



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 13 December 2021**

**WK 15365/2021 INIT**

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**WORKING PAPER**

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From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject:	ERAC videoconference on 13 December 2021 - PPT Presentations

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Dear ERAC delegates,

Please find attached the following PPT presentations given during the ERAC videoconference on Tuesday, 13 December 2021:

- Item 2 of the agenda: The Slovenian Presidency's achievements in R&I : 1 July - 31 December 2021,
- Item 2 of the agenda: Presidency of the Czech Republic in the Council of the EU in 2022,
- Item 3.1 of the agenda: Strategic debate: First ERA Policy Agenda and the future role of ERAC,
- Item 4.1 of the agenda: Updates from the Commission Expert Group on the 'ERA Forum for Transition',
- Item 5 of the agenda: Follow-up on former ERAC strategic debates and presentation on one EU Mission : Follow-up on Knowledge valorisation,
- Item 5 of the agenda: Follow-up on former ERAC strategic debates and presentation on one EU Mission : Advancing towards the reform of research assessment,

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- Item 5 of the agenda: Follow-up on former ERAC strategic debates and presentation on one EU Mission : Report on research careers,

- Item 6 of the agenda (AOB): Enhanced support for a strategic R&I agenda.

Best regards,

ERAC Secretariat



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**The Slovenian Presidency's achievements  
in R&I**

**1 July – 31 December 2021**

# “Trio Roadmap for Research and Innovation”

## Building a resilient, sovereign and sustainable Europe

To guide and support the joint process of **renewing the European Research Area (ERA)** in order to **facilitate the European vision of knowledge, education and research for a green and digital future**



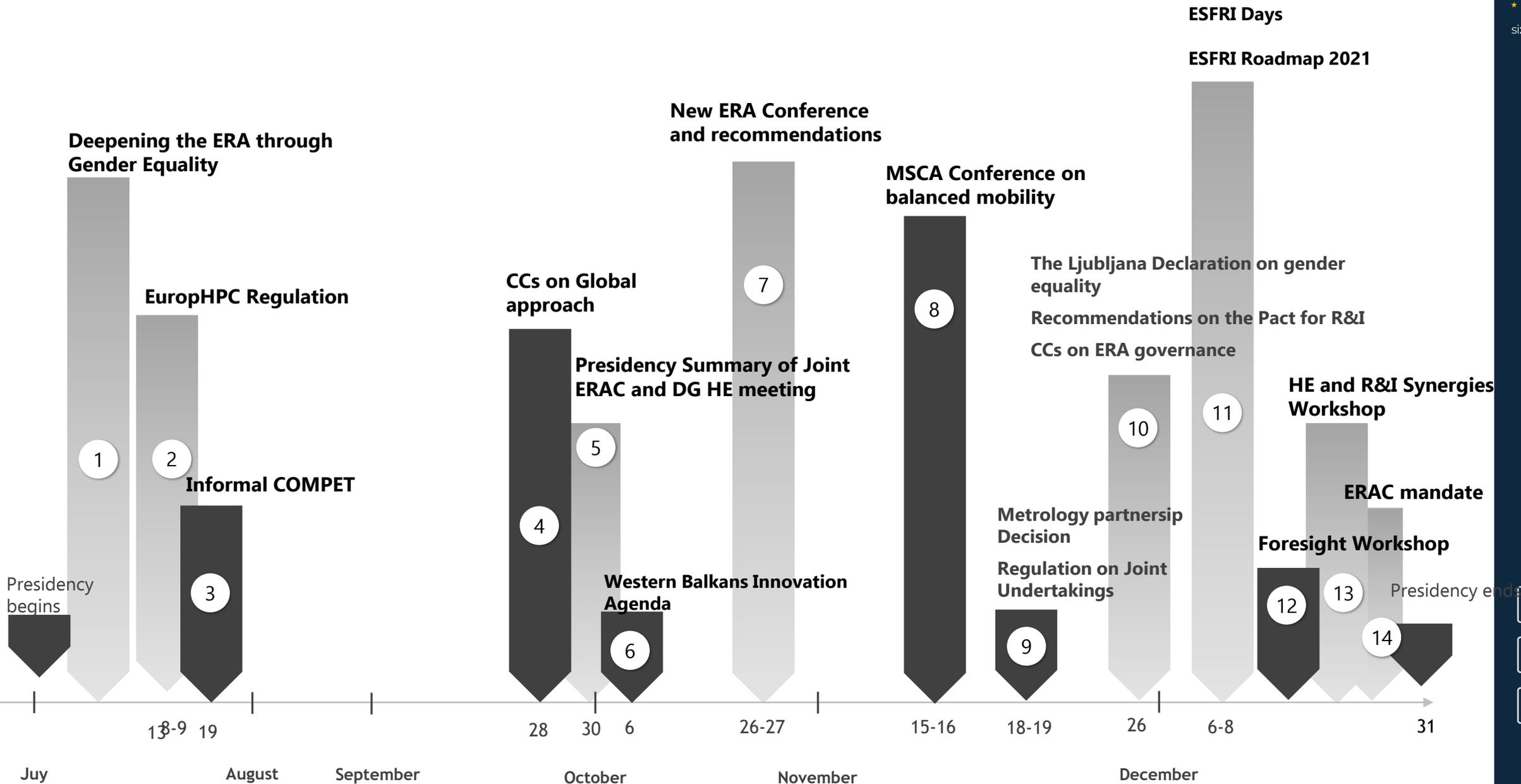
Four overarching priorities of the Slovenian Presidency:

1. inclusive governance
2. knowledge and skills
3. green transition
4. digital transformation.



