

Budapest declaration of the V4 Academies

We, Presidents and other high-level representatives of the Academies of Sciences from the Visegrad countries (V4 countries) namely the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Slovak Academy of Sciences on the meeting in Budapest, 21-22 April 2008 discussed actualities of European research cooperation. Concerning the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT), we declare in a common consensus the following:

As presidents, we welcome and highly esteem the significance of the implementation and launching of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT).

Although several of our countries are presently competing for the seat of the Governing Council of the EIT, this competition does not influence our high expectations and our common vision concerning the future role of this institute in enhancing synergies between education, excellent research and all stakeholders of innovation in Europe. We are convinced that our professional research institutes could play a significant role in the knowledge and innovation communities and we offer their full research potential and excellence in producing the knowledge to be applied through the innovation cycle.

However, we reiterate from our previous declaration the concern that the EIT can fulfil its role only if it is provided with adequate and intense financial support at the European level. Therefore we urge the European Commission to make all possible efforts to boost the contribution of the private sector to the EIT project. Furthermore, we strongly support having the EIT Headquarters in a new member state.

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