

Dear colleagues,

Please find below a proposed addition to the Electoral Regulations, together with an explanatory note for the Administrative Council. The provision would allow the incoming Council to hold, once and within its first three years, a single extraordinary election of new effective members, in order to secure the long-term continuity of the Academy. It builds on the spirit of article 1.8 and leaves the ordinary rules fully in force thereafter.

PROPOSED PROVISION (new art. 1.9)

1.9. Exceptional transitional provision — generational renewal

In order to ensure the continuity of the Academy and a lasting generational balance among its effective members, the newly constituted Administrative Council may, once only within the three years following the taking of office of the newly elected Executive Committee and Permanent Secretary, organise an extraordinary election of effective members.

This extraordinary election is governed by the provisions of articles 1.2 to 1.7, subject to the following adaptations:

- a) the number of seats to be filled is set at a maximum of twenty, by way of derogation from the one-third rule laid down in article 1.6;
- b) only candidates who obtained their doctorate no more than fifteen years before the closing date for nominations are eligible;
- c) a maximum of two candidates per country of residence may be elected;
- d) the Administrative Council shall ensure that this election contributes to the representation of the disciplinary fields and generations least present among the members.

This provision ceases to have effect at the end of the three-year period mentioned above.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed provision would allow the incoming Administrative Council to hold, once and within its first three years, a single extraordinary election of up to twenty new effective members, reserved for scholars who obtained their doctorate no more than fifteen years earlier, with a maximum of two per country. It builds directly on the spirit of article 1.8, which already foresees that the Council may accelerate the admission of new members in the years following the adoption of these regulations. The purpose is to secure the long-term continuity of the Academy. Recent elections have shown that the ordinary mechanism, which caps each round at one-third of the nominees, renews the membership too

slowly to keep the disciplinary fields and the successive scholarly generations evenly represented over time. A one-time measure of wider scope would let the Academy welcome a cohort of active younger scholars without altering the ordinary rules, which remain fully in force thereafter. The provision is deliberately exceptional and self-extinguishing: it applies only once, lapses automatically after three years, and leaves the one-third rule of article 1.6 untouched for all subsequent elections. In this way the Academy can renew itself while preserving the selectivity and the standards that define membership.

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