Editorial

A reflection on the evolution of higher education and research policies of the European Union, within the perspective of the Brexit vote.

By Sir Timothy O’Shea, Principal, University of Edinburgh

These are interesting times in Higher Education and Brexit, of course, poses a variety of new challenges for universities.

The University of Edinburgh is, and always will be, a truly global university. We are one of the most internationally collaborative research universities in the UK with almost 55 per cent of our research output published with international co-authors. Collaborative research partnerships drive our institutions worldwide and we must ensure that our institutes continue to benefit from EU research programmes. In the past 10 years, 30 per cent of our research outputs were co-authored with EEA partners. This is achieved in part through our participation in the EU’s Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation. We have engaged in more than 300 large European collaborative research projects, 12 per cent as leading partner, contributing to the EU’s policy priorities in the areas of energy, ICT, high performance computing and health research.

Horizon 2020 is the largest ever EU research and innovation programme, with nearly €80 billion of funding available over seven years (2014 to 2020). The UK’s status as a full participating member of the H2020 Programme has not changed as a result of the referendum. Edinburgh is the largest recipient of Horizon 2020 funding in Scotland and received the 7th largest share of Horizon 2020 funds among all participating higher education institutions. Since the referendum, Edinburgh’s research applications to H2020 have increased by 22 per cent and we are currently involved in 91 H2020 projects with a value of €77.6m.

UK Universities must continue to encourage their staff to apply for European research grants and to be a part of multi-country collaborations to ensure that our research making a difference on a global scale.

Much has been made of EU student and staff numbers in the UK following the referendum, yet at Edinburgh EU student and staff numbers have remained buoyant in the wake of last year’s vote. Our total numbers of staff from other EU member states has grown by around 250 since the Brexit referendum. We have the second largest number of European students of any UK university, the largest number in Scotland and our EU student recruitment continues to be strong, with increased numbers joining us this September.
We all need to inform debate and lead discussions, and membership of groups such as LERU and Coimbra Group will facilitate this. Indeed, the recently published Coimbra Group paper on the development of the next European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation emphasises the importance of a robust and comprehensive future programme to maintain and strengthen the position of the EU as an effective and competitive knowledge economy. Brexit does indeed pose challenges and so far, we have been able to meet these challenges, but we must all keep a clear focus. Edinburgh’s priorities will be to work with partner universities across the world to influence our governments, to ensure the terms of Brexit support us in continuing to encourage mobility, to recruit brilliant students and staff, and to participate in EU programmes, all of which will deliver benefits for the world’s economic, intellectual, cultural and social wellbeing.

Sir Timothy O’Shea  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor  
University of Edinburgh  
CG Honorary President 2017-2018

Preparations for Salamanca 2018

On 12-13 October, a delegation from the Executive Board and the CG Office – the Chair, Ludovic Thilly, Joaquim Ramos de Carvalho and Inge Knudsen visited the University of Salamanca to talk through the preparations for the Annual Conference in 2018. The dates for the Annual Conference is 30 May to 1st June, with the Working Group meetings on 30 May, the public conference on 31st May, and the General Assembly on 1st June. More detailed information will, of course, be available at a later stage, including a web site for the event.

Front row left to right: Joaquim Ramos de Carvalho, Ludovic Thilly, María Ángeles Serrano, Miguel Carrera.  
Back row: Juan Luis García Alonso, Inge Knudsen, Lola Pereira, and behind is Raul Sanchez Prieto.

The CG delegation was warmly received by Vice-Rector Maria Ángeles Serrano and her team to discuss the theme for the Annual Conference, including the public conference on the Thursday 31st May: “Lessons of the Past. Looking backwards into the Future”.

Front page: [Image of people]
Cologne new CG member

On 26 October, the Rector of the University of Cologne, Prof. Axel Freimuth and the EB Vice-Chair, Prof. Jürgen Barkhoff signed the membership certificate for the newest member of the Coimbra Group. Rector Freimuth made a presentation of the University and its priorities, including its many collaboration agreements with the majority of CG member universities, which they look forward to expanding. Prof. Barkhoff gave a brief sketch of the major CG priorities, its structure and working groups, projects and other activities. The signing ceremony followed after a meeting at the International Office with Dr Stefan Bildhauer and Ms Christiane Biehl, and the following day Prof. Barkhoff and Ms Knudsen met with Dr Bildhauer and Ms Biehl again and their colleagues, Dr Matthias Röder, head of the Department for research management, and Dr Johannes Müller, Head of the Department “International Mobility”, to discuss possible future partnerships and joint activities.

