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From the President Venki Ramakrishnan

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Our ref: BH/ LW

Dear Professor Alpar

I am writing to raise concerns about reports that evolution is to be excluded from the national school curriculum in Turkey. Darwinian evolution is both well established and central to our understanding of biology. Should its place in schools be diminished in any way it would only serve to weaken the education of young people and damage their prospects of competing and collaborating in the increasingly globalised world of science and innovation.

Turkey has a growing reputation for high quality scientific research and the Royal Society is proud of the partnerships and collaborations between our two countries. This reputation is no doubt in part due to an education system that is producing high quality researchers.

We have contacted ALLEA Members in Turkey to raise this matter and hope that Bilim Akademisi is in contact with your government to help ensure that Turkey's scientific reputation is not damaged.

Yours sincerely

Venki Ramakrishnan

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President Sir Venki Ramakrishnan
Executive Director Dr Julie Maxton

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