Alexander von Humboldt Foundation German Research Foundation Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft German Rectors 'Conference Leibniz Association German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina German Academic Exchange Service Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres Max Planck Society German Science and Humanities Council

Statement

11th June 2024

In opposition to a boycott of Israeli science and research

The Alliance of Science Organisations in Germany supports the <u>appeal of the Council of the Israel</u> <u>Academy of Sciences and Humanities of 20th May 2024</u> to the international scientific community and strongly opposes calls for a boycott of Israeli researchers and Israeli scientific institutions.

We consider it discriminatory and misguided to terminate research collaborations with Israeli science and research institutions, to exclude Israeli scientists from international conferences and awards or to reject funding applications from researchers at Israeli institutions. Such measures are also counterproductive, as they serve to weaken an independent voice of reason in Israel. Israeli universities and academic institutions are pillars of Israel's liberal, democratic society; they should be bolstered as spaces for free and open discourse, especially in times of intense debate within Israel over the peace process in the Middle East.

The member organisations of the Alliance of Science Organisations in Germany will continue to promote scientific exchange and cooperation with colleagues at Israeli science and research institutions and to do their utmost to de-escalate the current situation. Only through dialogue and within the framework of an open and international scientific community can we collectively tackle the pressing problems of our time.

The Alliance of Science Organisations is an association of the most significant science organisations in Germany. It regularly comments on important issues of science policy. The Max Planck Society is a member of the Alliance and has taken on the role of spokesperson for 2024. Other members are the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service, the German Research Foundation, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers, the German Rectors' Conference, the Leibniz Association, the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and the German Science and Humanities Council.

Media inquiries

Dr. Christina Beck Head of Communication Max-Planck-Gesellschaft Generalverwaltung Hofgartenstr. 8 80539 München Tel.: +49 89 2108 1275 www.mpg.de