



FINAL AGENDA: 2013 ERAC Mutual Learning Seminar on Research and Innovation policies

Time: 21 March 2013

Place: European Commission, *Charlemagne* building, room MANS,
Brussels, rue de la Loi 200

The 2013 European Semester has started with the adoption of the Annual Growth Survey (AGS) on 28 November 2012. The 2013 AGS offers overall guidance for the European Semester and ensures continuity with the previous edition in terms of priorities focused on delivering growth and jobs (i.e.growth-friendly fiscal consolidation; restoring normal lending to the economy; promoting growth and competitiveness; tackling unemployment and the social consequences of the crisis; modernizing public administration). This is especially valid in the field of Research and Innovation, where the focus is on the monitoring and implementation of the twelve Country Specific Recommendations related to R&I adopted by the Council in July 2012. Other very important elements to be fully integrated in the 2013 European Semester are notably those related to the completion of ERA based on the new ERA Communication.

The aim of the 2013 ERAC Mutual Learning Seminar is to stimulate discussion amongst Member States about some specific subjects closely linked to the implementation of the CSRs and about main policy orientations in the field of R&I in the context of Europe 2020. This year exercise is structured similarly to the 2012 MLS and concentrates on three ways in which research and innovation policies can contribute to the enhancement of economic growth and competitiveness. The final report from the seminar will be circulated among the participants by 5 April 2013.

Please note that the nine questions (3 per session) in that agenda have been drafted by the moderators, respectively by Luke Georghiou, Lena Tsipouri and Stefan Lilischkis.

Opening session

08:00-08:45 *Registration & coffee*

08:45-09:00 Welcome and introduction by **Pierre Vigier**, Head of Unit,
Economic Analysis and Indicators, DG Research and Innovation,
European Commission

Session I

Effectiveness of national research systems (linked to the Commission's communication 'A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth' from July 2012)

1. What is the optimum balance between competitive and block funding in a research system? Is that balance different according to national circumstances? What are the limits of competition? What level of concentration of funding of grant awards should a research system aim to achieve to maximise effectiveness? How can competitions

for funding be designed to raise the level of effectiveness of national research systems? Which instruments are best to implement competitive funding? How can competitive funding be designed to encourage new entrants to challenge the incumbents?

2. What measures can be taken to improve national approaches to peer review? How can the highest quality of experts be motivated to engage in peer review outside their own national contexts? How significant are the limitations of peer review and what can be done to mitigate these?

3. What is the most effective way to incentivise institutions to improve their research performance? What degree of institutional autonomy is necessary for them to be able to respond to incentives that reward quality? What is best practice in institutional assessment? What level of institutional concentration on excellence is best for a research system? What are the effects on those not selected?

09.00-12.00

- Introduction by the moderator of Session I **Luke Georghiou** - University of Manchester and Manchester Business School
- Discussion panel:

Arie van der Zwan, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation and Jacky Bax, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Netherlands

Pier –Eric Yngwe, Ministry of education and Research, Sweden

Michael Keenan, senior analyst, Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, OECD

Philippe Laredo, Université Paris-Est and University of Manchester

- General discussion

12:00 -13:00 *Networking Lunch*

Session II

Innovation strategies articulating supply side and demand side aspects

1. When designing innovation strategies, are demand and supply side aspects equally taken into consideration? All member states have innovation strategy papers, some countries even more than one. When preparing strategy papers what is the process? Repeating past rationales and interventions or organising new evidence creation and experiment with new measures? How are demand side policies perceived during the strategy design phase? Are there specific demand side measures favoured over others? If yes, why?

2. How are demand side aspects implemented (in connection with strategic priorities)? There is more experience with supply side measures than demand side in innovation policies. This often leads policy makers to disregard demand side aspects mentioned in strategy papers and by inertia favour supply side. Does the actual policy reflect the role granted to demand side in strategy documents? Is the mix as planned? Are adaptations to the strategy decided explicitly and ex ante or does policy develop partly independently of strategy?

3. What are the experiences with demand side instruments? What are the main demand-side measures implemented in your country? What are the reasons for selecting these instruments and not others? What are the experiences with them? What are the main obstacles to implement demand-side measures? How can these obstacles be eliminated?

13:00-15:10

- Introduction by the moderator of Session II
Lena Tsipouri - Professor at the University of Athens
- Discussion panel:

***Mart Laatsit**, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia*

***Nick Rousseau**, Innovation Directorate, Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, UK.*

***Birgit Aschhoff**, Senior Researcher, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Germany*

***Andrea Bonaccorsi**, University of Pisa and ANVUR, Italy*

- General discussion

15.10-15.30

Coffee break

Session III

Policies for high growth innovative enterprises

1. What measures are particularly helpful or unhelpful to facilitate **access to finance** for high-growth innovative enterprises? What barriers do Member States face on the road to a Single Market for venture capital in Europe? What experiences were made when trying to promote business angels?
2. What characteristics should **targeted schemes** for supporting high-growth innovative enterprises have? Is a focus on coaching and mentoring entrepreneurs worthwhile?
3. What **framework conditions** would most urgently need to be modified in order to support high growth of enterprises? Should the focus be on general business regulations, investment regulation, labour law, bankruptcy law, SME policies rewarding to stay small, or on other conditions? Or should the whole set of framework conditions be targeted?

15.30-17.40

- Introduction by the moderator of Session III
Stefan Lilischkis, Empirica, Bonn
- Discussion panel:

***Anna Brussa**, Polish Agency for Economic Development, Poland*

***Pierre-Louis Autin**, Ministry of Higher education and Research and **Rémy Arquevaux**, Ministère du Redressement productif, France*

***Jean-Marc Soustre**, founding partner, HumanEye, France*

***Allan Martel**, president Allan Martel Consulting, Canada*

- General discussion

<i>Concluding session</i>

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| 17:40-17:50 | Main messages to emerge from the discussions - Summary by the moderators |
| 17:50-18:00 | Conclusions by Clara de la Torre , Director, Research and Innovation, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission |

Background material distributed prior to seminar:

- *Effectiveness of National Research System*, by Luke Georghiou
- *Innovation strategies articulating supply- and demand-side aspects*, by Lena Tsipouri
- *Policies for high- growth innovative enterprises*, by Stefan Lilischkis