

## **The statement of the employees of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS)**

**February 7, 2019**

The Second Forum of the employees of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) convened on February 7, 2019 by the Council of Public and Civil Servants of the Alfred Rényi Institute of Mathematics, the Research Centre for Natural Sciences, and the Wigner Research Centre for Physics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences *fully agrees with the statement* adopted two weeks earlier at the first Forum of the Academic Employees held in Human Sciences Research Centre. We support the resolutions of the General Assembly of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences adopted on December 6, 2018. The purpose of this statement is to express the unity and solidarity of the whole academic staff and their support for the independence of science.

1. The "Theme-Field Excellence Program" announced by the Ministry of Innovation and Technology (ITM) is demeaning and it is unsuitable for block grant funding and the financing of scientific research, therefore we do not intend to participate in the Program.
2. So far, the share of academic research budget beyond basic care has been awarded and allocated from national and international resources on the basis of excellence. Only a research network having adequate basic care is capable to apply for such resources. The previously well-functioning Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA) is not functioning satisfactorily under the guidance of Ministry of Innovation and Technology.
3. In accordance with The Fundamental Law of Hungary and the Law XL. of 1994 on the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, we demand the unconditional provision of block grant founding and safeguarding the autonomy of the Academy of Sciences and demand the withdrawal of the "Theme-Field Excellence Program" announced by the Ministry of Innovation and Technology.