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# CONTRIBUTION OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF ALBANIA ON STRENGTHENING RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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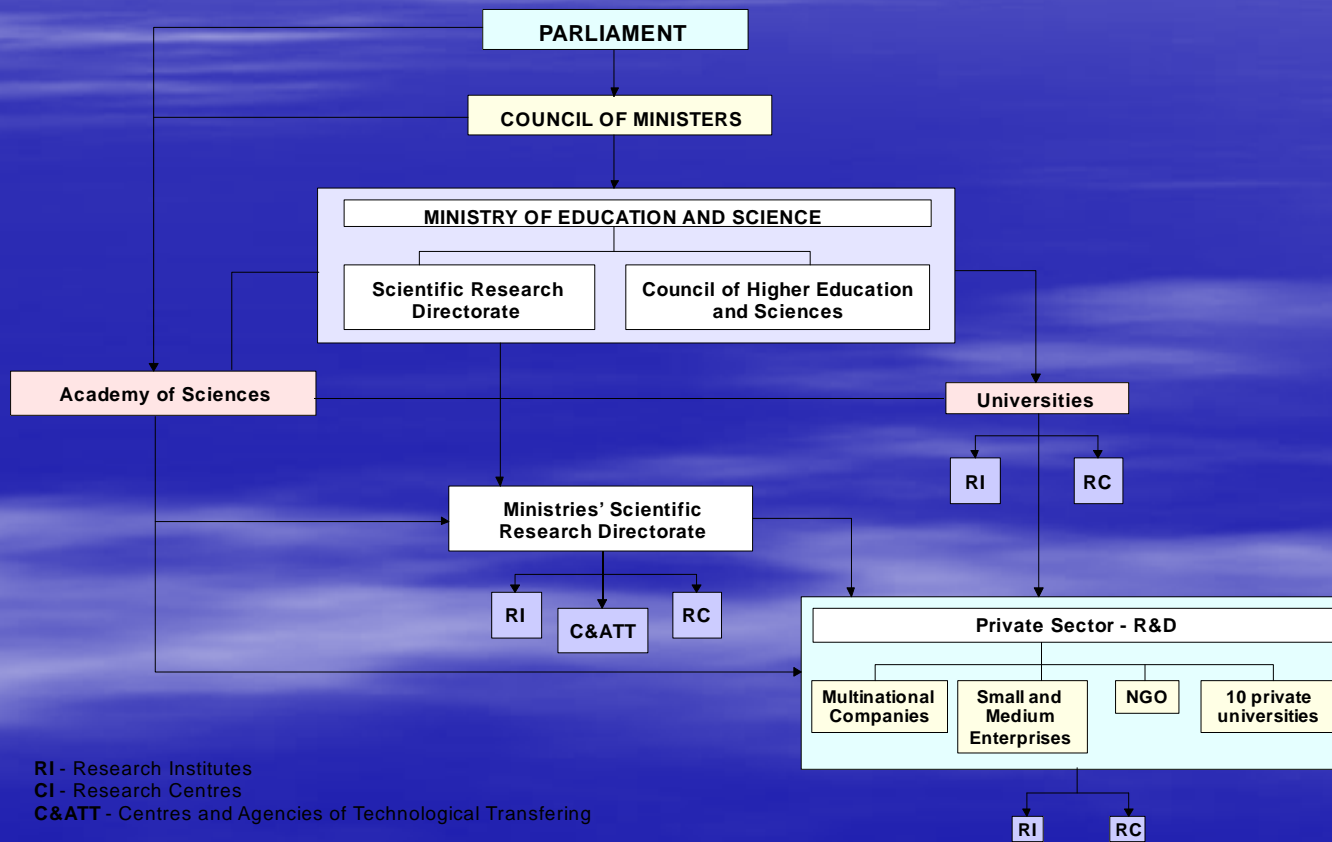
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- In the framework of ASA reform, 14 scientific research institutes and centers are incorporated in the universities creating new inter-university centers, institutes, faculties and departments, making as such a valuable contribution **in growing capacities of human resources and research scientific infrastructure** of higher education.

