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From:	GPC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (GPC)
Subject:	Commission communication on "A new ERA for R&I" - PowerPoint presentation

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Delegates will find attached the PowerPoint presentation of item 4 : Commission communication on "A new ERA for R&I", given during the informal videoconference of the members of the GPC on 04-12-2020.



# The new European Research Area

#ResearchImpactEU  
#EUResearchArea



# Boosting R&I for prosperity through ERA

- R&I as a key driver of economic and social prosperity and well-being
- ERA as a policy tool to boost R&I in Europe:
  - Build a European internal market for knowledge to boost R&I
  - Launched 20 years ago
  - Activities focused mainly on reducing R&I fragmentation and overlaps in Europe

# The European Research Area: 20 years on



## Successes

- **37 Research Infrastructures** implemented with close to 20 billion euro in investment
- 7 billion euro in **joint programmes** between Member States
- Better **research careers**: Charter and Code for Researchers, EURAXESS
- European **Open Science** Cloud



## Points for improvement

- **3% target** not reached, lagging in private investment, public investment stagnated
- Significant **divides in R&I performance** across the EU
- More ambitious **policy reforms**
- Need to improve on **translating R&I results to the economy and to support the transition and the recovery**
- Progress to **gender equality** has been slow: only 24% of top positions in higher education sector are occupied by women
- Better involvement of **citizens and society**

# Delivering on the transitions and the recovery

- Europe faces **societal, ecological and economic challenges**, aggravated by **#coronavirus** → it is high time to retool ERA so that it delivers on **Europe's recovery** to:



## Accelerate the twin transition

and new solutions in areas such as the decarbonisation of industry or sustainable mobility



## Strengthen resilience and crises preparedness

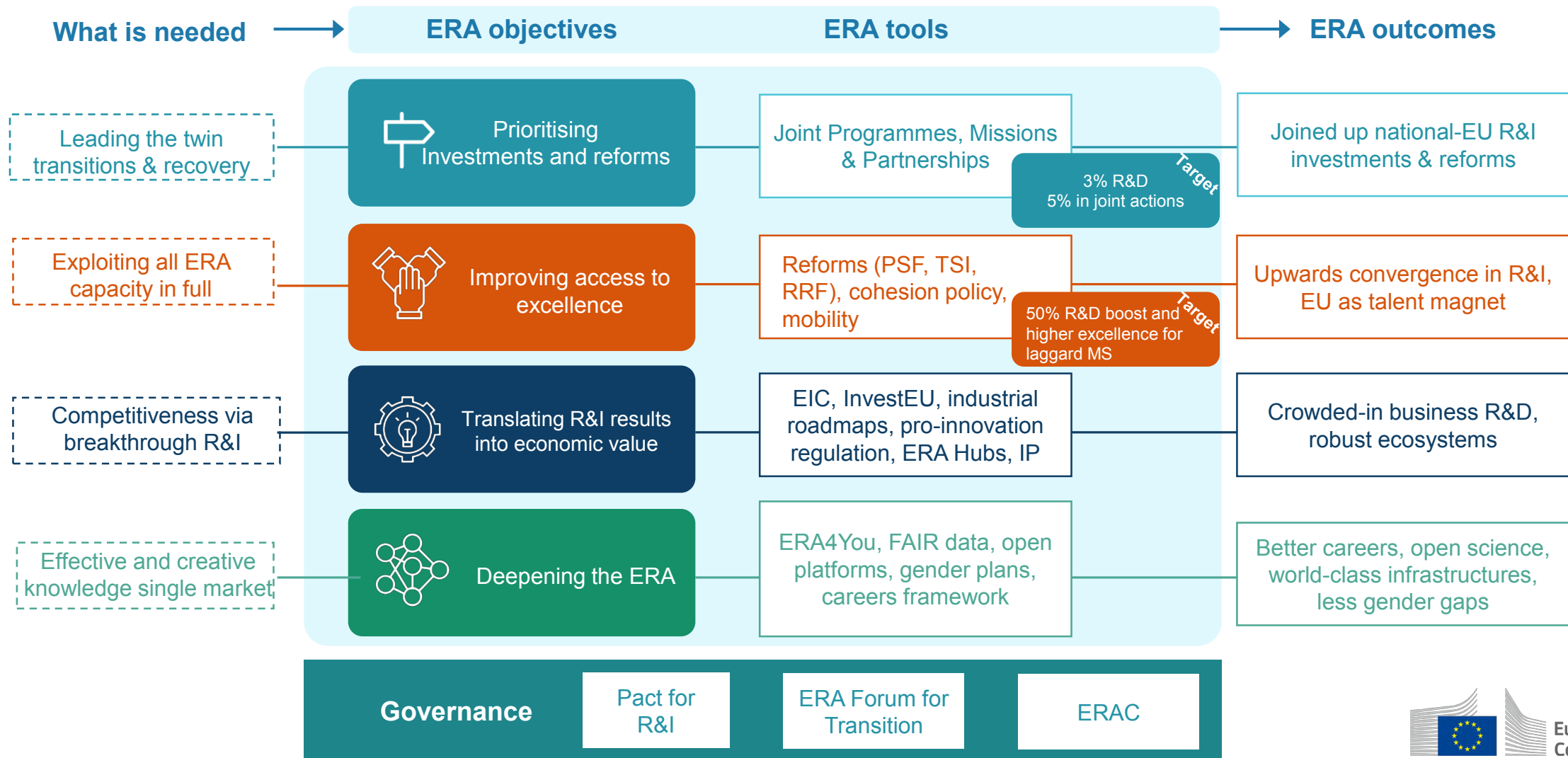
health, digital, socio-economic and climate R&I are essential



