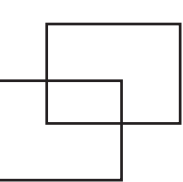
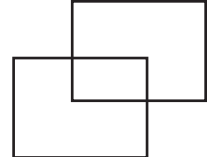




CRISIS IN THE ACADEMY

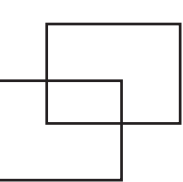
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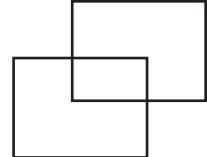




CRISIS IN THE ACADEMY

**(A Civil Society Review of the Academy of
Sciences and Arts of Kosovo)**





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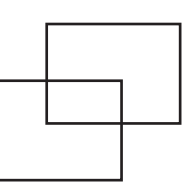
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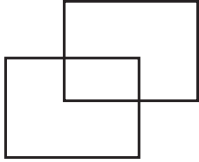
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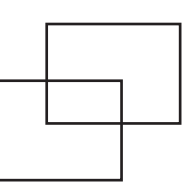
About the project

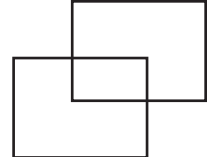
The “Civil society review and public dialogue for ‘silent’ Kosovo public funded institutions” project aims to review and reflect on the work of Kosovo’s specific public institutions through research and development of effective, result -oriented activities aimed at fostering public dialogue for more transparency, accountability and better governance of those institutions financed by public funds. Initially, the focus of the project is on the institution of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo (ASHAK). Through a systematical and independent review and analysis of its internal structure and functioning, its publications and results and the achievements of the Kosovo Academy of Sciences and Arts, this project aims to provide findings on the activity of this institution and actual recommendations for improving the performance of this Institution.

About Integra

Integra is an organization formed by a group of people committed to contributing to the recovery and development of Kosovo and the region. Integra’s work is guided by the principles of good governance and full enjoyment of human rights, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political affiliation, which are essential to building a democratic and tolerant Kosovo, fully integrated into the European community.

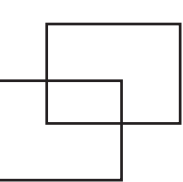
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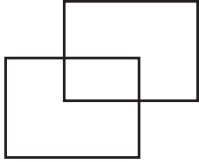




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Abbreviations

ALLEA - All European Academies

AMShA - Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

AShAK - Kosovo Academy of Sciences and Arts

AShSh - Academy of Sciences of Albania

EU - European Union

EULEX - EU Rule of Law Mission

FEK - Kosovo Encyclopedic Dictionary

FESh - Albanian Encyclopedic Dictionary

KNGjSh – Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language

KSAK - Autonomous Socialist Republic of Kosovo

LBD - The United Democratic Movement

LDD - Democratic League of Dardania

LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo

MEST - Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

ORCA - Organization for the Promotion of Quality in Education

PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo

PFK - Kosovo Peasant Party

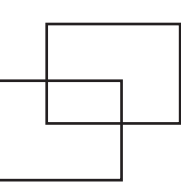
PSDK - The Social Democratic Party of Kosovo

SFRY – Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

UP - University of Pristina

SANU - Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Serbian Academy of Science and Arts)





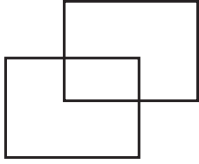
Introduction

The primary purpose of this publication was to describe the mandate and the duties of ASHAK and then of the scientific work of this institution: books, journal, tables/ conferences, and so on. Another purpose was to look at how the selection of the ASHAK members was done: namely, of the application of political, ethnic, gender, and above all, professional criteria? What is the academic integrity of the ASHAK members? Also, how and how much is the Academy funded and how transparent is it? Another aim was to look at the cooperation of ASHAK with other academies and institutions, and finally review the reporting of the ASHAK to the Government of Kosovo, namely to the Assembly of Kosovo.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned goals, we first analyzed the law on ASHAK since its establishment in 1978 up until 2015, when the last law was passed for this institution, and then looked at the other statutes and relevant legal documents related to ASHAK. We then reviewed the publications by ASHAK: books, journals and the publication of tables and conferences. We also studied the biographies of all the members of the ASHAK to look at their ethnicity, gender and also their political backgrounds, and above all their publications in genuine international academic journals. In relation to the funding and transparency of ASHAK we have researched the Kosovo budgets since 2008. As regards the co-operation of ASHAK with other academia and institutions, we have traced any concrete results from agreements, memoranda and protocols of cooperation. In the very end, as regards the reporting of the ASHAK to the Kosovo Government / Kosovo Assembly, we requested information from the Committee for Education, Science and Technology of the Assembly of Kosovo.

For all the afore-mentioned issues, we also reviewed many articles, interviews, letters, petitions and various reactions, published in various media (newspapers, radio, television and portals), either by ASHAK members or by critics or opponents of this institution. Moreover, we also asked to interview the heads of the ASHAK, but besides Fetah Podvorica, head of the Natural Sciences, no one else replied. Nevertheless, we discussed these issues with university professors, members of civil society, journalists, analysts, and so on. In the end, we also organized a focus group with members of civil society who gave us many tips, suggestions, remarks, comments, proposals, recommendations, and so on.

In the end, we would like to thank all those who helped with this publication. Focus group members: Afrim Demiri, Ardiana Shala, Avni Zogiani, Fadil Hysaj, Imer Mushkolaj, Imer Topanica, Nexhmedin Spahiu, Nora Ahmetaj, Rebeka Qena, Rron Gjinovci, Vjollca Krasniqi and Zejnullah Gruda. Then, for the conversations and remarks, the suggestions, the advice, the comments, the proposals, the recommendations and the following we would like to thank: Agim Krasniqi, Arber Vokrri, Ardian Dika, Armend Bërlajolli, Arben Hajrullahu, Agim Morina, Bejtullah Destani, Eli Krasniqi, Jahir Ahmeti, Sabit Gashi, Shkumbin Brestovci, Xhevahir Kolgjini... Last but not least, we also thank the Organization for Educational Quality Improvement (ORCA) for researching the publications in academic journals of regular and correspondent members of ASHAK.



Brief history of ASHAK

In 1974, the Kosovo Assembly set up a committee to establish the Kosovo Association of Science and Arts. This association was established in 1975 with 11 regular and 2 correspondent members, and in 1978 the Kosovo Assembly was legally transformed into the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo (ASHAK).¹ ASHAK became an equal rights member of the Union of the Academies of Science and Arts of Yugoslavia, and, for a term from 1985 to 1987, even presided over this Union and was the center of its seat.

