

## All European Academies Joint Declaration “15 Years of Lisbon Agenda”

*issued at the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon, Portugal, on 23 April 2015*

**We, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA)**, bringing together eminent scientists and scholars from 58 member academies in over 40 countries from the Council of Europe region, on the occasion of the ALLEA General Assembly in Lisbon on 23/24 April 2015,

- *express* our conviction that the aims of the Lisbon Agenda and its successor, the Europe 2020 Strategy, remain necessary for sustainable economic growth, environmental balance, social cohesion and long-term prosperity in Europe,
- *welcome* that the majority of these targets continue to be incorporated into the current Europe 2020 strategy, particularly the aim to achieve a knowledge-based society and economy through fostering science, research and innovation,
- *assert* that a European Research Area must follow the principles of excellent research and science-led innovation encompassing both fundamental and applied research
- *realise* that the objectives of the Lisbon Agenda and Europe 2020 have not yet been fully achieved,
- *note* with great concern that recent proposals of the European Institutions towards boosting job creation and accelerating economic recovery entail significant cuts to the budget for research and innovation in Europe,
- *believe* that these cuts are not in the best interest of realising the goals established with the Lisbon Agenda and now reflected within the Europe 2020 Strategy,
- *affirm* the need to strengthen the role of evidence-based advice in the European Union’s decision-making process, namely by improving its institutional design, in order to deliver adequate responses to the multiple and complex challenges the EU is facing in this critical period of its history.

**ALLEA therefore appeals both to the policymakers in the European Institutions and to the Member States** to follow through on the measures that are required for achieving the aims that were set out in the Lisbon Agenda and the Europe 2020 Strategy, namely to

- 1) continue to support the excellent Horizon 2020 programme at the level originally agreed in the Multiannual Financial Framework and increase Member States financial contributions into basic research and development in order to create conditions that will help to improve Europe’s position at the forefront of research,**
- 2) work to develop scientific and research capacity – in both applied and basic research – in all European countries such that they can each contribute to advances that tackle the challenges which Europe is facing today,**
- 3) support and nurture the development of a generation of early career researchers and provide them with sustainable career opportunities,**
- 4) foster and enable entrepreneurship and private sector opportunities based on excellent science and research, especially for early career researchers,**
- 5) take steps to enable and promote scientific excellence in Europe and therewith boost its international competitiveness, such as through the enhancement of the European Research Council,**
- 6) improve existing and develop new sustainable research infrastructures capable of keeping pace with innovation and thereby promote cutting-edge research,**
- 7) build a system for reliable and impartial evidence-based policy advice in order to ensure that policy decisions are taken on the basis of scientific data and rational arguments.**