Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 25 September 2018

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LIMITE

RECH
ERAC

WORKING PAPER

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject:	PowerPoint presentation: Review of the ERA Advisory Structure 2018

Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation "Review of the ERA Advisory Structure 2018" given under item 4.1 of the ERAC Plenary agenda of 17-18 September.

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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI

Review of ERA Advisory Structure 2018

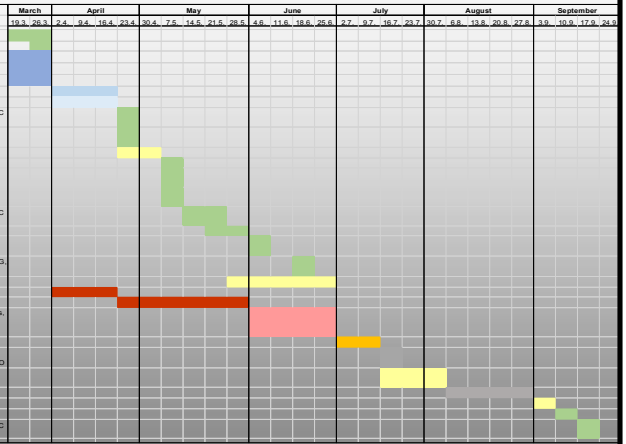
Philipp Langer / Lisa Müller (CH)
Kari Balke Øiseth (NO)

17 Sept 2018, **ERAC Plenary**, Salzburg

1

Work and Milestones

Part	Task	Deadline	Resp.
-	Finalize concept for ERA review	30.03.2018	CH
-	Preparatory meeting with ERAC Co-Chairs and Kari Balke	28.03.2018	CH
1	Collection of documents for documentary analysis	30.03.2018	CH
1	Elaborate codebook / analytical framework	30.03.2018	CH
1	Prepare template for groups' self-assessment	30.03.2018	CH
1	Documentary analysis	20.04.2018	CH, NO
1	Self-assessment by ERA-related groups	20.04.2018	Groups
-	ERAC Steering Board: Exchange on progress	24.04.2018	CH, NO, ERAC SB
-	Exchange with Council and COM Secretariats (management aspects; during lunch break)	24.04.2018	CH, NO
1	Summary of findings from documentary analysis from part 1	04.05.2018	CH, NO
-	Working Meeting in Geneva	07.05.2018	CH, NO
-	Distribution of short progress report (procedure) to ERAC in preparation for Plenary	07.05.2018	CH
-	Exchange with ERA Stakeholders	16.05.2018	CH/NO, ERA Stakeholders
-	ERAC Plenary: presentation and discussion of progress report (incl. draft of questionnaire)	17.05.2018	CH, NO, ERAC
-	ERA-related groups: bilateral phone conversations with Chairs	31.05.2018	CH, NO
-	Exchange with Council Secretariat (DG)	08.06.2018	Council, CH
-	Exchange with European Commission (DG, DDG)	21.06.2018	COM DG, DDG, CH, NO
1	Drafting of final report Part 1	29.06.2018	CH, NO
2	Clarify and organize survey tool	20.04.2018	CH
2	Drafting of questionnaire and set-up of online survey	01.06.2018	CH
2	Online survey open	29.06.2018	ERAC, Groups, stakeholders, Presidencies
2	Analysis of survey responses	13.07.2018	CH
-	Meeting with ERAC Co-Chairs to discuss (almost) final results of review (Vienna, during Informal Council)	16.07.2028	ERAC Co-Chairs, CH, NO
2	Drafting of final report Part 2 and synthesizing with Part 1 to full final report	03.08.2018	CH, NO
-	Feedback from ERAC	31.08.2018	ERAC
-	Revision of final report (deadline 31.8., extended 5.9.)	05.09.2018	CH, NO
-	Distribution of final report to ERAC in preparation for Plenary	10.09.2018	ERAC
-	ERAC Plenary: presentation, discussion and adoption of final report	17.09.2018	CH, NO, ERAC



