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The President of the Republic, Mr Nicos Anastasiades, honoured tonight eight researchers from Cyprus, who have secured grants from the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, for the period 2007-2013 and particularly from the Programme IDEAS. The main implementation organization of the Programme is the European Research Council.

Speaking at the ceremony, which took place at the Presidential Palace, the President of the Republic said, in part, that "the honourees managed to stand apart and distinguish themselves for their scientific excellence, in the most competitive European programme, in the research sector, in which the best minds of the most advanced technological countries in Europe participate."

He added that "the crisis should be addressed based on the strong competitive advantages of our country and within this framework excellence in research and innovation constitutes a basic lever for the more general development, the enhancement of competitiveness for a viable growth of the economy and the increase of employment."

President Anastasiades noted that "so far the presence of Cyprus in the main EU research programme covering the period from 2007 to 2013 is quite satisfactory. More than 70 million euro in funding have been secured. Part of this funding concerns also the eight research projects of the researchers we honour tonight, and which have secured a total of 13 million euro".

The Cypriot researchers are:

1. Elena Andreou, Associate Professor at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Starting Grant in 2007 for her work "New Results on Structural Change Tests: Theory and Applications."
2. Marios Avraamides, Associate Professor at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Starting Grant in 2007, for his work "Multiple Systems of Spatial Memory: Their Role in Reasoning and Action."
1. Antonis Kirmizes, Assistant Professor at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Starting Grant in 2010 for his work "Functional and Regulatory Protein Networks of Chromatin Modifying Enzymes."
3. Marios Polykarpou, Professor at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Advanced Grant in 2011 for his work "Fault-Adaptive Monitoring and Control of Complex Distributed Dynamical Systems."
4. Philippos Patsalis, Professor at the Institute of Neurology and Genetics of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Advanced Grant in 2012 for his work "A Novel Non-Invasive Diagnosis for Genetic Disorders."
5. Triantafyllos Stylianopoulos, Lecturer at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Starting Grant in 2013 for his work "Re-Engineering the Tumor Microenvironment to Alleviate Mechanical Stresses and Improve Chemotherapy."
6. Johannes Lelieveld, Professor at the Cyprus Institute, for receiving a ERC Advanced Grant in 2008 for his work "Consistent Computation of the Chemistry-Cloud Continuum and Climate Change in Cyprus."
7. Christoforos Pissarides, Professor at the University of Cyprus, for receiving a ERC Advanced Grant in 2012 for his work "Employment in Europe."

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