



**MINISTÈRE  
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT  
SUPÉRIEUR,  
DE LA RECHERCHE  
ET DE L'INNOVATION**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

January 24 and 25, 2022



# Informal Meeting of EU Ministers for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

Booklet

[europe2022.fr](http://europe2022.fr)

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# Welcoming address

## Frédérique Vidal,

### Minister of Higher Education,

### Research and Innovation



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The efforts made over the last two years have enabled Europe to develop ambitious programmes in the fields of higher education, research and innovation, with the launch of major new initiatives such as the European universities, the European Innovation Council and the European Missions. This is further amplified by the establishment of a new cooperation framework, since we are now relying on a renewed governance of the European research and education areas. The French Presidency is therefore taking place at a key moment, since an implementation phase is now beginning which commits us to making the ambitions of European cooperation a reality.

In terms of higher education, research and innovation, the French Presidency will pursue three objectives :

- Promote European knowledge policies to support economic recovery and the green and digital transitions, by strengthening the synergies between higher education, research, innovation and services to society;
- Affirm the international dimension of these policies in order to contribute to the deployment of European power in the world and to strengthen the attractiveness of Europe for teachers, researchers and students;
- Finally, to deepen the sense of European belonging, by supporting European universities in their action to transmit the European way of life and by removing obstacles to transnational cooperation between institutions in Europe.

In this context, nearly one hundred events will be organised in France, at ministerial level but also many of the French higher education and research establishments and organisations, in order to illustrate how much Europe owes to research and universities. I would like to thank the Commission for its support in preparing this programme.

On behalf of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, I am proud to welcome almost 40 delegations to Paris, to the *Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie* and the *Musée de l'Homme*, two highly emblematic places of this knowledge based Europe that we want. I am also proud of this series of workshops that we have organised together with the Collège de France and its eminent professors. They will share insights about, on the one hand, the question of the future of universities in Europe and, on the other, the principles and values of research in Europe and in the world.

There is no doubt that our work will help and consolidate the place of universities at the heart of the making of tomorrow's European society. The Forum of Universities for the Future of Europe, which will take place on 25 and 26 January 2022, shall bring to life this great idea. It will be the prelude to the major conference of European universities that the President of the Republic called for on December 9th and which we will hold in June.

# Agenda

Monday 24th January 2022

Musée de l'Homme (Paris)

**7pm – 10pm — Welcoming dinner**

“Carte blanche” to the PAUSE programme,  
National emergency programme for the aid and  
reception of scientists and artists in exile

Moderated by two journalists: **Caroline Broué**  
(France Culture) and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (AOC)

Tuesday 25th January 2022

Cité des sciences et de l'industrie (Paris)

**8:00 — Arrival of the delegations. Doorstep.**

Entrance hall of the Cité des sciences et de  
l'industrie

**8:45 — Opening**

Gaston Berger Amphitheatre

Welcome by **Bruno Maquart**, president  
of Universcience

**Frédérique Vidal**, Minister of Higher Education,  
Research and Innovation, France, on behalf of  
the French Presidency

**Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for  
Innovation, Research, Culture, Education,  
Youth and Sport

**Václav Velčovský**, Vice-minister for International  
Affairs, EU and ESIF at the Ministry of Education,  
Youth, and Sports, Czech Republic

**Anna Ekström**, Minister for Education, Sweden

**Thomas Römer**, Administrator of the Collège de  
France

Moderated by two journalists: **Caroline Broué**  
(France Culture) and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (AOC)

**9:30 – 12:30 — Part 1. Workshops with the  
professors from the Collège de France.**

Gaston Berger Amphitheatre

**9:30 – 10:45 — First workshop. “Europe of  
universities: which future?”**

Chaired by : **Václav Velčovský**, Vice-minister for  
International Affairs, EU and ESIF at the Ministry  
of Education, Youth, and Sports, Czech Republic

**Patrick Boucheron**, chair History of Powers in  
Western Europe, 13th-16th century

**François Héran**, chair Migrations and Societies

**Vinciane Pirenne-Delforge**, chair Religion,  
History and Society in the Ancient Greek World

Questions and answers with the heads of  
delegation.

Moderated by : **Caroline Broué** (France Culture)  
and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (AOC)

**Coffee break**

**11:15 – 12:30 — Second workshop. “Principles and values of research in Europe and the world”**

Chaired by : **Anna Ekström**, Minister for Education, Sweden

**Anne Cheng**, chair Intellectual History of China

**Hugues de Thé**, chair Cellular and Molecular Oncology

**Stéphane Mallat**, chair Data Science

Questions and answers with the heads of delegation.

Moderated by : **Caroline Broué** (France Culture) and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (AOC)

(for information / optional)

**6pm — Opening ceremony of the Forum of the universities for the future of Europe (FUF)**

*Gaston Berger Amphitheatre*

and [ONLINE] on [forum-des-universites-europe2022.fr](http://forum-des-universites-europe2022.fr)

Moderated by two journalists : **Axelle Girard** and **Merryl Moneghetti** (France Culture)

**12:30 – 2pm — Ministerial lunch**

*Level S2 West*

«Carte blanche» to FERRANDI Paris, French school of gastronomy and hotel management.

**2pm – 6pm — Part 2. Ministerial debate**

**2pm — Family photo**

*Level S2 East*

**2.30 — Ministerial debate**

*Louis Armand Room (S3)*

**4.30 — Conclusions**

**Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education, Youth and Sport

**Frédérique Vidal**, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, France, on behalf of the French Presidency

**5 – 6pm — Press conference with the members of the Trio and the Commissioner**

*Level S2 East*

VIP visits of the “Jean” and “Banquet” exhibitions at the Cité des sciences et de l’industrie for delegations (optional).

Language regime :

**FR/EN**

(dinner, press conference)

**FR/EN/GE/IT/ES**

(opening, workshops, ministerial debate)

**FR/EN/GE**

(FUF)

# Workshops with the Professors from the Collège de France

## **Workshop 1.** The Europe of universities: Which future?

Chaired by : **Václav Velčovský**, Vice Minister for International Affairs, EU and ESIF at the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports, Czech Republic

Questions and answers with heads of delegation.

Moderated by : **Caroline Broué** (journalist, France Culture) and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (journalist, AOC)

In the coming years, the growth in higher education enrolment observed worldwide over the past decades will continue to intensify. Demographic trends and changes in the geopolitical context call into question Europe's position as a global centre of knowledge creation. A large number of factors, threats and opportunities will influence the future development of higher education institutions in Europe. Among these, the global challenge of climate change and environmental degradation, the acceleration of technological and digital change are already having an impact on the strategies and positioning of universities. At the same time, the growing demand for quality education in emerging countries is increasing the speed and number of global exchanges, while new threats are emerging to the fundamental values and principles that European democracies aim to defend. On a regional and global scale, the increase of inequalities and the challenges of ageing societies will transform the labour market and reinforce the need for inclusion, involving new expectations for lifelong learning.

In this respect, it is crucial to support the transformation of Europe's higher education sector to contribute to the EU's key priorities, including the Green Deal for Europe, the Digital Decade, the Global Gateway Strategy, the Industrial Strategy, the Skills Strategy and the Action Plan for Integration and Inclusion. Europe's universities have a major role to play in European leadership, recovery and belonging. Developing and strengthening their cooperation, partnerships and alliances at European and global level will be key to this.

In January 2022, the Commission is presenting an ambitious European strategy for universities, which gives new impetus to the realisation of European education and research areas in the coming years.

How can we respond to these challenges, and how can the EU, with its strong experience, lead the way?

## Prof. Patrick Boucheron

Chair History of Powers in Western Europe, 13th-16th century

### Title

Erasmus and the Erasmus program

### Summary

If Europe can be said to have been born in the Middle Ages, it is as a Europe of knowledge and universities. From this point of view, Erasmus' humanism is indeed a scholastic legacy. But why do our academic rituals and the political imaginations they express still refer to this dreamed-of Middle Ages *studium*, when most of our teaching and research system is a legacy of the 19th century? The answer which is conveyed in this analysis is that if we want to refer to the medieval era of universities, we must realise that the mobility of students has made Europe, rather than the mobility of masters, chancellors and other guarantors of university power. In this sense, the Europe of research owes more to the Erasmus program than to the philosopher Erasmus. It has no possible future without consideration for student life.



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## Prof. François Héran

Chair Migrations and Societies

### Title

Studying discriminations in the light of European values

### Summary

Migration research is by definition international. It uses data from Eurostat, the OECD and the UN. It has also benefited from European programmes: FP6 and FP7, Horizon 2020, ERC projects, research infrastructures. The 2000 Directive (2000/43/EC) on 'equal treatment irrespective of racial or ethnic origin' introduced a major novelty: the concept of 'indirect discrimination'. For its part, the case law of the European Court of Human Rights has established the notion of 'passive' discrimination (notably when an authority, alerted to the discriminatory effects of certain practices, refrains from intervening). Under this dual impetus, European statisticians and researchers have multiplied the number of surveys and experiments that measure the extent of ethnic or racial discrimination in access to employment, promotion, housing, credit, etc., and this for equal qualifications. However, these results are largely underestimated, or even denied, in the French public debate, to the point that the denunciation of racism is itself suspected of being racist. The presentation will return to this tension and will insist on the need to actively contribute to European research on the mechanisms of discrimination. European universities are invited to play an active role in this work.



## Prof. Vinciane Pirenne-Delforge

Chair Religion, History and Society in the Ancient Greek World

### Title

Humanities and research within universities

### Summary

The humanities and social sciences are all concerned with thinking of humans in their actions, creations and thoughts, in context and over the long term. In this vast field, the 'Humanities' impose a long training path and the research that is carried out in this field does so over a period of time dictated by the constitution of complex corpus of work, irrespective of the research question related to them. The short-sightedness of project-based research and the criteria of a supposed excellence centred on 'break' or 'disruption' do not apply well to scholarly research, which is nevertheless essential for understanding the past. Universities are therefore the appropriate places for this type of research, rather than the big budgeted machines that are often oversized in a limited time frame. The uncritical application to the humanities of models imported from other scientific fields can be detrimental to long-term research, which is essential. It is therefore by means of permanent teacher-researcher positions within the universities that this research is carried out under the best conditions. The ecosystem of the research world is comparable to that of the physical world: its richness is linked to its variety, which implies distinct treatments to ensure its survival.



