

EADi

European Association of Development Research
and Training Institutes

Association Européenne des Instituts de Recherche
et de Formation en Matière de Développement



Annual Report 2025

www.eadi.org

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EADI - the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes - is a Europe-wide network of institutes, researchers and students of various disciplines in the field of Development Studies. EADI offers facilities for the international exchange of knowledge and experiences in the professional field. The association was founded in 1975 and is an independent and non-profit making international non-governmental organisation. Its Secretariat is based in Bonn, Germany.

EADI's objectives are:

- To generate and stimulate exchange of information among European scientists and researchers concerned with development issues,
- To promote interdisciplinary studies on specific themes,
- To develop contacts with researchers from other regions of the world.

Members take part in thematic working groups which organise conferences, seminars, research projects and publish their results in the EADI Book Series. EADI publishes its academic journal, the EJDR - The European Journal of Development Research five times a year. Its most prominent activity is a General Conference devoted to a topical theme every three years. EADI is part of ICCDA, Interregional Coordinating Committee of Development Associations.

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L'EADI - Association européenne des instituts de recherche et de formation en matière de développement est le réseau européen d'instituts, de chercheurs, et d'étudiants venant de disciplines variées spécialisés dans le domaine des études du développement. L'EADI facilite l'échange international de connaissances et d'expériences au niveau professionnel. L'association a été fondée en 1975; elle est une organisation non-gouvernementale indépendante sans but lucratif. Son secrétariat est situé à Bonn en Allemagne.

Les buts de l'EADI sont:

- de produire et de stimuler l'échange d'information parmi les scientifiques et chercheurs européens concernés par les questions du développement,
- de promouvoir des études interdisciplinaires sur des thèmes spécifiques,
- de développer les contacts avec les chercheurs d'autres continents.

Les membres participent à des groupes de travail thématiques qui organisent des conférences, des séminaires et des projets de recherche; leurs résultats sont publiés dans les EADI Book Series. Cinq fois par an, l'EADI publie un journal pour les universitaires et les chercheurs intitulé EJDR - The European Journal of Development Research. L'activité majeure de l'EADI est la conférence générale organisée tous les trois ans sur un thème particulier. L'EADI fait partie de l'ICCDA, le Comité de coordination interrégional des associations du développement.

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I. Message from the President

EADI at 50 and the Next Chapter

This has been a year of mixed emotions. First, on a positive note, we marked EADI's 50th anniversary with a fantastic conference in Bonn in May 2025, bringing together members to commemorate five decades of development research. I want to thank the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the International Foundation of Savings Bank Bonn for their support. The event was more than a commemoration. It was a platform for reflecting on the future of Development Studies and policy.

Professor Nikita Dhawan's keynote challenged us to radically reappropriate ideas of global justice. Our roundtables examined democratic recession, shifting global alliances, and the contested future of development cooperation. We launched a special issue of the European Journal of Development Research on the Future of Development Studies. These conversations will continue with the 'Perspectives Paper', which will reassess the purpose and scope of Development Studies, and the debates at our 2026 General Conference, 'Shaping Sustainable Futures: Global Challenges, (G)Local Solutions?', which will take place from 29 June to 2 July at the IOB, University of Antwerp. Then, later in 2026, we will meet in Dublin for our EADI Directors' meeting.

These activities do take place in difficult times. The global landscape is increasingly shaped by geopolitical fragmentation, democratic backsliding, and compounding crises. Development cooperation and policy is in a state of flux and openly contested. Multilateralism is in retreat, and the norm of collective action is giving way to a transactional nationalism.

How should we understand this moment? At the EADI 50th anniversary, I drew on Nikolai Kondratiev, who proposed that capitalist economies pass through long cycles of roughly 50 to 60 years. Each cycle has four seasons: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. Spring brings innovation. Summer brings prosperity. Autumn sees systems fray. Winter brings crisis. The 1970s, when EADI was founded, were

unambiguously one such winter. Are we now in another? The signs suggest we are. Yet Kondratiev's framework reminds us that winter does not last forever. Spring follows winter.

Relatedly, economic cycles interlock with political ones. Modelski proposed that world leadership passes through century-long cycles of global war, world power and delegitimation. Wallerstein's world-systems theory connects hegemonic cycles to Kondratiev waves, tracking how core powers rise and decline. Goldstein synthesised these perspectives, demonstrating how economic long waves and political war cycles reinforce each other. If these theorists are correct, we may be witnessing not just an economic winter but a political one: the end of a phase of US hegemony and the emergence of a more multi-polar world. For some, this looks like a crisis, for others, there is a potential opportunity for a fairer world.

Our role is not to wait passively. Academic associations can create intellectual space when political space closes. We must incubate ideas that challenge exhausted paradigms. We must continue to build bridges between researchers across regions, between Europe and the Global South, and between disciplines. We must support the next generation of scholars, particularly those bringing perspectives from the Global South. We must foster coalitions of critique and of hope.

