



FIATAL KUTATÓK AKADÉMIAJA

HUNGARIAN YOUNG ACADEMY

Statutes

Last amended on 4 May 2022

Preamble

The Hungarian Young Academy (HYA) is a scientific society which operates in accordance with the public duties of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA). Constituted as an organic part of the membership of the public body of the MTA, it intends to be the voice of young researchers in Hungary. The main objectives of the HYA are to participate in the scientific activities of the MTA and to represent the community of young researchers in Hungary and abroad. Through its activity, it seeks to promote the professional development of young researchers and strengthen the dialogue between researchers and society.

I. Foundation

All members of the HYA shall be members of the public body of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The HYA shall decide independently on the scope of its activities, its functioning, and the election of its members and Executive Board. The aims of the HYA shall be the following:

- a. represent the generation-specific interests of the Hungarian young researchers' community at national and international level;
- b. promote scientific excellence;
- c. raise and maintain young people's interest in science and make scientific careers more attractive;
- d. promote scientific careers and provide role models to follow, and support talent management and mentoring;
- e. mitigate and level out perceived inequalities in scientific careers;
- f. engage in science diplomacy in relation to HYA activities;
- g. cooperate with other sectors of society (e.g. public education, health, media) at national and international level;
- h. cooperate with governmental and non-governmental organisations;
- i. promote interdisciplinary and international collaboration;
- j. organise scientific conferences and workshops;
- k. pursue any other cause that affects the interests of the young researchers' community and which the HYA General Assembly considers worthy of support.

2. Membership

Application for membership in the Hungarian Young Academy shall be open only for members of the MTA's public body. Applicants shall have obtained their first PhD degree less than 12 years earlier, and shall be below the age of 41 in the year of their becoming a member. Based on individual consideration, this age limit may be extended up to a maximum of 45 years of age, corresponding to the period of



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justified parental leave (24 months per child) or – upon request – of any other duly justified leave of absence. Membership shall be obtained for a period of 5 years, after which members shall become alumni. Members shall actively participate in the activities of the HYA throughout their membership and support the organisation through their individual contributions. Members of the HYA shall have the right to vote at the General Assembly of the HYA.

3. Election of members

The Hungarian Young Academy shall have a maximum of sixty members. Twelve new members shall be elected annually, representing the disciplines of Life Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences, until the HYA has sixty members. Thereafter, new members will be elected each year so as to maintain the membership of sixty. New members shall be elected in three phases. The first phase shall be that of self-nomination of those eligible on the basis of a call for applications. In the second phase, eligible members of the MTA's public body shall vote on the candidates from their respective scientific sections. Following the approval of the President of the MTA, members of the MTA's public body under 45 years of age shall be invited to vote electronically, in accordance with the above age requirements regarding the election of members. In the third phase, the election of new members shall be completed by an ad hoc committee (hereinafter referred to as "Election Committee"), established for this purpose from among the members of the HYA. The Election Committee shall take into account the results of the online votes cast by the members of the MTA's public body, as well as the candidates' scientific excellence and activities proposed as potential members as set out in their motivation letter. Within the above framework, the Election Committee shall aim for a balanced HYA membership in terms of gender, geographical distribution and disciplines. Finally, those elected by the Election Committee shall become members by signing the Declaration of Acceptance of the HYA Statutes.

In order to ensure continuity in the activity of those persons who have contributed to the objectives of the HYA up until the signing of the Partnership Agreement, in the year of the HYA's foundation, the elected membership shall be composed of those 10 persons who have been involved in the Ad Hoc Committee of Young Researchers of the MTA and who meet the age requirement, and a further 14 persons selected among those recommended to the attention of the Ad Hoc Committee of Young Researchers of the MTA, taking into account their scientific discipline, gender and geographical distribution. Of the 24 initial members of the HYA, the 12 oldest members shall be the first to end their membership in four years' time, when the number of members attains the maximum of sixty.

4. General Assembly

The General Assembly shall be the main decision-making body of the HYA. Issues relating to the operation and regulations of the HYA shall be discussed at the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall consist of the HYA membership.

The exclusive competences of the General Assembly shall be the following:

- a. amend the Statutes/Association Agreement by a 2/3 majority vote;



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- b. make decisions of principle concerning the membership, committees and Executive Board of the HYA;
- c. elect the Executive Board and the Co-Chairs;
- d. discuss proposals submitted in writing by any HYA member to the Executive Board 15 days prior to the General Assembly;
- e. make any other decisions related to the operation and objectives of the HYA.

The General Assembly shall meet as necessary, but at least once a year, at a time and place to be announced at least 30 days before the meeting. The quorum shall be constituted when at least half of the members are present. If the quorum is not met, a new meeting shall be convened one hour after the original time, and the quorum shall be met regardless of the number of members present. The General Assembly shall decide by a simple majority of the members present (50% + 1 vote). Minutes shall be taken at each General Assembly and shall be made available for all members. The General Assembly shall be convened and presided by the Co-Chairs. In extraordinary situations when urgent decisions are required, the Executive Board may convene an extraordinary General Assembly. Extraordinary General Assemblies shall be announced at least 7 days before the meeting. Extraordinary General Assemblies may be attended online, and voting may be performed electronically (e.g. by e-mail and on a closed online platform), provided that the participants can be clearly identified. In such a case, the quorum shall be established by the convener of the meeting under the same criteria as in the case of ordinary General Assemblies. If a resolution is made, the validity of the vote shall also be established by the convener of the meeting: the number of the votes received shall exceed half of the number of those entitled to vote.

5. Executive Board

The HYA Executive Board shall consist of the two Co-Chairs and five elected Executive Board members.

- The Co-Chairs shall be elected by the membership for a two-year term, with a one-year overlap between the terms of the two Co-Chairs. At the end of the first two years after the establishment of the HYA, the term of office of one of the Co-Chairs shall be extended for one year and an additional Co-Chair shall be elected. The General Assembly shall extend the term of office of one of the Co-Chairs, based on the vote of the General Assembly, by one year. From the third year after the establishment of the HYA, this rule shall no longer apply.
- Board members shall be elected by the membership for a one-year term.
- A member may be elected once as Co-Chair and up to three times as Executive Board member.

The Executive Board shall be in charge of the administrative management of the HYA. The members of the Executive Board shall make decisions unanimously. The members of the Executive Board shall share their tasks among themselves as agreed in writing and in accordance with the objectives of the HYA. If a Co-Chair resigns or is otherwise unable to complete his/her term of office, the remainder of his/her term of office shall be completed by a member of the Executive Board appointed by the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall have the following duties:

- a. convene the General Assembly at least once a year;



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- b. implement the plans and proposals adopted by the General Assembly;
- c. annually inform the General Assembly of the activities and budget of the HYA for the previous year. The respective information document shall be sent to the President of the MTA by the Co-Chairs after its adoption by the General Assembly. One of the Co-Chairs shall report to the General Assembly of the MTA on the activities and budget of the HYA for the previous year;¹
- d. decide on the acceptance of donations and grants to the HYA, decide on the submission of grant applications, and manage the HYA's assets;
- e. prepare an annual report of activities and report to the General Assembly on the finances of the organisation;
- f. set up standing and ad hoc committees;
- g. maintain regular contact with the relevant units of the MTA's public body or Secretariat, as designated by the President of the MTA, with a view to achieving the HYA's objectives.

The members of the Executive Board shall meet at regular intervals. Members may participate in the meetings virtually, provided that they can be clearly identified via the electronic means used. Minutes shall be taken at the meetings of the Executive Board.

6. Budget of the HYA ²

On the basis of the Partnership Agreement concluded between the MTA and the HYA, the MTA shall appropriate the HYA an annual budget, the amount of which shall be determined each year by the President of the MTA. The Co-Chairs shall present the annual report of activities and financial report of the previous year, as well as the budgetary plan for the reference year to the General Assembly for approval. The two Co-Chairs shall then submit and present the approved annual report, financial report, and budgetary plan to the President and the General Assembly of the MTA. The financial commitments of the HYA shall be approved and countersigned by the MTA Secretariat in accordance with the decision of the President of the MTA.

The Co-Chairs of the HYA shall be jointly entitled to negotiate with the MTA in budgetary matters and to submit expense claims on behalf of the HYA. In exceptional cases, HYA members authorised in advance and in writing by the two Co-Chairs shall also be entitled to negotiate with the MTA in budgetary matters and to submit expense claims. In this case, the authorisation shall specify the scope and duration of their mandate.

7. Representation of the HYA

Each of the two Co-Chairs of the HYA shall have the right to represent the HYA individually. Non-HYA members shall not be entitled to represent the HYA.

8. Alumni

¹ Amended by the General Assembly's resolution of 4 May 2022.

² Amended by the General Assembly's resolution of 4 May 2022.



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At the end of the membership period, members shall become alumni. The rights and duties of the alumni and their further role to be played in the activities of the HYA shall be determined by the Executive Board.

9. Signing of the Partnership Agreement and applicable law

This Partnership Agreement establishing the HYA shall be concluded with the Declarations of Acceptance of all the acceding members, which declarations shall be annexed to this Partnership Agreement. The Partnership Agreement shall remain in force irrespective of the resignation of any HYA member.

In matters not regulated in this Partnership Agreement, the provisions of Act V of 2013 on the Civil Code and the provisions on civil law partnerships shall prevail. All regulations applicable to the members of the MTA's public body shall equally apply to the HYA and all of its members.

Done in Budapest, on this 3rd day of September 2020, in accordance with the Declarations of Accession signed on a separate sheet.

Last amendment of the Statutes: 4 May 2022