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MINISTRY  
OF EDUCATION AND  
SCIENCE OF UKRAINE

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Від 16.12.15 № 7-33-1103-15

На № \_\_\_\_\_ від \_\_\_\_\_

European Research Area and Innovation  
Committee  
Director-General for Research and  
Innovation  
Mr. Robert-Jan Smits

Dear Director-General

I would like to thank you for your letter of 9 September 2015. We are grateful for your interest and assistance in the implementation of a Peer Review of Ukrainian research and innovation system. Your support is highly appreciated.

We have determined the priority topics we would like to discuss. They are the following:

1. **Optimization of available policy instruments to support the national research system.** Which research areas are the most promising in Ukraine in terms of potential and trends of world science development? How effective is the established practice to support the national research system and new tools introduced by the Law «On scientific and technical activity»? What are the recommendations for improving these tools (in particular, the evaluation system of scientific results and scientific institutions, systems of institutional and project financing, research coordination system at national level, etc.)? What regulatory and institutional factors and practices hinder the researcher's mobility (cross-sectoral, internal and external mobility)? How scientists and researcher's mobility should be improved?

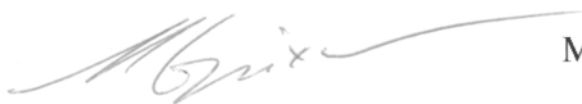
2. **Internationalization of research and integration of Ukraine into the European Research Area.** What factors hinder the complete integration of Ukraine into the ERA and what can be advised for neutralizing these factors? What are the priorities/priority steps for integration into the ERA, taking into account existing structure of scientific system? What research areas in Ukraine (in terms of available capacity and program structure) are of high priority in terms of participation in «Horizon 2020» consortia, and which tools should be used to improve the Ukrainian participation in the program? What mechanisms can be used to enhance the interest of Ukrainian SMEs to participate in a program? Which EU support programs (Commission's Structural Reform Support Service) can be effectively used in Ukraine?

3. **Role of science in Ukrainian innovations development.** Which sectors of Ukrainian economy are the highest priorities in terms of innovations implementation and which can mostly influence the further development of economy and society as a whole? What factors nowadays hinder the development of innovation system in Ukraine, efficient communication between the national research system and business? What are the recommendations for overcoming these factors, what support instruments should be established to ensure effective growth strategies?

We are looking forward to further information and details and hope for a fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Minister



Maksym Strikha