In the second half of the 1970s the first journals were published in the two languages «Vjetari-Godišnjak» and «Acta Biologic et Medicinae Experimentalis», then in 1980 the temporary publication «Studime-Studije» and the series «Kërkime-Istraživanja». In addition to these journals, in the late 1970s and in the early 1980s, several Albanian and Serbo-Croatian works were published by both Albanian and Serbian academics. After the demonstrations in 1981 for the Republic of Kosovo, and until the end of the 80s, the publications in Serbo-Croatian and partly those in both Serbian and Albanian dominated, with few publications published only in Albanian.²

In the late 1980s, Serbia began the constitutional changes for the abolition of Kosovo's autonomy by drastically violating even the basic rights of Kosovo Albanians. Albanian ASHAK members committed themselves to protecting the human rights of Kosovo Albanians. Moreover, they contributed to the drafting of a series of political and legal documents that expressed the political will of Kosovo Albanians: the Constitutional Declaration (2 July 1990); Kaçanik Constitution (September 7, 1990); The Referendum on Independence (26-30 September 1991), the parliamentary and presidential elections (24 May 1992) and so on.³

In 1992, the Serbian Assembly, through the Law on the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, closed the ASHAK premises and ordered the Serbian government to enter ASHAK and take over the property of this institution. The Serb members of ASHAK accepted this order, and some of them continued working in SANU (Srpska Akademija Nauka i Umetnosti - Serbian Academy of Science and Arts), while Albanian and Bosnian members continued to work under new circumstances. In 1994, the Serbian police expelled the ASHAK members from their premises and destroyed the archive and the library. ASHAK was obliged to conduct its activity in a private house in the Ulpiana neighborhood in Pristina, provided by the University Professor Dr. Hamdi Sylja.⁴

In the early 1990s, ASHAK did not publish almost any publications, but in the mid-1990s, although in difficult conditions, managed to publish several issues of Studies and Research journals and publish some works by Albanian academics, mainly in the field of Albanian language, literature and history. In addition to the difficult conditions under the occupation, the 1990s were also years of many early deaths of ASHAK members - 15 members passed away during these years, and five left Kosovo.

After the 1998-1999 war, ASHAK started a new phase, returned to its premises and continued its work, where, apart from journals, it published the works of several of its members. In 2004, the Kosovo Assembly adopted the law on ASHAK⁵, which secured its independence and financing from the Kosovo Budget. The years 2000-2015 were the most productive period in the history of ASHAK in terms of publishing, and then of organizing of roundtable discussions, symposiums and conferences, as well as establishing contacts and concluding cooperation agreements with various European academies⁶. Since the beginning of this decade, ASHAK has been relocated to new premises in a new building with excellent working conditions.

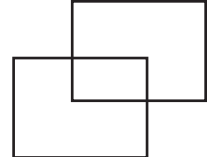


I. Aim of the ASHAK

The Law on the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo (ASHAK), adopted by the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo at the end of 2015, defines ASHAK as the highest institution of science and art whose activity - promotion, cultivating, inciting and development of scientific thinking and artistic creativity - is of particular public interest. According to this Law, the Academy is an independent institution in the fields of science and art, to which the Republic of Kosovo must provide conditions for work and development⁷. The purpose of the Academy, according to the Law on ASHAK, is the development, incitement, promotion and advancement of science and art in Kosovo through:

1. Implementation of scientific projects of interest to the development of the country;
2. Care for the establishment and advancement of scientific staff, especially of the young generation;
3. Collection, arrangement, storage and study of materials of particular scientific interest, especially for the cultural heritage and the past of Kosovo;
4. Participants in the setting up of policies for scientific activity and artistic creativity;
5. Assessment of current situation and proposal of measures for the advancement of scientific thought and artistic creativity;
6. Review of the over-all situation regarding scientific activity and artistic creativity;
7. Organization of scientific and research work with a theoretical and practical character in different fields through: roundtables, symposiums, conferences, exhibitions, concerts, etc.
8. Publishing regular and periodical journals in the fields of science and art;
9. Collaboration with local and international institutions of science and art;
10. Assisting the dissemination of scientific thought and artistic creativity abroad;
11. Continuous improvement of the working conditions for the members of the Academy;
12. Development of research of particular public and scientific interest;
13. Undertaking actions of particular interest to Kosovo, act as an advisory institution for the development of science and art, in accordance with the needs of the country.⁸

However, ASHAK did not implement a single scientific project that would be in the interest of the development of the country. It is unclear what sort of care did ASHAK pay to the creation and advancement of scientific staff, especially that of the new generation. It is also not known what are the materials with a special scientific importance, especially as regards the cultural heritage and the past of Kosovo, that ASHAK has collected, sorted, stored and studied. Furthermore, it is not known what is the participation of ASHAK in the formation of policies of scientific and artistic activity. What has ASHAK done to improve the current situation and what sort of measures it proposed to advance scientific thought and artistic creativity abroad. Also, ASHAK did not perform any research which would be of a special public and scientific interest and has not engaged in activities of a special interest to Kosovo, in order to become an advisory institution for the development of science and art, in accordance with the needs of the country.



2. Scientific Projects

a. Books

The Department of Linguistics and Literature has a total of 79 publications by 33 authors. 20 authors are Albanian, 11 of them ASHAK members, with 65 publications, all in Albanian, almost all published after the 90s. Foreign authors are 14, of them 5 Serbs, published in Serbo-Croatian during the 80s, and 9 international authors, all publishing on issues related to the Albanian language, published after the war of '98 -'99. Within this section there are no publications in foreign languages.

Social Sciences Section has a total of 58 publications by 21 authors, all Albanians, 13 of them members of ASHAK. All of the publications are in Albanian, except for four works by Albanian authors published in Serbo-Croatian, with no publications in a foreign language.

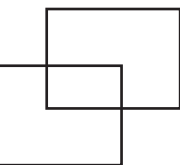
Natural Sciences Section has 29 publications (27 Albanian, 2 Serbian) by 12 authors (10 Albanians, 2 Serbs). 10 of these authors are members of ASHAK. There are no publications in this section with a foreign author or any publication in a foreign language.

