

Greetings from St. Peter 06/21

Letter of the President

Salzburg, 17th December 2021

Dear members of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts,

one year after my last Christmas letter, we note with growing concern the renewed dissemination of a new strain of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The threat against public and individual health is imminent and calls for immediate, resolute and foresighted action. It seems that we must learn to live with a viral evolution of mutants in spite of improved vaccination. The political, economic, psychological, and cultural price is immense in Europe and world-wide. Therefore, a “statement on the escalating COVID-19-pandemic considering medical urgency – countering knowledge resistance – defending the rule of law – ensuring economic stability” is published online on the EASA website and sent to our members to initiate a broad discussion in our classes. I thank the Deans of class I (humanities), class II (medicine), and class V (social sciences, law, and economics) and other authors of these classes for their prompt engagement in this initiative. “Mental health in the Corona Pandemic” will be considered in an international workshop. There is also a call for papers of class III (arts) concerning “the role and importance of art & culture in coping with the pandemic and its consequences”.

As a scientific academy, we are firmly committed to the principle of free and independent research and the quest for truth, which in turn establish a basis of knowledge for sound decision-making in open and democratic societies. But we also see a tendency to fake news and conspiracy theories in the public. In general, we observe an increasing climate of intolerance and aggressive attitude to opposite opinions and positions in European societies. Therefore, the Academy’s engagement in a tolerance award for 24 years was highly topical this year. Originally, with the award of „Tolerance rings“, the Academy wants to contribute to a tolerant and peaceful interaction between different religions. Nowadays, it does not only need tolerance between religions, but with the simple words of the Christmas message: „on earth peace, good will to all people“ (Luke 2.14).

With respect to the pandemic, we were enforced in 2021 to organize our events, conferences, symposia, and meetings online or hybrid (online with restricted physical presence). Nevertheless, the increasing use of digital tools enables more people worldwide to take part in our activities. And, actually in 2021, there were even rather more than less events and meetings of the Academy which can be considered on the Academy's website. The themes of the events ranged from technical-scientific workshops (e.g., „Trends of Quantum Computing in Europe“) with distinguished experts of technology and economy to interdisciplinary events between different classes (e.g., the lecture series „Science meets Arts“ or the symposium on the 200th Birthday of Dostojewski) with highly recommended scientists, literary people, composers, and artists. A highlight in this year was also the „European Science Festival“ with the European Science Council (ERC), EU commissioner, and national european academies and institutions which was introduced by a speech of the President of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. The honorary President of EASA met the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Protector of the European Academy, to prepare an international conference on tolerance.

EVENT OVERVIEW 2021

Those conference contributions that were recorded have a video link attached:

Colloquium Science Meets Art, Ioannis Liritzis, Dean Class IV and Violeta Dinescu, Dean Class III, **October 1, 2021 till January 2022**, Continuation planned Summer Semester 2022, Zoom Conference , Videos: <https://euro-acad.eu/events?id=91>

From Complex Systems Dynamics to AI, University of Amsterdam/Institute for Advanced Studies/Center of Urban Mental Health, November 24, 2021, Zoom Conference

ECO Pole Conference 2021, Hybrid Conference, Maria Waclawek, Class IV, October 13 – October 16

11 th DAC- Danube Academies Conference 2021, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and EASA, Zoom Conference, October 22: <https://youtu.be/TUMNhLXLfnA>

The European Science Festival, Slovenian Science Foundation, Zoom Conference, November 9 till November 11/Speech: Klaus Mainzer: <https://youtu.be/UsD7jhttcOE>

Symposium zum 200. Geburtstag von F.M. Dostoevskij, EASA, Hybrid Symposium, Vice - President Birgit Harreß, Class III, November 13, 2021: <https://euro-acad.eu/multimedia?id=8>

Verleihung der Toleranzringe und des Schulpreises „Toleranz macht Schule“, EASA and zfl (Zentrum für LehrerInnenbildung), Technische Hochschule Köln, November 18, 2021, Video- Stream: <https://youtu.be/iMCrb0ObOOY>