# Agenda

- European **partnerships** ✓
- **Gender** equality ✓
- **INCO** (HE association, Global approach to R&I) ✓
- **Missions** in Horizon Europe (poss.) ✓
- **European Research Area:** ✓
  - Governance and directionality
  - 1<sup>st</sup> ERA Policy Agenda (2022-24)
  - HE-R&I synergies
  - Research infrastructures
- Research careers and **reintegration** ✓



# Ljubljana Declaration on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation

## 37 parties endorsed

- 25 Member States
- European Commission
- 3 EFTA
- 6 Western Balkans
- 2 other countries

3 statements of general support from 3<sup>rd</sup> countries



## Next steps

Take the work forward in the new ERA Policy Agenda priority Actions

# New ERA Conference

## Towards a responsible knowledge driven society of the 3rd Millennium

26-27  
October

300 attendees (hybrid)

4 focus sessions:

1. Research Infrastructures
2. Prospective careers
3. Open Science and Research Assessment
4. Economy (Tech Roadmaps and Knowledge Valorisation)

41 Recommendations for the new ERA Policy Agenda. Debated at COMPET lunch.



Next steps

ERA Forum to consider the new ERA Conference Recommendations Report

# MSCA Conference

## Fostering balanced mobility flows in Europe

15-16  
November

300 attendees (virtual)

Focus on MSCA Fellows  
experiences and re-  
integration

Celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of MSCA

Published a compendium of  
MSCA fellow stories



### Next steps

Continue  
engagement with  
the MSCA  
community to  
strengthen re-  
integration

6-7  
December

# ESFRI Days

## European Strategic Forum for Research Infrastructures Days

Virtual

Two key events:

- Launch of the 2021 ESFRI Roadmap
- 78<sup>th</sup> ESFRI Plenary meeting

ESFRI Stakeholder Forum postponed



ESFRI Days

ESFRI



# Plastic Pirates Campaign

- Strong Trio Presidency cooperation and engagement
- One of the flagship initiatives of the new ERA Policy Agenda
- We plan to stay engaged and help take this initiative forward



# Plastic Pirates in Slovenia



- 100 schools (approx. 14% of all schools) in Slovenia involved
- 795 pupils and high-school students carried-out test in 35 different watercourses
- data shows 70% of all waste in and around rivers is plastic 😞
- 52% of samples contain micro plastic 😞
- 112 published articles in local and national media
- project presented throughout the Presidency (Informal COMPET, new ERA Conference, ...); 8th December **final online event** in the framework of Science Month 2021

# ERAC Renewed Mandate (I)

- **MS-EC partnership (co-chairing), partnership with ACs + other 3rd**
- **High level strategic advice to the Council, EC & MS, including e.g. on:**
  - **monitoring and evaluation framework for the implementation of the ERA**
  - **implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda (at mid-term)**
- **Initiate updates of the ERA Policy Agenda;**
- **Reflect and provide advice on new policy demands;**
- **Interact with other governance and coordination structures;**



# ERAC Renewed Mandate (II)

- **ERAC's work in view of facilitating the uptake by countries of the first ERA Policy Agenda, under discussion in the ERA Forum.**
  - provide views on the 1<sup>st</sup> ERA Policy Agenda to help MS/AC choose ERA actions
  - advise on implementation of ERA Policy Agenda
- **Working methods of ERAC**
  - Inclusion of representatives of associated and third countries, experts and stakeholders
  - Role of „trio presidencies“ within Steering Board
  - Preparation of debates, if needed by task force



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**Thank you for being with us and co-create  
our presidency outcomes!**

***Hvala!***

# Presidency of the Czech Republic in the Council of the EU in 2022



**MSMT**  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS

*European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)  
13th December 2022*

# 1. Key priorities of the CZ PRES research agenda – research infrastructures

- **RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES** as a part of the European critical infrastructure and EU's preparedness instruments to address grand societal challenges and strengthen resilience of the European society
  - Essential and vital component of the **post-2020 European Research Area**
  - Enable **cutting-edge research** extending the frontiers of knowledge beyond yet known horizons
  - Facilitate development of **state-of-the-art technologies** and **breakthrough science-based innovations**
  - Mediate **unique data collections and data sets** to scientists, entrepreneurs and public administrators
  - Boost the **competitiveness of the European economy** internationally and at the global level
  - Contribute to achieve the **EU's and global wider policy objectives** standing outside the R&D area
  - Strengthen the **EU's preparedness and resilience of the European society** to socioeconomic crises
  - Drive the **macro-regional development** (i.e., investments, high-skilled jobs, infrastructure, etc.)
  - Catalyse the **scientific diplomacy and international cooperation** based on problem-solving approach
  - Promote the **freedom of scientific knowledge**, being operated as open access-based installations
- Adoption of **COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS** is envisioned to reiterate the political commitment of the EU Member States to keep investments in research infrastructures high on the public funding agenda

## 2. Key priorities of the CZ PRES research agenda – synergies

- **SYNERGIES** between the European Structural and Investment Funds on one hand and the EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation on the other one, and the European- and national-based R&D funding as an instrument to maximize the potential of cooperation in research and innovation in Europe
  - Enable to **maximise the coherence in R&D funding** from different financial instruments
  - Facilitate **alignment of R&D funding approaches** at the European and the EU Member State levels
  - Simplify **co-funding of the EU Framework Programme projects** where the co-funding is necessary
  - Encourage **implementation of the “Seal of Excellence”** funding approach by the EU Member States
  - Promote **participation of the so-called “cohesion countries” in the EU Framework Programmes**
  - Help to **achieve the goals of the EU cohesion policy** in line with the European R&D agenda priorities
  - Contribute to **bridge the research gap and close the innovation divide** in the European Research Area
  - Increase **efficacy**, prevent from **fragmentation** and avoid **duplication** of efforts in R&D funding
- Organisation of a **FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE** on synergies is envisaged – to share good practice examples and lessons learned, identify bottlenecks preventing from capitalising on the full potential of synergies, and confirm the intentions by the European Commission and EU Member States to continue removing barriers on synergies at all levels

### 3. Indicative timetable of major events (I)

- **Conference on the Synergies in Research and Innovation Funding (SYNERGIES)**
  - 7th – 8th July 2022 in Prague
- **Informal Meeting of the EU Competitiveness Council – Research (COMPET)**
  - 21st – 22nd July 2022 in Prague
- **Attaché Trip – Research Working Group of the Council of the EU (RWG)**
  - 10th – 12th September 2022 in Prague and South Bohemia
- **Research Working Group of the Council of the EU (RWG)**
  - 13th – 14th September 2022 in Prague
- **European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)**
  - 13th – 14th September 2022 in Prague
- **Formal Meeting of the EU Competitiveness Council – Research (COMPET)**
  - 30th September 2022 in Brussels