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## Workshop 2. Principles and values of research in Europe and in the world

Chaired by : **Anna Ekström**, Minister for Education, Sweden

Questions and answers with heads of delegation.

Moderated by : **Caroline Broué** (journalist, France Culture) and **Sylvain Bourmeau** (journalist, AOC)

The need to strengthen the European Union's strategic autonomy has been further accentuated by the health crisis. In order to face the challenges of tomorrow, the Union must take on a leading role in research and innovation, particularly in strategic areas such as artificial intelligence or epidemiology. The European scale makes it possible to provide answers to the new challenges of the 21st century, such as pandemics, global warming and the green and digital transitions.

The European Union and its Member States are seeking to develop more focused and balanced international partnerships. Horizon Europe, the new research and innovation framework programme for 2021-2027, is one of the tools that can be used to achieve this objective. The European Missions approach and the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe, adopted on 26 November 2021 by the Member States, are another step in this direction. The Pact establishes a common set of principles and values that Member States have committed themselves to follow in their research and innovation systems and in their interactions with third countries in order to achieve a level playing field and common framework conditions. These values and principles include ethics and integrity of research and innovation, freedom of scientific research, gender equality and equal opportunities, pursuit of excellence, and free circulation of researchers and support staff, scientific knowledge and technology.

In this perspective, the importance for Europe of reciprocity and shared values is reaffirmed in order to develop scientific cooperation without being naive, and to establish balanced scientific and technological cooperation agreements. In this respect, international partnerships and the influence of the Union in the fields of research and innovation represent a tool for influence and soft power.

How can we better articulate all these issues without undermining the creativity of researchers? How can we make the social responsibility of the research communities of today and tomorrow visible and intelligible in the European Union and beyond?

## Prof. Anne Cheng

Chair Intellectual History of China

### Title

Does the so-called Chinese soft power represent a threat to universities and research in Europe?

### Summary

Since the beginning of China's rise to power in the 2000s, there have been various changes in its posture towards globalisation, from the 'low profile' advocated by Deng Xiaoping, through attempts to spread soft power, to the current self-assurance bordering on arrogance displayed by Xi Jinping. In this context, what about Chinese strategies of influence on the European academic world (teaching and research)? Is it something to be concerned with?



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## Prof. Hugues de Thé

Chair Cellular and Molecular Oncology

### Title

A personal view on biology/health issues

### Summary

This century will be the century of biology. Not only because of societal issues (health, biodiversity, etc.), but also because of the emergence of extraordinary tools in recent decades, such as genetic engineering, genomic exploration or the ability to edit genomes (CRISPR). The flourishing of biology owes much to European funding through international networks, tools or training (EMBL), not to mention support for excellence (ERC). This explosion in biology is also taking place through interdisciplinarity, particularly with chemistry (probes and drugs), physics (cell biology) and mathematics (genomics, evolution, big data).

The issues that seem to me to be critical today are largely related to the philosophy of the Collège de France. Promoting interdisciplinarity by erasing the borders between disciplines and encouraging the sharing of major instruments on joint campuses. The issue of the transmission/dissemination of information (open science) is also crucial. In line with the humanists who sought to share the resurrected ancient culture, Europe must also fight to promote the value of the wide and open dissemination of biological data.

Openness, freedom, creativity, pragmatism, and time: these are the virtues that have always supported progress in my field.

## Prof. Stéphane Mallat

Chair Data Science

### Title

Do we need a European research centre in artificial intelligence?

### Summary

The societal, economic and scientific impact of Artificial Intelligence has attracted monumental public and private funding for research in the US and China. Europe has followed suit with significant funding of networks and projects, in support of national initiatives. Is this enough to cope with the scientific, technological and ethical upheavals that are coming? I propose to rethink this question, remembering the European successes in physics and biology.



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# Ministerial debate : “Strengthening transnational cooperation between universities for the future of Europe.” Background document

As interfaces between the academic sector, the economic world, public authorities and civil society, at the crossroads of research, innovation and higher education, Europe’s universities are key players in mobilising the Union’s strengths to tackle today’s challenges and prepare the Europe of tomorrow.

They are a central component of the European model and play a key role in the economic recovery of the Union. As learning places, they help to adapt to the transformation of the labour market by opening up to all types of learners and promoting their employability. As research and innovation places, they generate new knowledge and skills to accelerate the climate and digital transitions, improve the EU’s competitiveness and strengthen its resilience to potential future crises.

As providers of high-quality education, they play an active role in promoting attractive and sustainable academic careers, vectors of research excellence. In this respect, they reflect Europe’s attractiveness and contribute to its leadership on the international scene.

Finally, by enabling students to benefit from international experience during their studies and by preparing them for active citizenship, they play an active role in strengthening the sense of belonging and the affirmation of democratic values.

