

SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS  
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### ***History***

The Society of Serbian Letters (SSL) was established at the suggestion of Jovan Sterija Popović, Atanasije Nikolić and Dimitrije Isailović under the Constitution on 19 November 1841, later to become the Serbian Learned Society (SLS) in 1864, and the Serbian Royal Academy (SRA) in 1886. In 1947 SRA was renamed the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts(SASA) and has retained this name up to the present day.

Convening all the significant names in Serbian science and literature of the time, the Society of Serbian Letters began its activity by promoting the Serbian language as well as collecting archival material closely related to the cultural history of the Serbs. The Society's first researchers strove to shape their work as well as the organization of the institution in line with European models.

The Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (hereinafter the Academy) is the highest institution of science and art in the Republic of Serbia.

The Academy develops and supports science, organizes and promotes basic and applied scientific research, stimulates and promotes artistic activities and thereby contributes to the general welfare of the people of the Republic of Serbia and the state.

The Academy is an institution of outstanding significance. The Academy is the only institution that represents the Republic of Serbia in international associations of state academies." - *SASA Law, 2010*

### ***Membership***

Members of the Academy are divided into categories - full members (academicians) - 102 members, corresponding members - 40, external (non resident) members - 17 and foreign members - 108.

Full members are elected from the ranks of corresponding members on the basis of their significant contribution to science or art, achieved since their election as corresponding members of the Academy.

Corresponding members are Serbian citizens who distinguished themselves having achieved significant results in the field of science or art. Full and corresponding members constitute active members of the Academy (those who have the right to elect members of the Academy or to be elected to the Academy's bodies). Prominent scientists and artists who are Serbian citizens and whose residence is outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia are external members. Foreign members of the Academy are elected from the ranks of foreign citizens recognized for the general

development of science and art and for the promotion of scientific and artistic relations between the country in which they work and the Republic of Serbia.

Members of the Academy are elected by the Assembly of the Academy at a special sitting every three years. Full members are elected by the majority of votes of all full members, while other members are elected by a majority of votes of all full and corresponding members by secret ballot. In the course of the past several elections, there has been an obvious tendency to rejuvenate the Academy's membership, which will improve its work and operational level of the Academy.

### *Academy Organization*

The activities of the Academy take place in its principal office in Belgrade, its Branch in Novi Sad as well as in scientific research centres. The Academy's Departments are the main vehicles for the research work of this institution and its members, both in the arts and in the sciences.

The highest administrative body of the Academy is the Assembly which is made up of all of the members. The assembly meets at least once a year. Some of the most important tasks and decision-making powers are vested in the Assembly: passing of the Statute, work programme and financial plan; election of Academy members, election of the President and the members of the Executive Council and Presidency.

The Academy Presidency is the highest body of the Academy between sittings of the Academy's Assembly, comprising the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary General, President of the Academy's Branch in Novi Sad and Department representatives. The Academy Presidency carries out the decisions and conclusions passed by the Assembly, oversees the implementation of the Academy's Statute and other bylaws, coordinates and steers the work of the Branch of the Academy, supervises the implementation of the Academy's work programme etc.

The Executive Board of the Academy is an executive body of the Assembly and the Presidency, in charge of carrying out the decisions and conclusions passed by the Presidency and Assembly, as well as the Academy's regular activities. It is composed of the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary General and the President of the Branch of Academy in Novi Sad.

The Academy is represented by its President who convenes and presides over the sessions of the Assembly, Presidency and Executive Board and oversees the implementation of the conclusions passed by the Academy's bodies.

### ***Branch of the Academy in Novi Sad***

The Academy has a Branch in Novi Sad, which constitutes its integral part. The Branch organizes research and other activities in the area of scientific and artistic creative work within the Academy's competence, particularly in relation to the territory of Vojvodina.

Scientific research centres in the country and abroad may be established with other legal entities by the Academy's agreement. The Academy has Centres in Kragujevac and Niš.

### **SASA Institutes**

Institute for Balkan Studies

Mathematical Institute

Institute for Byzantine Studies

Geographical Institute

Ethnographical Institute

Institute for the Serbian Language

Institute of Technical Sciences

Institute of Musicology

The Academy fosters new ideas for launching programmes significant for science and scientific policies. A new scientific, as well as social climate is developing in which the state increasingly seeks the support of the Academy and its academicians in meeting major social challenges, particularly on matters related to science, education and culture.

In addition, the Academy encourages strategic research for long-term impact. It creates conditions for its promotion, critical and professional oversight, analyses and research in fundamental natural sciences, technical and technological projects, economic and social development and creation of more humane relations in the new age. Furthermore, the Academy strives to contribute to the balanced progress of society which cannot be imagined without philosophy, literature, history, art and study of law, economy and society in general. Independence and stability have always been the two main backbones of the Academy. They remain that today as well. Only a stable and independent Academy is capable of reacting properly to the changes and reforms which society is undergoing.

### ***Publications***

The academy issues two publications

- Bulletin of the scientific research is published once a year as a report of the scientific activities of the Academy in all research fields (in Serbian and English)
- Annual Report is published once a year as a report of the Academy's program activities.

### *Budget of the Academy*

The resources for the work of the Academy are secured in the budget of the Republic of Serbia. The resources that are also used for the work of the Academy include resources from endowments, funds, foundations, resources obtained through a contract with third person, resources from donors and other sources. The Academy independently manages its sources in accordance with the Law.

### *International activities*

International cooperation is among the main activities and priorities of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. It is realized through:

- Exchange in the field of scientific research under bilateral agreements on scientific cooperation (interacademic, interinstitutional as well as agreements at international level). The bilateral agreements have been signed with some 25 research institutions in 22 countries, 20 of which are national academies. The agreements cover some 150 research projects;
- Multilateral cooperation which includes activities related to the programs financed by the European Union or from some other funds (FP6, FP7, EUREKA, TEMPUS, COST, CERN, HORIZON 2020);
- Membership in non-governmental international research organizations at all levels (IAP, ICSU, UAI, UNESCO), European (ALLEA, EASA, EASAH), regional (CEEN, EMAN, DAC, CoPNAS BSEC) and the Balkan (IAC SEE);
- Organization of international scientific gatherings, round tables, lectures delivered by researchers and scientists from abroad;
- Participation of the SASA members in scientific gatherings abroad, work bodies, international scientific organizations, agencies, laboratories.