**Highlight:**

**ERC joins debate in the German Bundestag**

10 June 2015

Today, European Research Council (ERC) President Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon will deliver a speech at the Committee of Education, Research and Technology Assessment of the German Bundestag.

During the exchange, the Committee will discuss the role of European Research Council, as well as the national strategy for the European Research Area (ERA).

The European Commission's Deputy Director-General for Research and Innovation, Dr Wolfgang Burtscher, and the President of the German Rectors' Conference, Prof. Dr Horst Hippler, are also invited to talk during this session. The speeches will be followed by a Q&A session with members of the Committee.

On this occasion, Prof. Bourguignon said: "I am honoured to be invited to participate in this session in the Bundestag in Berlin, the city where the ERC was inaugurated over eight years ago. It signals that the ERC is recognised as a first-rate research funding organisation that helps make Europe more attractive to top talent." He added: "Since 2007, the ERC has supported 5,000 top researchers, contributing to strengthening the competitiveness of scientists working in Europe and boosting job creation in the EU research and innovation sector. We will celebrate this milestone next week in Brussels."

For more information, see the meeting agenda (in German).