Universities are at the heart of the knowledge square (education, research, innovation and service to society). In synergy with the European Higher Education Area, they contribute both to the realisation of the European Education Area and to the deepening of the European Research and Innovation Area, as reflected in the ERA 2022-2024 policy agenda annexed to the Council conclusions on the future governance of the European Research Area adopted in November 2021.

However, universities face their own challenges, some of which have been accentuated by the pandemic we are facing since 2020. In order to address these challenges, the European Council called, back in December 2017, for « strengthening strategic partnerships between higher education institutions across the EU and encouraging the emergence, by 2024, of some 20 ‘European Universities’, i.e. networks of universities at EU level based on a ‘bottom-up’ approach, which will enable students to obtain a degree by combining studies in several EU countries and which will contribute to the international competitiveness of European universities».

The success of the two calls for proposals launched in 2018 and 2019 by the European Commission demonstrates the willingness of Europe’s higher education institutions to go beyond existing cooperation models: 41 European Universities bring together more than 280 institutions across Europe representing 20% of Europe’s students and acting with more than 1,000 associated partners.

The creation of these alliances has helped to develop ambitious approaches to teaching, mobility, joint programmes and cooperation in research and innovation, making a significant contribution to the attractiveness and competitiveness of the European Union. They are a concrete expression of the synergies between the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area. By achieving an unprecedented degree of cooperation at all levels of organisation and in all areas of

activity, these alliances are intended to be a major vehicle for excellence in European research and for the quality of European higher education, as well as for strengthening links with many other actors, including research organisations, companies, civil society, and regions.

The transformations in progress concern the strengthening of the scientific capacity of universities, the dynamics of innovation ecosystems, the development of a multidisciplinary approach to challenges such as climate change or health, the development of more flexible lifelong learning pathways, the promotion of fundamental values and international projection.

This dynamic is both fertile and inspiring for the entire European higher education sector. However, the 41 alliances supported under the Erasmus+ and Horizon 2020 programmes face many obstacles that need to be tackled in order to make sure that we go further and reach full potential, e.g. to award European degrees, to jointly recruit researchers and professors, to create laboratories with an international reputation.

The European Commission is proposing a European Strategy for Universities and a Council recommendation which aim to create an environment conducive to the transformation of the higher education sector for the future of Europe. Using European Universities as a model of good practice, the strategy will aim to improve the quality, international competitiveness and attractiveness of the European higher education sector.

# Institutions and places

## Musée de l'Homme

[museedelhomme.fr/en](http://museedelhomme.fr/en)



The Musée de l'Homme focuses on the evolution of humans and human societies, combining biological, social and cultural approaches, following the view of its founder Paul Rivet (1876-1958), stating that "Humanity is one and indivisible, not only in space, but also in time."

The permanent exhibition tackles three major themes through a variety of approaches: "who are we?", "where do we come from?", and "where are we heading?". Its aim is to gain a better understanding of what it means to be human, of our origins and our place among other forms of life, and to explore our margin for adaptation to the world of tomorrow.

The visit abounds with the museum's priceless collections: Cro-Magnon fossils, the Paleolithic statuette known as the Venus of Lespugue, wax anatomical models, etc. The Musée de l'Homme prehistory and anthropology collections are among the world's finest.

Located at "Place du Trocadéro", just in front of the Eiffel Tower, the Musée de l'Homme is one of the three Parisian locations of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (French National Museum of Natural History). At the crossroads of research, culture and society, the Muséum is dedicated to developing a knowledge and understanding of nature and to the relationships that humans have with nature. It is a centre of research, learning and expertise, and includes a variety of collections that it shows in its museums, botanical gardens, zoos and libraries.

Its history has been shaped by almost four centuries of scientific challenges; however the Muséum is resolutely turned towards the future, bringing together disciplines and professions, which make it a benchmark institution for ecological and social issues.

Through the scope of its activities, which combine natural, human and social sciences, the gathers incomparable levels of skills and knowledge and to shed a scientific light on the major challenges of the 21st century.

## Collège de France

COLLÈGE  
DE FRANCE  
— 1530 —

[college-de-france.fr/site/en-college/](http://college-de-france.fr/site/en-college/)

The Collège de France is a public institution dedicated to higher education and research, the only one of its kind in the world. Since its creation in Paris in 1530, it has had a twofold vocation: to be a forum for cutting-edge research and teaching.

Collège de France is committed to fundamental research, in partnership with the CNRS, INSERM and several other major institutions, but what differentiates it is that it teaches «knowledge in the making in every field of literature, science and the arts». Lectures are open to all, free of charge and without prior registration.

Collège de France is structured around chairs, covering a huge range of disciplines. Six of the fifty-one chairs are annual chairs and have new incumbents every year and six are International. They promote responsiveness and scientific teaching in fields which are emerging or require a multidisciplinary approach.

From the very outset, the basic premise that chairs are not permanent has underpinned the creative energy of this academic community. Therefore, when incumbents retire, new appointments are made on the basis of the very latest scientific developments. New members are elected by the Assembly of Professors. There is no specific academic rank stipulated for nominees; the only relevant factors are the significance and originality of their work. The possibility of modifying chairs is a principle which avoids the rigidity of fixed academic disciplines. Collège de France is therefore permanently adapting to developments in the sciences and remains a focal point for the scientific community.

