6th ERC Annual Workshop on Best Practices in Research Funding

“Practical Pathways to Integration and Complementarity in Research Funding”

13-14 November 2014
About the ERC

The main goal of the European Research Council (ERC) is to encourage high quality research in Europe through competitive funding. In this section you can find out more about the ERC and the vital role it plays in supporting European leadership in world class research.

The ERC’s mission is to encourage the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding and to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields, on the basis of scientific excellence.

The ERC complements other funding activities in Europe such as those of the national research funding agencies, and is a flagship component of Horizon 2020, the European Union’s Research Framework Programme for 2014 to 2020.

Being ‘investigator-driven,’ or ‘bottom-up,’ in nature, the ERC approach allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions in any field of research, rather than being led by priorities set by politicians. This ensures that funds are channelled into new and promising areas of research with a greater degree of flexibility.

ERC grants are awarded through open competition to projects headed by starting and established researchers, irrespective of their origins, who are working or moving to work in Europe. The sole criterion for selection is scientific excellence. The aim here is to recognise the best ideas, and confer status and visibility on the best brains in Europe, while also attracting talent from abroad.

However, the ERC aims to do more than simply fund research.

In the long term, it looks to substantially strengthen and shape the European research system. This is done through high quality peer review, the establishment of international benchmarks of success, and the provision of up-to-date information on who is succeeding and why.

The hope is that these processes will help universities and other research institutions gauge their performance and encourage them to develop better strategies to establish themselves as more effective global players.

By challenging Europe’s brightest minds, the ERC expects that its grants will help to bring about new and unpredictable scientific and technological discoveries - the kind that can form the basis of new industries, markets, and broader social innovations of the future.

Ultimately, the ERC aims to make the European research base more prepared to respond to the needs of a knowledge-based society and provide Europe with the capabilities in frontier research necessary to meet global challenges.
Introduction

Each year the European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA) organises a workshop revolving around common interests of National Funding Agencies (NFAs) for research and other stakeholders in the research funding area. Topics like scientific follow up of on-going projects, grants for young researchers, ex-post evaluation of the impacts of research funding and the quality of peer review systems have been at the centre of past workshops. The ERCEA workshops are designed to provide a platform for NFAs and other stakeholders from around Europe and beyond to learn from each other’s practices, to compare specificities of different programmes and to establish new contacts.

In 2014, the ERCEA workshop will focus on the efforts of funding actors to integrate funding mechanisms in different ways and to offer complementary tools to support scientific progress and innovation. The workshop will be divided in 4 focussed sessions, each one addressing different levels of integration. After the opening session which is designed to set the scene with overview presentations on funding integration in Europe in general and the example of ERC in particular, session 1 will highlight research funding integration through bi- and multilateral agreements between funding agencies.

Broadening the scope of integration, session 2 will present experiences and approaches of large-scale research funding integration preceded by a status update on the development of the European Research Area. Session 3 then puts the focus on ERC with the presentation examples on funding integration and complementarity related to frontier research funding. Session 4 on the second day of the workshop is devoted entirely to the use of EU structural funds for science and examples on how these structural funds are used to build up research capacities. Introduced by an overview on European structural funds and its interactions and synergies with the Horizon 2020 funding programme, these practical experiences should provide a stimulating basis for further discussion.

The ERCEA has yet again been fortunate enough to secure the participation of 17 high-level, external speakers who are introduced on the following pages along with their presentation titles and a description of their host organisations. The audience is comprised of science funding stakeholders from a variety of organisations as well as members of the ERC Scientific Council and ERCEA staff members. The great interest in the workshop topic prior to the event promises stimulating discussions and hopefully new insights into research funding integration and complementarity.

