

ANNOUNCEMENT BY PROF. FOTIS C. KAFATOS, ERC PRESIDENT

After considerable reflection, I have decided to step down on the 1st of March 2010 from the position of Scientific Council Chair and President of the European Research Council. My commitment to the ERC and its Scientific Council, where I will continue to serve as a member, remains as strong as ever. However, it is now appropriate for me to focus on the continuity of the ERC, and to pass on the leadership of this outstanding organisation to another member of the Scientific Council.

As the founding President of the ERC, I have devoted to it much of the last 3 years – much more time and volunteer effort than what I had planned or expected. Correspondingly, I would like now to devote more time to my research laboratory at Imperial College, together with my scientific co-workers and colleagues there.

Of course I am delighted and proud by how much we have all achieved together already, for the ERC and for the European Research Area. I look forward to the continuing major accomplishments of the ERC. I take this opportunity to offer special thanks to the many persons who made possible the great success of our Research Council during these demanding and pioneer years. I am certain that these efforts and achievements will lead to the ERC consolidating its place as a world-class frontier research funding organisation, and to Europe becoming an even more attractive place to pursue research at the frontier of knowledge.

Prof. Fotis C. Kafatos

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