### 3. Indicative timetable of major events (II)

- **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)**
  - 18th – 19th October 2022 in Brno
- **International Conference on Research Infrastructures (ICRI)**
  - 19th – 21st October 2022 in Brno
- **Knowledge, Research and Education Conference (KRECon)**
  - 10th – 11th November 2022 in Prague
- **Conference on the Gender-Based Violence in Higher Education and Research (GENDER)**
  - 2nd half of November 2022 in Prague
- **European Open Science Cloud Symposium and Steering Board Meeting (EOSC)**
  - 14th – 17th November 2022 in Prague
- **Formal Meeting of the EU Competitiveness Council – Research (COMPET)**
  - 2nd December 2022 in Brussels
- **Informal Workshop on the Foresight in Research and Innovation Policy-Making (FORESIGHT)**
  - Date and venue to be decided



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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# Strategic debate: First ERA Policy Agenda and the future role of ERAC

Jean-Eric Paquet,  
Director-General DG Research  
& Innovation

13 December 2021



# Actors in the new ERA Governance

- Council: adopts the Policy Agenda (para. 13)
- Commission: prepares an initiative on the basis of this work (para. 16)
- ERAC: provides early strategic advice on the updated Policy Agenda (para. 15)
- ERA Forum: co-designs and coordinates the update of Policy Agenda among the Commission and the Member States (para. 16)

# Three main areas for the work of ERAC:

- 1. ERAC's contribution to the design and implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda in general, complemented by the ERA Forum's responsibilities;
- 2. ERAC's work in view of facilitating the uptake by Member States of the first ERA Policy Agenda, under discussion in the ERA Forum.
- 3. The work of ERAC beyond the ERA policy process

# ERA Policy Agenda : initiating new updates and providing advice on new policy demands

- ERAC could have a fixed point on its agenda for discussion on progress in the implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda, on the basis of an information note provided by the Commission.
- Invite the ERA Forum co-chairs for the discussion.
- ERAC members encouraged to bring forward ideas and proposals for new policy demands, including in consultation with external experts.
- Discuss the 18-month report on the implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda

# Proposed procedure for the first policy agenda

- The Commission to prepare a report to inform ERAC on the progress made in the ERA Forum regarding the Policy Agenda
- ERAC's Steering Board would further prepare the discussion.
- ERAC discussion in April 2022
- Follow-up note after the meeting.

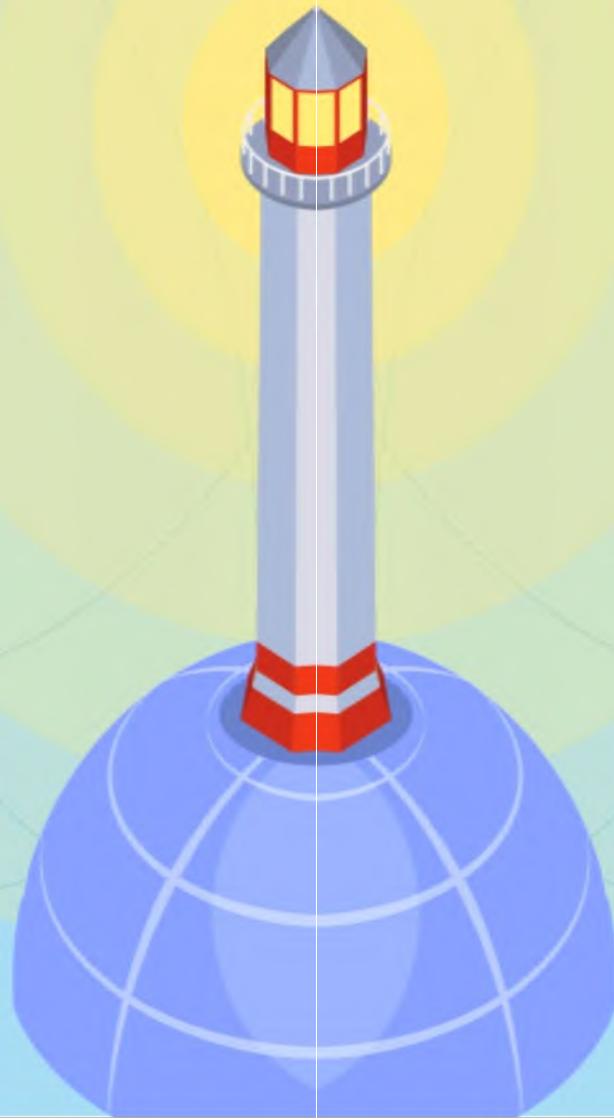
# ERAC's work beyond the ERA policy agenda

- Early advice in relation to the Framework Programmes for R&I and other major R&I driven EU initiatives
- ERAC's role in actively reaching out to other horizontal and sectoral policies

# Question 1

- Do you agree with ERAC's role in the implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda, both in general and in relation to the first Policy Agenda, as described above?
- What are your considerations on how ERAC could best perform the tasks entrusted to it in this regard and what are your considerations with regard to the future working methods of ERAC?

Thank you!





