

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ÉTUDES CLASSIQUES  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE SOCIETIES OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

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To whom it may concern

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The International Federation of the Societies of Classical Studies (known by its French acronym FIEC) has just held its 13<sup>th</sup> international congress in Berlin, with more than 900 participants from literally all over the world. FIEC, which belongs to the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences under UNESCO, makes it its concern to support classical studies and research both within Western Europe and Northern America and in the world outside. It is with great concern that we receive reports from some of our member organisations within geographical areas where classical studies have traditionally held strong positions that they are now struggling for their existence; classical studies seem to be considered a small field within the country's higher education and research areas. The Board of FIEC would therefore take this opportunity to underline the fact that classical studies have always had a strong international dimension, that many of the internationally renowned scholars come from countries where the field is considered small in matters of student numbers, and that cut-downs in one country does in fact affect the scholarly world as a whole. Taking part in the international community of scholars is a vital part of the academic development of every country, and classical studies have a longer tradition in that respect than many other academic fields. It is our hope that you will regard the field of classical studies not only from the perspective of its size and numerical importance within your own country, but also in the light of the ever-increasing importance of international cooperation and network building within the academic community.

Dame Averil Cameron, DBE, FBA, Warden of Keble College (Oxford, UK), Professor of Late Antique and Byzantine History in the University of Oxford, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, FIEC President

Ana María González de Tobia, Professor of Greek Language and Literature and Director of the Centro de Estudios Helénicos (CEH) at the Universidad Nacional de La Plata (Argentina), FIEC Vice-President

Pascal Arnaud, Professor of history and archaeology of the Roman world at the University of Nice (France), Senior member of the Institut universitaire de France, FIEC Vice-President

Franco Montanari, Professor of Greek literature at the University of Genova (Italy), Vice-president of the International Council for Philosophy and the Human sciences (ICPHS), FIEC Treasurer, member of the Foundation Council and Scientific Council of the Fondation Hardt pour l'étude de l'Antiquité

Susan Alcock, Director of the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Joukowsky Family Professor in Archaeology, member of the FIEC Board

Gunhild Vidén, Professor of Latin and Head of the Department of Languages and Literatures at the University of Gothenburg (Sweden), member of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters, member of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences in Göteborg

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