

# 2017

## ANNUAL REPORT

THE ROYAL ACADEMIES FOR SCIENCE AND THE ARTS OF BELGIUM



Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres  
et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique



Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België  
voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten

The Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium - RASAB vzw/asbl

RASAB  
ANNUAL REPORT 2017

[www.rasab.be](http://www.rasab.be)

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Compatibility

# THE ROYAL ACADEMIES FOR SCIENCE AND THE ARTS OF BELGIUM

## 1. Introduction

The association 'The Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium' (vzw/asbl) was founded in 2001 by the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique (ARB)<sup>1</sup> and the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten (KVAB)<sup>2</sup>. The association is located in the old royal stables of the Palace of Academies in Brussels.

The Royal Academies of Belgium work to promote science and art in Belgium. In order to meet this demand, the Academies organize scientific and cultural activities, they try to promote inter-university cooperation in Belgium, they provide representation in international and European organizations, they offer a platform for researchers to formulate recommendations to the government, industry, education and research.

RASAB is responsible for the coordination of the activities of the two Academies at a national and international level, as well as for the national scientific committees and the representation of Belgium in the federation of Academies such as EASAC, ALLEA, etc.

The statutes of RASAB were published in the *Moniteur Belge / Belgisch Staatsblad* of 19 April 2001.

## 2. Governance

The General Assembly is composed by the Chairmen, the Permanent Secretaries and one representative for each of the four classes of the academies, for a total of 12 members.

The annual presidency of RASAB is held alternately by the chairman of the academies. In 2016 RASAB was chaired by M<sup>r</sup> Joos Vandewalle, President of the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten (KVAB).

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<sup>1</sup> [www.academieroyale.be](http://www.academieroyale.be)

<sup>2</sup> [www.kvab.be](http://www.kvab.be)

*Board of Directors 2017*

ARB	KVAB
Monique Mund-Dopchie <i>Chair</i>	Joos Vandewalle <i>Chair</i>
Hervé Hasquin <i>Permanent Secretary</i>	Freddy Dumortier <i>Permanent Secretary</i>

*General Assembly 2017*

ARB	KVAB
Monique Mund-Dopchie <i>Chair</i>	Joos Vandewalle <i>Chair</i>
Hervé Hasquin <i>Permanent Secretary</i>	Freddy Dumortier <i>Permanent Secretary</i>
Jean Mawhin <i>Classe des Sciences</i>	Niceas Schamp <i>Klasse van de Natuurwetenschappen</i>
Monique Boussart <i>Classe des Lettres et des Sciences morales et politiques</i>	Els Witte <i>Klasse van de Menswetenschappen</i>
Philippe Samyn <i>Classe des Arts</i>	André Laporte <i>Klasse van de Kunsten</i>
Jean-Louis Migeot <i>Classe Technologie et Société</i>	Dirk Frimout <i>Klasse van de Technische Wetenschappen</i>

The 2017 RASAB General Assembly was held on September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Palace of the Academies.

M<sup>r</sup> Didier Viviers was elected in November 2017 as Permanent Secretary of the l'Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique. His mandate will begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

### **3. Recent developments**

In 2015 RASAB faced a strong reduction of its governmental support. Because of this, some strategic decisions were made:

- An analysis was made of the national committees and RASAB's memberships in international unions. The following memberships were discontinued: Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE), International Geosphere Biosphere Programme (IGBP), World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP), Committee on Space Research (COSPAR).
- The liaison office has been phased out. From May 2016, this activity will be stopped completely.

# NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

## 1. Introduction

The missions of the Belgian scientific committees are the promotion and coordination of various scientific disciplines in Belgium, mainly seen in an international context.

The national scientific committees work under the patronage of the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique and the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten, gathered in RASAB which is responsible for the financial and logistic support of the National Committees, as well for its daily activities, as for the organisation of scientific events by the National Committees in the Palace of the Academies.

The National Committees are composed equally of members of the French and Dutch-speaking linguistic roles.

