The conflict of public science versus protection of industrial property and intellectual rights

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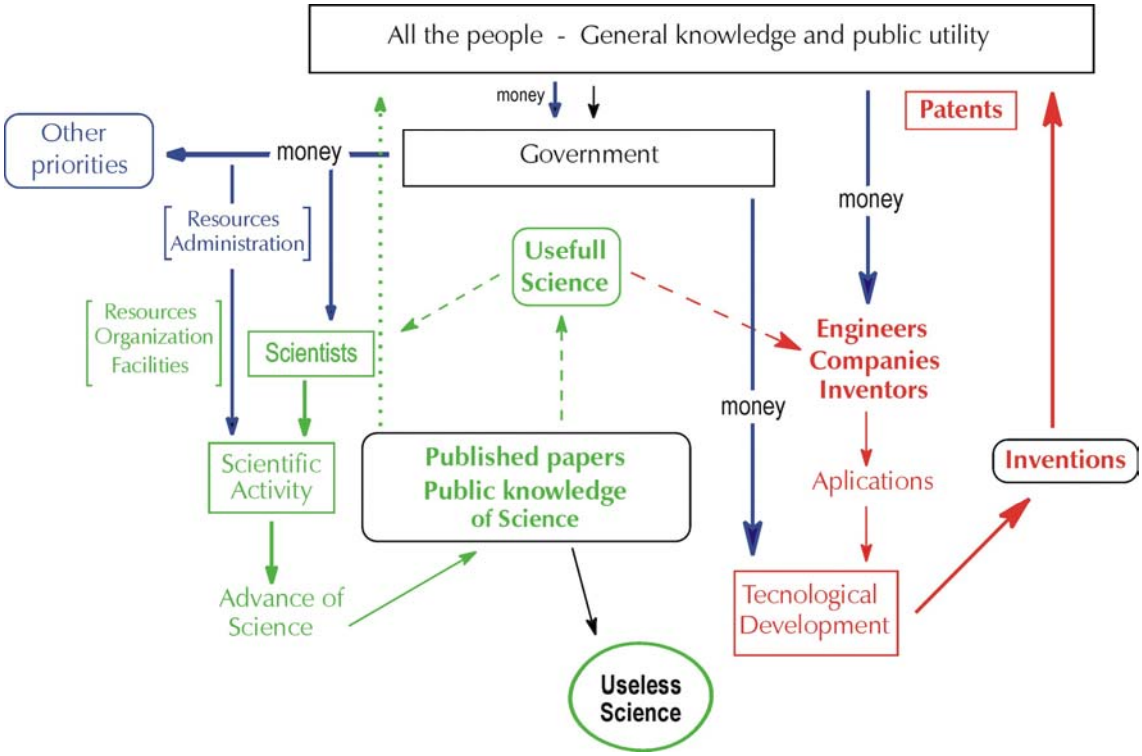
Everybody thinks that science must be public, and that inventors or researchers must communicate and make public any new finding in order to other members of the scientific community can access to it and progress in their research. This statement is based on the assumptions that science is anonymous and that scientists cannot have any economical interest anyway. However, none of these to principles are correct and so we must scientists need specially money, first of all to guarantee the continuity of their work, as money is the only thing that can make a research line stable, and official governments and grants are continuously demonstrating their inconsistency in respecting the research work of scientists.



Some of these concepts are shown in the figure I am presenting here. The circuit in green is the regular science circuit. Scientists receive money from the government, they work and publish papers that are read by other scientists, the government evaluates that activity and gives more or less money according to the results each scientist can demonstrate about his activity... And it is supposed that science progress in this way. However this does not work well as in practice the money each researcher receives is not usually in no agreement with his activity and relevance, as there are many (I would say most of them) useless science.

On the other side (shown in red in the figure), working like a parallel work there is the world of inventors, which makes the technology and develops a lot of devices of practical interest. Of course, this activity is always based on scientific principles, but this support is barely acknowledged as usually the publication of the scientific principle is so far in time from the development of the industrial device. Thus, the scientific and the technological worlds works very separately as is they were not connected. The technological world is happy as it receives much money, both from the people when they buy the devices, and from government as it thinks that such money is highly merited, as engineers are really working for the industrial development of the countries, they create jobs, etc. On the other hand, the scientific world is not happy as they do not receive money on regular basis and government does not support it consistently.

My proposal here is that science —good science— can be able to get its own economic resources. The main condition to get this aim is that scientists must protect their industrial property and intellectual rights. I will talk about my own experience in creating a private scientific institution named "Institut of Cellular Metabolism" devoted to biomedical research. This institution is generating its own economical resources, and so we can carry out there an independent science research with guaranteed continuity.

I would also discuss some laws that I consider that commit an outrage against the elemental rights of the persons. The articles of my University—and it is probably the same situation in many— state that all industrial rights of any finding or invention carried out by its researchers belong to the institution. I think that this is not correct, as on the contrary that usually happens in private institutions, here the subject of the research projects is specifically commended to the researchers, in public institutions these subjects —not only their development, but the discover of the subject, that I consider much more important— are invented by the researchers, not by the institution.