

[Informal translation]



**Presidium of IBB PAS Scientific Council**

RESOLUTION of 09.10.2024

on supporting the appeal of the Council of the National Science Centre (NCN) to increase funding for the Centre

The Presidium of IBB PAS fully supports the appeal of the Council of the National Science Centre, passed on September 5, 2024, to increase the funding for the Centre by 300 million PLN in 2025 and to increase funding further in the following years.

NCN, following the model of the European Research Council, has become the most important source of funding for basic research in Poland. The Centre's autonomy, transparency of procedures and high standards of evaluation of scientific projects have made NCN one of the most important tools for supporting science and creative work in our country. NCN funding has allowed many scientists to carry out groundbreaking projects which have contributed to the development of science in Poland and have strengthened our country's position in the world. From a global perspective, it is clear that investment in scientific research has the highest long-term rate of return.

We are concerned seeing how the Centre's long-standing underfunding has led to a drastic decline in the grant application success rate, to a level unprecedented in modern countries, below 10%. This level of funding is not only discouraging and demotivating for the scientific community, it also results in the closure of valuable research projects and is leading to an irreversible collapse

of science in Poland. Freezing the funding for the National Science Centre will have negative long-term consequences: an exodus of researchers, especially of young scholars, a decline in international cooperation, and overall reduction of the country's scientific potential. Such action will close the prospects of the most talented young Poles and will cause a decline in the international prestige of the country.

As the Presidium of the Scientific Council of IBB PAS, we join the voices supporting the appeal of the NCN Council for a steady increase in funding for the Centre as an investment in the future of our country.

For the Presidium

signed by

Wojciech Bal, IBB PAS

2024-10-08