Wishing you a fruitful workshop,

The Scientific Department Workshop Organising Team
DAY 1: 13 November 2014: 9.00 – 18.00

Session 1: Setting the Scene (Moderator: Dr Frank Kuhn)

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15'</td>
<td>9:00 Welcome Address</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, President of the Scientific Council</td>
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<td>European Research Council (ERC)</td>
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<td>30'</td>
<td>9:15 ERC: Bilateral Agreements and Support Schemes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Jose Labastida, Head of Scientific Department</td>
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<td>European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA)</td>
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<td>30'</td>
<td>9:45 Overview of Funding Integration in European Funding Agencies</td>
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<td>Mr Stephan Kuster, Head of Policy Affairs</td>
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<td>Science Europe</td>
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<td>15'</td>
<td>10:15 Questions &amp; Answers</td>
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<td>15'</td>
<td>10:30 COFFEE BREAK</td>
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**Session 2: Research Funding Integration through Bi- and Multilateral Agreements**  
(Moderator: Dr Alejandro Martin-Hobdey)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Presenter/Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>The DACH Multilateral Agreement</td>
<td>Dr Christoph Bärenreuter, Programme Manager, International Programmes Austrian Science Fund (FWF)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Research Councils UK’s Bilateral Agreements – Overview and Experiences</td>
<td>Ms Chloë Somers, Senior Programme Manager, International Programmes Research Councils UK (RCUK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>Multilateral Research Funding and the Belmont Mechanism</td>
<td>Dr Maria Uhle, Programme Director, International Activities US National Science Foundation (NSF)</td>
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15' 12:15 Questions & Answers

60' 12:30 LUNCH BREAK

**Session 3: Large-Scale Research Funding Integration: Experiences & Approaches**  
(Moderator: Dr Anna Lönnroth)

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Research Funding Integration in the European Research Area</td>
<td>Ms Fabienne Gautier, Head of Unit B2, ERA policy and reform European Commission, DG Research and Innovation</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>BONUS - Science for a Better Future of the Baltic Sea Region (Article 185)</td>
<td>Dr Kaisa Kononen, Executive Director BONUS Secretariat</td>
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<td>14:30</td>
<td>Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR)</td>
<td>Ms Laura Marin, Project Manager Swedish Research Council (VR)</td>
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30' 15:00 Questions & Answers

15' 15:30 COFFEE BREAK
# Session 4: Research Funding Integration and Complementarity around ERC
(Moderator: Dr Martin Penny)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 30'  | 15:45    | International European Research Council Starting Grant Support Scheme for Southeast Asian researchers  
Dr Gerold Heinrichs, Head of Asia Division  
International Bureau (DLR)  
Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany |
| 30'  | 16:15    | SFI ERC Development Programme  
Dr Graeme Horley, Programme Manager  
Science Foundation Ireland |
| 30'  | 16:45    | ERC Proof of Concept Grantees – What's next in Innovation?  
Mr Rudolf Hielscher, Director Brussels Office  
German National Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech) |
| 30'  | 17:15    | Complementarities and synergies between different funding sources as seen by ERC Grantees  
(CSA project MERCI: Monitoring European Research Council’s Implementation of Excellence,)  
Ms Antje Wegner, Researcher  
Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance, Germany |
| 15'  | 17:45    | Questions & Answers |
| 18:00|          | END OF DAY ONE |

19:30h – Informal Workshop Dinner (self-paying), La Taverne du Passage, Galerie de la Reine 30, 1000 Brussels; There is only a limited number of places available and participants are required to reserve.
### DAY 2: 14 November 2014: 9.00 – 13.00

#### Session 5: Examples of Research Funding Complementarity: The Use of Structural Funds for R+D (Moderator: Dr Theo Papazoglou)

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>30'</td>
<td>9:00 The European Structural and Investment Funds and Horizon 2020: Interactions and Synergies</td>
<td>Dr Dimitri Corpakis, Head of Unit B5, Spreading of excellence and widening participation</td>
<td>European Commission, DG Research and Innovation</td>
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<td>30'</td>
<td>9:30 The use of structural funds to advance Greek science</td>
<td>Dr Asterios Chatziparadeisis, Head of Unit for Assessment of Research Policies in General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), Ministry of Education &amp; Religious Affairs of Greece</td>
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<td>30'</td>
<td>10:00 Structural Funds for RDI in the Operational Programme &quot;Increase of Economic Competitiveness&quot;</td>
<td>Dr Dana Gheorghe, Director General of Intermediate Body Research</td>
<td>Ministry of National Education, Romania</td>
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<tr>
<td>15'</td>
<td>10:30 Questions &amp; Answers</td>
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<td>15'</td>
<td>10:45 COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>END OF WORKSHOP</td>
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#### Session 5: continued (Moderator: Dr Theo Papazoglou)