The University of Cologne/Universität zu Köln has published information about their membership of the Coimbra Group on their web site: https://www.portal.uni-koeln.de/12374.html?&L=0

The European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities (EASSH) is calling on the European Union member states to double the budget for research in the 9th Framework Programme, with a Twitter campaign.

#DoubleFP9Budget
EASSH calls on the Member States to support the recommendations of the Lamy report and continue to support the necessary investment in EU research. “If you think too that we must double the Framework Programme 9 budget, then share on your social media why it is important for you, using #DoubleFP9Budget.” See their campaign paper

CG policy paper on FP9

The Coimbra Group has published its policy paper: Coimbra Group contribution to the development of the next European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, FP9. The paper emphasises the importance of a robust and comprehensive future Framework Programme to maintain and strengthen the position of the EU as an effective and competitive knowledge economy. Researchers and innovators are key actors in the knowledge economy and it is imperative that a modernised EU budget ensures and intensifies support of research and innovation.

The ninth Framework programme must have excellence at its heart, be international and include the full spectrum of research disciplines and fields. Closer links between the higher education and the research and innovation programmes must be developed and strengthened to ensure knowledge transfer to and from new generations of researchers and innovators.

You will find the position paper in our website.

Tallinn Call For Action 2017

The Vice-Chair of the Executive Board Jürgen Barkhoff represented the Coimbra Group at the high-level conference European Research Excellence – Impact and Value for Society, held on 12 October in Tallinn.

Organised by the Estonian Presidency, the initiative followed a roundtable discussion held in Brussels which aimed at gathering feedback from key stakeholders related to the main themes of the Tallinn Call for Action, where Ludovic Thilly, Chair of the Executive Board had represented the CG.

The aim of the conference was to demonstrate to policymakers that excellent research is essential to addressing Europe’s challenges and for increasing competitiveness. The outcome of the Estonian Presidency conference is presented in a final declaration, the Tallinn Call for Action. Tallinn Call for Action 2017 sets out to make a case for revalidating excellent research and innovation as a key driver for future European competitiveness, and reaffirming investments in R&I as a clear priority, both at national and EU level. It provides concrete steps for immediate action by key stakeholders to achieve broad commitment to this.

Do we have Good Women in Science?

From the Doctoral Studies WG

A tradition in the Fall: the Nobel Prizes. Once more, women are not represented in the list of Nobel Prize winners. This is also becoming a tradition, but we should not get used to it. We should reflect on what is happening to women in Science in 2017, because it is hard to believe
that after more than 100 years of recognition to scientists there are only 18 women that have done a good job, against the astonishing number of 581 male pairs. This year nine persons have been recognized in Science: Medicine, Physics and Chemistry. None of them is a woman. None of the last year was a woman either. We know that female researchers had been considered as potential candidates: Emmanuelle Charpentier (expert in microbiology, genetics and biochemistry), Jennifer Doudna (expert in chemistry and molecular and cell biology), Yuan Chang (virologist and pathologist), Sandra M Faber (astrophysicist)... etc. All of them are associated with important discoveries in Science. However, we are unable to confirm either whether they were in the list of nominees or not, because another tradition of the Nobel Prize is to keep this information secret for many years; too many years to compensate for the hard work of these women. The scientific community should be ashamed for not finding a solution for this lack of visibility. There are female researchers, very good female researchers. Why are they not acknowledged in any of the high-level competitions? Is it normal that, after more than 100 years of Nobel Prize, 96.99% of the awardees are male? Many studies have demonstrated with numbers that some of the fields of Science, such as Health Sciences and Life Sciences, are overwhelmed with women. Where is the work of these women recognized? The name for this is surely discrimination. If the Scientific community agrees that we need female role models to change the scientific world, we need to promote those names to make the new generations see that this is not just a man’s world anymore. Or, at least, it should not be. The Doctoral Studies Working Group in its last meeting in Turku decided to stand up against the continuous lack of female researchers recognized with the Nobel Prize and prompt those that are responsible for the judgment to consider the situation that clearly indicates gender discrimination in the results.

