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News Release

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## Government Funding for Synthetic Biology on the Rise New Report Compares U.S. and European Funding

W S T — new analysis by the Synthetic iology roject at the Woodrow Wilson enter found that the U S government has spent around million on research related to synthetic biology since with the epartment of nergy funding a majority of the research y comparison the analysis indicated that the uropean Union and three individual uropean countries – the etherlands United ingdom and ermany – had spent approximately million during that same period

pproximately percent of the US funding and percent of the uropean funding was being spent to explore ethical legal and social implications of synthetic biology The analysis uncovered no projects dedicated to risk assessment

"We are releasing the analysis now with the hope that it will lead to further disclosures by government entities concerning the amount and focus of R funding in synthetic biology and better research coordination" said avid Rejeski the irector of the Synthetic iology roject "s that data becomes available we will update our analysis"

This report follows the announcement on ay <sup>th</sup> by the Venter nstitute of the creation of a bacterial cell that is controlled by a synthetic genome "Though the private sector is active in this field government investments in synthetic biology are large and increasing" said r Todd uiken who oversaw the analysis " large portion of the US funding is dedicated to biofuels research"

The report and data tables can be accessed at www synbioproject org

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars of the Smithsonian Institution was established by ongress in and is headquartered in Washington t is a nonpartisan institution supported by public and private funds and engaged in the study of national and world affairs The enter's Science and Technology nnovation rogram brings new tools to bear on public policy challenges resulting from innovations in science and technology