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<tr>
<td>30'</td>
<td>11:00 Supporting Top Level Scientists with Structural Funds</td>
<td>Dr Karina Firkaviciute, Head of Unit for Academic Mobility</td>
<td>Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>30'</td>
<td>11:30 The Use of Structural Funds for supporting R&amp;D in Hungary</td>
<td>Dr Zoltán Peredy, Deputy Head of Department</td>
<td>National Innovation Office, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30'</td>
<td>12:00 BRIdge instruments – Structural funds and private investments to support R&amp;D commercialization in Poland</td>
<td>Dr. Michal Jasiorkowski, Head of - BRIdge Projects Section</td>
<td>The National Centre for Research and Development, Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>15'</td>
<td>12:30 Questions &amp; Answers</td>
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<td>15'</td>
<td>12:45 Discussion and closing remarks (Dr Jose Labastida)</td>
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13:00 END OF WORKSHOP
Session 1: Setting the Scene

Welcome Address

Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon
President of the European Research Council; member of the ERC Scientific Council’s Working Group on Open Access

(IHÉS) from 1994 till 2013. This international research institute located near Paris, France, was built as the European counterpart of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He was also the first ERC Panel Chair in Mathematics, for Starting Grants. A mathematician by training, he spent his whole career as a fellow of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). He held a Professor position at École polytechnique from 1986 to 2012. From 1990 to 1992, he was President of the Société Mathématique de France and President of the European Mathematical Society from 1995 to 1998. He is a former member of the Board of the EuroScience organisation (2002-2006) and served on EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) committees since 2004. Professor Bourguignon received the Prix Paul Langevin in 1987 and the Prix du Rayonnement Français in Mathematical Sciences and Physics from the Académie des Sciences de Paris in 1997. He is a foreign member of the Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences. In 2005, he was elected honorary member of the London Mathematical Society and has been the secretary of the mathematics section of the Academia Europaea. In 2008, he was made Doctor Honoris Causa of Keio University, Japan, and, in 2011, Doctor Honoris Causa of Nankai University, China. In addition to his mother tongue, French, Professor Bourguignon is fluent in English and German.

ERC’s Efforts on Funding Integration and Complementarity

Dr José Labastida
Head of Department, ERCEA-B: Scientific Management

Jose Labastida (PhD) is the Head of the Scientific Management Department of the European Research Council since February 16, 2011. Before joining the European Research Council he was Secretary General for Science and Technology Policy and Director General for Research of the Ministry of Science and Innovation of Spain (2008-2011). Previously he was Vice-president for Research of the Spanish National Research Council (2004-2008).

In his previous life he was a Researcher and Professor of Theoretical Physics occupying positions at the Institute for Advanced Study, CERN, and the University of Santiago de Compostela. He holds a PhD in Physics from Stony Brook University.
Overview of Funding Integration in European Funding Agencies

Mr Stephan Kuster
Head of Policy Affairs

Stephan Kuster is Head of the Policy Affairs Unit at Science Europe. The unit is responsible for the coordination of all policy activities of Science Europe, including the development of common approaches by the Member Organisations on areas such as Open Access, Cross-Border Collaboration, Gender and Diversity issues in research, Research Infrastructures and Research Careers and Mobility.

Before Joining Science Europe he worked as European Advisor for the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Contact Office for Research, Innovation and Education in Brussels, SwissCore, for several years.

Science Europe

Science Europe is an association of 52 major European public Research Funding Organisations (RFO) and Research Performing Organisations (RPO).

It promotes the collective interests of its Member Organisations and supports them in their efforts to foster European research. It helps to strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) through its engagement with key partners. In doing so it is informed by direct representation of all scientific communities in its reflections on policies, priorities and strategies.