## 2. Annual Activity Reports

Each year, the Belgian scientific committees publish their annual activity reports with the help of RASAB. For clarity, these reports are not directly integrated into the RASAB annual report but published in a separate volume.

This volume is downloadable on our website<sup>3</sup>.

## 3. List of the National Scientific Committees & International Unions

The conditions for the foundation of a National Committee is the existence of an international scientific union which is a member of ICSU or a member of a scientific institution of ICSU (scientific committees, special committees, etc.) in the same scientific discipline.

All Belgian national committees are members of one or more international organizations in which they represent Belgium.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.rasab.be](http://www.rasab.be)

National Committees	Internationale unions
1) Antarctic Research	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research <a href="http://www.scar.org">www.scar.org</a>
2) Astronomy	International Astronomical Union (IAU) <a href="http://www.iau.org">http://www.iau.org</a>
3) Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB) <a href="http://www.iubmb.org">www.iubmb.org</a>
4) Biological Sciences <sup>4</sup>	International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) <a href="http://www.iubs.org">www.iubs.org</a>
5) Biomedical Engineering	International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE) <a href="http://www.ifmbe.org">www.ifmbe.org</a>  International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM) <a href="http://www.iupesm.org">www.iupesm.org</a>
6) Biophysics	International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB) <a href="http://www.iupab.org">www.iupab.org</a>
7) Chemistry	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) <a href="http://www.iupac.org">www.iupac.org</a>
8) Crystallography	International Union of Crystallography (IUCr) <a href="http://www.iucr.org">www.iucr.org</a>

<sup>4</sup> The Belgian membership to SCOR is discontinued in 2017 following budget restrictions.

9)	Geodesy and Geophysics	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)  <a href="http://www.iugg.org">www.iugg.org</a>
10)	Geography	International Geographical Union (IGU)  <a href="http://www.igu-net.org">www.igu-net.org</a>
11)	Geological Sciences	International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)  <a href="http://www.iugs.org">www.iugs.org</a>
12)	Logics, History and Philosophy of Science	International Union of History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS),  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division of History of Science and Technology (IUHPS-DHST)</li> <li>• Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS-DLMPS)</li> </ul> <a href="http://www.dlmps.org">www.dlmps.org</a>
13)	Mathematics	International Mathematical Union (IMU)  <a href="http://www.mathunion.org">http://www.mathunion.org</a>
14)	Mechanics	International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM)  <a href="http://www.iutam.net">www.iutam.net</a>
15)	Microbiology	International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS)  <a href="http://www.iums.org">www.iums.org</a>
16)	Oceanology <sup>5</sup>	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)  <a href="http://www.scor-int.org">www.scor-int.org</a>

<sup>5</sup> The Belgian membership to IUBS is discontinued in 2017 following budget restrictions.

17)	Physiology and Pharmacology	International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) <a href="http://www.iups.org">www.iups.org</a> International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR) <a href="http://www.iuphar.org">www.iuphar.org</a>
18)	Physics	International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) <a href="http://www.iupap.org">www.iupap.org</a>
19)	Psychological Sciences	International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) <a href="http://www.iupsys.net">www.iupsys.net</a>
20)	Quaternary Research (BELQUA)	International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) <a href="http://www.inqua.org">www.inqua.org</a>
21)	Radio-electricity	International Union of Radio Science (URSI) <a href="http://www.ursi.org">www.ursi.org</a>
22)	Soil Sciences	International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) <a href="http://www.iuss.org">www.iuss.org</a>

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### 1. ALL European Academies – ALLEA<sup>6</sup>

#### a. Introduction

ALLEA, the federation of All European Academies, was founded in 1994 and currently brings together 59 Academies in more than 40 countries from the Council of Europe region. Member Academies operate as learned societies, think tanks and research performing organisations. They are self-governing communities of leaders of scholarly enquiry across all fields of the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities. ALLEA therefore provides access to an unparalleled human resource of intellectual excellence, experience and expertise.

