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Dr Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission
Berlaymont
1049 Brussels

05 November 2020

Rescue Horizon Europe - No cuts in the EU's research budget

Dear President von der Leyen,

Alongside 49 Members of the European Parliament from all sides of the political spectrum, we voice our concerns about the research budget in the upcoming MFF. We are expressing our support for the open letter of dozens of researchers, including seven Nobel Prize winners, calling for a stop to the proposed cuts to Horizon and other key pillars of European research that was sent to you yesterday. We are forwarding you their letter with personal accounts of how important EU funding is for the future of high-level research in Europe.

It would be a historic mistake, given the profound challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, the climate crisis, and the ongoing technical and digital revolutions to weaken Europe's position as an attractive location for world-leading research in the years to come. European universities and research institutes need to remain competitive with North America and East Asia, for this sufficient EU funding is necessary.

We trust in your leadership on this crucial issue for the future of the EU. Research ought to be a key priority of your Commission. We therefore hope for your support in the current trilogue negotiations.

Respectfully yours,



Prof. Dr. Sven Simon



Christian Doleschal



Dr. Christian Ehler

Supported by the following Members of the European Parliament:

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