



Dear Colleagues, Dear friends,

In this time of the year, we breathe all over Europe the sense of friendship, charity, mutual aid and inner happiness. Despite the hardness of the world outside, in the comfort of our homes and enjoying the company of our beloved ones near the Christmas Tree, where the glittering balls and the delicate toys are the main expectations of the children, we can feel the purity of the feelings and live again our childhood days, be it looking to the descendants of our genealogy, or just by comforting the surrounding ones to whom the “luck” has been so apart. For almost a month, it is the time to break the calamity of the stressful times the society is continuously facing, directing our thoughts to the poor and starving people and coming back to the infancy releasing the child that is always inside our hearts.

Many things have occurred in the year that is going to be ended. Happy ones and sad ones. Among the sad ones are those of colleagues that unfortunately have already left us. However, despite the sadness, it is our duty to pay tribute to them and to assure the continuity of their legacy.

Throughout time EAA has pursued its goals and fulfilled its duties by promoting international activities and supporting scientific and technical events, such as symposia, seminars, conferences, etc., thus gathering all those working and interested in acoustics under the same umbrella of exchanging knowledge and technical development.

But EAA does not forget other duties such as the engagement in social actions addressed to develop conditions for a better quality of life in terms of acoustic environments. In this regard, may I draw your attention to a new film dedicated to aware the society against harmful noise, which was produced within the frame of INAD (International Noise Awareness Day), held in 2017 and on the material provided by candidates to the Pan-European Competition for students under the leitmotif *The Sounds of my Place*. The material compilation for this new film was done by an excellent team coordinated by our Colleague Sergio Luzzi and has the kind sponsorship of Klaus Genuit Foundation. Thanks to all of them! The *link* of the film is going to be sent to the EAA National Societies very soon and can be shown in all events they can promote and organize in the future.

The EAA has assured the continuous publication and needed updates of its products (Acoustics in Practice, Acta Acustica, Documenta, Nuntius, and Schola), by spreading and providing oriented news and information of interest to all community through its Member Societies and their institutional means, thus, linking all together under the same frame of knowledge and scientific advances. In this regard, it must be enhanced the process of transition of the Journal Acta Acustica from subscription state to Open Access, as has been already decided in the Oporto General Assembly. In this regard, I want to highlight the excellent contribution given to this process by the Editor in Chief, Jean Kergomard. About



this, let me remind you about the voting process to choose the future publisher of the Journal, which closes on December 14th. Another issue, is the new model of Acoustics in Practice publication. Under the proposal of its Editor in Chief Miguel Ausejo it was decided to have a “*continuous*” publication of the Journal. With this model, the Journal number will be referred by Year. We are sure this option will attract more authors and improve the Journal.

Concerning the Young Acousticians Network, another important branch of EAA for it deals with the “Future”, there was recently a change in its Chair and Team. The new Chair is now Mathieu Gaborit. The EAA thanks the former YAN Chair Cristina Zamorano for the utmost work she did in the promotion and consolidation of this European network and in the attraction of new members for the cause. As a continuity, we wish the best for the new YAN team under the leadership of Mathieu.

One of the EAA major events is the EURONOISE. This year the Euronoise was held in Crete, a beautiful island in Greece, from 27th to 31st of May, under the excellent coordination of our Colleague, Prof. Michael Taroudakis. With seventy-three sessions covering all aspects of acoustics, it was another EAA great event, both in its technical and social components. More than 600 participants, from 42 countries, including 120 students, were there sharing information, creating partnerships, showing their work and making new acquaintances. Ten EAA grants for young participants were given, and six best paper presentation awards sponsored by Klaus Genuit Foundation were presented. Once again I thank the organizers for having provided all participants a high level and running smooth congress.

Next year, it is time for the 4th EAA Euroregio, which will be held jointly with ICA2019 Congress in Aachen, Germany, from 9th to 13th September 2019, organized by our colleagues of the Acoustical Society of Germany (DEGA); <http://ica2019.org/eea-euroregio-events/>. This event will feature a large amount of topics and special structured sessions which will be of utmost interest to all of us. Do not forget to put in your agenda this scientific meeting.

But, as we all know, previously to Euroregio there will be an EAA Summer School for Young Acousticians with five courses, being four of them Hot Topic Courses. This school will take place in Leuven, Belgium from September 6th to 8th, 2019; <http://ica2019.org/eea-summer-school/>. Please pay attention to this event and invite your students to attend.

Finalizing, in this times dedicated to family, inner reflexions and solidarity, the Board Members Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp, Giovanni Brambilla, Salvador Santiago Jerzy Viciak and Antonio Pérez-López from the EAA Office, have kindly joined me in wishing you and all EAA members a **Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year**.

Lisbon, December 2018

Jorge Patrício

President of EAA