# Updates from the Commission Expert Group on the 'ERA Forum for Transition'

Anna Panagopoulou,  
Director RTD.A –  
ERA & Innovation

13 December 2021

#ResearchImpactEU  
#EUResearchArea

# ERA Governance: Architecture and Roles

## Council

political **steering**,  
adopts (upon  
Commission  
initiatives)

- Pact
- Policy Agenda

## ERAC

high-level  
strategic policy  
body, providing  
early **advice** on:

- strategic  
policy orientations  
and trends
- shared new  
policy demands or

Two independent  
bodies

## ERA Forum & sub- groups

body for  
policy **coordination**  
and reinforced  
implementation of  
the ERA:

- co-design  
of Commission  
initiatives
- involvement of

# A new ERA - Timeline

2020

Commission  
Communication “A new  
ERA for Research and  
Innovation”, September

Council Conclusions on the  
new ERA , December

Establishment of the  
January 2021

Transition

- 12 meetings
- Three workshops and R&I Days side event with ERA stakeholder umbrella organisations
- Some covered topics: ERA governance framework, ERA policy agenda, four ERA pilot actions

16 July 2021

Commission adopts  
proposal for a “Pact for  
Research and Innovation in  
Europe”

- 1) Principles for R&I in Europe
- 2) Priority areas for ERA joint actions
- 3) Investments and reforms
- 4) Simplified policy coordination

26 November 2021

- Council Recommendation on a “Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe”
- Council conclusions on the new ERA governance & the first ERA policy Agenda (2022-2024)

# Next Steps

After the adoption on 26 November of

- Pact for R&I
- Council conclusions on new ERA governance + ERA Policy Agenda as annex

## Set-up of monitoring

- Including a scoreboard, online policy platform and regular (2022)



## Establishment of the new ERA Forum

Co-design and coordinate the implementation of the ERA actions, prepare future updates of the ERA Policy Agenda and analyse its implementation

## Explanatory documents on ERA actions

- Member States will then choose the actions, in which they participate (1<sup>st</sup> semester 2022)

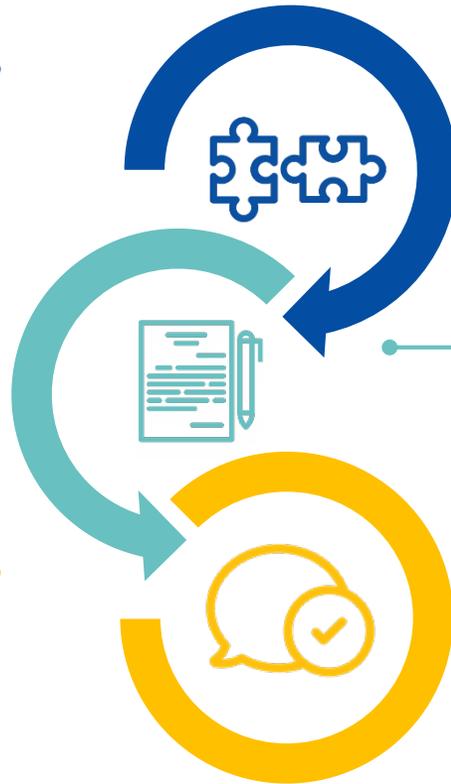
# ERA Policy Agenda: Selection of Actions

## Relevance

- Priority area(s)
- Importance in relation to priority areas in Pact (problem/challenge description)

## Commitment

- At least half of Member States
- Interest and high commitment by stakeholders



## Viability

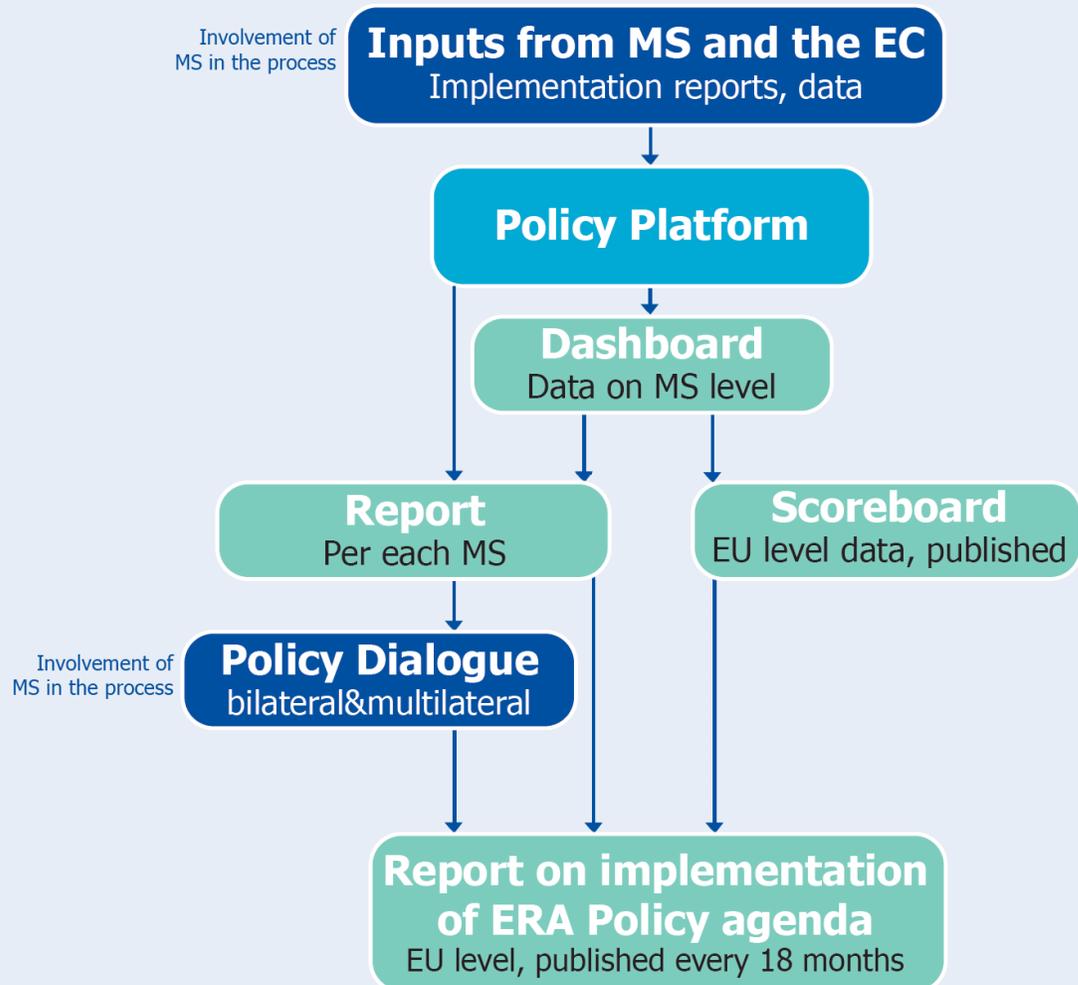
- Can the action be implemented and by whom?
  - objective and targets, timing, milestones, actors, governance models, funding and expected impact
- measurable, time-bound objective
- Includes monitoring, reporting and evaluation

