

ERAC-GPC 1301/20

**NOTE**

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Subject: Summary conclusions of the High Level Group for Joint Programming  
(GPC) plenary meeting of 10 December 2019

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Delegations will find annexed to this Note the summary conclusions of the GPC plenary meeting of 10 December 2019, as adopted by written procedure.

## **Summary conclusions of the GPC plenary meeting of 10 December 2019**

The meeting was chaired by the GPC Chair, Mr Emmanuel PASCO-VIEL and the GPC Vice-Chair, Ms Petra ŽAGAR.

### **1. Approval of the provisional agenda**

The agenda was adopted as set out in document [CM 4956/19](#).

The Chair welcomed new participants to the group from HR, MT, NL and SK.

### **2. Survey on impact of Joint Programming at national level**

The Chair of the GPC presented preliminary findings of the survey on impact of Joint Programming (JP) at national level (WK 14146/2019).

Nineteen EU countries and two Associated countries had provided replies to the survey.

The document on the "Survey on impact of Joint Programming at national level" was circulated to delegations before the last summer (WK 6775/2019).

It is related to the GPC updated work programme for 2019-2020 (WK 3612/2019), which includes the task to produce a report on JPP and JPIs with a focus on the impact of JP at national level.

In order to draft the report, a group of delegations volunteered to join a task force and prepared the questionnaire, as well as a more general methodology to document the impact of JP at national level.

This work is supplemented by related work carried out within the JPIs and ERA-LEARN.

Following an exchange of views, the GPC agreed to organise a workshop on the impact of Joint Programming at national level in March 2020, if possible back-to-back with a workshop planned by ERA-LEARN.

The GPC workshop will be organised in replacement of the March GPC plenary meeting.

The main themes for the workshop will be prepared by the group of delegates who volunteered to join the GPC task force which was in charge of preparing the draft survey.

### **3. Presentations by ERA-LEARN**

On behalf of [ERA-LEARN](#), Ms Effie Amanatidou presented core activities of ERA-LEARN which are relevant to the work of the GPC, including activities related to Country reports and impact assessments, Surveys on inclusiveness and widening in Cofunds, and Synergies among EU programmes (WK 14147/2019).

Some delegations outlined the good collaboration with ERA-LEARN in the elaboration of country reports.

The Commission announced ongoing preparations for a workshop on Partnerships with the Member States in March 2020.

### **4. Inclusiveness: Openness and transparency of networks**

The Vice-Chair of the GPC presented the progress made by the GPC task force on inclusiveness and openness/transparency of networks (WK 14149/2019).

The report by the task force on the future of the GPC, which was adopted at the GPC plenary on 6 March 2019 (WK 3556/2019), states that the focus of the work within the GPC on the new priority topic of inclusiveness could be to improve the understanding on how and to what extent (national) researchers are enabled to cooperate transnationally and what role European cooperation plays in this respect.

The GPC could contribute to better understand the dynamics, bottlenecks and levels of transnational cooperation at national and/or regional level and pave the way to initiate policy reforms to improve the situation.

Moreover, it could start the work on performance indicators to monitor overall progress in achieving more openness and transparency of R&I networks in the ERA.

Thus, the GPC agreed to develop a roadmap to address the topic and examine national contributions as well as contributions from the Commission services on centrally available data and reports.

However, the initial intention to deliver an exhaustive final report on Openness & Transparency of networks with conclusions and recommendations addressed to ERAC in June 2020 appears now as being too late in order to make an impact on preparations for the Commission communication on the renewal of the ERA.

The first indications suggest that this communication might be published by the Commission before summer 2020.

Under this perspective, the ERAC Steering Board, at its meeting on 12 November 2019, encouraged the GPC to anticipate the final report and deliver it in the beginning of 2020 at the latest. As a result, and following the guidance provided by the ERAC Steering Board, the target to deliver the final report is anticipated according to the following timeline:

- the draft report should be ready on 31 January 2020 at the latest, so that it can be presented to the ERAC Steering Board meeting on 11 February 2020;
- the next step would be the adoption of the draft report by the GPC by written procedure.

## **5. Presentation of priorities for the upcoming Croatian Presidency**

The incoming Croatian Presidency gave an overview of the key priorities in the field of R&I for the first semester of 2020 (WK 14153/2019), which among other things will include:

- to make progress in negotiations on ongoing legislative files, and
- to encourage discussions on framework conditions for researchers (“brain circulation”) and on the role of R&I for future jobs.

## **6. Recent developments within other ERA-related groups**

- *ERAC Ad-hoc Working Group on future of the ERA (draft ERAC Opinion)*

The Chair informed on the work carried out by the ERAC Ad-hoc Working Group on future of the ERA.

A draft ERAC Opinion on the Future of the ERA was approved by the ERAC Ad-hoc Working Group on the Future of the ERA on 3 December 2019, following the conclusion of its work.

The draft ERAC Opinion is made up of:

- Final Report,
- Deliverable 1: Options for a new paradigm on the future of the ERA (Annex I), and
- Deliverable 2: Future ERA Objectives and Priorities (Annex II).

The draft ERAC Opinion was forwarded to the 44<sup>th</sup> ERAC plenary of 17 December 2019 for discussion with a view to its adoption.

The GPC has actively contributed with its own analysis to the work of this group.

The Chair drew attention to those parts of the final report that are relevant to the activities of the GPC.

- *Outcome of the last ERAC Steering Board meeting and preparations for the next ERAC plenary*

The Chair debriefed on the outcome of the last ERAC Steering Board meeting that took place on 12 November and on preparations for the next ERAC plenary on 17 December 2019.

The ERAC Steering Board recommended that the GPC task force on inclusiveness and openness/transparency of networks should finalise its report as soon as possible unless solid justification is provided that the continuation of the work is required (see item 4 above).

The ERAC Steering Board will also invite the GPC chair to clarify what remains to be done by the GPC in 2020, after the end of the task force on inclusiveness and openness/transparency of networks.

The GPC also took note of the decision taken by the ERAC Steering Board concerning the continuation of the monitoring exercise by the ERA-related groups to conduct their own monitoring, and that a consolidated report will be prepared with a view to the December 2020 ERAC plenary.

With this purpose, the monitoring of the Priority 2a will continue and the GPC delegates will be asked to fill in the “*progress tool*” in March 2020.

## **7. Next GPC plenary meeting**

The next GPC plenary meeting is scheduled on Monday 25 May 2020.