Independent from political, commercial and ideological interests, ALLEA's policy work seeks to contribute to improving the framework conditions under which science and scholarship can excel. Jointly with its Member Academies, ALLEA is in a position to address the full range of structural and policy issues facing Europe in science, research and innovation. In doing so, it is guided by a common understanding of Europe bound together by historical, social and political factors as well as for scientific and economic reasons.

#### b. Activities 2017

ALLEA published books and statements in 2017, including:

- Revised edition of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (March 2017), a document that serves the European research community as a framework for self-regulation across all scientific and scholarly disciplines and for all research settings.
- *Developing a Vision for Framework Programme 9* (July 2017).
- *The Role of Music in European Integration*, second volume of the book series *Discourses on Intellectual Europe*.
- *Patentability of inventions involving human embryonic stem cells in Europe* (October 2017).
- *The Text and Data Mining Exception* (November 2017).
- *Living Together: Missions for Shaping the Future*, joint statement with HERA, ELI, ESA, EuroScience, GYA, Net4Society, NORFACE, YAE (December 2017).

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.allea.org>

Professor Koen Lenaerts will be awarded the 2017 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values to honour his extensive scholarly work on European law and his reflections on European jurisdiction

On the occasion of its general assembly, ALLEA organized in partnership with the Young Academy of Europe a conference on *Sustainability and Resilience* in Budapest from 4-6 September. The event brought together renowned scientists and scholars to discuss Europe's heritage, social systems, health, economy, climate, as well as its science and research landscape

ALLEA is a member of SAPEA - Science Advice for Policy by European Academies - part of the European Commission Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). SAPEA published its first report *Food from the Oceans* at the end of 2017.

### **c. Belgian representation**

#### **Board**

Hubert Bocken (KVAB) is a ALLEA board member for the period 2016-2018. He attended the meetings in Halle on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, at the headquarters of the Leopoldina Academy of Sciences, in Barcelona on June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, at the headquarters of the Reial Acadèmia de les Arts i les Ciències of Barcelona (RACAB) and the Institut d'Estudis Catalans (IEC) and in Budapest on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

#### **General Assembly**

Hubert Bocken (KVAB) and André Preumont (ARB) represented the Belgian Academies at the 2017 ALLEA General Assembly held in Budapest on September 4<sup>th</sup> at the headquarters of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

#### **Working Groups**

- **Framework Programme 9 Working Group**

The FP9 Working Group seeks to continue to ensure that any successor research programme to Horizon 2020 is developed with the interests of the Sciences community in mind and in particular to ensure that the Social Sciences and Humanities are fully represented.

Didier Viviers (ARB) is the Belgian representative in this think tank group which published two statements in 2017: *Developing a Vision for Framework Programme 9*<sup>7</sup> ; *Living Together: Missions for Shaping the Future*<sup>8</sup>.

The meetings of this group were held at the Palace of the Academies in Brussels on February 9<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- **E-Humanities Working Group**

The E-Humanities Working Group is charged with identifying and raising awareness for priorities and concerns of the Digital Humanities, and contributing to the Open Access agenda from a Humanities and Social Sciences perspective.

Bernard Rentier (ARB) is the Belgian representative in this think tank group and took part in its meeting on 5 December 2017 in Dublin, at the Royal Irish Academy.

- **Sciences and Ethics Working Group**

Since ethical considerations have been an essential component in the consolidation of a united Europe, and also in the creation of ALLEA, the PWGSE was established to bring together experts from academies across Europe and provide them with a platform for continuous debate on research ethics and research integrity.

Els Van Damme (KVAB) is the Belgian representative within this group which published in 2017 the revised edition of *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*<sup>9</sup>.

The meetings of this working group were held in the Netherlands on 9 and 10 January and in Stockholm on 8 and 9 June.

On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018, ALLEA will organize a workshop entitled *Ethical Aspects of Open Access: A Windy Road* in Brussels with the help of KVAB.