Moderator

Dr Frank Kuhn
Research Programme Officer, ERCEA-B.5: Social Sciences and Humanities

Frank Kuhn has a Master’s Degree in Political Science, English Literature and Linguistics from the University of Stuttgart. His particular interest in ICTs and their use in politics eventually led to his doctoral degree (2005) with a study on electronic democracy. After his PhD, Frank decided to move to science management and accepted a position as a Science Officer in the Social Sciences at the European Science Foundation (ESF) in Strasbourg. At ESF (2006-2009) he supported the Standing Committee for the Social Sciences (SCSS) in the management of scientific project evaluation, funding scheme evaluations and also contributed to its science policy and communication efforts. Frank joined the European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA) in 2009 where he currently works as a panel coordinator in ERCEA-B.5: Social Sciences and Humanities. Frank is also the ERC contact point for National Funding Agencies in the Scientific Department.
Session 2: Research Funding Integration through Bi- and Multilateral Agreements

The DACH Multilateral Agreement

Dr Christoph Bärenreuter
Programme Manager at the International Department at the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

Among others, he is in charge of FWF’s participation in the D-A-CH cooperation as well as for FWF’s “Lead Agency” cooperation agreements with partner funding organisations in Europe and Asia. In 2011/12 he was seconded by FWF to help set up Science Europe.

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF), founded in 1967, is Austria’s central organization for funding scientific research. Following a bottom-up approach, FWF funds research projects from all scientific disciplines which are selected on the basis of an exclusively international peer review process. FWF is engaged in numerous international cooperation schemes, be it ERA-Nets or bi- and multilateral agreements with partner funding organisations in Europe and beyond.

Research Councils UK’s Bilateral Agreements – Overview and Experiences

Ms Chloë Somers
Senior International Policy Manager, Research Councils UK (RCUK)

Chloë has worked for RCUK for six years, in communications, UK research policy and now international – with a particular focus on European – research policy. Between 2011-2012 she worked as a European Advisor in the UK Research Office in Brussels, and since then she has been in her current role in the international team based in the RCUK Strategy Unit.

Research Councils UK (RCUK)

Research Councils UK (RCUK) is the strategic partnership of the UK’s seven Research Councils. Each year the Research Councils invest around £3 billion in research covering the full spectrum of academic disciplines. We support excellent research, as judged by peer review, that has an impact on the growth, prosperity and wellbeing of the UK. To maintain the UK’s global research position we offer a diverse range of funding opportunities, foster international collaborations and provide access to the best facilities and infrastructure around the world. We also support the training and career development of researchers and work with them to inspire young people and engage the wider public with research.
Multilateral Research Funding and the Belmont Mechanism

Dr Maria Uhle

Program Director for International Activities for the Directorate for Geosciences at the National Science Foundation

Dr. Maria Uhle currently develops mechanisms and agreements to foster international research collaboration through the Belmont Forum, the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) and Future Earth. Prior to NSF, she developed partnerships in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and addressed Arctic and Antarctic research priorities at U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Uhle served on the faculty at the University of Tennessee in Earth Sciences.

National Science Foundation, USA

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 “to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense…” With an annual budget of $7.2 billion (FY 2014), we are the funding source for approximately 24 percent of all federally supported basic research conducted by America’s colleges and universities.

Belmont Forum

The Belmont Forum is a small group of the world’s main and emerging funders of global environmental change research and international science councils. The Belmont Forum aims to accelerate delivery of the environmental research needed to remove critical barriers to sustainability by aligning and mobilizing international resources and adding value to existing national investments.

Moderator

Dr Alex Martin-Hobdey

Head of Unit ERCEA-B.2: Call and Project Follow-up Coordination

Alejandro Martín Hobdey studied physics at the University of Manchester and obtained a PhD in nuclear physics at the University of Rochester, USA. Following postdoctoral work at MIT on laser cooling and trapping of atoms, he was awarded a position as Research Scientist in 1988 at the Instituto de Óptica in Madrid, and then went on to work on medical physics as a Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School. He has worked in several research programmes within Directorate General for Research and Innovation since joining the European Commission in 1994, including the New and Emerging Science and Technology (NEST) initiative of Framework Programme 6. He has participated in the setting up the European Research Council since its inception, having been the Head of Unit for the Starting Grants Unit until October 2012. He is currently the Head of Unit for Call and Project Follow-up Coordination within the Scientific Department.
Session 3: Large-Scale Research Funding Integration: Experiences & Approaches

