

Agenda: Business Meeting, 21 October 2025

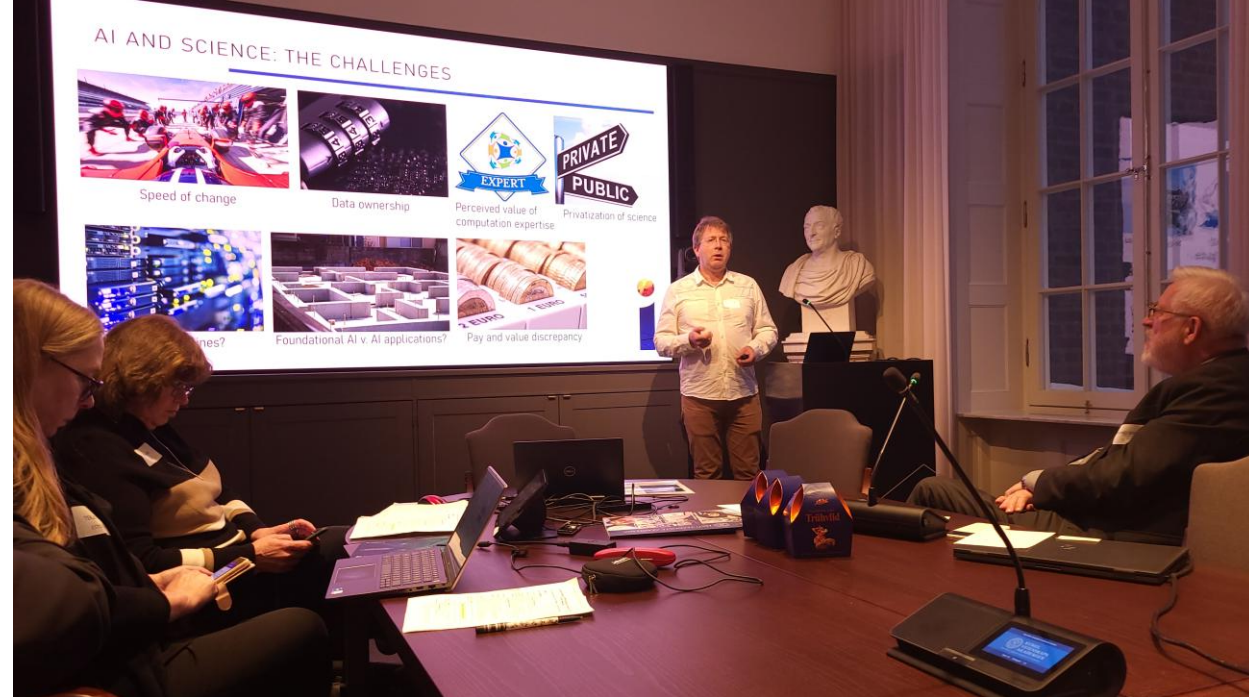
- Item 0: Adoption of the agenda
- Item 1: Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting
- Item 2: Report from the Management Group
- Item 3: Discussion: Scientific freedom
- Item 4: Feedback from the Members: introduction and sharing information, 4 min per person
 - Please use this option to tell what YOU find important!
- Item 5: Presentation from the ISC Secretariat: Dr Vanessa McBride
- Item 6: Future of the leadership
- Any other business

Agenda: (2) Future of the leadership

- Item 6.1: Composition of the Management Group
- Item 6.2: Location of the 2026 Annual Meeting
- Item 6.3: New host country?
- Item 6.4: Continuing without host country?

