



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
RESEARCH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

The Director-General

Brussels, 22 DEC. 2010
RTD/DG/JM/ks

Dear Prof. Marimon,

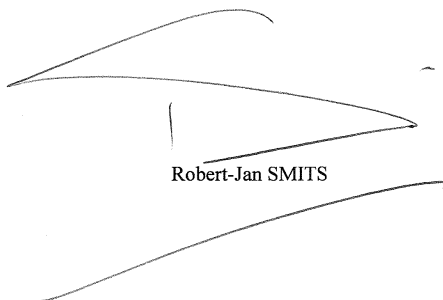
Ref.: your letter of 15 November 2010

Thank you for your recent letter in reference and the reiterated commitment to the ERC and the future of European research in general. This is much welcome, as every effort must be made to secure the best conditions for the success of the European Research Area, despite the challenging economic conditions in which we have to operate.

Concerning the selection process for the Director of the ERC Executive Agency, I would like to assure you that the comments lodged in your complaint with the Ombudsman will be addressed by the Commission, within the established procedure. Accordingly, you will be informed in due time of its outcome.

Wishing you success in your activities at EUI, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Robert-Jan SMITS