



The National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Argentina expresses its deepest concern regarding the situation of the various institutions that make up Argentina's national Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) system — a system that took decades to build. The Argentine STI system is based on a virtuous interplay between basic research and technological development. Currently, all institutions within this system are under attack. The abrupt reduction in funding, the declining projection in the number of researchers, professionals, technicians, and fellows, and the deterioration in equipment maintenance and infrastructure have broken the chain of scientific and technological production and learning, with serious consequences for the future.

In particular, we draw attention to the following points:

- The failure to comply with the Financing Laws of the National STI System (Law No. 27,614) and the National Science, Technology, and Innovation Plan 2030 (Law No. 27,738); in particular, the latter was de facto replaced by a priorities plan prepared in a restricted setting and never made public.
- The total absence of a national agenda for Science, Technology, and Innovation, and of corresponding governmental interlocutors — essential for engagement with the scientific-technological community.
- The salaries of researchers, professionals, and technicians, and the stipends of fellows, have lagged behind inflation; in particular, a young researcher who has committed to this country now lives near the poverty line.
- The total paralysis of the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development, and Innovation (Agency I+D+i), which is tasked with supporting projects and activities aimed at generating new scientific, technological, and innovative knowledge — in both basic and applied fields — with funds from the National Treasury as well as external credit and international cooperation. This paralysis has devastated the ability of research groups to carry out their daily work, as multi-year contracts are not being honored and calls for proposals and new project funding are indefinitely postponed.
- The near-total suspension of disbursements from national programs such as EquipAR, Construir Ciencia, High-Impact Networks, international initiatives, and others — all crucial for maintaining infrastructure and updating research capabilities.
- The disappearance of the National Systems of Major Equipment.
- Huge bureaucratic hurdles in project management, including foreign payments and the certification of imported equipment.
- The complete freeze on new admissions since the 2022 call for the Scientific and Technological Researcher Career at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) — the primary renewal channel of the system — despite numerous vacancies caused by retirements or resignations.



- The defunding of National Universities, which play a fundamental role in generating knowledge and whose cutting-edge educational offerings require the presence of active researchers.

The political disregard and underfunding of the sector — with budget execution barely covering devalued salaries — undermines Argentina's ability to produce cutting-edge knowledge, technological development, and highly trained human resources capable of understanding and solving the complex problems of modern societies.

In short, the government's stance toward research and innovation is leading to sadly predictable outcomes:

- Researchers are being forced to abandon their work or the country in a damaging exodus that deprives Argentina of top-tier experts and professionals.
- Young people are losing interest in pursuing university degrees and professional careers in research and technological development.
- Local participation in international scientific projects is shrinking, there is a lack of academia-industry collaboration, and a widespread sense of uncertainty persists regarding the resilience of the STI system in the current climate.
- The adjustment underway in the STI sector leaves Argentina even more vulnerable in the current global landscape, where knowledge is fiercely contested. Developing these capacities is vital for achieving intellectual independence and facing 21st-century challenges — including building progress, improving the lives of our citizens, and responding to global crises.

We urge the current Government authorities to reflect on the strategic relevance of scientific activity in a global context where access to science, technology, and quality education is the key not only to progress but to a Nation's very survival.

From the National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences, we call on the authorities to take concrete and positive action to sustain and improve the STI system — an essential partner in shaping the future of our country amid a globalized world that is fiercely competitive for resources and knowledge.

Buenos Aires, May 30, 2025