

To all participants in the ILANIT - 2014

Dear Colleagues,

The Inter-University Forum for Medical Research in Israel operates on behalf of the Vice Presidents for Research of the universities and is active in prevention of legislation, which could damage the process of research animal experimentation.

We currently are being subjected to a wave of activities directed against bio-medical research in Israel, together with actions attempting, either directly or indirectly, to make more severe the current regulations on bio-medical research, and including:

1. Attempts to alter the structure of the National Council for Experimental Animal Research: replacement of the Chairman who is currently a representative of the Israel Academy of Sciences with an emeritus judge; doubling the number of council members who are members of movements opposed to animal research from 3 to 6; addition of a veterinarian who is not involved in medical research (and who is not trained in research procedures or theory) to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees).
2. An attempt to transfer the authority connected with the laws of animal welfare connected with production of animals for medical research from the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Environmental Protection, which has no knowledge or practical background in the subject.
3. Restrictions on import or export of research animals, either by adding a regulation to the existing law (as with the regulation which will cause the closure of the Mazur farm) or by influencing transport companies such as El Al to refuse to fly research animals.

Our activities include meetings with Knesset members and other functionaries who can influence legislative processes. We need your support and request that you express your opinions by signing this petition, the object of which is to demonstrate that we represent, and are voicing the views of, the majority of medical and scientific researchers in Israel.

Please sign the petition (Hebrew or English) that appears at the URL:

[www.iuf.org.il](http://www.iuf.org.il)

Please direct your friends and colleagues to sign as well. Naturally we will not make any use of the personal details which you provide, and will not transfer them to a third party, but will appreciate your full support when necessary in the future.

With thanks,

Yours,

Professor Alex Tsafiri (outgoing Chair)

Professor John Finberg (incoming Chair)

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