Research Funding Integration in the European Research Area

Ms Fabienne Gautier
Head of the European Research Area Policy and Reform Unit

Fabienne Gautier has been Head of Unit of the European Research Area (ERA) Policy and Reform Unit in the European Commission (Directorate General for Research and Innovation) since June 2014 where she supports the coordination and development of an ERA policy Framework as part of the Innovation Union Flagship Initiative of the EU’s Europe 2020 Strategy. Before her nomination she was Acting Head of the Unit since September 2012. From 1995 when she joined the European Commission, she worked in this Directorate General in various capacities. First, as a legal officer contributing to the drafting of the regulatory decisions related to the Framework Programmes and subsequently as a project officer responsible for several ERA-NET projects for the 7th Framework Programme. She was later in charge of the implementation of Article 185 of the Treaty for the 7th Framework Programme. Fabienne Gautier has a Master degree in Law (France), a certificate in European Law from the European Institute in Saarbrücken (Germany) and an Advanced Master in Law of Information and Communication Technologies from the University of Namur (Belgium).

BONUS - Science for a Better Future of the Baltic Sea Region (Article 185)

Dr Kaisa Kononen
Executive Director of the Joint Baltic Sea Research and Development programme BONUS

Kaisa Kononen the Executive Director of the Joint Baltic Sea Research and Development programme BONUS since 2007. She has a PhD in hydrobiology. She worked ca. 20 years as a research scientist focusing on studies of cyanobacterial blooms’ dynamics in the Baltic Sea. During 1997-2002 she worked as the Head of Research of the Maj and Tor Nessling Foundation. In 2002 she started working at the Academy of Finland first as the Programme Manager, and later until 2008 as the coordinator of the Baltic Sea ERA-NET project. She has been active in many international organisations e.g. ICES, SCOR-IOC research programme GEOHAB (Global Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms), HELCOM, Marine Board of the European Science Foundation and in many other national European and International committees.

BONUS

BONUS is the joint Baltic Sea research and development programme producing knowledge to support development and implementation of regulations, policies and management practices specifically tailored for the Baltic Sea region. It issues calls for competitive proposals and funds projects of high excellence and relevance based on its strategic research agenda.

BONUS is funded jointly from the national research funding institutions in the eight EU member states around the Baltic Sea and the European Union’s Seventh Programme for research, technological development and demonstration by a total of EUR 100 million for the years 2011–2017. Russia participates in BONUS through bilateral agreements.
Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR)

Ms Laura Marin

Manager of the Secretariat of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance. Laura Marin manages the Secretariat of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Previously she was responsible for Science Policy and Member Relations at the European Science Foundation. Earlier on she was team leader of the European Science Open Forum in 2008 in Barcelona and Director of Operations at the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation. She has several years of experience in managing research projects at the European Foundation for Quality Management in Brussels and at the Fachhochschule Bielefeld in Germany. She holds degrees from the University of St. Andrews and from the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona.

Joint Programming initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance

Antibiotics have saved millions of lives from once deadly infectious diseases. But, misuse of antibiotics and other antimicrobials in humans and animals has led to bacteria evolving resistance, being an emerging threat. In this context, 19 countries form the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR). The aim of this initiative is to develop integrated approaches to pursue unique world-class research on AMR. The outcomes of this research will be translated into new prevention and intervention strategies to improve public health and the wellbeing of populations. Its results will also lead to economic and societal benefits not only in Europe but also globally.

