Dear colleagues,

For years, the CNRS has been a committed partner in the dynamics deployed by the Community of Universities and Higher Education institutions (COMUE) “Communauté d’Universités et Etablissements” Université Sorbonne-Paris-Cité (USPC) and has accompanied its scientific and academic development. Now the CNRS, along with other national research organizations, such as the Inserm, firmly affirms its support to the project “University of Paris 2019” submitted by USPC for an “Initiative d’Excellence”.

This support is firstly grounded in the high level scientific results of the USPC at the national, European and international levels. In the last decade, the members of its research units have collected around 100 ERC grants, 77 fellowships of the Institut Universitaire de France, twenty-two bronze and silver CNRS Medals and, just to mention some of the PIA tools, 9 Labex, 5 EUR, and 1 Idefi.

More than 1500 permanent staff, including about 900 researchers, are working in around 100 laboratories shared with one or several of USPC’s members and the site keeps on attracting junior and senior CNRS researchers. Moreover, the CNRS is involved in all scientific dynamics of the USPC through all of its ten institutes, with a strong emphasis on biological sciences, physics, and earth sciences as well as in humanities and social sciences.

The CNRS shares the research objectives identified by the “University of Paris 2019” project and particularly its will to reinforce its areas of scientific excellence, the internationalization of its communities and its transversal research infrastructures.

The “University of Paris 2019” IdEx project relies on the creation, on January 1st, 2019, of a new and integrated University, including the Université Paris-Descartes, the Université Paris-Diderot and the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris.
The CNRS appreciates that this new organization puts at its heart a target university with full control over all strategic tools, including the Idex. The CNRS will be involved in its management, especially through the Idex Steering Committee.

The CNRS also supports the links interwoven between the integrated University and its associated partners as described in the partnership framework agreement “convention-cadre de partenariat” attached to the “University of Paris 2019” project.

The CNRS is convinced that the target University will be, from its inception, one of the leading European research universities. Thus, it gives its full support to this project.

Anne Peyroche

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