Item 1 Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

- Formally 7th Annual Meeting
 - Stockholm, 21-24 November 2024
 - Hosted by the Swedish Royal Academy
- 42 participants, 18 Members represented (2 online)
- Three core topics
 - AI, science advice, Reclaiming Europe
- Management Board and Host Country elected
- Actions and challenges of the ISC: Vanessa McBride
- The message to the ISC General Assembly



European Members of the International Science Council (ISC) 7th Annual Meeting

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
November 21-22, 2024 Stockholm



KUNGL.
VETENSKAPS-
AKADEMIEN

THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



International
Science Council





Item 1 Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

- Formally 7th Annual Meeting
 - Stockholm, 21-24 November 2024
 - Hosted by the Swedish Royal Academy
- 42 participants, 18 Members represented (2 online)
- Three core topics
 - AI, science advice, Reclaiming Europe
- Management Board and Host Country elected
- Actions and challenges of the ISC: Vanessa McBride
- The message to the ISC General Assembly

Item 2 Report of activities, Part 1

- 2024 Annual Meeting:
 - Filled all regular seats of Management Group
 - Re-elected the Host Country (Estonia)
 - Amended the Statutes: created a seat for an invited Management Group member from ISC Board
- Jürg Pfister stepped down from the Past Chair position
 - The Management Group continued without Past Chair
- ISC General Assembly, Muscat, Oman, 26.-30.01.2025
 - Several MG members participated
 - The Chair presented a short message to the Assembly
 - The Chair was a facilitator in one WG in panel "Leveraging the ISC Membership to strengthen science advice to policy"
 - The Chair recorded an interview

Item 2 Report of activities, Part 2

➤ Topic “Reclaiming Europe”:

- The conference was held in the Baltic States
- The conference was held in the Baltic States
- Presentations on security
- Chairing by Mrs Ma
- Panellists and pe
- Opinion pi
- The entire the inform



Item 2 Report of activities, Part 2

- Topic “Reclaiming Europe”:
 - The conference of academies of sciences of Hamburg and the Baltic States „Current and future security architecture for the Baltic States and Europe” (Berlin, 20.–21.03.2025)
 - Presentation “Addressing East-West gradient in the future security architecture of Europe (21.03),
 - Chairing the key lecture by Member of the European Parliament Mrs Marina Kaljurand and the subsequent discussion
 - Panellist to the session „Possible future scenarios for security and peace in Europe”
 - Opinion piece “Reclaiming Europe from the West-East Gradient”
 - The entire collection “Reclaiming Europe” distributed together with the information package

RECLAIMING EUROPE

A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS

Reclaiming Europe from the West-East Gradient

TARMO SOOMERE

the role of the belt of countries from Nordkapp (North Cape, Norway) to the Black Sea must be reconsidered. For a long time these countries have been considered to constitute a periphery of Europe and sometimes even a buffer between the “true West” and Russia. These countries are now on the front line and also at the fore in the battle of values.



Item 2 Report of activities, Part3

- “The “Scientific Temper” and a European Perspective”
 - Approved by the Management Board
 - Distributed to the European ISC Members, the ISC Governing Board and ISC local focal points.
 - The idea: not to seek endorsement, but interpret as a suggested approach that could structure the European ISC Members’ work in the coming year
- Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting: May 2025
 - All materials available at <https://euro-isc.org/>
- The Chair announced about stepping down: May 2025
 - Happy to continue as Past Chair, with some responsibilities of the Chair until a new chairing country is agreed
 - Management Board is ready to continue in this manner

Item 3 Scientific Freedom

- Document drafted by Anna Mauranen, August 2025
 - Endorsed by the Management Board for discussion at the Annual Meeting
 - The idea: not to seek endorsement, but interpret as a suggested approach that could structure the European ISC Members' work in the coming year

Item 4 Feedback from European ISC Members

- The delegates are invited to provide a brief overview of the core developments of their institutions in 2024–2025
- It is recommended to
 - specifically highlight activities related to the ISC topics and actions
 - provide suggestions for the scope and (concerted) actions of the European ISC Members
 - identify topics that should be discussed with the ISC secretariat.
- The presentations should be limited to 4 minutes and a few slides

Item 5 Presentation by Vanessa McBride

- Science Director, and the Acting Head of the Centre for Science Futures in the International Science Council
- Vanessa has a PhD in Astronomy from the University of Southampton
- She has 15+ years of experience, including various leadership roles, across university, research infrastructure and science-for-development settings in an international arena



Item 6.1 Management Group of European ISC Members, Part 1

Composition of the Management Group

- All regular seats of the Management Group are filled, and all members of the group are actively contributing.
- Thus, elections are foreseen in 2027.
- The role of Chair is partially filled by Past Chair, Tarmo Soomere, until the new Chair will be selected.
- The European Members of the International Science Council Statutes and Rules of Procedure approved in 2024 contains an option of inviting one member from the ISC Governing Board

Item 6.1 Management Group of European ISC Members, Part 2 - From Statutes:

5. Management Group

2 The Management Group 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: regular Management Group Members);

/--/

e. optionally one (1) invited member from the ISC Governing Board.

