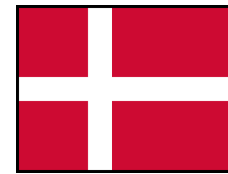


# YATSI

## Young Academy of Technology, Science, and Innovation

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Tuesday 20 September 2022  
Academies Palace, Brussels, Belgium

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# A Danish Technical Academy for Early-Career Professionals (ECPs)

- *Why?* General interest in enhancing engagement between “young” scientists and researchers working in both academia & industry
- Bottom-up initiative (ECP-driven with ~40 members within 6–8 years)
- Affiliation with a “senior” academy, but otherwise mostly operated autonomously
- Third-party sponsorship (approx. 150k EUR/year)

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- *Motivation # 1* Desire to build more (and new) bridges between diverse set of ECPs working in both higher education & industrial settings
  - *Motivation # 2* Professional network — not only for Danish ECPs — but importantly also inclusive towards large body of internationals working in the technical and natural sciences across DK
  - *Motivation # 3* Two-way exchange of ideas & initiatives between industrial partner organisations & basic research groups from within academia



# Young Academy of Denmark

- Established in 2011
- Independent unit under the main academy:  
*Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters*
- Member of:
  - **SAPEA** (*Science Advice for Policy by European Academies*)
  - **YASAS** (*Young Academies Science Advice Structure*)
  - **ENYA** (*European National Young Academies*)
  - *Nordic-Baltic Network of Young Academies*
- Main raison d'être is to bring together young scientists (usually assistant to associate professor level) from *all branches of science*
- Agenda:
  - To strengthen basic research and interdisciplinary exchange
  - To play a role in the political landscape & amplify voice of young scientists in the public debate
  - To unite *science & society* through, e.g., outreach activities



# Meetings & Academy Structure

- Meetings in Copenhagen once a month at the premises of the *Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters* (incl. external speaker from, e.g., research politics or Danish media)
  - Meetings & activities are arranged by DUA members and/or its executive committees
  - Administrative support from the main academy
  - Financial support from the Carlsberg Foundation
- 
- Three standing committees:
    - *Science/Research Politics*
    - *Dissemination of Science*
    - *Interdisciplinary Collaboration*

CARLSBERG FOUNDATION

*Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters* (Copenhagen)





# Academy Activities

DET UNGE AKADEMI  
Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab

H.C. Andersens Boulevard 35 · DK-1553 København V  
youngacademy@youngacademy.dk  
www.youngacademy.dk



## Research Environment of the Year 2022

Junior researchers can now nominate their research environment for the Danish Young Academy's *Research Environment of the Year 2022* award and win DKK 10,000 for an academic or social event.

Good research environments foster better research. At the Danish Young Academy, we know how important a good research community is for young researchers' talent development. For this reason, we have launched an award that recognizes the importance of good research environments for scientists' and scholars' work, performance and well-being. Our aim is to inspire a conversation about what characterizes a good research environment. You can nominate your research environment for the *Research Environment of the Year 2022* award. The prize is DKK 10,000 for an academic or social event together with your research environment.

### Who can nominate a research environment?

To nominate your research environment for the award, you must be at least two or more researchers at the academic level of master student, PhD student, postdoc or assistant professor and employed at a Danish research institution.

### How do we assess the nominated research environments?

We find it particularly important that young researchers receive supervision and have opportunities for development. There are several ways of supporting these aims. For example, a good research environment may foster excellence and creativity in research, it may allow for the testing of new ideas, and it may promote collaboration and support the well-being and mental health of all members of the community. We look forward to hearing what a good research environment means to you.

### How do we define a "research environment"?

- It may be a research group with a supervisor and two or more PhD students
- It may take on a horizontal or vertical structure
- It may be a digital and/or physical environment
- It may be a formal or informal network

KRONIKEN  
30. oktober 2021

DET UNGE AKADEMI

Forskningsfriheden er under stigende pres fra politikere, erhvervs- og ledelser på universiteterne. Det er afgørende, at vi vender den udvikling med konkrete tiltag for at sikre forskningsfriheden.

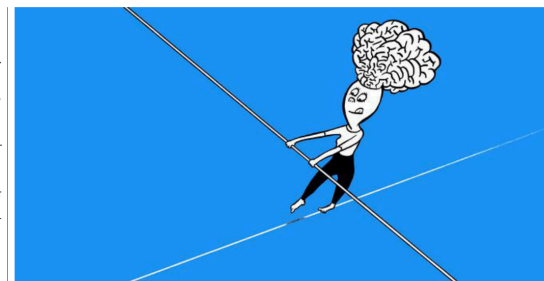
Se liste over medlemmer af Det Unge Akademi samt en underskrivelse af kronikken i faktaboksen.

FORSKNINGSFRIHED er præcis som pressfrihed og ytringsfrihed, kerneelementer i et oplyst demokrati. Vores velstand og velfærd er afhængige af stærk og fri grundforskning samt anvendt forskning. Forskningsfrihed er også en forudsætning for, at vi kan imødegå samfundsmæssige udfordringer og kriser effektivt, senest eksplificeret ved coronakrisen.

