

# Widening participation in Horizon 2020

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Ministry of Science  
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- located at the Institute of Fundamental Technological Research PAS in Warsaw (IPPT PAN)
- appointed in **1999** by the Ministry responsible for research
- the **coordinator of a country-wide network** dealing with European Programmes
- Secretariat of the Coordination Committee of the **Polish Technology Platforms**
  - **10 Regional Consortia** of Contact Points
  - **23 Thematic Contact Points** dedicated to industry

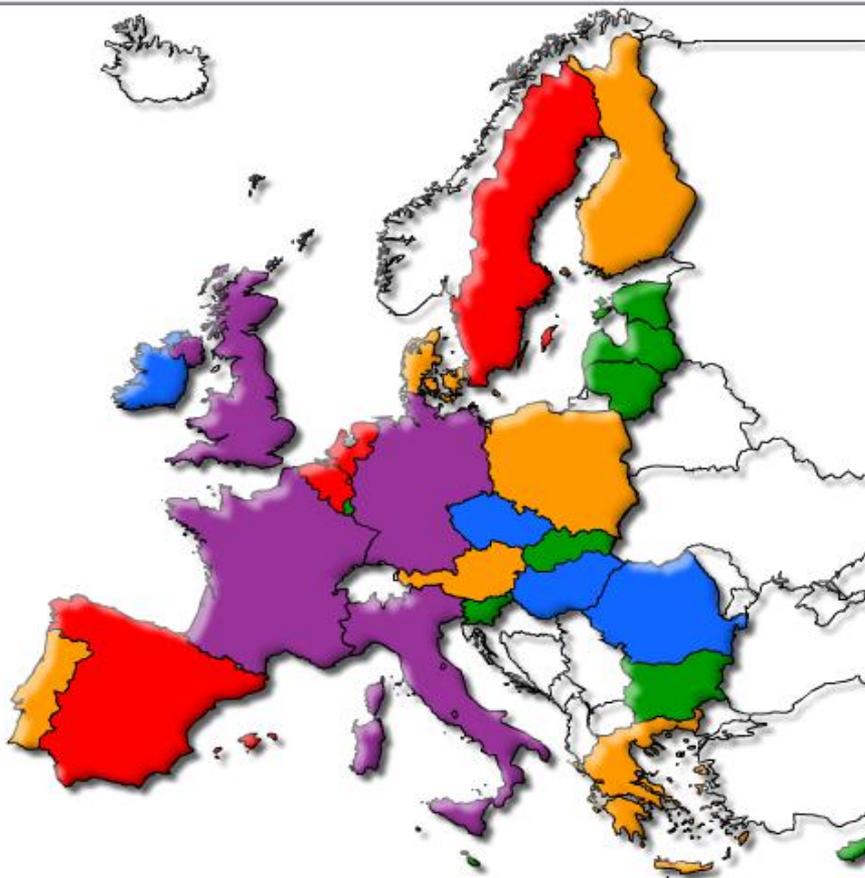


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For an easy-to-read introduction to FP7 in 21 languages, see the brochure, "FP7 - tomorrow's answers start today", on [Understanding the Seventh Framework Programme](#)



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## Factors explaining the variations in the FP participation by countries

- National level investment in research
- Interaction and synergies between the FP and the national research system
- Experience with FP procedures within national systems
- Wage levels - variation in wages, even taking into account the variations in purchasing power, is a major reason why the level of EU research funding per country varies
- access to networks
- size of projects - large projects can be problematic for small countries and new actors
- information, communication, training and availability of advice



## Actions

- Issue raised during the Polish Presidency 
- Proposal for Horizon 2020 by the EC, November 30, 2011
- Common EU12 (plus Croatia) position on H2020 proposal, May 23, 2012 
- Follow-up activities after submission the EU12 (plus Croatia) position on H2020 proposal



## Widening participation by unlocking R&I potential *Proposal for Horizon 2020 by the EC*

- **Principle of excellence:** continue to allocate funding on the basis of competitive calls, selecting only the best Projects
- **Clear division of labour** between cohesion policy and Horizon 2020
  - Cohesion policy: support for regions in building up their research and innovation capacity
  - Horizon 2020: widen participation, better coordination between the two Union funding programmes, support policy learning reforms
- **Accompanying measures in Horizon 2020** to ensure that excellence prevails wherever it exists, including: twinning, ERA chairs, support for access to international networks, development of smart specialisation strategies