4 The /--/ term of the invited member from the ISC Governing Board is decided by the Annual Meeting.

Item 6.1 Management Group of European ISC Members, Part 3 – The proposal

The Annual Meeting **is suggested to invite** Geoffrey Boulton (Royal Society / Royal Society of Edinburgh) to

- (i) take the seat of invited member of the Management Board
- (ii) for two years.

Geoffrey has exceptional experience and expertise in international cooperation of academies and other research performing and research financing institutions. His participation will strengthen the entire Board and ensure tight cooperation with the ISC Governing Board.

Item 6.2 Annual Meeting 2026

Currently one offer: Spain

Item 6.3 New host country and Chair

Currently no applicants

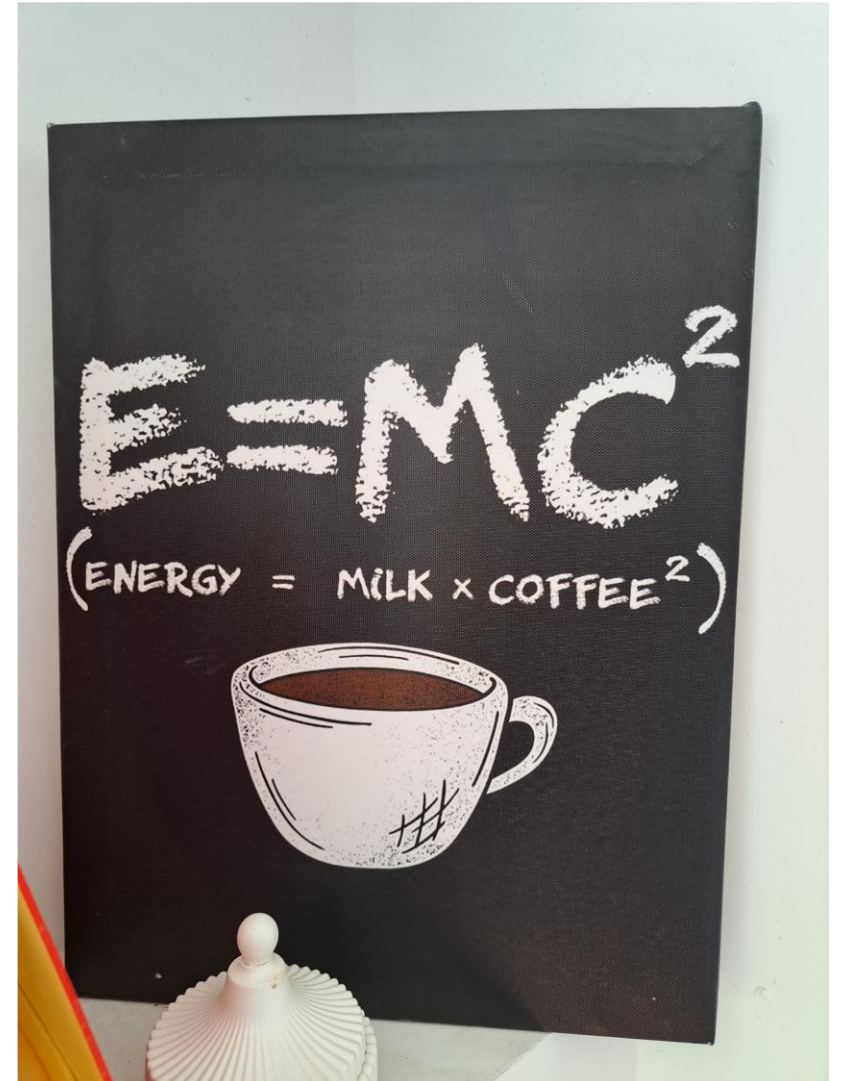
Item 6.4 The way forward

The Annual Meeting is invited to approve the work of the Management Board without the Chair and the host country until the new Chair is elected

