

European Research and Innovation Policy: Opportunities for the Danube Region

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I. **Horizon 2020**

II. **European Research Area**

III. **Innovation Union**

- Based Art. 180/1 TFEU - “Multiannual Framework Programme”, comprising all funding by the Union for R&D measures (including policy) plus Art. 173/3 for Innovation
- ~ EUR 80 bn. over 7 years = the biggest transnational (in fact supranational) R&I Programme in the world
- Three Pillars
 - Excellent Science
 - Industrial Leadership
 - Societal Challenges
- Specific opportunities for the Danube Region Co-operation
 - ERA-NET Co-fund
 - Article 185 TFEU
 - Marie Curie Co-fund
 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

- Launched in 2000
- Incorporated in the TFEU with the Lisbon Treaty (2009):
*Art. 179/1 TFEU: „... achieving a **European Research Area** in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely“*
- Priority Areas:
 - 1 *More effective national research systems*
 - 2a *Transnational Cooperation*
 - 2b *Research Infrastructures*
 - 3 *Open Labour market for Researchers*
 - 4 *Gender Equality and Mainstreaming in Research*
 - 5 *Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge*

- One of 7 „Flagship Initiatives“ of the EU 2020 Strategy
- Launched in 2010
- Focussing on increasing the efficiency of the European Innovation system(s) in times of crisis/budgetary constraints
- 34 „IU Commitments“ dealing with issues such as
 - *Financial instruments to support private investments in R&I*
 - *Reform of state aid rules*
 - *Public (pre-commercial) procurements of innovative products and services*
 - *Use of structural Funds for R&I*
 - *European Innovation Partnerships*
- **Multiple overlaps with ERA priorities**

- **European Commission:** Guardian of the treaties, exclusive right of initiative, implementing EU policies
- **Council and Parliament:** EU - Legislator
- Council Working Groups and Committee of Permanent Representatives: Preparing/negotiating EU legislation
- **Advisory bodies for the ERA:**
 - European Research Area and Innovation Committee - **ERAC**
 - High Level Group for Joint Programming – **GPC**
 - Strategic Forum for International S&T Cooperation – **SFIC**
 - ESFRI, SGHRM, KT-Group, Helsinki Group

- Collaboration among Member States and associate countries beyond H2020
- May be co-funded by H2020 through ERA-Net Co-Fund or under Art. 185 TFEU
- May be co-funded by Cohesion Funds (combination with H2020 possible)
- Forms of collaboration:
 - Opening of national programmes
 - Co-ordinated programmes
 - Joint programmes
 - Joint Programming
 - Innovation Partnerships
 - COST, Eureka!

- European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures – ESFRI
- Consisting of envoys of the research Ministers of the 28 MS
- ESFRI mission: *“to support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy-making on research infrastructures in Europe, and to facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to the better use and development of research infrastructures, at EU and international level”*
- The current ESFRI roadmap (2010) contains 38 projects
- IU commitment 5: 60% of ESFRI projects completed or launched by 2015
- An assessment report (2014) analysed the progress of 35 ESFRI projects
- The assessment found that for 8 projects the prognosis to reach maturity by 2015 is positive and 11 further projects could reach the target if substantial efforts are made.

Support from H2020:

1. Developing new world-class Research Infrastructures
 - *Funding possible for “Integration of new members and development of Regional Partner Facilities”*
 2. Integrating and Opening RI of European Interest
 - *Transnational / Virtual Access*
 3. e-Infrastructures
 4. Support to Innovation, Human resources, Policy and International cooperation
 - *International Cooperation for research infrastructures*
- European Charter for access to research infrastructures is being developed by the EC

- Participation in Horizon 2020
 - Focussing on relevant issues for the challenges of the Danube Region
 - Capacity building actions (Marie Curie (Co-fund), Widening participation) for increasing R&D&I absorption capacities

- Transnational Collaboration
 - Strategic participating in ERA-Net, JPIs, Art. 185 Initiatives, PPPs, EIT
 - Entering networks via COST, Eureka

- Research Infrastructures
 - Explore the potential of regional partner facilities and participation in Network infrastructures
 - Access to existing infrastructures

- Using Structural Funds
 - Financing support for H2020 participation (e.g. NCP network)
 - For developing research infrastructures
 - For participating in / developing transnational collaboration activities

Thanks for Listening!

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