Thus, EADI's jubilee is a moment of renewal which continues in the years ahead. If we remain outward-facing, intellectually rigorous, and committed to solidarity, we will be ready when spring arrives. We will have the ideas and vision to shape a fairer and more sustainable world.

Andy Sumner

EADI President 2023-2026
Professor of Development Studies
King's College London



II. Outlook 2026 – Report from the Executive Secretary

2025 was shaped by EADI's jubilee conference, held on 22 and 23 May 2025 in Bonn. 120 members came together to celebrate and commemorate 50 years of development research. The event was kindly funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the International Foundation of Savings Bank Bonn. On this occasion, a special issue on "Development Studies in the Mid-2020s: Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future" in the European Journal of Development Research was launched, and part of it is open access.

The discussions at the Jubilee event led to the conclusion that we will have to renew our definition of Development Studies from 2017. Therefore, we started a "Perspectives Paper Process" to reassess the purpose, scope, and identity of Development Studies (DS) in a turbulent global context and to develop principles for DS programmes and what to expect from DS study programmes, as well as implications for those. The consultations will end in October 2026 at the annual Directors' meeting in Dublin.

We were also opening the call for panels and abstracts for the next General Conference. The conference entitled "Shaping Sustainable Futures: Global Challenges, (G)Local Solutions?" will take place from 29 June to 2 July 2026 at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB) at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. 80 panels and roundtables will be held in a hybrid format. A number of special sessions will be held for early-career researchers. A member forum will also be held as part of the consultation of the perspectives paper mentioned above.

As a crosscutting initiative for the association, three task groups worked on contributions to the EADI Blog, produced a number of podcasts and held webinars. The task group on

"Decolonising knowledge for development" was formed to develop relevant ideas, concepts, practices and share these more widely with EADI members and external audiences. The task group on "policy engagement" aims to establish EADI as an interlocutor between policymakers and research. A task group on "methods innovation" intends to support innovation in interdisciplinary research approaches relevant to development researchers.

We are also going to continue our webinar series once a month, and a number of workshops on transformative skills, publishing and employability of graduates in Development Studies.



I would like to conclude again by thanking our most important funder, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), for their continuous support of our activities, and for enabling the EADI Secretariat to be a vigorous member of the scientific community, play an active role in Europe, and contribute to the success of the International UN City of Bonn. Our special thanks go to our members, who constantly

support our activities and enrich the association with innovative activities and advice.

All these activities would not have been possible without a dedicated team, and I would like to express my sincere thanks for implementing these new and cutting-edge activities in our Secretariat's work.

With warm regards, and I hope you enjoy reading our activities and highlights from 2025.

Susanne von Itter
Executive Secretary

Mission Statement

"EADI is the prime professional association for Development Studies in Europe.

As such it promotes:

- Quality in research and education in development issues,
- The exchange of relevant information among members and with others,
- The strengthening of relevant knowledge networks at the regional and global level,
- Influencing both national and European decision-makers in the field of development co-operation."

(Belgrade, November 2003)

III. 2024 in Retrospect – Activities and Highlights

Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee manages the affairs of the Association, oversees EADI's aims and objectives as determined by the General Assembly, and organises the activities of the Association. It consists of a President and one representative per country, as well as co-opted members. The Executive Committee 2023 - 2026 is composed of sub-committees dealing with the following themes:

- Sub-committee on Research, Practice and Policy Engagement (chaired by Katja Bender and Iliana Olivie)
- Sub-committee on Education and the Next Generation (chaired by Nita Mishra)
- Sub-committee on International Networking (chaired by Alfredo Saad-Filho)

The Management Committee is composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, and the Executive Secretary.

For a complete list of the members of the Executive Committee, please see the inside cover of this Annual Report.

The EADI Executive Committee met once in 2025: on 21 and 22 May, in Bonn and in conjunction with the EADI Jubilee Event. At the meeting, the Secretariat's progress report was presented, and the actions of the Secretariat were collectively approved. The 2024 accounts and the 2025 budget were approved, and the auditor for 2025 was appointed. Two Management Committee meetings took place, online on 11 April and 14 November.

EADI 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Jubilee Event 2025

Entitled "Development in Crisis: Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future", the EADI jubilee event took place on 22 and 23 May 2025, kindly sponsored by the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Foundation for International Dialogue of the Savings Bank in Bonn. With this event, the jubilee year came to a close.

At this event, we welcomed over 120 participants, EADI Working Group conveners, Executive Committee members, Directors of EADI member institutions and representatives from BMZ, UN organizations and institutions based in Bonn.

The event took place at a time when the global development landscape is increasingly shaped by democratic backsliding, geopolitical fragmentation and compounding environmental and social crises. In this context, the anniversary served not only as a commemoration but as a platform for critical self-reflection and collective forward thinking.

