an Open Access model should be supported by the authorities.

For the transition to succeed, researchers should be aware of the advantages of Open Access. They should

advocate the conversion of publishers towards an Open Access model when they are involved in the publishing process, whether as author, reviewer or member of editorial boards.

ALLEA thus supports all the attempts to work out a balanced solution in favour of Open Access, and in particular the negotiations between the academic community and the publishers that take place in various countries.

This follow-up statement was issued by the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights in March 2015.

To view the follow-up statement as a PDF, please click [here](#).

Dame Helen Wallace receives ALLEA Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values

European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas awards prize to the Foreign Secretary of the British Academy

At an award ceremony in Lisbon on 23 April, Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation awarded the All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values to Professor Dame Helen Wallace of the British Academy. The prize honours her renowned scholarly work on European political studies and European integration and was awarded on the occasion of the ALLEA General Assembly at the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon.

In his speech to the ceremony's international audience at the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon, Commissioner Moedas said: "From the very start of her academic work, Dame Helen understood European integration as an exceptional and complex phenomenon: as a political system that can be dissected in a multitude of ways, one of them being academic scrutiny. Her invaluable analysis of the European Union's achievements and shortcomings – of its functional substance and institutional methodology – has long held up a mirror to a unique democratic project, that is forever redefining itself".

Indeed, Dame Helen addressed several complex challenges facing Europe in her laureate's speech. In particular, she expressed her concern for current developments such as headline-making protests and politicians streaked by nationalism and xenophobia, as well as growing class divisions that are connected to both major disconnects within the EU as well as international humanitarian crises. In this context, she observed that "those same European values of solidarity and cohesion are thus also

"Contacts at the human level among people from the different countries do have a part to play in anchoring positive transformation [...] the example of Germaine de Staël and her colleagues from across Europe shows us just how important a transnational intellectual community can be as a contribution to promoting shared values."

Dame Helen Wallace



vulnerable within our countries, as our societies and economies fall victim to the stresses of the contemporary world".

In understanding the situation today, the Academies have an important role to play. "One conclusion that I draw from this situation is the absolute need for us to put our heads together in order better to understand these patterns of inequality, their causes and their consequences. The research community needs to step up to the mark on this – and on a transnational basis since our countries are so deeply interconnected," said Dame Helen in her speech. She further stressed the importance of programmes such as Horizon 2020 and the European Commission's support to help the Academies succeed in this urgent task.

In his opening remarks, ALLEA President and chairman of the prize jury Günter Stock underscored Dame Helen's point: "The complexity and diversity of science and within our

scientific institutions requires cooperation and integration in order to bring the Academies' work to true fruition, to really drive the work forward and give it impact. Through ALLEA, we have created an entity that reflects this belief in working together".

Focussing on the European engagement with EU countries, their neighbours, and troubled regions both near and far, Dame Helen moreover emphasised the need for Europe to make a positive difference in the world by reaffirming its core values



Günter Stock

“It is luminaries like Madame de Staël, like Dame Helen, who give flight to new ideas, who elevate the public discourse and make it easier for every citizen to come to their own conclusions about the politics they wish to follow.”

Commissioner Carlos Moedas



and applying them consistently and actively in practice. Contributing to building stability and promoting diplomacy are only two examples of values to which Europe must remain committed. Above all, she urged Europe and Europeans to engage with one another and the rest of the world in such a way that the strength of European civil society, although it may be placed under difficult tests, continues to provide Europe with the moral anchor and humanity required for it to be a true “beacon of aspiration”.

For Europe to succeed in making a positive difference in the world, however, the term European must be claimed by its citizens, regardless of their countries’ EU membership status. As Dame Helen noted, the EU

must not “monopolise or hijack the label of ‘European’”. Dame Helen’s belief that the European identity can simultaneously be a transnational, nonexclusive and nonpoliticised one thus unequivocally reflects the spirit of the Madame de Staël Prize.

