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French researcher refused entry to the USA: the French Academy of Sciences reacts



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On March 9, a French CNRS researcher was turned back by the United States on his way to a scientific congress on space research. His phone and computer were searched, and for a time he was threatened with legal action because of the presence of messages considered hostile to President Donald Trump.

The French Academy of Sciences strongly protests against this practice and decision, which seriously undermines the fundamental freedoms of the academic world: freedom of thought, expression and travel. It is concerned by the restrictions thus imposed by the United States on free communication between researchers, on their freedom of movement and on international cooperation, essential foundations for the progress of scientific knowledge. It calls on international scientific institutions to react to this unprecedented situation and to denounce this authoritarian drift, which is harmful to science.

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