

Meeting of the Swiss Young Network for Science Policy and Diplomacy

The Swiss Young Network for Science Policy and Diplomacy (SYNESPOD) organized another annual meeting with the (inter)national partners to discuss the ongoing activities and plans. The meeting took place at the *Hotel Kipling* in Geneva during the **Geneva Science Diplomacy Week** on June 11, 2024, with the objective of exchanging about activities related to science for policy and diplomacy, as well as opportunities for future collaborations.

The meeting involved representatives of several (inter)national organizations, including the Geneva Science-Policy Interface (**GSPI**; Fédérique Guerin), **Reatch** (Alexandra Zingg), and **foraus** (Maximilian Rau and Irène Ngah), who were involved in the **SYNESPOD** project as partners. In addition, representatives from the Global Young Academy (**GYA**, Markus Prutsch) and the Young Academy of Finland (**YAF**, Veera Ehrlén) joined the meeting.

The meeting program involved an opening by the **SYNESPOD** speaker at the Swiss Young Academy (**SYA**), Jovana V. Milić, followed by a welcome note by Roger Pfister, Head of International Cooperation at the **Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences (a+)**, who provided an introduction to the engagement of the Swiss Academies at the science-policy interface. This was complemented by an introduction to the European science advisory mechanism and Science Advice for Policy by the European Academies (**SAPEA**) by Markus Prutsch, Executive Board Member of the **GYA** and the Delegate of the Young Academies Science Advice Structure (**YASAS**). Finally, the participants were introduced to the science for policy activities of the **YAF**, represented by Veera Ehrlén, including a handbook on science for policy for researchers, among other initiatives aiming to foster interactions and strengthen capacity at the interface of science and policy in Finland. These interventions inspired discussion on the role of early-career researchers in science advice, emphasizing the importance of fostering relationships that strengthen trust in science advice worldwide.

Swiss Young Academy (SYA)

House of Academies • Laupenstrasse 7 • P.O. Box • 3001 Bern • Switzerland

+41 31 306 92 20 • info@swissyoungacademy.ch • swissyoungacademy.ch 🇨🇭 @youngacademy_ch

📍 swissyoungacademy

In the next part of the meeting, some of the **SYNESPOD** partners delivered overviews of their activities at the interface of science, policy, and diplomacy. This involved a presentation by Fédérique Guerin about the **GSPI** activities at the science-policy interface, including capacity building and brokering connections and dialogue. This was followed by Alexandra Zingg, who shared a broader perspective on the history and activities of the **Franxini project** from **Reatch** and related initiatives, and Maximilian Rau, who offered insights into the ongoing activities of **foraus**, showcasing emerging projects at the science-policy interface.

At the end, the **SYNESPOD** speaker, Jovana V. Milić, summarised project activities and plans, highlighting some of the opportunities for continued collaboration, including capacity-building efforts, mapping the science-policy interface, and sharing experiences while actively participating in the international forums on science for policy and diplomacy. This will also involve organizing the upcoming European Network of Young Academies (**ENYA**) meeting (previously organized in Berlin), hosted by the **SYA** next year in Bern.

After the meeting, participants joined the interactive workshop co-organized with **foraus** and Geneva Science Diplomacy Anticipator (**GESDA**) at the Impact Hub Geneva on *Science diplomacy for emerging technologies*, strengthening connections and collaborations.



Impression from the SYNESPOD Meeting in Geneva (Hotel Kipling) on June 11, 2024