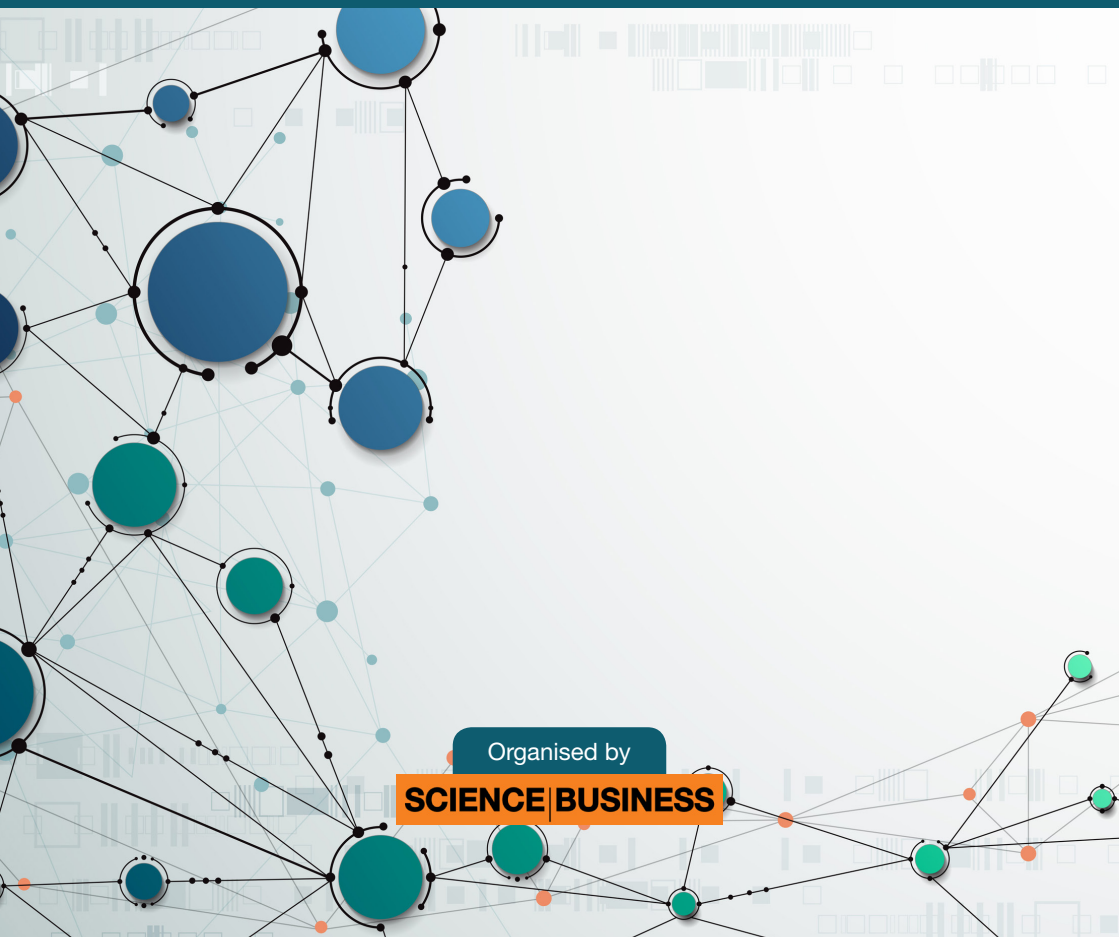




Stimulating Excellence:

How to get more bottom-up research across the EU

20 March 2017, Stanhope Hotel





Jean-Pierre Bourguignon

President, European Research Council (ERC)

Jean-Pierre Bourguignon has been the president of the ERC since 1 January 2014. From 1994 to 2013 he was the director of the Institute of Advanced Scientific Studies, near Paris, which is the European counterpart to the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. Bourguignon was also the first ERC panel chair for starting grants in mathematics. A mathematician by training, he spent his whole career as a fellow of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and held a professor position at École Polytechnique from 1986 to 2012.



Stipan Jonjic

ERC Grantee; Professor and Chairman of the Department for Histology and Embryology; Chair of the Center for Proteomics, University of Rijeka

Stipan Jonjic undertook his Ph.D. in Rijeka and Tuebingen (Germany), working in the field of immunology. Most of his research focused on elucidating antiviral immune response and viral immunoevasion mechanisms. He worked as a principal investigator on numerous projects, including an EU ERC Advanced Grant and US National Institutes of Health R01 grant. From 1999 to 2003 he was the dean of the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka. In 2012 he became a member of German National Academy of Science Leopoldina.