In his opening remarks, EADI President Andy Sumner invoked the concept of a "long winter" to describe today's turbulent era, drawing on Kondratiev's theory of long economic cycles. He emphasised the responsibility of the academic community to remain outward-facing and engaged, positioning Development Studies as a convener of pluralist thought and as an enabler of intellectual resilience, particularly by amplifying perspectives from the Global South.

The keynote address by Professor Nikita Dhawan offered a compelling critique of transnational solidarity and the normative underpinnings of global justice. Challenging assumptions of universality, her intervention called for a radical reappropriation of Enlightenment values, led from below. This call to de-centre dominant paradigms resonated throughout the sessions that followed.

Key Discussions and Emerging Themes

The event explored the intersection of development research and practice in an age of uncertainty.

Highlights included:

- Strategic Roundtables on democratic recession, shifting global alliances and the contested future of development cooperation;
- Thematic Panels addressing civic space under pressure, the geopolitical significance of the "New South" and the layered crises of climate, conflict and inequality;
- A civil society-focused session, with contributions from the Team Europe Democracy (TED) Secretariat, examining how civic actors are adapting their strategies amid tightening political environments;
- The launch of a special issue in the European Journal of Development Research, featuring contributions on decolonisation, demographic transformations, knowledge hierarchies, poetry as a source of data and climate justice.

Attention turned to the interface between research and implementation. Discussions centred on how academic outputs can better inform, and be informed by, the operational realities faced by development practitioners and NGOs, especially in complex settings.

Publications

A number of publications and blog articles resulted from the event:



An online collection of articles on Development Studies at <https://link.springer.com/journal/41287/updates/27807524>

A variety of blog posts at www.developmentresearch.eu:
EADI @ 50 Years: Celebrating Why Researching and Studying Development Matters
By *Laura Camfield and Andy Sumner*
<https://www.developmentresearch.eu/?p=1817>

EADI at 50: Thinking Through the Winter, Looking to the Spring and the Next Chapter
By *Andy Sumner*
<https://www.developmentresearch.eu/?p=2240>

Photo Gallery

<https://www.eadi.org/development-studies/eadi-50th-anniversary-celebrations/photo-gallery#c1913>

EADI Timeline 1974 – 2025

A timeline presenting highlights from the 50-year-old history of EADI was produced and can be accessed here: <https://www.eadi.org/development-studies/eadi-at-50>

Working Group Activities

The EADI Working Groups are the constituent units of the association. Their activities highlight EADI's diversity and expertise, acting as smaller networks in action. Beyond EADI meetings and seminars, the Working Groups provide fora across Europe for reflection and discussion of Development Studies and training as well as platforms for launching and elaborating development research and publications. Practical and financial support is given to quality performance in the Working Groups. To this end, guidelines for Working Groups offer the necessary frame of reference and define the common vision and understanding. For a list of Working Groups

as of 2026 and their convenors, please see <https://www.eadi.org/network/eadi-working-groups>. The details of their activities are outlined below.

Gender Justice

Funded by the EADI Innovation Fund, this Working Group held its first Gender Lab in Lisbon on 13 and 14 November 2025 - an important step in reactivating the network's collective work on gender, intersectionality, and decolonization within development research. The event brought together 33 participants representing 21 countries.

Global Crises and Development

Prior to the EADI Anniversary Conference in May 2025, the Working Group held an in-person workshop at IDOS in Bonn on "Development and Development Policy in the Trump Era" which resulted in the publication of an IDOS discussion paper with the same title and a related series on the EADI blog. Together with the British International Studies Association (BISA), the Working Group held an online roundtable on "Global Development Cooperation at a Crossroads: What Ground Rules for Partnership in a Fragmented World?" on 28 November.

Institutions and Development in Portuguese Speaking Countries

The Working Group published a special issue of *Cadernos de Estudos Africanos*: "Amílcar Cabral at 100 Liberation and Legacy" with nine authors reflecting on Amílcar Cabral's legacy. The issue was already published in 2024, but aired in June 2025.

Multi-Dimensional Poverty and Poverty Dynamics

This joint Working Group with the Development Studies Association of the UK (DSA) held a panel at the 2025 DSA conference in Bath titled "Poverty Dynamics amidst Recurrent Crises: Reflections, Responses and Revivals". It also held a group meeting alongside the DSA conference.

Multinational Corporations and Development

As a result of a 2024 conference on "Views on Development from the Peripheries of Europe" in the series of EADI Anniversary events, the Working Group has been in the review process for publishing a special issue on the topic in the *European Journal of Development Research* (EJDR)

Political Economy & Political Ecology of Land, Labour and Food

This is also a joint Working Group with the Development Studies Association of the UK (DSA). In November 2025, the Working Group held a panel at the African Studies Association conference on "New Directions in Agrarian

Political Economy”. It also organised a launch of the book “Decolonize, Humanize” co-edited by a Working Group convener.