In Professor Nicholas Mann’s laudatory speech, which was read at the ceremony by Professor Stock, Mann remarked that “to say that Dame Helen has made “a significant contribution to ... the idea of European integration” is to understate the case. Her grasp of the political systems of the members of the Union is such that she has been able to offer exceptional insights into the complexities attendant upon the process of integration, and has through her adviso-

ry roles been able to argue that the very diversity that is at the heart of European culture should not simply be set aside in the forging of new instruments, but should be honoured and enshrined in the vision for the future”.

Dame Helen Wallace has served as Foreign Secretary of the British Academy since 2011 and was previously Professor at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science. Professor Wallace’s research has focussed on European politics in nearly every context and region. Her seminal work *Policy-Making in the European Union* is currently entering its seventh printing. Her advice and consultation is sought after at the highest levels of European policy making.

The [All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values](#) is co-sponsored by Stiftung Mercator and endowed with 25,000 EUR. ALLEA established the prize to pay tribute to the intellectual and cultural diversity and richness of Europe, and to highlight how outstanding scholarly work, particularly in the fields of the humanities and social sciences, contributes to the understanding of Europe as a cultural and intellectual entity.



Günter Stock and Carlos Moedas congratulate Dame Helen Wallace

Related Downloads

- [Video of the award ceremony](#)
- [Pictures of the award ceremony](#)
- [Further Information about the Prize](#)
- [Programme Award Ceremony](#)
- [Press release \(PDF\)](#)
- [Speech by Carlos Moedas](#)
- [Laureate’s Speech by Dame Helen Wallace](#)
- [Opening Remarks by Günter Stock](#)
- [Laudatory Speech by Nicholas Mann](#)
- [Website of Stiftung Mercator](#)

ALLEA General Assembly 2015

ALLEA President and Vice Presidents re-elected, ALLEA welcomes new Member Academy

On the occasion of the 16th ALLEA General Assembly held on the premises of the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon on 24 April 2014, the delegates of the ALLEA member academies approved the entry of one new full member to the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities. Furthermore, in the course of ALLEA's annual business meeting, ALLEA President Günter Stock was re-elected for a second term (2016 - 2018).

On the recommendation of the ALLEA Board, the General Assembly voted for the admission of the Learned Society of the Czech Republic which had applied for membership in ALLEA. The Learned Society is featured in a profile on the following page.

The agenda of the 16th ALLEA General Assembly also included the election of the ALLEA President for the next three years. ALLEA's current President Günter Stock was unanimously re-elected for a second term by the delegates of the ALLEA academies. In a subsequent meeting, the ALLEA Board re-elected Professor Daniela Jezova of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Professor Ed Noort of the Royal Netherlands Academy

of Arts and Sciences as ALLEA Vice Presidents.

In the course of the annual business meeting, activity reports from the chairs of ALLEA working groups as well as a presentations of the activities and mission of Euro-CASE, the European Council of Applied Sciences Technologies and Engineering, delivered by its President Professor Reinhard Hüttl. The Assembly closed with a short presentation by the delegates of the Austrian Academy of Sciences of the venue for the next ALLEA General Assembly which will take place on 18/19 April 2016 in Vienna.

The annual business meeting of ALLEA was preceded by a scientific symposium dedicated to the topic "Science and Research in Europe – Past, Present and Future: 15 Years of Lisbon Agenda" on 23 April. The symposium included keynote speeches by Professor Maria da Graça Carvalho, Senior Adviser to Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation and Professor Emilio Lora-Tamayo, President of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and Vice-President of Science Europe.

Günter Stock



Professor Günter Stock has been President of ALLEA since 2012. His terms as President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and of the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities have recently concluded. He was Professor of Vegetative Physiology at the University of Heidelberg, where he also completed his habilitation. Professor Stock is a member of Academia Europaea, acatech, the German National Academy of Science and Engineering, and of a number of European and international learned societies. He is a member of numerous scientific bodies, committees, and juries.

Ed Noort

Ed Noort is Professor of Theology and Religious Studies. At the University of Groningen he is Chair of the University's Committee on Scientific Integrity. He is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) where he served as Foreign Secretary and is a member of the Academia Europaea. He has served as ALLEA Vice President since 2012.



