

Press Release

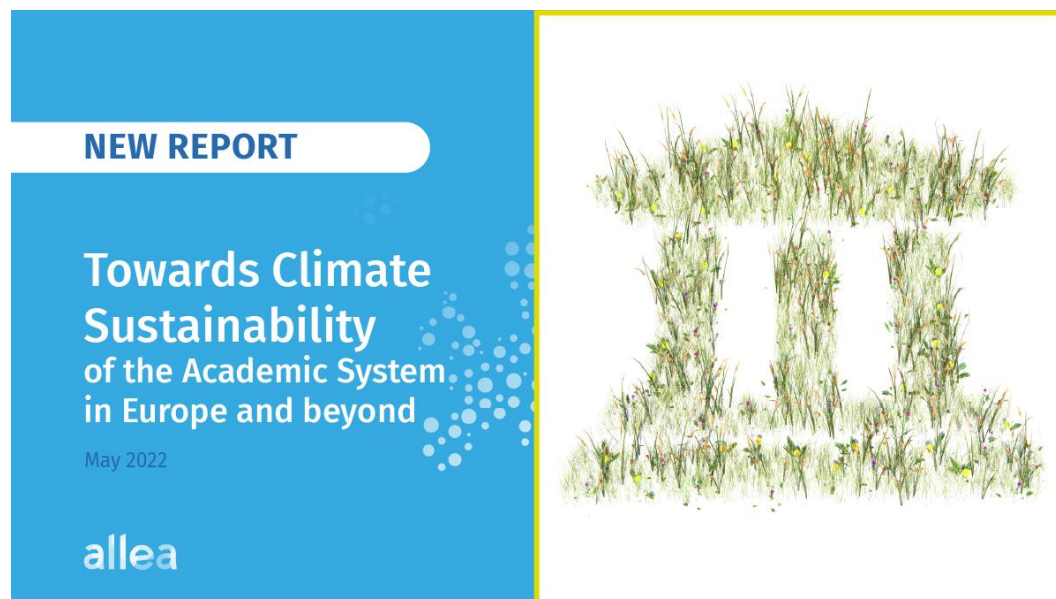
Berlin, 05.05.2022

Taking action towards climate sustainability in academia

New Report by the ALLEA Working Group “Climate Sustainability in the Academic System”

The ALLEA (All European Academies) Working Group, “Climate Sustainability in the Academic System”, has published its report “Towards Climate Sustainability of the Academic System in Europe and beyond”. The Working Group, founded in 2021 and led by *Die Junge Akademie*, addresses the challenges and opportunities in the transition to climate sustainability in the academic system.

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In the ALLEA Report presented, the Working Group compiles available data on greenhouse gas emissions from various stakeholders within the academic system and discusses existing practices to reduce emissions. Their analysis shows that the academic system is currently not climate sustainable and that significant changes are necessary for a transformation towards sustainability. These not only bring challenges but also often have the potential for co-benefits. The authors provide a series of concrete recommendations for the various stakeholders to shift the academic system towards climate sustainability. Among the stakeholders are universities, research institutes, funding organisations, students, conference organisers, academies, professional bodies, and policy-makers.

“We encourage stakeholders in the academic system to seize the opportunity now to become aware of their climate impact and implement appropriate solutions to reduce their emissions,” said [Professor Astrid Eichhorn](#), Speaker of *Die Junge Akademie* and Chair of the ALLEA Working Group. “Our report identifies specific steps that the scientific system can take to implement important first steps towards climate sustainability right now. Individual organizations have already initiated these steps, and a broader transformation could be within reach.”

Please find the online version of the Report [here](#)

ALLEA (2022) Towards Climate Sustainability of the Academic System in Europe and Beyond. Berlin. DOI 10.26356/clima-te-sust-acad

About ALLEA and the Working Group:

The ALLEA Working Group “Climate Sustainability in the Academic System” was initiated by members of *Die Junge Akademie* and is chaired by Astrid Eichhorn. As a further member, Valerie Domcke represents *Die Junge Akademie* in the Working Group. Central topics are the assessment of the climate impact of academia, the travel culture in academia, virtual and physical mobility, and best practices for climate sustainable academia.

In 2020, *Die Junge Akademie* was accepted to join ALLEA (All European Academies) as the first representative of the younger generation of academics. ALLEA is the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities. It was founded in 1994 and now has over 50 members in more than 40 countries among the members of the Council of Europe.

Die Junge Akademie
at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

Die Junge Akademie was founded in 2000 as the world’s first academy for outstanding young academics. Its members – who come from all academic disciplines as well as creative fields – explore the potential and limits of interdisciplinary work in new projects, aim to encourage dialogue between academia and society, and provide new impetus in discussions about scientific policy. *Die Junge Akademie* is supported by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. Its office is located in Berlin.