Research Communication

The Working Group held its annual in-person workshop on development research communications on 07-07 November at the International Security and Development Center (ISDC) in Berlin, Germany, with approximately 30 participants. In addition, the group has set up a task force to work on a white paper highlighting best practices for effective research communications

SDG Localization and Global Cooperation in Theory and Practice

Several early-career members of the group participated in the PhD Training program on SDG localization by the Knowledge & Scientific Network of the UN Local 2030 Coalition.

The European Union as Development Actor

On 07 April 2025, the Working Group organised a seminar together with the College of Europe in Natolin and the European Think Tanks Group (ETTG) on “Future directions of EU development policy under Von der Leyen II” in Poland. From 01 to 03 September 2025, it co-convened a themed track with six panels on the EU as a global development actor at the annual UACES (University Association for Contemporary European Studies) Conference in Liverpool.

The New South

This Working Group was newly established in 2025 and is planning a panel for the 2026 EADI General Conference in Antwerp.

The Politics and Political Economy of Economic Transformation

This joint Working Group with the Development Studies Association of the UK (DSA) has organised three interlinked events from 03 to 05 December in Manchester at the Global Development Institute: the EADI-sponsored lecture “The Myth of Deindustrialisation and the Possibilities of Development within Industrial Civilisation”, a workshop with the title “Is Development still possible?” and an early-career researchers workshop on “Re-)establishing political economy within Development Studies”. The last one was followed by an online workshop, funded by the EADI Innovation Fund where early-career scholars from around the globe presented their works on the topic.

Task Groups

As a result of activities in the Executive Committee, three task groups were formed and held various activities.

Task group on the decolonization of knowledge

As a crosscutting initiative for the association, the task group on “Decolonising Knowledge for Development” continued its work throughout 2025, especially with publishing texts and podcasts from its “Share your Decolonising Story” Project, which had already started in 2024. In the course of 2025, the task group has published 11 written stories, 4 podcasts and a video. In November 2025, the group held a webinar with the authors of the stories to draw conclusions from the project for publication in 2026.

<https://www.eadi.org/development-studies/decolonising-knowledge-for-development>

Task group on policy engagement

The aim of the task group is that policy makers take into account and/or make use of research from EADI members. At the first stage the thematic focus will be on development policy at the EU level. As a first step, an advisory group was formed with representatives from research, policy and practice. The EADI website was enriched by a section for policymakers which gives an insight into what EADI offers in terms of research output by members. A flyer on what EADI offers to policymakers was published. A brief with recommendations on how to engage with policymakers will be produced as the last product of this project and will be presented at the General Conference 2026.

<https://www.eadi.org/research-practice-and-policy-engagement>

Sub-committee on research

In this sub-committee, a study and a paper on “A Tale of Two Worlds: Exploring the Range and Depth of NGO-Academics Collaboration in International Development across Europe” was produced and will be published in 2026. It is based on a survey of the subcommittee conducted in 2025. A policy-oriented short version will be produced, to be published on the EADI website.

Task group on methods innovation

The purpose of the EADI methods tasks group is two-fold:

- To provide support and support innovation in the current and next generation of EADI researchers, specifically in relation to interdisciplinary research approaches, involving the mixing of methods over time and space and at multiple scales
- To critically explore the ways in which the methods used in development research reflect their colonial heritage and might continue to perpetuate power imbalances, in conjunction with our decolonising knowledge for development task group, while

actively engaging with alternative ways of doing research.

A number of podcasts, blog articles and papers were published:

- Reimagining the Methodological Horizon: What Can Social Science Fiction Offer Development Studies? EADI Reflection Paper by Laura Camfield and Andy Sumner
- Story-Telling: A Method to Support Decolonising Knowledge for Development, By Peter Taylor
- What Challenges for Global Development Research are Posed by a More Decolonial Approach? By Laura Camfield
- The Role of Critical Poetic Inquiry in Decolonising ‘Development’ By Nita Mishra

Podcasts

- Using Mixed Methods to Study Poverty Longitudinally
- Using Audiovisual Methods in Person and Remotely for Participatory Research
- Using Storytelling in Research and Communication

See <https://www.eadi.org/development-studies/methods-innovation>

The members and details on these task groups are available on the EADI website.

International Networking

To support international outreach, a subcommittee on “International Networking” was established to pursue ongoing activities and reach out to new partners.

In this context, a Global Crises Working Group was established, with partners from the international networks APISA, CLACSO, CODESRIA, KAIDEC, SADS, and the Indonesian regional association. The group held a roundtable on 28 November 2025 on “Global Development Cooperation at a Crossroads: What Ground Rules for Partnership in a Fragmented World?” Speakers from the Global North and Global South reflected on the political economy of aid, the rise of transactional and bilateral approaches, and the expanding role of South-South and regional cooperation.

EADI values its membership in the Society for International Development, SID International (Rome, Italy), the International Science Council (ISC, Paris, France) and the Global Development Network (GDN, New Delhi, India) as an avenue to foster professional partnerships and joint ventures. Furthermore, EADI is a member of ACUNS, the Academic Council on the United Nations System and the Steering Group of PEGNet, the Poverty Reduction, Equity, and Growth Network.

