



## New impetus and funded activities for the EU – Western Balkans R&I political cooperation and exchange up to the highest level

From the very beginning, cooperation on research and innovation has been stimulated as a tool to facilitate European integration of the Western Balkans as well as to harmonise approaches and to tackle common societal challenges. **The Steering Platform on Research and Innovation for the Western Balkans (SP) is, in such a framework, a stable and reliable format for political cooperation and exchange up to the highest level.**

Since 2006, the Platform builds up on the progress achieved under the EU-Balkan Countries Action Plan on Science and Technology. Its main objective is to support the enhanced integration of the region in the European Research Area and it is therefore a key strategic body to deal with European, multilateral and regional issues of Science, Technology and Innovation policies in and with the Western Balkans.

In 2018 the European Commission presented the strategy 'A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans' and, against this background, **new impetus is now also given to such Platform while new activities are being funded to support the socio-economic development of the Western Balkans and also foster regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations.**

The WBC-RTI.INFO platform and its connected newsletter service can directly benefit from this new stimulus. Both were indeed acknowledged as a stable reference point for dissemination of high-quality information on R&I relevant to WB economies, and were therefore included in the package. **Find below the newly published information related to the R&I dynamics and EU- WB cooperation as well as a more in-depth focus article.**

For the time being, we invite you to share with us your events, projects, publications, etc. to help us create a sustainable knowledge sharing community! Write to [office@wbc-rti.info](mailto:office@wbc-rti.info) and get in touch with the editorial staff!

## • NEWS

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- Posted on October 24, 2019  
**[TOWARDS THE ESFRI ROADMAP 2021 - A NEW AMBITION FOR EUROPEAN SCIENCE](#)**  
Launching the call for proposals for the ESFRI Roadmap 2021, Jan Hrušák, Chair of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, called for a new ambition for European science to go beyond the...
- Posted on October 17, 2019  
**[\[EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT\] EUBCE 2020 - TRANSITION TO A BIOECONOMY](#)**  
The European Biomass Conference & Exhibition has grown from a small research community biomass conf more than 30 years ago to a well-established international conference, tackling challenges...
- Posted on October 16, 2019  
**[GLOBAL CHALLENGES NEED GLOBAL SOLUTIONS - THE VIEW OF MONTENEGRO'S SCIENCE MINISTER DAMJANOVIC AT R&I DAYS](#)**  
Montenegro's Science Minister Sanja Damjanovic addressed the European Research and Innovation Days in Brussels on September 25.
  - Posted on October 16, 2019  
**[\[EVENT REVIEW\] EUROPEAN RESEARCH & INNOVATION DAYS \(BRUSSELS, 24-26 SEPTEMBER 2019\)](#)**  
The European Commission's Research and Innovation Directorate General hosted the European Research and Innovation Days at the KANAL - Centre Pompidou in Brussels where the 2019 event focus was on EU research...
- Posted on October 16, 2019  
**[\[CALL ANNOUNCEMENT\] LAUNCH OF SYNCHROTRON RADIATION TRAINING & INTERNSHIP PROGRAMMES FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS BY ELETTRA \(MARCH 2020\)](#)**  
Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste announced the launch of two pilot actions for Western Balkans: the PhD fellowship opportunities as well as the postdoctoral fellowship opportunities in synchrotron radiation...
- Posted on October 16, 2019  
**[ELETTRA SINCROTRONE CENTER AND UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO COOPERATION ANNOUNCED](#)**  
Representatives of the University of Sarajevo and Elettra Sincrotrone Center in Trieste met on 9 October 2019. The Sincrotrone Center's activities were presented at the meeting, as well as proposals...
- Posted on October 1, 2019  
**[THE NEW EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2019-2024: EU PERSPECTIVES FOR WBS AND NEW COMMISSIONER RESPONSIBLE FOR R&I](#)**  
On 10 September 2019, President-elect of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen presented her team and the new structure of the next European Commission. Von der Leyen confirmed the European...
- Posted on September 27, 2019  
**[\[EVENT REVIEW\] - START OF THE SEEIIST DESIGN PHASE](#)**  
Organised on September 18th, this event aimed at informing the public about the advancements of the SEEIIST project at a decisive moment when it passes from the phase of conception to the phase ...

## • EVENTS

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- October 31, 2019-November 2, 2019 | University of Belgrade - Faculty of Agriculture, Serbia  
**[4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING](#)**  
The 4th International Symposium on Agricultural Engineering will take place from 31. October - 2. November 2019 at the University of Belgrade - Faculty of Agriculture.
- November 8, 2019 | Steigenberger Wiltcher's Hotel, Brussels, Belgium  
**[CITIES OF THE FUTURE 2019 \(COF 2019\) INTERNATIONAL BROKERAGE EVENT](#)**

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) with the support of the EU-funded project "Technical Assistance for Turkey in Horizon 2020 Phase II" invites to the Cities of the ...

- November 7-8, 2019 | Belgrade, Serbia, Serbia  
**3RD INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT AND EXHIBITION HYDROPOWER BALKANS**  
3rd International Summit and exhibition "HYDROPOWER BALKANS 2019" is a professional platform, bringing together chief ministers, major investors, decision-makers of the leading hydropower plants ...
- November 6-10, 2019 | Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**3RD INTERNATIONAL WATER CONGRESS**  
The 3rd International Water Congress (IWC 2019) will be held on November 06-10, 2019 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- November 20, 2019 | TownHall Europe, Brussels, Belgium  
**EIT FOOD CONFERENCE - THE FUTURE OF FOOD**  
EIT Food's first EU conference gathering policy-makers and food innovation experts to brainstorm on the future of food.
- November 20, 2019 | Brussels, Belgium  
**G-STIC 2019: CONNECTING TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION TO DECISION MAKING FOR SUSTAINABILITY**  
G-STIC is the key meeting place and global platform for market-ready integrated technological solutions that have the potential to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. During the third...
- November 19-21, 2019 | Gran Via Venue, Barcelona, Spain  
**SMART CITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS**  
Smart City Expo World Congress 2019 aims to be the meeting point to encourage all stakeholders, ranging from technology industries through to policy-makers and entrepreneurs, to engage in dynamic action...
- November 23-22, 2019 | Amsterdam , Netherlands  
**H2020 MASTER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION AND EC AUDITS**  
This 3-day training course provides a complete insight into the financial management and administration of Horizon 2020 projects, and EC financial audits. It will help you ensure that the day-to-day bookkeeping...
- November 26, 2019 | Le Charlemagne, room Alcide de Gasperi, rue de la Loi 170, Brussels, Belgium  
**H2020 UPCOMING CALLS ON ROBOTICS AND AI: INFORMATION AND BROKERAGE DAY**  
Stakeholders in robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) from research and industry are invited to take part in a matchmaking brokerage day on 26 November 2019 in Brussels. Representatives from the European...
- December 2-3, 2019 | Palais Brongniart, Paris, France  
**EIT HEALTH SUMMIT 2019 - 'DEFINING UNMET NEED - HOW MUCH DOES IT MATTER?'**  
The annual EIT Health Summit 2019 with the theme 'Defining Unmet Need - How much does it matter?' will be taking place on 2-3 December 2019 at the Palais Brongniart, Paris.
- December 4, 2019 | The EGG, Rue Bara 175, 1070 Brussels, Belgium  
**BBI JU STAKEHOLDER FORUM 2019**  
The second edition of the Stakeholder Forum is a one-day public event that will bring together the bio-based industries community and facilitate open discussion on the impact, achievements and strategic...
- December 4-6, 2019 | Belgrade, Sava Centar, Serbia  
**50TH INTERNATIONAL HVAC&R CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION**  
The 50th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition is to be held in Sava Center, Belgrade, on December 4–6, 2019.
- March 5-6, 2020 | J.U. Cultural Center Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**THE ENERGY FUTURE OF THE WESTERN BALKANS - POTENTIALS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA SET TREBINJE 2020**

The SET 2020 Energy Summit is aimed at the business sector - entrepreneurs (energy producers, companies wishing to apply RES in their business), professionals, investors, consultants, entrepreneurs...

- April 2-3, 2020 | Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Romania  
**THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES - COPING WITH COMPLEXITY BY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH**  
The conference is an excellent opportunity to grow your professional network, by connecting with some of the most influential researchers in economics and social sciences and sharing information about...
- June 18-19, 2020 | University of Aveiro, Portugal, Portugal  
**19TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FOR BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES**  
The European Conference on Research Methodology for Business and Management Studies was established 19 years ago. This event has been held in countries across Europe, including Ireland, England, France...
- July 5-9, 2020 | Trieste, Italy  
**ESOF 2020 - EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM TRIESTE**  
The 9th edition of ESOF will take place from 5-9 July 2020 in Trieste. The EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) is a biennial, pan-European, general science conference dedicated to...
- September 9-10, 2020 | Roma Eventi, Pontifical Gregorian University, Italy  
**ICSD 2020 : 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**  
European Center of Sustainable Development in collaboration with Canadian Institute of Technology will organize the 8th ICSD 2020 International Conference on Sustainable Development...
- September 24-26, 2020 | University of Graz, Austria  
**10TH INASEA CONGRESS**  
Visual Cultures in Southeast Europe: globalization, gender, power and resistance
- September 10, 2019-January 1, 2023 - **today** | Online, OTHER  
**FREE TRAINING ON MONITORING SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES**  
What are the principles underpinning Research & Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3)? What are the core-indicators to monitor RIS3 sound implementation? Where can one find the key data...

