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L'ÉCHEC DES ORGANISATIONS DE RECHERCHE SOUS CONTRAT

(Failure of Research Work Carried Out Under Contract)

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In this paper a series of data are cited regarding the organizations for research on the basis of a contract. Starting from these data, some conclusions are outlined.

From the data referring to some American organizations of this kind, there results that research carried out on the strength of a contract is a limited phenomenon whose future does not at all appear to be promising. In Europe the number of the respective organizations is very small, thus showing the reduced importance of this manner of organizing research. The efficiency of the French organizations for research according to a contract is far from being satisfactory, due to numerous causes: the scientific staff of high qualification is hired mostly by the large enterprises for their own laboratories; the activity of the organizations is scattered and heterogeneous, whereas creative activity in research requires specializing; this polyvalence, which cannot yield results owing to the limited number of research workers in these organizations is due to a great extent to the narrowness of the outlets. The solution seems to be for the enterprises to carry out their research activity themselves.