The Arts Section has a total of 23 publications by authors, all Albanian, and all published after the 1998-1999 war in Kosovo. All are in Albanian, and all are authored by members of ASHAK or for their purposes. That is to say, there is no publication by a foreign author or for foreign authors, nor any publication in foreign languages.

b. Journals

«Acta Biologiae et Medicinae Experimentalis» was a journal of the Natural Sciences Section. The first issue came out in 1976. The overwhelming majority of the authors were Serbian, then follow the Albanian authors, and a few authors of other ethnicities living in Yugoslavia or even abroad. The important issue is that all the articles in this journal are in English, with brief summaries/resumes in Serbian and Albanian. There are a total of 15 issues of this journal. The last issue was published in 1990.⁹

«Research» is a journal of the Department of Natural Sciences, which publishes research in exact sciences, in Albanian and foreign languages. The first issue of this journal was published in 1980. During the 1980s, four issues of this journal were published, with both Albanian and Serbian authors, and in both Albanian and Serbian, titled «Kërkime-Istraživanja». During the 1990s, due to the state of occupation, the next issue came out in 1997, only in Albanian and with summaries in English, entitled «Kërkime». Up to now, 23 issues were published. The authors of the articles published in this journal after the 90s are all Albanian. 90% of the articles published



in this journal are in Albanian with an English summary. Of the nearly 300 papers published in the issues of this journal, only 16 are authored by foreigners, acting only as secondary or tertiary authors. The last issue of the journal was published in 2018 and is all in English.¹⁰

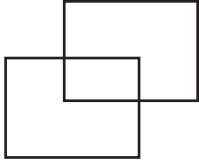
«Studies» is a journal in the field of philology and social sciences, in Albanian and in foreign languages. The first issue of this journal was published in 1980. During the 1980s, a total of three issues of this journal were published in both languages – Albanian and Serbo-Croatian, titled «Studime-studije». During the 1990s, due to the state of occupation, the next issue came out in 1994 with the title only in Albanian, «Studies» Up to now, 24 issues were published. The last issue was published in 2017. The vast majority of publications in this journal are by Albanian authors, with very few foreign authors. Also, most of the articles in this journal are in Albanian, with short summaries/resumes in English or French.¹¹

«Social Studies» is a new journal of social sciences. The first issue came out in 2014. So far, 3 issues were published. In between 2017-2018, no issue was published. A total of 55 papers were published, only two by foreign authors, and the rest by Albanian ones. Also, all the works published in this journal are in Albanian, with summaries/resumes in English.¹²

«The Year Book» is an annual publication of the ASHAK, which includes reports on the activities of the previous year and activity programs for the following year, the minutes of its assemblies, all regulations, laws and statutes pertaining to ASHAK over the years, as well as agreements and protocol arrangements with sister academies or various local and international institutions. Until 1991, 12 issues in Albanian and Serbian have been published, entitled «Vjetar-Go-dišnjak», and from 1991 up to date, 25 more issues were published, bringing the total to 37 issues. All issues published after 1991 are published only in Albanian.¹³

c. Conferences / Symposiums / Roundtables / Scientific Seminars

Based on the articles published from conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific seminars of the ASHAK sections, it is estimated that from 1976 to 2018, a total of 31 conferences, symposiums, roundtables and seminars were held - 13 by the Literature and Linguistics Section, 11 by the Section of Social Sciences and 7 by the Natural Sciences Section. From 1976 to the 1998-1999 war, for almost a quarter of a century, a total of 11 conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific seminars were organized; while from 1999 to 2018, for almost two decades then, there were 18 conferences, which translates into one less conference being held per every year. In the only four conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific seminars organized during the 1970s and 1980s, the participants were Albanian, Serbian and others, whereas in those organized during the 90s and after the 98-99 war to-day - all participants were Albanian, except for in the Albanian and Balkan Languages Conference, where half of the participants are foreign Albanologists.



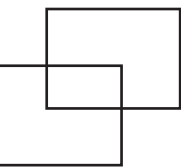
d. Kosovo – A monographic view

In 2008, ASHAK decided to publish a monograph on Kosovo with topics from a variety of fields: geography, history, political-juridical developments, economics, education and science, health, culture and sports. This monograph of 650 pages entitled «Kosovo – a monographic view», contains articles by 68 authors, all Albanian, mostly members of ASHAK, as well as University of Pristina professors or scientific researchers from other scientific public institutions in Kosovo. The monograph was published in 2011 in Albanian, followed by a shorter version in English in 2013, which is among the very few ASHAK publications in English. This monograph is devoted to foreigners and apart from ASHAK it is also distributed by representatives of Kosovo political institutions dealing with representatives of foreign countries. However, this monograph is, in fact, a collection of previously published articles in various forms by their authors.

e. The Kosovo Encyclopedia

In 2011, the ASHAK approved the «Kosovo Encyclopedia» project, thought to be implemented in two stages. The first stage is the Kosovo Encyclopedic Dictionary (FEK), which will serve as the basis for the second stage, resulting in the Kosovo Encyclopedia. During 2012, the Board, the Council and the Central Editorial Board were appointed, and 24 editorial teams for various fields were established. In 2013, the first stage of the project completed, the full vocabulary of the FEK entries for each field was drafted – totaling approximately 6,000 items. However, the final version was to remain open for changes and additions, until it is ready to be sent to print. The FEK intends to supplement the Albanian Encyclopedic Dictionary (FESH) at points where it has been more spared. During 2014-2015, it was foreseen to engage up to 500 authors of different profiles of science and knowledge to draft the texts of the voices and also to conclude also the three-degree editing procedures.¹⁴ It was said it would be published in 2016, but despite of the continuous support that ASHAK enjoyed for the project by the Government of Kosovo, it is not published yet.

The only criticism for this dictionary came from academic Rexhep Qosja, who asked not to include his name in it, stating that this vocabulary: violates the entirety of the Albanian world and fulfills the 'scientific concept' of the Serbian separation of the Albanian nation in two separate nations; that the outline and the content of it is a party work of the LDK; and that the editorial boards are, in most cases, composed of incompetent people and include the names of children, fathers, fathers-in-law and friends of members of the various vocabulary editors.¹⁵ FEK Editor-in-Chief, Academy Member Mehmet Kraja, in counter-reaction to Qosja's letter, states that Qosja's scientific and literary works are public, and would therefore, despite his will, be included in the FEK. Furthermore, Kraja denies Qosja's allegations that the dictionary contributed to separation of the Albanian nation and adds that it is FESH dictionary that has brutally violated Kosovo and



the nation in general since of about 8,000 items in it, only 10% refer to Kosovo, and save for several individuals from Kosovo, no Kosovo institutions were involved in drafting it. Kraja also denies accusations of politicizing FEK, and those of incompetent publishing and of involvement of non-competent people in the process.¹⁶

Whatever the case may be, two things are not clear here: one, what were the criteria for selecting members of the editorial structures of the FEC; and, two, what were the criteria for the inclusion of individuals, events, phenomena or institutions in the FEK dictionary?

