



**Dear Colleagues,**

Here we are again at the beginning of another year. At this very moment and on behalf of EAA Board I want to **wish you all the best for 2019.**

After the Christmas festivities, this initial period of January is the usual time to re(define) our perspectives, intentions, and make plans for the future that waists ahead, establishing and preparing our commitments. During last year, EAA has done its best for the promotion of Acoustics and their related matters to the benefit of all community. Being an international Association, EAA has a strong responsibility in bringing together researchers, companies, laboratories, universities, agencies, and citizens, under the same scope of scientific and social development for a better living and healthy environment.

This year is the time for other relevant EAA event, the 4<sup>th</sup> EAA EuroRegio, which will be held jointly with ICA2019 Congress in Aachen, Germany, from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, organized by the Acoustical Society of Germany (DEGA). This event will feature a large amount of topics and dedicated structured sessions, thus, being of utmost interest to all of us. But, previously to EuroRegio there will be held another EAA Summer School for Young Acousticians comprising five courses, being four of them Hot Topic Courses. This school will take place in Leuven, Belgium from September 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019; <http://ica2019.org/eea-summerschool/>. I'm sure the EuroRegio2019 and ICA2019 will be another great success not only for EAA, but for all acoustic community around the world. In this frame let me remind you that prior to these events, there will be held the EAA General Assembly (GA), this year scheduled for the afternoon of September 8<sup>th</sup>, which I hope will be attended by all of you.

Concerning the Young Acousticians Network, there was recently a change in its Chair and Team. The new Chair is now Mathieu Gaborit, to whom the EAA Board wishes the best in his duties, projects and willingness. We are sure that the new YAN team, under the leadership of Mathieu, will continue the former work done so far to develop the so-called "Acousticians for the Future".

As I said in my Christmas message, 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 again your attention to a film dedicated to aware the society against harmful noise, which was produced within the frame of INAD (International Noise Awareness Day), held in 2017. The material compilation for this film was done by an excellent team coordinated by our Colleague Sergio Luzzi and has the kind sponsorship of Klaus Genuit Foundation. You may watch the film through the EAA webpage (<https://euracoustics.org/>). Please feel free to send this link to all members of your society and show it in all events your Society can promote and organize.



As usual, the EAA products, Nuntius, Acta Acustica, Schola, Acoustics in Practice, Documenta, will continue to be issued, produced and published, by spreading information (scientific, technical and social) of interest to all community through its member societies and its webpage. By other side, EAA have given its agreement to several applications submitted requesting their events to be EAA Symposia, and has also given its institutional sponsorship to other events, all to be held in 2019, in accordance with our internal regulations. Additionally, EAA continues to be a member of the EU Noise Experts Group, addressed to analyse the progress of the European Noise Directive on Environmental Noise, and be a member of the Initiative of Science in Europe, there represented by our colleague Peter Svensson, and of ICA.

Before ending this letter, I want to say that we are almost ending a very important issue to be dealt with. It is the process of moving the Journal "Acta Acustica united with Acustica" from subscription to Open Access as decided in EAA General Assembly, held in Porto in 2016. This process is coordinated jointly by the EAA Board and the Journal Editor-in-Chief. Due to all contacts done, two publishers were selected for the purpose: the actual one, Hirzel Verlag, and the EDP Sciences. To better involve the societies in the decision, the Board sent a comparison document with the two proposals to all societies for voting before the December 14<sup>th</sup>. The corresponding voting results are: HIRZEL – 4; EDP – 10; and Decision to the Board – 9; the remaining missing votes will be considered as abstentions. The Board is going to meet within few weeks to proceed with this issue, expecting to come up with a solution by the middle of the year, in order to be ratified in our next General Assembly, so that it could come into force in January of 2020, as scheduled. We hope to succeed in the process and keep our Journal as a reference for colleagues who would like to publish their findings and research results in a good and well referenced publication.

As usually happens, time flies. In fact, time runs so fast that, without noticing, the end of this year will caught us just around the corner. Therefore, why not start thinking in 2020, since it will be the year for another EAA event, the FORUM ACUSTICUM 2020, which is planned to be held in Lyon, France, from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of April.

**Once again, Happy New Year!**

Lisbon, 2019

**Jorge Patrício**

**President of EAA**