## Support Europe's competitive edge

in the global race for knowledge and tech sovereignty in cybersecurity, space, AI, 5G and e-mobility

# A stronger ERA for the future



# Prioritising investments and reforms

Commission  
proposes



## Investment

- **New Targets:**

  - **3%** EU GDP R&D investment target

  - **New 1.25%** EU GDP public effort target

  - **New 5%** of national public R&D funding to JP and EU partnerships

- ***Horizon Europe - Joint programming, partnerships and missions***
- ***Cohesion Policy***
- ***Recovery and Resilience Facility\****

## Reforms

- ***Horizon Policy Support Facility/ TSI***

# THE NEXUS between ERA/R&I and RRF

## ERA objectives



**Improving access to excellence**



**Prioritising investments and reforms**



**Translating R&I results into economic value**



**Deepening the ERA**

## Examples of R&I actions which can be supported by the RRF

Carry out structural reforms of the public research system

Mobilise national S&T capabilities to accelerate green and digital transitions  
Engage in EU-level initiatives (European Flagships, Horizon missions and partnerships)  
Promote knowledge intensive areas delivering on the transition (e.g. green hydrogen)

Foster academia-industry cooperation and mobility  
Support research-driven spinoffs and start-ups  
Support business R&D investments through public funding and debt & equity  
Boost R&I results to support the transitions, including strong industry ecosystems

Facilitate the role of universities as essential actors of change  
Develop research & technology infrastructures, in line with the ESFRI roadmap  
Develop and promote the use of EOSC-compatible data infrastructures



# A Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe

Commission  
proposes



European  
Research Area

**ERAC:** Advice of ERA implementation

## ERA FORUM FOR TRANSITION

- Joint EC-MS body to discuss the implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda

## ERA PACT: Renewed political support for these commitments

- bundle these commitments in **a single act (non-binding) to set out the key ERA principles and values that we share**
- **Foreseen for mid-2021**, as part of discussion on governance of ERA

# Joint programmes

## **Joint programmes and calls between Member States have been at the heart of ERA since its launch:**

FP6: ERA-Net, first use of Art 185 (EDCTP)