# ERA Policy Agenda: example

## 14. Bring Science closer to Citizens

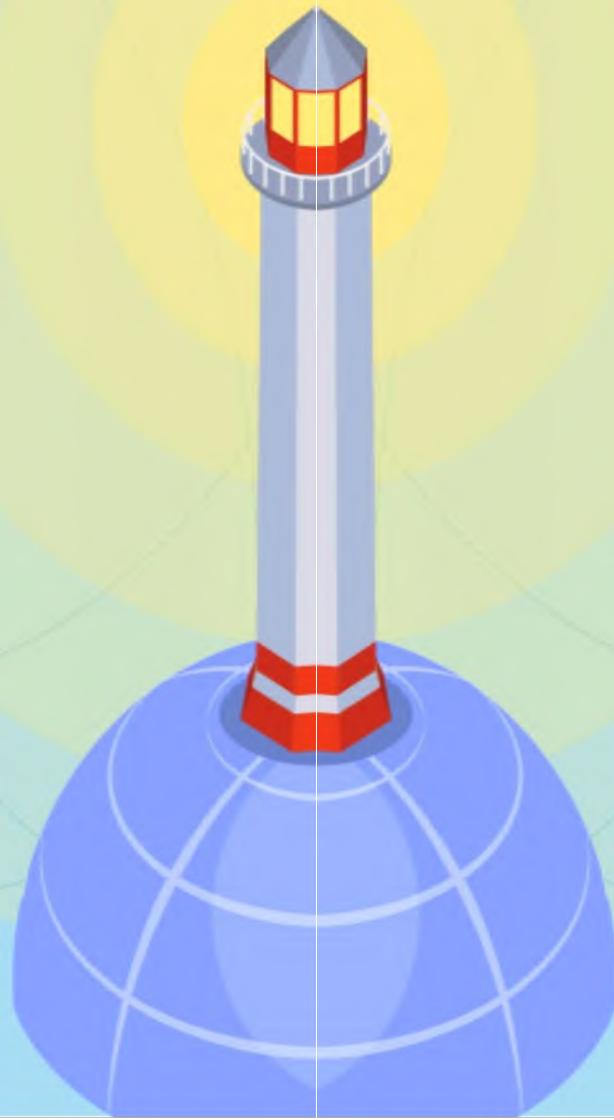
Scale-up of the Plastic Pirates – Go Europe! initiative

# ERA Monitoring Process



## Schematic presentation of the ERA monitoring process

Thank you!





# Follow-up on Knowledge valorisation

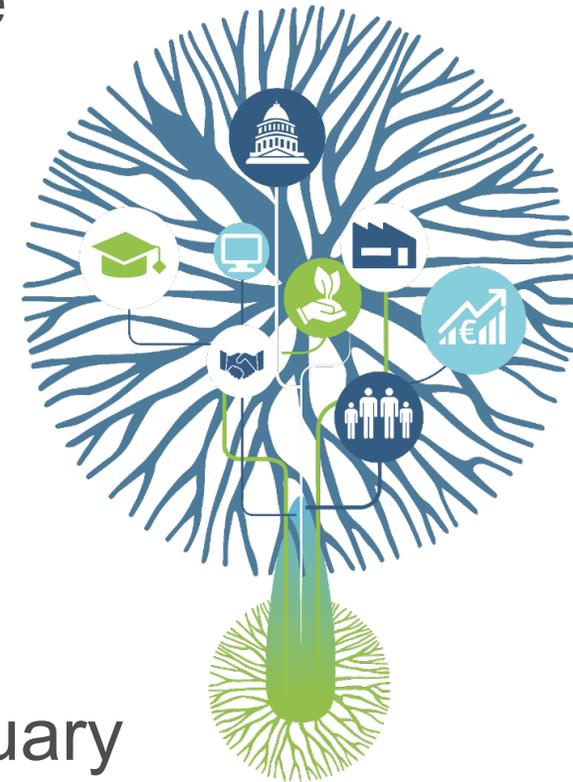
**ERAC plenary meeting**

**13 December 2021**

Kirsi Haavisto, HoU Valorisation policies and IPR  
Prosperity Directorate  
DG Research & Innovation  
European Commission

# Draft Guiding Principles for knowledge valorisation

- Co-creation in ERA Forum subgroup on knowledge valorisation
- Key inputs
  - Survey to the Member States and EEA countries
  - Stakeholder consultation
- Draft presented in ERA Forum for transition on 10 December
- Stakeholder roundtable foreseen for January-February 2022
- Adoption by Commission by summer 2022



# New directionality in Draft Guiding Principles

- **Change of focus** from management of intellectual property in knowledge transfer activities **to knowledge valorisation**.
- Addressing **all ecosystem actors** involved in R&I activities.
- Making **value creation** the objective, need for **co-creation** between many actors, broadening the scope to **intellectual asset management** and emphasising **entrepreneurial** practices, processes and skills.
- Introducing **new elements**, such as policy uptake, standardisation, tacit knowledge, social sciences, humanities and arts, funding for KV, metrics and indicators.
- **Strengthening aspects**, such as broadest possible societal utilisation, equality, diversity and inclusion, incentives and academia-industry-public sector mobility.

