



EAA TC Noise: The European Acoustics Association Technical Committee on Noise

The European Acoustics Association (EAA) Technical Committee on Noise (TC-Noise) has supported a series of EAA conferences and beyond, by proposing scientific committee members, organising structured sessions, arranging conference programmes, and suggesting keynote speakers. Those include the 2017 EAA/ASA joint meeting (173rd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the 8th Forum Acusticum) in Boston, on 25–29 June 2017, and the EuroNoise 2018 (the 11th European Congress and Exposition on Noise Control Engineering) in Crete, on 27-31 May 2018; as well as the 24th ICSV (The International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration) in London, on 23-27th July 2017, and Internoise 2017 (the 46th International Congress and Exposition on Noise Control Engineering), in Hong Kong, on 27-30 August 2017, including the Soundscape Symposium immediately after internoise 2017.

The TC-Noise has also been involved, with a number of TC members, in several EU research project conferences, such as the final conference of the Sornous project on training next generation of urban sound planners, in Munich in September 2016, as well as a series of activities International Noise Awareness Day on 26th April 2017.

The TC Chair and Vice Chair, along with a number of other TC members, were invited to attend the Noise in Europe Conference, held in Brussels on 24th April 2017. The reason for organising this major policy-leading conference was that: ‘In the European Union, more than 120 million people suffer from noise levels that are considered to have a negative effect on health, and European legislation addresses noise from transport, limiting noise from cars, railways, and airplanes. The Environmental Noise Directive requires an assessment of the noise citizens are exposed to. It calls upon national authorities to consider concrete actions to mitigate its negative health effects’. At the conference, the World Health Organisation presented the latest scientific evidence of the health effects of noise. Representatives from Member States, public authorities, scientists as well as associations and organisations interested in environmental noise, discussed policy options to ensure we strike the right balance between the transport we all depend on, and the healthy lives we want. Keynote Introductions, speeches and reactions were made by European Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commissioner for Transport, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Director General of the European Commission –DG Environment, Reginald Director for Europe of the World Health Organisation, Executive Director of the European Environment Agency, as well as members of the European Parliament including the Chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. Overall, it was a very informative event, with a useful platform created for policy makers, practitioners and researchers to exchange ideas, deepen mutual understandings and explore ways forward.

Jian Kang (Chair of EAA TC Noise)