Erasmus30 at CG members

As you all know, this year we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus Programme in 2017 - a milestone for Europe! 30 years of mobility under the Erasmus programme – now Erasmus+ – have provided Europe with thousands of bridges of trust to study, train or volunteer abroad. Wider horizons, a broader common understanding and a larger toolset define the Erasmus+ generation.

The Coimbra Group members are highly committed to internationalisation and academic collaboration, also through the Erasmus programme (Erasmus+). There are plenty of local celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus Programme and we at the Coimbra Group Office are collecting the celebrating initiatives that take place in our member institutions. We believe that this is a good way to make (more) visible on our historical involvement in Erasmus/E+ and we have published it online in our website. Therefore, if you still haven’t done so, please send us (moleiro@coimbra-group.eu) a list of all the associated events of year 2017 (past and future) in your institution?
The CG-UNICA PhD training workshop “Navigate your Career!” took place this month from 15 to 18 October in Dubrovnik and we’re happy to inform you that it was a great success! Twenty PhD candidates from 13 different CG Universities took part in this three-day international workshop dedicated to the employability of PhD holders. We take this opportunity to thank our member universities for supporting their participation. The workshop addressed the issue of employability by inviting participants to reflect various domains including communication, ethics and social responsibility, working styles and how to use them in international teams, networking and EU-funded initiatives for professional training and research. All the sessions were interactive and included group work and discussions. Our participants particularly appreciated the fact of liaising with peers from various disciplines and countries and were surprised to find out how much they have in common in terms of challenges and fears about career prospects. They also really enjoyed the opportunity to be able to discuss issues related to their PhD career with our facilitators not just in the classroom, but also during informal “networking” time over coffee, breakfast and dinner. Throughout the 3½ days, they also had the possibility of confiding their concerns to our “PhD clinic box”, a small carton box placed in our room in which participants could post any question and/or topic they wished to discuss with the rest of the group.

We would like to thank our facilitators for their excellent work, their availability and for genuinely enjoying working together with our PhD candidates: Jeremy Bradshaw (University of Edinburgh), Sharon Maguire (University of Edinburgh), Jean-Marie Pincemin (University of Poitiers), Melita Kovačević (University of Zagreb) and Jacques Lanarès (University of Lausanne). And, last but certainly not least, the UNICA Network Secretariat.

Regional development: eventful CG month

The role of universities in regional development has been a recurring theme during the month of October, both within the CG network and at European policy level. CG Universities are strongly involved in their local and regional ecosystem and play a crucial role in the development of the cities and regions in which they are located. This is a distinctive feature which sets our member universities apart from the other university networks.

In terms of our network, we are delighted to announce that two more CG member universities have signed the Poitiers Declaration this month: NUI Galway and the Université catholique de Louvain. Congratulations to the two universities and their municipalities on formalising their longstanding collaboration and many thanks for endorsing the Poitiers Declaration!
Both universities have a strong tradition of collaboration with their municipality and the signature of the Poitiers Declaration was a formal acknowledgment of this.

Speaking at the signing, which took place during a City Council held, for the first time ever, within the University, the Mayor of the City of Galway, Councillor Pearce Flannery said: “This is a unique occasion for Galway City Council to hold its meeting in the Aula Maxima and to sign and endorse the Poitiers Declaration to enhance collaboration between the University and Galway City Council.”

In Louvain-la-Neuve, the signature of the Poitiers Declaration took place at the end of a conference in honour to the 10th anniversary of the Maison du Développement Durable (House of Sustainable Development), a joint initiative set up in 2007 by the Université catholique de Louvain and the city of Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve.

We take this opportunity to inform our member universities that a status report will be drafted for the 2018 CG Annual Conference in Salamanca, on the second anniversary of the Poitiers Declaration. To this end, we encourage those universities who have not yet signed the declaration together with their municipality, to do so in due time.