Moderator

Dr Anna Lönnroth Sjödén

Head of Unit ERCEA-B.3: Life Sciences; acting Head of Unit ERCEA-B.5: Social Sciences and Humanities

Anna Lönnroth Sjödén is Head of the Life Sciences unit and Acting Head of the Social Sciences and Humanities unit at the European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA), linked to the European Commission’s Directorate General for Research and Innovation. The units are in charge of the scientific evaluations of bottom-up frontier research grant applications submitted in response to the calls for proposals. Before joining the ERCEA, she was Deputy Head of the Infectious Diseases and Public Health Unit in the Directorate General for Research and Innovation in the European Commission, where she managed research policy development, priority setting and proposal evaluations. She joined the Commission in 1994 as a scientific officer to work on EU research funding in genomics. She holds a PhD in molecular genetics from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.
Session 4: Research Funding Integration and Complementarity around ERC

International European Research Council Starting Grant Support Scheme for Southeast Asian researchers

Dr Gerold Heinrichs
Head of Department for Asia, America and Oceania

Dr Gerold Heinrichs studied Geology at University Würzburg and Technical University Clausthal. He received his PhD in 1996. After working as a researcher from 1996 to 2000, he joined the German Aerospace Center (DLR) as a scientific officer in charge of the bilateral cooperation with Israel and Southern Europe, Latin America since 2003 and Asia since 2004. In September 2006, he became the Head of Department for Asia, America and Oceania. He leads a team which is specialised in the participation and coordination of EU-funded projects.

The Project Management Agency of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

The Project Management Agency of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) assists the BMBF in a wide range of national research programs. The department International & European Collaboration of PT-DLR supports bilateral and multilateral cooperation in science, technology and education with about 50 countries around the world, with a special emphasis on the development of the European Research Area. Through its long-lasting experience in implementing the international S&T cooperation of Germany and Europe and through the participation in numerous EU-funded activities, DLR has developed specific expertise in that field.

SFI ERC Development Programme

Dr Graeme Horley
Scientific Programme Manager at Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)

Dr Graeme Horley is a Scientific Programme Manager at Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and one of Ireland’s two ERC NCPs, with responsibility for the LS and PS&E domains. He holds a PhD in Materials Chemistry from Imperial College London, and following postdoctoral research in Bath he worked for six years in scientific publishing with Wiley-VCH based in Germany, where he was latterly Editor-in-Chief of the journal Small. With SFI, he has been responsible for coordinating, amongst others, early-career research programmes and international collaborative schemes, and is currently responsible for SFI’s Investigators Programme, the principal national scheme to fund Ireland’s best researchers.

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is Ireland’s national foundation for investment in scientific and engineering research, investing in academic researchers and teams who are most likely to generate new knowledge, leading-edge technologies and competitive enterprises in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). SFI promotes and supports the study of, education in, and engagement with STEM and promotes an awareness and understanding of the value of STEM to society and, in particular, to the growth of Ireland’s economy. SFI also advances co-operative efforts among education, government, and industry that support its fields of emphasis and promotes Ireland’s ensuing achievements around the world.
Mr Rudolf Hielscher

Head of acatech Brussels office

Rudolf Hielscher started his professional career in public administration in the German Bundestag working as personal assistant of Guido Westerwelle. After different steps in the field of politics he has worked for five years as Head of Staff of the first Minister of Innovation in Europe, Professor Andreas Pinkwart, in North Rhine-Westphalia. His last position was Head of Division for European Affairs and European Policy in the ministry of Innovation, Research, Science and Technology, North Rhine-Westphalia. This involved screening and coordinating European education research and innovation politics as well as participating in the strategic planning of the EU policy of the Government of North Rhine-Westphalia. Since September 2013 he is head of acatech Brussels office.

acatech – National Academy of Science and Engineering, Germany

It is the mission of acatech – National Academy of Science and Engineering, Germany – to offer independent science-based policy advice: acatech’s distinctive feature is ‘sustainable growth through innovation’. acatech is an independent and non-profit organisation based on two pillars: The academy’s members are high-ranking scientists. The Senate mainly encompasses representatives from technology-oriented enterprises on a CEO-level: acatech combines the expertise from science and business.

