



Seminar

## MEIR ZADOK

Guest of the Principal, SCAS.

Former Executive Director, Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Jerusalem

### *Can Funding Science in a Small Country Make a Difference?*

Tuesday, 21 November, 11:15 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall  
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala  
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## ABOUT MEIR ZADOK

Meir Zadok is the former CEO of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Jerusalem, and has been active in the development and administration of science policy in Israel for the last 40 years. He was among the founders of the University Grants Committee (UGC) and the Israel Science Foundation (ISF), and was a member of many national committees dealing with science policy and higher education issues.

Zadok holds a Ph.D. in Economics of Education from Lancaster University and was a recipient of the Rothschild Fellowship. He served as a research associate at the Center for Studies in Higher Education in Berkeley, and was a visiting scholar at Harvard University. Among his publications are: 'Funding Higher Education and Research in Israel' (2009) (in Hebrew) and *The Future of the Research University* (ed.) (2000).

At SCAS, he will study the implications of funding as a science policy tool.

## ABSTRACT

Modern research universities face unique challenges and opportunities in this era. With increasing emphasis on industrialization, social relevance, international economic competitiveness and limited resources they also face changes in societal expectations and aspiration and adopt a new role that has been played by college-polytechnic institutions. Indeed, such changes challenge the very goals, structures and identity of the research universities themselves.

A country's ability to create and utilize science and new technologies determines to a large extent its fate and status among the family of modern nations. Membership in this rather exclusive club of world science, however, is rather expensive, so much so that the environment, ground rules and nature of modern state-of-the-art research is changing. In most of the small countries in the western world there was a development in the last century of various new agencies between the government and the universities, such as research councils funding agencies etc. The role of the state has become crucial. To what extent can funding science in a small country make a difference? I will try to relate to this complex issue.