

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT – IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## European Research Infrastructures offer critical services in the fight against the SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) outbreak

A dedicated [page](#) has been activated, and is being regularly updated, with services and tools provided by national and European Research Infrastructures to scientists, medical personnel in the field and health system administrators fighting COVID-19

Brussels, 30 March 2020

We are currently experiencing a public health crisis unprecedented in recent decades. As thousands of European citizens are infected with the SARS-CoV-2 every day and the number of casualties is increasing rapidly, Europe needs a **coordinated effort of all available knowledge and resources** to **fight the pandemic**. Coordinated research effort, services to researchers, and timely data sharing have hereby critical role.

The opportunities provided by European Research Infrastructures to support the **science-led response to the COVID-19** outbreak are extremely important. As part of the EU measures on the pandemic, the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) is therefore putting all its effort in helping to coordinate actions and investments among Research Infrastructures at the European and national levels for the **development of diagnostic tools, treatments and vaccines**, as well as the analysis of the economic and social impacts of the implemented confinement measures.

ESFRI is helping the scientific community by **aggregating information about dedicated services** offered by Research Infrastructures and communicating all relevant actions as broadly as possible. To this end, ESFRI has created a focused webpage that lists and provides quick links to the information gathered. This page, which will be regularly updated as more information becomes available, is accessible at <https://www.esfri.eu/covid-19>.

*“The information we have gathered shows the **value and direct impact** that Research Infrastructures have on researchers, citizens and society and gives our communities the opportunity to coordinate their work to help address the **great challenge** we are now facing,”*, Jan Hrusak, ESFRI Chair, emphasised in his call-for-information addressed to all European Research Infrastructures.

ESFRI would also like to invite all national & European Research Infrastructures to support this effort by offering any further information on their COVID-19 related activities and services in order to be added to this page. Please use [covid-19@esfri.eu](mailto:covid-19@esfri.eu) and [esfri@ec.europa.eu](mailto:esfri@ec.europa.eu) for any communication.

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As an intergovernmental forum, **ESFRI** acts as the European knowledge hub on RI providing advice to governments on national, European and international investments in scientific facilities. To date, the ESFRI Roadmap has enabled the design and development of **55 strategic RIs**, mobilising almost **€20 billion** of investments across the EU. To this end, Europe now has one of the most advanced and integrated Research Infrastructure systems in the world, which is a cornerstone in the development of the European Research Area.