February 26, 2024

Mr. Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, Engineer Nicolás Posse c.c. Mr. President of CONICET, Dr.Daniel Salamone c.c. Members of the Board of Directors of CONICET

Distinguished Leaders and Colleagues,

I am writing in reaction to the worrying news coming out of Argentina about the the prestigious Argentinian national science and technology system.

Let me start with introducing myself: I am László Lovász, former President of the International Mathematical Union and of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, recipient of the Wolf, Kyoto and Abel Prizes.

I am afraid that the functioning of the Argentinian scientific and technology ecosystem is threatened by the actions and inactions of your government. Stopping the disclosure of the list of approved PhD fellowships, canceling approved new appointments and researcher promotions, ceasing the transfer of already committed funds to ongoing research projects and firing administrative employees in research institutions are all having a devastating effect on the national scientific and technology system of Argentina.

I wish to express my support to the Argentine scientific community in these trying times, to ask you to listen to their demands and to work with them towards restoring a system that once again allows your very talented scientists and technologists to thrive and keep up the good work and the important scientific advances they have been producing.

Having a flourishing national system for science and technology is key for the development of nations. To build up a successful community in research and technology is a slow process, demanding the devotion of the most established scientists; destroying this community can be very fast. I realize (based on my experience in leading positions) that every government must have plans to organize research in various ways; but the conservation of values must be among the most important goals.

Sincerely yours,

László Lovász