



JOINT DECLARATION

BY

**THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS (EARTO),
THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION (EUA), THE LEAGUE OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH
UNIVERSITIES (LERU), NORDFORSK, SCIENCE EUROPE (SE), THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
SCHOOLS FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (CESAER) AND
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

ON WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP IN ACHIEVING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

JOINT DECLARATION

BY

**THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS (EARTO),
THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION (EUA), THE LEAGUE OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH
UNIVERSITIES (LERU), NORDFORSK, SCIENCE EUROPE (SE), THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
SCHOOLS FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (CESAER) AND
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

ON WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP IN ACHIEVING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science (European Commission) and the representatives of the Stakeholder Organisations Jan Mengelers, President of the European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO), Professor Maria Helena Nazaré, President of the European University Association (EUA), Lesley Wilson, Secretary General of EUA, Professor Bernd Huber, Chair of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) and Professor Kurt Deketelaere, Secretary-General of LERU, Professor Gunnel Gustafsson, Director of NordForsk and Professor Guðrún Nordal, Chair of NordForsk, Professor Paul Boyle, President of Science Europe (SE), Professor Marco Gilli, President of the Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research (CESAER), hereafter collectively referred to as the partners, have today stated their willingness to continue working in 2014 in partnership towards the achievement of the European Research Area (ERA).

Since its launch on 17 July 2012, the partnership has grown in membership and in depth. The partners recognise that the partnership has improved the quality of their cooperation and mutual information sharing, and has been instrumental in supporting the realisation of the ERA actions set out in the ERA Communication “A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth”, adopted by the Commission on the same day. ERA is on the agenda of all the Stakeholder Organisations and within its spirit common goals have been established and joint actions have been carried out. Member institutions of the Stakeholder Organisations are now more aware of ERA and have been and will continue to be encouraged to take action towards ERA priorities. The Commission has adopted the 2013 ERA Progress Report, where it acknowledges the important work Stakeholder Organisations have done so far.

However, the challenges ahead remain important. Therefore, the partners acknowledging the encouraging results of their cooperation and the important achievements so far, express their willingness to continue working together in 2014 in the scope of the Stakeholder Platform, in line with the Joint Statement of 17 July 2012, as well as their commitments expressed in their Memoranda of Understanding or Unilateral Statements.

The partners declare that they will support each other, in particular by sharing information, by providing input for the development of ERA policy, and by taking action towards the realisation of this policy, as appropriate to each organisation and its membership.

Done at Brussels on 13 December 2013

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science (European Commission)

Jan Mengelers, President of the European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO)

Professor Maria Helena Nazaré, President of the European University Association (EUA)

Lesley Wilson, Secretary General of the European University Association (EUA)

Professor Bernd Huber, Chair of the League of European Research Universities (LERU)

Professor Kurt Deketelaere, Secretary-General of the League of European Research Universities (LERU)

Professor Guðrún Nordal, Chair of NordForsk

Professor Gunnel Gustafsson, Director of NordForsk

Professor Paul Boyle, President of Science Europe (SE)

Professor Marco Gilli, President of the Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research (CESAER)