



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Transition Team of the President-elect Jean-Claude Juncker

Head of the Transition Team

Brussels, **01 OCT. 2014**  
JUNCKER (2014) 2991981

Dear Mr Selvagio, Mr Sebastiani and Ms Di Pietrogiacommo,

On behalf of the President-elect, Jean-Claude Juncker, thank you very much for your letter of 11 September 2014 which he has asked me to answer.

The President-elect and his team are fully aware of the major role that the Joint Research Centre (JRC) has played and will continue to play in the field of prospective research that is related to the knowledge economy. Our conviction is that the good work of the JRC should be made known to more and different actors than has been the case until now. The Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship will be able to use the JRC's work to advance a broader policy agenda well beyond the confines of traditional R&D policy.

We also believe that it is necessary to link the JRC to the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT) which has been set up precisely to strengthen links between education, business and innovation and to address different societal challenges (e.g. climate, energy and ICT).

We need to build bridges where they make sense and where they lead us from strength to strength. Connecting the worlds of education, research and business, the famous "knowledge triangle", is of highest priority.

The Joint Research Centre covers a wide range of activities addressing different

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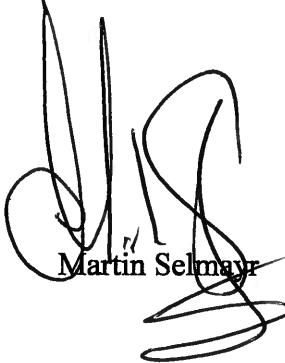
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societal needs. These needs are regularly debated, including at schools and universities and in broader citizens' debates. We would like to see JRC develop its cross-cutting role, supporting all Commission services with its knowledge and expertise. It should also be responsive to citizens' concerns and reach out to a broader public. All this is a clear responsibility and priority for the new Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship portfolio and linking JRC to the portfolio of Mr Navracics will therefore benefit all our services and Europe as a whole.

The President-elect and his team are counting on you to continue the valuable work carried out by the JRC and are convinced that working together in the new way he proposed will lead to a stronger and better performing Europe.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Selmayr