XX. International Scientific Conference: Innovation Dynamics and Management in the XXIst Century, St. Petersburg University, November 24, 2021, Zoom Conference

Informatik & Nachhaltigkeit – Computer Science & Sustainability, Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Informatik/Online Workshop (with EASA), September 27- October 1

General Assembly of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, 24th September, Salzburg

Pandemic Perspectives: Reflections on the Consequences of COVID19, Andreas Önnersfors, Dean, Class I, September 18: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5b2VxUO4O8>

2nd International Conference on Global Issues of Environmental and Culture, Ioannis Liritzis, Dean Class IV, University of Aegean and Miao Changhong, Henan University, China, September 17- 19: <https://shap-conference.com/>

Autumn School „Proof and Computation“ (with Ludwig Maximilians University Munich and University of Verona), Klaus Mainzer, September 13-19

ICSC 2021, 8th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Sapienza Università di Roma, Marta Olivetti, Class II, September 13- 17

SPR Symposium, Human Change Dynamics, Society of Psychotherapy Research (with EASA), September 11

phil. Cologne, Internationales Festival der Philosophie, September 2- 8, Speech: Klaus Mainzer

Widerstand im Nationalsozialismus. Eine Rede zum 100. Geburtstag von Hans Leipelt (1921- 1945), Peter Fischer- Appelt, Class VII, July 18: <https://euro-acad.eu/events?id=96>

Archaeometry Colloquium, Ioannis Liritzis, Dean Class IV, June 25

Trends of Quantum Computing, Challenges of a Revolutionary Technology for Europe, Workshop with Guilio Casati (class IV), Marco Robnik (class IV) and Klaus Mainzer, June 18: <https://youtu.be/rW3tlZkXRng>

Circular Economy, Online Symposium, EASA, Technical University Munich, University Leipzig, June 11

International Scientific Conference, dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, Speech, Klaus Mainzer, June 10

Neuroscience- Nonlinear Complex Systems, 13 th Summer School, Günter Schiepek, class II (Paracelsus Medical University), May 30,

Anthropocene and Climate Change, In Memory of Paul Crutzen (1933- 1921), Member of the EASA, May 28: <https://youtu.be/ql8b-jinmMA>

14th Baska GNSS Conference: PNT Technologies, Techniques and Applications, May 8-12, <https://rin.org.uk/mpage/BaskaOrganisers>

Religionen und Identitäten in Europa- Spannungsfelder und Wechselwirkungen, Interdisziplinäre Tagung der Universitäten Fribourg und Salzburg, Mariano Delgado (Dean class VII), EASA, April 16- 17

9th International Conference of Alma Mater Europea, EASA, March 11

acatech (German National Society of Science and Technology), Speech: Klaus Mainzer, February 8

Alexander von Humboldt Workshop „Trends of Quantum Computing & Quantum Logic, II“, Klaus Mainzer, January 14 (with Technical University of Berlin and University of Cagliari)

In order to sharpen the profile of our Academy, we started with a topic network of expert groups such as

- 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)

The goal of this topic network is to interrelate the different research interests in our Academy, but also to produce position papers, created by members of the EASA in collaboration with European organisations and institutions, which can draw attention to the work done in the Academy and the intellectual standing of its members and result in societal impact of the Academy. The Senate also decided to introduce an own Journal of EASA. The formal criteria of the EASA Journal are just clarified by a task force and will be published after the next meeting of the Senate.

At the last 5th meeting, the Senate elected new members of the Academy. Further nominations are in preparation and will be elected permanently by the Senate. I congratulate and welcome the following new members:

Class II:

Prof. Dr. Alesš Blinc, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia

Prof. Matjaž Bunc, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia

Prof. Raymond Chan, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Prof. Shuren Li, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

Dr. med. Drs. h. c., Prof. em. Michael Molls, Technical University of Munich, Germany

Prof. Thomas Walsh, Weill Cirmell Medicine of Cornell Universtiy, USA

Prof. Dr. Karin Writzl, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia

Class III:

Prof. Dr. Dario Cebić, Richard Wagner Konservatorium, Austria

Prof. Sidney Corbett, Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst Mannheim, Germany

