

# What Future for European Science?

## The Voice of the European Scientific Communities

Symposium, Vienna 30 October 2007

**Austrian Parliament  
Adjacent Building, Palais Epstein  
Dr.-Karl-Renner-Ring 1, 1010 Vienna**



**Die Einladungskarte gilt in Verbindung mit einem amtlichen Lichtbildausweis  
als Zutrittsberechtigung für das Palais Epstein.**

**You will have to show this invitation and a valid ID at the entrance of the Palais Epstein.**

## The Aim of the Symposium

The quality of European science and research depends on the inquisitiveness, imagination and visions of Europe's research communities. If researchers are to further develop and explore their ideas, a framework resting on policies fostered by the awareness and support of the public at large must be established. On the one hand, important financial investments are needed to build material infrastructure. On the other, specific pre-requisites must be met for first-rate science to evolve: independence of scientific research and support for the building of research networks.

Scientific research is key to confronting the challenges of the future. EUROSCIENCE aims to become a vital player in the development of the public's acceptance of research, as well as to increase science policy's and the economy's receptiveness toward research. The result should be an expansion of investment in research and the creation of a supportive environment, ensuring the independence of research.

## Agenda

- 14:00 - 14:15: **Welcome Address**  
MdP Alexander Zach, Member of the Parliamentary Commission for Research, Innovation and Technology
- 14:15 - 16:00 **Science and Knowledge**  
Chair: W. Gerhard Pohl, Euroscience Austria
- What is Socially Relevant Science?**  
Nico Stehr, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen
- What do Scientific Communities Need to Prosper? Some Reflections on 10 Years at the FWF (Austrian Science Fund)**  
Arnold Schmidt, Vienna University of Technology
- The ERC: Has a European Dream Come True? Preliminary Experience and Lessons**  
Helga Nowotny, Vienna
- Discussion
- 16:00 - 18:00 **Past and Future of Scientific Research in Europe: What the Research Communities Have to Say**
- What Euroscience Does for All Kinds of Science**  
Jean-Patrick Connerade, Imperial College London, Former President of EUROSCIENCE
- Panel discussion**  
Moderator: Ronald J. Pohoryles, ICCR  
Panelists: Raoul Kneucker, Helga Nowotny, Arnold Schmidt and Nico Stehr

## Speakers



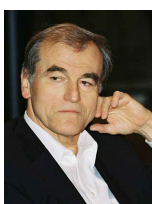
**Jean-Patrick Connerade**, the outgoing President of Euroscience, was born in 1943 and is both a French and British national. He has carried out research in atomic, molecular and cluster physics for over 35 years and has worked in Italy, Germany, France and (mostly) in the UK. He was the Honorary Treasurer of the Save British Science Society for 15 years, and is a fellow of the Institute of Physics, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and other associations. He currently chairs the Programme Committee of ESOF, and is a member of the external advisory group of the European Commission involved in the Marie Curie programme. His aim is to expand Euroscience and make it an effective voice of scientists in Europe, allowing them to better influence science policy in the future.



**Raoul Kneucker** is a professor honoris causa at the Institute of Political Sciences at the Leopold Franzens University in Innsbruck, Austria. He was the Director General of Directorate VI (Scientific Research and International Science Affairs) at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (BMBWK). He retired from the BMBWK on December 31, 2002. He was a lecturer at several Austrian, as well as foreign universities, and a guest professor at the University of Nebraska. He holds several academic degrees in law, English translation, political science, and management sciences.



**Helga Nowotny** is Vice-President of the European Research Council and Professor em. of Social Studies of Science at ETH Zurich. She is the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the University of Vienna and member of the Governing Board of the Science Center in Berlin.



**Arnold Schmidt** is a Professor at the Photonics Institute of the Technical University Vienna. He has been the President of the "Austrian Science Fund" (FWF) for many years and is now serving as Chairman of the Board. Recently, he became Vice Chairman of the Scientific Board of the Institute of Science and Technology, Austria (ISTA)



**Nico Stehr** holds the Karl-Mannheim Chair for Social and Cultural Studies at the Zeppelin University and is a Senior Research Associate at ITAS, Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, Germany. Nico Stehr has published approximately 100 referred journal articles and has written and edited numerous books.



**W. Gerhard Pohl** was born in 1938 in Vienna, Austria. His scientific fields include Biophysical Chemistry and History of Science. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the working group “History of Chemistry” of the Austrian Chemical Society. His professional experience consists of research and teaching in numerous countries. As a member of Euroscience, his motivations include articulating activities of Austrian science educators on a European level, furthering links between Central and Eastern European countries, comparing science management strategies in European countries, and initiating cooperation between persons and groups working in the field of history of science and technology.



**Ronald J. Pohoryles** is the Director of the ICCR Vienna & Paris. He is a Senior Lecturer (“Universitätsdozent”) for comparative political systems at the University of Innsbruck, and co-editor of the book series Contemporary Trends in European Social Sciences and of the journal The European Journal of Social Sciences -- Innovation, both of which he launched. His research expertise covers European integration with an emphasis on public policy analysis. Ronald Pohoryles heads the ICCR research area Society, Science, Technology and Research.



**Alexander Zach**, MdP, is a member of the Austrian Parliament and has been assigned as a member of three Parliamentary Committees. His interest in the colloquium arises from his membership in the Science&Technology Committee.

## The Organisers

### Euroscience

is a grass-roots organisation open to research professionals, science administrators, policy-makers, teachers, PhD students, post-docs, engineers, industrialists and generally to any citizen interested in science and technology and its links to society.

It represents European scientists of all disciplines (including social sciences and the humanities) in the public sector, universities, research institutes, as well as business and industry.

### The ICCR Foundation

has as its aim the dissemination of the results of scientific research to societal and political actors, as well as to industrial and economic 'users'. Knowledge is produced by its Research Centres in Vienna and Paris with a focus on science, research and society. Maintaining the independence of research is linked to full transparency about research principles, basic assumptions and methods. This transparency includes information about what source was used to enable the financing of the research.