CARLOS MOEDAS Member of the European Commission

Brussels, **1 4 SEP. 2018** Ares S(2018)4999417

Dear Minister,

Dear Mowca

I would like to thank you for your letter following up our meeting on 27 June.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to congratulate you on the speed of the reforms implemented by the Republic of Moldova in the fields of research and innovation. Under the responsibility of your Ministry, the modernisation and competitiveness of the research and innovation governance is under constant implementation.

Those reforms are important to reap the full benefits of the Association to the Horizon 2020 Programme and allow increasing numbers of Moldovan researchers, scientists and research stakeholders to benefit from it.

As the first Eastern Partnership country to become associated, Moldova set an example that Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia have since followed. Thanks to Horizon 2020, synergies and cooperation opportunities can grow and further support the scientific and technological potential of the region.

As you know, the Eastern Partnership Panel on Research and Innovation's annual event, for which you received an invitation, will take place on 1 October in Tbilisi. It will look notably at smart specialisation strategy and technology transfer, and it will be an important opportunity to discuss research and innovation as drivers for regional growth. Representatives from your Ministry and the Technical University of Moldova, so far, confirmed their participation.

Thank you again for your invitation to visit the Republic of Moldova. Should a suitable opportunity present itself in the future, and other commitments permit, I would be very pleased to ask my services to organise such a visit.

Yours faithfully,

Carlos MOEDAS

Ms Monica Babuc Minister of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova Piaţa Marii Adunări Naţionale nr. 1 Casa Guvernului MD-2033 Chişinău Republica Moldova