



# ***Peer Review of the Ukrainian Research and Innovation System: the Ukrainian Reflection***

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## 7 KEY POLICY MESSAGES FROM THE PSF EXPERTS

- ***Ukraine's STI system needs ambitious reforms to boost its efficiency and impact (+strong governmental commitment to invest more)***
- ***The country needs to "innovate its path to growth"***
- ***Science in Ukraine should benefit society and the economy***
- ***Urgent decisions are needed to prioritise Ukraine's STI actions***
- ***STI institutions, funding and procedures need strong institutional revamp***
- ***Ukraine should push for the internationalisation of its STI system***
- ***The government and the STI community must take ownership and communicate on the STI reforms***

***UA: YES, these messages correspond to the goals of Governmental policy and the expectations of Ukrainian community***



## LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**1:** The National Board on the Development of S&T should work strategically in reforming the system of S&T in Ukraine on the basis of jointly defined priorities with all involved stakeholders (MESU, the future National Research Foundation and the National Academy of Sciences)

***UA: YES, the National Board is being established and will start its work in 2017. The National Research Foundation will start to fund in 2018***



**2:** The National Research Foundation should become a change-maker e.g. through a strong increase in the competitive funding of research projects

**UA: YES! Principle fields for NRF funding: centers of excellence, key laboratories, research universities, academic mobility. Next step: co-funding of applied studies together with business**

**However, budget of NFP can't be formed through reduce of existing funding of science in universities and of NASU**

**3:** The National Research Foundation should be internationally supervised for a guarantee of higher accountability

**UA: YES!**



**4:** An international peer review system for projects should be introduced to support the excellence and internalization of Ukrainian science

**UA: YES! All the “big” projects should be evaluated internationally**

**5:** Research universities should be identified in a post-factum approach over 5 years on the basis of international standards

**UA: YES! This correlates with the approach, adopted recently by the board of MESU**



**6:** A process of profiling and merging of universities should be induced

**UA: YES! MESU is already undertaking the corresponding measures**

**7:** All research organisations of the Academies of Science and universities should be entitled to their own discretionary use of third party funding

**UA: YES! Necessary amendments to legislation are prepared**



**8:** The NASU should concentrate its priority focus

**UA: MESU will strongly support the appropriate NASU activities. However, NASU is autonomous**

**9:** The NASU should make the organisation of its institutes' more effective through regular independent evaluation exercises

**UA: YES! A procedure of state attestation involving independent experts would serve this purpose**



**10:** The NASU is advised to initiate several science communication activities

**11:** The NASU should broaden the diversity of its human capital, with a particular focus on age and gender balance

**UA: MESU will strongly support the appropriate NASU activities for 10 and 11**





**12:** The NASU and universities should promote publications in international journals and downsize in-house publishing

**UA: YES! MESU prepares regulations, according to which publications in Scopus and Web of Science referred journals would be dominant for evaluation of universities, scientific institutions, scientists**



**13:** The Sectoral Academies of Science should be modernised drawing on the transformation model of the NASU

**UA: YES!**

**14:** The institutes in the sphere of MESU and other ministries should be evaluated and – depending on the obtained results of these assessments – restructured or dissolved

**UA: YES! Merging of 2 MESU institutes with universities is already in process**



**15:** Research careers should be stimulated through a mix of policy instruments (i.e. increase in salaries, exchange programmes etc.)

**UA: YES! A very successful call for junior scientists was organized by MESU in 2016**

**16:** Research administration should become leaner, ensure less red tape and get rid of inefficiencies and corruption

**UA: YES! The main tools toward this would be independent evaluation, open competition procedures for funding, participation in European programs**



## ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

**17:** The H2020 opportunities should be reaped through adequate accompanying support measures

**UA: YES! 61 retained grants for the teams with UA participation, €11.5 mln for UA scientists. Coordinative Center is established by Government**

**18:** Ukraine should become a member of COST and increase participation in EUREKA

**UA: YES! The problem is with the possibilities for funding of COST and EUREKA related activities**



**19:** Opportunities for international STI exposure, especially for junior and mid-career researchers, should be assured based on their contribution to research advancement

**UA: YES! Different tools are discussed together with junior researchers communities**

**20:** Access to national and international scientific infrastructures should be improved

**UA: YES! Current valuable proposals from JRS**



**21:** Cooperation with the scientific diaspora should be increased

**UA: YES! Representatives of scientific diaspora are already working in Identification committee**

**22:** The association to H2020 = source for policy learning

**UA: YES!**

**23:** International efforts in STI should be aligned with national priorities and strategies

**UA: YES! The National Board would be a principle body to take decisions in this area**



## **CONDUCTIVE FRAMEWORK FOR AN INNOVATION-DRIVEN ECONOMY**

**24:** A cross-gov. Innovation Strategy on priority domains for science- and tech-based innovation

**UA: YES! MESU and NASU treat the National Board as a natural platform for decisions in this area**

**25:** Representation of the Ministry of Economic Dev. and Trade and innovation actors in the National Board on the Development of S&T

**UA: YES! MEDT would be represented in National Board together with Ministry of Finance, NASU**



**26:** Establish a permanent working group on innovation under the National Board on the Development of S&T

**UA: YES!**

**27:** Realistic and effective innovation policy instruments should be identified

**UA: YES! A new legislation on innovations is being developed**





**28:** Innovation vouchers for internationalization and validation of innovation activities for companies

**29:** Science-industry mobility schemes

**30:** Cooperative projects between the public research sector and industry

**UA for 28-30: PRINCIPAL YES! Details are to be regulated within the new legislation on innovations**



MESU together with NASU, and university community had already prepared a draft Action plan for implementation of the New law “On Science”.

It would be corrected with account for recommendations of the Peer Review.



## KEY MESSAGE №1:

**Ukraine's STI system needs ambitious reforms coupled with strong governmental commitment to invest more.**

The target of **1.7% of public R&D expenditures/GDP** in the new Law “On Scientific and Technical Activity” should remain valid and support the STI reform agenda. Competitive research funding should gain relevance to reach 40% by 2022.



## Funding of academies and universities in 2017 according to draft State Budget (in UAH)

- **NASU** – 2 637 200 000  
Minimal additional demand – 681 000 000
- **Academy of medical sciences** – 1 317 700 000  
Minimal additional demand – 242 500 000
- **Academy of agricultural sciences** – 395 000 000  
Minimal additional demand – 317 000 000
- **Science in MESU universities** – 601 500 000  
Minimal additional demand – 89 500 000
- **State Fund of Fundamental Research** – 20 000 000  
Minimal additional demand – 80 000 000



Thanks to everybody who participated  
in the Peer Review process!