



ARUP



Joint stakeholder letter to the European Commission

To: Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research and Innovation

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019

## The need for EU fire safety research in Horizon Europe

Fire safety was largely absent from the themes of Horizon 2020<sup>1</sup> and this risks recurring in Horizon Europe, despite increasing awareness<sup>2</sup> of the importance of fire safety in today's urban and technological society and of wildfire risk.

A meeting organised by IAFSS (International Association for Fire Safety Science), in Brussels on 3<sup>rd</sup> December<sup>3</sup>, brought together key stakeholders from across Europe and DG Research, DG GROW and JRC.

This meeting concluded<sup>4</sup> that **fire safety is essential to enable a desired future**. Fire safety science is a prerequisite for innovation, sustainability and an inclusive society. Fire safety is key to resilience in contexts of technological developments, sustainable construction, an ageing population and climate change.

European fire safety research is needed to ensure cooperation between national levels, to develop consistent data, to enable critical mass for large scale-testing (important for firefighters facing new risks from today's fires) and to support EU policies. This requires a holistic approach, across different research themes and Commission services.

We, the undersigned stakeholders, ask that fire safety be recognised as a horizontal objective, integrated into the different thematic contents and specific tools of Horizon Europe.

Contact for coordination of this joint letter:

Jonathan Crozier, pinfa (Cefic) [jcr@cefic.org](mailto:jcr@cefic.org)

Signatory organisations – see following pages

<sup>1</sup> although some targeted actions are funded through the SME instrument, as well as by DG ENVI – LIFE













<sup>2</sup> c.f. launch of the Fire Exchange and Information Platform by the European Commission (DG GROW) in 2018, vote of COM fire safety pilot action budget by European Parliament BUDG September 2018.

<sup>3</sup> IAFSS workshop on a fire safety agenda for 2030, Brussels, 3rd December 2018, with support of ISO TC92, CEN/CENELEC, pinfa, Brandforsk, Kingspan, Modern Building Alliance, NFPA, Rockwool and SFPE

<sup>4</sup> <https://iafss.org/2018/12/19/iafss-workshop-to-define-a-fire-safety-mission-for-europe/>

**Contact details for signatory organisations:**

<p><b>IAFSS (International Association for Fire Safety Science)</b> <a href="https://iafss.org/">https://iafss.org/</a> Contact: Patrick van Hees <a href="mailto:patrick.van_hees@brand.lth.se">patrick.van_hees@brand.lth.se</a></p>	
<p><b>Centre for Risk and Decision Science (CERIDES)</b> <a href="http://www.euc.ac.cy">www.euc.ac.cy</a> Contact: George Boustras <a href="mailto:g.boustras@euc.ac.cy">g.boustras@euc.ac.cy</a></p>	
<p><b>Pau Costa Foundation PCF</b> (Fundación d'Ecologia del Foc i Gestió d'Incendis Pau Costa Alcubierre) <a href="http://www.paucostafoundation.org">www.paucostafoundation.org</a> Contact: Oriol Vilalta <a href="mailto:info@paucostafoundation.org">info@paucostafoundation.org</a></p>	
<p><b>ARUP</b> <a href="http://www.arup.com">www.arup.com</a> Contact: Kenneth Wynne <a href="mailto:kenneth.wynne@arup.com">kenneth.wynne@arup.com</a></p>	
<p><b>Brandforsk</b>, the Swedish Fire Research Foundation <a href="http://www.brandforsk.se">www.brandforsk.se</a> Contact: Björn Sundström <a href="mailto:bjorn.sundstrom@ri.se">bjorn.sundstrom@ri.se</a></p>	
<p><b>Brandskyddsföreningen</b> (Swedish Fire Protection Association) <a href="http://www.brandskyddsforeningen.se">www.brandskyddsforeningen.se</a> Contact: Anders Bergkvist <a href="mailto:Anders.Bergqvist@brandskyddsforeningen.se">Anders.Bergqvist@brandskyddsforeningen.se</a></p>	
<p><b>CFPA-E (Confederation of Fire Protection Associations Europe)</b> <a href="http://cfpa-e.eu/">http://cfpa-e.eu/</a> Contact: Tommy Arvidsson <a href="mailto:Tommy.Arvidsson@cfpa-e.eu">Tommy.Arvidsson@cfpa-e.eu</a></p>	
<p><b>Euralarm</b> <a href="http://www.euralarm.org">www.euralarm.org</a> Contact: Dominique Taudin <a href="mailto:dominique.taudin@euralarm.org">dominique.taudin@euralarm.org</a></p>	
<p><b>European Association for Passive Fire Protection (EAPFP)</b> <a href="http://www.eapfp.com">www.eapfp.com</a> Contact: John Fairley <a href="mailto:john.fairley@eapfp.com">john.fairley@eapfp.com</a></p>	
<p><b>European Fire Safety Alliance</b> <a href="http://www.europeanfiresafetyalliance.org">www.europeanfiresafetyalliance.org</a> Contact: Elie van Strien</p>	
<p><b>European Fire Sprinkler Network</b> <a href="http://www.eurosprinkler.org">www.eurosprinkler.org</a> Contact: Alan Brinson <a href="mailto:alan@eurosprinkler.org">alan@eurosprinkler.org</a></p>	
<p><b>FEU (Federation of the European Union Fire Officer Associations)</b> <a href="https://www.f-e-u.org">https://www.f-e-u.org</a> Contact: Chris Addiers <a href="mailto:chris.addiers@telenet.be">chris.addiers@telenet.be</a></p>	
<p><b>Fire Safe Europe (FSEU)</b> <a href="https://firesafeeurope.eu/">https://firesafeeurope.eu/</a> Contact: Juliette Albiac <a href="mailto:secretariat@firesafeeurope.eu">secretariat@firesafeeurope.eu</a></p>	