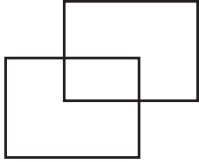
f. The Albanian language Corpus

The Albanian Language Corpus and the digitization of written Albanian material is another ASHAK project. Unfortunately, there is no information on this project.

g. The Inter Academic Council for Albanian language

In 2005, aiming the development of the Albanian language and the improvement of the Literary Albanian norm, ASHAK, together with the Albanian Academy of Sciences (AShA), established the Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language (KNGjSh). While under the chairmanship of ASHAK, it began a fruitful job, to be discontinued in the years when the chairmanship of the Council passed under the authority of ASShHSH. During 2011, ASHAK conducted talks with the AShA to activate the Council, meeting all requests from the ASA, including changes in regulations and organizational structure. Despite the commitment of ASHAK to find solutions for the functioning of this Council, the AShA's leading structures hinder the work of this Council, which can be said to no longer exist.

Since 2008 when ASHAK has gained the status of a special budget category, especially since 2012 when its annual budget is € 1 million, it has finalized only one out of 4 major projects: The Monograph "Kosovo - monographic look". Although "The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo" was to be completed two years ago, it is not published yet. There is no information at all on the «Albanian Language Corpus» project and the «Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language Corpus» project is practically dead. Also, all these major projects of ASHAK - The Monograph «Kosovo - Monographic Look», «The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo», «The Albanian Language Corps» and the «Inter-Academic Council for the Albanian Language» - are all national projects. ASHAK has no international projects.



3. funding, transparency and public relations

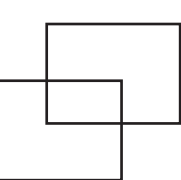
a. funding and transparency

During the 1975-1989 period, ASHAK was financed by the Budget of the Autonomous Province of Kosovo. In the period from 1990-1999 it was funded by aid that it received and in 2000-2004 period got its funding through the UP Rectorate. From 2004 through MEST, with the Law on ASHAK, it became a completely independent institution with its own budget.¹⁷ At present, ASHAK can legally be funded by: the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo; the funds earned from the implementation of scientific and artistic projects; and donations and other legitimate sources. However, 99% of the ASHAK budget is filled by the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo and 1% of the funds earned from the implementation of scientific and artistic projects, while there are no donations and other legitimate sources.¹⁸ As of 2007, when it became fully independent with its own budget, up to 2018, according to the data of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kosovo, ASHAK has received nearly €10 million from the Republic of Kosovo budget.¹⁹ In the last six years, the budget of ASHAK has been little over €1 million per year and about two-thirds of the annual budget these years went on wages and salaries.

Year 2007	406, 724 €
Year 2008	449, 371 €
Year 2009	423, 772 €
Year 2010	449, 371 €
Year 2011	437, 151 €
Year 2012	804, 017 €
Year 2013	1, 040, 700 €
Year 2014	1, 149, 170 €
Year 2015	1, 145, 644 €
Year 2016	1, 142, 501 €
Year 2017	1, 094, 851 €
Year 2018	1, 113, 425 €

TOTAL: 9, 666, 697 €

According to Article 25 of the Law on the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo, approved by the Assembly of Kosovo by the end of 2015, a regular member and correspondent member of ASHAK with permanent residence in the country, is entitled to a permanent monthly salary, and the height of the reward for the regular member and the correspondent member is based on the salary level of the regular and associate university professors. Additionally, members of the Presidency of ASHAK have monthly allowances for the functions they perform, and the criteria and the amount of allowances for the functions they perform is determined according to legislation in force.²⁰ Based on the Personal Income Regulation of the University of Pristina,

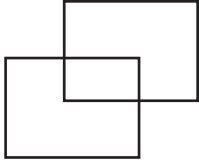


the basic salary of a regular university professors is 1.429.54 Euro, while associate professors receive 1.283.34 Euro.²¹ While royalties for ASHAK's external associates are offensive, royalties for internal members - regular and correspondent - are monthly and fat.

ASHAK does not publish financial reports in its official web site. The Finance Officer at ASHAK did not accept to be interviewed.

b. Public relations

ASHAK has no Public Relations Office or spokesperson. ASHAK members do not have their personal institutional e-mails posted on this official website. The official website of ASHAK is unstructured, not updated and is only in Albanian (there is nothing in English). We have sent interview requests for this report to ASHAK Chiefs of Administration and none of them has answered, save for Fetah Podvorica, Head of the Natural Sciences Department.



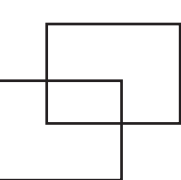
4. Election of members

Article 19 of the Law on the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo, approved by the Kosovo Assembly at the end of 2015, states as regards the election of ASHAK members that a Kosovo citizen who is a remarkable employee of sciences or arts that has achieved scientific and artistic accomplishments, whose works represent culminating achievements in the field of science or art and are of high importance both domestically and outside of Kosovo, may be elected as a regular member of the Academy.²² Regarding the selection procedure of ASHAK members, Article 23 of the Law on the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo states that the procedure for the proposal, voting and election of ASHAK members is determined by the Statute and the acts of other normative standards of ASHAK. According to this Law, the elections for ASHAK members are held every four years and candidates who have not passed the age of 65 can be elected.²³

Proposals for ASHAK members are submitted to the sections of the ASHAK (Linguistics and Literature Section, Social Sciences Section, Natural Sciences Section and Arts Section), then the faculties of public universities and the scientific councils public scientific institutions, financed by the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo. Likewise, the ASHAK Chairperson presents its proposals for new members of ASHAK. In the end, for the selection of new members, the Assembly of ASHAK decides with the majority of votes in the electoral session. The proposals should include the review of the reviewers with detailed data on the work and the scientific results and the artistic works of the proposed candidate.

When we are discussing the elections, it should be said that during this year, the ASHAK Assembly elected Member of the Academy Nexhat Daci as Chairman of the ASHAK. On 10 November 2010, with the decision of the first degree of the District Court in Pristina, Mr. Daci was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for abuse of official duty - purchase of property and services by his order, paid from the budget of the Kosovo Assembly and used for Mr. Daci's private purposes. This decision was finally confirmed on 15 July 2011 by the Supreme Court mixed panel of judges composed of two local judges and one EULEX judge. The Supreme Court also ordered the defendant to pay back the sum of 1.540 Euro to the Kosovo Assembly for the damage caused by these offenses, and also annulled the former decision prohibiting Mr. Daci from exercising any public function.²⁴ While the election of Mr. Daci as Chairman of ASHAK is hence legally in order, morally it is not.