Daniela Jezova

Daniela Jezova is Vice President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Senior Researcher of the Institute of Experimental Endocrinology, being a full Professor of Pharmacology at the Medical School of Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia). She is a member of Academia Europaea and has served as ALLEA Vice President since 2012.

New ALLEA Member

The Learned Society of the Czech Republic



The Learned Society
of the Czech Republic

The Learned Society of the Czech Republic was established on 10 May 1994 by members of the Foundation for the Restoration of the Learned Society who became its Founding Members. The Society currently has 93 regular, 42 honorary (foreign) members and 9 emeritus members. The executive body of the Learned Society is its Board, which consists of eight regular members.

The activities of the Czech Learned Society are influenced by the historical tradition of its forbears and are guided by several main aims. Firstly, encouraging and supporting the autonomous advancement of science is an important priority. Secondly, increasing the scientific understanding and knowledge among the citizens in the Czech Republic is also a key goal. The Society additionally seeks to support the interests of Czech science and to foster its position and importance in society. The Society also fosters scientific networking by developing inter-disciplinary communication at the national and international levels.

To achieve these aims, the Society performs numerous activities. Firstly, monthly lectures are organised which feature scholars from various disciplines who present new projects, results, and potential new directions

for research. Accompanying the lectures are interdisciplinary discussion sessions in which participants can contribute to deepening the formulation general principles of scientific knowledge.

As indicated in the aforementioned goals of the Society, several activities concern the position of science in society as well as issues and challenges faced by contemporary development of Czech society. These activities include the „financing and organisation of Czech science as well as assessments of socially dangerous phenomena such as the spread and proliferation of irrational ideas in the public and social tensions arising from the transformation and adjustment following the post-Communist era“.

One of the ways the Society seeks to stimulate scientific research is the form of awards for scientists and early career researchers. Recently, the Society also began awarding science prizes to exceptional Czech grammar school students.

The Czech Learned Society also issues resolutions and statements on science policy and challenges that affect life in Czech society. The annual General Assemblies of the Learned Society include appearances by leading national figures as well

as award presentation ceremonies and lectures by renowned scholars and representatives of top scientific institutions from geographically or culturally close countries.

The public presentations of the activities of the Czech Learned Society are addressed to the broad professional public as well as to decision makers and to the society as a whole.

The Society is currently led by its President, Jiří Bičák, Prof., RNDr., DrSc. Professor Bičák has been a member of the Learned Society since 1994 and is a founding member. He is a scholar of theoretical and mathematical physics and general relativity. He is a member of many Czech and international academic organisations and societies and has received numerous awards for his scientific work.

To learn more, please visit the Society's [website](#).

ALLEA Scientific Symposium

Science and Research in Europe - past, present and future: 15 Years of Lisbon Agenda

The 16th General Assembly of ALLEA (All European Academies) was held on 23/24 April 2015 at the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon in Lisbon, Portugal. ALLEA's annual meeting began with a scientific symposium on „Science and Research in Europe – past, present and future: 15 years of Lisbon agenda“ and the Award Ceremony of the All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values (23 April 2015, open to public). On the second day of the Assembly, the delegations of the ALLEA member academies assembled for ALLEA's annual business meeting.

In March 2000 in Lisbon, the European Council announced an action plan to accelerate the development of the European Union. The Lisbon Agenda sought to make Europe the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion by 2010.

These ambitions, however, have proved difficult to achieve. After the new Europe 2020 strategy was launched in 2010, EU policymakers announced that the ERA should be completed by 2014. But as last year's reports indicated, this deadline was likewise not met and numerous „bottlenecks“ still remain. 2015 marks 15 years after the Lisbon Agenda, and the symposium represented the perfect time and place for ALLEA and the European Academies to take stock of which goals were met and what remains unfinished.

The scientific symposium thus addressed questions



such as: What is the status of progress from the perspective of the scientific community? What challenges remain for achieving a true ERA and how can they best be tackled?

