

August 20th, 2025**Dear Secretary General of CESAER,**

It is with great pleasure that I write to endorse the candidacy of Prof. Hasan Mandal, Rector of Istanbul Technical University (ITÜ), for a position on the CESAER Board of Directors for the 2026–2027 term.

As Rector of UPM, a founding member of CESAER, I deeply value the quality and relevance of the services our Association provides to its member universities of science and technology. My predecessor, Rector Emeritus Guillermo Cisneros, has served on the Board with distinction, offering continuous support, advice, and active participation in meetings and the preparation and approval of key documents. His term will conclude in 2025.

Guillermo has emphasized to me the importance of co-developing CESAER's strategic direction through close collaboration between the Assembly, Board, and Presidency, supported by the Secretariat. To achieve this, it is essential that the Board of Directors be composed of individuals holding the highest leadership positions at member universities—ideally Rectors and Presidents—with extensive experience in national and international higher education and research affairs.

In light of today's complex challenges, we need insightful and well-informed individuals to guide our institutions. I am confident that Prof. Hasan Mandal embodies these qualities and is exceptionally well-suited to contribute to the Board. I therefore fully endorse his candidacy.

Kind regards,

Óscar García Suárez
Rector
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid