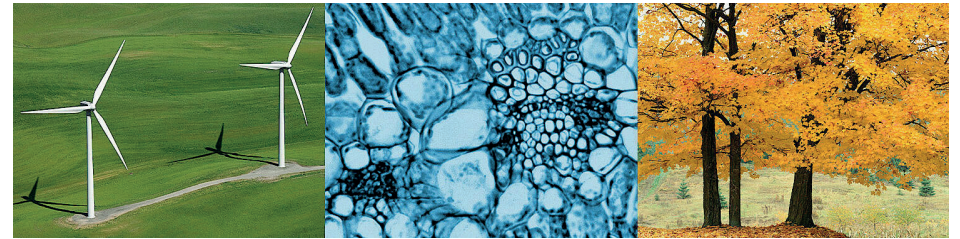


EASAC Strategic Plan 2026-2030: Impactful Science Advice for the Benefit of Europe

Approved by the EASAC Council
on 27 February 2026



Priorities

- Strengthen **relations with member academies**;
- Enhance **collaboration with partner networks**, build on SAPEA;
- Reinforce **communication**, including procedures, and assess impact of topics and ways of working;
- Increase **presence in Brussels**;
- Explore possibilities for **cross-fertilization between programmes and increased interdisciplinary work**;
- **Fundraising**: build up partnerships, raise the funding base to support the development and impact of our work;
- Prepare for a sustainable **future transition of the Secretariat**.

EASAC and the European science for policy landscape

EASAC, set up in 2001, is the network of the 28 national science academies of the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland and the UK. Additionally, the pan-European academy, Academia Europaea, is also a member.

Furthermore, EASAC serves as the regional affiliated network for Europe of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), the global network of science, engineering and medical academies that work together on global science policy issues.

Since 2025, EASAC has been working closely with Academia Europaea, ALLEA, and the networks of engineering (EuroCASE) and medical (FEAM) academies in Europe through SAPEA, a project consortium that forms an integral yet independent part of the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM).

With a potential reach of over 10,000 experts covering a wealth of scientific disciplines, EASAC is a powerful instrument for mobilising Europe's best scientific minds on important public policy issues.

EASAC's core constituencies and target audiences remain basically the same as in the past, and are heterogenous in nature:

- Policy-making EU institutions and EU affiliated persons, in particular:
 - » the European Commission and its Commissioners, incl. the DGs most closely related to EASAC's core programmes (e.g., DG ENV, DG SANTE, DG AGRI and DG ENER),
 - » the EU Parliament, exploiting different avenues for reaching its members (MEPs), e.g., national parliamentary groups, EU-wide political parties and working groups,
 - » the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) incl. STOA,
 - » the Joint Research Centre (JRC),
 - » the European Council, through EASAC's member academies,
 - » the Group of EU Chief Scientific Advisors, through SAPEA,
- Policy-making institutions and members of national parliaments in EASAC member academies' countries,
- National science academies in EASAC member academies' countries,
- Media, stakeholders (e.g., academic bodies, think tanks, industry bodies, EU agencies etc.) and citizens in EASAC member academies' countries and beyond,
- Partner networks on a scale beyond Europe.

Based on recent EASAC member academies' feedback as well as on stakeholder and contextual analyses, the Strategic Action Plan at hand maintains EASAC's vision, refreshes its mission, recalls EASAC's essential values and provides guidance for EASAC's work until 2030 by laying out mid-term priority objectives.

Vision

As a trusted and sought-after knowledge broker, EASAC is an influential player in the EU science-for-policy landscape. EASAC provides anticipatory and timely leadership in proactive science advice for the benefit of Europe, addressing critical societal challenges in key topical fields such as environment, energy, and biosciences and public health.

EASAC leverages the collective expertise of its member academies to help shape the science-for-policy interface in its member states.

EASAC places excellent and timely science advice at the heart of European policy development and formulation and implementation. Thus, EASAC successfully supports a resilient, informed and sustainable Europe.

Beyond Europe, EASAC is recognized as an authoritative voice for European science advice and a strong partner in forging international alliances to address global challenges.

Mission

As a trusted knowledge broker at the science-policy interface in Europe, EASAC builds on expertise, independence and impartiality, free from political or economic interests, while being proactive in addressing urgent societal challenges.

EASAC produces rigorous, evidence-based scientific assessments on pressing scientific and societal questions in a timely manner, and is effective in translating complex scientific findings into timely, accessible and actionable policy recommendations, also taking into account the European Commission's priorities.

Influencing policies within the EU and beyond

EASAC acts as a driver in strengthening evidence-based decision-making and in providing evidence for policy development in the European science for policy landscape. This includes addressing EU institutions, policy makers and other key stakeholders. In doing so, EASAC currently focuses on key topical fields: environment, energy, and biosciences and public health.

A potent network of European national science academies

EASAC provides a progressive and resilient network of academies, strengthening cooperation among its member academies, with academy networks at both European and global levels as well as within SAPEA.

In its key topical fields, EASAC makes the voice of European academies heard. EASAC helps increasing the visibility of science academies as well as their scientific and societal contributions, with the EASAC Council and Steering Panels as main engines of EASAC's work.

Fostering trust in science

EASAC acts as a broker of knowledge to the wider European public, promoting understanding of science for policy by demonstrating the value of scientific knowledge in public policy deliberations, and building relevant capacity in Europe.

As a regional network of IAP, EASAC co-operates with IAP's regional networks around the world, as a conduit for shaping and promulgating important science and science for policy messages within and beyond Europe.

VALUES

The following values guide EASAC's operations and help EASAC achieve its mission and vision.

CORE VALUES

Scientific excellence:

EASAC's work is scientifically sound and up-to-date, applying a multidisciplinary approach.

Academic freedom:

EASAC works along the principles of equity and academic freedom.

Integrity and accountability (including communication):

EASAC works in an honest, fair, independent, trustworthy and ethical way. EASAC is responsive and communicates transparently and effectively. EASAC provides a comprehensive range of formats and outreach methods to effectively fulfil its mission in the more and more complex European science-policy landscape.

Innovation:

EASAC inspires new and creative approaches that increase value to target audiences, member academies and scientific contributors.

Sustainability:

EASAC manages resources wisely and sustainably while striving for high operational, financial and administrative quality, and aims at diversifying its financial sources in order to ensure a stable future. In its work, EASAC also takes into consideration the main principles of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Diversity engagement and equity:

EASAC commits to a diverse, inclusive, safe and supportive work and discussion environment, and aims at reaching a balanced diversity (related to age and career levels, gender, regions) in its fields of activities.

WAYS OF WORKING

Network focus and collaboration:

EASAC provides dedicated and professional support to all member academies and their delegates.

Partnership:

EASAC collaborates with science academies and with other academy networks to achieve common goals.

MEASURES AND SMART OBJECTIVES

Based on EASAC's previous performance and successes, further enhancing EASAC's effectiveness, relevance, and impact in the science-policy landscape constitutes the main goal towards 2030.

EASAC has developed a solid reputation for producing outstanding reports on wide-ranging issues of policy relevance, and will continue to produce high quality output bringing expertise and insight into different parts of the policy cycle: from scoping the question/new project, to helping to shape new policies and legislation by EU policymakers, to impact monitoring (of EASAC S4P on (EU) policymaking).

With a view to 2030, EASAC commits to the following SMART objectives:

1. Strengthen its role within the European S4P landscape by securing a trustful, relevant and resilient academics' network.
2. Further diversify the portfolio of EASAC formats and output.
3. Produce measurable outreach impact.

Here are the SMART objectives in detail:

1.	Strengthen EASAC's role within the European S4P landscape by securing a trustful, relevant and resilient academics' network	
	<i>Ways to reach objective</i>	<i>How to measure reach of objective</i>
1.1.	In order to further increase its relevance, EASAC will consider reshaping its portfolio by: • regular horizon scanning for future policy challenges (in order to ensure closer alignment of topics with relevant policy issues). • increasing topical flexibility in order to be more responsive to emerging topics (with mechanisms like interdisciplinary task forces and a rapid response mechanism proposed to address urgent EU policy issues and emerging societal challenges).	Thoroughly reassess EASAC's key topical fields, integration of Brussels intelligence, and cross-panel collaboration in Council meetings every other year.

	• exploring opportunities for alternative programmes (while not increasing the overall number of programmes). • better integrating Brussels intelligence in EASAC's way of working. • working on complex cross-cutting themes, emphasizing stronger cross-panel interaction and collaboration, and identifying themes that transcend the three current programme areas.	
1.2.	EASAC will strengthen its network inwards and outwards by: • increasing engagement with member academies and ownership of output by members • discussing the admission of new (associate) members • strengthening EASAC Council and Steering Panels as main engines of EASAC's work • boosting relations with YASAS and national young academies in Europe • purposefully coordinating co-creation and cooperation with partners such as ALLEA and FEAM • pursuing an active engagement within SAPEA, e.g., by supporting SAPEA outreach and dissemination efforts, by increasing engagement of EASAC member academies in SAPEA activities, and by ensuring that EASAC delivers high-quality work that contributes to SAPEA's objectives. SAPEA norms and procedures might also inform improvements to EASACs procedures. • continuing to provide regional leadership for IAP's projects and to cooperate with other IAP regional networks on issues of mutual interest.	• EASAC Board members will aim at meeting with member academies in order to explore how to best utilize their expertise in delivery of EASAC's work and vice versa. • Striving to create events, such as science policy "learning collaboratives" where member academies – and possibly other stakeholders - can share good practice and work through real case studies together. • Include update in president's report at Council meetings on: ◦ membership engagement and ownership ◦ relations with EMCR networks. ◦ coordination & co-creation with other academy networks. • Invite delegates from European networks of Young Academies (e.g. YASAS) as observers to Council meetings (as observers / or in the future).
1.3.	Building science policy capacity on the national and regional level where desired. Part of EASAC's role is to help empower its member academies to work confidently and competently at national and regional levels. In particular, EASAC will emphasize active and stronger participation of South-Eastern European academies.	Report on diversity (including aspects of regional and gender-related diversity, and the inclusion of EMCRs) in Board, Steering Panels and Working Groups at Council meetings.