CG universities’ engagement towards regional development stretches beyond their local dimension: from 15 to 19 October, in the city of Dubrovnik, Croatia, the Doctoral Studies Working Group of the CG held its second PhD training workshop “Navigate your Career!” in collaboration with the UNICA Network. On that occasion, we invited DUNEA, the Regional Development Agency of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, to come and tell our participants about the local development work they do and its impact on society. DUNEA was founded in 2006 at the initiative of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County and its basic role is to achieve sustainable development of the County as well as to improve and coordinate existing development activities in accordance with the needs of the Region, national requirements, and requirements of the European Union in order to plan the future economic development with bordering regions. At our workshop, DUNEA outlined the main challenges and priorities in the region and illustrated how an intelligent use of local resources, technical expertise and cross-border collaboration has led to positive outcomes in terms of economic development and entrepreneurship. In so doing, it set the scene for our discussion on social responsibility, which was one of the themes addressed by our workshop.

Finally, at the European policy level, the 15th edition of the European Week of Regions and Cities took place in Brussels from 10 to 13 October. This is an annual event in which the various stakeholders engaged in regional development come together in Brussels to participate in a number of sessions and workshops. The CG Office participated in a session organised by...
DG EAC and the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Commission's science and knowledge service, on *Universities as agents of change in regions and cities.* Among the issues discussed:

- The importance of strong partnerships between higher education institutions, governments, business and civil society and how strong and enduring collaborative networks have a stronger impact than projects;
- How to foster entrepreneurship among students: is entrepreneurship “teachable” or should we rather focus on students who already have an entrepreneurial mind-set and train them further?
- Smart specialisation: Universities are not at the service of enterprises, but at the service of society as equal partners with industry and government;
- Does innovation always come from excellence in research?

For further information:
- **Poitiers Declaration:** [http://www.coimbra-group.eu/activities/poitiers-declaration](http://www.coimbra-group.eu/activities/poitiers-declaration)
- **Maison du Développement Durable**: [https://old.maisondd.be/la-mdd](https://old.maisondd.be/la-mdd)

HE and SDGs

“Higher education cooperation for development and Sustainable Development Goals: Meeting global and regional challenges” was the name of the seminar jointly organised last 18th October between the European University Association (EUA) and the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators (EARMA). The seminar was hosted by MEP Bogdan Wenta at the European Parliament, in Brussels. Representatives from the European Commission and European Parliament and also policy makers from the higher education and research worlds discussed the contributions made by the higher education sector and research institutes to the cooperation for development agenda, with the view to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

According to the organisers, “the seminar programme aimed to share four key messages:

1. Higher education institutions (HEIs) are important drivers for social and economic development, and advancing societal changes in general.
2. Partnership and cooperation between HE, research institutes, civil society and the public sector in research, education and innovation contribute to social and economic development.
3. A more integrated European approach to SDGs should be reached, with synergies through appropriate instruments and policy incentives.
4. Engagement with HEIs cross boundaries between development cooperation, institutional capacity building, research and education.”

Speakers and policy makers agreed that achieving the SDGs will require “cooperation, co-creation of knowledge and joint solutions where northern and southern countries, HEIs and companies could work together, in an integrated approach”. The central role of universities in
delivering knowledge and fostering human capital development was underlined by representatives from the European Commission, as well as their proven capacity to collaborate with the private sector in the perspective of cooperation for development.

In the meanwhile, a new guide from the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Australia/Pacific highlights the important role universities in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific have in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Getting started with the SDGs in universities: A guide for universities, higher education institutions, and the academic sector** was prepared in collaboration with the Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS), the global SDSN Secretariat, and Australian and New Zealand universities.

Learn more [here](#).

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**National Student Fee in HEIs**

*From Eurydice*

Eurydice has published a new publication: “National Student Fee and Support Systems in European Higher Education – 2017/18”

[Full version](#)

When students plan for higher education, one important element to consider is how much it will cost and whether they can receive any financial support. In a Europe where it is easier than ever to study in another country, reliable information on the costs and available student support in higher education is essential.

This report aims to provide both an overview of the main features of national fee and support systems and more detailed information on each individual country. Forty-two national sheets present the reality of fees and financial support available to students in public or government-dependent private higher education institutions in short cycle, first and second cycle students in 2017/18. In particular, the publication describes the range of fees charged to national, EU and international students and specifies the categories of students that are required to pay, and those that may be exempt. Similarly, it explains the types and amounts of public support available in the form of grants and loans, as well as tax benefits and family allowances where applicable.