## • **CALLS**

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- Deadline: October 31, 2019  
**SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION: A CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSALS**  
The UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education is editing a book with a working title of Social Responsibility and Higher Education: International Perspectives...
- Deadline: November 5, 2019  
**ERC: SYNERGY GRANTS**  
The European Research Council has opened a call for grant applications for a group of two to maximum four Principal Investigators (PIs) – one of which will be designated as the corresponding..
- Deadline: November 8, 2019  
**CONFERENCE CALL - CONTEMPORARY POPULISM AND ITS POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES: DISCOURSES AND PRACTICES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE**  
International Conference - Contemporary populism and its political consequences: discourses and practices in Central and South-Eastern Europe Belgrade, 12-13 December 2019 Faculty of Philosophy
- Deadline: November 10, 2019  
**CALL FOR PAPERS: SEEU REVIEW VOLUME 14 ISSUE 2**

SEEU Review is an international, peer-reviewed, open-access, online scientific journal published by South East European University in the international academic publisher De Gruyter.

- Deadline: November 22, 2019  
**LET'S CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAPPING OF TRAINING NEEDS AT EUROPEAN HEIS IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL INCLUSION!**  
ACA and European University Foundation (EUF) are conducting a mapping survey on the training needs of higher education institutions (HEIs) staff in the area of social inclusion, with the view...
- Deadline: November 27, 2019  
**ECRM 2020 SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS FOR 19TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FOR BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES**  
This is the second call for papers for the 19th European Conference on Research Methodology for Business and Management Studies (ECRM 2020), hosted by University of Aveiro, Portugal on 18 -19 June...
- Deadline: November 30, 2019  
**TETRAMAX 2ND CALL ON ENTREPRENEURIAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER EXPERIMENTS (TTX)**  
The overall goal of an Entrepreneurial Technology Transfer Experiment (TTX) is to mobilize, challenge and train small teams of potential entrepreneurs in the Customized Low-Energy Computing (CLEC) ...
- Deadline: November 30, 2019  
**TETRAMAX 3RD OPEN CALL FOR VALUE CHAIN ORIENTED AND INTERDISCIPLINARY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER EXPERIMENTS (TTX)**  
Mid-term (10-12 months) application experiments will be implemented between three or more partners (in case a multidisciplinary collaboration is needed) from at least two different EU member states and...
- Deadline: December 27, 2019  
**IPA SERBIA-MONTENEGRO - 2ND CALL**  
2nd Call for Proposals Cross-border Programme Serbia - Montenegro 2014-2020 under the Instrument of Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) The programme general objective is to contribute to economic, social...
- Deadline: December 31, 2019  
**TETRAMAX 3RD OPEN CALL FOR BILATERAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER EXPERIMENTS (TTX)**  
One academic partner (publicly funded, university, research institution) or an SME partner (only in well justified cases) based in an EU member state or in a country associated to HORIZON 2020 transfers...
- Deadline: January 14, 2020  
**MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORKS**  
Objective: The Innovative Training Networks (ITN) aim to train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative early-stage researchers, able to face current and future challenges and .
- Deadline: January 15, 2020  
**OFFER FOR SMES: ONE-YEAR FUNDING FOR INNOVATION ASSOCIATE**  
The lack of access to skills, latest knowledge and the capacity to manage innovation processes effectively have been identified as major barriers for innovation in SMEs. As a continuation of a pilot action...
- Deadline: January 31, 2020  
**CALL FOR PAPER/PANEL: 10TH INASEA CONGRESS IN GRAZ, AUSTRIA**  
Visual Cultures in Southeast Europe: globalization, gender, power and resistance
- Deadline: February 21, 2020  
**CFP: CONFERENCE 'COPING WITH COMPLEXITY BY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH**  
Conference Objectives: The conference provides an opportunity for all those interested in Economics and Social Sciences to discuss their research and to exchange ideas. We welcome both empirical and...
- Deadline: April 22, 2020

#### **DT-ICT-12-2020: AI FOR THE SMART HOSPITAL OF THE FUTURE**

Specific Challenge: European health and care systems face a number of challenges linked to the ageing of the population and an increase in the prevalence of chronic conditions. With budget constraints...

