The Royal Society is an independent scientific academy founded in 1660 and self-governing under Royal Charter. The Society has three roles, as the scientific academy of the United Kingdom, as a learned society, and as a funding body.

Objectives of The Royal Society are to
- recognise excellence in science
- support leading-edge scientific research and its applications
- stimulate international interaction
- further the role of science, engineering and technology in society
- promote the public’s understanding of science
- provide independent authoritative advice on matters relating to science, engineering and technology
- encourage research into the history of science
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