



Procedure and requirements for admission

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Introduction

The Young Academy of Europe (YAE) is a group of leading European young scholars. The mission of the YAE focuses on (but is not limited to):

- **Science policy:** The YAE acts as a voice for young researchers by actively reaching out to policy makers in an attempt to contribute to science policy and contribute to the development of a European science agenda for the coming decades.
- **Interdisciplinary exchange:** The YAE aims to function as a European platform fostering interdisciplinary and international scientific exchange, collaboration, and knowledge transfer amongst its members and beyond borders.
- **Science communication:** The YAE encourages young scientists to communicate their research to the general public with emphasis on scientific and scholarly issues affecting society, quality of life, and standard of living in Europe.
- **Networking:** The YAE fosters efficient communication to strengthen solidarity and networking activities amongst young researchers in Europe in order to create a pool of information, pass on experience, provide feedback, and support current colleagues and future generations of leading scientists across Europe.

The Young Academy of Europe maintains a **close affiliation with the Academia Europaea** (AE) in order to stimulate collaboration and exchange within and across fields and scientific generations.

1. Admission procedure

Prospective members may nominate themselves or may be nominated by a **current member of the YAE, the Academia Europaea, a European National Young Academy (ENYA) or a senior national academy**. A complete **nomination dossier** consists of the following documents, combined into one PDF file:

- Application form (template to be downloaded from YAE website);
- A brief **curriculum vitae** of the candidate (max. 3 pages). The CV should also contain the candidate's contact information;



- A copy of the candidate's **doctorate certificate**;
- A **statement of interest** by the candidate, which outlines why they want to join YAE and how they intend to contribute to the activities of YAE (1–2 pages);
- Two **letters of nomination** by current members of the YAE, the Academia Europaea, an ENYA or national academy, from two separate countries (one can be the candidate's own country) (template to be downloaded from YAE website).

If a candidate works in a country or field that is not well-represented in our membership base, they may contact nominations@yacadeuro.org to discuss other possible options.

Note that we will only consider full nomination packages including all of the above documents. Nominations should be sent directly via email to nominations@yacadeuro.org.

Nominations will be assessed by the YAE Selection Committee on a rolling basis throughout the year. The YAE Selection Committee is composed of the Chair and two Vice-Chairs, representing the three Domains (LS, PE, SH). In assessing the nominations, the YAE Selection Committee may request the assistance of other Members of YAE as well as independent specialists.

The Selection Committee will make a recommendation to the full YAE Board on whether to admit each nominee, based on the eligibility criteria outlined below. The final decision on the admission of new Members is taken by the YAE Board.

Following the completion of the selection procedure, the Chair or Vice-Chair of the YAE Selection Committee will inform the nominee of the final decision. Members will automatically become alumni after a set number of years, as determined by the YAE as a whole (currently 7 years). The names of all YAE Members and Alumni are published on the YAE website.

2. Membership eligibility criteria

As of 1 January 2014, all excellent scholars currently working in one of the States comprising the European Research Areaⁱ may be nominated for membership in the Young

ⁱ The Member States of the European Union, plus Associated Countries as defined by ERC application rules, currently including, but for the future not limited to: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine and Turkey, plus United Kingdom and Belarus, as per YAE bylaws.



Academy of Europe. The YAE shares the objectives of the ERC and AE to widen the participation across Europe (especially Central and Eastern Europe), across the disciplines (STEM disciplines versus humanities and social sciences), and to promote gender balance.

As of 9th February 2017, having been selected as a member of an ENYA may be considered as having passed the criteria for YAE membership. Presidents of these ENYAs may propose candidates directly to the YAE Board, together with their CVs and short statement of motivation.

At any point in time, especially when a decline in membership numbers is predicted because of members becoming alumni, the YAE Board may prepare a Chair's List of suitable candidates and invite them directly to become members. The regular procedures will be followed with two support letters necessary, with one exception: no motivation letter is obligatory.

Candidates must have **obtained their doctorate less than 12 years ago** (as of the date of the nomination). Credit will be given for e.g., childcare: 18 months per child for women, time taken off for men; national service.

