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# The Polish Young Academy



One of the important tasks of the Polish Academy of Sciences is to foster the careers of young scientists by involving them in various initiatives, including those related to the functioning of the Academy itself.

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Young Academy are regulated by the *Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences* (Dz. U 2010 no. 96, item 619), the statutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the rules and regulations of the Polish Young Academy.

Candidates for membership in the Young Academy are selected by the PAS General Assembly, from among young Polish scientists with outstanding scientific achievements, to represent all of the Academy's five divisions. The total number of PYA members cannot exceed 10% of the statutory number of PAS members. Candidates must be under 38 years old at the time of selection and hold at least a doctoral degree. During their five-year term (with no possibility of re-election), PYA members are entitled to actively participate in the work of the Academy's divisions, as well as its scientific, task-force, and national committees.

The Young Academy is led by a Chair elected by its members, together with a number of Deputy Chairs. The newly elected Chair for the 2024–2026 term is Prof. Maciej Sałaga, MD from the Medical University of Łódź, with Prof. Łukasz Sadowski from the Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Assoc. Prof. Marzena Smol from the PAS Mineral and Energy Economy Institute, and Assoc. Prof. Andrzej Katunin from the Silesian University of Technology as Deputy Chairs.

The activities of the Polish Young Academy focus mainly on mobilizing the young scientific community, including: (1) presenting opinions and proposing agendas on scientific issues, (2) organizing scientific debates, discussions, and conferences to address significant problems and disseminate science, (3)

To promote scientific activities conducted by outstanding young representatives of Polish science, the Polish Young Academy (PYA) was established in 2010 as part of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS). The activities of the Polish

preparing scientific opinions and evaluations concerning specific scientific disciplines, (4) helping to shape Poland's scientific policy, engaging in scientific diplomacy, and representing Poland internationally to European and global young-academy associations, and (5) promoting ethical standards among young scientists.

Additionally, the Polish Young Academy can undertake other initiatives, on its own or at the request of the authorities of the PAS.

Since 2022, there have been seven thematic teams operating within the Polish Young Academy, including one crisis team:

- Team on Opinions – monitors the current situation in the scientific community (including activities by state bodies such as the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education), formulates opinions on significant events and initiatives within the scientific community, and builds relationships with individuals and institutions involved in scientific policy in Poland and globally.
- Team on the Professional Situation of Young Scientists – identifies problems faced by young scientists in Poland and proposes corrective measures, including in such areas as scientific career paths, evaluation methods for research staff, researcher mobility, and PhD and DSc (habilitation) procedures.
- Team for Science Popularization and Events – implements the Young Academy's science communication strategies and coordinates events organized or co-organized by the Young Academy,

including international research conferences like “Polish Scientific Networks” and “Young Science Beyond Borders,” the national “Scientific Excellence Has No Gender” conference, regular meetings entitled “Become a Researcher,” the “Forge of Young Talents” workshops for doctoral students, and the “Mine of Young Scientists” mentoring and training program for high school students.

- Team on Scientific Advice – provides expert support for the Young Academy on standing and *ad hoc* scientific topics (e.g., health, climate, technology, etc.). The Young Academy participates in the Science Advice Mechanism for the European Commission (SAPEA+) and SAM (Science Advice Mechanism for the European Commission).
- Team for the Promotion of the Young Academy – actively promotes initiatives carried out by the Young Academy (including online), develops its promotion strategy, and collaborates with the broader academic community.
- Team for the “Scientific Excellence Has No Gender” Initiative – organizes events related to gender equality in research, including conferences, workshops, and seminars.
- Team for Ukraine and Cooperation with Science for Ukraine – a temporary crisis panel established in 2022 to support Ukrainian scholars and scientists in the face of the armed conflict in Ukraine.

Detailed information about our initiatives can be found on the website of the Polish Young Academy: <https://amu.pan.pl/>.



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works at the Medical University of Łódź. Chair of the Polish Young Academy. His research interests include the pathophysiology of inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) and irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).

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