EADI is a founding member of EASSH, the European Alliance of Social Sciences and the Humanities, established in early 2015 in Paris.

In 2017, EADI joined the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD). It brings together governmental and intergovernmental entities with civil society organisations, such as religious and value-driven organisations, to harness the positive impact of religion and faith-based values in sustainable development and humanitarian assistance.

Networks-to-Network Initiative (N2N)

In collaboration with the Finnish University Partnership for International Development (UniPID), EADI has been building a “network of networks” to support the exchange and cooperation between Nordic and European academic networks and associations relevant to development issues and global challenges, and/or aiming to support research and higher education cooperation with so-called third countries. The initiative kicked off in 2017 during the EADI NORDIC Conference in Bergen and held subsequent meetings and panels at the following conferences. The meetings bring together all interested network representatives to get acquainted and map common interests for cooperation. One online meeting was held in 2025.

EADI Early Career Activities

In 2025, EADI issued an innovation fund and two early-career-oriented workshops were funded by this instrument:

‘(Re-)establishing Political Economy in Development Studies, 04-05 December 2025, Manchester

The workshop aimed to foreground early-career scholarship in political economy. In particular, the workshop focused on exhibiting the added value of political economy perspectives to Development Studies and social sciences more generally.

Activating Gender Justice: From Research to Collective Praxis for Social Change, 13 - 14 November 2025, Lisbon, Portugal

This transformative one-and-a-half-day event in Universidade de Lisboa’s Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, brought together early-career and senior researchers, practitioners, and activists working on gender justice issues in the Global South. This event focused on advancing intersectional and transformative understandings of gender within Development Studies. As a result, the “Gender Lab” was set up. <https://www.genderjustice-lab.com/about-us>

EADI-ELTE PhD Symposium for Hungary and Romania, 12 June 2025

The international symposium was organized in cooperation with the Department of Global and Development Studies at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Budapest and provided an opportunity for doctoral researchers from Hungarian and Romanian institutions to present their research and reflect on contemporary development issues. In conjunction with

this, a roundtable on “Emerging donors” was held with representatives from the Hungarian NGOs KulturAfrica and the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

EADI Podcast Series

In 2025, the third season of the ‘Hierarchies of Development’ podcast, a collaboration with the Department of International Development at King’s College London, and the Developing Economics Blog, was launched. The following episodes are available on EADI’s website



- Episode 1: Theology of Liberation in Latin America, and Freire’s Pedagogy of the Oppressed
- Episode 2: The Bandung spirit in the 1950s and beyond
- Episode 3: The Tricontinental and the Arts
- Episode 4: Black radical politics and Pan-Africanism

More details can be found on the EADI website: <https://www.eadi.org/news/podcast-hierarchies-of-development>

Workshop for Professionals

[Sustainability Science Meets Development Studies: How Can Synergies Between Both Research Programs Be Strengthened?](#)

On 29 February, EADI held a panel at the Sustainability Summit organized by the German Committee Future Earth in Berlin. The panel assembled an audience interested in the intersection of Development Studies and sustainability sciences. Discussions showed that there exist considerable synergies and complementarities between Development Studies and sustainability science. These connections can and need to be harnessed in more purposeful collaborations.

[Preparing the international development job market for the future – integrating perspectives and knowledge from recent graduates, training institutions and employers.](#)

In this workshop held in cooperation with IDOS and SLE on 24 March 2025 in Bonn, employers and representatives

of postgraduate programmes in Germany got together. The following issues were discussed:

- What motivates young professionals to (not) pursue a career in international development? What do they expect from their employer and their study programme?
- What are the trends across study programmes? How have students’ expectations changed over time, and how have institutions responded? What new skills and competences should be considered in light of changes in the profession?
- What are the trends in the professional field, especially with regard to entry positions and young candidates? How have organisations already responded to these trends? How can organisations (and traditional jobs) become more attractive to young graduates?

This workshop is intended to be developed as a series of one event per year, the next one is scheduled for 12 October 2026 in Berlin.

EADI Accreditation Initiative

The International Accreditation Council for Global Development Studies and Research (IAC/EADI), as the professional European organisation of institutes and professionals in the field of development, wishes to proactively shape the process of accreditation and quality assurance what Global Development Studies is



concerned. To this end, it has developed a state-of-the-art quality assurance (QA) and accreditation system that takes the specific nature of Global Development Studies into account. The International Accreditation Council for Global Development Studies and Research (IAC/EADI) is the independent council of EADI in charge of the system. Since 2011, 17 programmes have been accredited.

IAC/EADI works in close collaboration with the EADI Secretariat in Bonn. The main purpose of IAC/EADI is to promote the quality of Global Development training programmes both in the North and the South.