At this year's [scientific symposium](#), participants heard lectures and panel discussions by renowned scholars and science policy advocates and discussed these questions. The speakers, many of whom who represented the Portuguese scientific community, came from the fields of policy, academia, and research and many of them were experienced in two or all three of these areas. Keynote speeches by Professor Maria da Graça Carvalho, Senior Adviser to Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation and Professor Emilio Lora-Tamayo, President of the Spanish National Research Council



(CSIC) and Vice-President of Science Europe introduced the morning and afternoon sessions, respectively.

The programme was further comprised of speaker presentations that were in turn organised into groups to facilitate a corresponding panel discussion. Overarching topics included the European funding

strategies, the position of universities, perspectives for early career researchers, and the role of excellence with a special focus on Portugal. Participants were invited to join the ensuing discussions and numerous guests took advantage of the opportunity to further explore the issues described and analysed together with the speakers.

Directly after the last session of the symposium, ALLEA President Günter Stock presented a Joint Declaration "15 Years of Lisbon Agenda" on behalf of its nearly 60 member academies. The symposium provided the thematic context for the declaration since, as stated above, it aimed to identify what actions are still needed to create a knowledge-based economy, as set out in the Lisbon Agenda 15 years ago. The declaration appeals to the European Institutions and Member States to follow through on those actions that are needed in order to realise the Lisbon Agenda's ambitions, which are also incorporated into the current Europe 2020 strategy. It addresses aspects including the preservation of funding programmes, support for early career researchers, and inequalities that hinder competitiveness, among others. The text of the Declaration may be read on the following page.

All European Academies Joint Declaration “15 Years of Lisbon Agenda”

issued at the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon, Portugal, on 23 April 2015

We, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA), bringing together eminent scientists and scholars from 58 member academies in over 40 countries from the Council of Europe region, on the occasion of the ALLEA General Assembly in Lisbon on 23/24 April 2015,

- express our conviction that the aims of the Lisbon Agenda and its successor, the Europe 2020 Strategy, remain necessary for sustainable economic growth, environmental balance, social cohesion and long-term prosperity in Europe,
- welcome that the majority of these targets continue to be

incorporated into the current Europe 2020 strategy, particularly the aim to achieve a knowledge-based society and economy through fostering science, research and innovation,

- assert that a European Research Area must follow the principles of excellent research and science-led innovation encompassing both fundamental and applied research,
- realise that the objectives of the Lisbon Agenda and Europe 2020 have not yet been fully achieved,
- note with great concern that recent proposals of the European Institutions towards boosting job creation and accelerating

economic recovery entail significant cuts to the budget for research and innovation in Europe,

- believe that these cuts are not in the best interest of realising the goals established with the Lisbon Agenda and now reflected within the Europe 2020 Strategy,
- affirm the need to strengthen the role of evidence-based advice in the European Union’s decision-making process, namely by improving its institutional design, in order to deliver adequate responses to the multiple and complex challenges the EU is facing in this critical period of its history.

ALLEA therefore appeals both to the policymakers in the European Institutions and to the Member States to follow through on the measures that are required for achieving the aims that were set out in the Lisbon Agenda and the Europe 2020 Strategy, namely to

1) continue to support the excellent Horizon 2020 programme at the level originally agreed in the Multiannual Financial Framework and increase Member States financial contributions into basic research and development in order to create conditions that will help to improve Europe’s position at the forefront of research,

2) work to develop scientific and research capacity – in both applied and basic research – in all European countries such that they can each contribute to advances that tackle the challenges which Europe is facing today,

3) support and nurture the development of a generation of early career researchers and provide them with sustainable career opportunities,

4) foster and enable entrepreneurship and private sector opportunities based on excellent science and research, especially for early career researchers,

5) take steps to enable and promote scientific excellence in Europe and therewith boost its international competitiveness, such as through the enhancement of the European Research Council,

6) improve existing and develop new sustainable research infrastructures capable of keeping pace with innovation and thereby promote cutting-edge research,

7) build a system for reliable and impartial evidence-based policy advice in order to ensure that policy decisions are taken on the basis of scientific data and rational arguments.