<p><b>Firefighter Mayday Program (FMP)</b>  <a href="http://www.firefigtermaydayprogram.com">www.firefigtermaydayprogram.com</a>  Contact: Pieter Maes <a href="mailto:info@brandweermaninnood.be">info@brandweermaninnood.be</a></p>	
<p><b>Flame Retardants Europe</b> <a href="http://www.flameretardants.eu">www.flameretardants.eu</a>  Contact: <a href="mailto:Isabel.deCastro@interelgroup.com">Isabel.deCastro@interelgroup.com</a></p>	
<p><b>Groupement Technique Français contre l'Incendie (GTFI)</b> <a href="http://www.gtfi.org">www.gtfi.org</a>  Contact : Gaetan Fouilhoux <a href="mailto:Gaetan.fouilhoux@rocwool.fr">Gaetan.fouilhoux@rocwool.fr</a>  Anne Vinit <a href="mailto:anne.vinit@gtfi.org">anne.vinit@gtfi.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Institute for Safety of the Netherlands</b>  Contact Ricardo Weewer <a href="mailto:ricardo.weewer@ifv.nl">ricardo.weewer@ifv.nl</a>.  <a href="http://www.ifv.nl">www.ifv.nl</a></p>	
<p><b>Imperial College</b>, London, UK  <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/hazelab">http://www.imperial.ac.uk/hazelab</a>  Contact: Nick Jennings <a href="mailto:ypr@imperial.ac.uk">ypr@imperial.ac.uk</a></p>	
<p><b>IMT Mines d'Alès</b>, France <a href="http://www.mines-ales.fr/">http://www.mines-ales.fr/</a>  Contact: Jose-Marie Lopez-Cuesta <a href="mailto:jose-marie.lopez-cuesta@mines-ales.fr">jose-marie.lopez-cuesta@mines-ales.fr</a></p>	
<p><b>International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF)</b>  <a href="http://www.iawfonline.org">www.iawfonline.org</a>  Contact: Stoof, Cathelijne <a href="mailto:cathelijne.stoof@wur.nl">cathelijne.stoof@wur.nl</a></p>	
<p><b>Modern Building Alliance</b>  <a href="http://www.modernbuildingalliance.eu">www.modernbuildingalliance.eu</a>  Contact: Quentin de Hults  <a href="mailto:quentin@modernbuildingalliance.eu">quentin@modernbuildingalliance.eu</a>.</p>	
<p><b>NFPA</b> (US National Fire Protection Association)  Contact: Birgitte Messerschmidt <a href="mailto:bcollins@nfpa.org">bcollins@nfpa.org</a></p>	
<p><b>pinfa</b> (Phosphorus Inorganic Nitrogen Flame Retardants Association), a sector group of Cefic <a href="http://www.pinfa.eu">www.pinfa.eu</a>  Contact: Jonathan Crozier <a href="mailto:jcr@cefic.org">jcr@cefic.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Société Chimique de France</b> (Thermal degradation and fire behaviour of organic materials Group)  <a href="http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/">http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/</a>  Contact: Jose-Marie Lopez-Cuesta  <a href="mailto:jose-marie.lopez-cuesta@mines-ales.fr">jose-marie.lopez-cuesta@mines-ales.fr</a></p>	
<p><b>Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE)</b>  <a href="http://www.sfpe.org">www.sfpe.org</a>  Contact: Nicole Boston <a href="mailto:ntboston@sfpe.org">ntboston@sfpe.org</a></p>	
<p><b>University of Bolton</b>, Fire Materials Research Group  Contact: Baljinder Kandola <a href="mailto:B.Kandola@bolton.ac.uk">B.Kandola@bolton.ac.uk</a></p>	