IAC/EADI accreditation either stands on its own as a voluntary evaluation and accreditation system or can be complementary to existing national systems which are in place in Europe and beyond. Accreditation by IAC/EADI may, in certain cases, be formally recognised by national accreditation authorities. The QA standards and criteria used by IAC/EADI are state-of-the-art and in line with the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area as issued by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). In early 2013, IAC/EADI became a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). IAC also offers cluster accreditations in cooperation with NVAO (Netherlands) and Aqas (Germany).

The IAC/EADI Council is chaired by Liisa Laakso (Nordic Africa Institute). Further members are Tom de Herdt (IOB, Antwerp), Nazneen Kanji (Independent Researcher, Trustee of INTRAC), Sergio Tezanos Vasquez (Universidad de Cantabria), Maggi Leung (University of Amsterdam), Carina Videgain (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México), Joost Mönks (independent advisor) and Susanne von Itter (EADI). For 2026, one full accreditation and two joint re-accreditations with the NVAO are planned.

For more information, please go to: www.eadi.org/accreditation.

Publications and Information Systems

EADI has several communication channels: The European Journal of Development Research (EJDR) is published five times a year; the fortnightly EADI e-newsletter contains news from EADI and its members and partners highlighting research from EADI members; the EADI website offers a wealth of information on development issues; EADI's social media channels serve to disseminate news about research and events; and, finally, the EADI Book Series presents research undertaken in the Working Groups and the association.

European Journal of Development Research (EJDR)

The EJDR is a multi-disciplinary journal that seeks to broaden understanding of the processes that advance or impede human development. Articles published take a variety of viewpoints, including political, economic, sociological, and anthropological perspectives. It examines challenges that face developing countries and the developed world. The Impact Factor increased from 2.5 in 2022 to 2.6 in 2024. The journal caters to an international readership of academics and practitioners and is the official journal of EADI. All institutional EADI members benefit from a printed copy of the journal, and premium and individual members receive additional online access.

The European Journal of Development Research (EJDR)

recognises the need to provide a forum for the publication of original and high-quality research by individuals who are early in their research career. For that reason, EJDR's Early-Career Researchers initiative has been designed to assist with the understanding of this process. It is a 'supported learning' submissions route for early-careers authors, to help fulfil their potential. The EJDR also offers online Open Access Articles and thematic collections regularly, which are available online for a limited period of time. Talia Vela Eiden is the managing editor since August 2024.

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/journal/41287>

EADI Global Development Series

Since 2012, EADI has partnered with Palgrave Macmillan to publish a book series focused on important contributions to the literature on both theoretical and practical development research. The editors of the series are Isa Baud (Prof. em. University of Amsterdam) and Pedro Goulart (CAPP, Lisbon). In 2025, Jacob Jordaan, Utrecht University School of Economics) and Tobias Denskus (Malmö University) joined the editorial team.



Call for Book Proposals

Development Studies is a multi- and interdisciplinary field of study, reflecting the multi-disciplinary character of EADI membership. The book series aims to better understand the interplay between social, economic, political, technological, ecological, cultural and gendered aspects of societal change at the local, national, regional and global levels. It focusses on the link between theory, policy and practice.

The series editors invite manuscripts across all disciplines which address these questions. Proposals or inquiries at:

bookproposals@eadi.org

The European Journal of Development Research

- Explores processes that advance or impede human development
- Covers development research from political, economic, sociological and anthropological perspectives
- Examines challenges that developing countries and the developed world face

The European Journal of Development Research (EJDR) redefines and modernises what international development is, recognising the many schools of thought on what human development constitutes. It encourages debate between competing approaches to understanding global development and international social development. The journal is multidisciplinary and welcomes papers that are rooted in any mixture of fields including (but not limited to): development studies, international studies, social policy, sociology, politics, economics, anthropology, education, sustainability, business and management. EJDR explicitly links with development studies, being hosted by European Association of Development Institutes (EADI) and its various initiatives.

The European Journal of Development Research embraces a critical use of quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods. The research methods used in the journal's articles make explicit the importance of empirical data and the critical interpretation of findings. Authors can use a mixture of theory and data analysis to expand the possibilities for global development. Data use in the journal ranges broadly from narratives and transcripts, through ethnographic and mixed data, to quantitative and survey data.

The European Journal of Development Research encourages papers which embody the highest quality standards, and which use an innovative approach. We urge authors who contemplate submitting their work to the EJDR to respond to research already published in this journal, as well as complementary journals and books. We make special efforts to include global voices, and notably voices from the global South. Queries about potential submissions to EJDR can be directed to the Editors.

