

Addressing the needs of the European Research Area (ERA) New Perspectives for Forward- Looking Activities

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Forward Looking Activities supporting the European Research Area

Development of a systematic and continuous process of forward-looking and horizon scanning activities:

- to address the **needs** of ERA
 - especially in joint programming and
 - international research cooperation
- to support the development of EU Framework Programmes

Forward Looking Activities supporting the European Research Area

- Identifying grand socio-economic challenges which have to be addressed at a European or global level.
- Needs based approach involving the Member States, Associated States and the Commission, as well as relevant stakeholders.
- With strong expert support.
- Input from on-going activities at national and EU level.



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Forward Looking Activities supporting the European Research Area

- There is a growing need for this type of activity.
- How could this kind of a continuous, needs based process involving the users of the results be organised without creating a heavy bureaucratic system?

Basics of the development of the European Research Area (ERA)

The ERA concept combines: a European "internal market" for research, where

- *researchers, technology and knowledge freely circulate;*
- *there is effective European-level coordination of national and regional research activities, programmes and policies;*
- *initiatives implemented and funded at European level.*

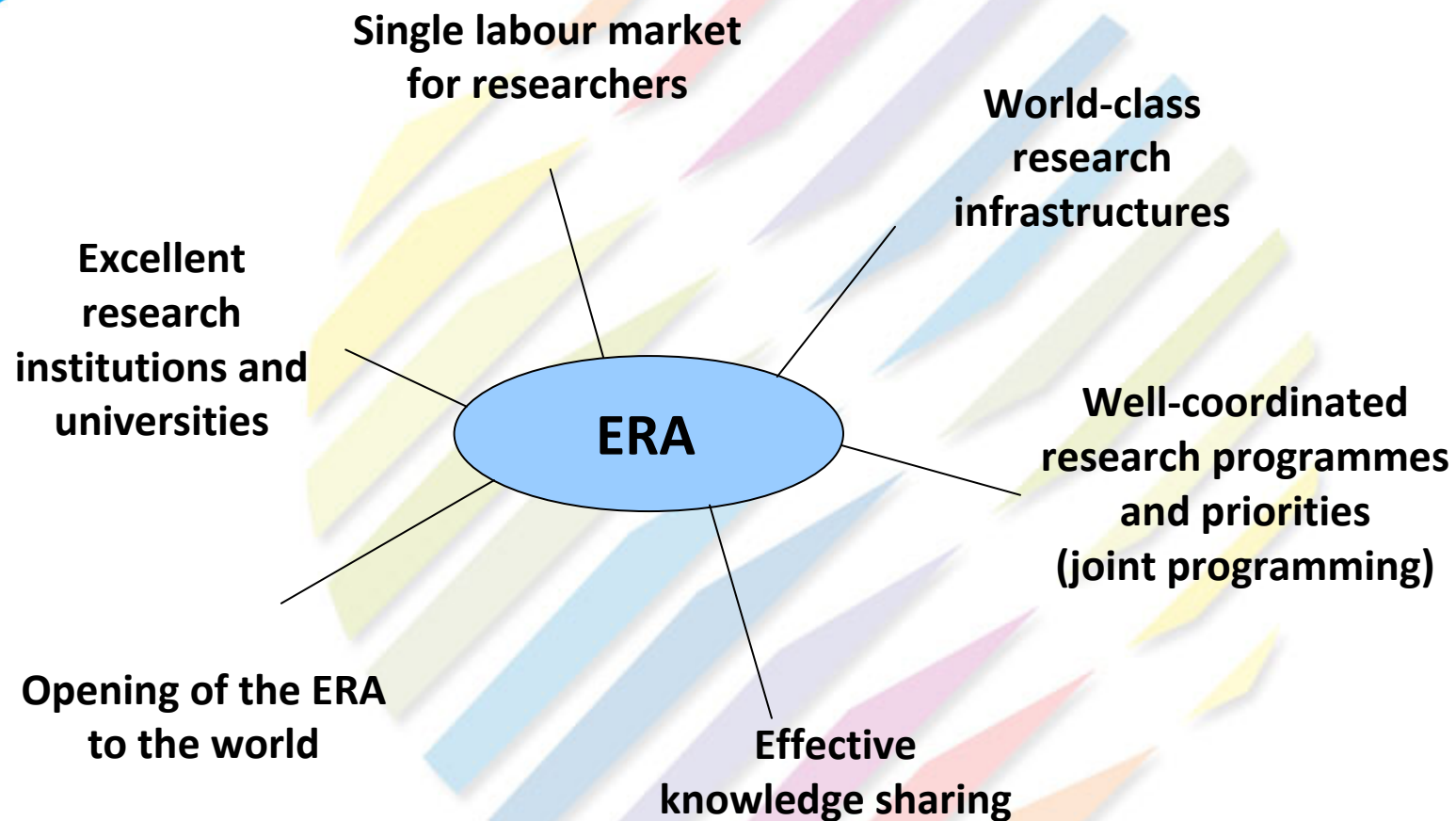
Ljubljana Process

- We need to develop a well-organised partnership between the Member States, Associated States and the Commission to exchange information and to steer all initiatives in a coherent way.
 - A common **long-term vision** for the future of ERA as the basis for our future actions and initiatives

ERA Vision 2020 adopted at Competitiveness Council on
2 December 2008

*“By 2020, all actors fully benefit from the **‘Fifth Freedom’** across the ERA: free circulation of researchers, knowledge and technology. The ERA provides **attractive conditions** and **effective and efficient governance** for doing research and investing in R&D intensive sectors in Europe. It creates strong **added value** by **fostering a healthy Europe-wide scientific competition** whilst **ensuring** the appropriate level of **cooperation and coordination**. It is **responsive to the needs and ambitions of citizens** and effectively **contributes to the sustainable development and competitiveness of Europe.**”*

ERA building blocks





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The five ERA initiatives and other ERA building blocks

European Partnership for Researchers

Key Challenges:

- Ensure quality and availability of researchers across Europe and raise the attraction of Europe to the best research talents world-wide
 - Increasing competition, globally and with other economic sectors
 - Demographic developments affecting Europe's research workforce
 - Europe's goal to increase public and private investments in R&D
- Mainstream mobility between institutions, between sectors and across borders, based on the “brain circulation” paradigm

European Partnership for Researchers