# Proposed Structure for the Guiding Principles

- Background and scope
- Directionality and context for policy development of R&I based knowledge valorisation
- Guiding Principles grouped as follows
  - Knowledge valorisation in research and innovation policy
  - Skills and capacities
  - Incentive system
  - Intellectual asset management
  - Relevancy in public funding schemes
  - Peer-learning
  - Metrics
  - Monitoring and evaluation

# Codes of Practice

ERA Action 7

## 1. Code of Practice for the smart use of Intellectual Property

**With:** Stakeholders through 'community of practice' on Knowledge Valorisation Platform

**Timing:** To be delivered by end of 2022(\*)

**Actions taken:** Call for expression of interest open for joining 'community of practice' until 14 January 2022

## 2. Code of Practice for researchers on standardisation

**With:** Stakeholders

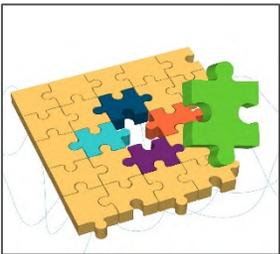
**Timing:** To be delivered by end of 2022(\*)

**Actions taken:** a survey on standardisation for HE2020 beneficiaries, a dedicated study on the potential content of the code and consultation / co - design activities within the Commission. Further consultation with stakeholders early in 2022



# EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform

Connects valorisation actors across Europe  
to improve broad uptake of research results in society and economy



Get inspired through **Repository of Best Practices**

- **Examples shared by Member States and by stakeholders** through a permanently open call  
**Selection to be presented at EU Knowledge Valorisation Week** planned for 28 March – 1 April 2022



Get involved in **communities of practice**

- **Stakeholders co-create the 'Code for the smart use of intellectual property'**



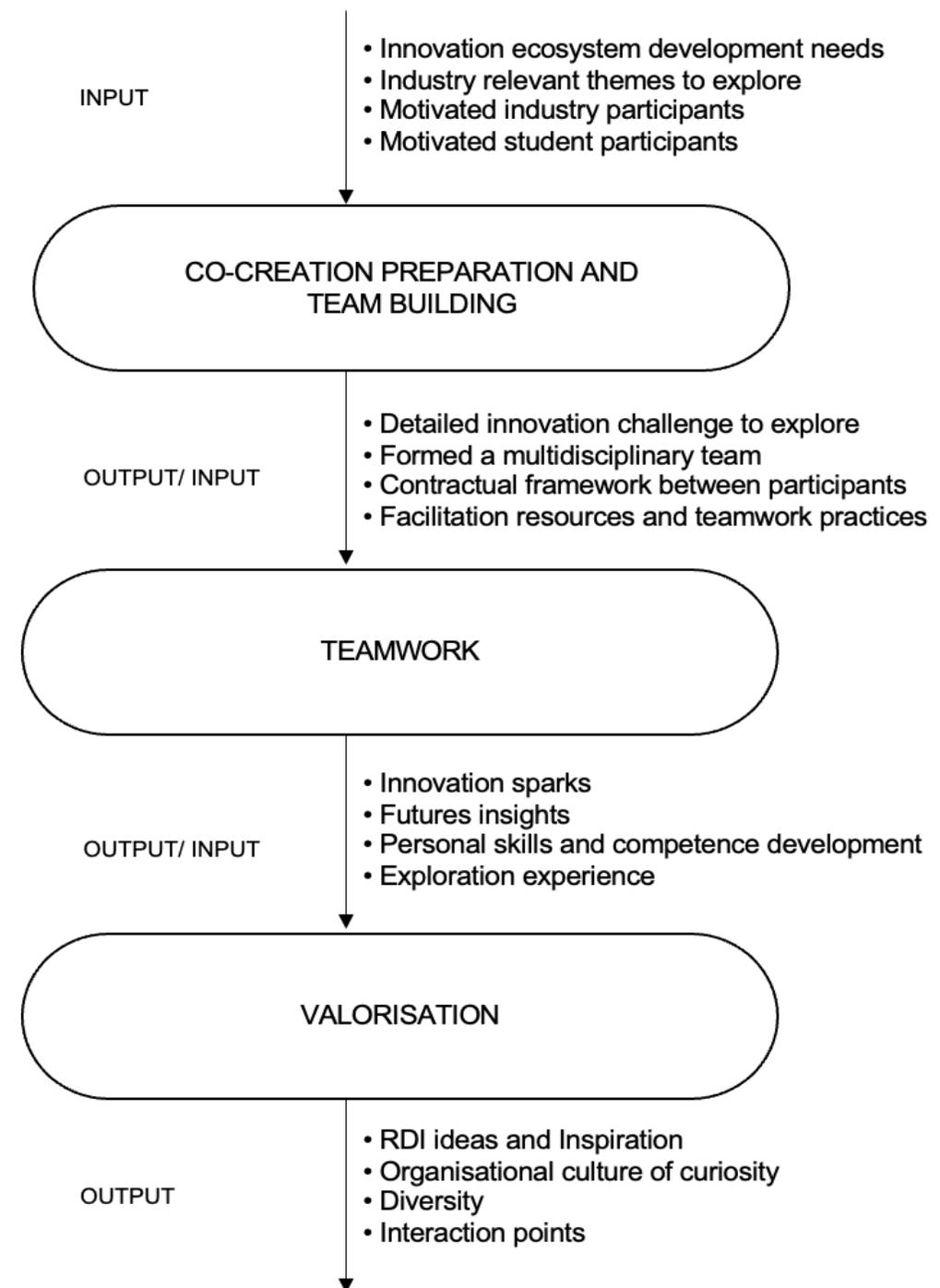
**Thematic focus** on topical issues of knowledge valorisation

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/eu-valorisation-policy/knowledge-valorisation-platform\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/eu-valorisation-policy/knowledge-valorisation-platform_en)

# Feasibility pilot on industry-academia collaboration

- Methodology for promoting industry-academia knowledge exchange through international co-creation teams of students, researchers and enterprise representatives.
- Helped companies steer successfully their business and overcome challenges.
- Improved students' personal skills related to creativity, collaboration and entrepreneurship.

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/a795bea8-19bb-11ec-b4fe-01aa75ed71a1>



Thank you!



