



ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

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Rome, 3 July 2013

Mr. Sergey Naryshkin  
Chair of the State Duma  
of the Russian Federation  
Okhotny Ryad 1  
Moscow 103265  
Russian Federation

Dear Mr. Naryshkin,

On behalf of the Accademia Nazionale di Lincei, we wish to express our deep concern regarding the possibility of a reform that would change the whole organization of the Russian Academy of Sciences and strip it of its autonomy (news which we received from many distinguished colleagues).

The RAS is an institution which we hold in high esteem and during the years we have had the pleasure to collaborate with illustrious Russian scientists that are members of this ancient Academy. The Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei wishes to reiterate and stress the importance for science academies to remain self-governing, autonomous institutions in order to fulfill their scientific mandate; a topic that was specifically addressed also during the last G8 meeting of the Ministers of Science and Presidents of national academies held at the Royal Society in London on 12 June 2013. Furthermore, the Accademia dei Lincei believes that any transformation of an Academy should occur with the wide participation and agreement of the academicians on the basis of a cooperation between political and scientific institutions.

For the above mentioned reasons, we feel it is crucial that the national academies of sciences as well as the international academic organizations are informed and that the contents and the process of the RAS reform are clarified, in the hope that you will continue to support the independence of your Nation's prestigious Academy of sciences.

We thank you for your attention and hope to continue the collaboration between the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Lincei in order to promote culture and science in a globalized and peaceful world.

Sincerely yours,

Lamberto Maffei  
THE PRESIDENT

Alberto Quadrio Curzio  
THE VICE PRESIDENT

Copy to: Prof. Vladimir Fortov, President of RAS  
Prof. Günter Stock, President of ALLEA  
Prof. Brian Heap, President of EASAC