



European Research Area

An open space
for knowledge and growth

Update ERA

WBC Steering Platform Budva, 5-6 June 2013

Outline

- European Research Area – key milestones
- European Research Area – Reinforced Partnership approach
- Five priorities for action, focus on Research Infrastructures
- Next steps

ERA – Key Milestones (I)

- 2000** - **Communication** “towards a European Research Area”: proposes the creation of a European research Area, defines the concept and proposes actions to create ERA by 2010
- **Lisbon European Council** endorsement of ERA, sets objectives for its realisation. Objectives to remove obstacles to researchers’ mobility by 2002
- 2002** - **Communication** “the ERA: Providing new momentum” : Progress review and new perspectives
- 6th Framework Programme & 3% target
- 2003** 3% Action Plan & Open Method of Coordination

ERA – Key Milestones (II)

- 2007** - Relaunch of ERA: **ERA Green Paper and consultation** - Institutional and public debate on what should be done to create a unified and attractive ERA
- 2008** - Competitiveness Council: “**Ljubljana Process**” enhanced partnership to make European research more effective, political governance
- Council Resolution - **ERA 2020 Vision**: Fifth freedom (researchers, knowledge and technology), attractive conditions for carrying out research and investing, scientific competition-cooperation-coordination
 - Following Commission proposals, **5 partnership initiatives** launched: careers/mobility, joint programming, RIs, KT and international cooperation.

Taking ERA to a new level Legally...

2009 - Lisbon Treaty - ERA explicit objective of the Union

*"The Union shall have the objective of strengthening its scientific and technological bases by achieving a European research area (...)"
(TFEU Art.179)*

... gives the Union legislative powers to reach this objective

"As a complement to the activities planned in the multiannual framework programme, the European Parliament and Council,... shall establish the measures necessary for the implementation of the European research area (TFEU Art. 182.5)

Taking ERA to a new level Politically... (I)

2010 - Europe 2020 & IU : Announcement ERA Framework

"an ERA Framework and supporting measures to remove obstacles to mobility and cross-border co-operation", "researchers and innovators must work and cooperate across the EU as within national borders"

Europe 2020 : 5 EU targets, a reinforced economic governance, **7 flagship initiatives** :

Smart Growth	Sustainable Growth	Inclusive Growth
<p>Innovation « <u>Innovation Union</u> »</p>	<p>Climate, energy and mobility « Resource efficient Europe »</p>	<p>Employment and skills « An agenda for new skills and jobs »</p>
<p>Education « Youth on the move »</p>	<p>Competitiveness « An industrial policy for the globalisation era »</p>	<p>Fighting poverty « European platform against poverty »</p>
<p>Digital society « A digital agenda for Europe »</p>		

Taking ERA to a new level Politically... (II)

2011/2012 - European Council Conclusions

"Europe needs a unified research area to attract talent and investment. Remaining gaps must therefore be addressed rapidly and the European Research Area completed by 2014 to create a genuine single market for knowledge, research and innovation." (February 2011)

"... efforts must be stepped up.. " March 2012

Taking ERA to a new level (III)

2012 (17 July)

- Commission Communication '**A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth**'
- Commission Communication '**Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investments in research**'
+
Commission Recommendation to MS on **access to and preservation of scientific information**

2012 (11 Dec)

- **Council Conclusions** on 'A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth'

Adoption on 17 July 2012

- Followed by **signing event** with 5 stakeholder organisations (EUA, LERU, Science Europe, EARTO, Nordforsk): Joint Statement by all, 4 MoU 's and unilateral Statement by Science Europe
- Speeches and documents all on line via the **ERA webportal** <http://ec.europa.eu/research/era> :
 - **ERA Communication/Staff Working Documents**
 - **Joint Statement/MoUs/Unilateral declaration**
 - Analysis of the response to the **ERA Framework public consultation** (full report)
 - Report from the High Level Panel on the **Socio-economic Benefits of ERA**

ERA Communication

What is ERA

- A Unified Research Area open to the world
- Based on the Internal Market
- Free Circulation of Researchers, Knowledge & Technology

What is ERA for?