Rapporteur: Switzerland (Philipp Langer, Lisa Müller)
Collaborators: Norway (Kari Balke Øiseth)

General
Preparations Part 1
Documentary analysis
Group self-assessment
Preparations Part 2
Survey & interviews
Survey analysis
Report drafting
Feedback & revision

2

Collected Input

Documentary Analysis

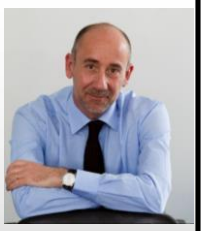
- Objectives of each **ERA Priority**
- Groups' **Mandates**
- **Work Programmes**
- **Publications**
- **Meetings**

- **Self-assessment** from Chair(s)

3

Collected Input

Interviews



- ERAC Co-Chairs
- Commission, Council Secretariat
- Chairs of certain ERA-related Groups
- ERA Stakeholder Platform Members

LERU League of European Research Universities

CESAER

EUA European University Association

EARTO

SCIENCE EUROPE Shaping the future of research

Taftie The European Network of Innovation Agencies

4

Collected Input

Online Survey

- Addressed to:
- **ERAC** delegations (incl. EC)
- All other **ERA-related groups**
- **ERA Stakeholder Platform** organisations
- Council **Presidencies** (2016-2018)
- Council **Secretariat**

5

Collected Input

Online Survey

- **LimeSurvey**
  - Adaptive
  - Open 1 month
  - Only 1 reply per entity
- Questions:
  - **Closed questions** (Yes/No on a Scale 0-100)
  - **Open-ended questions** (Text)

6

Collected Input

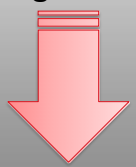
Online Survey

Respondent category	Entities that submitted a reply (43 Replies in total)
ERAC (29)	MS Co-Chair, EC Co-Chair, Delegations: AT, BE, BG, BIH, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, IE, IL, IS, IT, LT, LUX, MD, NL, NO, PT, SE, SI, SK
European Commission	European Commission (identical reply as ERAC EC Co-Chair)
Other ERA-related groups (5)	GPC, ESFRI, SWG HRM, SWG GRI, SFIC
EU Council Presidencies (3)	Austria, Malta, the Netherlands
ERA Stakeholder Platform (4)	LERU, EUA, Science Europe, ERRIN
Council Secretariat	Council Secretariat

Collected Input

Online Survey

- Results…
- > **26'000** Data Fields
- **77 Pages** of Text A4



- Wealth of **Suggestions, Ideas, Recommendations**

8

Review: Final Report

European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)

REVIEW OF THE ERA ADVISORY STRUCTURE 2018

Final Report

Document:	Review of the ERA Advisory Structure: Final Report
Authors:	CH: Philipp LANGER, Lisa MÜLLER NO: Kari B. ØISETH
Date / State:	10.09.2018: Revised Final Report (for discussion/adoption)

1. Review: Recommendations 1
1.1 Cross-cutting Issues and Future Developments of the ERA 1
1.1.1 ERA Priorities 1
1.1.2 ERA Advisory Structure 1
1.1.3 Relations with the European Commission, Council and Council Presidencies 2
1.1.4 ERA Monitoring and Reporting System 2
1.1.5 Links between ERA and Framework Programmes (FPs) 2
1.1.6 Impact and Outreach of the ERA-related Groups 3
1.1.7 Procedures and Working Conditions 3

9

Review: Final Report

Recommendations

- Cross-cutting Issues, Future Developments ERA
- Each ERA-related Group (ERAC, GPC, ESFRI, HRM, GRI, OSI, SFIC)

Annex: **Main Results** (Conclusions & Recommendations by Rapporteur Team)

- Same structure
- Documentary analysis, self-assessments and survey results (numerical and text answers)

