



**Dear Colleagues,**

2017 has begun. At this very moment, I want to address to all of you the very best wishes from the EAA Board for the New Year of 2017.

As usual, the beginning of a new year is the perfect time to consolidate our intentions, plan the future and establish the corresponding commitments. EAA is a very important and extraordinary Association. Representing the acousticians of a Continent, it plays an important role in the promotion and development of acoustics, on its scientific and technological impacts, and on the aspirations and needs of communities, both at European and International level.

Next year, from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017, it will be held, in Boston, one of the most important EAA events, the 8<sup>th</sup> FORUM ACUSTICUM, jointly with the 173<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, under the designation **Acoustics '17, Boston** (<http://acousticalsociety.org/content/acoustics-17-boston>). The most part of EAA technical committees are deeply involved in the organization of special structured sessions, and we'll expect a large participation of European Colleagues. I'm sure Acoustics '17 will be a great success in terms of EAA cooperation. In this frame let me remind you that prior to this event, there will be held in Boston the EAA General Assembly, which we hope will be attended by all of you.

I also want to draw your attention to the International Noise Awareness Day (INAD), in April 2017, and to the related activities promoted by EAA, for which a dedicated Committee composed by members appointed by National Societies was established. In this context, I would like to enhance the Pan-European Competition for students under the *motif* **The Sounds of my Place** (please take a look at: [https://euracoustics.org/INAD2017/INAD2017\\_Comppetition.pdf](https://euracoustics.org/INAD2017/INAD2017_Comppetition.pdf)). I have no doubt 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.

All EAA products, Nuntius, Acta Acustica, Schola, Acoustics in Practice, Documenta, Events, will continue to be issued, produced, published and held, spreading information (scientific, technical and social) of interest to all community through its member societies, and its institutional means, thus fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of EAA. I want to make a special reference to the YAN (Young Acousticians Network) and for the importance of their role, not only in Europe, but also around the world. This is a



remarkable example of what an association should take into account for the sustainability of its future. We hope YAN will become stronger and stronger in the years to come.

The International Year of Sound (IYS) scheduled for 2019, is another important *item* for EAA. The International Commission for Acoustics (ICA) is leading the initiative towards gaining the approval by the UNESCO for the International Year of Sound, and EAA is also participating in this process. We will do whatever we can for the success of this endeavour.

It is an inexorable rule, time runs fast, and without noticing and just few steps away we are reaching the end of the year. So, let's also start thinking in 2018, for it will be the year for another EAA event, the EURONOISE2018 that is to be held in Crete, Greece, 27<sup>nd</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of May 2018.

During last year, we have lived stressful and dangerous times. Once again the terror has hit Europe, a Continent where tolerance, solidarity, peace and humanity are the key structural values. We must embrace all together in repudiating such Evil. We should never forget the barbarism. So, let me share with you a message I sent to our German colleagues for the occasion of the terrible terrorist attack in Berlin, last December: *On behalf of the EAA, I express the deepest condolences of the European Acoustics Association to the families of the victims of the terrorist attack held in Berlin. We are in solidarity to the grief of our colleagues of the Germany Acoustical Society (DEGA).* Unfortunately, at the turn of the year, a similar situation occurred in Turkey. I address the same message to our Turkish colleagues.

Once again, Happy New Year!

**Jorge Patrício**

**President of EAA**