- Strengthening Science & Technology
- Enhancing Competitiveness
- Enhancing Capacity for Grand Challenges

Definition ERA:

"A unified research area open to the world based on the Internal Market, in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely and through which the Union and its Member States strengthen their scientific and technological bases, their competitiveness and their capacity to collectively address grand challenges."

"A reinforced partnership"

Action-oriented...

- "Key priorities" approach to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the European public research system

.....Transparent

- 60 actions + targets, deadlines, milestones, **indicators**

....Trust and Responsibility-based

- Member States
- Research Stakeholder Organisations
- European Commission

The Five Key ERA Priorities

1. More effective national **research systems**
2. Optimal **transnational co-operation and competition**
3. An **open labour market** for researchers
4. **Gender** equality and gender mainstreaming in research
5. Optimal Circulation and Transfer of **Knowledge** including via Digital ERA



1. More effective national research systems

Objective: *increased competition within national borders, sustained and greater investment*

- **Optimal national-level competition is crucial to deliver maximum value from public money in research, as leading countries demonstrate**

Examples of proposed actions:

- **Member States: remove barriers to allocate funding in a competitive way**
- **Commission: support mutual learning between MS on removal of legal barriers to ERA**

2. Optimal transnational co-operation and competition (1)

Objective : *defining and implementing common research agendas on grand challenges*

- *Member States committed to Joint Programming but efforts need to be stepped up*

Examples of proposed actions:

- **Member States:** to prepare joint research agendas, improve interoperability of national programmes
- **Stakeholders:** agree on common funding principles, develop cross-border cooperation
- **Commission:** encourage 'partnering in research' to address grand challenges, support common funding standards

2. Optimal transnational co-operation and competition (2)

Objective : *constructing and effectively running of pan-European research infrastructures*

*The challenges are to ensure MS/AC commitments to ESFRI Roadmap, achieve maximum value for money from investment at all levels, overcome obstacles to construction and operation & ensure **open access** for researchers to Ris*

The Innovation Union sets a commitment to complete or launch construction of 60% of ESFRI roadmap priorities by 2015 : this requires investment beyond means of individual countries – pooling of regional, national and EU funds.

3. An open labour market for researchers

Objective: *to ensure removal of barriers to researcher mobility, training and attractive careers*

- *One of the most important is the lack of transparent, open and merit-based recruitment*
- *Other issues: Cross-border portability and accessibility of grants, innovative doctoral training, business academia mobility and HR strategy for researchers*

Examples of proposed actions:

- **Member States:** remove barriers to open, transparent and merit-based recruitment and to cross-border access and portability of grants, support structured innovative doctoral training programmes
- **Stakeholders:** publish all vacancies on EURAXESS, fill research positions via open, transparent and merit-based recruitment, increase mobility between public & private sector
- **Commission:** strengthen collaboration in the EURAXESS network so that it becomes a means for researchers to access tailor-made assistance

4. Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research

Objective: *diversify views and approaches in research and foster excellence*

Commission will adopt Commission Recommendation to Member States on institutional change in research organisations (later this year)

Examples of proposed actions:

- **Member States:** remove barriers to recruitment, retention and career progression of female researchers
- **Stakeholders:** implement institutional change via Gender Equality Plans
- **Commission:** foster gender equality also in Horizon 2020

5. Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge including via digital ERA

Objective: *to guarantee access to and uptake of knowledge by all*

- *Open Access to publications and data are central to ERA*
- *Digital ERA needed to maintain Europe as hub of excellence*
- *Free access to knowledge and services saves public (and private!) money and facilitates innovation*

Examples of proposed actions for Member States, Stakeholders and Commission:

- **To Promote Open Access**
- **To Foster Knowledge Transfer**

“Scientific Information in the Digital Age” (2012)

COMM + Recommendation

Political decision

***Competitiveness Council** adopted Council Conclusions on 11 December 2012 endorsed:*

- the Communication in general terms
- the proposed interaction with **SHOs**
- the invitation to include ERA actions and related national reforms in National Reform Programmes in relation to the **European Semester**
- strengthened monitoring of ERA progress (**ERA Monitoring Mechanism**)
- first ERA progress report under Lithuania Presidency (September 2013)

Why monitoring progress in ERA?