Stefania Milan

ERC Grantee; Assistant Professor of New Media and Digital Culture, University of Amsterdam

Stefania Milan is the principal investigator of DATACTIVE, a five-year research project exploring the evolution of citizenship and participation vis-à-vis datafication and massive data collection. She is currently assistant professor of new media at the University of Amsterdam and associate professor of media innovation (II) at the University of Oslo. Milan previously worked at the Central European University, the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies, Tilburg University, and the Citizen Lab/Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto.



Ilona Riipinen

ERC Grantee; Associate Professor at the Department of Environmental Science and Analytical Chemistry, Stockholm University

Ilona Riipinen is an associate professor at the Department of Environmental Science and Analytical Chemistry (ACES), Stockholm University. She has received the Sheldon K. Friedlander Award from the American Association for Aerosol Research (AAAR), the Smoluchowski Award from the German Association for Aerosol Research, and the Early Career Scientist Award of the International Union for Geodesy and Geophysics. She co-coordinates the research area “Clouds, aerosols, turbulence and climate” in the Bolin Centre for Climate Research.



Peter Seeberger

ERC Grantee; Director, Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces

Peter H. Seeberger completed a Ph.D. in biochemistry in Boulder (USA). After performing research at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York he built an independent research program at MIT where he was promoted to Firmenich Associate Professor of Chemistry with tenure. After six years as professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, he assumed positions as director at the Max-Planck Institute for Colloids and Surfaces in Potsdam and professor at the Free University of Berlin in 2009. In addition, he serves as honorary professor at the University of Potsdam.



Stefan Bengtsson

President and CEO, Chalmers University of Technology

Stefan Bengtsson has been president and CEO of Chalmers University of Technology since August 2015. He is professor of solid-state electronics, with a research interest in micro- and nano-electronics, primarily silicon-based materials and devices. In his academic career he has held positions at Chalmers University of Technology and Malmö University, as well as being a visiting professor at the Institute National Polytechnique in Grenoble, France. Bengtsson has considerable academic leadership experience from being vice-chancellor at Malmö University (2011-2015), and multiple roles at Chalmers including being a department head, vice president/pro-rector (2007-2011) and deputy CEO (2009-2011).



Klaus Bock

Vice-President, European Research Council

Klaus Bock was elected vice president of the European Research Council in 2015. Appointed head of research at Carlsberg Research Centre in 1992, from 2001 to 2007 he was executive vice president for research of Carlsberg A/S. From 2004 to 2012 Bock was chairman of the Danish National Research Foundation, as well as deputy chairman of the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation from 2005 to 2013, and president of the Danish Academy of Technical Sciences between 2009 and 2011. Bock has been a member of the Standing Selection Committee for the Network of Centres of Excellence in Canada since 2010, and was champion for Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2014, held in Copenhagen.



Gunnar Bovim

Rector, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

Gunnar Bovim became rector of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in 2013. After serving as vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine at NTNU (1996-1998), Bovim became dean of the faculty from 1999 to 2005. In this position, he built a reputation as an advocate for the public dissemination of research, and as a mentor for promoting women in science. He has also served as vice chief executive of St. Olavs Hospital (2005-2006), chief executive officer of St. Olavs Hospital, the University Hospital in Trondheim (2006-2009), and chief executive officer of the Central Norway Regional Health Authority (2009-2013) before assuming the position of rector at NTNU.



Alessandro Curioni

IBM Fellow, Vice President Europe and Director IBM Research, Zurich

Alessandro Curioni is an IBM fellow and the vice president of Europe and director of the IBM Research lab in Zurich. He was also recently appointed as the Watson Internet of Things Research Relationship Executive. Curioni is a world recognised leader in the area of high performance computing and computational science where his innovative thinking and seminal contributions have helped solve some of the most complex scientific and technological problems in healthcare, aerospace, consumer goods and electronics. He was a member of the winning teams recognised with the prestigious Gordon Bell Prize in 2013 and 2015.



Mircea Dumitru

Rector, University of Bucharest

Mircea Dumitru was the rector of the University of Bucharest between 2011 and 2015, and has been reelected as the rector of the University of Bucharest for the period 2015-2019. Dumitru was the Romanian Minister of Education and Scientific Research from July 2016 until January 2017. He was the president of the European Society of Analytic Philosophy (2011-2014), and is a member of the International Institute of Philosophy (Paris). In 2014 he was elected a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy. The author of several books and many papers, Dumitru is currently editing a book on "The Philosophy of Kit Fine", which is forthcoming with Oxford University Press.



Andreas Ebert

National Technical Officer, Microsoft

Andreas Ebert is a national technical officer for Microsoft in the EU. In this occupation, he is responsible for the ongoing dialogue with policy decision makers on technology policy matters with long term societal impact, like interoperability, standardisation, security, identity, and privacy. In this capacity, Ebert is a member of multiple advisory and expert groups in Brussels. He actively exchanges ideas in research projects and contributes to European technology policy projects. Before joining the European Technology Office team, Ebert was a general manager for the Microsoft subsidiary in Austria (2001-2004), leading the efforts for the company in three markets (consumer, SMEs and large enterprises).