Significant regional disparities across Europe in research and innovation performance need to be addressed. Measures will aim at unlocking excellence and innovation and will be distinct, complementary and synergistic with policies and actions of the Cohesion policy Funds. They include:

- Linking in a competition emerging institutions, centres of excellence and innovative regions in less developed Member States to international leading counterparts elsewhere in Europe. This will involve **teaming** of excellent research institutions and less developed regions, **twinning** of staff exchanges, expert advice and assistance and the development of joint strategies for the establishment of centres of excellence that may be supported by the Cohesion policy funds in less developed regions.
- **Building links with innovative clusters** and recognising excellence in less developed regions, including through peer reviews and awarding labels of excellence to those institutions that meet international standards, will be considered.



- Establishing '**ERA Chairs**' to attract outstanding academics to institutions with a clear potential for research excellence, in order to help these institutions fully unlock this potential and hereby create a level playing field for research and innovation in the European Research Area.

This will include institutional support for creating a competitive research environment and the framework conditions necessary for attracting, retaining and developing top research talent within these institutions.

- Supporting **access to international networks** for excellent researchers and innovators who lack sufficient involvement in European and international networks. This will include support provided through COST and **National Contact Points**.
- Supporting the **development and monitoring of smart specialisation strategies**. A policy support facility will be developed and policy learning at regional level will be facilitated through international evaluation by peers and best practice sharing.

## Other measures to widen participation in Horizon 2020

### - **Mobility schemes and support to returning scientists**

under Marie Skłodowska Curie – Measures in support of returning scientists could provide impact not only to the visibility of research systems, but also to individuals playing a mentoring role.



- **Simplification** – The simplification measures envisaged for Horizon 2020 will provide a major boost, especially for countries either new to the Framework Programme or with smaller administrative capacities, to improve rates of participation.

### - **Room for smaller projects and less prescriptive projects**

– An increase in the proportion of smaller projects driven by SMEs or small research teams could have a beneficial effect for smaller countries especially.

**Horizon 2020** will improve recognition and support for excellence. The upgrading of infrastructure and equipment, on the other hand, will come under the remit of the **Structural Funds**.

Less developed regions should invest **at least 50% of European Regional Development Fund** money into support for research and innovation, SMEs and energy efficiency and renewable energies.

Based on a transparent competition there will also be the possibility to create **new excellent research centres**, based on a cooperation of excellent research institutions and regions to give our researchers new career perspectives all over Europe, and to help less developed regions to catch up.



## Common EU12 (plus Croatia) position on H2020 proposal, May 23, 2012

- **dedicated article on widening participation** in the Regulation establishing Horizon 2020
- **equal access** to all excellent research infrastructures within the EU
- pilot **two-stage** evaluation procedure in selected areas, by ensuring the presence of excellent groups of evaluators from different Member States and with different backgrounds
- the model of **remuneration** under the Maria Skłodowska Curie Action scheme as an option in the whole Horizon 2020
- EU support for **small and medium sized projects** is of utmost importance
- setting up concrete targets followed by a set of indicators **measuring progress** in the widening participation of Horizon 2020.



## Legislative procedure

- PGA concerning the Proposal for a Regulation establishing Horizon 2020 (Competitiveness Council meeting on May 31)
- PGA concerning the Proposal for a Regulation on the Rules for the participation and dissemination in Horizon 2020 (Competitiveness Council meeting on October 10)
- Six draft laws on Horizon 2020 adopted by the **ITRE Committee** (November 28)



## "ERA Chairs" FP7 Pilot Call

The pilot call will be launched on **December 18, 2012** (deadline: May 21, 2013).

The target participants have to be located in regions detailed in the FP7 Research Potential Work Programme for 2012-13 which focuses in particular on convergence regions.



The indicative total budget of **12 million euros** for **five "ERA Chairs"** to be hosted by universities or other eligible research institutions in less developed regions in **five different EU countries**.

To host an ERA Chair, institutions must demonstrate their ability to support excellence through providing the necessary facilities and complying with European Research Area principles such as open recruitment.

# From FP5 to Horizon 2020

## *Stairways to excellence*

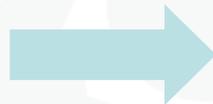


**Building expertise and  
integrating with ERA**



**2002-2006**

**People and infrastructure**



## **Horizon 2020**



**Research and  
Innovation**



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK  
PROGRAMME

**Increasing research  
potential**



**Thank you for your attention!**



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