Future of the European Research Area

La Palma, Future of Research Infrastructures in the European Research Area

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Mandate

1. Develop options for a new narrative/paradigm on the future of the ERA, taking into account both the experiences of 20 years of ERA policies and emerging needs for the evolution of the European landscape.

2. Identify possible future ERA priorities and other relevant trends, inter alia of Horizon Europe, which may feed into a new ERA policy framework post-2020.

Two Deliverables to be endorsed by ERAC:

- Deliverable A. Narrative.
- Deliverable B. Priorities.
NARRATIVE

• ERA current narrative is complex and to a large extent has been confused with its governance. ERA is more than ERAC and their groups.

• The EC Communication to the EP and to the Council sept. 2014 concluded that the conditions identified by the Communication of 2012 for the completion of ERA were achieved.

• As a consequence: the Council Conclusions of December 2014, put the weight of the remaining work in the Member States.

• But, it is clear that steps are still needed for a real and functional ERA

A new narrative to rearm the political objective of a common and open space where knowledge, researchers and resources for research flow without barriers has been drafted and endorsed by ERAC. Including a number of recommendations
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<th>From -&gt; to dynamic</th>
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ERA Objectives

a. **An inspiring and empowering ERA**: ERA policies and actions should be more responsive to the ERA stakeholders and citizens, how? smart directionality (towards societal needs in particular to SDGs)

b. **A seamless, connected and competitive ERA**: sustainable growth, interconnected in knowledge and technologies (researchers, innovators and institutions), education and skills: R&I, in coordination with education, will be drivers for the advancement of knowledge throughout Europe

c. **An involving, inclusive and collaborative ERA**: principles of policies & actions = involvement, inclusiveness, openness and collaboration - in the broadest sense (geography, people and institutions)- , to achieve a high-quality European R&I ecosystem
Priorities

1. **Increase the relevance of ERA for society:**
   - Promote that knowledge policies increase their **responsiveness to societal needs**, as the main bases to efficient, effective and future-oriented R&I systems.
   - Particular attention should be paid to **addressing the SDGs**, involving stakeholders and citizens in setting R&I policy priorities and in the knowledge-creating processes.
   - **Effective communication** for a better outreach of ERA potentials and achievements needs to be achieved;

2. **Promote broad Inclusiveness:**
   - Ensure R&I policies are inclusive in the broadest sense, through the **open and transparent engagement of all relevant actors**. They should encompass the **geographical dimension, human capital, gender and minority groups-related issues**, as well as both **public and private institutions of all sectors**. It should promote **brain circulation** at all levels and **reduce the undesirable phenomena of brain drain**.
1. **Increase the relevance for society**
   - Whole of government approach
   - Effective ways to involve citizens
   - Better communication
   - Open science/open innovation

2. **Promote broad inclusiveness**
   - Co-evolution of R&I systems to ensure excellence and quality
   - Reduce inequalities and fragmentation
   - Foster connectivity, collaboration and complementarities
   - Joint endeavour to foster brain circulation
   - Ensure gender equality, minority groups
Priorities 3-4

3. **Connect through joint policy action:**
   - **Ensure wide political support** at the highest national and EU levels for driving the implementation of **better coordinated knowledge-based R&I policies**, providing the smart directionality is needed for transformative changes resulting from absorption of new knowledge and technologies (e.g., digital transformation and the energy transition) and contributing to meeting the SDGs and sustainable growth requirements.
   - **New priority setting and implementation mechanisms need to be established based on co-design, and co-implementation with other policy areas**, special attention to **international cooperation**.

4. **Produce seamless and competitive framework conditions, including tools for policy deployment:**
   - The complex **legal and administrative frameworks** for knowledge policies at all levels require constant adaptation and review with respect to the needs of the ERA, in particular in connection to innovation & education and **to a wider network of open, accessible research infrastructures**, removing barriers to the circulation of knowledge in order to take full advantage of possible synergies and complementarities among high-quality EU and national ecosystems.
Action Areas

a. Connect through joint policy action
   a. Mobilise support at highest level
   b. Promote a dialogue and concerted actions with horizontal policies
   c. Promote close cooperation between EC and MS on international cooperation
   d. Transnational R&I collaborative initiatives on SDGs

b. Produce seamless and competitive framework conditions, including tools for policy deployment
   a. Remove barriers for knowledge circulation
   b. Promote links with EHEA
   c. Widen the network of R&I infrastructures
   d. Monitor ERA through the EU Semester
RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall objective
Core values
Scope on knowledge
Political responsibility
Strategy first
Inclusiveness
Recognition
Empowerment
Multilevel ownership
Enabling
Free circulation
Regulatory measures
Directionality / RRI
EHEA Link
Sustainability
Evidence-based policy making
Sectoral policy implementation
Overcome barriers
Global dimension
ERA lighthouses

DIMENSIONS OF CHANGE
-NARRATIVE-

Overall goal
Global ownership
Policy approach
Societal function of knowledge
Relation to socio-economic objectives
Relation to sectoral policies
Level of activation
Planning and implementation approach
Interaction with societal actors
Regulatory framework

ERA OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

a) An inspiring and empowering ERA
b) A seamless, connected and competitive ERA
c) An involving, inclusive and collaborative ERA

1) Show Relevance for society
2) Promote Broad inclusiveness
3) Connect through Joint policy action
4) Create Seamless and competitive Framwork conditions, including tools for policy deployment
Next steps

8th meeting. 13 November 2019 (BRUSSELS)

• Debrief on the outcome of the ERAC Steering Board meeting of 12 November 2019

• Examination of new versions of:
  • ERA Objectives and Priorities
  • ERA Lighthouses
  • ERA narrative

• Ideas for the motto (short catchy sentence to describe ERA)

• Conclusions and next steps

9th meeting. Nov 27. (Location TBC)

• Discussion and Approval of the final version of:
  • Deliverable 1 (Narrative and possible change of recommendation 20 – Lighthouses)
  • Deliverable 2 (Objectives and Priorities)
  • Motto. short sentence for ERA

• Final thoughts
Thank you