- Thus, all of the institutes of social and Albanological sciences created the Center of Social and Albanological Studies, which stands at an inter-university level;
- with the Institute of Informatics was created the Faculty of Technologies of Information at the Polytechnic University of Tirana (PUT), within which the Center for Research and Development of Information Technologies was created;
- with the Institute of Seismology, Institute of Geology and some departments of Geological Survey, the Institute of Geosciences was created at the PUT;
- the Institute of Hydro-Meteorology and the Center of Hydraulic Studies created the Institute of Energy, Water and Environment at the PUT;
- the Institute of Biological Research was transformed into the Department of Food Technology, at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Tirana (UT);
- the Institute of Nuclear Physics was transformed into the Center of Nuclear and Applied Physics at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the UT, etc.

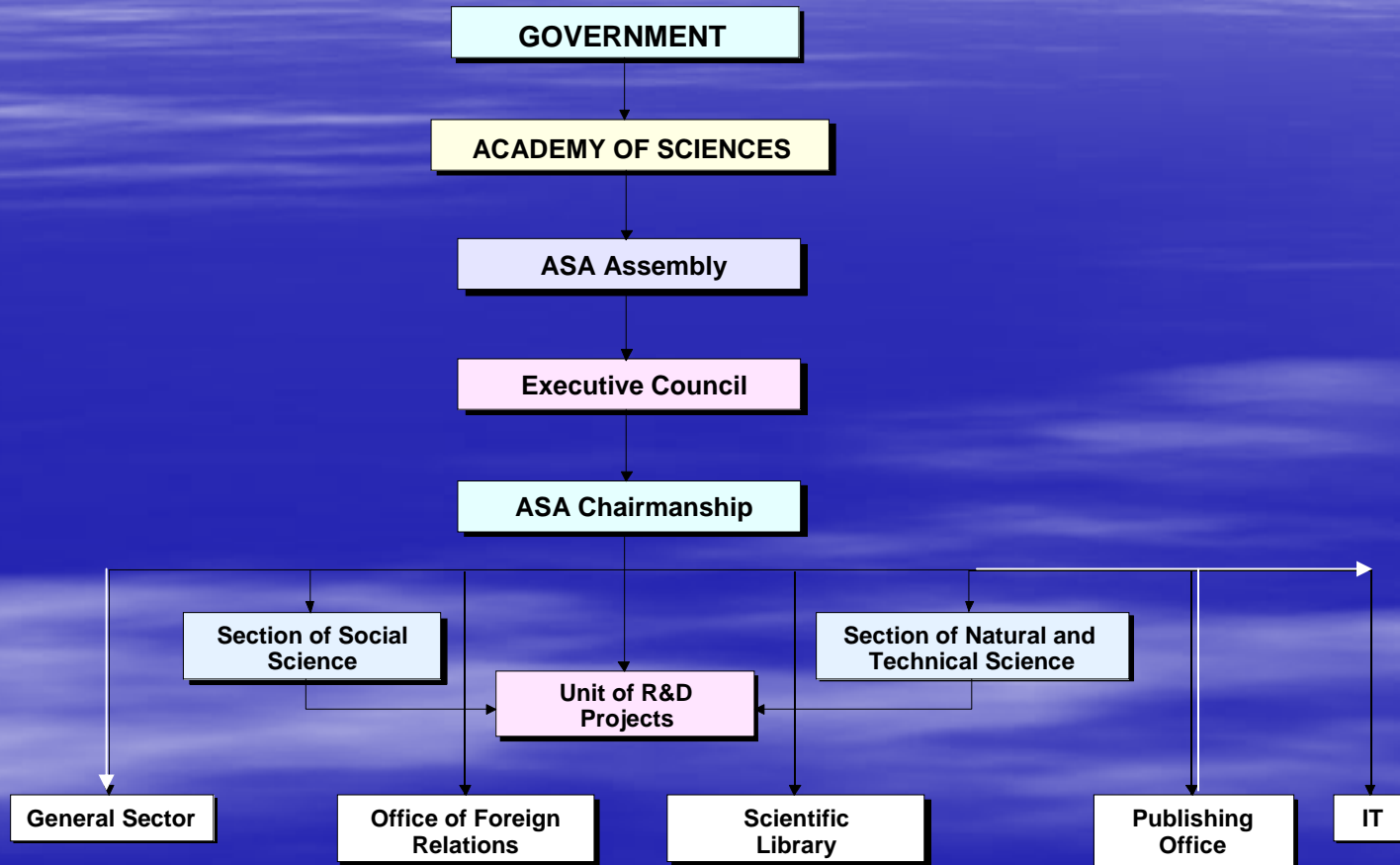
- With the new system of scientific research in Albania, the ASA has not anymore scientific research institutions and centers, but its role is not weakened; it takes a greater importance and responsibility at the national level in fulfilling the strategy of education and scientific research, which covers all the higher education system.