- Deadline: April 22, 2020

#### **ICT-49-2020: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON DEMAND PLATFORM**

Specific Challenge: The challenge is to fully exploit the potential of AI in the economy and society. Building notably on Europe's Scientific and Technology strengths in the field, the supported activities...

- Deadline: April 22, 2020

#### **ICT-47-2020: RESEARCH AND INNOVATION BOOSTING PROMISING ROBOTICS APPLICATIONS**

Specific Challenge: Robotics enables a significant part of the economic impact of AI by delivering physical intelligence. Logistics, Healthcare, Agri-Food, Inspection and Maintenance, Mobility, Construction...

- Deadline: April 22, 2020

#### **ICT-46-2020: ROBOTICS IN APPLICATION AREAS AND COORDINATION & SUPPORT**

Specific Challenge: While robots originated in large-scale mass manufacturing, they are now spreading to more and more application areas. In these new settings, robots are often faced with new technical...

## • **PROJECTS**

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- NCP\_WIDE.NET

#### **PROJECT WIDE NET NETWORK OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS (NCPS)**

The main aim of the NCP\_WIDE.NET project is to create a transnational network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation under Horizon 2020 in order to facilitate...

- **NCP\_WIDE.NET PROJECT RELEASED 6TH ISSUE OF THE E-BULLETIN**

The NCP\_WIDE.NET project has released the 6th issue of their e-Bulletin with a foreword by Mr. Vladimir Sucha, DG JRC Inside the issue, you will find a valuable insights into: Most frequent mistakes...

## • **DOCUMENTS**

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- **STRUCTURAL INDICATORS FOR MONITORING EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEMS IN EUROPE – 2019: OVERVIEW OF MAJOR REFORMS SINCE 2015**

Eurydice Background Report This report contains more than 35 updated structural indicators on education policies for the 2018/19 school/academic year in six policy areas: early childhood education

- **GUIDANCE EC DOCUMENT: HOW TO AVOID ERRORS WHEN CLAIMING COSTS IN H2020 GRANTS**

The first ex-post audits in H2020 projects show that participants continue to make mistakes in their cost claims. It is in the interests of beneficiaries and the Commission that there are as few errors...

- **2020 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ERASMUS+**

The 2020 Annual work programme for the implementation of Erasmus+ has been published. In 2020, the pilot activity on European Universities will be reinforced. The selected projects aim at increasing the...

- **CALL TOPICS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HORIZON 2020 - EU AND WIDENING COUNTRIES**

In addition to the updated Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) provides overview documents with relevant Call Topics for various third countries/regions...

- **EC REPORT: NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND ROADMAPS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN R&I**

The European Commission (EC) has published a new Thematic Report resulting from a Mutual Learning Exercise on National Strategies and Roadmaps for International Cooperation in R&I

- **[SOUTH EAST EUROPE DEVELOPMENT SCOREBOARD \(SEEDS\) - BALKAN BAROMETER 2019](#)**

The Regional Cooperation Council presented the 5th, 2019 edition of its public and businesses viewpoints survey – Balkan Barometer (BB) at the Annual meeting of the organisation that is taking place...

- **[THE WESTERN BALKANS IN HORIZON 2020](#)**

This infographic was recently released to inform on developments related to the funding of Western Balkan research projects within Horizon 2020. Current data show that the participation of Western Balkan...

- **[WBC-RTI.INFO NEWSLETTERS SENT IN 2018](#)**

WBC-RTI.INFO has prepared several newsletter issues in 2018. Thematic articles were drafted while relevant stakeholders contacted and in some cases also interviewed.

[FIND MORE ARTICLES](#)

## Strengthening the role of the WB Steering Platform on R&I The new activities funded in 2019 - 2021



[READ THE FOCUS  
ARTICLE HERE](#)

## ABOUT THE INFORMATION PORTAL

Access, registration and upload of content to WBC-RTI.info platform is free of charge. The Platform will be regularly updated in the upcoming years, and in particular focus on one selected theme per month; however much more information is collected and included in one of our databases - see below. If you would like to suggest a research topic or promote your R&I project or your research results to over 11,000 interested researchers and policy makers in WBC and Europe-wide, or if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at [office@wbc-rti.info](mailto:office@wbc-rti.info).

INFORMATION SERVICE

The WBC-RTI.info platform acts as a source of high quality targeted information on research, technology and innovation in/with/for the Western Balkan countries (WBCs). The Platform supports the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and is funded by the European Commission in such a framework (contract №30-CE-0838742/00-87).



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