Vi er alle yngre forskere ansat ved forskellige institutter på landets universiteter - naturvidenskabelige, tekniske, sundhedsvidenskabelige, samfundsfaglige og humanistiske, og vi er beymrede over det skred, vi i de senere år har været vidner til her i landet: Forskningsfriheden er under stigende pres fra politikere, erhvervs- og ledelser på universiteterne. Det er afgørende, at vi vender den udvikling med konkrete tiltag for at sikre forskningsfriheden.

Begrebet forskningsfrihed dækker over forskeres ret til at bestemme emner, formulere forskningsspørgsmål, indkøbe materiale, anvende teorier, samt vælge og udvikle metoder, såvel som til offentliggørelse af hypoteser, argumenter og resultater.

Den indebærer endvidere en vidtrækkende ytringsfrihed for den enkelte forsker. Forskningsfriheden er aldrig fuldstændig. Den vil altid være begrænset på forskellig vis. Men det står ubestrideligt til forskningsfriheden i Danmark.



■ Den frie, ubundne forskning i Danmark er presset. Tegning: Philip Younkel

MAN KAN SKELNE mellem to aspekter af forskningsfriheden, nemlig frihed til at forske og frihed fra at blive underlagt andres autoritet. Lad os begynde med det sidste, friheden fra, som også kaldes negativ forskningsfrihed.

Negativ forskningsfrihed forudsætter, at forskere ikke pålægges direkte be-

grænsninger, også selv om deres resultater måtte stride mod eventuelle politiske eller økonomiske interesser. Den indebærer altså armlængdeprincipper og forskningsmæssig uafhængighed, dyder som den brede offentlige tillid til forskningen af gode grunde afhænger af.

Trusler mod denne type forskningsfrihed kan i princippet udgå fra alle aktører, der kan begrænse forskningen - fra grupper med religiøs magt til grupper med

økonomisk magt. I praksis udgår de dog især fra politisk, bureaukratisk, erhvervs- og ledelsesmæssig side. Det kan være gennem kontrakter med eksterne partnere. Flere af landets universiteter har i de senere år indgået kontrakter med eksterne samarbejdspartnere, der direkte krævede forskeres forskningsfrihed, ophavsret og ytringsfrihed, også kaldet 'dobbelte mundskontrakter'.

I nogle tilfælde resulterer indblanding fra eksterne partnere i decideret vildledende information. Ved den såkaldte oksekødsskandale blev en rapport bestilt af Landbrug & Fødevarer og udarbejdet af forskere ved Aarhus Universitet. Rapporten konkluderede fejlagtigt, at klimabelastningen ved oksekødforbrug var lavere end ved Leks, kaffe, alkohol og slik lagt sammen. Journalister på information afslørede, at Danish Crown og Landbrug & Fødevarer havde blandet sig i udarbejdelsen af rapporten og i formidlingen af dens resultater. Rapporten blev siden trukket tilbage.

INDSKRÆNKNING af den negative forskningsfrihed kan også komme i form af virksomheders eller interesseorganisationers forsøg på at lægge pres på forskere til at afholde sig fra at formidle resultater, der ikke huer dem.

DM's undersøgelse af forskningsfrihed i Danmark fra januar 2020 viste, at hver ottende af de forskere, der besvarede undersøgelsen, havde oplevet pres for at ændre eller tilbageholde forskningsresultater. Forskere ved de naturvidenskabelige fakulteter oplevede størst pres, og preset kom oftest fra eksterne partnere eller myndigheder.

Senest har læredrægtigt Landbrug trukket vandmiljøforsker Stig Markager i retten for arealrænkelser pga. hans udtalelser om stigende kvalitetsfuldstændighed fra landbruget. Markager blev frifundet ved