Ms Antje Wegner

Researcher, iFQ (Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance)

Antje Wegner studied Sociology, Psychology and Economics at the Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg and the Saint Petersburg State University. From 2009 to 2012 she was employed at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) where she especially worked in the field of risk research and social vulnerability towards extreme events. In 2012 she joined the iFQ and is primarily engaged in designing and conducting online surveys in the field of research evaluation. In parallel she is doing her PhD about piped water schemes and household water treatment in rural Vietnam.

iFQ (Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance), Germany

The Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance (iFQ – Institut fur Forschungsinformation und Qualitatssicherung) is a non-university organization for science studies located in Berlin (Germany). The iFQ provides information and analysis of developments and transformations in the German and international science system. It focuses on conditions, prerequisites and consequences of research policy and research funding.
Dr Dimitri Corpakis

Head of Unit on Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

Dr Dimitri CORPAKIS has to date more than 30 years’ experience in European affairs. Before joining the European Commission in 1990, he worked as an EU expert with the Greek Ministry of Education. His Brussels career started in Education and Training (Task-Force Human Resources, 1990) before moving in 1992 in the area of R&D. After an assignment with the ESPRIT Programme (European Strategic Programme for Research in Information Technologies), he moved to the R&D Policy area, with personal contributions to several initiatives (moving towards e-Science, setting-up the European Research Advisory Board (EURAB), the pilot action on Regions of Knowledge, and contributing to the first Benchmarking exercise (Expert Group on Impact of R&D on Competitiveness and Employment).

Session 5: Examples of Research Funding

Complementarity: The Use of Structural Funds for R+D

The European Structural and Investment Funds and Horizon 2020: Interactions and Synergies

Dr Dimitri Corpakis

Head of Unit on Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

Dr Dimitri CORPAKIS has to date more than 30 years’ experience in European affairs. Before joining the European Commission in 1990, he worked as an EU expert with the Greek Ministry of Education. His Brussels career started in Education and Training (Task-Force Human Resources, 1990) before moving in 1992 in the area of R&D. After an assignment with the ESPRIT Programme (European Strategic Programme for Research in Information Technologies), he moved to the R&D Policy area, with personal contributions to several initiatives (moving towards e-Science, setting-up the European Research Advisory Board (EURAB), the pilot action on Regions of Knowledge, and contributing to the first Benchmarking exercise (Expert Group on Impact of R&D on Competitiveness and Employment).
The use of structural funds to advance Greek science

Dr Asterios Chatziparadeisis
Head of Unit for Assessment of Research Policies in General Secretariat of Research & Technology (GSRT)

Dr Asterios Chatziparadeisis is Head of Unit for Assessment of Research Policies in General Secretariat of Research & Technology (GSRT) in Greece. He holds a degree in Mathematics, a DEA and a Doctorate in Statistics. He worked as a researcher in France from 1978 to 1981 and in several posts of Policy Making and Indicators in the GSRT (1983 - 2000) and the Managing Authorities (2001 - 2013). He was responsible for the design and implementation of several Operational Programmes for three Programming Periods (1994 - 2013). During the period (1995 - 1998) worked in the European Commission (EUROSTAT and Research Programme ESPRIT).

The General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), Greece

The General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT) of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, is the main public body for the administration of the Greek R&D system, Research policy-making and strategy-building. GSRT is also responsible for the implementation of the RTDI actions of National Strategic Reference Framework and for formulation of National Regional Smart Specialization Strategy.

Structural Funds for RDI in the Operational Programme “Increase of Economic Competitiveness”

Dr Dana Gheorghe
Director General of the Intermediate Body for Research within the Romanian Ministry of National Education

Dana Gheorghe (Mrs) is Director General of the Intermediate Body for Research within the Romanian Ministry of National Education. She worked 15 years in scientific research (automatic systems) before joining the public administration, where she has been working for 14 years (Ministry of National Education). As a civil servant she was involved in the elaboration and implementation of research strategies, programmes and initiatives.

The Ministry of National Education through the Research Department, Romania

The Ministry of National Education through the Research Department is the main policy-making body of the Romanian Government in the field of research and innovation. The Ministry is responsible for the multi-annual National RDI Strategy and the European and international cooperation of Romania in RDI. The Intermediate Body for Research is responsible for the management and implementation of the RDI priority axis of SOP for Increasing Economic Competitiveness financed from structural funds.
Session 5: continued

Supporting Top Level Scientists with Structural Funds

Dr. Zoltán Peredy
Deputy head of Department for Strategy at the National Innovation Office (NIH)

Dr. Zoltán Peredy is currently deputy head of Department for Strategy at the National Innovation Office (NIH) in Hungary. He started his professional career as a chemical engineer in 1987 in Budapest and did his Ph.D on polymer physics. He has been working in the public administration since 1994 in the National Innovation Office. His tasks include among others participation in elaboration and implementation of the new governmental RTDI strategy and action plan on national, sectorial, regional level and harmonising them with the New Széchenyi Plan and EU 2020 Strategy Innovation Union Flagship Initiatives.

