



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Directorate B - European Research Area  
**B.2 - Skills**  
Head of Unit

Brussels, **18 JUL. 2013**  
ARES rtd.ddg2.b.2(2013)2691852

**Dr Isabel M Fernández Fuentes**  
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**EFG Executive Director**  
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**Belgium**

**Subject: 'EURAXESS - Researchers in Motion' research field classification**

Dear Dr Isabel Fernández,

Thank you for your letter of 19 June 2013.

As you may know, in 2011 we announced that we were reflecting on the most appropriate classification structure to be used for EURAXESS Jobs, allowing us to take into account different and often conflicting user needs. In 2012 we thoroughly explored the possibility to adopt the ERC classification but we realised that the cross-check between classifications was not 100% precise and complete enough as it was not possible to find an exact match for many fields. Therefore, we came to the conclusion that if we moved all the values from Orthelium to ERC classification, all features available on EURAXESS Jobs (i.e. off-line editing procedure, CV and all job and fellowship information) would have been heavily affected.

For this reason we decided that, upon exceptional and motivated needs, we can integrate into the Orthelium classification missing research fields thus creating a customised “research field classification” more in line with the needs of EURAXESS users.

Since your request falls in the exception described above, we are pleased to inform you that by the end of this year the following will be adopted:

- **Main Research Field: ‘Geosciences’** (substituting the current ‘Earth science’ – to be deleted - embedded in ‘Environmental science’)
- **Related Sub-Research Fields: Geology and Hydrology**

Please note that, due to our web-site architecture, we will not be able to adopt and display the sub-sub-categories 'Marine geology' and 'Palaeontology', related to the sub-category 'Geology'.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a cursive name.

Stefaan Hermans

Cc: Octavi QUINTANA

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