

## **Marja Makarow**

Marja Makarow is professor of applied biochemistry and molecular biology, and former vice-rector for research, doctoral training and innovation at the University of Helsinki. Since January 2008, on leave of absence from her university, she serves as chief executive of the European Science Foundation till the end of 2011. Marja Makarow is advisor to the EU Commissioner for Research and Innovation as vice-chair of the European Research Area Board, and to the European Commission for the “People” programme of Framework programme 7. She advises the Finnish Government and Parliament in the Council for Research and Innovation Policy that recently renovated the national research and innovation system and modernized the universities. Marja Makarow serves on boards, strategic councils and scientific advisory boards of several European top universities and research institutes. She is panel chair of the European Research Council Starting Grants scheme, has served as expert for performance assessments of and funding allocations for research funding organisations in Europe and beyond, and steered research assessment exercises of several universities. She was president of the European Molecular Biology Conference (EMBC/EMBO) and delegate of Finland in the council of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), and created the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland, a member of the Nordic EMBL Partnership for Molecular Medicine. As vice-chair of the board of the Aalto University, she has been creating and developing this novel public-private university, co-hosting a node of the European Institute for Technology and Innovation. Marja Makarow is former chair of the board of the technology transfer office co-owned by the University of Helsinki and the State of Finland, and of the jury of the world’s largest innovation prize, the Millennium Technology Prize. She is a cell biologist, her interests covering the molecular mechanisms of intracellular transport of proteins. She has published widely in reputed scientific journals, created patented inventions, supervised 19 PhD theses and supported 50 more as doctoral school director. Marja Makarow is member of distinguished learned societies and recipient of several awards, honours and decorations.