Ampère, Champollion, Claude Bernard, Renan, Paul Langevin, Michel Foucault, Roland Barthes, Claude Lévi-Strauss, Françoise Héritier, Jacqueline de Romilly, and many others, with 10 Nobel Prize and 5 Fields medals, the Collège de France has been for centuries at the core of international scientific research. The Collège de France is comprised of six research institutes, and hosts state-of-the-art laboratories, as well as research libraries with rare collections. An incubator for scientific careers, it is home to about thirty groups of young scientists, and over 250 French and foreign doctoral and post-doctoral researchers.

The Collège de France is an associate member of the Université PSL.



FERRANDI Paris

FERRANDI  
PARIS

100 ANS  
d'Excellence

[ferrandi-paris.fr](http://ferrandi-paris.fr)

FERRANDI Paris trains elite professionals, innovators in the gastronomy and hospitality management industries, both in France and internationally. Established 100 years ago by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Paris Ile-de-France, the name FERRANDI Paris is linked to generations of chefs and entrepreneurs set apart by their signature culinary style and pioneering talent. Renowned for constantly delivering excellence, the school's approach to teaching aims for mastery of fundamental skills, ability to innovate, acquisition of managerial and entrepreneurial skills, and last but not least, hands-on practice.

FERRANDI Paris is a hub of discovery, inspiration and sharing of ideas, where cuisine meets management, art, science, technology and innovation, where the biggest names in the industry come together and breathe new life into hospitality and culinary creativity. Equipped with hospitality savoir-faire à la française, member of the Interministerial Council for Tourism, Atout France's Strategic Committee, and the Tourism Excellence Conference, year after year the school attracts students from all over the world.

[college-de-france.fr/site/en-program-pause/](https://college-de-france.fr/site/en-program-pause/)

## Defending the EU values of solidarity and freedom through the protection of researchers in exile

The Scholars at Risk network reported 332 attacks on higher education and research communities around the world in 2021. These attacks fall within a generalized context, according to the Academic Freedom Index of the Global Public Policy Institute, which reveals that 80% of the world's population lives in countries that do not respect academic freedom.

Threats to scientific communities are multifaceted. They can result from geopolitical crises or armed conflicts that prevent the attainment and transmission of knowledge. They can also be part of a repressive policy in the shape of censorship, dismissal, imprisonment or even execution ordered by state or nongovernmental representatives. Whatever forms they take, attacks on the freedom to think, to research, and to transmit knowledge are multiplying as extremism and obscurantism gain ground. Protecting scientists, intellectuals, and artists, those who (because they nurture free thought and critical thinking) are threatened, is a fundamental issue for fair, open and democratic societies, but also for research and innovation. When researchers are repressed, the progress of science is endangered.

The national program for scientists and artists in exile (PAUSE), hosted by the Collège de France, is the French response to the global challenge of welcoming researchers forced into exile. Since its creation in 2017, the program has supported 335 threatened scientists and artists, offering them a safe haven to re-establish themselves and their families after an often-traumatic journey and a career that has been disrupted or prevented.

The development of initiatives to defend academic freedom around the world, particularly in Europe, demonstrates the solidarity and commitment of scientific communities to their at-risk colleagues. However, few of these initiatives are supported by the state, which limits the capacity of universities to meet the growing needs.

This challenge also calls for a response at the European level. Associated since 2019 within the Inspireurope consortium, funded by the European Commission, the main European actors in the reception and protection of at-risk researchers are working to coordinate their actions and to integrate the issues of scientific exile into national and European policies.

To raise awareness of these issues, three lines of thought will be proposed for discussion through the testimonies and expertise of three scientists supported by the PAUSE program.

### 1 — What is Scientific Exile?

By **Farkhad Alimukhamedov**, a Political Scientist from Uzbekistan, hosted by Sciences Po Toulouse from 2018 to 2021.

### 2 — Feminism in Afghanistan: What is the future for female intellectuals under Taliban rule?

By **Samila Waheed Ahmadzai**, PhD candidate in Afghan literature, in France since December 2021 and hosted by the École des hautes études en sciences sociales.

### 3 — Hosting scientists in exile: An opportunity for research and innovation in host countries

By **Achmet Said Mohamed**, Comorian researcher in Organic Chemistry, hosted by the University of Poitiers from 2020 to 2021.

Universcience is bringing together the Cit  des sciences et de l'industrie, the Palais de la d couverte, and the  tincelles, a temporary structure created in June 2021 to continue the activities during the renovation of the Palais de la d couverte.

Universcience is the leading French public establishment for the dissemination of scientific culture. Under the dual supervision of France's Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, it is one of Europe's leading science centres. It provides the public with access to science through discovery and experimentation.

Values of innovation, ecological sustainability and critical thinking form the basis for its action. Developed in partnership with the scientific, teaching, artistic and industrial communities, its services extend beyond its locations in Paris to France's regions and the world. They include exhibitions, events and festivals, conferences, children's areas, facilities that offer resources, advice and experimentation, and publishing and an online platform ([le.blob.fr](http://le.blob.fr)).

