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Subject: Relevance and Sustainability for Investment in Science

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Date: Sun, 27 Sep 2020 19:22:29 +0200

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:68.0) Gecko/20100101

Thunderbird/68.10.0
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Verborgene Empfaenger: ;
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=utf-8; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
Content-Language: fr

Dear Member of Parliament,

I am writing to you in order to express scientifically founded concerns about effectiveness of Science and Innovation funding by the EU. As I can see from my point of view, the scientific community as a whole is not taking necessary steps to self-assess and streamline the funding requests, through careful considerations of relevance of the different fields to address humanity's challenges in today's world.

This time is also a time of crisis and emergency, in which spending is necessary to keep the economy and the well being in our societies going, and to ensure that we emerge stronger from this troubled period. However, that spending must also be considered wisely and carefully, as our populations expect and efficiency mandates.

I have developed a website (much of which is in French) which presents:

- A critical assessment of the way in which the scientific community has acted conservatively, in relation to emergence of new fields, resulting in gaps between the evolutions and the needs of our societies, and the proportions of the different fields of interests within our Universities;
- An overview of accessible references, many of which are extracts from investigative journalism, presenting the fields which have indeed recently emerged, and seem to me of high interest both for sustainable development, energy transition, and relevant shifts to support jobs throughout European territories.
- Concerns and recommendations about our digital sovereignty, and targeting the right research activities in Information Sciences to fill our possible gaps, and, in particular, carefully distinguish between development and R&D in the field, in the spirit of the Frascati Manual by the OECD.

The web pages are accessible through menus, but I set out below an outline. (The site is secured by the HTTPS protocol, and does not gather any information about the user, be it by cookies or Javascript.)

The following page purposes to draw a stark distinction between so-called AI and Information Sciences, and advocates careful formalization and specifications for scientific software (in all experimental sciences), for the purpose of validation and reproducibility. Promoting good practices in sciences and software improves both reliability and productivity, and can increase clarity of rational scientific discourse, in the public space, as well as for dependable advice to deciders. The difference between development and R&D in the field, in the spirit of the Frascati Manual by the OECD, is briefly explicated.

<https://malgouyres.org/my-problems-inertie-sociale-et-epistemologie>

The following page purposes to raise an alert of the current state of the software practices (in my country) in relation to sensitive information protection, economic intelligence, and cyber-security. These facts make it all the more urgent to improve skills, awareness, and reliability about software in the scientific community.

<https://malgouyres.org/my-problems-perles-illettrisme-numeriques>

The following page purposes to analyse why governance in (French) Universities fails to address imbalances between the different fields, and tends to amplify disproportions inherited from previous

centuries, due to the notion of scientific identity and competition between fields for funding.

<https://malgouyres.org/my-problems-inertie-academique>

The following page purposes to analyse and provide references about sustainability issues, in the energy and raw material sectors, the resulting economic constraints, and relevance of research to address the associated challenges.

Questions are raised whether alternative approaches to safe and sustainable nuclear energy, which could be more pragmatic and economical than the ITER project, have been adequately considered and openly discussed by the scientific community.

<https://malgouyres.org/my-problems-energie-resources-naturelles-durabilite>

The following page provides references about recent emerging fields which, in my view, deserve and require support to develop in our labs, in relation to health, lifestyle, the environment, and sustainability of our healthcare systems.

<https://malgouyres.org/my-problems-environnement-biologie-prevention-sante>

The following pages (in English) provide an overview of privacy and sovereignty issues in relation to software, as well as technical information about social media which could be useful for regulation of the digital space.

<https://malgouyres.org/links-tech-privacy-os>

<https://malgouyres.org/links-tech-privacy-secure>

<https://malgouyres.org/tech-privacy-browsing-media>

<https://malgouyres.org/tech-machine-learning>

Your Respectfully,

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