



February 17th, 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

I am dismayed by the worrying news coming out of Argentina day after day of how the prestigious Argentine national science and technology system has been brought to a standstill due to the actions and inactions of your government. Stopping PhD fellowships and 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. Science relies on continuity of support from society, which allows transmission of knowledge and construction of the future on past achievements. The decrease of this support will have shortly a disastrous destruction effect on the great Argentine academic tradition and it would be a long time effect since it is much easier to destroy than to reconstruct.

I write to express my strongest 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, and this relies on the whole chain of the knowledge, involving past and present, research and transmission, that needs to be protected, not threatened, by the society.

Sincerely,

Claire Voisin  
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Membre de l'Académie des Sciences (France),  
Foreign member of the National Academy of Sciences (US)  
Foreign member of the Royal Society (UK)  
Crafoord prize 2024