*The **reinforced ERA partnership** requires action by all actors, top-level policy steering and sharing of best practices to optimise research contribution to the Europe 2020 strategy*

- **Policy steering requires knowledge of the baseline and the assessment of progress**
- **Close link with reforms for smart growth within the Europe 2020 policy cycle (European Semester)**

Next milestones

- Follow-up of agreements / statements by **stakeholder organisations**
- 15 April 2013: MS have submitted **NRP** 's including ERA measures
- April-September: analysis by Commission of ERA progress based also on input by Member States via the ERA Committee and ERA related groups
- September /October 2013: First **ERA Progress Report**
- October 2013 – European Council, ERA progress
- October/November 2013: ERAC opinion on ERA Progress report
- (Poss. debate in December Council – Conclusions)
- From 2014 on: full assessment of progress by Commission, political guidance by Council

ERA and Enlargement Countries

- Facilitating compliance with acquis
- Important to follow ERA developments in preparation of EU membership
- All enlargement countries (and associated to EU programme): observers of ERAC: see list
- Important to attend meetings & Conferences: facilitates understanding:
- Correlation national capacity on R&I and uptake research projects under FP7 (see Croatia; Turkey) and H2020

Observers in ERAC (15/4/2013)

Albania	Prof. Dr. Yili PANGO; Dr.-Ing. Arjan XHELAJ; Mr Edmond AGOLLI
Bosnia	Ms Biljana CAMUR; Ms Alma HASANOVIC
Croatia	Prof. Sasa ZELENKA Ph.D; Ms Kristina F. BLASKOVIC; Ms Nada SIROTIC
FYRoM	Prof. Atanas KOCOV Ph.D
Montenegro	Mr Darko PETRUSIC; Prof. Dr. Igor RADUSINOVIC
Serbia	Prof. Dr. Radivoje MITROVIC; Prof. Dr. Snezana PAJOVIC
Turkey	Mr Huseyin GULER; Ms Melis KOCATURK; Ms Yasemin ASLAN

List 15/4/2013

- List updated?
- Notify regularly new Members to Director – General DG Research & Innovation
- Important to attend

ERA Progress Report

- Progress Report (September 2013): will include Associated Countries
- Baseline Member States: National Reform Programmes (NRP) of 2011
- Actions by Commission: Survey; Tender to study progress in MS and AC, JRC Observatory
- Commission Expert Group: identify priorities; operational conclusions
- ERAC Ad Hoc W/G on European Semester

(see note of Mr R-J Smits to all ERAC members and observers of 29 May 2013)

Being part of ERA

- Contribute to ERA Progress Report!
- AC: invitation to self- assessment by 8 June (under preparation? Need longer deadline?)
- Information on voluntary basis
- Information along Key Actions of ERA/Conclusions December 2012

ERA & WBC: open questions

- Governance : is a regular dialogue between policy makers and stakeholders in place?
- National funding : balance between competitive funding / block funding? Success rate? Peer review? Criteria for selection? Evaluation?
- Are RI in WBC open? Are WBC working on a national Roadmap? development of smart specialisation strategy (re:pre-accession funding)
- Labour market : quality of education? What legal / policy framework in place to allow mobility between public & private sector? What strategy to prevent brain drain / attract world researchers? Use of Euraxess?

**Thank you for your
attention**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/era>