10

Review: Technical Annex

European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)

REVIEW OF THE ERA ADVISORY STRUCTURE 2018

Technical Annex

Document:	Review of the ERA Advisory Structure: Technical Annex
Authors:	CH: Philipp LANGER, Lisa MÜLLER NO: Kari B. ØISETH
Date / State:	10.09.2018: Revised Technical Annex (for discussion/adoption)

1. Technical Annex: Detailed Findings 1
1.1 Cross-cutting Issues and Future Developments of the ERA 1
1.1.1 Results from Documentary Analysis 1
1.1.2 Results from Survey 1
1.2 ERAC 6
1.2.1 Results from Documentary Analysis 6

11

Review: Technical Annex

Detailed Findings

- Documentary Analysis
- Online Survey *(numerical replies)*
- Self-Assessment of Chair(s)

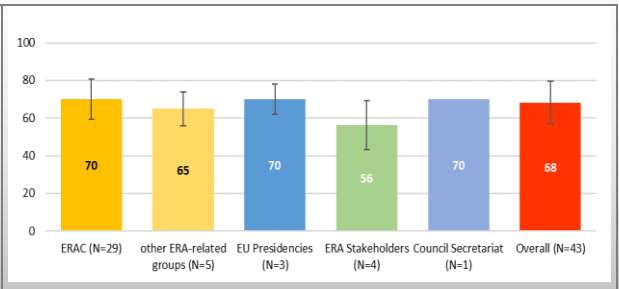
Methodology

- Methodology
- ToR, Schedule, Codebook, Templates, Questionnaire

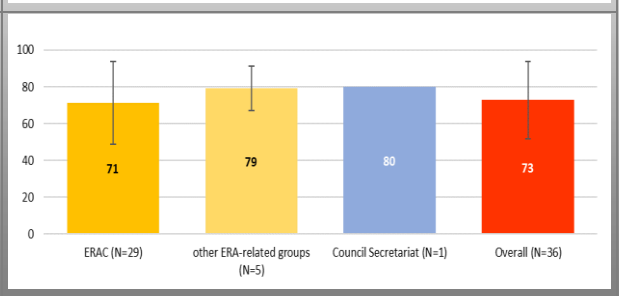
12

Review: Technical Annex

Do you think that we are making good progress in achieving the objectives of the ERA priorities? [0 = Fully disagree; 100 = Fully agree]



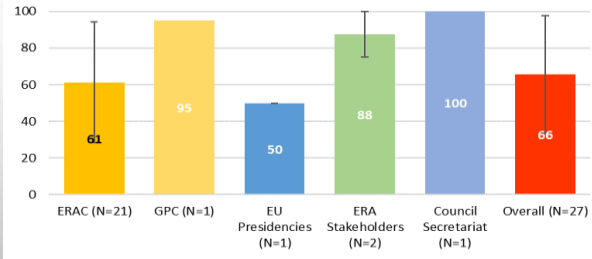
Is the current number of ERA-related groups adequate to achieve the objectives of ERA? [0 = Fully disagree; 100 = Fully agree]



13

Review: Technical Annex

How important do you consider the continuation of this group? [0 = Not at all important; 100 = Very important]



14

Feedback Cycles

- **4 – 29 June 2018**:
  Online survey open
- **3 August – 5 September**:
  Circulation of draft final report to ERAC.
  Feedback received from AT, BE,
  CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, FR, IE, IT, MT, NO, SE,
  Council Secretariat (more technical issues)
- **10 September**:
  Distribution of draft final report for ERAC Plenary
- **17 September**:
  Adoption of final report in ERAC plenary

15

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State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI

Final Report: Recommendations (for discussion in ERAC)

16

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

ERA Priorities

1. Keep. Expand 2a.
2. New ERA Communication

ERA Advisory Structure

3. Keep ERAC's superordinate role.
4. Relaunch **GPC** (monitoring & consultative role) for **life-cycle** of **partnership initiatives**, in accordance with the design of the strategic coordinating process for future partnerships and the timeline thereof.

