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# The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)











agya.info

# **About AGYA**

The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) is based at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) and at the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT) in Egypt. It was established in 2013 as the first bilateral young academy worldwide. AGYA promotes research cooperation among outstanding early-career scholars (3–10 year after PhD) from all disciplines who are affiliated with a research institution in Germany or any of the 22 Arab countries.

The academy supports innovative projects of its members in various fields of research as well as in science policy and education. More than 60 members – Arab and German scholars in equal numbers – realize joint research projects and collaborative initiatives on topics such as Arab and German Education; Common Heritage and Common Challenges; Energy, Water and Environment; Health and Society; Dynamics of Transformation; and Innovation. AGYA is a dynamic think tank which provides fresh and pioneering Arab–German perspectives and strengthens new forms of resilient North–South–South cooperation.

Throughout the past decade, AGYA has succeded to establish its position as a key player in interdisciplinary research cooperation and innovative science diplomacy in the Arab world and Germany. By now, more than 130 members and alumni/ae are at the core of AGYA's network of excellence, sharing a passion for cutting-edge science with a social impact.



# Voices from AGYA

AGYA promotes its members as ambassadors of both science and culture on the global stage. By fostering strong and trustful partnerships within an Arab-German network of excellence, AGYA has established itself as a contributor to international science diplomacy.

#### Prof. Dr. Verena Lepper

AGYA Principal Investigator, Egyptology, Germany

AGYA empowers talented young scholars and continuously raises their leadership capacities. The academy's interdisciplinary approach facilitates innovation in research for the benefit of our societies.

#### Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Sakr

President of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt & Co-Chair of the AGYA Advisory Board

AGYA is where innovative ideas meet, and scientific achievements follow.

#### Dr. Oliver Korn

AGYA Alumnus, Computer Sciences, Germany

AGYA is a full-fledged discovery of countries, of cultures, and of incredibly inspiring people.

#### Prof. Dr. Marc Ringel

AGYA Alumnus, Energy Economics, Germany & France

As an AGYA member I get the opportunity to extend my scientific network. My visibility within the Arab and German science community has reached a new level.

#### Prof. Dr. Lobna Said

AGYA Member, Electronics & Electrical Communication Engineering, Egypt

## 23 Countries - 1 Mission

The Arab–German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) brings together excellent Arab and German scholars to face shared challenges and develop solutions through research cooperation.

# **AGYA's Key Impact Areas**

- Interdisciplinary research:
   Implementation of innovative research
   projects to tackle jointly defined common
   challenges
- Capacity building and promotion of high potentials:
   Initiation of projects at the interface of science and society
- Research-oriented policy advice:
   Implementation of transnational initiatives on questions of education and science policy
- Network building and research cooperation:
   Promotion of new forms of Arab-Arab-German collaboration

# Mission and Goals

The main goal of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) is the effective strengthening of international cooperation between excellent Arab and German early-career researchers. In light of the current challenges this mission is more relevant than ever: Arab and German scholars intensify their research exchange and establish new collaborations beyond disciplinary borders in order to contribute to the development of innovative solutions. AGYA supports interdisciplinary research projects and collaborative initiatives in the framework of Arab-German research cooperation.

AGYA promotes the active engagement of young researchers in academia and society, starting with the academy itself. The members of the academy are independent and free to determine their own research topics and agenda, and they do this by connecting and forming partnerships with fellow members. As members go on to become AGYA alumni/ae, they act as ambassadors of the interdisciplinary and intercultural academy life, inspiring others across the Arab-German academic world.

For more information, visit our website: agya.info



# Organisation of the Academy

The activities of AGYA are carried out by its members. The General Assembly of all members convenes twice a year at the AGYA Annual Conferences where the members decide on all matters of importance to the academy. They select the Steering Committee consisting of three Arab and three German members. The Steering Committee represents AGYA at international conferences and actively engages in exchange with leading academic institutions in the Arab world and Germany. The Steering Committee is led by two Co-Presidents. The academy is supervised by the Advisory Board consisting of five Arab and five German high-ranking representatives of internationally renowned academic institutions:

- Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW), Germany
- German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- Goethe Institut, Germany
- Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK), Germany
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Germany
- Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT),
   Egypt
- Qatar Foundation, Qatar
- Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS), Kuwait
- Mikati Foundation, Lebanon
- Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation, Morocco

Administrative support for the academy's activities and members is provided by AGYA's offices in Berlin, based at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW), and in Cairo at the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT). Furthermore, AGYA has regional coordinators in Beirut and Tunis who act as focal points in the respective region.

# Membership

AGYA members are excellent early-career researchers (3–10 years after PhD) from a variety of disciplines. The members – in equal numbers Arab and German scholars – are affiliated with research institutions in Germany and in Arab countries.

AGYA offers its members the unique opportunity to develop and implement their ideas, visions, and projects within the framework of Arab-German research collaboration. Limiting the number of members to 60 ensures close cooperation and gives AGYA members a sense of familiarity and mutual trust. At the same time, this number allows for diversity in terms of geographic background and academic fields. Membership is granted for a period of five years, after which members obtain lifelong access to AGYA's Alumni Network of excellent researchers.

### **Eligibility & Requirements**

- Are you an early career researcher (3-10 years after PhD) with a proven record of excellence?
- Are you affiliated with a university or a research institution in Germany or any of the 22 Arab countries?
- Are you interested in collaborating in interdisciplinary teams to take on shared challenges and develop solutions?
- Are you dedicated to academic leadership?
- Are you in full command of English, both spoken and written?

The AGYA Call for Membership Applications is published annually at the beginning of the year. Candidates are reviewed and selected in early summer, and new AGYA members are inaugurated at the AGYA Annual Conference in autumn.

More information: www.agya.info