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## Letter to Reviewers

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**To: The International Committee for Reviewing the Romanian Scientific Research, The Government of Romania**

**Ref: The Decision of the Government of Romania #254/18.02.2003**

April 22, 2003

Dear Sirs,

We greet your being nominated by the Government of Romania to review the Romanian scientific research. We hope that your own scientific results do match those of many Romanian scientific researchers working in Romania, like the undersigned, thus qualifying you for the job. We do also hope that you, though being nominated and paid by the Government of Romania for this job, will do a proper review to help conserving and developing the scientific research in Romania.

We address you hereby with the basic issue of being aware that the Romanian scientific research suffers a continuous and persistent political process of destruction. The main cause resides in the research institutes, where the main research is carried on, being legally defined as economic agents. In addition, all salaries in these institutes are paid on a generalized research projects competition basis, something which is quite unique in the world and history. The research funds are very limited, they do not even cover salaries, speaking not of equipment, journal subscription, or reconditioning the infrastructure. The situation is worsened by a generalized corruption, lack of professionals in research policy and management, huge bureaucracy and an ever-pervading politicizing of the scientific research. Romania allots 0.2% of its GDP to scientific research, i.e. cca 80 millions \$ per year, and only half of this money arrives to research, at most. The remaining is wasted in various political and management actions, disguised in research, or diverted toward private enterprises which live on budget money of research. At the same time, Romania contributes cca 20% of its research budget to the European Union, while the average contribution of the member states is about 5%.

We do hope indeed that you kindly consider the situation described shortly herein in reviewing the state of the Romanian scientific research.

We wish you good success in this reviewal.

Sincerely.