Ben Feringa

Group Leader, Feringa Group, University of Groningen; Winner of the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Ben L. Feringa obtained his Ph. D. at the University of Groningen, where he was appointed full professor in 1988, after working as research scientist for Shell. Under his guidance, the Feringa group has developed extensive expertise in the fields of organic chemistry, nanotechnology and asymmetric catalysis. His discovery of the molecular motor ranks highly among the many discoveries made over the years and won the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.



Alain Fuchs

President, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)

Alain Fuchs was appointed president of CNRS by the French Council of Ministers in January 2010, and reappointed in February 2014 for a further four-year term. Director of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Paris since 2006, Fuchs was also president of the physical chemistry division of the French Society of Chemistry and the French Society of Physics from 2002 to 2005. Fuchs is an officer of the National Order of Merit and of the National Order of Quebec (2014), and a knight of the French Legion of Honour (2010) and the Order of Academic Palms (1996). He is a member of the Academia Europaea and a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.



Filipe Guimarães da Silva

Chief of Staff of the Secretary of State for Science, Technology and Higher Education

Filipe Guimarães da Silva holds a master degree in contemporary history from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa. As a researcher at the Institute of Contemporary History, he coordinated the project Work Package “Indicators for the measuring Scientific and Cultural Impact “ and “Memory for All”, a programme dedicated to the promotion of cultural history and heritage. He is a member of several research groups and has published work in the domains of economic and social history, history of industry and the history of the Portuguese Revolution.



Sylvie Goulard

Member, European Parliament

Sylvie Goulard has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2009. Reelected in 2014 for the South East constituency of France, she sits in the group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). She is a member of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee (ECON), a substitute member of the Constitutional Affairs Committee (AFCO) as well as a substitute member of the money laundering, tax avoidance and tax evasion Committee of Inquiry (PANA). After her law studies, and having graduated from Sciences Po and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Goulard worked as a diplomat in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Conseil d'Etat. She has authored several books, including “L'Europe pour les Nuls” (2007), winner of the European Book Prize 2009. Goulard is currently president of the European Parliament Intergroup fighting against poverty which works to ensure that Europe's most deprived persons have a voice at the European level.



Detlef Günther

Vice President Research and Corporate Relations, ETH Zurich

Since 2015 Detlef Günther has served as vice president for research and corporate relations at ETH Zurich. Günther is also full professor in the department of chemistry and applied sciences, and chaired the department from 2010 to 2012. His research is focused on instrument and method development for high spatially resolved trace element analysis and isotope ratio determinations, using laser ablation and inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. In 2014 he was elected as member of the German National Academy of Science Leopoldina.



Richard L. Hudson

Editor-in-chief & Vice Chair of the Board, Science|Business

Richard Hudson has been a leading science and technology journalist in Europe for more than 30 years. As managing editor of The Wall Street Journal Europe from 1997 to 2003 he helped lead a redesign of the title in 2000. He co-founded Science|Business in 2004. He is also co-author of book with Yale/IBM “fractal” mathematician Benoit Mandelbrot: “The (mis)Behavior of Markets: A fractal view of a risk, ruin & reward”: Basic Books 2004. He is a graduate of Harvard, and a former Knight Fellow at MIT.



Eva Kondorosi

Vice-President, European Research Council

Eva Kondorosi is vice president of the European Research Council. Kondorosi was the founding director of the BAYGEN Institute (2007-2012) which is now part of the Biological Research Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Szeged, where she directs the Symbiosis and Functional Genomics Unit. She was a founding member of the Institut des Science Végétales CNRS. Her primary research field is Rhizobium-legume symbiosis. For her original discoveries she has received several awards, including the Széchenyi Prize and the IS-MPMI Award in 2012.



Helga Nowotny

Former President of the ERC; Professor Emerita, ETH Zurich

Helga Nowotny is professor emerita of social studies of science at ETH Zurich and former president of the European Research Council. She is a member of the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development, a foreign member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and continues to serve on many international advisory boards throughout Europe. Nowotny received doctorates *Honoris Causa* from several European universities and a Ph.D. *Honoris Causa* from the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel. She has published widely in science and technology studies and on social time.



Indrek Reimand

Deputy Secretary General for Higher Education and Research, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia

Indrek Reimand was appointed deputy secretary general for higher education and research, Estonian Ministry of Education and Research in 2012. Prior to this, he was the head of the Research Policy Department (2004-2012) in the Ministry, a position he moved to from the Estonian Information Technology Foundation where he was a member of the Executive Board. He is currently also chairman of the board of the Estonian Research Council, the main research financing organisation in Estonia, and member of the board of the Archimedes Foundation.