At the end of the informal meeting, delegations will have the privilege to visit the exhibitions "Jean" and "Banquet".

## Exhibition "Banquet"

Universcience invites the public to a grand banquet, starting with a journey from the kitchen to the table, where science and gastronomy blend together as one. In order to delight your taste buds as well as your neurons, the Cit  des sciences et de l'industrie has designed a unique immersive journey with the involvement of chef Thierry Marx and assistance of renowned scientists. A universal moment of celebration and sharing, the banquet is also an intimate sensory experience that mobilises taste as much as sight, smell, hearing and touch. Banquet, which celebrates the eleventh anniversary of the inclusion of the French gastronomic meal in the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, offers the opportunity to savour an unforgettable moment, with its multiple sociological and anthropological, but also chemical and physical aspects: an appetizing opportunity to recall the joy of gathering and eating well together. In scientific partnership with the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (INRAE).

## Exhibition "Jean"

Jean's exhibition presents the extraordinary saga of a universal garment, a tale that encompasses culture, the fashion industry and consumption. Devised by the Cit  des sciences et de l'industrie in partnership with the French Ecological Transition Agency (ADEME), the exhibition turns jeans inside out to reveal what lies under their surface. It invites all of us consumers – 73 pairs of jeans are sold worldwide every second – to explore the alternative of 'clean jeans'. A way of gathering to weave together the threads of pleasure and responsibility.

# Biographies of the speakers

## Patrick Boucheron

Patrick Boucheron holds an Agrégation in History and a doctoral degree in medieval history from the Université Paris-I. Between 1994 and 1999, he works as a university lecturer in medieval history at the École normale supérieure in Fontenay-Saint-Cloud, and then at the Université Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne. From 2004 to 2009, he is a junior member of the Institut universitaire de France. He is elected in 2012 professor of Medieval History at the Université Paris-I. Between 2015 and 2020, he presides the scientific board of the École française de Rome and has been a member, since 2018 of the scientific board of the Institute of Advanced Studies (IEA) in Paris.

Patrick Boucheron has been Professor at the Collège de France since 2015, appointed to the Chair History of the Powers in Western Europe, 13th-16th Centuries. He has been discussing the writing and epistemology of history, trying to rearticulate literature and social sciences, and has taken the measure of the global turning point of the discipline.

## Sylvain Bourmeau

Sylvain Bourmeau is the editor of AOC, a daily online publication on ideas, and a producer for the public radio France Culture. He is the former deputy editor of *Libération* and *Les Inrockuptibles*, he also took part in the launch of *Mediapart*. Author of a poetry collection, *Bâtonnage* (Stock), he is now also professeur associé at Paris 1 Université Panthéon-Sorbonne, a position he previously held at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.

## Caroline Broué

Caroline Broué is a radio journalist and author. After being a program advisor at the management board of France Culture in 2020-2021, where she has created, as producer, numerous radio programmes including "La Grande table", a daily programme for culture and ideas, and now two weekly programmes: "Les Matins du Samedi", the morning session on Saturday, and "Les Bonnes Choses", the Sunday

programme on issues related to food. Moreover, she joined in 2017 the team for the programme "28 minutes" on Arte TV channel. She participated in the creation of "28 minutes samedi" and co-animated the programme in 2018-2019. She has written three books: *De ce pas*, éd. Sabine Wespieser, Comédies, with Marin Karmitz éditions Fayard, *L'Identique et le différent, entretiens avec Françoise Héritier*, éditions de l'aube, 2008 (reedited in 2012 and 2018).

## Anne Cheng

Born in Paris in 1955 to Chinese parents, Anne Cheng was educated in the French state school system, focusing on classics and European language and literature, until she entered the Ecole Normale Supérieure, where she opted to devote herself exclusively to Chinese studies. For almost thirty years she has been involved in teaching and research on the intellectual history of China and Confucianism in particular, initially at the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research), then at INALCO (National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations), before her appointment to the Institut universitaire de France and her election to the Collège de France.

She has written a French translation of the Analects of Confucius (*Entretiens de Confucius*, Seuil, «Points-Sagesses», 1981), a history of Confucianism in the early Imperial Era and a history of Chinese thought (*Histoire de la pensée chinoise*, Seuil, 1997, reprinted in paperback by «Points-Essais» in 2002), which has already been translated into several languages. She has also edited several joint publications, including *La pensée en Chine aujourd'hui* (Gallimard, 2007) and *Penser en Chine* (Gallimard, 2021).

## Bruno David

Bruno David has been the executive President of the National Natural History Museum in France (Muséum national d'histoire naturelle) since September 2015.

Formerly he was director of research at the CNRS, founder and former director of the laboratory BIOGÉOSCIENCES (Dijon), which promotes researches at the interface between life and earth sciences. Originally trained as a

palaeontologist, he became a biologist, his works focusing on the evolution of living as well as fossil forms. He participated in several oceanographic cruises in Antarctica and around the world, and dove with the submersible *Nautilé*.

He has published more than 150 peer-reviewed papers, and authored several books, the latest one entitled *À l'aube de la sixième extinction*, Grasset (*At the dawn of the 6th extinction*). For one year, he has produced a short radio program on life and culture ("Le monde vivant", France Culture).

## Anna Ekström

After graduating from Stockholm University in History studies and Law (1980-1988), Anna Ekström begins her career as a District court clerk at Huddinge District Court.

Throughout her career, she has been committed to the respect of employment rights and social inclusion, and has held, in parallel with her government mandates, leadership positions in various human rights organisations such as Transparency International Sweden and the European Trade Union Confederation. Moreover, she has been particularly active in the academic world, and has chaired, from 2003 to 2016, Uppsala University Board and Linköping University Board.

After being State Secretary at the Swedish Ministry of Employment and the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications, she is named in 2011 Director-General of the National Agency for Education. In 2016, she is appointed Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training, then Minister for Education in 2019.

## Mariya Gabriel

Mariya Gabriel is the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education, Youth and Sport. Under her leadership, the new Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, and the cultural strand of Creative Europe programmes (2021-2027) will be defined and implemented.

Between 2017 and 2019, Mariya Gabriel was European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society. She proposed the new Digital Europe programme, worked on EU Strategy on AI, disinformation online, cybersecurity and launched the EuroHPC strategy. She has extensively engaged with external EU partners to enhance digital cooperation, in particular with the Western Balkans and Africa.

She was elected as Member of the European Parliament (MEP) in 2009, 2014 and 2019. Mariya Gabriel is First Vice-President of the European People's Party (EPP), and, since 2012, Vice-President of EPP Women.

She holds a Master's degree in political sciences and

international relations from the Institute of Political Studies (Bordeaux, France) and a Bachelor's degree in Bulgarian and French Languages from "Paisii Hilendarski" University (Plovdiv, Bulgaria).

## Petr Gazdík

Petr Gazdík was born in Uherské Hradiště in 1974. He graduated at the Faculty of Education of Masaryk University in Brno, in the field of teaching of general educational subjects (mathematics–geography). In 2002 he was elected mayor of Suchá Loz, a position he led for two terms.

In 2010 he was elected a Member of Parliament of the Czech Republic, and defended his seat in the following three parliamentary elections. In the Chamber of Deputies, he held the function of chairman of his parliamentary group (TOP 09 and Mayors) and in the following term Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. He is a co-founder of the MAYORS AND INDEPENDENTS movement and was its Chairman during 2009–2019. During the previous electoral term he was also a member of the Committee for Science, Education, Youth and Sports or the Election Committee. For four years, he was chairman of the Czech Commission for UNESCO. Since 2020 he has also been a member of the think tank "Vzdělávání21" (Education21) at Charles University, where he is currently teaching regional politics as an external lecturer, at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

On 17 December, 2021, he was appointed Minister for Education, Youth and Sports.

## François Héran

François Héran is a philosopher, sociologist and demographer. He holds two theses in Anthropology. He has a dual professional history, first at the INSEE (the French National Institute for Statistics and Economic Research), where he was in charge of demographic studies and surveys between 1993 and 1998, and at the INED (the French National Institute of Demographic Research) where he was director between 1999 and 2009. Now, he animates the Institute Convergences Migrations ([icmigrations.cnrs.fr](http://icmigrations.cnrs.fr)) which supports the works of about 500 researchers from all disciplines, and is in charge of the master's degree Migrations accredited by the EHESS and Université Paris 1. After focusing his studies, since 2018, on the drivers for migrations, the question of integration and migration policies, François Héran now studies the public debate on immigration and tries to analyse the types of argumentation, the rhetoric, the role of passions and interests, controversies and polemics. He has been Professor at the Collège de France since 2017, appointed to the Chair Migrations and Societies.

## Bruno Maquart

Bruno Maquart, an agronomist graduate from the Institut national agronomique Paris-Grignon, former student at the Ecole nationale d'administration (ENA, promotion Condorcet) and Social Affairs General Inspector. For nearly thirty years, he has led a career in two sectors of the public field: social affairs and culture.

From 2001 to 2007, he is director general of the Centre Pompidou, located in Paris, and accompanies its development in French regions. He then serves as the head of the Agence France-Muséums until 2010, and coordinates the Louvre Abu Dhabi project in the United Arab Emirates. In 2012, he joins the cabinet of the Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Marisol Touraine, and leads the cabinet from 2013 to 2015. He is finally appointed president of Univer-science.

Bruno Maquart is Officier des Arts et lettres, and Knight of the Legion of Honour. He is currently the president of ECSITE, the European network of science centres and museums, and is board member of the AMCSTI, the French professional network which promotes scientific, technical and industrial culture. He is also board member of the French National Agency of Research (ANR) and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) as a scientist.

## Stéphane Mallat

Stéphane Mallat has been a Professor at the Collège de France since 2017. He was appointed to the Chair of Data Science. First, he was professor of Computer Science and Mathematics at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences of New York University (1988-1995), at the École Polytechnique (1995-2012), and more recently at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (2012-2017). From 2001 to 2007, he founded and ran a start-up dedicated to high definition television image processing.

His scientific research focuses on the mathematical and algorithmic bases for signal processing, statistical learning, and neural networks for artificial intelligence. Stéphane Mallat has received numerous international awards for his research and technological innovation works. He is member of the French Academy of Sciences and of the National Academy of Engineering in the United States.

