

SCIENCE & DIPLOMACY

CENTRAL EUROPE AND SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN

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A roundtable to share experiences organized in collaboration with the Embassy of Italy and the Italian Institute of Culture in Budapest by TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world, and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in the framework of the 2013 Italo-Hungarian International Year of Culture and Science

8 April 2013 Italian Institute of Culture
Brody Sandor u. 8, Budapest, Hungary

International scientific cooperation and diplomacy are crucial in building capacity to strengthen national research and innovation systems and to improve scientific governance. Networks – such as science academies – and targeted policies – such as those aimed at reducing the gender gap in science – play a major role in this effort.

The 2013 Italo-Hungarian International Year of Culture and Science provides the unique opportunity to explore these themes both in TWAS's experience in fostering South-South cooperation as well as through the experience of Italy and a number of Central European and Southern Mediterranean countries.

The traditional strength of scientific research in Central European countries can offer valuable insights, especially if viewed from the perspective of TWAS's experience in supporting developing countries, scientific networks and women scientists. Likewise, the long-standing tradition of exchanges and cooperation among the countries of the Mediterranean basin provides an opportunity for TWAS to develop partnerships to expand its North-South cooperation programmes.

PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 7 APRIL 2013

18:00–19:00 *Registration of participants (at Hotel Nemzeti)*

19:00–22:00 *Welcome Buffet*

MONDAY, 8 APRIL 2013

8:00–8:30 *Registration of participants (at Italian Institute of Culture)*

8:30–10:00 **Opening and Welcome**
Chair Romain Murenzi, Executive Director, TWAS, Italy

Welcoming Remarks

- Gina Giannotti, Director, Italian Institute of Culture in Budapest
- József Pálincás, President, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Maria Assunta Accili, Ambassador, Embassy of Italy in Budapest
- Gergely Pröhle, Deputy State Secretary for European Bilateral Relations and Cultural Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary
- Immacolata Pannone, Scientific Expert, Bilateral and Multilateral Scientific and Technological Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- Katalin Bogyay, President of the UNESCO General Conference, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Hungary at UNESCO
- Adel El Sayed Tawfik El-Beltagy, Chair, International Dryland Development Commission (IDDC), and President, Centre International des Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (CIHEAM), Egypt

Keynote Address

- Alan Leshner, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

10:00–10:30 - *Coffee/Tea Break at the “Bottega” on the first floor of the Italian Institute of Culture*
- *Press Conference in the “Biblioteca”*

10:30–12:30

Session I–International Cooperation in Science

Chair Mohamed H.A. Hassan, Co-chair, IAP, Italy

Rapporteur Gergely Böhm, Deputy Head, International Relations Department, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Speakers

- Lidia Brito, Director, Science Policy and Sustainable Development Division, UNESCO
- Adel El Sayed Tawfik El-Beltagy, Chair, IDDC, and President, CIHEAM, Egypt

Discussants

- Elena Ganea, Senior Researcher, Romanian Academy
- Assia Harbi, Research Director, North African Group for Earthquake and Tsunami studies (NAGET), Algeria
- István Mezei, Deputy Director General, Department of Cultural and Science Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary
- Naeem Abdurrahman, Former Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Libyan Transitional Government, Libya
- Piotr Salwa, Director, Scientific Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences in Rome, Italy
- Immacolata Pannone, Scientific Expert, Bilateral and Multilateral Scientific and Technological Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy

12:30–14:00

Luncheon

at the “Galleria Xenia”, ground floor of the Italian Institute of Culture

14:00–15:30

Session II–Women in science

Chair Shirley Malcom, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

Rapporteur Peter McGrath, Programme Officer, TWAS

Speakers

- Valéria Csépe, Deputy Secretary General, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Zohra Ben Lakhdar, Laboratoire de Spectroscopie Atomique Moléculaire et Applications (LSAMA), Tunisia

Discussants

- Matej Andolšek, First Secretary, Embassy of Slovenia in Budapest
- Naglaa Naguib, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Egypt in Budapest
- Khedidja Allia, Research Director, Université des Sciences et de la Technologie Houari (USTHB), Algeria
- Milan Peprník, Consul, Embassy of the Czech Republic in Budapest
- Omaima Mohamed Sawan, Co-Head, Agricultural and Biological Division, National Research Center, Egypt

- 15:30–15:45 *Coffee/Tea Break*
at the “Bottega” on the first floor of the Italian Institute of Culture
- 15:45–17:15 **Session III–Challenges of countries with less developed research infrastructure**
Chair Maria Assunta Accili, Ambassador, Embassy of Italy in Budapest
Rapporteur Edward Lempinen, Public Information Officer, TWAS
- Speakers*
- Carlo Rizzuto, Elettra-Sincrotrone, Italy
 - Mostapha Bousmina, Chancellor, Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology, Morocco
- Discussants*
- László Korányi, Assistant President, Responsible for Internal and International Affairs, The National Innovation Office (NIH), Hungary
 - Maged El-Sherbini, President, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt
 - Ivo Šlaus, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts
 - Ahmed Ouail, Counsellor, Embassy of Algeria in Budapest
 - František Fundárek, Programme Officer, Department of International Cooperation, Slovak Academy of Sciences
- 17:15–18:00 **Roundtable’s Resolutions, Way Forward, Closing Remarks**
Co-Chairs Romain Murenzi and József Pálinkás
- Rapporteurs’ feedback
- Panelists*
- Maged El-Sherbini, President, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt
 - Lidia Brito, Director, Science Policy and Sustainable Development Division, UNESCO
 - Valéria Csépe, Deputy Secretary General, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
 - Maria Assunta Accili, Ambassador, Embassy of Italy in Budapest
 - Shirley Malcom, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Recommendations / Closing*
- 20:00–22:30 *Dinner at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences*

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