# Executive Board Annual Report 2022

## Name of the Section/Network/Temporary Working Group: YECREA Network

## Management team:

Chair: Sandra Banjac

Vice-chair: Phoebe Maares

Vice-chair: Antonio Cuartero

Communications Officer: Birte Leonhardt

## Social media:

YECREA has increased our communication with members through social media. In September 2021, we launched the Twitter account @yecrea\_eu. Since then, the YECREA Twitter account has become one of the main means of communication with our members and Early Careers Scholars more broadly. We receive many requests for information, contact, questions, etc. through this account, and will continue to use the platform as a way of sharing with ECRs calls for various opportunities (e.g. publishing, grants, employment etc.) We have doubled the number of followers since last year, and currently have 344 followers. The Facebook group is still running and currently has 1178 members.

## Activities in 2022:

In the first half of the year, the YECREA management team focused on electing the new YECREA representatives. We put out a call for 17 vacant positions across Sections, Networks, and Temporary Working Groups. Across all entities, we received 32 applications and elected the 17 new representatives in collaboration with the Section, Network and TWG management teams. In February 2022 we organized an online onboarding meeting to welcome the new YECREA representatives, introduce them to ongoing YECREA representatives, and how they can best work within their sections.

Moreover, YECREA participated in supporting 26 ECRs through funds. In April, the YECREA team evaluated applications for SUSO (ECREA 2022 Summer School Grant) and awarded a grant to 13 ECRs. In addition, the YECREA team selected and awarded 13 YECREA members with grants to attend the ECREA conference in October 2022, in Aarhus, Denmark.

For the ECREA Conference 2022 the YECREA team organized a call for a panel titled “The Unheard Voices of Academia: Early Career Researchers in the Twilight Zone of Impact“. As the call did not receive enough applications, the event had to be canceled. However, the YECREA team organized the YECREA Party for the conference and the event was a great success with more than 300 attendees. Moreover, during the conference, the YECREA team was re-elected with their objectives to continue focusing on three key issues: precarity and mental health, harassment, and power imbalances, and outreach and visibility. Unfortunately, our vice-chair Valentina Anania had to step down from her position, and during the election Phoebe Maares was voted in as the new vice-chair.

In December 2022, we opened a new call for YECREA representatives for 10 vacant positions. We received 39 applications in total, evaluated the candidates in collaboration with the section, network and TWG management teams, and have advised both the successful and unsuccessful candidates of the decision, effectively finalizing this year’s representative elections. As the call for some of the S/N/TWG received no applications, we will reopen the call for these in the coming days. Moreover, we successfully elected a communications officer for our network, Birte Leohnhardt.

## Plans for 2023:

Now that the selection process for 10 new YECREA representative positions has been finalized and we are planning a virtual on-boarding meeting with all new and ongoing YECREA representatives to discuss our future plans and goals.

At the same time, the YECREA team has started to organize an on-site workshop at the University of Malaga, Spain. We are planning a thematic workshop focusing on the main key issues of our candidature, academic labor and well-being. Moreover, this workshop should serve as an in-person networking opportunity for ECRs. We plan to organize the workshop by the end of 2023.

In addition, in order to respond to the demands of our members who asked us for some kind of forum or way to communicate with us and especially with each other more easily, we are developing a Discord channel. This Discord channel will also enable section, network and TWG YECREA representatives to host spaces for their specific ECR communities while at the same time connecting ECRs on topics that affect all of us.