The European Fund for Strategic Investments is Threatening Research

Statement by the Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

Brussels, 5 June 2015. The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) welcomes the announcement that the European Research Council (ERC) and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions budget lines have been safeguarded following the political negotiations on the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). Basic science and education and mobility for researchers are vital instruments for scientists to conduct frontier research in Europe.

Yet, the BioMed Alliance expresses its strong concern over the €2.2bn that would still be diverted from Horizon 2020 to the EFSI. The biomedical research community warns that such significant cuts to Europe’s flagship programme for research and innovation will impact negatively upon the entire European research sector, with direct consequences on the EU ability to overcome societal challenges thanks to cutting edge research findings.

In addition, the distribution of cuts under Horizon 2020 remains vague. The political agreement on EFSI achieved so far, suggests that research budgets are seen as recourse for other projects and not as an absolute priority for European policy makers. The biomedical research community considers this unacceptable.

The BioMed Alliance calls on the European Parliament and the Council to reject the proposed cuts and do their utmost to protect the EU research budget in upcoming votes and negotiations.

Karin Sipido,

President of the Alliance of Biomedical Research in Europe
About The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) is a consortium of 21 member organizations, representing over 400,000 researchers and health professionals.

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) was founded by four major European academic medical societies namely the European Cancer Association (ECCO), the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD).

The BioMed Alliance is committed through its actions to promote excellence in European biomedical research and innovation with the goal of improving the health and well-being of all European citizens.

BioMed Alliance’s members:

European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL), European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM), European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS), European CanCer Organisation (ECCO), European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS), European Federation of Immunological Societies (EFIS), European Academy of Neurology (EAN), European Hematology Association (EHA), European League Against Rheumatism, (EULAR), European Respiratory Society (ERS), European Society for Paediatric Research (ESPR), European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA), European Society of Cardiology (ESC), European Society of Hypertension (ESH), European Society of Radiology (ESR), European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), United European Gastroenterology (UEG), European Academy for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI), European Society of Pathology (ESP)