EJDR Special Issue 2025

Volume 37, Issue 2

Special Issue – The Future of Development Studies

Guest Editors: Andy Sumner, Pritish Behuria

The 2025 editorial team comprised:

- *Spencer Henson (Editor in Chief), University of Guelph, Canada*
- *Jose Cuesta, World Bank Group, USA*
- *Pritish Behuria, The University of Manchester, UK*
- *Jorge García-Arias, University of León, Spain*
- *Tewodaj Mogues, International Monetary Fund, Washington, USA*
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- *Mariz Tadros, Institute of Development Studies, UK*
- *Bjorn Van Campenhout, IFPRI & KU Leuven, Belgium*
- *Natascha Wagner, Radboud University, The Netherlands*
- *Fiona Yap, The University of Adelaide, Australia*



The latest additions to the series were:

Social Accountability Initiatives in Morocco, Tunisia, and Lebanon. Civic Innovation in the Arab World after 2011 (Open Access)

Editors: Ward Vloeberghs, Sylvia I. Bergh

Equity in Covid-19. Mitigation and Policy Responses in Africa (Open Access)

Editors: Anika Altaf, Dzodzi Tsikata, Gertrude Dzifa Torvikey, Marleen Dekker

Plurinational and epistemic justice The challenges of intercultural education in Ecuadorian Amazonia (Open Access)

Editors: Ruth Arias-Gutiérrez, Paola Minoia

<https://www.eadi.org/publications/eadi-book-series>

EADI Blog: Debating Development Research

Since its launch in October 2018, the EADI Blog “Debating Development Research” has constantly grown its readership and has become well established in the community. In 2025, it hosted 47 new posts, ten of them as a continuation of the “Share your Decolonising Story” series and another ten in the “Trump and Development” series.

Here is a selection of the most-read posts:

In Defence of Development Studies: Why “Global Development” Falls Short

07 January by Alfredo Saad-Filho

What Challenges for Global Development Research are Posed by a More Decolonial Approach?

04 February by Laura Camfield

What is the Saliency of Arthur Lewis’ Ideas for Understanding Global Inequality Today?

04 March by Andy Sumner

Global AND International Development against all Inequalities

15 April by Alessandra Mezzadri

“Vulnerable Research” in a Time of Climate Change and Coloniality

06 May by Charlotte Weatherill

The End of Development Aid?

30 May by Aram Ziai

Decolonizing Expertise: Reflections on Power, Knowledge, and Governance in International Organizations (IOs)

17 June by Marine Gauthier

Development in the Trump Era: What’s Next for Global Development Cooperation?

29 July by Andy Sumner and Stephan Klingebiel

Merit, Meritocracy, and Decolonising Knowledge for Development

26 August by Amitabha Sarkar

Finding Hope amidst the Ruins – Building a New Narrative for Development Cooperation

11 November by Peter Taylor



Website

Regularly updated and maintained by the Secretariat team, the website features the latest EADI news and links to all member institutions and Working Groups. The Association’s web presence has proved to be an important information channel for both members and the general public. Each premium member is featured through an extended page with dedicated news. The EADI website is an established online research communication channel which presents the collective knowledge and expertise of EADI’s member institutes. The website was relaunched with a new design and structure in April 2022. EADI news and activities are also featured on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Mastodon. In 2024, EADI joined BlueSky.

Newsletter

The EADI eNewsletter is an efficient and frequently visited information service helping EADI members as well as the general public to stay informed about the development research community. It features news from EADI, members and partners, from EADI Working Groups, news on training courses, calls for papers, job offers and conferences.

Membership

EADI had the pleasure of admitting several new members to the Association, and we assemble 115 institutional members and 180 individual and student members from 27 countries. While we welcome them to EADI, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat consider the membership drive as a continuous task to increase the number of member institutes, associates and individuals. Currently, 16 institutes are Premium Members of EADI and enjoy enhanced visibility on EADI’s website and newsfeeds.

In Memoriam

Marja-Liisa Swantz (1926 - 2025)

Marja-Liisa Swantz (née Aro), a pioneering figure in Finnish development research, passed away on May 19, 2025, in Lahti, Finland, at the age of 99. Born on February 22, 1926, in Kuopio, she lived a life marked by courage, intellectual curiosity, and a deep commitment to social justice. Marja-Liisa Swantz was a pioneering scholar whose professional life helped shape the field of Development Studies in Finland and beyond. After graduating from the University of Helsinki in 1947, she pursued an academic path that combined anthropology, theology, and social research. Her doctoral work, completed in 1970 at Uppsala University, examined the symbolism of women's rituals among the Zaramo people in Tanzania, reflecting her long-standing engagement with East African societies.

Swantz held teaching positions at the University of Dar es Salaam and later at the University of Helsinki, where she influenced generations of students. Upon returning to Finland in 1975, she became instrumental in institutionalizing Development Studies, serving as the first Director of the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Helsinki, established in 1981. She later worked as a senior researcher at the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER).

Her research was distinguished by its participatory approach, particularly in the Jipemoyo project (1975–1980), which emphasized collaboration between researchers and local communities. Swantz challenged conventional hierarchies of knowledge, advocating for the integration of local perspectives into academic inquiry. Her work earned international recognition and left a lasting impact on interdisciplinary research and development practice.

Lauri Siitonen (1954 - 2026)

Dr. Lauri Siitonen (1954–2026) was a dedicated scholar of international development cooperation whose professional life was defined by intellectual curiosity, rigorous research, and a deep commitment to teaching. Educated at the University of Turku, where he earned his Master's degree in 1982 and later his doctorate in 2005, Siitonen devoted his career to understanding the political dynamics underpinning global development.

