

## Greetings from St. Peter 01/22

### Letter of the President

Salzburg, 14th February 2022

Dear members of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts,

as last year, the Corona situation at the beginning of March is too uncertain internationally to enable a physical presence at the Festplenum in Salzburg for all members. Last year's experience shows that in summer we are on the safe side in the annual development of the pandemic. That is why the Senate of the Academy decided last Friday to set the date for the General Assembly and Festive Plenary for the morning of Saturday 2 July and the festive reception for the evening of Friday 1 July. We hope that many members from near and far will then be motivated to visit summery Salzburg. In addition, there will be enough time for travel planning.

The events on 1 and 2 July are to be enriched by workshops of our expert groups, which have now been reported on several times in the Greetings from St. Peter. In the light of the current debate in the EU, I would like to make special mention of the expert group "Environment, Climate and Energy", which was discussed intensively at the last Senate meeting. As you know, there is currently an intense debate in the EU about how the set climate goals can be achieved with which energy technologies. This is at the same time a central challenge of innovation, research and science in order to become more independent in Europe and to secure future quality of life and sustainability.

Four expert papers by Academy members (Class VI) and their research institutes on water power, solar and wind energy, hydrogen technology, nuclear energy and others are already available. They form a good starting point for further discussions among these groups in order to be able to present a White Paper of the Academy on this central topic of Europe.

The framework for the new Academy Proceedings was also approved at the last Senate meeting. The details will now first be implemented in the Presidential Office, after which the members will be informed about the framework and the procedure for publications. An important topic of these publications will be the reports of the various expert groups.

In terms of its self-image, the European Academy of Sciences and Arts is not only concerned with the EU, but with Europe as a whole as a historically grown scientific and cultural area. Many members are also from non-European countries. This makes the political-military tensions in Europe, which have worldwide repercussions, all the more distressing at present. Europe has had to cope with terrible

experiences of war in the past centuries. Against this historical background, securing peace is a necessary prerequisite without which human issues such as climate, environment and quality of life cannot be solved.

The Senate also elected Prof. Gilles Lubineau (Professor of Mechanical Engineering) as new member of the nomination committee.

For current events, I would like to ask all members to check the Academy's website. Special mention should be made of the continuation of the successful lecture series "Science meets Arts". A special invitation will be sent out by the Presidential Office to all members to participate actively in the coming lecture series. Furthermore, attention should be drawn to the lecture series beginning in March entitled "Health. Society in Crisis?", which will be organised by the Medical University of Vienna and the University of Vienna together with the European Academy of Sciences and Arts.

With best wishes



President

## **SCHEDULE/EVENTS**

**Colloquium Science Meets Art**, Ioannis Liritzis (Dean Class IV) and Violeta Dinescu (Dean Class III), Summer – Semester: February 18 – April 8, 2022

Program: <https://euro-acad.eu/events?id=115>

**Lecture series – Health. Society in crises ?** This lecture series deals with the social location of health crises, Medical University of Vienna, University of Vienna and EASA, organization: Thomas Beyer, Class II, Speech on March 22: Alexander Kekulé, Class II in German language, dates of the whole series: March 9 – June 28,

Program: <https://www.meduniwien.ac.at/web/ueber-uns/events/2022/rv-gesundheitskrisen/>

**10th International Conference of Alma Mater Europea** „It's about people“, Maribor Zoom Conference, Ludvik Toplak, Class V, together with EASA, March 11- 18,

Preliminary Program: <https://euro-acad.eu/events?id=113>

**The 15 th Baška GNSS Conference: PNT Technologies, Techniques and Applications**, Serdjo Kos, Class VI, May 8-13

**Festive Session 2022, Inauguration Ceremony and Evening Reception:** postponed from March to July 2, 2022, Program in progress

## RECEIVED PRINT PUBLICATIONS

*K. Mainzer (project leader): Responsibility in Companies and Institutions for Sustainable Technology Development, Position Paper, German National Academy of Science and Technology (acatech) 2022.*

*Problems of Sustainable Development, EASA and Lublin University of Technology, edited by Arthur Pawlowski, Class VI, Co- Editor: Leszek Gawor.*

## Books

*Artificial Intelligence. When do machines take over? Chinese Edition, Tsinghua University Press: Beijing 2022. Author: Klaus Mainzer*

*Jahrbuch der Europäischen Integration 2021, Editors: Werner Weidenfeld and Wolfgang Wessels, published by Nomos Baden- Baden 2021*

*Kreuzweg. Author: Rainer Gottlieb Mordmüller, St. Marien Braunschweig- Querum, published by Pfarrei St. Marien, 2021*

## ACTIVITIES

Ioannis Liritzis (Dean Class IV) initiated the publication of the EASA Corona Statement in the Greek Journal EPIKAIRA: <https://euro-acad.eu/files/EPIKAIRA%20MAGAZINE%20FEBR%202022-%20EASA%20statement%20Vol%20421.pdf>

Expert – Groups:

- Digitilization, AI, and their Societal Impact (coordinator: President)
- Research, Innovation, and Education (coordinator: Dean of Class IV)
- Medicine and Life Science (coordinator: Dean of Class II)
- Environment, Climate, and Energy (coordinator: Dean of Class VI)

## WE CONGRATULATE

Prof. Dr. Walter Homolka for his Honorary doctorate from the National Rabbinical Seminary of the Jewish University of Budapest

## WE REGRET THE DEATH OF

Lev Bukovský (Class IV), November 30, 2021

Alfred Radner (Class V), August 30, 2021

Herbert Kramel (Class III ), January 29, 2022

Kurt Haslinger, Honorary Fellow of the EASA

Requiescant in pace