# Advancing towards the reform of research assessment

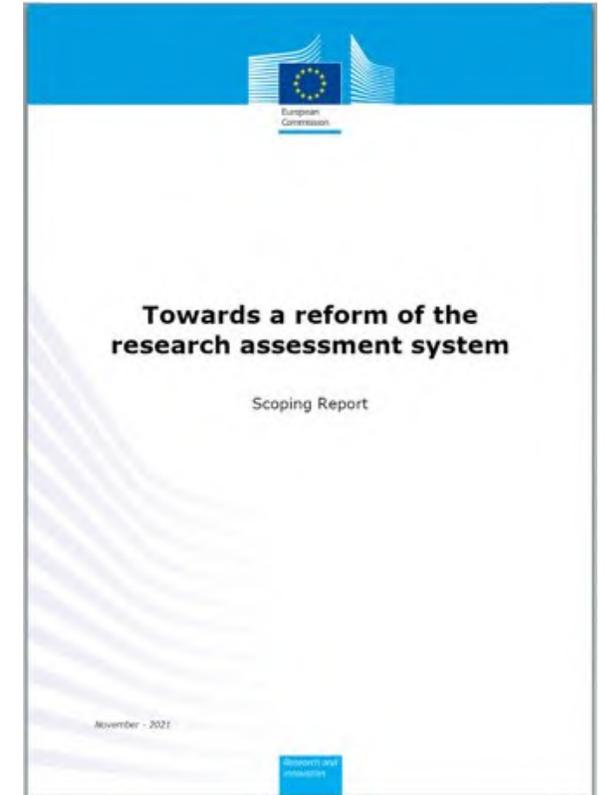
*Kostas Glinos*

*Head of Unit for Open Science, DG R&I*

*European Commission*

# Developments since ERAC Plenary policy debate 30/09

- Discussion in **ERA Forum meeting** on 8/10
- Inclusion in **ERA Policy Agenda** on 26/11
- **Publication of scoping report** on 29/11
  - Summary of consultation with large group of stakeholders
  - Identification of objectives, principles, actions, and a way forward
- **Large meeting with stakeholders** on 8/12 to take stock of the results of the consultation and discuss next steps



<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/707440>

# Next steps towards a stakeholder-driven agreement



# Drafting process



# Thank you



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# Report on research careers

*Apostolia Karamali*  
*Head of Unit, R&I Actors and Research Careers, DG R&I*  
*European Commission*

# European Framework for Research Careers

## Synergies with employment and social policy

### • Recognition of the profession



- ESCO update
- Skills taxonomies
- Competence framework
- Transposition through EURES
- Links with Europass and EQF

### • Entry and employment conditions



- Employment conditions including transferability of pensions, social security
- Access to labour market (Students and Researchers' Directive)

## Synergies with the European Education Area

- **European Strategy for Universities** (human capital development module)
- **European Universities as testbed**

## Research policy

- **ERA Priority 3 assessment** (Charter and Code, HRS4R, EURAXESS) jointly with ERAC Task Force
- **Framework** to address challenges:
  - ✓ **within academia** (e.g. tenure track, assessment, diversification, international)
  - ✓ **outside academia** (e.g. interoperability of research careers in industry)

## Nourishing and attracting talent

- Brain circulation 
- Intersectoral mobility
- Training and career development
- Widening



- ✓ **ERA4You**
- ✓ **ERA Talent Platform** expanding EURAXESS:
  - Governance
  - Network & services
  - Portals and tools



## Data intelligence and monitoring labour market patterns, trends and dynamics

- ✓ Set up an **Observatory** on Research careers

# Towards a framework for research careers

## Scope...

Promote adherence to research and ethical values

Ensure effective and fair recruitment and selection of researchers

Improve working conditions and professional aspects for researchers

Foster research talent and holistic evaluation of research performance

## ...actions

Support reform at EU, national levels including incentives

Promote mutual learning and exchange of experience/good practice

Support pilot initiatives

Monitor implementation and progress

Provide services for employers and researchers (e.g. HRS4R, ERA Talent Platform)

# Competence Framework for researchers and Taxonomy of skills for researchers



*ESCO: European Skills, Competences, Occupations and Qualifications classification*

**Emerging skills:** Citizen Science / Open Science / Big Data Analysis...

**Occupations:** *analysis ongoing (job vacancies → linking skills with jobs)*

**Career progression:**

R1: First Stage Researcher (PhD Candidate)  
R2: Recognised Researcher (Postdoc)  
R3: Established Researcher (Assistant/Associate Professor)  
R4: Leading Researcher (Full Professor)

# ***Nourishing and attracting talent***

## **ERA4You**

- enable a **geographically more balanced circulation of research and innovation talents**, strengthening retaining, attracting, and return activities through favourable working conditions and better access to mobility funding programmes
- **boost permeability and employability of research and innovation talents across sectors** and improve interaction between ecosystem actors for training and career development

## **ERA Talent Platform**

- **Network structure and processes; Service portfolio; Portal(s); Governance**
- **European Union around me:** [https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en)
- **Supported by several projects for portals and services**

# Observatory for research careers and talent circulation: conceptual framework

## Building Block A: **Skills & training**

- A-1: Institutions
- A-2: Occupations
- A-3: Individuals

*Which competences do researchers have/need?*

## Building Block B: **Research jobs**

- B-1: Supply
- B-2: Demand
- B-3: Type of contract
- B-4: Remuneration
- B-5: Social & Organisational