He worked across several universities, including Helsinki, Jyväskylä, and Luxembourg, often in fixed-term academic roles. Regardless of position, he consistently embodied the Humboldtian ideal of integrating research and teaching, engaging students with the same questions that drove his scholarly work. His research focused on the complexities of international development cooperation, particularly the relationships between states and the paradigms shaping these interactions.

A constructivist in his approach, Siitonen emphasized that development cooperation was not merely a transfer of resources, but also a process through which donor countries—especially smaller ones—shape and express their international identities. His insights contributed significantly to academic debates in the field.

Beyond research and teaching, Siitonen was an active member of the academic community. He served as Executive Director of RISC, chaired the Finnish Society for Development Research, and contributed to European research networks, leaving a lasting professional legacy.

Annex

Membership (31.12.2025)

Austria	3
Belgium	3
Croatia	1
Czech Republik	3
Denmark	4
Finland	3
France	9
Greece	0
Hungary	2
Ireland	2
Italy	5
Malta	3
Netherlands	15
Norway	5
Poland	1
Portugal	2
Romania	1
Slovenia	2
Spain	8
Sweden	5
Switzerland	4
Turkey	0
United Kingdom	17
Total	115

New EADI Institutional Members 2025/26

Department of Geography, University of Bonn, Germany

IDHUS, Institute for the Development of Human Societies, Spain

Centre of African Studies CAS, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh

School of Social Science, Friedensau Adventist University

Funders and Sponsors 2025

EADI and members gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following institutions:

- International Foundation of Savings Bank Bonn
- The City of Bonn
- The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

and all EADI members.

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- AISSR–Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research, The Netherlands
- CAPP – Centre for Administration and Public Policies, Portugal
- CESA – Centre for African and Development Studies, Portugal
- CICOPS – Università di Pavia, Italy
- CMI – Chr. Michelsen Institute; Norway
- DEval – German Institute for Development Evaluation
- ECDPM – European Centre for Development Policy Management, The Netherlands
- Faculty of Society and Economics, Rhine Waal University of Applied Science, Germany
- IDS – Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, United Kingdom
- IDOS – German Institute for Development and Sustainability

- IHE – Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands
- ISS –International Institute of Social Studies, The Netherlands
- King’s International Development Institute, United Kingdom
- NORAGRIC – Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Norway
- OEFSE – Austrian Foundation for Development Research

Income Statement for the Fiscal Year from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 (EUROS)

	2024		2025	
1. Income				
a. Members' contributions	85,794.00		94,664.00	
b. Basic grants	192,500.00		200,000.00	
c. Publications EJDR	76,241.23		60,855.43	
d. Other publications	14.05		2,505.26	
e. Other	2,029.81	356,579.09	5,960.62	363,985.31
2. Income projects		0,00		40,195.78
Total income		356,579.09		403,961.88
3. Expenses core business				
a. Personnel expenses (core staff)	-234,470.71		-238,486.02	
b. Rent and ancillary expenses	-9,097.13		-11,005.02	
c. Travel expenses	-13,572.08		-5,585.30	
d. Depreciation of fixed assets	0,00		-450.83	
e. Office expenses / stationary	-5,702.87		-4,903.38	
f. Communication costs	-12,956.05		-9,122.60	
g. Insurances	-2,037.74		-2,104.96	
h. Bank charges	-781.04		-904.21	
i. Contributions	-2,590.00		-2,439.15	
j. Accounting	-1,727.20		-2,160.00	
k. Legal and professional fees	-7,370.23		-9,107.50	
l. Publications EJDR	-34,125.46		-34,203.59	
m. Other Publications	0,00		-3,201.10	
n. Studies / events	-20,485.43		-16,399.42	
o. EADI working groups	-14,914.87		-15,458.35	
p. Other operating expenses	-112.35	-359,943.16	0.00	-355,531.43
4. Project-related expenses		0,00		-40,195.78
Total expenses		-359,943.16		-395,727.21
5. Operating result		-3,364.07		8,453.88
6. Consumption of the last year's earmarked reserves		148,934.74		145,570.67
7. Transfer into the earmarked reserves		-145,570.67		-154,024.55
8. Net result for the year		0.00		0.00

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025 (EUROS)

Assets	2024	2025	Equity & Liabilities	2024	2025
A. Fixed assets			A. Equity		
Office equipment	0.00	0.00	Earmarked reserves	145,570.67	154,024.55
B. Current assets			B. Other Accruals	14,192.36	11,188.67
Cash and cash equivalents	271,801.26	258,839.96	C. Liabilities		
	271,801.26	197,207.12	1. Trade accounts payable	123.70	0.00
			2. Other liabilities	51.64	199.63
				175.34	199.63
			D. Deferred income	111,862.89	93,427.11
				271,801.26	258,839.96

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