The **scientific excellence** of the candidates will be the prime admission criterion. The internationally leading scientific quality of its Members is a prerequisite for the achievement of YAE's goals. Furthermore, the credibility of YAE's work program, advice to policy makers and policy documents hinges on the reputation of its Members. The Selection Committee will assess a nominee's scientific excellence as it is **recognized by their peers**. Therefore, the Committee will consider a candidate's publication record, the academic position he or she has attained, as well as major research funding awarded by European or national funding agencies. The YAE Selection Committee maintains a list of EU and national third-party funding schemes (by country) which help assess a Nominee's scientific excellence, independence, and leadership abilities. In assessing applications we also recognise the other facets of a research career, including outreach and teaching.

Further assessment criteria will be the nominee's **leadership abilities** (as demonstrated, for instance, by leading an own research group) and **scientific independence** (as



evidenced, for instance, by a publication record independent from academic mentors). Finally, candidates should have shown an interest in **pan-European or international cooperation** and science policy, as well as have spent significant time abroad for study or research.

For the realisation of its goals, YAE relies on the contributions of all Members. Therefore, the Selection Committee will also assess whether it expects that the nominee will **actively participate** in YAE in the future.

The specific criteria that apply to the three domains of the YAE are detailed in the following sections. If one of the listed quantitative criteria is not fully met, a candidate may demonstrate by other documented means that they meet the corresponding membership requirements.

If it is found that the decision to admit a new Member was based on incorrect or incomplete documentation supplied by the candidate, the YAE Board may repeal a Membership once these circumstances become known.

3. Specific criteria for the LS and PE Domains

Scientific excellence should be demonstrated along the following criteria:

- Publication record: Candidates should have a strong publication record commensurate with their career stage. They are expected to have published a significant body of high-quality research in several articles as first or senior author.
- Scientific recognition, grant funding and academic awards: It is expected that candidates should have displayed scientific independence and excellence, as for example through academic awards, as well as competitive and prestigious European or national research grants, e.g. an ERC Starting or Consolidator Grant or equivalent grants such as independent fellowshipsⁱⁱ.
- Leadership skills: Candidates should be independent leaders of their own research group (i.e. principal investigator). The leadership role can also be demonstrated by having supervised Ph.D. students and postdoctoral research fellows as principal adviser.

ⁱⁱ Examples: Ramón y Cajal, Vidi, Royal Society Research Fellowships, etc. see national funding bodies.



- International visibility: Candidates should be internationally visible. It can be reflected in invitations as invited/Keynote/Plenary speakers or session Chairs at international conferences, memberships of editorial boards and international collaborations.

4. Specific criteria for the SH Domain

Scientific excellence should be demonstrated along the following criteria:

- Publication record: A candidate is expected to have published a significant body of high-quality research as a monograph and/or several articles. Even in countries where Ph.D. theses do not have to be published, the publication of these theses increasingly becomes a marker of academic distinction.
- Scientific recognition, grant funding and academic awards: It is expected that candidates should have displayed scientific independence and excellence, as for example through academic awards, as well as competitive and prestigious European or national research grants.
- Leadership skills: Candidates should be independent leaders of their own research group (i.e. principal investigator). The leadership role can also be demonstrated by having supervised Ph.D. students and postdoctoral research fellows as principal adviser.
- International visibility: Candidates should be internationally visible. It can be reflected in invitations as invited/Keynote/Plenary speakers or session Chairs at international conferences, memberships of editorial boards and international collaborations.

5. Check list

Before submitting your nomination, please make sure it meets the following formal requirements:

- My nomination dossier contains all required documents (application form, CV, doctorate certificate, statement of interest, and the letters of nomination from two referees);



- My CV is max. 3 pages long (Arial or equivalent font, 11 pt, 2 cm margins) and contains my affiliation and contact address;
- The indicated referees are members of the YAE, the AE, an ENYA or national academy;
- My statement of interest is 1–2 pages long and includes information on how I intend to contribute to the activities of the YAE.