Paul Rübige

Member, European Parliament

Paul Rübige is full member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the Committee on Budgets, as well as substitute member of the Committee on Development. Rübige is very active in the field of small-scale business promotion. He is president of SME Global, a working group of the International Democrat Union (IDU), whose objective is to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and to improve their business environment. Since 2014 he has been the chairman of STOA (Scientific Technology Options Assessment), an official body of the European Parliament that is supported by external experts such as universities, scientists or research institutes.



Robert Schröder

Member of Cabinet to Commissioner Carlos Moedas, European Commission

Robert Schröder is a member of the Cabinet of Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation. Within the Cabinet, he is responsible for environment, climate action, energy and agriculture, as well as regulatory innovation, programming of Horizon 2020, and synergies with the structural funds. Before joining the Cabinet, Schröder worked in the DG for Research and Innovation on financial and regulatory innovation and the circular economy. In the DG for Environment (2011 – 2014), he was responsible for the development and implementation of the European Innovation Partnership on Water. Before joining the European Commission, he represented the Association of Dutch Drinking Water Companies and the Association of Dutch Regional Water Management Authorities at the European Union institutions.



Sabine Simmross

Assistant to the President, European Research Council

Sabine Simmross is the assistant to the President at the European Research Council. As such, she coordinates the relations with both internal as well as external stakeholders including the European Commission, the European Parliament and the EU Member States as well as the broader Scientific Community. Prior to the ERC, she worked for over five years in the field of foreign policy and assistance for the EU, the World Bank and the private sector. Simmross holds a MSc of European Politics and Policy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Robert-Jan Smits

Director General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Robert-Jan Smits is director-general for Research and Innovation at the European Commission. In this capacity, he is responsible for defining and implementing the EU policy and programmes in the field of research and innovation. Smits was one of the main architects and negotiators of Horizon 2020. He has also been instrumental in the development of several other policy initiatives in the field of European science and innovation such as the European Research Council and the European Roadmap for large-scale facilities. Smits is chairing several high-level committees such as European Research Area Committee (ERAC) and the Steering Committee of the ERC (ERCEA). He was recently presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by EuroScience.



Martin Stokhof

Vice-President, European Research Council

Martin Stokhof is vice president of the European Research Council as well as professor of philosophy of language at the Institute for Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC) and the Department of Philosophy of the University of Amsterdam. He is a member of the editorial boards of a number of leading international journals in the field of linguistics and philosophy. In 2006, he was elected as a member of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences, and in 2007, as a member of the Institut International de Philosophie (Paris). Stokhof was founding chairman of the HERA consortium, in which national funding organisations in the area of humanities co-operate in a European setting. Presently, he has a number of functions at the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences and the Dutch-Flemish accreditation organisation NVAO.



Tuula Teeri

President, Aalto University

Tuula Teeri is the first president of Aalto University, in post since 1 April 2009. Under her leadership Aalto University has implemented the tenure track career system for professors, renewed its educational offering and developed multidisciplinary research and educational initiatives. During her scientific career, she was a pioneer of forest industrial biotechnology and the development of biomimetic materials. Teeri has held research and leadership positions in different universities and research institutes. She is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, Technology Academy Finland, and the Swedish Academy of Technology in Finland. It was recently announced that she will take up a new position this Autumn as President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering.



Eric Vacaresse

Director of Scientific Relations (Europe), Sanofi

Eric Vacaresse was appointed director of initiatives and scientific relations (Europe), in October 2014. Vacaresse is in charge of getting in-depth knowledge of hubs of scientific excellence in Europe, and building networks of innovators to access great science and external innovations. He is a board member of different associations which promote open innovation for the benefit of patients. He holds a DEA in chemistry from University Pierre and Marie Curie and an executive master of health management and policy from Sciences Po, Paris. He was recently promoted for his work at Sanofi to the position of VP of the Alliance of Health Industries for Research and Innovation in France.



Carmen Vela Olmo

State Secretary for Research, Development and Innovation, Spain

Carmen Vela Olmo is the Spanish State Secretary for Research, Development and Innovation since January 2012. She was previously managing director at INGENASA, a biotechnology company based in Madrid specialising in animal health. A biochemist with more than 30 years of experience in immunology, virology and related fields, Vela has authored numerous publications and patent applications granted in the EU and the US. Among other responsibilities, she has been a member of the Advisory Group of PEOPLE (7th European Frame Programme) and the External Advisory Committee of EUREKA and was president of the Spanish Society for Biotechnology and the Spanish Association of Women Scientist & Technologist.

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