The Ministry of Education and Science, Lithuania

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania shapes public policy and organises, coordinates and controls its implementation in the system of formal education, qualification training, non-formal education, lifelong learning, and research and experimental development. According to the area of its competence, it ensures that Lithuania’s interests are represented at the EU institutions, administers aid from EU Structural Funds, supports educational and research activities of Lithuanians abroad, etc.

The Use of Structural Funds for supporting R&D in Hungary

Dr. Karina Firkavičiūtė
Head of Unit for Academic Mobility

Karina Firkavičiūtė – doc dr, musicologist, master of European studies, in 2001-2006 - Director of the Lithuanian Institute for cultural promotion, since 2006 is working for the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science. In 2007 (till July 2014) was appointed attaché for research and education at the Lithuanian Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels. In 2013 during the Lithuanian Presidency chaired the Research working party of the Council of the EU. Dealing with research policy and administration, she is also the author of scientific articles, cultural reviews, editor of three books, leader of a cultural NGO in Lithuania.

The National Innovation Office, Hungary

The National Innovation Office is the governmental body responsible for research, development and technological innovation. The Office operates under the umbrella of the Prime Minister’s Office. The Mission of the NIH is to build and operate administrative cooperation structures, cooperation networks, national innovation service and analytical capacity in the field of R&D and innovation.
**BRIdge instruments – Structural funds and private investments to support R&D commercialization in Poland**

**Dr Michal Jasiorkowski**  
*National Center of Research and Development (BRIdge instruments)*

Michal Jasiorkowski (PhD, CISA) is responsible for designing and implementation of new generation of public-private investment instruments in the National Center of Research and Development (BRIdge instruments). Currently, Bridge instruments consist of BRIdge VC (public-private VC funds established in cooperation with leading global VC Funds), BRIdge Alfa (early-stage public-private investment vehicles), Bridge Classic (bond-based investment project) Bridge Mentor (external due diligence of the projects financed by NCRD). Michal has 12 years of mixed public-private work experience. He is graduate of Cracow University of Economics, and Warsaw School of Economics. In addition, Michal is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA).

**The National Centre for Research and Development, Poland**

The National Centre for Research and Development was commissioned in 2007, with the aim to perform tasks related to: scientific, techno-scientific and innovative policies adopted by the Polish government. The main duty of the Centre is to support Polish enterprises and scientific units in planning and implementing modern solutions and technologies enabling innovation, and thus, competitiveness of the Polish economy.

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**Moderator**

**Dr Theodore Papazoglou**  
*Head of Unit ERCEA-A.1: Support to the Scientific Council*

Theodore Papazoglou graduated with honors from the Physics Department of the University of Crete, Greece in 1985 and followed his graduate studies at the University of Southern California (PhD in Biomedical Engineering, 1990). After his post-doctoral training at the Cedars Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles, CA, he worked as independent researcher at the Institute of Electronic Structure and Lasers of FO.R.T.H.

In 2001 he joined the European Commission and in 2006 he was involved in the preparatory work for the creation of the European Research Council (ERC) and in the support of the ERC Scientific Council in the establishment of its scientific strategy. Since the beginning of 2009, he is working in the ERC Executive Agency and at the end of 2010 he was appointed Head of Unit for the support of the Scientific Council.
“The European Research Council has, in a short time, achieved world-class status as a funding body for excellent curiosity-driven frontier research. With its special emphasis on allowing top young talent to thrive, the ERC Scientific Council is committed to keeping to this course. The ERC will continue to help make Europe a power house for science and a place where innovation is fuelled by a new generation.”

Jean-Pierre Bourguignon
ERC President and Chair of its Scientific Council