



ERC Update

30 November 2010

Council calls for strengthening of ERC's excellence-promoting role

The Council of the European Union considers that the role of the European Research Council (ERC) in promoting excellence should be strengthened. This statement was part of the conclusions adopted by the Council after its meeting on 26 November, which revolved around the EU's Innovation Union.

The Council calls for relevant future EU funding programmes "to focus more on the priorities of Europe 2020 Strategy, aiming at a high socio-economic impact and addressing societal challenges and key technologies as well as facilitating collaborative research and industry-driven research". The Council also considers that "the funding instruments of these programmes should be streamlined and access to such funding radically simplified through a better balance between control-based and trust-based systems. More synergies between the research and innovation dimensions in the programmes should be considered. The role of the European Research Council (ERC) in promoting excellence should be strengthened."

With a budget amounting to €7.5 billion for the period 2007-2013, the ERC implements the IDEAS programme, which is an integral part of the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research.

Full document:

[Council of the European Union Conclusions on Innovation Union for Europe](#) (3049th Competitiveness Council meeting, Brussels, 26 November 2010)