## SCIENTIFIC SYSTEM IN ALBANIA





## THE STRUCTURE OF ASA



- Organization of the whole actual administration of the ASA will be revised with the aim to create more effective structures.
- Academy of Sciences, based on the priority fields of development of the country, will create permanent or provisional commissions composed by the best specialists, in order to carry out special studies of national importance, which will be set at the disposal of the decision-makers. Such commissions might be on: education and science, water, energy, civil emergencies, agriculture and food, biodiversity, life quality, environment, language, history, culture and cultural heritage, sociology, economy, financial and demographic problems etc. These commissions will be leaded by the most outstanding academics and specialists from in the country and those who work outside.

## **Main ASA priority: Contribution to the higher education and research strengthening**

The academic Staff of the ASA makes a valuable contribution:

***In teaching and scientific research activity*** in the higher education:

- active title-holders in different disciplines in universities,
- heads in sectors, departments and faculties,
- leaders in diplomas, post-university qualifications, Masters and PhDs,
- members of scientific councils, commissions of qualification and ad-hoc working groups in universities,
- make a contribution in increasing the capacities of teaching in other institutions of higher education,
- in drawing educational curricula;



- ***With high contribution in drawing the legal acts*** of higher education and science and in active participation in the activities for their application;
- ***With participation in important national organisms*** of higher education and science, such as in the Commission of Higher Education and Science (CHES), Commission of Scientific Qualification (CSQ), etc.;
- ***Through different publications:***
  - of textbooks, monographs and books (about 50 titles a year),
  - of magazines, periodicals and bulletins of high scientific level (more than 11 titles a year),
  - of electronic publication of main periodical publications (CEOL),
  - of bibliographical works of the country and from abroad,

- *In drawing national programs for research and development (NPRD)*
- *In managing and developing NPRD projects*
- *In coordinating the development of projects of different levels with the participation of the researchers from universities:*
  - international (EU framework Programs 6, 7 etc.; NATO Programs, INTERREG-II, III; Transboundary Programs; Bilateral programs with Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Slovenia; etc.)
  - national (by the state budget)

- ***In conceiving and coordinating the cooperation between scientific institutions with private business for:***
  - transferring and application of innovative technologies in production,
  - establishing nucleus of research-development in institutions private business,
  - increasing capacities of agencies of technology transfer in different fields of production,
  - stimulating innovative acts and their application in producing practice, etc.

- *In increasing the capacities of scientific research institutions and proposal to create new scientific institutions (e.g. the International Center of Marine Sciences - INTERREG-III; Permanent Network of Global Position System – Nato SfP; etc.);*
- *In monitoring and studying of scientific research the potential, evidencing phenomena, problems and required recommendations for improving the actual situation (Research Potential – FP6);*



- ***Studies and contributions in improving the human resources:***
- ***brain drain:*** evaluation and analyzing of the situation and making susceptible decision makers and scientific community;
- ***brain gain:*** international contribution about the phenomena, ways for its mitigation, and practical application for the problem mentioned. The ASA was one of initiating institutions of EU NATO Public Diplomacy Division, for drawing the Reintegration Grant-NATO Program, and applied it successfully in practice;
- ***brain circulation:*** preparing of Albanian legislations in order to be host institution of foreign researchers (researchers mobility). ASA developed an international project, Web-MOB-FP6 (AS, Albania and CERTH, Greece);



- *Participation of researchers in programs and projects that ASA has with other Academies, IAP, TWAS, the Network of Academies of Europe, etc.*
- *The ASA develops these research programs and projects with participation of all the universities in priority programs of IAP, such as:*
  - Science Education
  - Access to Scientific Information
  - Capacity Building for Young Academies
  - Genetic Modification Organisms (GMOs)
  - Biosecurity
  - Health Education of Women
  - Water

- The Academy of Sciences, as an elite scientific institution of national value, will include outstanding personalities in the field of science, as well as any outstanding personality in the field of literary and artistic creativity.
- **The Academy will aim to be not only the “house” of academics, but also an open institution for close cooperation with scholars of different generations, scientific communities and civil society**

Thank you

Albanian Academy of Sciences

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