Dear Prof. Holm-Nielsen, Dear Dr. Tindemans,

Thank you for your letters of 10 February 2017 addressed to President Juncker and me and for the attached open letter on behalf of the co-signatories expressing concerns about the impact on the field of science, research and innovation of the ongoing policy reorientation under President Trump and his Administration.

The United States of America is a longstanding partner of the European Union and we enjoy the most integrated economic relations in the world. Research and innovation cooperation between the EU and the US is governed by the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation and by participations in Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. In addition, the US is considered a privileged partner for the EU and for many EU Member States in various global research initiatives. The European Union will continue its efforts to promote international scientific efforts to deepen collaboration between nations.

European and US scientists have always crossed frontiers to collaborate with colleagues across the world since bright ideas should know no boundaries. We need the best brains, on both sides of the Atlantic, to work together to address the global challenges that our societies are facing.

No other country outside Europe has such intensive scientific cooperation with EU Horizon 2020 projects as the US. To date, 135 U.S. entities participate in over 100 research projects and more than 200 researchers of US nationality have participated in researcher mobility actions funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

We therefore strongly believe in international scientific cooperation and in particular in our close ties with the US scientific community. The EU, based on its values, will continue to use Horizon 2020, which is open to the world, to cooperate internationally and in particular with US scientists and researchers.

Yours sincerely,

Carlos MOEDAS

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