However, below we will see whether these four criteria were taken into account for the selection of ASHAK members: professional, political, gender and ethnic criteria.



a. Professional criteria

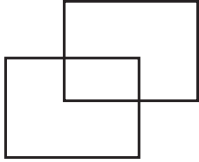
Of the 22 regular members of ASHAK, all conducted their Bachelor, MA and PhD studies mainly in Pristina, then in Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Ljubljana, all universities of former-Yugoslavia. Of the 16 correspondent members, most of them completed their BA, MA and PhD studies in Pristina, while others completed them in Belgrade, Zagreb and Ljubljana, universities of former Yugoslavia, and only one has completed his MA and PhD studies in a EU country and is the only ASHAK member who has agreed to be interviewed for this report.

Of the 22 regular ASHAK members, only 3 have publications published in international academic journals - Hivzi Islami and Nexhat Daci have published 4 papers, Idriz Ajeti 3. Meanwhile, out of 16 correspondent members, 8 or half have works published in international academic journals - Fetah Podvorica published 8, Qamil Haxhibeqiri 6, Arsim Morina, Muzafer Limani and Salih Gashi published 3 each; and Bardh Rugova, Edi Shukriu and Justina Pula published 1 paper each.

b. Political criteria

Of the 22 regular ASHAK members, just over half (12) were engaged in political parties - eight in LDK, two in PFK, one in LBD and one in ORA. Of 16 correspondent members, nearly half (7) were engaged in political parties - four in LDK, two in PDK and one in PSD. Nevertheless, the President of ASHAK, Nexhat Daci, formerly part of the governing structures of LDK, states that "... no part of politics, neither in this system nor in the other system, has ever interfered with the election of members of the Academy".²⁵ On the other hand, Professor Doctor Agim Vinca, a contender for becoming a member of ASHAK and at the same time critical of this institution, states that "The Academy has historically served politics, both in the monist system and in the period of the so-called parallel system, and even in the post-liberation period in Kosovo and after the declaration of Kosovo's independence."²⁶

There are a number of ASHAK members who have been in the LDK, not simply its members but holding senior positions in it: Ibrahim Rugova, former LDK leader, Fehmi Agani, former LDK deputy leader, Rexhep Ismajli, Ali Aliu and Mehmet Kraja, former members of the LDK Presidency, Idriz Ajeti and Nexhat Daci, former members of the LDK General Council. Presently, the chairman and deputy chairman of LDK, Isa Mustafa and Sabri Hamiti are members of the ASHAK. From these mentioned, only Idriz Ajeti was admitted to ASHAK when the LDK did not exist; others were admitted while they were or after becoming senior leaders of the LDK. In addition to these LDK leaders, two members of the ASHAK also served in two LDK satellite political parties: Besim Bokshi, former member of the Social Democratic Party of Kosovo (PSDK), and Hivzi Islami, former chairman of the Kosovo Peasant Party (PFK).



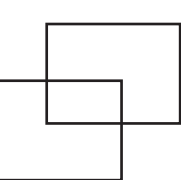
c. Gender criteria

All the 22 regular members of ASHAK are men, and of the 16 correspondent members, 12 are men and 4 are women. These were admitted to ASHAK in 2012 and later in 2016. 28 members are correspondent members, all men and all the 19 external members are also men. There is only one Honorary Member, also a man. Edi Shukriu was the first woman to be elected ASHAK member in 2012, while in 2016 three other women Gjyljeta Mushkolaj, Justina Pula and Muzafer Limani became members.

d. Ethnic criteria

All the 22 regular members of ASHAK are Albanian, as are all the 16 correspondent members. Of the 28 correspondent members, two are Serbs, elected at the time of the SFRY. External members total 19: 8 Albanians and 11 foreigners (two are Croat, three American, one British, one German, one French, two Italian and one Swiss). The only honorary member is an Albanian-American. Since 1990, no member of ethnic communities in Kosovo was admitted to ASHAK.





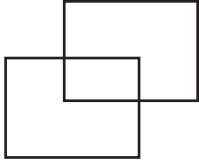
5. Plagiarism

Sabri Hamiti

In 2005, Sali Bytyçi accused Sabri Hamiti that in his newly-published «Thematology», published by ASHAK, he stole from «Rečnik književnih termina», (Belgrade, 1985)²⁷ and from the «Dictionnaire des Genres et notions littéraires», (Paris , 2001).²⁸ Hamiti has never commented on the issue. The contested book appears first in the list of basic reading for the «Thematology», subject in the Bachelor studies of the Department of Literature of the Faculty of Philology,²⁹ as well as for the subject of «Albanian Literature»,³⁰ in its Master studies. In the biography posted on UP's Literature Web Site, Sabri Hamiti marks the award awarded by the Ministry of Culture of Albania for plagiarized work in 2006.³¹ Hamiti is a member of ASHAK since 2000. He has never commented on these allegations. Also, ASHAK never issued a statement on the issue.

Arsim Morina

In 2013, neurosurgeon Talat Gjinolli submitted the UP Rectorate with a nine-page letter detailing how Arsim Morina, co-author of the Neurotrauma university textbook (2007), which, as stated in Morina's biography, is "the only authorial book in the field of neurosurgery in Albanian lands,"³² "Copied by translating 26 chapters from four field works : «Brain surgery: Complication, Avoidance and Management », «Central nervous system surgery» , «Neurosurgery, Handbook of Neurosurgery», "and" also from the Scientific paper «Anesthesia in the Neurotrauma», written by his wife, Qamile Morina, a doctor. He notes that 90-95% of the book is plagiarism.³³ A group of medical professionals, headed by Dr. Gjinolli, requested from the Faculty of Medicine Deanery, the UP Rectorate and the Ministry of Education to withdraw the book from the market until its authorship was authenticated.³⁴ Morina is a member of ASHAK since 2012. He has never spoken to the media about the issue. Also, ASHAK never stated anything on the issue.



