

ANLAGE

ALLEA 30th Anniversary General Assembly | Berlin-Brandenburg
Academy of Sciences and Humanities | 22 May 2024

European Research Collaboration in a Shifting Geopolitical Landscape

The European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) is celebrating its 30th Anniversary at the 2024 General Assembly in Berlin on 22 May, co-hosted by its German Member Academies: the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the Junge Akademie, and the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities.

The symposium, titled "European Research Collaboration in a Shifting Geopolitical Landscape" will serve as a platform for distinguished researchers, policymakers and civil society representatives from across Europe to convene and deliberate on how open research collaboration can and should be in a geopolitical context marked by radical change. Attendees will bring their perspectives into a dialogue on a new vision and practice of research collaboration which is critical to the future of Europe.

Scientific collaboration contributes to tackling global challenges, as well as to establishing peace and cooperation to the benefit of humanity. Against this background, ALLEA was founded in 1994 by a group of national academies with the mission of fostering the transformative power of scientific collaboration between Eastern and Western Europe following the end of the Cold War, empowering European academies to facilitate scientific collaboration and the circulation of ideas across borders and disciplines, and promoting science as a global public good.

Until a few years ago it was taken for granted that cooperation in research and higher education would stay open as a last communication line irrespective of the crisis. However, rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts reveal the potential limits of such a global approach to science.

Governments and researchers are confronted with a shifting geopolitical landscape that includes the emergence of new powers and a growing trend towards protectionism and knowledge security. They are effectively asked to balance the benefits of collaboration and openness with the need to protect knowledge security and prevent the misuse of scientific research and technology. Important questions thus arise regarding how much research collaboration is possible and desirable, as well as in which forms sustained collaboration could and should take place.

What is the role of research collaboration in the global context? Can research collaboration promote peace and prosperity across borders? What are the limits to open research collaboration against the backdrop of geopolitical complexities? How does this impact the freedom of scientific research? Is limiting scientific cooperation a challenge to academic freedom? How can we balance open collaborations with academic freedom and standards?

The European Academies invite attendees to reflect on the transformative potential of scientific collaboration and the challenges and limitations it faces in an era where both open collaboration and protection of research systems are crucial.

Programme

18:30 - 18:45 **Welcome and Introduction**

- Christoph Markschies (President Akademienunion)
- Gisela Kopp (Chair German Young Academy)
- Antonio Loprieno (President ALLEA)

18:45 - 19:15 **Keynote / Mme de Stael Prize Lecture**

Speaker: Fabiola Gianotti | Director-General of CERN, 2023 Mme de Stael Prize Laureate

Guiding Themes:

- Freedom of Academic Research and Collaboration
- Global Science Diplomacy
- Limitations of research collaborations
- Connections between science, diplomacy, and politics

19:15 - 20:30 **Roundtable Discussion**

Panelists

- Katja Becker (DFG)
- Joanna Drake (European Commission, DG RTD)
- Janneke Gerards (Utrecht University)
- Fabiola Gianotti (CERN)
- Valeska Huber (University of Vienna)

Moderator: Christoph Markschies (BBAW / Akademienunion)

Guiding Questions:

- What role can and should scientific cooperation / science diplomacy play in international relations?
- Can we bridge borders through scientific cooperation to promote a world of peace and prosperity for all people and cultures?
- Should there be limits to scientific cooperation against the backdrop of geopolitical complexities? How does this relate to the freedom of scientific research?

20:30 - 22:00 **Reception - 30 years of ALLEA**

Opening remarks by Gerald Haug (President Leopoldina) and Antonio Loprieno (President ALLEA)

Video address by Iliana Ivanova (European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth)