European Members of the International Science Council (ISC)

6th Annual Meeting

Minutes

September 14-15, 2023

Podgorica, Montenegro

Approved on 21 November 2024

International Science Council

European Members of the International Science Council ISC 6th Annual Meeting

Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, Podgorica
Address: Rista Stijovica, 5, 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro

Thursday, 14 September 2023, 15:30–until late
Friday, 15 September 2023, 9:00–16:45

PART I: Business Meeting Thursday, 14 September 2023

1 Welcoming remarks, Meeting agenda, Minutes of the 2022 meeting

The Annual Meeting was opened by the President of the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, Dragan K. Vukčević.
After the welcoming remarks, the meeting was presided over by the Chair of the European ISC Members, Tarmo Soomere. Meeting participants adopted the agenda that had been sent out with the letter of invitation. The minutes of last year's annual meeting were approved without amendment.

Tarmo Soomere reports on the main events of the past year, highlighting in particular the last Annual Meeting in London and the 2023 Mid-term Meeting of ISC Members in Paris in May.

Decision
To adopt the agenda **To endorse the minutes of the previous meeting (pages 7-12 of the current document)**

Isa Habibbayli, President of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, presented the Academy's activities and stressed the importance of international scientific cooperation.

2 An overview of current developments in ISC and foresight for European Members

(Online presentation and discussion) The ISC Chief Executive Officer, Salvatore Aricò, updated on general developments at and with the ISC. The ISC is a global organisation with around 250 members worldwide, with activities depending on the interests of its members. He presented the new priorities that have been formulated over the last few years. There has been an increase in interaction with policy makers, the role of knowledge brokerage, and the emergence of a number of new global issues and challenges. Science itself is also changing. The ISC is a secure base for debates. Each region has its own focus, one of the European challenges is the institutionalisation of the network. There will be a new action plan, a new strategic plan for ISC in the second half of next year.

16:40–17:40

Discussion panel: Topical issues of the ISC European Members (ISC/EM) and contribution to the global ISC

Chair: Tarmo Soomere
Panelists: Geoffrey Boulton, Anna Mauranen, Jürg Pfister, Giselinde Kuipers

The panellists addressed scientific publishing and the role of European academics in drawing attention to it. It was pointed out that European members should discuss new directions and strategies for global ISC among themselves. What do these mean for European scientific organisations? We are seeing governments in many places paying more attention to scientific cooperation and researcher mobility, the impact of which also needs to be discussed.

The European-centred history of science (and the definition of science) was also identified as a topic calling for further discussion. From the creation of today's ISC, there is no proper balance between science and social science/humanities. Science is in a much stronger position. We should strengthen these collaborations and synergies. European Members are part of the ISC global organisation, but do we know what the ISC wants to say, do our elected fellows know what the ISC wants to say. It is one thing to have general values, but the actual messages are becoming more and more precise, and technical, and need to be delivered quickly, under pressure. How will these positions be consolidated?

European members should discuss whether the credibility of the ISC mission to be the global voice for science requires a stronger and more comprehensive membership. And whether they are prepared to provide it. Should European organisations allocate more resources, human resources to deal with ISC issues and cooperation?

Action required
To consider the information **To invite European ISC members to get in touch on the issues raised**

The Chair expressed his appreciation for all the questions raised and the discussion. The Business Meeting was closed by a short Science Day teaser by Anna Mauranen on the topic of: Science in the times of innovation – can we defend the investment in us? (see the slides).

The slides from the Annual Meeting are available on the ISC European Members website:https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15a1LsWECOJPzy_t1MY_jyxX_50xojYCu?usp=sharing.

PART II: Science Meeting — Friday, 15 September 2023

09:30–09:40 Opening

- Introduction to the Science Day themes – Tarmo Soomere, President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences

09:40–10:00 Challenges for Science in Montenegro

Speaker

- Biljana Šćepanović, Minister of Science and Technological Development, Government of Montenegro

The minister was stressing that they have high level research community, but still there are several challenges in from of them. The first challenge is to make the researchers wish to perform their science in Montenegro and not go abroad. Minister herself is a good example of researchers who was working abroad and came back to serve her own country. Also, the challenge is to ensure there will be the next generation of researchers in Montenegro. To attract young people to study science and attract foreign researchers to Montenegro. For all that they need sustainable funding for science – for small country this is also a big challenge. And the third challenge is to keep science up in the agenda of the state and politicians.

10:00–11:15 Track 1: Science and democracy

Chair: Giselinde Kuipers, Professor of Sociology, KU Leuven, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

Speakers

- Giselinde Kuipers, Professor of Sociology, KU Leuven, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences: Science and democracy: some introductory comments (see the slides)
- Ellen Rutten, Professor of Slavonic literature and culture at the University of Amsterdam (online presentation): Support for academics/students at risk & The University of New Europe (see the slides)
- Jeroen de Kloet, Professor of globalisation studies, University of Amsterdam: Humanities and social science and / or democracy (see the slides)
- Ralph Weber, Associate Professor for European Global Studies, University of Basel: Scientific Cooperation with the People's Republic of China –Challenges and How to Respond to Them (see the slides)

11:30–13:00 Track 2: Science in transition

Chair: Geoffrey Boulton, Regius Professor of Geology Emeritus in the University of Edinburgh

Speakers

- Vladimir Crnojevic, Director of the BioSense Institute in Novi Sad, Professor in Computer Sciences at the University of Novi Sad: "Past, present and future of science, a personal view on evolution" (see the slides)

- Luke Drury, Vice President of ALLEA, Royal Irish Academy:
  "Reforming publishing for a digital age – what can the Euro-ISC group do?" (see the slides)
  Proposed to-do list:
  - Promote Open Science values within your organisations
  - Sign, and actually implement, DORA in research assessments
  - Normalise and encourage the use of preprints and open peer review
  - Promote rights retention strategies and educate researchers about copyright
  - Push for diamond and green OA to become the norm and resist the lure of gold
  - Support Open Research Europe, EOSC,institutional open science repositories, Zenodo etc
  - Work with the ISC to make this a global transformation

- Mila Popovich, Director General, Government of Montenegro; Founder, EVOLving Leadership: "Futures Literacy: Global Trends and Montenegro's Possibilities" (see the slides)

13:00–14:00 Lunch at the Montenegrin Academy Club

14:00–15:15 Track 3: What is happening on the continent?

Chair: Jürg Pfister, Secretary General, Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)

Speakers

- Agnieszka Gadzina-Kolodziejska, Deputy Head of the Science for democracy and evidence-informed policymaking Unit, the Joint Research Centre (JRC): "EU perspectives on evidence-informed policymaking in governance and public administrations" (see the slides)
- Maarja Kruusmaa, European Commission's Chief Scientific Advisor, Professor of Biorobotics, Tallinn University of Technology, Center for Biorobotics:
  "From risk management towards better uncertainty management: recommendations for the future" (online presentation) (see also: ttps://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/bd11a590-70ee-4721-94b7-562c5e03e488_en)
- Vivi Stavrou, Executive Secretary of the ISC Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science: "Science in Times of Crisis: experiences and lessons from the ISC" (online)

15:15–15:45 Coffee break

15:45–16:30 Track 4: Science and diplomacy

Chair: Anna Mauranen, Professor of English, University of Helsinki

Speaker

- Jan Marco Müller, Coordinator for Science Diplomacy and Multilateral Relations, DG Research & Innovation: "A framework for European science diplomacy – and why it matters for science academies and learned societies" (online presentation) (see the slides)

16:30–16:45 Closing remarks – Tarmo Soomere

LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

First Name	Last Name	Organisation
Miodrag	Čolić	Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts
Vladimir	Crnojević	BioSense Institute
Stefano	degli Uberti	National Research Council (CNR) - Institute for Research
Luke	Drury	ALLEA
Agnieszka	Gadzina-	Joint Research Centre, European Commission
Isa	Habibbayli	Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences
Ari	Laptev	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
Margit	Lehis	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Anna	Mauranen	CoFA (Council of Finnish Academies)
Arto	Miettinen	Council of Finnish Academies
Zuzana	Panczova	Slovak Academy of Sciences
Jürg	Pfister	Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)
Roger	Pfister	Swiss Academy of Sciences SCNAT
Julian	Revalski	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Erle	Rikmann	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Samir	Sattarov	Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences
Muzaffer	Şeker	TÜBA
Tarmo	Soomere	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Aleksey	Trukhanov	National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
Terje	Tuisk	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Ahmet Nuri	Yurdusev	Turkish Academy of Sciences
Vivi	Stavrou	International Science Council
Mila	Popovich	Founder, EVOLving Leadership
Jan Marco	Mueller	European Commission
Jeroen	de Kloet	University of Amsterdam
Ellen	Rutten	University of Amsterdam
Dragan	Vukcevic	Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts
Ljubiša	Stanković	Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts
Katarina	Terzić	Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts
Biljana	Šćepanović	Government of Montenegro
Maarja	Kruusmaa	Tallinn University of Technology
Geoffrey	Boulton	Royal Society

MINUTES OF THE 5TH ANNUAL MEETING

European Members of the International Science Council ISC
5th Annual Meeting

The Royal Society, London
Marble Hall/Kohn Centre
Address: 6–9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Wednesday, 12 October 2022, 13:30–20:00
Thursday, 13 October 2022, 9:00–13:45

Minutes (draft)

PART I: Business Meeting — Wednesday, 12 October 2022

1 – Welcome, meeting agenda, minutes 2021 meeting

The Annual Meeting was opened by the hosts' representative from the Royal Society, Robin Grimes. Robin Grimes noted, among other things, that the UK is part of the European research area. These are turbulent times in many respects. Interesting and challenging also for science and scientific networks.

After the welcoming remarks, the meeting was presided over by the Chair of the European ISC Members, Tarmo Soomere. Meeting participants adopted the agenda that had been sent out with the letter of invitation. The minutes of last year's annual meeting were approved without amendment.

Tarmo Soomere's presentation continued with a discussion on current ISC activities. He underlined that this is the first physical meeting in two years. We are in the midst of different crises, as if in a 3D crisis picture. The challenge for academia and European scientists is to find ways out of the crises. The mandate for scientists is to find directions for the future and to provide science-based advice for decision-makers. The aim of the Euro-ISC network is to have a voice and a say on issues that are important for Europe and useful for ISC.

Decision
To adopt the agenda
To endorse the minutes of the previous meeting

2 – Topical issues for the ISC European Members Group

ISC Acting CEO and Science Director, Mathieu Denis gave an in-depth update on developments related to ISC. The meeting was Mathieu Denis' first with the Euro-ISC Members group. He presented the profound changes that have taken place in the ISC over the last year. A major focus is to be put on the relationship with members, the quality of that relationship. A robust organisation is better equipped to meet major challenges at global level. ISC has become more ambitious. For instance, it is seeking opportunities to contribute

to the work of the UN General Assembly. The ISC has hired a scientific diplomat in New York to better represent its interests. Cooperative relationships are also being established with the WHO, UNDP Development Programme, etc. Scientists from around the world will be identified and mapped to provide science advice on specific issues for policy-making. Euro-ISC Members can also contribute. One key issue is – what comes after the SDGs. ISC wants to frame and guide the post-2030 global development agenda. On the issues related to the war in Ukraine, the ISC is concerned about continued scientific cooperation and support for refugee researchers.

The Chair of the European ISC Members, Tarmo Soomere, raised the issue of membership of the European ISC network in his further intervention. The Euro-ISC cannot itself approve or exclude its members. This could be problematic, as the ISC network is made up of a wide variety of organisations. They have varying functions, status, resources, ways of working, ways of contributing. The challenge is how to build a working system from these diverse elements. Expectations are growing for academia and other research organisations, especially in the field of science advice (Paper 1).

Representing the European ISC Members Management Group, Anna Mauranen introduced major relevant high-level contemporary issues for the ISC/European members' interface. There were three topics in total: 1) Open Science (Paper 2a); 2) Science at times of conflict (Paper 2b); and 3) Decolonisation of scholarship (Paper 2c). The presentation triggered a lively discussion, raising a number of new questions. It was decided that the Management Group, wishing to discuss these issues further, would formulate more specific problem statements and forward them to the Secretary of the European ISC Members. The secretariat will circulate them to the members of the network, and then the network members can start exchanging ideas and looking for new points of balance.

Jürg Pfister (ISC European Members Management Group) and Ruth Cooper (Royal Society) spoke on membership, dues and voting issues. The key point of the presentation was that some European ISC members are uncomfortable with the dues and the influence they have through the new ISC voting system. Discussion was opened. For example, it would get complicated when there are several members from one country. Mathieu Denis assured that when European Members of ISC will send suggestions to ISC on the matter, ISC Board will consider it.

Also, membership conditions for Young Academies were discussed. Tarmo Soomere stated that Young Academies who join ISC are also welcome to ISC Europe.

In his summing up of this section, Tarmo Soomere presented the issues for the Management group to carry forward. The Chair expressed his deep condolences and regret for the untimely departure of the Italian representative Mario Malinconico of the Management Group. The Chair welcomed the appointment of the new Italian representative to the Management Group and introduced the European ISC Members present, Dr. Augusta Maria Paci.

Tarmo Soomere indicated that the main task facing the Management Group is to initiate a discussion on the structure of science advice. This structure varies from country to country. Science advice can be institutional or more person-centred. People with competence in science are mostly employed in universities, academies. However, they often do not have the skills-experience to transfer scientific results into advice to policy-makers. The European ISC Members could exchange experiences on this issue and jointly analyse the strengths of different approaches that could be adopted to improve the quality of European policymaking. This work could be done in cooperation of European Science Advisors' Forum ESAF that consists of persons who are in position to shape the national systems of science advice.

ISC Acting CEO and Science Director, Mathieu Denis expressed in his closing remarks that the development of a system of science advice and training is also important for the ISC. This is another area of common ground that should be the subject of closer communication.

In closing the meeting, the Chair expressed his thanks to all meeting participants and speakers for their contributions.

Decision
To note the information
To invite European ISC members to get in touch on the issues raised
To invite the Management Group to formulate the issues for discussion in more detail

PART II: Science Meeting **Thursday, 13 October 2022**

Marble Hall/ Kohn Centre

Session I: Science advice and sustainability

The session examined how research and science can help tackle complex challenges including climate change and biodiversity loss while ensuring a just transition. The panel explored how to harness knowledge across cultures, disciplines, and attitudes to expertise to identify future directions for scientific advice in Europe.

The session was introduced and chaired by Paul Monks, Chief Scientific Adviser, UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Dr Marco Sacchi, University of Surray, Department of Chemistry, Leverhulme Quantum Biology Doctoral Training Centre (QB-DTC). Critical global challenges are fundamentally interlinked, and science advisers must ensure that action to address them is similarly interconnected to enable the synthesis of knowledge from a wide range of disciplines most effectively help to build resilient and equitable systems across society for dealing with such challenges. Also, the changes to current frameworks of international collaboration necessary to make the most of such expertise and translate it into the urgent action required were discussed.

Anu Realo, Professor of Psychology, University of Warwick. Studies are showing that society is not talking or thinking enough about environmental and climate crisis; trust in science increased on 2020, but has now fallen below pre-COVID level, global trust levels in national institutions and governments are decreasing. This means that even if governments want to act, people will not follow. Academies and scientists must keep the focus on climate crises, be positively on the picture, talk and act.

ISC Acting CEO and Science Director, Mathieu Denis highlighted that there are no political sectors that do not need science advice, especially during crises. Scientific advice must give wider view involving social sciences and humanities. There are lot of countries where there is no science advice system, and this affects their ability to manage the crises. Europa in the leader position and can help the rest of the world a lot on this matter by sharing the experience and being a laboratory for developing coordinated scientific advice mechanisms all over the world.

Take home messages from the discussion: There is a clear divide between scientific advice and political decisions, it is a matter of negotiations. Communication is important, but media likes things black-and-white while this very rarely happens in science. This is something both sides must consider. Society must understand that different scientists may have different opinions, and this is OK, this is how science works. Whatever we do we have to get to young people, education is important. It is important to communicate science from academies – the message is more credible when it comes from an organisation rather than from a single researcher. We are in a good place with science-based advice – politicians mostly understand that it is needed, scientists know they can deliver it.

Session II: Crisis preparedness and the challenges of science advice

The session examined how to provide science advice in the face of complexity and uncertainty as well as how to best apply science advice frameworks and practices to secure greater resilience following crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Panel members would draw on experiences of past and ongoing crises to analyse how science can be strengthened and explore how governments and other stakeholders can anticipate and prepare for future crises. The session was introduced and chaired by professor Peter John, Professor of Public Policy, King's College, London.

Peter John underlined that in times of crisis, all gaps widen. That is why trust in science and scientists is essential. Yet, the fact that academic life generally takes place outside the public eye adds its own challenges.

Tarmo Soomere raised the question of science as an open or closed system. Without being aware of the existing dangers, even science born in democratic society can support undemocratic tendencies. For example, open databases can be used to bomb Ukrainian cities. Nevertheless, even in democracies, science-based policy-making is complicated. Politicians tend to be more interested in winning elections than in securing long-term progress. Providing science advice to support policymaking is usually local. It is not translatable, or transferable, often even not reusable. The dynamics and timeframe of the crisis do not coincide with the political cycle. Policymakers may also need to be aware that crisis preparedness can help to save resources. If you don't prepare for a crisis, prepare to pay up.

Melinda Mills (FBA, Director, Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford) shared her experiences and observations on scientific advice. She pointed out that all crises tend to be interdisciplinary and all big problems transdisciplinary. However, there is still a lot to be learned in the process of science advice, by all parties involved. For example, it is not a good idea to formulate the agenda too narrowly, or too early. Knowledge is dynamic and defining uncertainty is part of the process. Uncertainty should not be glossed over or feared. Be prepared for close communication and be able to distinguish between what is scientific evidence and what is policy advice. It is not a good idea to go to policymakers with a scientific argument.

Elizabeth Storer (Research Officer, Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa, London School of Economics) presented the results of a study that opens new perspectives to understand vaccine refusers. The main conclusion was that vaccine refusal was the result of a combination of cognitive processes.

The study used ethnographic approaches, and its results suggest a range of different options that could be used in the future to prevent such a crisis of trust. Among the potential solutions, the importance of the community level was mentioned, for example – funding intermediaries and interventions, promoting dialogue, generating deep data. Crisis prevention should be truly interdisciplinary, involving the social sciences. At present, the social sciences are rather left to deal with the consequences of these crises.

To conclude the panel, Peter John believes that today's discussion shows that European scientific advice is pretty good. Experience is growing. But there is always room for improvement.

The Science Day concluded with a speech by Tarmo Soomere. He highlighted the changing role of academies and academics, who have become active agenda-setters. The Chair

thanked all the hosts, presenters and moderators of the Science Day and the Annual Meeting. He concluded by highlighting three themes to take away from the London meeting. These are, firstly, the need for academies to contribute into developing structures for science advice. Second, in the medium term, to pay more attention to science diplomacy and the role of scientists in enhancing international relations. And thirdly, physical formats for meeting and exchanging ideas are important: they must certainly be continued. Tarmo Soomere formally closes the Annual Meeting.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

BILJANA ŠĆEPANOVIĆ

Biljana Šćepanović graduated from the Faculty of Civil Engineering at the University of Montenegro. She pursued postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Belgrade, specialising in Technical Mechanics & Theory of Structures, earning a Master's degree in 2003. In 2010, she obtained a Doctor of Technical Sciences degree from the University of Montenegro and a Doctor of Science degree from the University of Granada, becoming the first double-degree doctorate in Montenegro after defending her dissertation on "Analysis of eccentrically locally loaded steel I-girders". She also completed postdoctoral studies in steel, aluminium, and timber structures at the University of Granada. She has held the position of an associate professor at the University of Montenegro, specialising in steel, composite, and timber structures, and has served in various administrative roles, including vice-dean at the Faculty of Civil Engineering and president of the Board for Doctoral Studies at the University of Montenegro. Prof. Šćepanović was appointed as Minister of Science and Technological Development of Montenegro in 2022.

ELLEN RUTTEN

Ellen Rutten is Professor of Literature with a focus on Slavonic literature and culture at the University of Amsterdam and serves as the editor-in-chief of the journal "Russian Literature". Additionally, Professor Rutten is one of the founding editors of the online academic journal "Digital Icons: Studies in Russian, Eurasian and Central European New Media". Her academic interests encompass a wide range of subjects, including post-Soviet culture, literature, and art, as well as digital humanities, social media, and memory discourse. Notable among her publications are the book "Sincerity after Communism," published by Yale University Press in 2017 and translated into Russian as "Iskrennost' posle kommunizma" in 2022 by Neprikosnovennyi zapas. She is also the author of "Unattainable Bride Russia," published by Northwestern University Press in 2010. In addition to her solo work, she has co-edited several books, including "Memory, Media, and Conflict" (Routledge 2014), "Poetins rechtbank: proteststemmen uit een autoritaire staat" (Nieuw Amsterdam 2018), and "Imperfections" (Bloomsbury 2021).

JEROEN DE KLOET

Jeroen de Kloet is Professor of Globalisation Studies at the University of Amsterdam and the Director of the Amsterdam Centre for Globalisation Studies (ACGS). His pioneering research spans popular culture in China and encompasses various fields, including art, music, fashion, film, and new media, integrating insights from anthropology and communication studies. Prof. de Kloet's research portfolio includes investigations into punk culture in China, the lead-up to the Beijing Olympics, and notions of fatherhood in Chinese reality shows. Prof. De Kloet has delved into the complexities of censorship and the boundaries of criticism in China. Publications include a book with Anthony Fung "Youth Cultures in China" (Polity 2017), and the edited volumes "Boredom, Shanzhai, and Digitization in the Time of Creative China" (with Yiu Fai Chow and Lena Scheen, Amsterdam UP 2019) and "Trans-Asia as Method: Theory and Practices" (with Yiu Fai Chow and Gladys Pak Lei Chong, Rowman and Littlefield, 2019). Forthcoming in 2024 is the book, co-authored with Yiu Fai Chow and Leonie Schmidt, titled "It's My Party – Tatming Pair and the Postcolonial Politics of Popular Music in Hong Kong" (Palgrave).

LJUDMILA MILA POPOVICH

Mila Popovich is an independent academic in the field of Comparative Literature and Humanities. Her doctoral research focuses on women's migrations and the subjectivity of migrant women in the context of globalization processes. Voice of ethical leadership in the fields of education, science and technology, economy and sustainability, she is the Founder of EVOLving Leadership, a program and consultancy for organizational development, transformational leadership, and futures readiness. Dr. Popovich's current work draws from three major domains: systems sciences, psychology of transformation, and anticipation and future studies. She is a Member of the Board of Trustees of the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS) and a Member of the Board of Directors of the World University Consortium. She is a Fellow of Vital Voices – Global Women's Leadership Network, and an Associate Expert in ethics and gender issues at the European Commission. She is a Member of The Millennium Project, a global futures think tank represented in 71 countries, and the Co-Chair of its Montenegro Node, as well as a member of the Mastermind Group at DaVinci Institute, USA. Dr. Popovich co-authored the GEF Report: *Educational Ecosystems for Societal Transformation*. Currently, she works as Director General in the Government of Montenegro appointed to build a new institutional unit, Directorate for Interculturalism.

RALPH WEBER

Ralph Weber is Associate Professor of European Global Studies and the Director of the MA and PhD Programs in European Global Studies at the University of Basel. He is also a Senior Research Associate at the African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at the University of Johannesburg. His research interests include methodological and conceptual aspects of cross-language and cross-cultural research, comparative philosophy, Chinese political philosophy, Chinese politics and Confucianism. From 2017 to 2021, Ralph Weber was president of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy.

MAARJA KRUUSMAA

Maarja Kruusmaa is Professor of Biorobotics and the Head of the Centre for Biorobotics at the Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia. She has also served as the Vice-Rector for Research at the Tallinn University of Technology 2020–2023. Maarja Kruusmaa is the president of the network of the Rectors and Deans of the Technical Universities in the Nordic and Baltic countries (NORDTEK) and is a member of the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (GCSA). She received her PhD at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, where she defended her doctoral thesis in 2002 on "Repeated Path Planning for Mobile Robots in Dynamic Environments". Prof. Kruusmaa's main research areas are biorobotics, electroactive materials and devices and their control, underwater robotics and learning algorithms for intelligent robots.

LUKE DRURY

Luke Drury has a degree in pure mathematics and experimental physics by the Trinity College Dublin, and a PhD in astrophysics by the Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge. He has previously worked in the Max Planck Institut für Kernphysik in Heidelberg before returning to Ireland as Senior Professor in the Cosmic Ray Section. He was President of the Royal Irish Academy from 2011 to 2014. His research interests include plasma physics, particle acceleration, gas dynamics, shock waves, and cosmic ray origins. He is also Vice President of ALLEA and the Chair of the ALLEA Open Science Taskforce. He is Emeritus Professor of Astrophysics at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, with research interests in plasma physics, particle acceleration, gas dynamics, shock waves, and cosmic ray origins.

VIVI STAVROU

Vivi Stavrou is Executive Secretary of the ISC Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (CFRS) and Senior Science Officer. Shei is a Clinical Psychologist and development professional with a wealth of international experience in humanitarian crises and post-conflict environments. Dr. Stavrou has served as a consultant, evaluator, and researcher in the field of social development. Her work spans collaborations with the United Nations, various development agencies, government ministries, academic institutions, and more. Vivi Stavrou's expertise encompasses child protection, mental health, psychosocial support, health systems development, health and human rights, and security sector reform.

VLADIMIR CRNOJEVIĆ

Vladimir Crnojević is the Director of the BioSense Institute which focuses on R&D in ICT for agrifood sector at various levels: from micro and nanotechnology sensors, through Internet of Things, agri-robotics, remote sensing, to big data, machine learning and artificial intelligence. Prof. Crnojević is a Full Professor in Computer Sciences at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia, and Associate Professor extra-ordinarius at the Department of Mathematical Science, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. He studied Electrical Engineering (EE) and obtained his PhD in Image Processing in 2004. He acted as the Director of EE Department at the University of Novi Sad from 2012-2015, and in 2015 founded the BioSense Institute – the regional leader in the EU (FP7 and H2020) projects, including flagship projects such as ANTARES, IoF2020 ("Internet of Food and Farm 2020"), and SmartAgriHubs. BioSense Institute has a strong cooperation with industry and has run a significant number of accelerator programmes that helped to fund more than 200 SMEs in AgTech. He led the team of BioSense researchers who that the 1st Prize at the 2017 Syngenta Crop Challenge with the algorithm for smart seed selection. Prof. Crnojević's current research interests include machine learning, image processing, remote sensing, big data and IoT with application in agrifood and biosystems.

AGNIESZKA GADZINA-KOŁODZIEJSKA

Agnieszka Gadzina-Kołodziejska has worked for the European Commission since 2007, at the Directorates responsible for Regional Policy (DG REGIO) and Internal Market (DG MARKT). In 2013, she transitioned to the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). Prior to her tenure at the Commission, she held the position of Head of the Lower Silesian Regional Office in Brussels. She holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Wrocław.

JAN MARCO MÜLLER

Jan Marco Müller is the Coordinator for Science Diplomacy and Multi-lateral Relations at the European Commission, DG Research & Innovation. Following his PhD in Geography at the University of Marburg (Germany), Jan Marco Müller's early career included assignments as Programme Manager of the JRC Institute for Environment and Sustainability in Ispra (Italy), and Head of Business Development & Public Relations of the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (CEH) in Wallingford (UK). 2009-2012 he was the Assistant to the Director-General of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Brussels and then went on to manage 2012-2014 the office of the first Chief Scientific Adviser to the President of the European Commission Dame Anne Glover. Between January 2016 and March 2017 he helped to set up the European Commission's new Scientific Advice Mechanism. From April 2017 he was the Head of the Directorate Office of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) near Vienna, serving also as IIASA's Coordinator for Science to Policy and Science Diplomacy. Since 2020, he held the position of Science & Technology Advisor at the European External Action Service (EEAS).

TARMO SOOMERE

Professor Tarmo Soomere is President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences. Prof. Soomere graduated as a mathematician from Moscow State University in 1980, received a PhD in Oceanology in 1984 and a Doctor of Mathematics in 1992. His scientific interests include theory and modelling of Rossby waves, internal and surface waves, nearshore processes, wave-induced hazards and preventive methods for coastal protection. He became the first Professor of Coastal Engineering in Estonia in 2005 and currently holds the position of Head of the Wave Engineering Laboratory at the Institute of Cybernetics. Prof. Soomere took on the position of President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences in 2014 with an impressive record of achievement. In 2002 and 2013 he received the Estonian State Research Award; in 2007 he received the Baltic Assembly Prize; he was declared as Person of the Year 2005 in Estonia by the largest daily newspaper, The Postman, for his contribution to forecasting a flooding triggered by a devastating storm; he was elected to Academia Europaea in 2009; he was nominated as Honorary Professor of James Cook University in 2010; he received the Estonian Science Communication Award in 2011, and was awarded with the 3rd class Order of the White Star, an Estonian state decoration, in 2013. Furthermore, he has published more than 190 research papers and many popular articles.

PAPERS ON TOPICAL ISSUES

Item 2. ISC membership: A discussion paper to accompany the revision of the ISC statutes

1. Introduction

The revision of the ISC statutes and rules of procedure in 2023-2024 is an opportunity to tackle some long-standing and complex issues relating to membership, as well as related issues of voting rights and dues. This paper sets out the main issues and related questions as a basis for discussion with the membership. Consultation of the membership will be organised in September/October 2023, such that any consensus which emerges can feed into the ongoing revision of the ISC statutes.

Members are invited to send written comments on issues related to membership together with their comments on the zero draft of the revised statutes preferably by 30 September, through the online form provided.

2. The current situation

The membership of the ISC is currently organised into three broad categories, nominally representing (i) international disciplinary organisations, (ii) geographically defined, multidisciplinary organisations, and (iii) other organisations with cognate activities. However, there are numerous inconsistencies and anomalies in membership within and between the categories, largely resulting from the fusion of two predecessor organisations with complex membership histories.

To accommodate the diversity of members inherited from the merger of ICSU and the ISSC, the scope of membership of the Council was rather lightly defined in the ISC statutes (see extracts below). These definitions of membership categories were intended to be open and flexible; in practice, they are ambiguous and sometimes difficult to apply, and are not easily understood by prospective new members.

Membership issues are furthermore tangled up with voting and dues issues which cannot be resolved until the scope and categories of membership have been clarified.

Statute 1:
The International Science Council, hereinafter called 'the Council', is a global non-governmental and non-profit-making scientific organisation of international, regional, and national science and research organisations and institutions.

Statute 8:
Members shall normally adhere to the Council in one of the following categories:

Full Members

i. Category 1: Scientific unions, associations and similar bodies, being international scientific organisations[1] devoted to the practice and promotion of specific scientific disciplines or areas.
ii. Category 2: Academies of sciences, research councils or analogous not-for-profit scientific bodies representing a broad spectrum of scientific fields or disciplines in a country, region, territory or globally.

Affiliated Members

iii. Category 3: Other bodies, being governmental and non-governmental organisations, whose activities are in a field cognate to those of the Council.

The critical issue for the ISC, which has as its mission to be the global voice for science, is that **there are large disciplinary gaps in its membership**. This partly reflects the establishment of ICSU and the ISSC before significant evolutions in science from the 1980s onwards, notably in the life and data sciences. Moreover, the way scientific organisations constitute themselves has changed and continues to change compared to the era when ICSU was formed over 90 years ago, or the ISSC over 70 years ago. Large umbrella bodies have in some cases not been the preferred model in either natural or social sciences, as subdisciplines have developed their own identity and new disciplines have emerged. This is particularly so in the clinical and life sciences, and in some areas of social sciences where quite narrowly defined and small disciplinary bodies may act globally.[2] The ISC needs to attract disciplinary bodies across the full spectrum of science. Notably, the ISC has not attracted any new Category 1 members in the five years of its existence (there have been a few shifts from Category 3 to 1).

The credibility of the ISC's mission to be the global voice for science requires a stronger and more comprehensive membership base, as well as definitions of membership that attract and are appropriate for relevant organisations. All current members must be retained, but the scope of membership must be clearer, more attractive and applied consistently in the future. This may entail recategorisation of some members.

3. Questions for reflection and discussion

1. There is currently no place in the membership for disciplinary bodies that nominally might be geographically based but are functionally international (e.g., the American Neuroscience Association). Should such organisations be considered, and under what conditions?
2. Some ISC members are umbrella bodies which might suffer if their subsidiary members sought membership in the ISC. This excludes some very large science organisations from membership or direct engagement with the ISC. Could such

[1] For the purposes of these Statutes an international scientific organisation is an institution that draws membership from several countries within a region or from countries across at least two regions, and whose members are held together by a formal agreement, constitution or similar instrument.

[2] For example, the International Society for Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, International Society for Evolutionary Medicine and Public Health – both of which might only have ~1000 members but are well established inter- or emerging-disciplinary bodies and are at the cutting edge of their sciences. While individual members of these organisations could be members of other science organisations, institutionally they would see no link to larger life science organisations.

bodies be offered observer status, on a case-by-case basis and with the umbrella body's consent?

3. Conversely, some members which are umbrella bodies have members which are also full members of the ISC (e.g., the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils and the Philippines Social Science Council, which are both Cat. 2 members). How should this be regularized?
4. National ISC members include some universities (in Fiji/South Pacific, Panama, Tunisia, Norway), funders (e.g., in Canada, Italy, Germany, South Africa, Indonesia) or their ministries (e.g., in Oman, Spain, Lesotho, Namibia), but not their academies. It is essential that the ISC attract all the national academies, including in those countries which have multiple academies (e.g., the UK has three academies as members). A derivative question is whether all funders could or should be members (noting the role of the Global Research Council). The ability to have multiple national members is complicated only because of voting issues (see below) and has largely been addressed by precedent.
5. The current Category 3 is a mix of very different bodies and allows for both governmental and non-governmental bodies. It is where membership growth is most likely. Within Category 3 there may be at least two clusters – organisations which are intimately linked to the ISC's business (e.g., IIASA, GYA, TWAS, OWSD) and others which are more casual associates.
6. There is a moral argument about the status of current Category 3 – is it fair to ask for a fee, but give no effective voice to a member? Many organisations would not join an organisation as a non-voting member. Should some or all of Category 3 be integrated as voting members with lower weight compared to Category 1 and 2?
7. Is there a place for universities or collective university organisations?
8. Members should be in the right space – i.e., Category 3 should not be used for Category 1 members wanting to pay lower dues. Should such members be assigned to Category 1 or 2 but allowed a limited term as a provisional member with lower dues and no vote (see 'Provisional members' below).
9. Should the ISC accept private sector entities, given that private-sector funding of the global science effort is highly significant?
10. Could other types of body associated with the science system be considered, e.g., AAAS and other bodies that promote science–society relationships, associations of science publishers or science communication organisations (e.g. science journalists)?
11. Should foundations (e.g., the Nobel Foundation, the Kavli Foundation or Novo Foundation) be considered?
12. Should Affiliated Bodies (e.g., Future Earth, COSPAR, SCOR, CODATA) be a special class of member? Should they be mentioned in the statutes?
13. Are there other types of organisations that would be desirable observer members?

14. The process of membership application can be slow and inhibitory. Could some types of membership be approved by the Governing Board only?

4. A possible conceptualisation of membership

The ISC has a wide variety of actual or potential types of members, which could be clustered in different ways. The following is a list of the possible membership types which merit consideration:

a. International disciplinary bodies.
b. National members, being academies, ministries or funders.
c. International and regional science bodies not covered by 'a'. There are a broad variety of entities (e.g., CLASCO, the Arab Council of Social Sciences, the Caribbean Academy of Sciences) and a growing number of regional umbrella bodies (e.g., ALLEA, IAAS, IANAS, NASAC, SEA, etc.). It is difficult except on a case-by-case basis to assign the best category for each potential member.
d. Functionally international disciplinary bodies which are nationally constituted. Criteria would need to be drawn up (e.g., > 35% of their membership would not be from the country of legal domicile.
e. Other bodies that are cognately related to the ISC mission.
f. 'Young' academies and young disciplinary bodies.
g. Members of umbrella organisations that fall under 'a', with the consent of the umbrella body – at least as observers.
h. 'Science and society' organisations, e.g., AAAS, ASTC.
i. Observer members: this could include foundations, private sector members, International Association of Scientific, Technical, and Medical Publishers (STM) etc. These would have no voting or nomination powers.
j. Provisional members – organisations which are eligible for membership which might be allowed to be observers for up to three years before becoming a member.
k. ISC Affiliated Bodies.

5. Bringing it together: voting

Below is a proposal for a voting system involving four categories of member.

- Voting on financial matters: weighted according to dues paid.
- Voting on scientific matters (e.g., approval of position papers or strategic plans): one member, one vote.
- Voting on elections and constitutional matters: the principle that the categories of 'disciplinary' and 'national' members have equal weighting appears to be non-negotiable. But an acceptable shift could be operated by giving a redefined Category 3 members a voice. In this model, voting on financial and on ordinary matters remains unchanged. But for voting on constitutional matters and elections would be:

Category 1 (a in above list):	40%
Category 2 (b, some of c):	40%
Category 3 (d, e, f, g, h, some of c, g):	20%
Category 4 (i, j, k, some of g):	0%

6. Next steps

The Members are asked to reflect on the discussion questions and the proposal for clustering types of members and associated voting rights, and to participate in the consultations, in written form though the online form (see 'Introduction') or in the virtual meetings that will be organised.

Item 2a. CNR intervention on one of the actual topics for discussion

Within the topics in the current ISC portfolio that resonate in current European settings; in the 2023 Action Plan 2023 Funding Science for Global Sustainability could be of interest for discussion within the EMG. The present intervention focus is on the need of enabling a flow of investment in basic science within the public science systems. This would need to identify drivers and barriers to science funding and the role of young scientists. Last year 2022, Member States of the United Nations dedicated 2022 to the 'International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development' (IYBSSD2022). Among many events in many countries in the Globe, CNR of Italy in partnership with the Union IUPAC, ISC proposed an international event dedicated to great Alessandro Volta. The global efforts deserve to be continued and supported in 2023 and EMG could take an action together with ISC in adding visibility to this collective European and Global effort: from "Celebration Year to Mobilizing Resources in Basic Sciences for 2030".[3]

'What?' The need of Visibility of Science. In a short-term perspective, Public science in EMG countries in the coming year will suffer from the impact of conflicts, economic recession and societal poverty. This means that EMG ISC members urgently need to concentrate and converge on actions.

Recommendations were provided and updated in the last ISC Report pointing out, among them: Coordination, Partnerships and Flexibility. Here EMG can add Convergence.

Convergence could be supported by strengthening the existing links and converging with organisations such as ALLEA for a broader involvement and purpose.

Ref. Report Second conference on the Ukraine crisis: One year of war in Ukraine – exploring the impact on the science sector and supporting initiatives this report includes

[3] See https://www.iybssd2022.org/en/2022-the-year-of-basic-sciences-for-sustainable-development/

seven key recommendations for the international community to better support science systems affected by conflict.[4]

'Why?' Most of EMG ISC Members Countries achieved some investments with results in Europe, thus accelerating the run for tackling some of the challenges, namely Energy crisis, Health.

EMG ISC members could recall the efforts dedicated to IYBSSD2022 and promote at policy level and governmental level, macro areas of science for the funding of basic science. Many activities exhibited during the 2022 YIBSSD are key for consolidating the advancement of science.

Academy of sciences could develop coordinated policy actions for communicating the importance of **ensuring funding basic research complemented by scientific advice and foresight. This is the only way to move rapidly in consolidating the role of sciences for the continued delivery of strategic solutions to emerging crisis.**

'Whether' the European Members could be the basis for a specific objective of the EURO-ISC focal point with respect to other in different parts of the world.

European members of ISC can perfectly represent the real need for stronger investments in policy makers at a country level. The experience of Science Advice and Foresight in Europe is an added value together with other ISC Members and Local Focal Platform.

Issues for the Management group to carry forward

The reflection about the constitutional changes is ongoing and during the meeting of this year a confrontation within the EMG ISC members could be positive, productive and increase awareness on major changes.

[4] See https://council.science/publications/ukraine-conference-report-2/

STATUTES AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

European Members of the International Science Council (ISC)

1. Establishment and Membership

1. The European Members of the International Science Council (ISC; hereafter: European ISC Members) is an informal group that comprises the Member Organisations of the ISC in Europe;
2. Membership is open to all such ISC Member Organisations.

2. Objectives

1. The European ISC Members:
2. Ensure the inclusion of the interests and priorities of the European science community in the strategic planning of the ISC;
3. Foster their participation in the global activities and programmes of the ISC with mutual benefit;
4. Facilitate communication between the ISC Secretariat and relevant national bodies;
5. Coordinate their activities.

3. Annual Meeting

1. The Annual Meeting is the highest decision-making body and can take the following decisions, in particular:
    a. Approve activities;
    b. Elect a Member Organisation that hosts the European ISC Members by providing the Chair and Secretariat;
    c. Elect the Management Group members;
    d. Amend the present Statutes and Rules of Procedure;
2. Representatives of the ISC Secretariat can be invited to attend as observers;
3. Decisions may be arrived at entirely or in part by electronic means;
4. The Member Organisation that hosts an Annual Meeting is responsible for organisation and practical arrangements, in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the European ISC Members.

4. Chair and Secretariat

1. The Member Organisation, which serves as host, coordinates the activities of the European ISC Members;
2. The host organisation provides the Chair and the Secretariat;
3. Under the guidance of the Chair, the Secretariat provides support for Annual Meetings and for the Management Group;
4. The staff of the Secretariat is appointed by the host organisation;
5. The term of office for the host organisation is three years, with the possibility for one (1) extension.

5. Management Group

1. The Management Group prepares the agenda of and implements decisions taken by Annual Meetings, and it initiates activities as appropriate to realise the objectives of the European ISC Members;
2. It is composed of members with voting rights as follows:
    a. 1 Chair from the Member Organisation that hosts the European ISC Members;
    b. 1 representative from the Member Organisation that precedes as host organisation (hereafter: Past Chair);
    c. 5 representatives from different Member Organisations (hereafter: Management Group Members);
    d. 1 Secretary from the Member Organisation that hosts the European ISC Members (ex officio);
3. Additional officers from the host organisation of the European ISC Members may attend Management Group meetings as observers;
4. The term of office for the Past Chair is three (3) years, that of Management Group members three (3) years, with the possibility for one (1) extension;
5. A European ISC Member can be represented by a Management Group Member for up to two consecutive terms of office;
6. Vacancies that should arise among Management Group membership during a term of office remain open to the end of the three-year cycle;
7. Terms of office that are not completed count as full terms of office;
8. The Management Group meets as often as necessary, but at least once a year in addition to Annual Meetings of the European ISC Members;
9. Management Group meetings require a quorum of a minimum of 50 percent of the total number of voting members;
10. Management Group decisions may be arrived at entirely or in part by electronic means;
11. The Management Group may set up ad hoc working groups as appropriate.