6. Collaboration

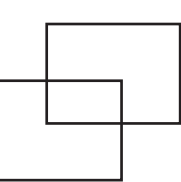
a. Collaboration with ASA

The closest cooperation ASHAK has had is with the Academy of Sciences of Albania (AShSh) and through it with many scientific institutions of the Republic of Albania. In addition to the Memorandum of Cooperation between the two Academies, signed for cooperation in concrete work and detailed scientific and artistic programs, the Protocol of Cooperation is signed every two years. However, ASHAK has no joint publications with ASA or conference / symposium / table / scientific seminars. The only result is the participation of the members of these two academies in each other's publications or conferences / symposia / roundtables / scientific seminars.

b. Collaboration with other academies

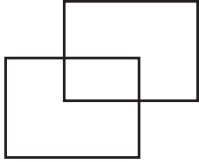
ASHAK states that there are cooperation agreements with the academies of sciences and arts of the region and with many European and World academies, as it is a full and equal rights member of several international associations. Apart from with Albania, ASHAK has cooperation agreements with the academies of sciences and arts of Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Belgium, Great Britain, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria. Likewise, ASHAK has signed a memorandum of cooperation and understanding between the Southeast European Academies, cooperates with the New York-based Human Rights International Network and is a full and equal member of ALLEA (All European Academies), a federation of 53 academies of sciences from 43 European countries, and the Southeast European Academic Council. ASHAK cooperates with the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Europe/ Academia Scientiarum et Artium Europaea with its headquarters in Salzburg, Austria. However, despite the fact that ASHAK has all these agreements signed with various academies and associations, the result is two joint projects with two of them: a book published by ASHAK and the Academy of Slovenia and another published by ASHAK and the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts-AMShA.³⁵

For the joint publication between ASHAK and AMShA, titled "Academic poets - anthology of poets belonging to the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts," Agim Vinca responded: all the poets involved in this book are Macedonian and all of them are included in anthologies of Macedonian poetry previously published in Albanian in Skopje, Tirana and Pristina. Moreover, Vinca opposed this co-operation also on the grounds that ASHAK found a common language with its Macedonian counterpart in Skopje - AMShA, that has unreservedly supported the discriminatory Macedonian policy against Albanians, and not with its Albanian sister institution in Tirana - AShSh.



e. Collaboration with other scientific, educational and cultural institutions

ASHAK has an agreement with the University of Pristina, but no joint projects with this institution. As regards other institutions, with particular emphasis on scientific institutes, such as the Institute of Archeology, the Institute of History, the Institute of Albanology, and so on, the only cooperation known is that the employees of these institutes are members of ASAAK. Of course, the exception here is the Institute of Albanology, since most of those who were refused membership to ASHAK come from this institute. Also, the greatest critics of ASHAK come from the Institute of Albanology.³⁶



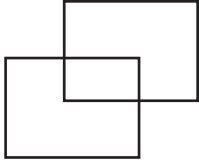
7. Reporting and Monitoring

The annual narrative and financial reports of ASHAK are not public. The 2017 Audit Report finds that everything is in order. During the approval of the law on ASHAK in 2015, it was stated that ASHAK will report to the Assembly of Kosovo on its work in annual basis. After almost three years since the new law was adopted, ASHAK still failed to report on its work to date to any state institution –it should report to the Kosovo Assembly, namely the Parliamentary Commission for Education, Science and Technology or the Government of Kosovo, namely the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

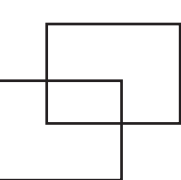


Key findings

- Almost all ASHAK publications, by all its sections, are in Albanian, by Albanian authors. There are virtually no English language publications. More than half of the publications are works of ASHAK members and, moreover, are reprints, which reduces ASHAK to a publishing house.
- Of the four ASHAK journals, the only journal published wholly in English - « Acta Biologiae et Medicinae Experimentalis» – has not seen light since 1990. Meanwhile, in the three other journals, “Research”, “Studies” and “Social Studies”, over 90% of the articles are published by Albanian authors and only in Albanian. Moreover, these journals do not have international codes (they were not peer reviewed).
- In all the conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific seminars organized during the 90s, with special emphasis on those after the 1998-99 war to date, all participants are Albanian, except in the conference ‘Albanian and Balkan Languages’, where half of the participants are foreign Albanologists, and all publications from these conferences, symposia, roundtables and scientific seminars are published only in Albanian.
- Since 2008, when AAK became a special budget category, and especially since 2012, when its annual budget is € 1 million, out of 4 major projects, only one was finalized: The Monograph “Kosovo - monographic look”. The «Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo» project, which should have been completed two years ago, has not yet been completed, and while for the «Albanian Language Corpus» project there is no information, the «Inter-Academic Council for Albanian Language is practically a dead project.
- All major projects of ASHAK - Monograph «Kosovo - monographic look», «Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo», «Albanian Language Corpus» and «Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language» - are national projects. ASHAK has no international project.
- According to the data of the Ministry of Finance of Republic of Kosovo, since 2008, when it became fully independent as a budget category, until 2018, ASHAK received nearly €10 million from the Republic of Kosovo budget. In the last six years, the ASHAK budget has gone a little over €1 million a year; about two-thirds of this budget has gone to salaries and wages. The monthly payment for a regular member is 1.429.54 €, and for the correspondent member 1.283.34 €.
- Of the 22 regular members of ASHAK, all conducted their Bachelor, MA and PhD studies mainly in Pristina, then Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Ljubljana, all universities of former-Yugoslavia. Of the 16 correspondent members, most of them completed their BA, MA and PhD studies in Pristina, while others completed them in Belgrade, Zagreb and Ljubljana, universities of former Yugoslavia, and only one has completed his MA and PhD studies in a EU country and is the only ASHAK member who has agreed to be interviewed for this report.

