



**Jean-Claude JUNCKER**  
President of the European Commission

Rue de la Loi, 200  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel. +32 2 295 50 33  
jean-claude.juncker@ec.europa.eu

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*Ares(2015)153654*

*Dear Dr Sjöström Douagi,*

*Thank you for your letter of 7 January 2015 on behalf of the Young Academies of Sweden, Europe, Poland and Scotland. As I have indicated on different occasions before the European Parliament, I am a strong believer in the necessity to ground policies in solid evidence, with the help of independent scientific advice.*

*I intend to further strengthen this practice in all EU policy fields and take note of your interest to contribute to it.*

*Contrary to what has been said, the Commission has not taken any decision to 'abolish' the position of Chief Scientific Adviser. The mandate of the scientific adviser was linked to that of the previous President of the Commission and expired with the end of his mandate on 31 October 2014.*

*In the meantime, I have asked Mr Carlos Moedas, Member of the Commission in charge of Research, Science and Innovation, to reflect and present options to me before the summer on how to better institutionalise future independent scientific advice to the Commission, based on the experience made in all Member States.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Dr Anna SJÖSTRÖM DOUAGI, Med.dr/Ph.D.*  
*VD/CEO*  
*Young Academy of Sweden*

*E-mail: [anna@sverigesungaakademi.se](mailto:anna@sverigesungaakademi.se)*