

## **Kristóf Nyíri's selected Facebook entries**

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09/04/2020 10:05

THE GRANT SYSTEM IS SICK – So the President of the ERC has been removed. The reason given: he does not understand that the ERC's mission is to provide grants for bottom-up research. Now what the ERC does not seem to understand, and no one who might have a say does seem to understand, is that the grant system as such is incompatible with basic research, while basic research of course is necessarily bottom-up research. Why is the grant system incompatible with basic research? The reason, formulated way back by Karl Popper, and known by anyone who has an inkling as to what basic science and basic scholarship -- science and scholarship for short -- are about: you cannot tell what the results of the research you conduct will be, because if you could, you would not need to conduct it. The grant system is sick. When the smoke lifts, the world will have to return to a system where it is not projects but scientists who are funded, their position is funded, and let them choose what they work on and what collaborators they wish to work with.

#conservatismwhenthesmoke lifts #amikorafüstfelsz áll

05/04/2020 21:10

PUBLISH OR PERISH? – The question gains new timeliness when so many perish because too many people did too much travelling. Among them those who travelled monthly or indeed weekly to scientific conferences. They did so, mostly, in order to add to their list of publications, giving, practically, the same paper again and again to the same audience again and again. They were forced to do so because academic requirements demand them to publish even when they have no new results to offer. When the smoke lifts, the evaluation system of academic merit will be among the very many things that have to change.

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