



MINISTRY FOR
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

MINISTER

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“ 22 ” March 2019, Budapest

Subject: Reply to the position paper of the European Academy of Science, Lisbon Academy of Science and the Portuguese Academy of Engineering

Dear Presidents,

Thank you for sending the position paper of the European Academy of Science, Lisbon Academy of Science and the Portuguese Academy of Engineering in which you expressed your concerns about the independence of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) and its funding system. Please let me respond to your letter as the minister responsible for coordination of science policy.

The Hungarian Government considers the autonomy and freedom of science and research to be of vital importance. The autonomy of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and its research institutes is guaranteed by Article 10 of the Fundamental Law of Hungary and is therefore inviolable.

Domestic research activities have a serious tradition in our country which comes together with a public confidence from the society therefore it deserves special attention. Thus the shaping and persistent developing of the research, development and innovation (RDI) environment is a top priority for us.

In line with the above the renewed research funding system is to be supporting a research institution network which can be more efficient in generating synergies with other members of the innovation ecosystem.

The intention of the Hungarian government is to give, rather than take anything away from the researchers. We stand by the scientific community and would like to create a better functioning system which provides conditions for enabling them to reach higher performance.

I am respectfully hoping to have your intellectual partnership in fulfilling this process. I would greatly appreciate your cooperation and trust as we strive to accomplish results in this field.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Dr. László Palkovics
Minister for Innovation and Technology

