

## **A Manifesto for Early Career Researchers**

### **Handover event - January 10th, 2023 - Press Release**

The Covid pandemic and the general uncertainty we are experiencing is negatively impacting early career researchers, whose working conditions and job precarity are unsatisfactory. It is time to act! We must motivate and support the next generation to engage in research, to build and consolidate our continent's future, enhancement, and peace, in a healthy world.

[ISE](#) (Initiative for Science in Europe), together with [Ciência Viva](#), had launched in September 2022 a Manifesto to collect broad and robust support from key stakeholders as well as individual researchers and other supporters for early career researchers.

The Manifesto found a great echo in the scientific community as well as policy makers and caught the attention of [Commissioner Mariya Gabriel](#) who wanted to express her support through an event concluded with a ceremony during which the [ISE president, Martin Andler](#), was able to hand over to her the document in person.

Mariya Gabriel was accompanied by her services from her two general directorates, EAC and RTD, their general directors and members of the cabinet. This allowed her to express her commitment to education and careers of researchers and to announce her intention to launch a pilot project. This is to test how the European Commission and Member States, academia and companies could work together to better understand the situation, coordinate funding, and support career paths in research by promoting networking between universities and businesses. The aim is to open up the prospect of a new partnership with Member States, public and private stakeholders, and leverage funding to combat the risk of a decline in excellent scientific research across the European Research Area.

The Manifesto calls for:

- *Europe-wide monitoring young researchers' situation*
- *Improving research careers and working conditions in Research Performing Organisations (RPOs), Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) and in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)*
- *Enhancing research careers in the third sector, including NGOs and governmental organisations*
- *Involving national funding agencies in cooperation with the European Commission.*

The number of individual and collective [signatories](#) is continuously increasing. European and national associations and organisations such as Eurodoc, Marie Curie Alumni Association, Young Academy Europe, Association of ERC Grantees, League of European Research Universities, Coimbra Group, Una Europa, European Educational Research Association, the Portuguese National Association of Researchers in Science and Technology, and many others are actively supporting.

The Manifesto is the outcome of [Jean-Pierre Bourguignon](#)'s call about [Early Career researchers in the Covid crisis](#), and is actively supported by [Manuel Heitor](#), former Minister of R&I in Portugal. ISE and Ciência Viva, with the participation of the CNRS, co-organised the [4th Gago](#)

[Conference on European Science Policy](#) on June 13, 2022 “Europe supporting young researchers in times of uncertainty” where the Manifesto was decided.

[The Manifesto is downloadable here.](#)

[Signatures are collected here.](#)

Relative Articles:

[Brussels kicks off push to improve working conditions and career paths for young researchers across Europe](#)

[Bruselas llama a paliar la precariedad laboral de los investigadores jóvenes](#)

Contact: Monica Dietl, ISE Executive Coordinator ([monica.dietl@initiative-se.eu](mailto:monica.dietl@initiative-se.eu))

---