Dear Mrs Makarow,

The European Research Council (ERC) is the pillar of European frontier research excellence under Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation of the European Union for the period 2021-2027. The success of the ERC is not least due to the quality and reputation of its Scientific Council.

The European Commission has conferred the responsibility to identify suitable candidates for membership of the ERC Scientific Council to the independent expert committee that I chair. The standing ERC Identification Committee regularly consults the research community in Europe to replenish its pool of candidates.

I am writing you and the presidents of other representative organisations of the scientific community of Europe to ask you to nominate excellent candidates for membership of the ERC Scientific Council.

The Committee will recommend the Commission to appoint candidates that it identified, taking into account the need for continuity and for renewal. During the next twelve months, almost a quarter of the members of the Scientific Council must be replaced.

The Committee will follow the methodology set out in the document appended to this letter; nominating organisations are invited to use the (also appended) statement of qualifications to inform the Commission about the profile of candidates.

Nominating organisations are requested to indicate the field of research of their nominee(s), using the referencing code of the ERC scientific panels that can be retrieved on this hyperlink: ERC panel structure.

Members of the Scientific Council must be current or recent research practitioners who exercised scientific leadership at European or global level. Proper consideration will also be given to younger, next-generation leaders and the appropriate geographic and gender balance within the Scientific Council membership. Organisations are asked to consider gender and geographical balance when making suggestions in this exercise.

I am looking forward to the nominations of excellent candidates who confirmed their willingness to serve on the Scientific Council would they be appointed.
The deadline for reception of nominations is **06 May 2022, noon CET**. Nominations should be sent to the following email address: **rtd-erc-id@ec.europa.eu**.

The European Commission will issue a [news alert](mailto:newsalert) to announce the call for nominations to allow other representative organisations of the European scientific community to submit high-level candidates.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Carl-Henrik Heldin  
Chairman of the Standing Identification Committee for the European Research Council  
E-mail: [c-h.heldin@imbim.uu.se](mailto:c-h.heldin@imbim.uu.se)

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c.c.: Secretary General of Academia Europea

Enclosures: Statement on methodology  
Statement of qualifications