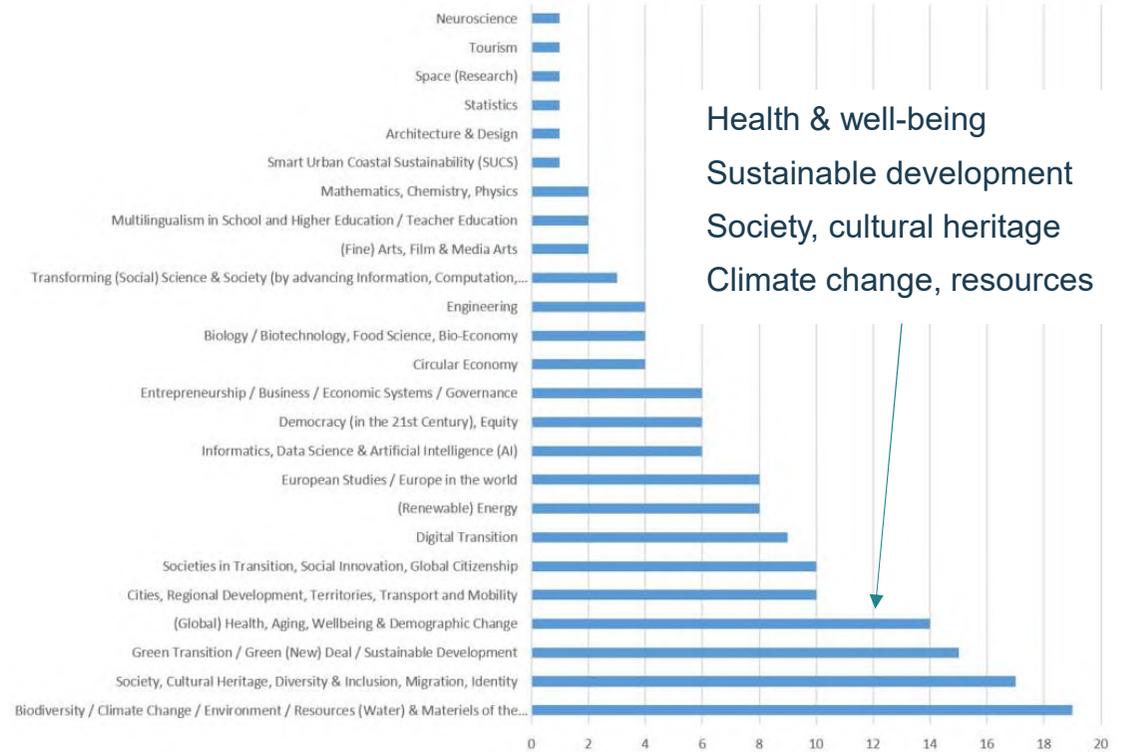
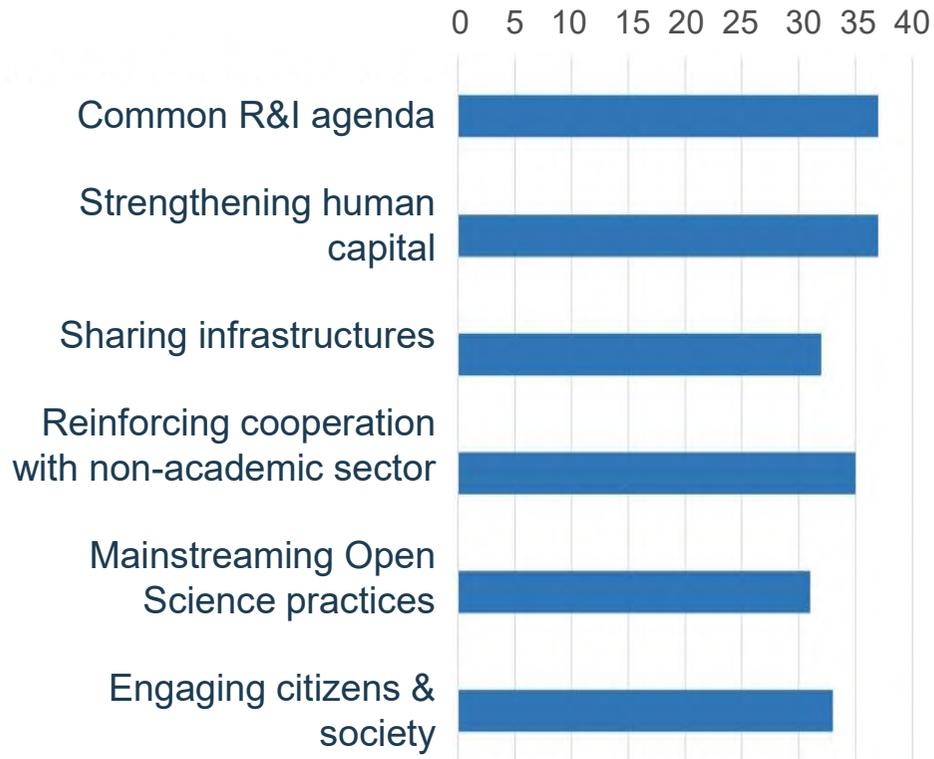
*Under which conditions do researchers work?*

## Building Block C: **Mobility & exchange**

- C-1: Talent exchange
- C-2: Talent circulation
- C-3: Brain drain
- C-4: Intersectoral mobility

*To what extent do researchers move abroad/across sectors?*

# European Universities



# ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR A STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

## OBJECTIVE:

- (WHAT) Support the definition and implementation of a **country-based strategic policy agenda for R&I by Commission and one Member State** bilaterally mobilizing all **existing relevant expertise/tools** in a **systematic and periodic dialogue** to ensure the alignment of all efforts for the national and Europe's green and digital transitions
- (WHO)
- (HOW)
- (WHEN)
- (WHY)



# ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR A STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

**THE OFFER:** The Package consists of :

Regular meetings on a country-based R&I policy agenda



## Recurrent processes:

*ERA policy agenda topic (definition)*  
*Recovery and Resilience*  
*European Semester*

## A-la-carte menu:

*ERA policy agenda topic (implementation)*  
*Missions*  
*Partnerships*  
*Implementing Synergies / Cohesion*  
*Technical assistance: PSF, TSI*  
*Support for strategic events with stakeholders*

...

# ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR A STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

## THE CONDITIONS OF THE OFFER:

**DG RTD** brings relevant RTD and EC colleagues to enrich the discussion, to provide relevant expertise for the set-up/implementation of a strategic R&I agenda and to support the implementation with technical assistance (when/as needed)



■ **THE MEMBER STATE** commits to actively engage in the meetings and in the relevant follow-up activities, mobilising different relevant Ministers and stakeholders

# ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR A STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

## ➤ Support through the Policy Support Facility

### PSF COUNTRY

ongoing: Greece, Romania, Moldova, Romania  
upcoming: Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovakia,...

### PSF CHALLENGE (Mutual Learning Exercise)

ongoing: Citizen Science  
under discussion / upcoming soon:

- > **Mutual learning on FORESIGHT**
- > **Mutual learning on MISSIONS**
- > *Knowledge valorisation*
- > *Evidence-based policy making/Experimentation*



# ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

If interested, please, contact us at :

[rtd-country-desks@ec.europa.eu](mailto:rtd-country-desks@ec.europa.eu)