17

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

ERA Advisory Structure (continued):

5. With a view to saving resources, consider **back-to-back** or even **joint meetings** of ERA-related groups where many **synergies** with regard to **content** and **target groups** exist (such as **SWG HRM and SWG GRI**, or GPC and SFIC). In the medium term, examine options to **reduce the number of groups** while ensuring adequate coverage of all aspects of ERA Priorities.
6. Work more often in ERAC ad-hoc WGs.
7. Keep RPG as a separate, informal platform.

18

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

Relations with EC, Council, and Presidencies

8. Clarify role of EC in all groups, to ensure constructive and consistent participation. Examine stronger involvement of JRC.
9. Optimal conditions and resources for all groups.
10. Earlier coordination Presidencies <> ERA.

ERA Monitoring and Reporting System

11. Review and improve EMM indicators.
12. Set-up of lean, flexible monitoring tool for national ERA progress (= national responsibility!), opt-out allowed.

19

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

ERA Monitoring and Reporting System (cont.)

13. Reflect on better linkage between NAPs and the European Semester and on the future of NAPs.
14. Strengthen exploitation of PSF results in ERA.

Links between ERA and FPs

15. Look at ERA and FPs from a systemic point of view.
16. Ilustrate links between Horizon Europe and ERA Priorities, e.g. by a new ERAC Opinion.
17. Increase support measures for ERA Priorities in FPs.

20

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

Impact and Outreach of the ERA-related Groups

18. Increase **visibility and impact** of all ERA-related groups and their work for target groups (websites, impact and communication strategy).
19. Increase direct **exchanges** between concerned ERA-related groups and **ERA Stakeholder** Platform organisations.
20. Foster exchanges and policy discussions between ERA and EHEA, e.g. by annual back- to-back meetings of ERAC and BFUG.

21

Cross-Cutting Issues / Future ERA

Procedures and Working Conditions

21. National delegates = right mix of competent ministry representatives and, if appropriate, additional national experts.
22. Mandates include clear mission with concrete and tangible tasks.
23. Clear and concise Work Programmes, substantial and timely meeting documents.

22

ERAC / GPC

ERAC

24. Introduce explicit reference to ERA Priority 1 into mandate.
25. More focus on substantial discussions around ERA Priority 1.
26. Exlore new ways to stimulate debates in ERAC plenaries (e.g. break-out sessions).

GPC

27. Role for partnership initiatives (recommendation 4), role of delegates and EC.
28. Examine status (ERAC configuration *vs.* ESFRI-type Group).

23

ESFRI / SWG HRM

ESFRI

29. No substantial changes needed.
30. Explore ways to increase the transparency of the evaluation process for RIs.
31. Simplify and reduce workload (e.g. longer Roadmap update cycles).

SWG HRM

32. Make responsibility for ERA Priority 3 clearer in the mandate.
33. Back-to-back / joint meetings with SWG GRI (also see recommendation 5).

24

SWG GRI / SWG OSI

SWG GRI

34. Intensify interactions with all other ERA-related groups, since gender equality is cross-cutting.
35. Back-to-back / joint meetings with SWG HRM (also see recommendation 5).

SWG OSI

36. Revisit mandate: clear mission and tasks instead of fragmentation and heterogeneity.
37. Better balance between Open Science and Open Innovation topics; more work in sub-groups or different configurations.

25

SWG OSI / SFIC

SWG OSI (continued)

38. Clarify position vis-à-vis other OS expert and working groups.
39. Improve organisation (more time to prepare, structured meetings).

SFIC

40. Clarify advisory role and main purpose of SFIC.
41. Improve working dynamic (meeting documents).
42. Increase quality and impact of outputs.
43. Keep SFIC as configuration of ERAC.

26

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Thank you!

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27