LISANDRO BENEDETTI-CECCCHI – Vice Rector for European and International Research, University of Pisa
Professor in Ecology and Vice Rector for European and international research at the University of Pisa. He has coordinated national and international projects and he has served the ERC Review Panel LS4 for the IDEAS Programme (Starting and Consolidator Grants) and the Review Panel of the European Science Foundation for the EuroDeep Programme. He is member of the Biology and Ecosystem Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and represents the Italian University Consortium for Marine Sciences (CoNISMa) in the University Consortia Working Group of the Marine Board.

PAOLA BINDA – ERC Grantee, University of Pisa
Senior Assistant Professor of Physiological Sciences at the University of Pisa. In 2010 she received her PhD in Neuroscience Biotechnology at the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University of Milan. Her research is focused on the physiology of the human visual system, studied through psychophysics and eye-movement measurements and through neuroimaging. From 2011 to 2014 she has been recipient of a FP7 Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowship. In 2018 she has been awarded an ERC Starting Grant for the PUPILTRAITS project - Biomarkers of individual differences in human cortical visual processing.

CLAUDIO COLAIACOMO – Vice President, Global Academic Relations, Elsevier
Vice President at Elsevier. He holds a degree and a master in Physics from Stevens Institute of Technology (U.S.), a master in Business Administration from the Trieste School of Management and a Master in Contemplative Neurosciences from the University of Pisa. He worked as a researcher in the U.S. and Austria after moving to Elsevier where he has covered several managerial roles. He entertains relations with the top management research institutions in Southern Europe and the media with the aim of exploring and communicating synergies and new ways to serve the scientific community.

FREDDERICK FENTER – Executive Editor, Frontiers
Executive Editor at Frontiers. He earned a PhD in Chemistry from Harvard University and continued his research on atmospheric compounds at the CNRS in France and EFPL in Switzerland. He moved into academic publishing in 1997, first overseeing a portfolio of journals, book series and major reference works at Elsevier Science and then founding FontisMedia – a publishing technology start up that developed the first multi-language content-management platform for scientific journals. Currently, he supervises the entire Frontiers journal portfolio and is directly involved in all strategic projects. He is an active advocate for Open Science.

MARYLINE FIASCHI – Managing Director, Science | Business
Managing Director at Science|Business. She holds degrees from Sorbonne University, University of Bologna and Catholic University of Louvain. She combines experiences in Media and European affairs. After six years managing EU education programmes with the European Commission, she entered the media business in 2007 in Shanghai. She held business development positions at the Shanghai Daily and, back in Brussels, at EU affairs media company EurActiv before joining Science|Business in 2011. Today she is also an external evaluator for several EU education and R&I Programmes.

GIANLUCA FIORI – ERC Grantee, University of Pisa
Full Professor of Electrical Engineering at University of Pisa. His main field of activity includes the development of models and codes for the simulations of ultrascaled semiconductor devices, with particular focus on two-dimensional materials based transistors. He is the leading developer of the Open Source code NanoCAD VDES. In 2017 he has been awarded an ERC Consolidator Grant for the Pep2D project – Printable Electronics on Paper through 2D materials based inks. Recently, he is spending efforts towards the characterization and fabrication of printed electronic devices through two-dimensional materials.

MASSIMO INGUSCIO – President, Italian National Research Council (CNR)
Full Professor of Physics at the University of Florence, President of the Italian Council of Presidents of Public Research Bodies. He held an ERC Advanced Grant in 2009. Furthermore, he was included in the Thomson-Reuters list of the “most influential scientific minds” for its research activity in Atomic Physics. He is a Member of the “Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei”, the oldest academy worldwide.

PHILIPP KIRCHER – ERC grantee, European University Institute and University of Edinburgh
Professor of Economics at the European University Institute, on secondment from the University of Edinburgh. He previously held positions at the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Oxford, and the London School of Economics, after receiving his PhD from the University of Bonn. His main research focus is on matching and wage setting in the labour market, often in the presence of heterogeneity of both workers and firms. He held an ERC Starting Grant on labour market heterogeneity from 2012-2017, and he will start working on an ERC Consolidator Grant on technological change in 2019 (TechChange project).

MICHAEL MARKIE – Publishing Director, Life Sciences, F1000 Research
Publishing Director for F1000. He is an Open Science, Open Data and Open Research advocate leading F1000’s effort to change the way science is communicated. He played a pivotal role in devising the open research publishing model and launching F1000Research in 2013, and now oversees the development of the publishing platform services F1000r provide for leading funders and institutions such as Wellcome and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He previously studied Chemical Biology at the University of Leeds, where he worked on synthesising a range of potential anti-tumour compounds.

BENEDETTA MENNUCCI – ERC Grantee, University of Pisa
Full Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Pisa. Her work is focused on the development of multi-scale approaches based on the integration of quantum chemistry and classical models and their implementation in efficient computational codes. In 2011 she obtained an ERC Ideas Starting Grant to investigate the interplay between quantum coherence and environment effects in the light-harvesting process in photosynthetic organisms (ENLIGHT project). In 2018, she has received her second ERC Grant (this time an Advanced Grant) focused on the computational simulation of light-induced functions in biological systems (LIFETIMES project).

VINCENZO VESPRINI – Delegate by Dept. for Higher Education and Research, Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR)
Full Professor of Mathematics at the University of Florence. Since 2005 he has been in the list of national experts of the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and the Ministry of Economic Development (MISE). He has acted as evaluator of numerous research projects of pure, applied and industrial research both at national (for MIUR, MISE, MIPAAF) and at European level (Marie Curie Projects, FP7). He is member of a technical committee for the simplification of University bureaucracy and the implementation of the National Research Plan.

FABIO ZWIRNER – Vice President, European Research Council
Full Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Padua and Representative of the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) in the Board of Directors and in the Executive Board of the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN). He was chairman of the CERN Scientific Policy Committee and one of the four members of the Strategy Secretariat for the update of the European Strategy in Particle Physics. Since 2015 he has been appointed as a member of the ERC Scientific Council and, from December 2018, he has been nominated Vice President.