



The role of national Academies

Science and Policy-Making: towards a new dialogue

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Science academies are not uniform

Hungarian Academy of Sciences:

Learned society

- 365 members, 2600 doctors of the Academy, 13000 members in „public body”
- 11 classes including Social Sciences and Humanities

Research network

- 3000 research staff, 15 research centres, ~ 140 research groups at universities

Research funding

- grants, fellowships, infrastructure development, mainly for its own research network



2010 „red sludge” disaster

A dam of the waste reservoir of Ajka alumina factory collapsed, releasing over 1 million cubic meters of liquid waste on nearby villages, fields and rivers.

The role of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was crucial in

- dismissing unfounded panic over the released toxic and radioactive materials
- providing psychological support on how to help the victims
- neutralizing the waste
- recovering from environmental damage.