Information covers the 28 EU Member States as well as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Turkey.
We have received

From the University of Bologna

“Approaches and Tools for Internationalisation at Home”
ATIAH www.staff.ncl.ac.uk/atiah

This is to inform you about a European research project about internationalisation practices in higher education institutions, being coordinated by Newcastle University and to ask for your collaboration as Teaching Staff or Student who experiences these practices on a daily basis at your own higher education institution. The project will formulate suggestions for improving Internationalisation at Home strategies and activities in European higher education institutions. Knowing how you personally experience international activities or practices at your higher education is very important to us.

You can take part in this research effort by completing a survey that will be available to you online until the end of October. Please complete and submit the survey via one of the following links (according to where you are based):

(1) for Non-Anglophone Institutions: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATIAH_Non-Anglophone_Institutions
(2) for Anglophone Institutions: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AnglophoneInstitutions

The survey should only take 10 to 20 minutes of your time. If you have questions, please feel free to contact claudia.borghetti@unibo.it or greta.zanoni2@unibo.it. We thank you in advance for your help and participation in this study.

With best wishes,
Claudia Borghetti, Greta Zanoni

From the University of Poitiers

The University of Poitiers is currently involved in an Erasmus+ strategic partnership project called EUniTa (European University Tandem) which aimed at creating an online language tandem platform.

As part of this project, we are organizing a Multiplier Event dedicated to the online tandem approach on January 26, 2018. This one-day conference, which will take place at the Maison des Langues (Foreign Language Center), will explore the intercultural and psychological aspects of online tandems and will focus on the human dimension which surfaces during the course of verbal and non-verbal interactions between students.


The submission deadline is December 15th, 2017.

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From the European Commission

Save the Date
First European Education Summit in Brussels on 25 January 2018
Ready to discover what Europe will gain by investing smartly in education?

Interested in exploring how education can transmit shared values? Want to learn how to better reach out to disadvantaged learners? Then join us on 25 January 2018 in Brussels for the first Education Summit.

Hosted by Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, the Summit will focus on the low achievement in basic skills of young people across Europe, the urgent need to address inequalities in education systems and better investment in education.

Education has a vital role to play in building fair and inclusive societies. The 2015 PISA survey showed that 20% of pupils in the EU underachieve in reading, science and maths and that the trend is worse in comparison with 2012. This implies that one in five students is unable to successfully complete basic tasks essential for modern living.

Against this background, the Summit will explore how to capture the latest knowledge and insights into education and discuss how to turn these aspirations into reality. It will bring the education world and the wider world together - Ministers, academics, stakeholders and civil society – in order to work towards a high-level political consensus on tackling inequality in and through education as a means to address underachievement in basic skills and foster social cohesion.

Foundation of the International Consortium for STEM Education

ICSE, the International Centre for STEM Education, is the first university-based international centre dedicated to linking research and practice in STEM education. International collaboration is key to continuous improvements in European STEM education, as Prof. Dr. Katja Maas, Director of ICSE, explains: Despite internationalisation, in the nationally regulated field of education, we still run the risk that too many insights or approaches remain that influence only regional enclaves. And there is also the risk that what we produce – be it research or teacher materials – is of good quality, but still not of the best possible quality that could have been achieved if one were to cooperate with the best in the field. We owe the best approaches to STEM students in schools across Europe and therefore international collaboration in STEM education is simply a must.

Together with its longstanding international partners, ICSE has therefore initiated the foundation of an International Consortium for STEM Education. Founded 2017, the ICSE Consortium comprises leading higher education and research institutes from across Europe that all have a unique focus in their research in STEM education: one that takes aspects of transfer into day-to-day teaching into account from the very beginning of the research and development process. The 13 founding member institutions of the ICSE Consortium are:

- Austria, University of Innsbruck
- Bulgaria, Institute of Mathematics and Informatics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Cyprus, University of Nicosia
- Czech Republic, University of Hradec Králové
- Germany, University of Education Freiburg
- Greece, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- Lithuania, Vilnius University
- Malta, University of Malta
- Netherlands, Utrecht University
- Norway, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- Slovak Republic, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra
- Spain, University of Jaén
- Turkey, Hacettepe University

As an association of higher education institutions and research institutes that have vast expertise and experience, and are renowned for their research-based work to promote innovation in STEM education, the ICSE Consortium endeavours to lead the field of transfer-
oriented research and development in relation to STEM education, and to set standards for a high-impact international collaboration of higher education and research institutes. The official inauguration of the ICSE Consortium will take place at a festive celebration to be held at the University of Education Freiburg, Germany, on 18th January 2018 (3pm-6pm). The ICSE and the ICSE Consortium is interested in networking with further institutions and similar networks. We cordially invite representatives to the event! Registration via email to icse@ph-freiburg is needed by 25/11/2017.

