

***Seminar on***

**How can Forward Looking Activities support  
the European Research Area?**

**Brussels, 2 June 2009**

**Venue: Centre de Conférences Albert Borschette  
36, rue Froissart  
1040 Bruxelles  
ROOM: 3C**

***Purpose***

*The primary purpose of this seminar is to discuss the current status and experiences concerning forward-looking activities in the context of EU research policy so far and to see how a continuous process of forward-looking and horizon scanning activities addressing the needs of the European Research Area - and in particular joint programming, the development of EU Framework Programmes and international science and technology cooperation - could be organised now and in the future.*

*The policy developments regarding the European Research Area have in particular emphasized the opportunities that joint programming could offer for optimizing Europe's resources and capacities in the field of research. Joint programming of research efforts by Member States is to be carried out on a voluntary basis. In order to identify common socio-economic challenges that joint programming could address as well as in order to prepare joint programmes once such challenges have been identified, joint forward-looking activities between Member States could be experimented. Ongoing forward-looking activities at national and EU levels could provide useful inputs to these activities.*

*Presentations will be followed by discussion sessions.*

# Agenda

- 9h00**      *Registration and welcome coffee*
- 9h30**      **Opening: Forward Looking Activities, what has been done so far?**  
Purpose of the meeting and background  
**Jean-Michel BAER**, Director, Directorate L, "Science, Economy and Society",  
DG Research, Seminar's Chair
- 9h40**      **Presentation of the Foresight projects selected in the EU 'Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities' programme 2007 call**  
(7-8 minutes each)  
**Coordinators of the projects:**
- |            |                           |
|------------|---------------------------|
| FARHORIZON | <b>Luke GEORGHIOU</b>     |
| CIVISTI    | <b>Anders JACOBI</b>      |
| SESTI      | <b>Maurits BUTTER</b>     |
| IKNOW      | <b>Rafael POPPER</b>      |
| INFU       | <b>Karl Heinz LEITNER</b> |
| SANDERA    | <b>Andrew JAMES</b>       |
- 10h30**      *Coffee Break*
- 10h40**      **Addressing the needs of the European Research Area. New Perspectives for Forward-Looking Activities**  
**Anneli PAULI**, Deputy Director General, DG Research
- 11h00**      **Introduction on the needs from the different DG Research Directorates regarding the implementation of European Research Area initiatives**
- **Needs for supporting joint programming:**  
**Robert-Jan SMITS**, Director, Directorate B, "European Research Area: research programmes and capacity"
  - **Needs for the development of the Framework programme:**  
**Brendan HAWDON**, Head of Unit A1, Directorate A, "Inter institutional and legal matters - Framework programme ", DG Research
  - **Needs for the development of international S&T cooperation:**  
**Callum SEARLE**, Policy Officer, Unit D2, "Analysis and monitoring of research policies around the world", DG Research

- 12h00**      **How can Forward-Looking Activities contribute to define great societal challenges for ERA?**
- **The Finnish experience: Pirjo KYLÄKOSKI**, Foresight Manager, TEKES
  - **The UK experience: Jon PARKE**, Deputy Head of Foresight, Government Office for Science, UK
- 13H00**      ***Lunch break***
- 14h00**      **Discussion**
- Introduced by short comments from: **Luke GEORGHIOU** - FARHORIZON project, **Rafael POPPER** - IKNOW project, **Maurits BUTTER** - SESTI project
- 15h00**      **How can Forward-Looking Activities be used to underpin the development of a vision and a strategic research agenda for a theme selected for joint programming?**
- **The experience of a thematic Directorate of DG Research: Tim HALL**, Director, Directorate E, "Biotechnologies, Agriculture, Food"
  - **The messages from the ERA expert group on "optimising research programmes and priorities" (2008): Helena ACHESON**, Manager, Enterprise Policy and Communications, FORFAS
  - **The experience of European Technology Platforms (ETPs) as a vision-building process: Tiit JÜRIMÄE**, Head of Unit C2, "Private investment and technology platforms" and **Karen METZLAFF**, EPSO Executive Director
  - **Social Platforms: identifying research agendas for the Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities at EU level: Paraskevas CARACOSTAS**, Advisor, Directorate L, "Science, Economy and Society"
- 16h00**      ***Coffee break***
- 16h15**      **Discussion**
- Introduced by short comments from: **Andrew JAMES** - SANDERA project, **Karl Heinz LEITNER** - INFU project and **Anders JACOBI** - CIVISTI project
- 17h15**      **Reporting on the two discussions**
- 17h45**      **Conclusions of the seminar**  
**Anneli PAULI**, Deputy Director General, DG Research