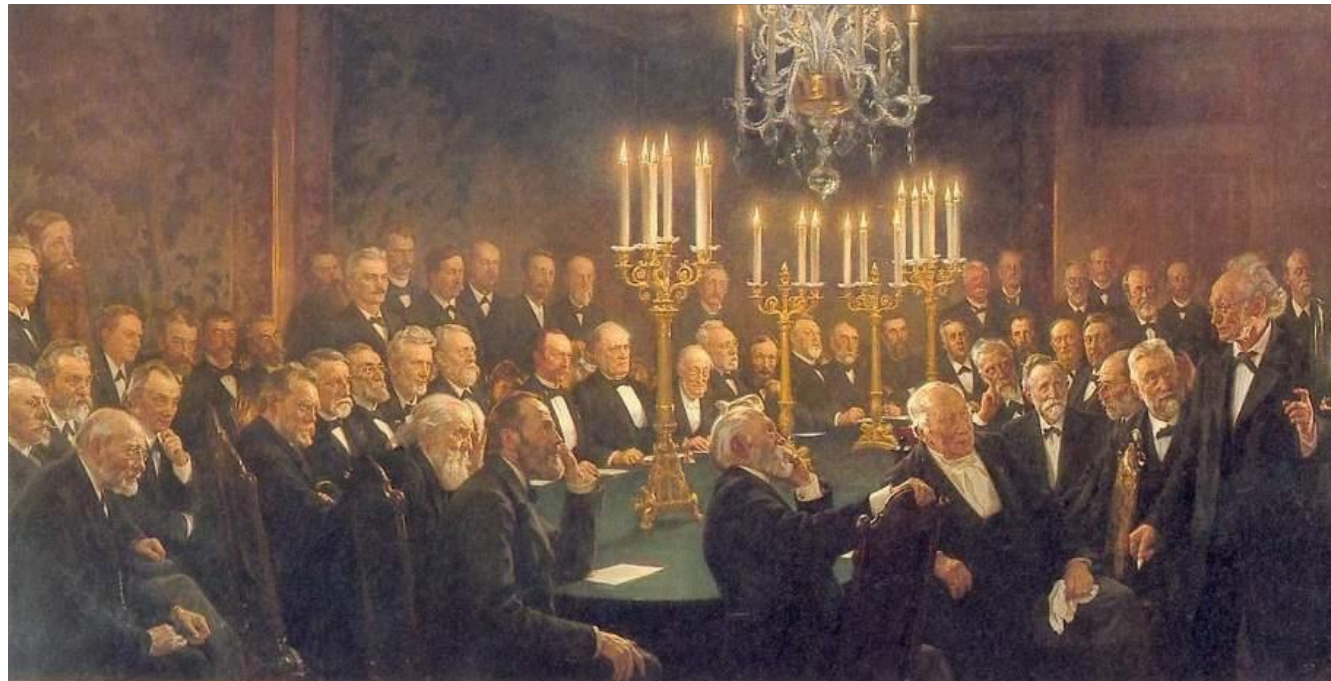


Viewpoint published in Danish newspaper *Politiken* on 29 October 2021

Call for *Research Environment of the Year 2022*

# Membership Model

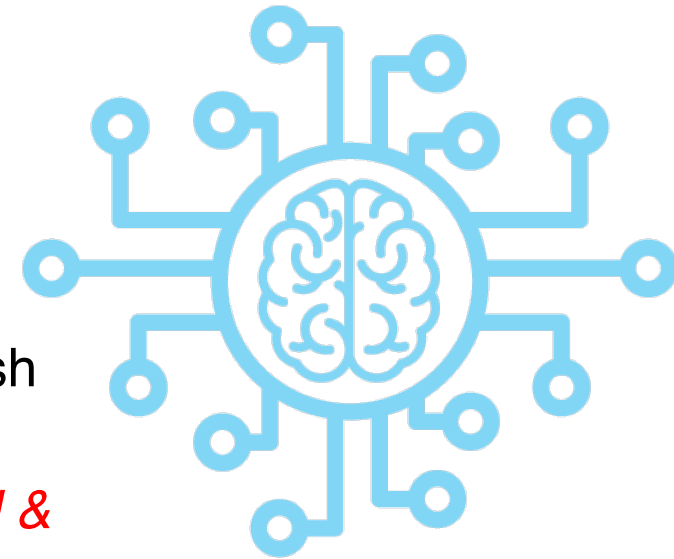
- Members are admitted once a year – a membership lasts for *5 years*
- 7–9 members admitted yearly with steady-state of approx. 40 members in total
- Members are elected based on *application/motivation* & *scientific excellence*
- It furthermore remains a priority to have a balanced representation between scientific disciplines, universities, genders, and academic/research profiles



P. S. Krøyer (1851–1909):  
*A Meeting in the Royal Danish  
Academy of Sciences and Letters* (1897)

# ***YATSI*** — Young Academy of Technology, Science, and Innovation

- New academy to be launched in 2023
- Independent academy unit loosely affiliated with the main body: *Danish Academy of Technical Sciences*
- Same membership model as *Young Academy of Denmark*, but English as lingua franca & alternating meeting venues across DK
- Major focus on bringing together ECPs exclusively from the *technical & natural sciences*, working in both higher education and industry
- Intention is furthermore to advocate for stronger funding in support of science & innovation as a *driver for economic growth* in DK (and EU)
- Agenda:
  - To strengthen the *professional exchange* between ECPs — not only in academia — but also within industry
  - To unite *science & industry*



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# Main differences/interplay between **YATSI** & **Young Academy of Denmark**

## Young Academy of Denmark



All scientific disciplines



*Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters*



Science & society



Interdisciplinarity, public dissemination, and general science/research politics

## YATSI

Technical & natural sciences + industry



*Danish Academy of Technical Sciences*



Science & industry



Entrepreneurship, innovation, industrial adaption of academic basic research



***An academy is what its members makes it.***