



To  
The President Designate of the European Commission  
Mr Jean-Claude Juncker  
1049 Brussels  
BELGIUM

4 July 2014

Dear President Designate of the European Commission,

As presidents of the pan-European academy (*Academia Europaea*) and the European academy networks – representing 58 academies of sciences and humanities in more than 40 countries from the Council of Europe region (ALLEA), the 25 national academies of science of EU Member States (EASAC), the national academies of engineering, applied sciences and technology from 21 European countries (Euro-CASE) and the 18 national academies of medicine and medical sections of national academies of sciences in Europe (FEAM) – we would like to bring to your attention the importance of the role of Chief Scientific Advisor (CSA) to the President of the European Commission from the perspective of Europe's senior scientists and scholars.

Over the past 2.5 years, we have on numerous occasions been able to collaborate with the current holder of the position of CSA, Prof. Anne Glover. We have come to greatly value Prof. Glover for her initiative on establishing a network of government scientific advisors across the EU, for bringing science (including social sciences, humanities and technology) foresight onto the agenda of the EU and its Member States, and for establishing a prominent public voice on issues of policy-relevant science – in particular the question of the acceptance of science innovation and technology by European societies.

We have come to the conclusion that the role of a CSA to the President of the European Commission is an indispensable element in all efforts of improving how outstanding European science and scholarship informs the EU's process of formulating policies for Europe. The science, research and innovation agenda of the EU calls for increased scientific (including social sciences and humanities) and technological input, not least for the sake of continued and sustainable economic growth in Europe. A senior academic with links to the science, research and technology communities of Europe who directly reports to the Commission President is needed to enable this contribution. The CSA will be in a position to provide valuable evidence-based advice to yourself and the Commission that meets the standard of independence, excellence and transparency. The CSA will also be able to give guidance on the scientific merit of publicly advocated policy positions of different groups – be they industry, civil society or academic. Furthermore, a CSA to the Commission President would be able to represent the EU within the emerging global network of scientific advisors.

We would therefore strongly recommend that the position of a CSA to the President of the European Commission be part of your team for the coming years. The academies and academy networks of Europe stand ready to support such a senior scientific advisor in providing the best available science for the best EU policies possible – for the benefit of the citizens of Europe.

Finally, we thank you for your consideration of this letter and we would be delighted to discuss this further at the start of your presidency.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Lars Walløe  
Academia Europaea President

Professor Günter Stock  
ALLEA President

Professor Jos W.M. van der Meer  
EASAC President

Professor Reinhard F. Hüttl  
Euro-CASE President

Professor Dermot Kelleher  
FEAM President