1.4.	EASAC aims at building a resilient network structure that can adapt to future changes (“operational resilience”), and will further enhance efficiency and proficiency of its managerial and administrative operations by: - demonstrating transparency, consistency and quality assurance in all its processes and procedures. - arranging for regular meetings between EASAC secretariat and member academies' executives. - securing a new host academy for the Secretariat early enough, effecting a smooth transition.	Develop, define and lay down key processes and procedures in writing and present them to Council for approval. Include update on transparency, consistency and quality assurance in EASAC's processes and procedures in executive director's report at Council meetings.
2.	Further diversify the portfolio of EASAC formats and output	
	<i>Ways to reach objective</i>	<i>How to measure reach of objective</i>
2.1.	EASAC's content formats will be refreshed focusing on giving timely advice, hosting more webinars on producing easy-to-digest documents, e.g., by: - introducing short policy briefs (1-2 pages) as additional EASAC output format, with high-level findings and actionable recommendations, - reducing the number of longer reports, - establishing fast-track response briefs on emerging issues, e.g., to EU public consultations, - utilizing infographics, microsites and scrolly-telling formats, - adapting outputs to include country-specific data and insights for member states.	Before the start of a new project (incl follow-up projects like commentaries), a timeline is presented and approved by the Board, including the envisioned completion and dissemination dates in order to have maximum impact. Each year, a minimum of three policy briefs (1-2 pages) is issued by EASAC.
2.2.	EASAC will further improve its dissemination strategies by: making better use of the broad academy network for dissemination, e.g., by mobilizing member academies to organise national or	The number of followers on important social media channels (e.g., LinkedIn, Bluesky) is increased by 10% each year and reports on the numbers are given at council meetings.

	regional events for policymakers to discuss EASAC's advice, and to use EASAC material in the national context - enhancing digital presence, e.g., by: - increasing use of social media, webinars, and online communication tools, - optimizing content for display on popular social media channels (e.g. LinkedIn), at European & national levels, - creating more high-quality videos. - further strengthening EASAC's capability and competence in hosting impactful virtual & hybrid meetings.	Easy access to EASAC-produced infographics, videos, and social media toolkits is provided for member academies.
2.3.	EASAC will aim at strengthening its on-site presence in Brussels by: - increasing direct encounters of EASAC members, delegates or staff with politicians, policy officers etc. - clarifying and focusing on its main target groups. - utilizing member academies' states' Permanent Representations. - providing an independent platform for debate and for convening scientists, policymakers and the public, and also as a platform to enhance the visibility of its member academies. - proactively engaging with media and influencers to reach politicians and policy officers.	A report on political and stakeholder contacts is a standing item on the council agenda, thus monitoring engagement with EU institutions and the wider political landscapes in the EASAC member states.
3.	Produce measurable outreach impact	
	<i>Ways to reach objective</i>	<i>How to measure reach of objective</i>
3.1.	When EASAC provides scientific advice directly to the European Commission and/or parliamentary officials, the impact should be assessed on the basis of the feedback and interest shown by the addressees concerned.	Include reporting on the immediate interest and the feedback of direct addressees in the standard reports at Council, in particular in the reports by programme directors and communications team.

3.2.	Citations of EASAC publications in the European Commission working papers and the like prove that EASAC is perceived as a trustworthy knowledge broker.	Count project-specific citations of EASAC publications in Commission working papers and the like over the course of 5 years after finishing a project. Present citation numbers to PCG and to Council at their meetings.
3.3.	Storytelling supported by visuals and short, simple messages as well as infographics appear to be very powerful. EASAC designs its online appearance accordingly. In particular, EASAC ensures that its online publications are easily retrievable.	Count visits to the EASAC website and downloads from the website, and present the numbers to PCG and to Council at their meetings.
3.4.	Given their influence on public opinion, social media are an important communications channel to which policymakers often respond. EASAC therefore works to maximise social media coverage of its policy advice.	Count and analyse social media coverage of EASAC (publications). Present quantitative and qualitative analysis to PCG and to Council at their meetings.

Additional comment:

EASAC needs to improve its understanding of how policies are being influenced today, and to ensure that its messages are framed and promoted in ways which have the highest probability of being noticed and accepted.

Presumably, it will need more resources to closely follow policymaking processes and monitor the impact of EASAC's science-based advice within these processes.