



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Highlight

ERC Scientific Council gathers in Copenhagen

13 April 2016

Today, the governing body of the European Research Council (ERC) will gather in Copenhagen for a plenary session. Invited by the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science, ERC Scientific Council will also take the occasion to meet with Danish policy makers and members of the research community.

The Scientific Council will discuss new developments in the ERC research policy and the work programme for 2017. ERC President Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon will also meet with Ulla Tørnæs, the recently appointed Danish Minister for Higher Education and Science.

President Bourguignon commented: *"It is a pleasure for the ERC Scientific Council to hold this plenary meeting in Denmark, a country historically and presently at the forefront of scientific research that played a key role in the ERC's creation. It was in 2002 under the Danish EU Presidency that the first seeds of what has today become the ERC were planted."*

ERC Vice-President Prof. Klaus Bock, who is Danish, said: *"Denmark has fared well in the ERC competitions - almost 230 million euros have been awarded to some 130 top researchers based in Denmark since the birth of the ERC"*.

Background

The [European Research Council](#), set up by the European Union in 2007, is the first European funding organisation for excellent frontier research. Every year, it selects and funds the best, creative researchers of any nationality and age, to run projects based in Europe. The ERC also strives to attract top scientists from anywhere in the world to come to Europe. To date, the ERC has funded some 6,000 top researchers at various stages of their careers.

The ERC Scientific Council, composed of 22 distinguished scientists and scholars representing the European scientific community, is the independent governing body of the ERC. It meets around five times a year, and defines the scientific funding strategy of the ERC and methodologies to promote creativity and innovative research in Europe.

The ERC is led by the ERC President, Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon. It has a budget of over €13 billion for the years 2014 to 2020 and is part of the EU research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020, for which European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science Carlos Moedas is responsible.

Links

[ERC website](#)

[Press release](#) of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

ERC Press contacts

Madeleine Drielsma
Press and Communication advisor
Tel: +32 (0) 2 298 76 31
ERC-press@ec.europa.eu

Marcin Mońko
Press and Communication advisor
Tel:+32 (0) 2 296 66 44
ERC-press@ec.europa.eu