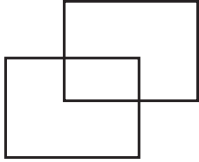


- Of the 22 regular members of ASHAK, only 3 have 3 papers each published in international academic journals, while of the 16 correspondent members, 8 have papers published in international academic journals; 3 have 1 published paper each, 3 have three 3 papers each and of the 2 others, one has published 6 papers and one 8.
- Of the 22 regular ASHAK members, just over half (12) were engaged in political parties - eight in the LDK (later two in the Democratic League of Dardania - LDD), two in PFK, one in LBD and one in ORA. Meanwhile, out of 16 correspondent members, nearly half (7) were engaged in political parties - four in LDK, two in PDK and one in PSD.
- All regular members of ASHAK (22) are men, and correspondent members (16) - 12 men and 4 women, admitted in 2012 respectively 2016. There are 28 correspondent members, all men, and also 19 external members, again all men. There is only one Honorary Member, another man.
- All 22 regular members of ASHAK are Albanian and all 16 correspondent members are Albanian too. Of the 28 correspondent members, two are Serbs, elected at the time of the SFRY. There are 19 external members: 8 Albanian and 11 foreign (two Croats, three American, one British, one German, one Frenchman, two Italian and one Swiss). There is only one honorary member and he is Albanian-American. Since 1990, no member of any ethnic community in Kosovo has been elected to ASHAK.
- During 2018, the ASHAK Assembly elected as Chair of ASHAK, Academy member Nexhat Daci, who on 10 November 2010 was sentenced by the Pristina District Court to 18 months of suspended imprisonment for abuse of official duty. This decision was also confirmed by a panel of the Supreme Court, with two local judges and one EULEX judge.
- Two members of ASHAK - Sabri Hamiti and Arsim Morina - were publicly accused in the media - the first by Sali Bytyçi, and second by Talat Gjinolli – with allegations supported with strong evidence that their works, one published by ASHAK itself, were plagiarized. However, ASHAK did not take any measures, and even refused to issue statements these cases.
- Despite the memoranda and protocols of co-operation between the two Academies, ASHAK has no joint publication or a conference / symposium / table / scientific seminar, with ASA. The only result of memoranda and protocols is the participation of members of both academies in each other's publications or conferences / symposia / tables / scientific seminars.
- Despite the fact that ASHAK has all those agreements signed with various academies and academic associations, the result is joint duplications with two of them: a book published by ASHAK and the Slovenian Academy and one by ASHAK and the Macedonian Academy.
- ASHAK has entered agreements with the UP, but does not have any joint projects with this institution either. Regarding other scientific institutions, such as the Institute of Archeology,



the Institute of History, the Institute of Albanology and so on, the only 'cooperation' is that employees of these institutes were or are members of the ASHAK. An exception here is the Institute of Albanology, since most of those who were refused membership in ASHAK come from this institute. At the same time, the biggest critics of the ASHAK come from the Institute of Albanology.

- Although in 2015, when adopting the law on ASHAK, it was stated that ASHAK will report to the Assembly of Kosovo on its work, to date it did not report on its work to the Parliamentary Education, Science and Technology Committee of the Assembly of Kosovo.
- ASHAK has no Public Relations Office or spokesperson. The official ASHAK web site is unstructured, not updated, and is only in Albanian (there is nothing in English). For the purpose of this publication, the interview request was sent to ASHAK management and only one responded.



Recommendations

- ASHAK must implement the goals set forth in the Law on ASHAK. Perhaps the Kosovo Assembly's Education, Science and Technology Committee should establish a Council for the review or a substantial reform of the ASHAK (review of publications, composition of members, duties and role of ASHAK, so that it be more active in political, economic, social, cultural and other developments.
- ASHAK should, in all sections, publish top-level works mainly in foreign languages, especially in English, as one of the aims of this institution is making the science and art of Kosovo international. Also, it would be good to publish more foreign authors and to avoid the dominance of work by ASHAK members, most of which are reprints.
- At least half of the articles that ASHAK journals publishes should be publications in English. Also, it would be good to increase the number of foreign authors. Moreover, ASHAK's journals should be equipped with international codes and have a 'peer review'.
- In conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific seminars of ASHAK, it would be good to have foreign authors, and all publications from these conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific gatherings should also be available in English.
- As from 2008, the ASHAK has entered into a special budget category, and especially since 2012 when the annual budget became € 1 million, it would be good to complete the major projects it has undertaken: The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo", which had to be completed two years ago, and while for the «Albanian Language Corpus» project there is no information, the «Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language is practically a dead project.
- All the projects of the ASAAK - Monograph «Kosovo - Monographic Look», «The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo», «The Albanian Language Corpus» and the «Inter Academic Council for Albanian Language» - are projects mainly from the field of social sciences. ASHAK should also have projects from the field of exact sciences. Also, these projects are national, and ASHAK should engage in international projects too.
- Since 2007, ASHAK has received nearly €10 million from the Kosovo Budget. In the last six years, the budget of the ASHAK has gone a little over €1 million per year, about two-thirds of this budget have gone on salaries and wages. The Monthly honorary for the regular member is 1.429.54 €, and for the correspondent member 1.283.34 €. The budget should be allocated only for projects and honoraries of regular and correspondent members should only be given for the work they do in the framework of the projects and to in accordance with the economic situation in Kosovo (the poorest country in Europe). Also, apart from the Kosovo budget, ASHAK should also seek donations from abroad.

- Of the 22 regular members and 16 correspondent members of ASHAK, all, apart from one, completed their studies at BA, MA and PhD levels mainly in Pristina, then in Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Ljubljana, namely in the universities of former Yugoslavia. Therefore, it would be useful for ASHAK to be open to those who have completed their BA, MA and PhD studies in countries outside former SFRY.
- When it comes to selection of correspondent and regular members, at least the conditions for the advancement of associate and regular professors of UP should be in place: the associate professor should have at least three, while the regular professor five papers published in relevant international or regional scientific journals as the first author or correspondent ». Also, reviews for the selection of new members are to be drafted by people with high professional and moral integrity.
- Of the 22 regular ASHAK members, just over half (12) were engaged in political parties - eight in LDK, two in PFK, one in LBD and one in ORA. Meanwhile, out of 16 correspondent members, nearly half (7) were engaged in political parties - four in LDK, two in PDK and one in PSD. Persons holding positions within political parties or political institutions - Assembly and Government – should not be members of ASHAK.
- All regular members of Ashak (22) are men, and of the correspondent members (16) - 12 are men and 4 women, admitted in 2012 and 2016. Although there are signs of improvement in this regard, it might be best to apply in this case the 30% quota that applies to the election of members of the Kosovo Assembly.
- All regular members (22) and all correspondent members (16) of ASHAK are Albanian. Since 1990, no member of any ethnic community in Kosovo has been elected to ASHAK. It would be advisable to have members of ethnic communities in Kosovo: Serb, Bosniaks, Turks, Roma, and so on, as members of ASHAK.
- During this year, the ASHAK Assembly elected academy member Nexhat Daci as ASHAK Chair. Nexhat Dacin, was on 10 November 2010 sentenced by the District Court of Pristina to 18 months of suspended imprisonment for abuse of official duty. This decision was also confirmed by a panel of the Supreme Court, with two local and one EULEX judge. No person convicted by the judicial institutions of the country should be in a leading position in ASHAK.
- Two members of ASHAK - Sabri Hamiti and Arsim Morina – were publicly accused, by Sali Bytyçi and by Talat Gjinolli, respectively - with strong evidence that their articles, one of them published by ASHAK itself, were plagiarized. ASHAK must take measures against those members of ASHAK violating rules of academic ethics and issue statements on these cases. In advance of this, the Code of Ethics and The Professional Code should be drafted.
- Despite the memoranda and protocols of co-operation between the two Academies, ASHAK has no joint publications with ASA or has never held a joint conference / symposium /

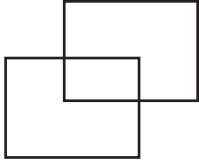


table / scientific seminar with this institution. ASHAK must implement the agreements, protocols and memorandums signed with ASA and they should have joint publications.

