

Liberate Science: A New Movement (Consciousness) of the Scientific *Indignados*

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ABSTRACT

A new state of consciousness is required in science, and from every current state of consciousness, a new one will be borne to counter it. Not only does this involve the continued positive efforts to challenge the boundaries of knowledge through research-based analyses, to educate the youth through passionate and enlightening messages, or to publish with integrity those results that were borne in the laboratory, but which might see applications within the society or economy. This unparalleled fusion between so many sectors of society and science, with we, the scientists, being the stalwarts of establishing that base of knowledge upon which society and humankind can advance, must advance with caution. Currently, advances in science and society are taking place at a pace that seems to be out-gunning the pace of ethics and morality, and a pro-active approach, through the birth of a new movement, is urgently needed to instill calm and understanding or to invoke chaos such that a true state of ethics may be born. 2013 marks the birth of the movement of the scientific *indignados*, who are not affiliated with any particular race, creed, culture or religion. The scientific *indignados* represent a new voice that does not represent the *status quo*, the elite, the powerful, or the domineering. It represents the voice of all scientists who wish to stand firmly against discrimination, injustice, corruption, lack of ethics, secrecy, silence and abuse in science. These factors are rapidly proliferating, and unless there is a counter movement, the purpose of science, and of our existence as scientists, will become meaningless and redundant. Liberate Science is an Anonymous-style voice of scientists who seek real change in the current system. This introductory text is not an imposition of what it is, nor a denial of what it is not. It simply brings forth a new manifesto, based on passion, and the will to discover truth within the context of solid principles, in the face of serious deficiencies and fraud.

Keywords: faith, honesty, principles, values

WHO CONSTITUTES LIBERATE SCIENCE?

We are women and men.

We are of all faiths.

We are of all creeds and cultures, of all colours and languages.

Science called us to serve a purpose of knowledge, to discover and explore, and we have come to serve that call.

We seek truth in the lab and in our lives.

We seek justice and fairness among work colleagues, family and friends, within our narrow niche, and within the wider community.

We represent the poor and the wealthy, but all rich in ideas and hope.

We are no single voice but we are all voices.

We are open to ideas but are closed to violence.

We are apolitical, but we recognize the importance of the political system in the fairness that our voices seek.

We are confident in only one thing: that the future is mutually ours and that we are all responsible for it.

And with a frame of responsibility, we seek to remedy the injustices that exist in science and publishing.

THE LIBERATE SCIENCE MANIFESTO

We are **against** corruption and fraud in publishing.

We are **against** abusive publishers.

We are **against** predatory publishers.

We are **against** monopolistic publishers.

We are **against** abusive editorial and subscription policies.

We are **for** the liberation of science from all forms of greed and corruption.

We are **for** a new order that listens to the voice of all scientists.

We are **for** the implementation of values that are developed in the light, with open and transparent communication and procedures of justice.

We are **for** free and frank expression of opinions with mutual respect and liberty to express.

We are **for** honest and independent science.

GLOSSARY

non grata: A Latin term meaning unwelcome, unacceptable, or unapproved.