6. External relations

The European ISC Members cooperate with other relevant organisations, at a European level in particular.

7. Finances

1. Unless explicitly arranged otherwise, European ISC Members bear the costs of their representatives for participating at Annual Meetings and at Management Group meetings;
2. The host organisation bears all costs of the Secretariat;
3. The host organisation of an Annual Meeting bears all expenses for meeting facilities and catering;
4. Any decisions taken by Annual Meetings or by the Management Group shall have no financial bearings on the European ISC Members.

Adopted by the Annual Meeting of the European ISC Members on 10 June 2021.

PRACTICAL INFO ON THE VENUE

VENUE

Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, Rista Stijovica, 5, 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro, www.canu.me

Contact: Katarina Terzic, Interacademy and International Co-operation Office, MASA Service, ph. +382 20 655 457, email: katarinat@canu.ac.me

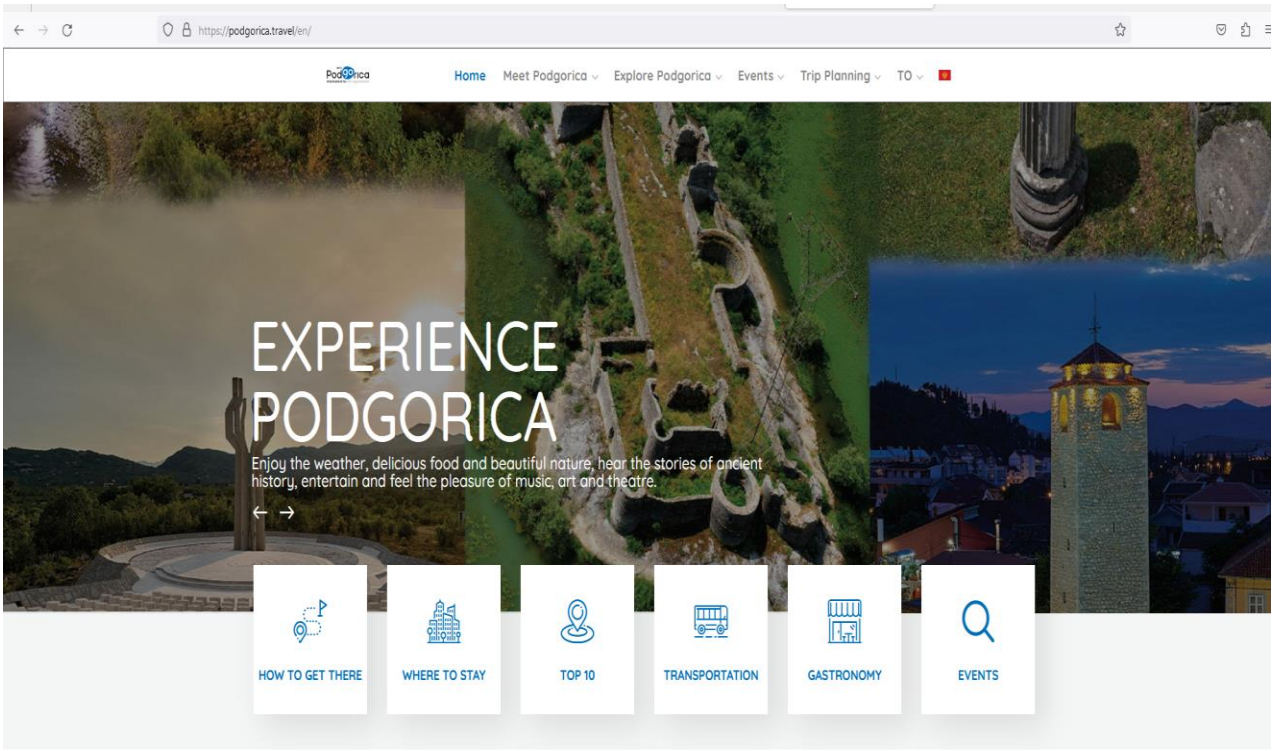
TRAVEL TO PODGORICA

There are two airports:

- **Podgorica airport**: taxi is available in front of the Airport (association Aerodrom Taxi Podgorica, which charge 15 Euros to Podgorica). You may order by phone other taxi services that charge less (see below).
  It takes about 15 minutes to hotel RAMADA, cc. 20 min. to Hotel Hilton, cc. 21 min. to hotel Boscovich, cc. 23 min. to hotel Ziya, and about 23 min. to reach directly MASA.

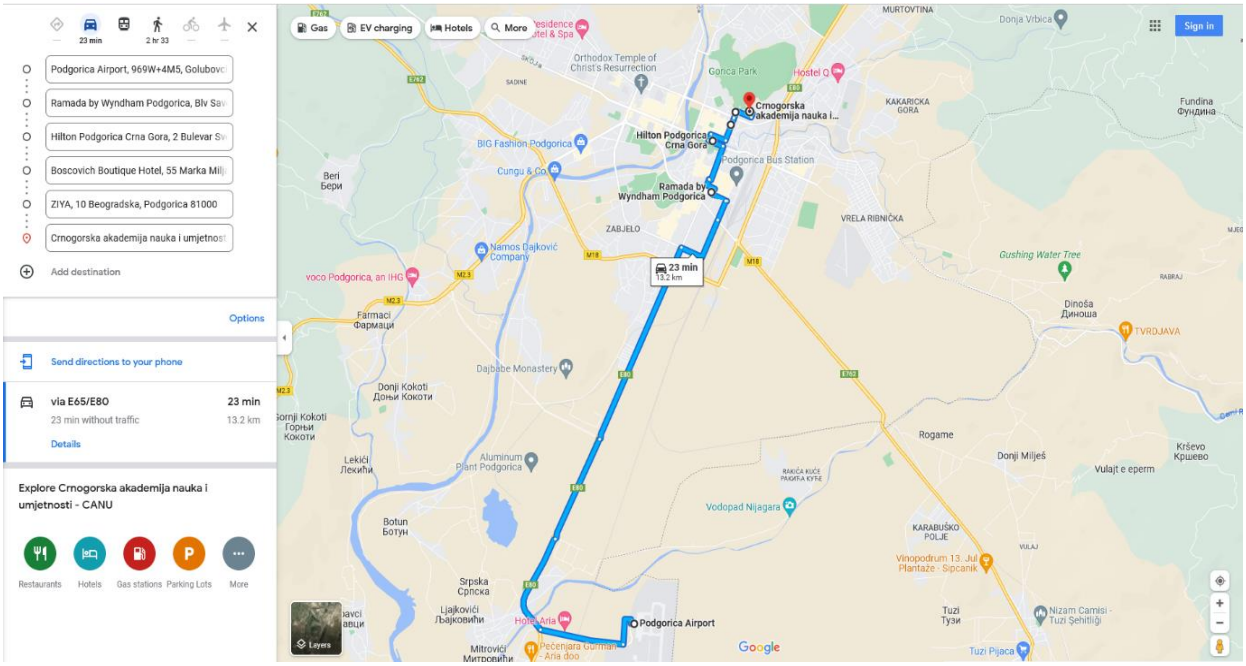
- **Tivat airport**: From Tivat, you will need to take a bus, or taxi transfer to Podgorica. The ride takes up to 2 hours.