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<sup>7</sup> [http://www.allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/ALLEA\\_Statement\\_FP9.pdf](http://www.allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/ALLEA_Statement_FP9.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Living\\_Together\\_Missions\\_for\\_Shaping\\_the\\_Future\\_2017.pdf](http://www.allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Living_Together_Missions_for_Shaping_the_Future_2017.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/ALLEA-European-Code-of-Conduct-for-Research-Integrity-2017.pdf>

## 2. European Academies Science Advisory Council – EASAC<sup>10</sup>

### a. Introduction

EASAC - the European Academies Science Advisory Council - is formed by the national science academies of the EU Member States to enable them to collaborate with each other in providing advice to European policy-makers. It thus provides a means for the collective voice of European science to be heard. Its mission reflects the view of academies that science is central to many aspects of modern life and that an appreciation of the scientific dimension is a pre-requisite to wise policy-making. This view already underpins the work of many academies at national level. With the growing importance of the European Union as an arena for policy, academies recognise that the scope of their advisory functions needs to extend beyond the national to cover also the European level. Here it is often the case that a trans-European grouping can be more effective than a body from a single country.

The academies of Europe have therefore formed EASAC so that they can speak with a common voice with the goal of building science into policy at EU level. Through EASAC, the academies work together to provide independent, expert, evidence-based advice about the scientific aspects of public policy to those who make or influence policy within the European institutions. Drawing on the memberships and networks of the academies, EASAC accesses the best of European science in carrying out its work. Its views are vigorously independent of commercial or political bias, and it is open and transparent in its processes. EASAC aims to deliver advice that is comprehensible, relevant and timely. EASAC covers all scientific and technical disciplines, and its experts are drawn from all the countries of the European Union. It is funded by the member academies and by contracts with interested bodies. The expert members of project groups give their time free of charge. EASAC has no commercial or business sponsors. EASAC's activities include substantive studies of the scientific aspects of policy issues, reviews and advice about policy documents, workshops aimed at identifying current scientific thinking about major policy issues or at briefing policymakers, and short, timely statements on topical subjects. The EASAC Council has 28 individual members - highly experienced scientists nominated one each by the national science academies of every EU Member State that has one, the Academia Europaea and ALLEA. It is supported by a professional secretariat based at the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. The Council agrees the initiation

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.easac.eu>

of projects, appoints members of project groups, reviews drafts and approves reports for publication.

## **b. Activities 2017**

EASAC published reports and statements in 2017:

- *Genome Editing: Scientific opportunities, public interests, and policy options in the EU* (March 2017).
- *Multi-functionality and Sustainability in the European Union's Forests* (May 2017).
- *Valuing Dedicated Storage in Electricity Grids* (June 2017).
- *Homeopathic products and practices Assessing the evidence and ensuring consistency in regulating medical claims in the EU* (September 2017).
- *Opportunities and Challenges for Research on Food and Nutrition Security and Agriculture in Europe* (December 2017), in partnership with IAP.

EASAC organized two regional events, in cooperation with the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission:

- *Nuclear Fuel Cycle*, Sofia, Bulgaria, March 2017;
- *Marine Sustainability*, Piran, Slovenia, March 2017;

EASAC is a member of SAPEA - Science Advice for Policy by European Academies - part of the European Commission Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). SAPEA published its first report *Food from the Oceans* at the end of 2017.

## **c. Belgian representation**

### **Council**

Freddy Dumortier (KVAB) is the Belgian representative in the EASAC Board. He participated in meetings held in Tallinn, Estonia, on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, and in Sofia, Bulgaria, on November 23<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Steering panels**

EASAC's standing committees decide on the scientific projects of the federation. Belgian Academies are represented in 2017 in 1 steering panel:

- Energy Steering Panel: Jan Kretzschmar (KVAB) is the Belgian representative in the EASAC's Energy Steering Panel. The meetings of this committee took place in Athens on April 25<sup>th</sup> and in Brussels on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### Working groups

The Belgian Academies are represented in 2017 in working groups:

- Electricity Storage : Jan Desmet (UGent) and Willem D'haeseleer (KVAB) participated in previous years in the work of this group whose conclusions were published in June 2017 in the report *Valuing dedicated storage in electricity grids*<sup>11</sup>.
- Sustainable Forests: Reinhart Ceulemans (KVAB) was a member of this working group whose conclusions were published in May 2017 in the report *Multi-functionality and Sustainability in the European Union's Forests*<sup>12</sup>.
- Genome Editing : Joseph Martial (ARB) was a member of this working group whose conclusions were published in May 2017 in the report *Genome Editing: Scientific opportunities, public interests, and policy options in the EU*<sup>13</sup>.
- Decarbonisation of Transport : Carlo Mol (VITO). The work of this group is ongoing. Publication of results is expected by the end of 2018.

### d. RASAB hosting

In 2017, the Belgian Academies (KVAB) hosted and provided support for the organization of several EASAC activities taking place in Brussels:

- Launch of the report *Genome Editing*, 4 May ;
- Launch of the report *Sustainable Forests*, 11 May;
- Launch of the report *Valuing Dedicated Storage in Electricity Grids*, 19 June ;
- EASAC Working Group Meeting on "Decarbonisation of Transport", 4 & 5 July ;
- EASAC Biosciences Steering Panel Meeting, 6 October ;
- EASAC Energy Steering Panel Meeting, 24 October;

<sup>11</sup> <https://easac.eu/publications/details/valuing-dedicated-storage-in-electricity-grids/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://easac.eu/publications/details/multi-functionality-and-sustainability-in-the-european-unions-forests/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://easac.eu/publications/details/genome-editing-scientific-opportunities-public-interests-and-policy-options-in-the-eu/>

### 3. International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies<sup>14</sup>

#### a. Introduction

The International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies is a worldwide network of about 60 academies that assists scientists, scholars, engineers, and health professionals around the world who are subjected to severe repression solely for having non-violently exercised their rights as promulgated by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). It also promotes human rights consciousness-raising and institutional commitment to human rights work among national academies and scholarly societies worldwide.

#### b. Belgian representation

To answer to the demands set by the network, the Académie royale de Belgique and the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België have created a committee: *The Committee for the Free Practice of Science and Arts*.

#### Composition

ARB	KVAB
Jean-Marie Frère <i>Classe des Sciences</i>	Irina Veretennicoff <i>Klasse van de Natuurwetenschappen</i>
Paul Smets <i>Classe des Lettres et des Sciences morales et politiques</i>	Marie-Claire Foblets <i>Klasse van de Menswetenschappen</i>
Pierre Bartholomée <i>Classe des Arts</i>	Willem Elias <i>Klasse van de Kunsten</i>
Carine Dautrelepont <i>Classe Technologie et Société</i>	Derrick Gosselin <i>Klasse van de Technische Wetenschappen</i>

<sup>14</sup>[http://www7.nationalacademies.org/humanrights/CHR\\_044113.htm](http://www7.nationalacademies.org/humanrights/CHR_044113.htm)

#### 4. InterAcademy Partnership – IAP<sup>15</sup>

IAP is a global network of the world's science academies, launched in 1993. Its primary goal is to help member academies work together to advise citizens and public officials on the scientific aspects of critical global issues. IAP is particularly interested in assisting young and small academies in achieving these goals and, through the communication links and networks created by IAP activities, all academies will be able to raise both their public profile among citizens and their influence among policy makers.

#### 5. International Council for Science – ICSU<sup>16</sup>

##### a. Introduction

The International Council for Science is a non-governmental organization with a global membership of national scientific bodies (121 members) and international scientific unions (30 members). All National Committees are member of one of these international scientific unions.

The mission of ICSU is to strengthen international science for the benefit of society. To do this, ICSU mobilizes the knowledge and resources of the international science community to:

- Identify and address major issues of importance to science and society.
- Facilitate interaction amongst scientists across all disciplines and from all countries.
- Promote the participation of all scientists—regardless of race, citizenship, language, political stance, or gender—in the international scientific endeavour.
- Provide independent, authoritative advice to stimulate constructive dialogue between the scientific community and governments, civil society, and the private sector.

