



# Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

**The European Fund for Strategic Investments is threatening research**

## ***Statement by the Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe***

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) supports the European Commission's efforts to revitalize the European economy but **calls upon the European Parliament not to allow cuts in H2020 and to put research front and center.**

By diverting €2.7bn from Horizon 2020 to the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI), the European Commission intends to claim a very substantive amount from the budget for Europe's flagship for research and innovation that was hard-fought by the European Parliament with the support of the European science and research community.

Under the current proposal, The Biomed Alliance is very concerned for the decrease of funding opportunities in biomedical research, with major consequences for innovation and health care. Therefore, the Biomed Alliance calls upon the European Parliament to support the following recommendations:

First, cuts to the pillars of societal challenges and excellence, in particular to the highly successful European Research Council (ERC) should be reconsidered. The ERC's focus on frontier science including excellent basic biomedical research is vital for generating novel ideas and the only channel to support bottom-up non-directed research. This frontier research is the basis for future innovation in health and patient care. This will not be recovered under the EFSI because of its emphasis on SMEs, and actually undermines the very basis for the investment plans.

Second, research and innovation must be at the top of the EFSI priorities. If leverage is what the Commission wants, then investment in research, innovation and the education of researchers and scientists - especially in the field of biomedical research which is dedicated to diminishing the economic burden of disease – should be paramount.

We strongly believe that placing research and innovation front and center of the investment package, decision makers can tackle important societal challenges and drive economic growth and jobs. The basis for EFSI, promoting excellent science and innovative research through H2020, should be protected.

Karin Sipido,

President of the Alliance of Biomedical Research in Europe

#### Executive Committee

**President:** Prof. K. Sipido  
**Past- President:** Prof. U. Smith  
**President-Elect:** Prof. C. O'Morain  
**Treasurer:** Prof. L. Nicod

**Board Members:**  
Françoise Meunier  
Gustave Moonen  
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# Alliance for 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)

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