

The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters works to promote science-policy dialogue

Ever since its foundation, one of the missions of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters has been to support evidence-informed policy-making. In recent years, the Academy has worked to promote this even more systematically.

In 2019–2021 the Academy initiated and coordinated Sofi, the Science Advice Initiative of Finland, a joint venture of the Finnish science academies that was funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Sofi showed that there is a demand for promoting science-policy dialogue and that cooperation can be enhanced through new operating models.

In 2021 the Board of the Academy decided to allocate resources for a permanent science-policy function in the Academy. Academy Secretary Jaakko Kuosmanen and Science Communicator Nanna Särkkä, who worked in Sofi, will continue to develop science-policy dialogue at the Academy.

Cooperation with key partners in both policy-making and the scientific community will continue and expand in the future.

As well, international cooperation will continue with partners such as SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) and JRC (European Commission's Joint Research Centre). The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters and the Prime Minister's Office will together represent Finland in a project led by JRC scheduled to start this autumn. The project will seek solutions to develop evidence-informed policy-making in EU member states. Finland is one of the seven participating countries.

The efforts to promote science for policy will make use of the operating models developed during Sofi, such as *scientific red teams* (interactive science advice dialogues developed together with ministries), *phenomenon map* (method used in producing reliable evidence syntheses meeting user needs), *impact training for researchers* and the *researcher mapping* (we find the most suitable researchers for policy-makers' needs). Among other events, this year has already seen scientific red teams working on the National Climate Change Adapta-



The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters published its statement “Bending, but not breaking” in spring 2021. The statement is an invitation to join the discussion on ways to improve the crisis resilience of society. The English version of the statement can be read at www.acadsci.fi/statement2021.pdf

The publication event featured a discussion between, from left, Academician of Science Risto Nieminen, State Secretary Pilvi Torsti, Editor-in-Chief Kaius Niemi and Professor Anna Mauranen. The event was hosted by Journalist Piia Pasanen

tion Plan with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and a training event for young scientists entitled Young scientists’ roles in European science-for-policy, organized in March together with Young Academy of Europe.

Longer-term strategic priorities and objectives will be determined during 2022. All key stakeholders will be heard during this process. What do they wish from the Academy and what social issues can the Academy, in particular, best address?