Activities focus on three areas: International Research Collaboration, Science for Policy, and Universality of Science.

##### b. Activities 2017

Following talks in recent years, the ICSU General Assembly has approved the merger of the organization with the International Social Science Council (ISSC) to become together the International Science Council (ISC). The draft strategy of the new organization emphasizes that

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<sup>15</sup><http://www.interacademies.net>

<sup>16</sup><http://www.icsu.org>

the importance of scientific understanding to society has never been greater, as humanity grapples with the problems of living sustainably and equitably on planet Earth. It stakes out a space for the Council to defend the inherent value and values of all science at a time when it has become harder for the scientific voice to be heard. It will strengthen international, interdisciplinary collaboration and support scientists to contribute solutions to complex and pressing matters of global public concern. It will advise decision makers and practitioners on the use of science in achieving ambitious agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders in 2015. And it will encourage open public engagement with science.

The first General Assembly of the International Science Council (ISC) is scheduled for July 2018.

In 2017, ICSU published reports, including:

- *Responsibilities for Preventing, Avoiding, and Mitigating Harm to Researchers Undertaking Fieldwork in Risky Settings;*
- *A Guide to SDG Interactions: from Science to Implementation;*
- Disaster Risk Reduction Policy Briefs.

### **c. Belgian representation**

Christian Vandermotten is the Belgian representative in ICSU. In 2017, he participated in the following meetings:

- Annual meeting of the European group of ICSU members in Riga, May 20<sup>th</sup>;
- ICSU General Assembly in Tapei, November 2017.

## 6. Union Académique Internationale - UAI<sup>17</sup>

### a. Introduction

The UAI is the global organization of national academies in the fields of the humanities and social sciences. Its aims are to initiate, recognize, foster and fund basic long-term international research projects. Created in 1919 in Paris with a general secretariat established in Brussels, the UAI comprises at the moment more than a hundred academies from 63 countries from all continents.

Recognizing that many substantial projects in humanities and social sciences cannot be realized within a short time span, the UAI prides itself on being willing to support significant long-term projects. The UAI already sponsored more than 3,000 books. Many of them are fundamental reference tools, such as dictionaries, encyclopaedias, and text editions, some of which are disseminated on the web. The UAI is constantly launching new international projects, most recently the transformation of Mediterranean cities throughout history. Projects adopted by the UAI are expected to be based on cooperation between several national academies. In order to achieve its aims, the UAI relies on funding from private and public sources.

The UAI advocates for the role of the humanities and the social sciences in a changing world.

### b. Activities 2017

The core business of the Union is to patronize "*entreprises*", international scientific projects of fundamental research in humanities and social sciences that make available to researchers reference tools (dictionaries, lexicons, catalogues, ...), allowing them to do their research. Dozens of publications are published every year.

In 2017, UAI organized a cross-cultural conference:

- *The Islamic Sciences in the Western World. Middle Ages-Renaissance. Exchanges, Transmission, Influence* (Amman, April 24-27) ;

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<sup>17</sup> <http://www.uai-iaa.org>

### c. Belgian representation

#### Board

Pierre Jodogne (ARB) is a Board member of the Union Académique Internationale and took part in the two meetings: in Paris (February 2017) and in Vienna (June 2017).

#### General Assembly

Belgium was represented at the 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the UAI by Pierre Jodogne (ARB) and Maximiliaan Martens (KVAB).

The next UAI General Assembly is scheduled for November 2019 in Paris and will be the occasion for the Union to celebrate its centenary.

