



European Research Council
Scientific Council

Established by the European Commission

Statement by ERC President Jean-Pierre Bourguignon regarding the EFSI budget agreement

29 May 2015

On the occasion of the agreement between the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union regarding the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), ERC President Jean-Pierre Bourguignon commented: *"The ERC Scientific Council welcomes the outcome of the negotiations on the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), in time for a final approval by the European Parliament in June. This compromise concerning the budget gives a clear sign that frontier research has an important role to play in Europe and that its support will always be given proper consideration. I would like to thank all parties involved for agreeing to safeguard the ERC budget. My special thanks go to Vice-President Kristalina Georgieva, Vice-President Jyrki Katainen, Commissioner Carlos Moedas and several members of the European Parliament for a constructive dialogue, and to numerous researchers and scientific organisations who mobilized themselves to get the voice of the scientific community heard. I see this decision as a vote of confidence for the ERC whose fundamental action is to select ambitious researchers on the basis of their most innovative ideas. It will allow the ERC to pursue its mission to make Europe more competitive and to enhance its capacity to attract top talent from near and afar."*