Identification process for new ERC Scientific Council members to be set up

Following the resignation of the ERC Scientific Council members Professor Manuel Castells, Professor Paul J. Crutzen and Professor Lord May of Oxford OM AC, for personal reasons, the Commission will put in place an independent and transparent procedure for identifying new members. They will be selected on the basis of the criteria set out in the Commission Decision establishing the European Research Council of 2 February 2007 (2007/134/EC, Annex I). It is expected that a renewed membership will be announced by the European Commission early 2009.

President F. Kafatos said: "I would like to sincerely thank Professor Castells, Professor Crutzen and Professor Lord May for their loyal service as Scientific Council members. We greatly appreciate their invaluable contributions to our work and the significant amount of time and energy they have invested in their functions. We respect their decisions to withdraw at this point in time and wish them all the best for the future."

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