## Merryl Moneghetti

Merryl Moneghetti coordinates and presents «Lectures from the Collège de France» on the French public radio, France Culture (French equivalent of BBC.4). The program is «teaching science in the making». After a master's degree at Sciences Po Paris, under the direction of Jean-Noël Jeanneney, where she specialized in the history of the

evolution of the media and on François Mauriac, «writer-journalist», she joined Radio France, in 2004. She produced «Mauriac et Cie croquent la télé» and she worked from 2013 à 2019, with the French journalist Christine Ockrent, who produces a radio program on foreign affairs every Saturday. She has published *François Mauriac, contre son camp* (Garnier-Le Monde, 2012).

## Vinciane Pirenne-Delforge

Vinciane Pirenne-Delforge has been a Professor at the Collège de France since 2017. She was appointed to the Chair in Religion, History and Society in the Ancient Greek World. She has been a researcher at the University of Liege, affiliated to the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS), and lecturer of ancient history and history of religions.

Her research focuses on the mechanisms of polytheism in the ancient Greek world and, beyond that and more generally, of plural religious systems, in dialogue with other ancient Mediterranean societies. She has published *L'Aphrodite grecque* (1994), *Retour à la source : Pausanias et la religion grecque* (2006), *L'Héra de Zeus* (2016, in collaboration with Gabriella Pironti), *Le polythéisme grec comme objet d'histoire* (2018). She manages the international journal *Kernos* which focuses on the multidisciplinary study of the ancient Greek religion, as well as the research project *Collection of Greek Ritual Norms*.

## Thomas Römer

Thomas Römer has been a Professor at the Collège de France since 2007. He was appointed to the Chair The Hebrew Bible and its Contexts. He has been an Administrator of the College since September 2019.

Prof. Römer holds a PhD in theology, specialised in biblical philology from the University of Geneva (1988). He worked there as a Professor from 1989 to 1993. He was then appointed Professor of Hebraic bible at the Faculty of theology and sciences of religions of the University of Lausanne and was the Faculty's provost from 1999 to 2003. He was also a visiting professor at the faculties of theology of Montpellier, Neuchâtel, Paris, Zurich, Mexico and at the centre of theological and social studies of Managua. In 1999 and 2000, he worked as a visiting director of studies at the École pratique des hautes études (fifth section). His research focuses on the birth of the bible in the context of the Ancient world.

## Hughes de Thé

Hughes de Thé has been Professor at the Collège de France since 2014. He was appointed to the Chair Cellular and Molecular Oncology.

Hughes de Thé has received a dual formation in medicine and basic sciences and has been at the forefront of translational leukaemia research. At Necker hospital he received an advanced training in physiopathology and the biological bases of therapeutics. During his PhD in Pierre Tiollais' laboratory at the Pasteur Institute, he learnt molecular biology and applied it to cancer biology. Since, his research was aimed at linking molecular cell biology to therapeutic responses in cancer. His studies on acute promyelocytic leukemia and the targeting of PML/RARA by retinoic acid and arsenic have led to the cure of this once intractable disease and made it a paradigm for targeted therapies. These studies have earned him international recognition, through visible grants, memberships and prizes, in particular shared with his colleague Z. Chen, with whom most of his arsenic studies were carried out.

Prof. de Thé has received numerous awards, including the Sjöberg Prize, given by the Royal Swedish Academy of Science.

## Václav Velčovský

Václav Velčovský, Ph.D., is Vice-minister in charge of International Affairs, Europe and Structural Funds at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, since 2015.

He graduated from Charles University where he obtained his doctorate in 2012 from the Faculty of Pedagogy for his work on issues related to language policy in the Czech territories from the 18th to the 20th century. Throughout his career, he has mainly been working for the Czech national authorities (international affairs representative at the Ministry of Interior, Department Director for Legislative Framework and State Development at the Office of the Government), while pursuing research and teaching activities and on topics related to linguistic issues (Charles University).

## Frédérique Vidal

Before being appointed as the Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Frédérique Vidal had been the President of the University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis (UNS) since 2012.

She holds a master's degree in biochemistry from the University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis, a post-graduate degree from the Institut Pasteur and a doctorate from the University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis where she became a lecturer in 1995.

Since 2004, Frédérique Vidal has been a professor of biochemistry, molecular and cell biology at the UNS.

In addition, she was Associate Dean of the Department of Life Sciences from 2007 to 2009 and was appointed Research Assessor to the Dean of the Faculty and then Dean of the Department in 2009.

Previously, she was responsible for internships before becoming the Deputy Director of the post-graduate diploma in Pharmacology.

After being an outside member of the Inserm Regional Scientific Council from 1999 to 2003, Frédérique Vidal has been on the assessment panel for the master's degree in virology at the UPMC-Paris Diderot-Institut Pasteur since 2004. She was also co-responsible for the European Tempus project in relation to the implementation of the LMD system in the Balkans, from 2006 to 2009.

Frédérique Vidal has been a "Chevalier" of the French Legion of Honour since 2013.







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