



**Dear Colleagues,**

On behalf of the European Acoustics Association I want to wish you all, and to your relatives and friends, a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

During this year, we have lived stressful times. Many important things have occurred and their effects are not yet totally perceived. However, despite all of this EAA has continued its work and fulfilled its duties in coordinating international activities and supporting scientific and technical events, such as symposia, conferences and the promotion of a better quality of life in terms of acoustic environments.

All EAA products have been issued, produced, published and held, spreading information (scientific, technical and social) of interest to all community through its member societies, and its institutional means. One of EAA major event was the EuroRegio 2016, which integrated a Summer School on Acoustics, which was held in Porto, Portugal, and was a real success in terms of what an EuroRegio should be: not a big congress, European wide, organized in cooperation, and with a school for Young acousticians.

Also, the FORUM ACUSTICUM 2017, which will be held in Boston, USA, in a format of a joint meeting with ASA, is underway. I'm sure it will be a great success in terms of EAA cooperation.

But before the FORUM, I want to draw your attention to the International Noise Awareness Day (INAD), in April 2017, and to the related activities promoted by EAA and the European Commission, for which a dedicated committee with members appointed by National Societies was established. I think that, in terms of public and social visibility, the EAA will be a key partner in all Actions associated with noise nuisance, control, management and effects during 2017.

At the annual EAA general Assembly held in Porto during the EuroRegio2016, a new Board was elected, not to manage EAA but to serve the interests of the Association by creating synergies, developing cooperation, and promoting acoustics. All members of this new Board (Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp, Giovanni Brambilla, Salvador Santiago, Jerzy Viciak, and me) joined me in wishing you all a very happy Christmas time.

**Jorge Patrício**

**President of EAA**