Scientific Symposium Documentation Links

[Image Gallery](#)

[Video Documentation](#)

[Opening Remarks by Professor Günter Stock](#)

[Speaker Presentations](#)

[Programme](#)

The Boundaries of Europe* - ALLEA releases first volume in essay series *Discourses on Intellectual Europe

This April, ALLEA released the first volume in its new book series Discourses on Intellectual Europe, which seeks to explore the question of an intrinsic or quintessential European identity in the context of an integrated cultural and intellectual region. Edited by the Italian scholar Pietro Rossi, the essays in The Boundaries of Europe focus on how boundaries of various types have shaped and impacted our understanding of Europe.

Europe's boundaries have mainly been shaped by cultural, religious, and political conceptions rather than by geography. This volume of bilingual essays from renowned European scholars outlines the transformation of Europe's boundaries from the fall of the ancient world to the age of decolonisation, or the end of the explicit endeavour to "Europeanise" the earth.

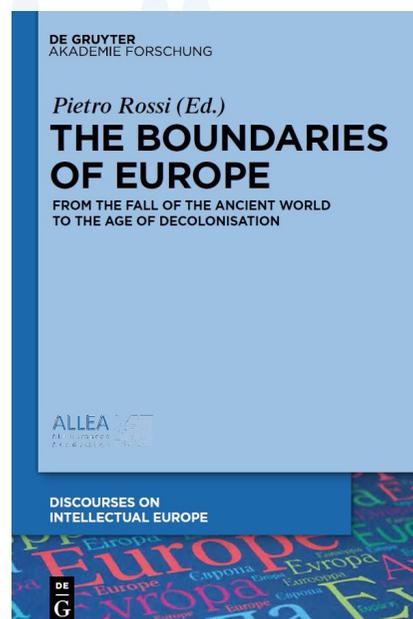
From the decline of the Roman Empire to the polycentrism of today's world, the essays span such aspects as the confrontation of Christian Europe with Islam and the changing role of the Mediterranean from "mare nostrum" to a frontier between nations. Scandinavia, Eastern Europe and the Atlantic are also analysed as boundaries in the context of exploration, migratory movements, cultural exchanges, and war. The Boundaries of Europe is edited by Pietro Rossi, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy of History at the University of Turin, member (and former President) of the Academy of Sciences of Turin, member of the National Academy of the Lincei and of Accademia Europaea.

In times of crisis and rising scepticism towards the idea of European integration, the ALLEA book series *Discourses on Intellectual Europe* represents an effort from the

scientific community in tackling these challenges for society's commitment to Europe as an enduring cultural and intellectual region. Due to their long-standing tradition of preserving, securing and making available the cultural heritage of Europe, academies of sciences and humanities are in a special position to show and promote Europe's deep-rooted intellectual and cultural richness.

This series of essay collections forms part of a wider set of ALLEA activities directed towards these objectives. The volumes are edited by eminent fellows of ALLEA member academies and appear in a bilingual format that seeks to underline Europe's cultural diversity. Ultimately, the ALLEA book series seeks to explore the question of an intrinsic or quintessential European identity, its roots, and other crucial pan-European issues in an effort to contribute to the intellectual discourse that will shape Europe's future.

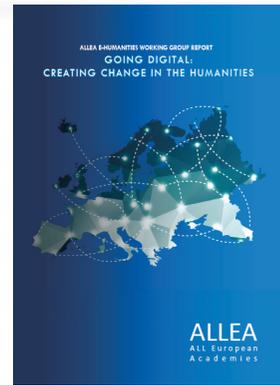
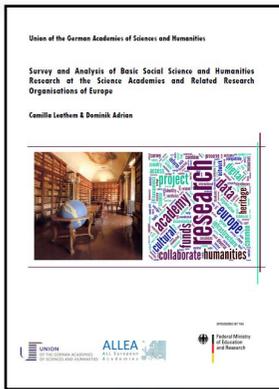
Copies may be ordered from the publisher [here](#).



