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## EASAC Council

The EASAC Council has 29 individual members and meets twice a year in different capitals of the European Union. It consists of representatives of the following academies and academic bodies.

- The Austrian Academy of Sciences
- The Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium
- The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- The Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- The Czech Academy of Sciences
- The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters
- The Estonian Academy of Sciences
- The Council of Finnish Academies
- The Academie des sciences (France)
- The German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- The Academy of Athens
- The Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- The Royal Irish Academy
- The Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italy)
- The Latvian Academy of Sciences
- The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
- The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
- The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters
- The Polish Academy of Sciences
- The Academy of Sciences of Lisbon (Portugal)
- The Romanian Academy
- The Slovak Academy of Sciences
- The Slovenian Academy of Science and Arts
- The Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences
- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences
- The Royal Society (United Kingdom)

Academia Europaea  
ALLEA

Observer  
The Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM)

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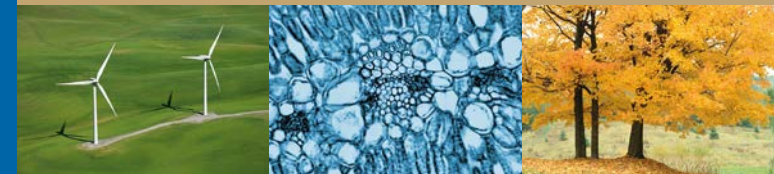
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Building Science into EU Policy –  
The National Science Academies  
of the EU Member States



## What is EASAC?

EASAC is the voice of independent science in Brussels. The national academies of science of the EU Member States created EASAC to give science-based expert advice to EU policy-makers on questions of relevance to the citizens of Europe.

Our views are vigorously independent of commercial or political bias. We follow open and transparent processes to arrive at science-based analysis and recommendations. We aim to give advice that is clear and relevant to many of today's most pressing issues.

EASAC works through steering panels and working groups and is supported by a dedicated secretariat based at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (Halle/Saale) and the Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium (Brussels).

## Who are EASAC's members?

National academies of science are networks of outstanding scientists, aiming to foster scientific progress and collaboration and to provide scientific understanding – both for policy-makers and the wider public.

EASAC unites all the national science academies of the EU, one pan-European academy of sciences, and the association of all academies in geographical Europe. The national science academies of Norway and Switzerland are members by explicit vote of EASAC Council, the governing body of EASAC.

## What is EASAC's role in Brussels?

EU policy-makers are familiar with advocacy groups who seek to influence policy and funding decisions. EASAC is different. EASAC asks policy-makers to consider the detailed analyses and recommendations of Europe's most respected scientists.

EASAC has an ongoing dialogue with European policy-makers, engaging on a regular basis with the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS), and also contributing to other science advisory mechanisms within the institutions of the EU.

## If EASAC does not lobby, what does it actually do?

EASAC investigates topical issues of public policy through its network of independent scientific experts.

EASAC works in three science areas, or programmes: energy, environment and biosciences. The working groups in these programmes produce reports or statements and hold workshops and briefings. Past work includes reports on genome editing; sustainable forests; negative emission technologies; extreme weather events; regulation of homeopathic products; food and nutrition security and agriculture; and climate change and health.

The Council of EASAC oversees the work of the programmes, decides on new projects, recruits working group members and approves reports for publication after peer-review.

## Why does EASAC's work matter to EU policy?

- » Europe's scientists produce cutting-edge, internationally recognised research which should be used to underpin EU policy decisions.
- » EU policies are costly and time-consuming to develop and have long-term effects on Europe's economy, environment and society. They should be based on the best, most accurate scientific understanding.
- » EU policies should be informed by rigorous research, not opinions and interest groups. It must see beyond persuasive, but ultimately flawed arguments.
- » Policy-makers need reliable information from authoritative and impartial sources with no interest in political outcomes, particularly on controversial issues.

## How is EASAC funded?

EASAC is supported through membership fees that each member academy pays annually. The academy-nominated experts of EASAC's working groups and steering panels give their time for free. Their costs for participation in meetings are normally covered by the nominating EASAC member academies.

EASAC has no commercial or business sponsors and does not receive funding from the EU. It receives some support from the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), the global network of science- and medical academies.