Buenos Aires, March xx, 2024

Dear Professor xxx

I am writing as director of the *Instituto xx*  and on behalf of the Network of Authorities of Science and Technology Institutes of Argentina *(RAICYT, Red de Autoridades de Institutos de Ciencia y Tecnología)* because the science and technology of our country are currently threatened by our new President´s decisions, and we need your support.

On December 10th, 2023, a new elected government came to office. It is headed by President Javier Milei who, at a certain point in the electoral campaign, vowed to close the ministry of Science and Technology and shut down and privatize [CONICET](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J05cdsNya8azKyYIWEcKFaYPGpY8P3EL/view?usp=sharing), the main government agency that fosters the development of science and technology in Argentina. After almost two months since the new administration of President Milei took office, the following alarming facts have occured: a) the Ministry of Science and Technology was closed, b) administrative employees from our institutes throughout the country have been laid off, and the contracts of many others were modified and will end by March 31, c) CONICET and National University budgets have been frozen at 2023 values which puts our institutions in a critical situation given the current yearly inflation of 200%, d) the payment of research grants from our national funding agency was discontinued, e) the current situation of fellowships and permanent positions of early career investigators is uncertain. This dire situation has been reported by prestigious journals such as Science [1](https://www.science.org/content/article/argentina-s-controversial-new-science-head-faces-protests-over-cuts-and-privatization),[2](https://www.science.org/content/article/argentina-s-new-president-has-nation-s-scientists-very-very-concerned), and Nature  [3](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-03620-3),[4](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-02862-5).

The directors of scientific institutions have organized ourselves in the RAICYT network and are voicing our strong opposition to these measures through a number of initiatives which include a [letter](https://drive.google.com/file/d/13yFxaiW39FvYQeyiBc7FawGPXc2A0iHI/view?usp=sharing) that was already submitted to the authorities which has been signed by over 13000 national colleagues. We are now asking prestigious international scientists, such as yourself, to back our RAICYT requests by signing a letter of support (you can find a model [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EeGQUI-1NfxoywwJOaeCC4XCYGQ-QDfc/view?usp=sharing), which can be edited to your convenience). We truly believe that support letters from renowned experts will help us, urging the national government to reconsider their decisions. If you agree, please address your support letter to RAICYT and send it to our e-mail:

reddirectoresciencia@gmail.com

We appreciate your help in defending the future of science in our country.

Sincerely yours,

Xxx

Director xxx