Pietro Rossi



Pietro Rossi is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy of History at the University of Turin, member (and former President) of the Turin Academy of Sciences, member of the National Academy of Lincei and of Accademia Europaea. He was also Editor-in-Chief of the *Rivista di filosofia* (1985-2005), Max-Weber-Gastprofessor at the University of Heidelberg in 1985 and Humboldt Prize recipient in 1999, member of the Committee of *Enciclopedia delle Scienze sociali* (1991-99) and of the Advisory Board of the *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, published by Elsevier (2001). His work includes books such as *Lo storicismo tedesco contemporaneo* (Einaudi 1956/19943), *Storia e storicismo nella filosofia contemporanea* (Lerici 1960/ Il Saggiatore 19912), *Cultura e antropologia* (Einaudi 1983), *Vom Historismus zur historischen Sozialwissenschaft* (Suhrkamp 1987), *L'identità dell'Europa* (Il Mulino 2007), *Max Weber. Una idea di Occidente* (Donzelli 2007), *Il senso della storia. Dal Settecento al Duemila* (Il Mulino 2012), and the editorship (with C.A. Viano) of the *Storia della filosofia*, published by Laterza (six volumes, 1993-99). He is Editor of the first volume in the ALLEA book series, *The Boundaries of Europe*.



SASSH Survey: ALLEA and the Union of the German Academies release extensive study of science academy research and the potential for collaboration

The Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities and ALLEA have released a [survey and analysis of basic humanities and social science research at the science academies and related research organisations of Europe \(SASSH\)](#). Information on research and working processes was collected using a survey that reached over 600 projects from 31 countries of the Council of Europe region. The publication of the findings elucidates the academy research landscape in the social sciences and humanities and identifies opportunities for inter-academy collaboration.

“There is great potential for the academies to undertake joint research on European cultural heritage and iden-

tity and, as the study has shown, a strong will to do so. The academies (and related research organisations) could make a significant contribution to the integration of SSH research in Europe, and thereby to a shared approach to explaining and tackling societal challenges. What is missing is an academies’ research programme and a corresponding digital infrastructure that would enable effective collaboration in the long-term”, explains Prof. Günter Stock, President of ALLEA.

Sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), SASSH is the first ever analytical inventory of research performed at and by the European science academies and related non-university research organisations. The publi-

cation details the projects’ financial and human resources, research sites, running times, opportunities for early-stage researchers, the use of digital research tools and European infrastructure consortia, publishing and archiving behaviour (including Open Access), forms and regularity of evaluation, the extent to which international collaboration is in place, the extent to which increased international collaboration is desired, and the perceived obstacles in doing so. One recurring question forms a thread running through the study: what are the implications of the findings for a European academies-based research programme for long-term SSH research on the model of the German Academies’ Programme?

“Going Digital” - Launch of ALLEA E-Humanities Working Group report

The ALLEA Working Group E-Humanities has launched a report [“Going Digital – Creating Change in the Humanities”](#) which contains the working group’s key findings and recommendations regarding key innovations and requirements to ensure continued growth and excellence in the Digital Humanities for the EU. It was prepared by eminent experts in the field of E-Humanities, including on aspects of digital archiving, long-term preservation, digital research tools and infrastructures, from ALLEA member academies and with the support of the Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH).

The report’s recommendations include:

- 1) Take a long-term view: Sustaining long-term archives of unique and important cultural artefacts is critical for Europe’s leadership in Digital Humanities. Adopting best practice for infrastructures is essential.
- 2) Encourage openness: Open Access to data and infrastructures enables enhanced research, research integrity and cost-effectiveness. Open Data needs to be adequately funded.
- 3) Support your people: Training and career progression are essential to

prevent the loss of the critical skills needed to retain our competitiveness in Europe. Data management roles need suitable recognition.

ALLEA President Günter Stock emphasises the role of the European academies as “a unique pan-European knowledge base that is trusted, non-partisan and long-term. The academies therefore have an important contribution to make to debates regarding sustained digital infrastructures, the achievement of long-term durable digital preservation, and the societal responsibility for preservation of our digital cultural heritage”.

Both publications were released in Brussels on 7 May at a round-table launch (above) attended by representatives of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre, the European Parliament, European research networks and funding agencies for the SSH, and multiple science academies.

The **next issue** of the ALLEA newsletter will be released in late 2015.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TRAILER

ALLEA has just released a short trailer bringing together all the highlights of the 2015 General Assembly. Watch it [here!](#)

IMPRINT

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