

Dear Council Delegates,

You may have learned that the European Commission has launched a 315 billion Euro Investment Plan for Europe. In order to finance this plan, the EC is proposing to take 2.7 billion Euro from Horizon 2020. Among the cuts in H2020, 544 million Euro will come from the 'Excellent Science pillar, including a 221 million Euro reduction in the budget of the European Research Council.

More information on the investment plan is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/jobs-growth-investment/plan/financing/index_en.htm#efsi

More information on the impact on H2020 is available here:

<http://horizon2020projects.com/policy-research/eit-and-erc-expected-to-lose-millions-in-juncker-investment-plan/>

The EPS Executive Committee would like to express its concerns to the European Commission, stating that support for basic scientific research is essential for social and economic development, and that cutting funds for programmes such as the ERC is short sighted. We would like to provide our input as early as possible and we plan to reply to this proposal by sending the attached statement in support of basic research to President Juncker, to be accompanied by a letter from the EPS President. If you would like to register dissent for this statement, please let me know not later than 16 February 2015.

Best regards

David Lee

Secretary General

EPS

05 Feb 2015

Attached: [EPS short statement on funding basic science-final 2015-1.docx](#)