#### Projects<sup>18</sup>

As founding members, the Belgian Academies are involved in many projects sponsored by the UAI:

- **Projet 2 | *Alchimic texts*** : This international project is led by the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, under the direction of Anne Tihon (UCL). Two volumes were published in 2017:
  - C. Viano et M. Martelli (eds.), *Les alchimistes grecs : recettes, doctrines et milieu*, Eikasmós – Quaderni Blognsei di Filologia Classica, 2017 ;
  - Maria Papathanassiou (ed.), *Stephanos von Alexandria und sein Alchemistisches Werk (Die kritische Edition des griechischen Textes eingeschlossen)*, Cosmosware, 2017.
- **Projet 9.2 | *Aristoteles Latinus, Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi*** : Carlos Steel (KVAB) is the international director of the project. A volume was published in 2017:
  - *Aristoteles Latinus Database Release 3* (December 2017), Turnhout : Brepols Publishers (electronic publication).
- **Projet 9.3 | *Avicenna Latinus, Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi*** : This international project is led by the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, under the direction of Pierre Jodogne (ARB). A volume was published in 2017: *Avicenna Latinus, Liber primus naturalium, Tractatus tertius, De his quae habent naturalia ex hoc quod habent quantitae*.

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<sup>18</sup> This section of the report is updated every two years at the occasion of the UAI General Assemblies where projects are evaluated.

- **Projet 16 | *Corpus Vitrearum*** : Yvette Vanden Bemden (ARB) et Anna Bergmans (KVAB) are members of the Belgian committee. Several volumes are in preparation.
- **Projet 20 | *Corpus Antiquitatum Americanensium*** : Le CAA is an international project composed of an American research group and a European one. Serge Lemaître of the Royal Museums of Arts and History represents Belgium in this project which has just been relaunched.
- **Projet 22 | *Fontes Historiae Africanae*** : The goal of the FHA is to publish the sources of African history. Jacques Vanderlinden of the Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer (ARSOM) represents Belgium in this project where Belgium has already published 5 volumes. The latest Belgian volume was published in 2015.
- ***Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae - LIMC - & Thesaurus Cultus et Rituum Antiquorum - ThesCRA*** - (Projet 28): Jean-Charles Balty (ARB) was a member of the project committee. The last volume (Volume VIII) was published in 2012. The project is over.
- **Projet 26 | *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum – SNG*** : François de Callataÿ (ARB) is the director of the Belgian committee.
- **Projet 41 | *Corpus des Astronomes Byzantins*** : This international project is led by the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, under the direction of Anne Tihon (UCL). The last volume was published in 2016. Others are in preparation.
- **Projet 44 | *Corpus des Antiquités phéniciennes et puniques*** : Eric Gubel (Royal Museums of Arts and History) leads the Belgian team of this project. The Belgian committee has attended various symposia and conferences in Paris, Ghent, Amsterdam and Beirut during the years 2016 and 2017 and has enabled the publication of numerous articles and publications over the same period.
- **Projet 70 | *Iusti Lipsi Epistolae*** : This project is led by the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten, under the direction of Dirk Sacré (KUL). A volume has been published recently: *Iusti Lipsi Epistolae. Pars IX: 1596*, Leuven : Peeters Publishers.
- **Projet 72 | *Papyrus-Archives. Edition and Studies*** : Willy Clarysse (KVAB) is the director of the project. A volume was published in 2017 (B. Van Beek, *The Archive of the Architektōnes Kleon and Theodoros*, *Collectanea Hellenistica* (KVAB) 7, Leuven: Peeters Publishers, 2017). Another volume is in preparation for 2018-2019.
- **Projet 73 | *Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard*** : Carl Van de Velde (KVAB) is leading the project. Several volumes were published in 2016 and 2017:

- E. McGrath e. a., *Mythological Subjects*, Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard vol.11/1, Harvey Millar and Brepols Publishers, 2016.
- C. Van Mulders, *Work in collaboration – Jan Brueghel*, Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard vol.27/1, Harvey Millar and Brepols Publishers, 2016.
- K. Jonckheere, *Portraits after Existing Prototypes*, Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard vol.19/4, Harvey Millar and Brepols Publishers, 2016.
- K. Bulckens, *The Life of Christ before the Passion – The Ministry of Christ*, Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard vol.5/2, Harvey Millar and Brepols Publishers, 2016.
- Projet 83 | *Fontes Inediti Numismaticae Antiquae* - FINA : François de Callataÿ (ARB) is the director of the Belgian committee of this project realized in partnership with the Austrian Academy. The first conference of the *Fontes Inediti Numismaticae Antiquae* was held in Rome at the Academia Belgica from May 30 to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and was entitled *Numismatic antiquarianism through correspondence 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c.* Many articles were published under the patronage of the project in 2016 and 2017.

## GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE UNION ACADÉMIQUE INTERNATIONALE

Since its foundation in 1919 the Union Académique Internationale has its headquarters in the Palace of Academies in Brussels. The Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique (ARB) is in charge of the secretariat of the UAI. The Permanent Secretary of the Académie royale de Belgique is generally the General Secretary of the Union.

By its experience at the international level, RASAB is involved in the organization of activities of the UAI and participates in the management of the General Secretariat of the Union (organization of the meetings, contact with the academy members, website, etc.)

### 1. Organization of the meetings

In 2017, UAI held 3 meetings :

- A Board meeting held in Paris, from February 10 to 12, 2017, at the invitation of the Institut de France.
- A Standing Committee meeting in Vienna, 12-13 June 2017.
- The 2017 UAI General Assembly was held in Tokyo from 22 to 26 October 2017, at the invitation of the Japan Academy.

The next General Assembly is scheduled for October 2019 in Paris, where the UAI was founded centenary and will be the occasion of the centenary of the Union.

### 2. Involvement of RASAB

Laurent Hansen, scientific counsellor of RASAB, is in charge of the UAI general secretariat: contact with the member academies and their representatives, evaluation process of the 90 scientific projects of the Union, organization of various meetings, general assemblies and conferences, etc.

He attends all UAI meetings as a member of the General Secretariat.

## APPENDIXES

## LIST OF BELGIAN DELEGATES IN FEDERATIONS OF ACADEMIES (2017)

### ALLEA

<b>Board</b>	Hubert Bocken <i>KVAB, Klasse Menswetenschappen</i>
<b>General Assembly</b>	André Preumont <i>ARB, Classe Technologie et Société</i>
	Hubert Bocken <i>KVAB, Klasse Menswetenschappen</i>
<b>9th EU RTD Framework Programme Working group Working Group</b>	Didier Viviers <i>ARB, Classe des Lettres et Sciences morales et politiques</i>
<b>E-Humanities Working Group</b>	Bernard Rentier <i>ARB, Classe Technologie et Société</i>
<b>Science and Ethics Working Group</b>	Els Van Damme <i>KVAB, Klasse Natuurwetenschappen</i>

### EASAC

<b>Council</b>	Freddy Dumortier <i>KVAB, Klasse Natuurwetenschappen</i>
<b>Energy Steering Panel</b>	Jan Kretzschmar <i>KVAB, Klasse van de Technische Wetenschappen</i>
<b>Electricity Storage Working group</b>	Willem D'Haeseleer <i>KVAB, Klasse Technische Wetenschappen &amp; Jan Desmet (UGent)</i>

<b>Genome Editing</b> <i>Working group</i>	Joseph Martial <i>ARB, Classe Technologie et Société</i>
<b>Sustainable Forests</b> <i>Working group</i>	Reinhart Ceulemans <i>KVAB, Klasse van de Natuurwetenschappen</i>
<b>ICSU</b>	
<b>General Assembly &amp; EU Group</b>	Christian Vandermotten <i>ARB, Classe des Lettres et des Sciences morales et politiques</i>
<b>UAI</b>	
<b>Board</b>	Pierre Jodogne <i>ARB, Classe des Lettres et des Sciences morales et politiques</i>
<b>General Assembly</b>	Pierre Jodogne <i>ARB, Classe des Lettres et des Sciences morales et politiques</i>
	Maximiliaan Martens <i>KVAB, Klasse van de Kusnten</i>