



*Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel*

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**Press Release**

**European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation,  
Carlos Moedas, to visit Israel**

Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, will pay an official visit to Israel between 10 and 12 January.

Commissioner Moedas is responsible for the EU's Horizon 2020, the world's largest public research programme with a budget of 77 billion euros over seven years. Israel is fully associated to Horizon 2020.

In the course of his visit, Commissioner Moedas will meet: President Reuven Rivlin; Minister of Science, Technology and Space, Ofir Akunis; Chief Scientist, Ministry of Economy, Avi Hasson; Head of the Planning and Budget Committee of the Council of Higher Education, Prof Yaffa Zilbershats and key Israeli entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. He will also visit the Weizmann Institute of Science, the Hebrew University, Mobileye Vision Technologies and Jerusalem Venture Partners.

In June 2014, Israel and the European Union signed an agreement associating Israel to Horizon 2020 – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020). The agreement provides Israeli researchers, universities and companies with full access to [Horizon 2020](#). Today, Horizon 2020 is the leading source of competitive public funding for research in Israel.

Israel has been fully associated to EU research programmes since 1996. Israel's participation in these programmes has been mutually beneficial, generating not only excellent cooperation with European researchers in a wide variety of fields, but also support for individual Israeli researchers doing ground-breaking research.

Under the Seventh Framework Programme (2007 - 2013) Israeli organisations accounted for almost 2000 participations and received €877 million in EU research funding. 271 of the most excellent Israeli researchers received prestigious European Research Council (ERC) grants.

In the current EU programme, Horizon 2020, Israeli participants have already received €155 million in signed grant agreements with 283 participations, including 62 ERC grants.

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