



# The New European Research Area



*Joining forces to find solutions to today's challenges is more important than ever. Working together through the new European Research Area, we will accelerate our transition towards climate neutrality and digital leadership, support the recovery from the coronavirus crisis and make the EU a lighthouse of excellence for research and innovation.*

Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

## What is the European Research Area?

A single, borderless market for research, innovation and technology across the EU...

...where countries come together and improve their research policies and systems...

...and where there is free movement of researchers, knowledge and innovation.

## In the new European Research Area we will:



**Prioritise investments and reforms in research and innovation** towards the green and digital transition, to support Europe's recovery;



**Strengthen mobility of researchers and free flow of knowledge and technology** through greater cooperation among Member States;



**Boost market uptake** of research and innovation results;



**Improve access to excellence** for researchers across the EU.



## Timeline

September  
2020

### Commission Communication “A new ERA for Research and Innovation”

The Commission sets out its new vision for the European Research Area (ERA). The new ERA aims at deepening the implementation of existing priorities and initiatives but also at broadening towards new priorities to address the new context and challenges, such as the twin digital and climate transitions and the recovery from the COVID19 crisis. It proposes an ERA Roadmap with 14 key actions.

December  
2020

### Council Conclusions on the new ERA

The Council Conclusions endorse the vision of the Commission and support most of the actions proposed.

January  
2021

### Establishment of the ERA Forum for Transition

The Forum takes the form of an informal expert group, bringing together Member States and the Commission, working regularly with stakeholders. It acts as a platform to discuss and support the implementation of various initiatives, including the Pact for Research and Innovation and priorities for an ‘ERA policy agenda’.

July  
2021

### Pact for Research and Innovation

On 16 July 2021, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation on a Pact. The Pact proposal defines shared priority areas for joint action in support of the ERA, sets out the ambition for investments and reforms, and constitutes the basis for a simplified policy coordination and monitoring process at EU and Member States’ level through an ERA platform where Member States can share their reform and investment approaches to enhance exchanges of best practices. The Pact is a result of a cooperation between the European Commission, Member States and ERA stakeholders during the first half of 2021.

## The Pact sets out on common principles for research and innovation in Europe:

### Upholding values

- Ethics in research and innovation
- Freedom of scientific research
- Gender equality and equal opportunities

### Working better

- Free circulation
- Pursuit of excellence
- Value creation

### Working together

- Coordination, coherence, commitment
- Global outreach
- Inclusiveness
- Societal responsibility

Next steps  
26  
November

### Competitiveness Council meeting

The Pact for Research and Innovation and the conclusions are expected to be adopted.

### Development of an ERA Policy agenda

The first one will be based on the ERA Roadmap and the Commission Communication and will propose a list of ERA actions.



### More information at

European research area (ERA) | European Commission (europa.eu)  
<https://europa.eu/!YmgHHX>

#EURResearchArea  
#EuropeanResearchArea



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