Dr.phil Fridolin Schley, Literaturportal der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek, Germany

Dr. Charlotte Seither GEMA, Germany

Prof. Dr. Hui Yu, Yunnan University, China

Class IV:

Prof. Tei-Wei Kuo, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Prof. Paula Reimer, Queen's University Belfast, North Ireland

Prof. Grigorios Tsokas, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Prof. Yuan Yuan, Northwestern Polytechnical University, China

Dr. Shuguang Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

Class V:

Prof. Dr. José Almarez, Universidad Nacional de Enseñanza a Distancia, Spain

Prof. Jean-Noël Ezingard, University of Roehampton, United Kingdom

Dr. Ernest Petrič, Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Slovenia

Prof. Miomir Žužul, Arnold Porter Kaye Scholer, USA

Class VI:

Prof. Nadine Aubry, Tufts University, USA

Prof. Jan Awrejcewicz, Lodz University of Technology, Poland

Prof. Almir Badnjević, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina

Prof. Richard Kaner, University of California Los Angeles, USA

Prof. Rameshwar S. Kanwar, Iowa State University, USA

Prof. Ranjith Pathegama Gamag, Monash University, Australia

Class VII:

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Margit Eckholt, University of Osnabrück, Germany

Prof. Teodesie Petrescu, The Archdiocese of Tomis, Romania

According to the by.laws § 6(8), the Presidium appointed a new delegate of Serbia:

Prof. Dr. Slobodan Grubačić

For coming events of the Academy, please, see the following schedule events and the Homepage of the Academy.

For the new year 2022, I look forward to our collaboration with all of you, coming from different disciplines and countries.

Stay healthy, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Klaus Mainzer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President

SCHEDULE/EVENTS

Colloquium Science Meets Art, October 1, 2021 till January 2022, Continuation planned Summer Semester 2022, Zoom Conference, Prof. Dr. Ioannis Liritzis, Class IV and Prof. Violeta Dinescu, Class III

3rd March 2022: „*Mental Health in Corona Pandemic – A Challenge for Complexity Science*“.
International Workshop Salzburg (organizer: G. Schiepek, class II)

Festive Plenary Session 2022/Inauguration Ceremony, Große Universitätsaula Salzburg, EASA, March 5 , Hybrid Event

RECEIVED PRINT PUBLICATIONS

M. Pawlowska and L. Pawlowski (Eds.), Advances in Environmental Engineering Research in Poland, Routledge Taylor & Francis Group: London 2021

Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Letopis, Yearbook, Vol 71/2020, Ljubljana 2021

Marcel Van de Voorde, Hydrogen Storage for Sustainability, Technical and Environmental Sciences, De Gryter, Edition 1, October 2021

Wolfgang Schmale, Gesellschaftliche Orientierung, Franz Steiner Verlag, November 2021

ACTIVITIES

Call for Papers (Ed. L. Tavernier, class III): „*Covid-19. The role and importance of art & culture in copying with the pandemic and its consequences*“

WE REGRET THE DEATH OF

In Memoriam

Prof. Dr. Vojislav Mitić, 66, passed away on September 27, 2021 in Belgrade, Serbia. Dr. Mitić has been professor in the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, University of Nis, and at the same time Scientist at the Institute of Technical Sciences of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Belgrade. In his longstanding membership in EASA he was very active in organizing high-level meetings, several Danube conferences and actively initiated collaboration in scientific projects on nanoelectronics and nanotechnology. Beyond his academic achievements Prof. Mitić also had considerable experience in international cooperation and management duties, as President of the Serbian Ceramic Society, Chairman of the Chapter of American Ceramic Society for Serbia, President of PANEUROPA, Serbia, and District Governor of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL for Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Greece and Bulgaria. We deeply regret his unexpected decease and we shall keep his positive and cheerful attitude in mind.

Voja is survived by his wife and two young sons.

Prof. em. Dr. Dipl.-phys. Jörg Otto Pfeleiderer (Class VI), October 27, 2021

Requiescant in pace