

How to ensure that Europe maintains global leadership in Research Infrastructure capabilities to serve ambitious scientific and technological research, thereby increasing the attractiveness of the ERA?

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# ERIC Landscape: 21 ERICs & 11 prep-ERICs

Map of ERICs' Member Countries in Europe



WHAT is an ERIC?

- **European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC):** Specific legal form that facilitates the establishment and operation of research infrastructures with **European interest**
- Partnership of EU Member States (and Associate and non-Members States) that have agreed to **integrate their resources** to respond to global societal challenges in **various science fields**
- ERICs are the **backbone of the European Research Area**

Science areas of the ESFRI Roadmap

Energy



Environment



Health & Food



Physical Sciences & Engineering



Social & Cultural Innovation



# ▶ ERIC Forum's Input to the ERAC ad-hoc Working Group on the Future of the ERA (Stakeholder Consultation of Aug 2019)

## Sustainable funding

Need for further action on long-term sustainability of research Infrastructures: Investments in 1) technological development and models for uptake, 2) training and deployment, 3) governance and internationalisation

## Full implementation of the ERIC Regulation

Full implementation of the ERIC Regulation across Member States is fragmentary and limits the effective setting up and operation of ERICs and their contribution to ERA. National Ministries still struggle with the concept of an ERIC.

## Resourcing of mission/challenge-driven research

Concerted European effort is necessary to address societal challenges. ERA should pave the way for European integration in terms of science – not just free circulation of researchers and knowledge, but also promotion of collaboration across Europe.

Challenge-driven research has been established as a major pillar of research policy in Europe. However, while research must be oriented towards the challenges at hand, the available funding must be oriented towards the necessary research, not the other way round.

# ▶ Excellent RIs/ERICs at the Service of Society

## Excellent EQUIPMENT

Continuously updated world-class equipment and technology can only be achieved if sufficient resources are in place (commitment of Member States to long-term sustainability of RIs/ERICs)

## Excellent PEOPLE

To attract excellent staff and enable world-class collaboration, RIs/ERICs must be able to fully exploit their legal framework (ongoing revision of the ERIC Practical Guidelines)

## Excellent SCIENCE

Excellent science requires rigorous adherence to peer-review principles mandated by Statutes and Access Policies. To effectively implement mission/challenge-driven research and encourage multi-disciplinary collaborations, RIs/ERICs need extra resources

Supporting EXCELLENCE – including excellent RIs/ERICs, across the whole of Europe – is the best way to ensure that Europe has the research capacity to deal with future challenges like the recent pandemic and to strengthen our economies for a knowledge-driven recovery