Academy feedback slides

Estonian Academy of Sciences

- Tarmo Soomere represented European ISC Members and Estonian Academy of Sciences in the in the General Assembly of the International Science Council in Muscat, Oman, 26.-30.01.2025



Estonian Academy of Sciences - 1

- Tarmo Soomere represented European ISC Members and Estonian Academy of Sciences in the in the General Assembly of the International Science Council in Muscat, Oman, 26.–30.01.2025.
- presented a short message to the Assembly about the aims and objectives of the European Members (Day 2, 30 January 2025, Session 09:00–12:30 Strategy and membership, Topic 15. ISC regional presence) as a comment from the audience
- facilitator in one of working groups of the panel „Leveraging the ISC Membership to strengthen science advice to policy“ (26.01.2025)
- recorded an interview about strengths and possible future developments of the ISC (27.01.2025).

Estonian Academy of Sciences - 2

- Participation at the conference of academies of sciences of Hamburg and the Baltic States „Current and future security architecture for the Baltic States and Europe“ (Berlin, 20.–21.03.2025), with Juras Banys and Ivars Kalniņš (Latvia)
- Chairing the key lecture by Member of the European Parliament Marina Kaljurand “Security architecture for the Baltic States and Europe: A view from Tallinn and Brussels” and subsequent discussion (20.03)
- Presentation “Addressing East-West gradient in the future security architecture of Europe (21.03),
- Contributed as a panellists to the session „Possible future scenarios for security and peace in Europe“



Estonian Academy of Sciences - 2

- Participation at the conference of academies of sciences of Hamburg and the Baltic States „Current and future security architecture for the Baltic States and Europe“ (Berlin, 20.–21.03.2025), with Juras Banys and Ivars Kalniņš (Latvia)
- Chairing the key lecture by Member of the European Parliament Marina Kaljurand “Security architecture for the Baltic States and Europe: A view from Tallinn and Brussels” and subsequent discussion (20.03)
- Presentation “Addressing East-West gradient in the future security architecture of Europe (21.03),
- Contributed as a panellists to the session „Possible future scenarios for security and peace in Europe“

Estonian Academy of Sciences - 3

- Follow-up of the topic "Reclaiming Europe"
- Opinion piece: Soomere, T., 2025. Reclaiming Europe from the West-East Gradient.

YOUNG NETWORK TRANSEUROPE

RECLAIMING EUROPE
A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS

Reclaiming Europe
from the West-East
Gradient

TARMO SOOMERE



Estonian Academy of Sciences - 4

- Invited as a speaker and panellist at the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) 2025 Triennial Conference “Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation” and General Assembly Cairo, 8-11 December 2025.



Estonian Academy of Sciences - 4

- Invited as a speaker and panellist at the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) 2025 Triennial Conference “Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation” and General Assembly Cairo, 8-11 December 2025.
- Session 8: Novel Discoveries and Meaning-Making: Risky and Challenging, but with a Transformative Potential”
- Follow-up of the initiative Reclaiming Europe driven by Young Academies and discussed at the 2024 Annual Meeting
- Expands the outcome of a similar panel „Winning from greater inclusion: relation between diversity and academic culture“ in the frame of The Triennial Conference of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) and the Worldwide Meeting of the Young Academies, Oracle, Tucson, Arizona, 01.-03.11.2022

Estonian Academy of Sciences - 5

- A setback: major cut in the budget of Estonian Academy of Sciences
- Affecting all Academy activities
- Forcing to reduce also international activities

The very last “thank you” slide

Sincere thanks to the Albanian
Academy of Sciences

See you again at the 2026 Annual
Meeting