Further information about ICSE, the ICSE Consortium and the inauguration programme:
www.ph-freiburg.de/icse

Prof. Dr. Katja Maass
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University of Education Freiburg
Internationales Zentrum MINT-Bildung
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Web: https://www.ph-freiburg.de/icse

From the Vrije Universiteit Brussel

On the 29th of November 2017, the VUB is organizing a special day of conference around the theme of refugees, migration and youth at social risk: the role of higher education on the occasion of the award of two Honorary Doctorates to Emma Bonino and to the People of the Island of Lampedusa (see attachments for program and invitation to register). The event will take place in Brussels, at Flagey Studio 4 and will include presentations from academics who work on these topics as well as presentations of several initiatives to participate to the inclusion of refugees in higher education. There will also be photo exhibitions and a musical interlude from the Qotob Trio.
The event is free of charge, but registration is mandatory.
For further information, please contact Marie Aurousseau, at the International Relations and Mobility Office of the VUB: Marie.Aurousseau@vub.be

From the European University Association

Excellence in research, innovation and education:
The universities’ recommendations for an efficient and ambitious FP9
Thursday 9 November, 09:00-11:00

Hosted by MEP Christian Ehler, Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
Room JAN 6Q1, Altiero Spinelli Building, European Parliament, Brussels

REGISTER NOW

In the next two years, decisions made over the resources that Europeans put in common for the next period will be of incomparable importance. In the eye of a perfect storm challenging the very core values and raison d’être of the European Union, there is a unique opportunity for change and a new focus of European action – and therefore, spending. Research and Innovation is perhaps the field that offers best European added value. Not only is it a ‘European public good’, where economies of scale and synergies at European level are considerable; it also propels long-term growth and competitiveness of our economies, while support to transnational collaborative research teams brings unparalleled quality and helps forge European awareness and identity. The ambition for the next EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP9) should be to enable Europe to address the grand technological and societal challenges it faces, retain its talent and keep its global position of a leading hub for research and innovation. To achieve that aim, FP9 must support significantly more excellent research and innovation proposals and respond to important challenges remaining despite the overall success of Horizon 2020:
underfunding of excellence and lack of efficiency; geographical imbalances; the need for a stronger alignment of policies for education, research and innovation.

The event will showcase the contribution of universities – the single largest group of participants to Horizon 2020, with nearly 40% of both applications and Horizon 2020 funding – to the solution of the grand technological and societal challenges and allow participants to discuss possible solutions to the following issues:

- How can FP9 effectively bridge the participation gap and ensure that it taps into Europe’s full research potential?
- How can the EU create the conditions to increase the leverage of research outcomes for society?
- Why is it crucial to better articulate policies for education, research and innovation and what are the concrete benefits for Europe in this respect?
- What does ‘more EU investment in research’ mean in practice? How can funding instruments and processes be improved to ensure FP9 delivers in the most efficient way?

Practical answers to these issues lie with the people who themselves produce research and multiply the value of EU funding. University researchers and research managers will share their experiences with Horizon 2020, elaborating on the impact and added value of their projects funded through the programme. They will explain the challenges faced in the development, negotiation or management of the projects and offer recommendations on how to further improve modalities of EU research funding in the post-2020 period.

The main themes for discussion reflect the current debate from the perspective of universities: fostering research excellence through intensified collaboration and reduced disparities throughout Europe; synergies and alignment of European policies for education, research and innovation; and adequate, long-term funding instruments supporting efficient programme management and research activities.

Participation to the event is open to all interested stakeholders and is free of charge. Prior registration is required and for security reasons individuals who do not have a European Parliament access badge must provide ID information.

More information available on the event website.

Any enquiry about the event should be sent to EUA (funding@eua.be).