Focus actions at national and European level in four key areas:

- Open recruitment and portability of grants
- Meeting social security and supplementary pension needs of mobile researchers
- Attractive employment and working conditions
- Enhancing training, skills and experience of researchers

Next steps:

- Member States to plan/act at national level based on common objectives
- Progress together at European level through the ERA Human Resources and Mobility Steering Group

Joint Programming in Research

It is a concept which

- Calls for the implementation of a Member States-led process to step up their R&D cooperation in addressing grand societal challenges by means of programming of research activities jointly;
- Recognises the increasing need for a new and more strategic approach.

World-class research infrastructures

Response to challenges:

- Integration of existing Research Infrastructures
- ESFRI roadmap for new Infrastructures (updated on December 9, 2008)
- A new Community legal framework, to ease the setting up of new European Research Infrastructures

Next steps:

- Implement the ESFRI roadmap (national support)
- Continue developing a Research Infrastructures policy at EU level

Opening of ERA to the world

“A Strategic European Framework for International S&T Cooperation”

- Based on a long term partnership between the Member States and the European Community
- Calls for a more coordinated approach between Member States and the European Community activities
- Member States, Associated Countries and the European Commission collaborate within a **Strategic Forum for International Cooperation (SFIC)** to identify common priorities which could lead to coordinated or joint initiatives and positions vis-à-vis third countries and international fora
- The common needs based process for forward looking activities could be used also in this work

Knowledge transfer and IP management

Response to challenges:

- Commission Recommendation and Code of Practice:
 - Key principles for improving national Intellectual Property (IP) and knowledge transfer policies.
 - Guidance for PROs to set up institutional policies and knowledge transfer systems.

Next steps:

- Member States and Commission: **CREST group** to monitor and evaluate the take-up and impact of the Recommendation; exchange best practices; develop guidelines.
- Stakeholders and Commission: “**Knowledge transfer forum**” to discuss implementation of the Code of Practice, exchange best practices, and work on issues of common interest (e.g. international aspects, model contracts).

Beyond the five initiatives

- The five initiatives and their future implementation mark important milestones in the further development of ERA but there are many other issues to be addressed
- Other current initiatives contributing to advancement of the ERA:
 - European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET)
 - Maritime research strategy
 - ERC
 - European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
 - European Technology Platforms (ETP)
 - JTI, Art. 169s
 - Strengthening of synergies between FP7, CIP and Structural Funds



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**We need a more research and
innovation intensive, integrated
and attractive
European Research Area
Excellent Research Attracts**

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