FP7: ERA-NET+

Horizon 2020: ERA-Net Co-fund

## **Why? Gather a critical mass of funding targeted on key policy priorities**

# Funding

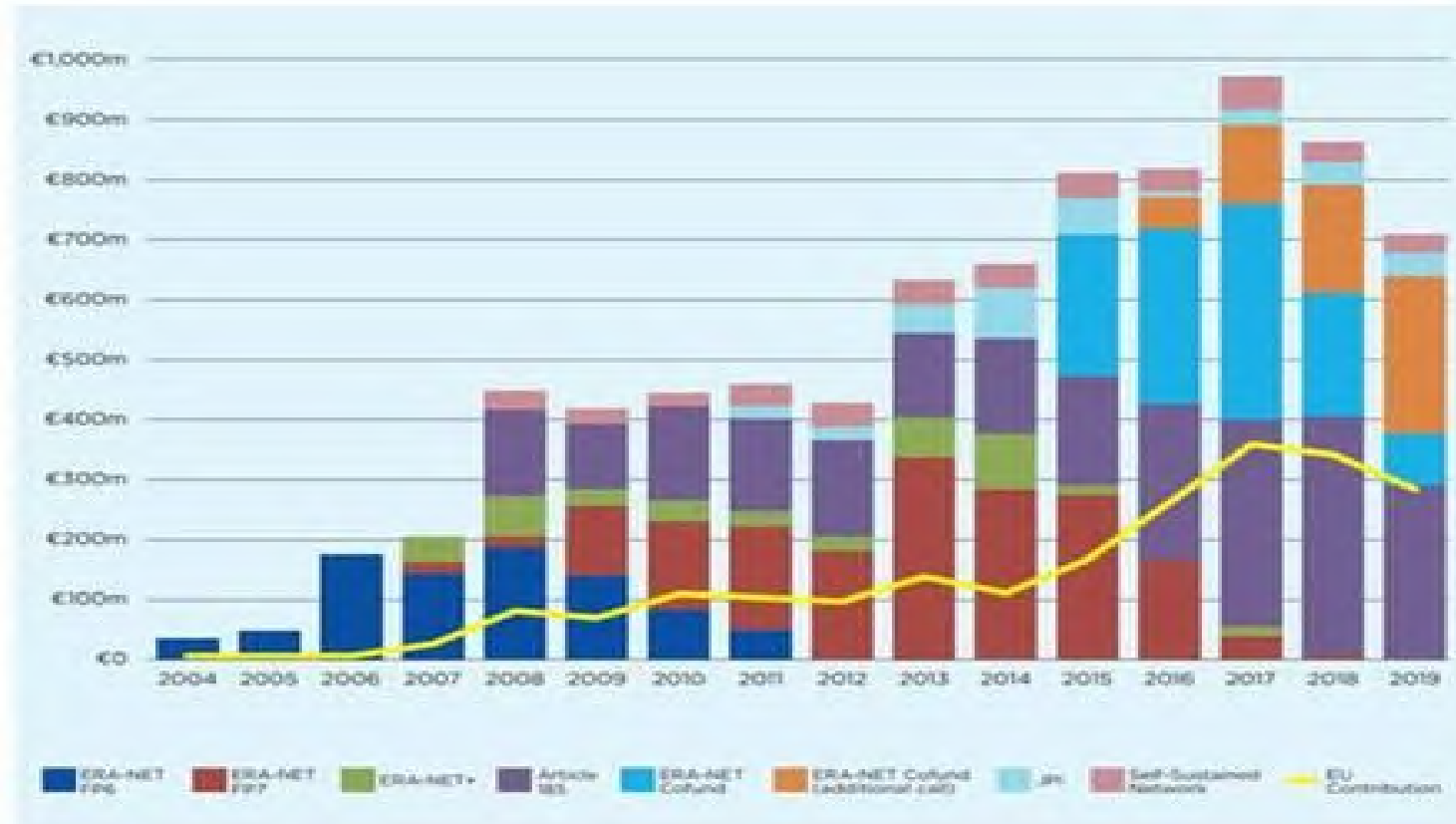


Figure 3: National Joint Call Commitment (with EU Contribution for co-funding of calls overlaid) for all Calls closed 2004-2019, by Network Type

Current annual spending on joint programmes and transnational calls: about 700-800 million euro or 1% of total public R&D spending in Europe

But: decreasing in recent years

Therefore: new ERA goal to increase investment in joint calls and programmes to 5% of public R&D investment

# Simplification

Further efforts are also needed to **simplify cross-border collaboration and the organisation of joint calls**: rules between countries are not harmonised, national programmes are not interoperable

→ Limits efficiency of implementation and increases complexity for partners and beneficiaries

Notably: Horizon Europe legal base introduces the notion of **Centralised Management of Funds** in the case of institutionalised partnerships.

Also for co-funded partnerships the **use of Horizon Europe rules** is encouraged, as it allows to benefit from State Aid exemption (not possible when using national rules)

# A NEW ERA FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

For more information please see:

[Press release](#)

[Factsheet](#)

[Video: 'The new European Research Area'](#)

[Communication: A new ERA for Research and Innovation](#)

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