- Despite the fact that ASHAK has agreements signed with various academies and academic associations, the result is two joint projects with two of them: a book published by ASHAK and the Slovenian Academy and a book published by ASHAK and the Macedonian Academy. Hence, ASHAK must implement agreements, protocols and memorandums signed with these academies and international academic associations.

- ASHAK has agreements with the UP, but no joint projects with it, nor with any other scientific institution, such as the Institute of Archeology, the Institute of History, the Institute of Albanology, and so on. It would be useful to include these institutions in the ASHAK projects, so that, among other things, they do not duplicate the work of ASHAK when conducting work in their institutions.

- It would be useful to if ASHAK would from now on report on its work at least once a year to the Assembly of Kosovo, namely the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Science and Technology of the Assembly of Kosovo. Also, it would be useful to publish, among other things, all documents related to the financing of the ASHAK.

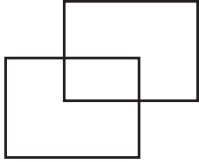
- ASHAK must establish a Public Relations Office and appoint a spokesperson. The ASHAK official website should be properly structured, updated, and be provided also in the English language. Likewise, ASHAK leaders should be more open and cooperate not only with the media but with the other segments of civil society.

- It would also be useful if the media (newspapers, radio, television and portals), then the non-governmental sector as well as other segments of civil society were more active in discussing the (in) activity of ASHAK.

Regular ASHAK members

	Name and last name	BA	MA	PHD	Elected	Politics	Age	Publ
1.	Ali Aliu	Bg	-	Pr	1996	LDK	84	0
2.	Anton Berishaj	Pr	Zg	Zg	2012	ORA	64	0
3.	Ekrem Myrtezai	Bg	Bg	Pr	1996	-	87	0
4.	Eqrem Basha	Pr	-	-	2001	-	70	0
5.	Fejzullah Krasniqi	Pr	Shk	Pr	2008	-	65	0
6.	Feriz Krasniqi	Shk	-	Bg	1996	-	87	0
7.	Hivzi Islami	Pr	Zg	Ljb	1996	PFK	72	4
8.	Idriz Ajeti	Bg	-	Bg	1975	LDK	101	3
9.	Isa Mustafa	Pr	Bg	Pr	2008	LDK	67	0
10.	Isuf Krasniqi	Pr	Zg	Pr	2008	-	70	0
11.	Jusuf Bajraktari	Pr	Pr	Pr	2012	PFK	70	0
12.	Mehmet Kraja	Pr	-	-	-	LDK	66	0
13.	Minir Dushi	Bg	-	Bg	1975	-	89	0
14.	Nexhat Daci	Bg	Zg	Bg	1993	LDK	74	4
15.	Rauf Dhomi	Sa	Sa	-	1993	-	73	0
16.	Rexhep Ferri	Bg	Bg	-	1996	-	81	0
17.	Rexhep Ismajli	Pr	-	Pr	1993	LDK	71	0
18.	Rexhep Qosja	Pr	Bg	Pr	-	LBD	82	0
19.	Sabri Hamiti	Pr	Zg	Pr	2000	LDK	68	0
20.	Tahir Emra	Bg	Bg	-	2000	-	80	0
21.	Zejnullah Rrahmani	Pr	Pr	Pr	2012	LDK	66	0
22.	Zeqirja Ballata	Ljb	Ljb	-	1996	-	75	0

Mosha mesatare e anëtarëve të rregullt të ASHAK-ut është 75.



Correspondent ASHAK members

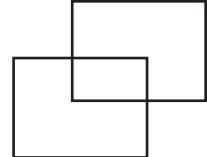
Name and last name		BA	MA	PHD	Elected	Politics	Age	Publ
1.	Arsim Bajrami	Pr	Pr	Pr	2012	PDK	58	0
2.	Arsim Morina	Pr	Zg	Pr	2012	-	60	3
3.	Bardh Rugova	Pr	Pr	Pr	2016	-	44	1
4.	Edi Shukriu	Bg	Bg	Pr	2012	LDK	68	1
5.	Fetah Podvorica	Pr	Paris	Paris	2016	-	50	8
6.	Frashër Demaj	Pr	Pr	Pr	2016	LDK	45	0
7.	Gjyljeta Mushkolaj	Pr	Pr/Bu	Pr	2016	-	55	0
8.	Justina Pula	Pr	Zg	Pr	2016	PDK	65	1
9.	Kujtim Shala	Pr	Pr	Pr	2016	LDK	44	0
10.	Luan Mulliqi	Pr	Bg	-	2012	-	65	0
11.	Mehmet Halimi	Pr	Pr	Pr	2012	-	81	0
12.	Muhamedin Kullashi	Zg	-	Zg	2016	PSD	69	0
13.	Muzafer Limani	Pr	Bg	Pr	2016	-	64	3
14.	Qamil Haxhibeqiri	Pr	Zg	Zg	2012	-	69	6
15.	Salih Gashi	Bg	Zg	Zg	2012	LDK	74	3
16.	Xhevdet Xhafa	Ljb	Ljb	-	2012	-	84	0

The average age of the ASHAK regular members is 62.

The average age of the ASHAK correspondent members is 63.5.

Footnotes

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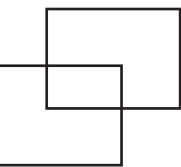
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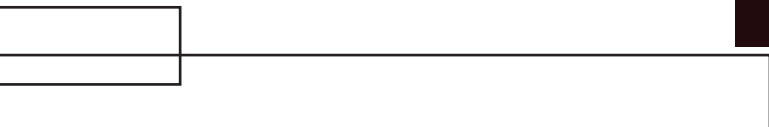
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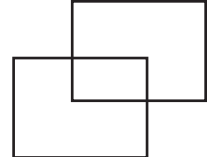
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