



**European
Research Council and
the societal impact
of frontier
research**

Aula Magna, Palazzo Bo
26th April 2017

The event, jointly organized by the University of Padova and by the European Research Council (ERC), will discuss the role of frontier research, such as the one funded by the ERC, in providing solutions to the societal challenges and in promoting innovation. It will be attended by members of the ERC Scientific Council and by leading figures in the Italian landscape of academia, research, industry, foundations, politics, media. After some short presentations by a few keynote speakers, who will introduce the subject from their different perspectives, ample time will be left for the discussion, which will involve members of the selected audience and the keynote speakers.

14:00 welcome

Rosario Rizzuto - Rector, University of Padova

Opening speech Paolo Gentiloni - Italian Prime Minister (t.b.c.)

14:20 introductory talks

Jean Pierre Bourguignon - ERC President *The impact of the ERC after its first 10 years*

Patrick Aebischer - Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne *Frontier research and innovation: the EPFL story*

Valentina Cauda - ERC Grantee, Politecnico di Torino *Frontier research and health: Trojanahorse*

Mario Monti - Chairman of EU High Level Group on Own Resources (t.b.c.) *Frontier research in the EU budget*

Vincenzo Boccia - President Confindustria, *The perspective of industry and investors* (t.b.c.)

15:35 discussion

moderated by Luca De Biase - Nova24:

- how to assess the societal impact of frontier research
- the role of frontier research in social sciences and humanities
- how to coordinate national and European policies for frontier research
- how to bridge the gap between frontier research and marketable innovation

16:50 concluding remarks

Rosario Rizzuto - Rector, University of Padova

Jean Pierre Bourguignon - ERC President