

Prof. Toivo Maimets, University of Tartu, Estonia

graduated from the University of Tartu as a biologist-geneticist in 1980 and got his cand. sci. (kandidat nauk) degree from Moscow State University in 1984. In 1985-1989 he was a British Council student and research scientist at the Marie Curie Cancer Research Institute (United Kingdom) and in 1991 received PhD degree (University of Tartu). His research involves characterization of intracellular signal transduction pathways responsible for cell cycle regulation, DNA damage control and tumorigenesis. In 2006-2007 he was Visiting Professor of University of Newcastle, UK. Professor Toivo Maimets has been member of several international research organisations and advisory groups, including European Commission Research, Innovation and Science High-level Expert Group (RISE), European Molecular Biology Conference (former president), Science Europe (former member of Board) and European Science Foundation (former member of Board). He is a member of European and American Associations for Cancer Research and Academia Europaea. He is also member of the European Medicines Agency Committee of Advanced Therapies and has served as a member and vice-president of UNESCO International Bioethics Committee (IBC 2004-2011). One of his activities in UNESCO IBC was to chair the working group preparing "Report of IBC on Human Cloning and International Governance" (2009). Prof. Maimets has worked as a member of several high-level expert groups for EC DG Research and Innovation, preparing the reports "Final Review of COST in the Sixth Framework Programme" (2006), "The Report of the Expert Group on the Future of Networks of Excellence" (2008), "Interim Evaluation of the Seventh Framework Programme" (2010) and "Mid term review of the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) and Specific Grant Agreements (SGAs) for COST" (chair, 2017). He has occupied numerous administrative posts with responsibilities in research and education, including Dean of the Faculty (1993-1995), vice-rector of the University of Tartu (1995-1998), director of the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (1999-2003 and from 2008), Minister of Education and Research (2003-2005). In 2009-2012 he was Chairman of Estonian Science Foundation, now member of Estonian Research Council Governing Board. In 2001-2007 he was the director of National Centre of Excellence for Gene and Environmental Technologies. Since the foundation of inter-faculty Tartu University Centre of Ethics (2006) he has been its Chairman of Board. His list of publications includes about 100 papers in international research journals and articles in local press to enhance public understanding of science. His research has been supported by numerous grants from Estonia and abroad.