For a **local guide** to Podgorica (public transport, including the list of taxi services, gastronomy, places and sights to visit, events to attend), we advise to visit a website of **Tourist Organisation of Podgorica** https://podgorica.travel/en/



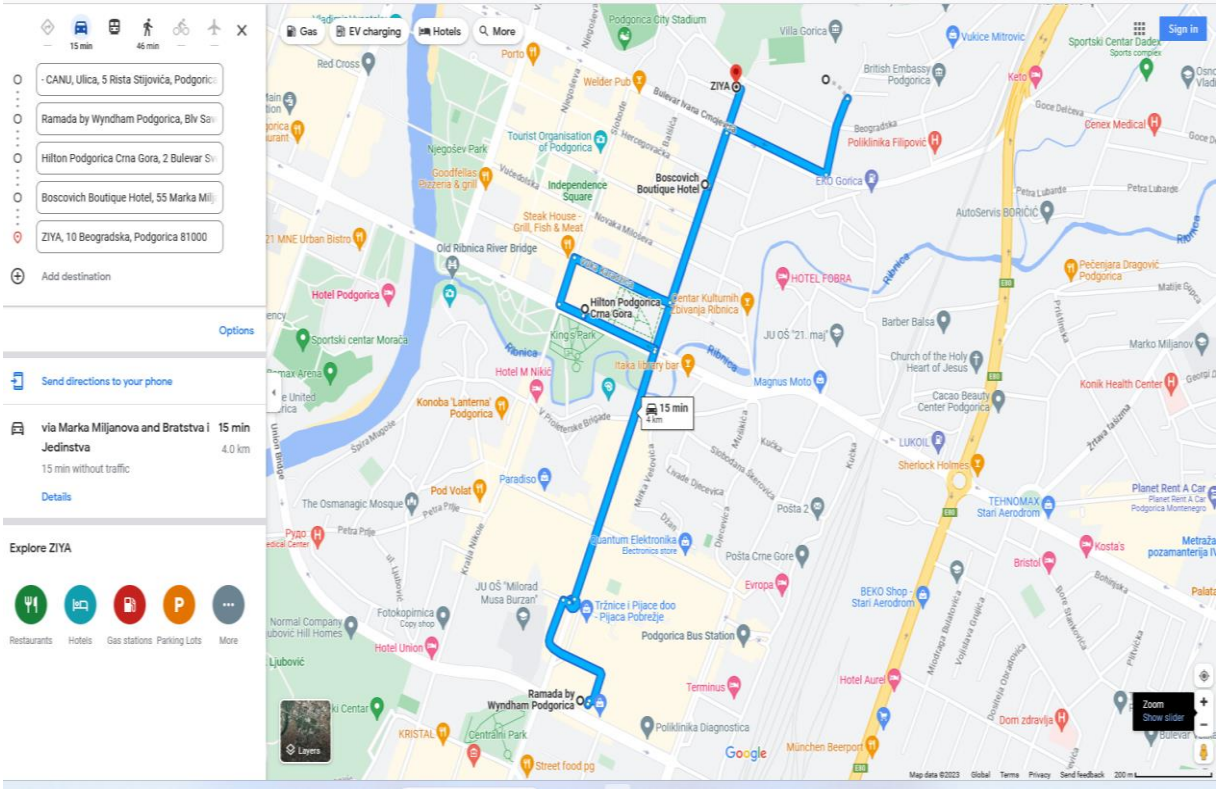
Should the need arise, we recommend to use Google Maps to get directions and find your way.

From Airport Podgorica to the 4 hotels and MASA, and vice-versa (see the route below),



https://www.google.com/maps/@42.4100082,19.2393121,13.29z?hl=en&entry=ttu

From all 4 hotels to MASA, and vice-versa (see the route below). As an alternative to walking, in order to reach MASA and back you may take a taxi (best to order it at the hotel reception), https://www.google.com/maps/@42.4372999,19.263129,16z?hl=en&entry=ttu



MONTENEGRIN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS

The Parliament of the Republic of Montenegro passed the Law on the Society for Science and Arts of Montenegro, on 12th October 1971. The Society was founded as an independent scientific organization placed in Titograd (today's Podgorica), with the mission to gather prominent scientists and artists from a wide range of areas of science and art, in order to develop scientific thought, cultivate and promote art, to pursue scientific research and, independently or in cooperation with other scientific organizations, stimulate the activity of scientific organizations and scholars in Montenegro. The Parliament of Socialist Republic of Montenegro passed the Law on 10th March 1976, by which the Society for Science and Art of Montenegro has been constituted as the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (CANU/MASA).

The current Law on the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts was passed on February 27, 2012 (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 14, of March 7, 2012). The Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts is established by the Law as the supreme national institution in the field of science and art in Montenegro, of particular national and state interest. The Academy unites scientific potentials; organizes, prones and develops all forms of creation in science, art and culture; affirms Montenegrin spiritual, national and state tradition from Doclea to contemporary Montenegro; and with its engagement contributes to the overall progress of the state of Montenegro. The Academy is an independent institution that is managed independently by its members, in compliance with the Law and the Statute of MASA.

The members of MASA are in the status of full, associate and foreign. Full and associate members of the Academy make up the working composition of MASA. At present, the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts has 39 members in working composition (31 full and 8 associate) and 29 foreign members.
The Bodies of MASA are: the Assembly, the Presidency and the President.

MASA performs its overall activity within the *Departments, Committees, Institutes, Centers, Commissions* and other working bodies.

MASA has four (4) Departments:
- Department of Natural Sciences,
- Department of Social Sciences,
- Department of Humanities,
- Department of Arts.

As part of MASA operate the following scientific research and artistic units (5):
- Institute for Language and Literature "Petar II Petrović Njegoš",
- Lexicographic Center,
- Center of Young Scientists and Artists,
- Center for Energy and Ecology — ENEKO Center,
- Center of the World Academy of Art & Science.

Special units within the Academy are Library with Archive, and Gallery with art collection.

Overall forms of activities through which MASA performs its work include:
- Scientific and Research Projects,
- Scientific Meetings and Conferences, Round tables, Discussions, Academic Orations, Homages, Commemorative Sessions,
- Scientific lectures ("Tribunes"),
- Publishing,
- Promotion of MASA editions,
- Exhibitions,
- Cooperation with national bodies and institutions,
- International outreach.

From the beginning of the XXI century, MASA continuously carries out the organization and implementation of international meetings and projects that contribute to the promotion and enhancement of the international scientific role of both the Academy and Montenegro. The Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts has 29 bilateral Agreements on Scientific Cooperation signed with foreign, mainly national, academies of sciences and arts. As a national academy, MASA is represented in the most important European and international academic associations and societies. MASA representatives regularly participate in annual meetings and assemblies, and in other way contribute to the work of the international academy associations of which MASA is an institutional member (9). Members of MASA individually are fellows of the reputable international academies of sciences and arts and learned societies (5).

MONTENEGRIN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS IN THE NEW BUILDING

The construction of the new and reconstruction of the previous building of MASA began in May 2020. As of January 2023 MASA finds itself, after 50 years, in a new, appropriate setting. The new and reconstructed MASA building provides adequate conditions for the implementation of numerous and diverse creative activities, including art exhibitions, film projections and musical concerts at the Gallery of MASA.