



INSTITUT DE FRANCE  
**Académie des sciences**

**Contributing to the progress of science  
and its applications**



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## From Louis XIV onwards

**1666**

Colbert lays the foundations for the Académie des sciences

**1699**

The Académie royale des sciences is born at the Louvre under the protection of the King

**1793-1795**

The Academies are integrated as classes into the *Institut national des sciences et des arts*

**1805**

Napoléon Bonaparte establishes the Institut in the former Collège des Quatre-Nations, on the Quai de Conti in Paris

**1816**

The Academies – *Française* (created in 1635), *Inscriptions et belles-lettres* (1663), *Sciences* (1666) and *Beaux-arts* (1816) -, together with the *Sciences morales et politiques* since 1832, constitute the *Institut de France*

**Today**

The Académie des sciences performs its missions within the framework of the Research Programme Law of 18 April 2006



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## Key facts and figures

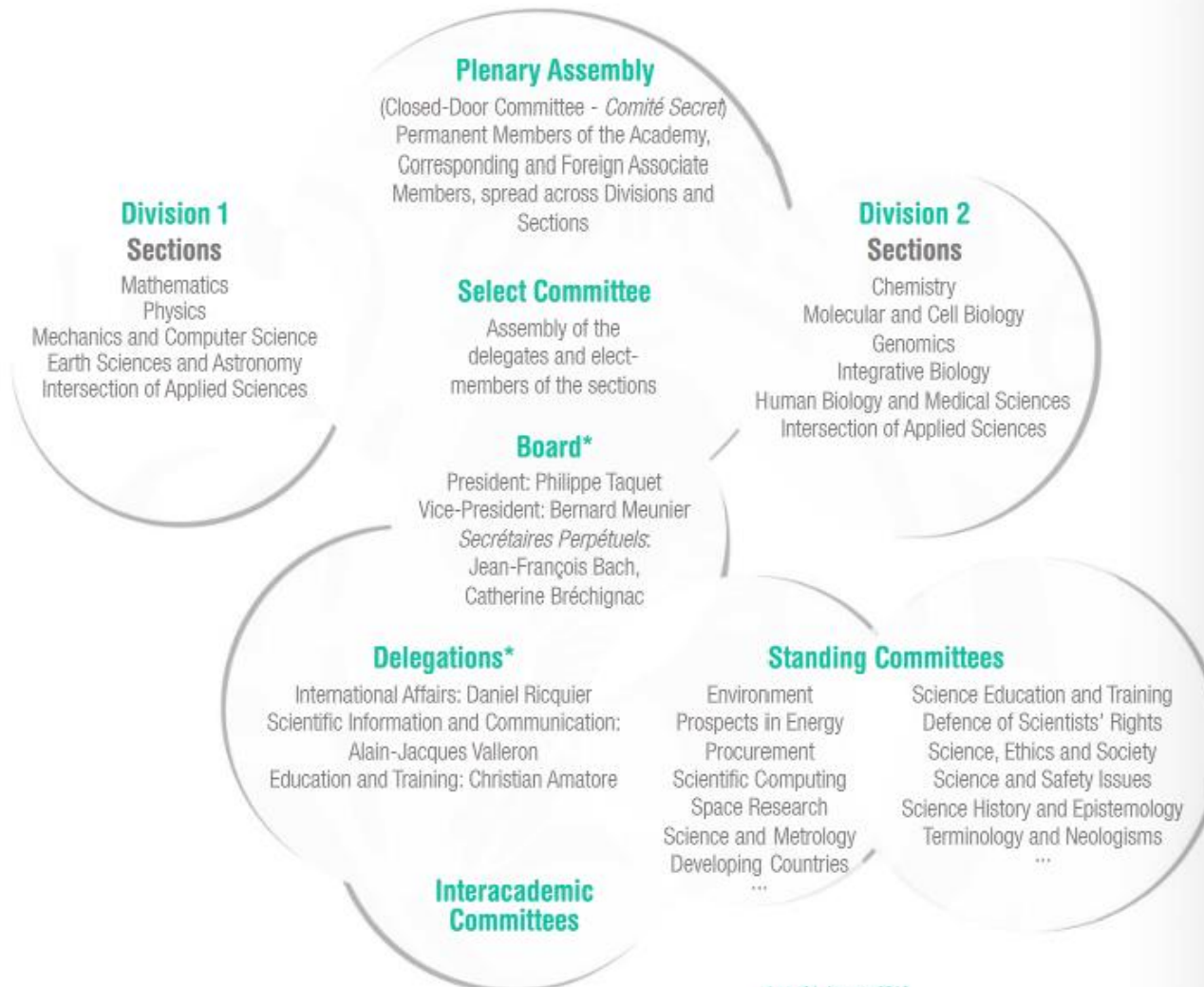
- 257 members of the Academy, 130 foreign associate members, 95 corresponding members\*
- 2 divisions, 8 sections, 1 intersection
- 12 Thematic Committees provide analysis and proposals
  
- Members are peer-elected
- The Académie is under the protection of the President of the French Republic
- Free to make its own decisions
- Financially self-sufficient
  
- **Scientific excellence**
- **Multidisciplinary approach**
- **Independence**
- **International standing**

\* As of 1 September 2014



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## Decision-making and advisory bodies



\* as of 1 January 2013



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## Five critical responsibilities

### Encouraging the scientific community

Colloquia and public sessions – Awards and medals – The journal *Les Comptes Rendus*

### Promoting science teaching

The Foundation *La main à la pâte* – Distance learning in Haiti – Museum learning activities

### Transmitting knowledge

Public sessions - Website – The biannual *Lettre de l'Académie* – Twinning operations - Archives – The Speed Sciences meetings

### Fostering international collaboration

Interacademic networks - Bilateral cooperation - Actions targeted towards development

### Playing an expert and advisory role

Thematic committees – Reports, advice notes and recommendations – Charter of Expertise (2012)



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## Advice Notes and Reports (examples from 2012-2014)

- The major accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi (*L'Accident majeur de Fukushima - Considérations sismiques, nucléaires et médicales*. EDP Sciences Eds, Paris, March 2012)
- Remarks and proposals on the structures of public research in France (*Remarques et propositions sur les structures de la recherche publique en France*, Tec & Doc Lavoisier, September 2012)
- Scientific research taking on the energy challenges (*La recherche scientifique face aux défis de l'énergie*, EDP Sciences, December 2012)
- Kids and screens (L' enfant et les écrans, *Le Pommier*, January 2013)
- Teaching computer science in France – Tomorrow can't wait (May 2013)
- Elements to clarify the shale gas debate (November 2013)
- Scientific publication : new issues (Les nouveaux enjeux de l'édition scientifique, October 2014)



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## Advice Notes and Reports (examples from 2012-2014)

- G-Science Academies Statements (May 2012 and May 2013)
- Communiqué on Nuclear power in France (January 2012)
- Communiqué on overhauling teaching (*Avis sur la refondation de l'enseignement*, October 2012)
- Booklet on the environment (*Livret sur l'environnement*, March 2013)
- Warning cry on research funding (*Cri d'alarme sur le financement de la recherche*, December 2013)
- Interacademic Advice Note on GMP experimentation (*Avis interacadémique sur l'expérimentation avec des PGM*, March 2014)
- Research laboratories worry (in French: *Inquiétudes dans les laboratoires de recherche*, October 2014)



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