







THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

2021 - 2027

WIDERA

Widening participation and
Strengthening the European Research Area
(ERA)

WIDERA Info Day

22 April 2024

Research and Innovation

New ERA call 2024 HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02

Joerg Niehoff RTD.A.2 - ERA, Spreading Excellence and Research Careers



Info day agenda: ERA call 2024

1. Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation	HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01	10h05 – 10h30
2. Science comes to town	HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-02	10h30 – 11h30
3. Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers – pilot	HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03	11h30 – 12h30

Call opening: 15 May 2024

Call closing: 25 September 2024



A new vision for the European Research Area (ERA)

What is the new ERA?

A single, borderless market for research, innovation and technology across the EU... ...where
countries come
together and improve
their research policies
and systems...

...and where there
is free movement
of researchers,
knowledge and
innovation.

What are the objectives of the new ERA?



Prioritise investments in research and innovation



Strengthen the mobility of researchers and free flow of knowledge and technology



Improve access to excellence



Boost market uptake



ERA Policy Agenda: 4 priority areas and 20 actions



New ERA call 2024

DEEPENING A TRULY FUNCTIONING INTERNAL MARKET FOR KNOWLEDGE

- Open sharing of knowledge, incl. EOSC
- 2. Data legislation fit for research
- 3. Reform of research assessment
- 4. Strengthen research careers
- 5. Gender equality and inclusiveness
- 6. Protect academic freedom
- 7. Better knowledge valorisation
- 8. Research infrastructures
- 9. International cooperation, reciprocity

TOGETHER FOR TWIN GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSITION, AND INCREASING SOCIETY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ERA

- 10. R&I Missions and Partnerships for ERA
- 11. Green energy transformation
- 12. Transition of industrial ecosystems
- 13. Empower higher education institutions

14. Bring science closer to society



AMPLIFYING ACCESS TO RESEARCH AND INNOVATION EXCELLENCE ACROSS THE UNION

- 15. Regional and national R&I ecosystems
- 16. EU-wide access to excellence
- 17. Strategic capacity of public RPOs

ADVANCING CONCERTED R&I INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS

- 18. Coordination national support for ERA
- 19. ERA monitoring mechanism
- 20. Prioritisation and coordination of R&I investments and reforms



More information



Sli.do #WIDERA

WIDERA Work Programme: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2023-2024/wp-11-widening-participation-and-strengthening-the-european-research-area_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf

For questions about research and Horizon Europe, you can contact the Research Enquiry Service: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/contact-us/research-enquiry-service_en

APPLY IN FUNDING AND TENDERS PORTAL: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/



ERA 2024-02 Knowledge Day and Brokerage Event

17 June 2024

Online HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02 brokerage event by the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points

More info soon: www.ncpwideranet.eu





HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01

Iphigenia Pottaki Stefanie Kalff-Lena RTD.E.2 - Valorisation Policies & IPR



Guiding principles for knowledge valorisation

Council Recommendation (EU) 2022/2415 of 2 December 2022

- I. Code of practice on intellectual assets management
- II. Code of practice on standardisation

- Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/499 of 1 March 2023
- Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/498 of 1 March 2023

- III. Code of practice on industry-academia co-creation for knowledge valorisation
- IV. Code of Practice on citizen engagement for knowledge valorisation

Commission Recommendation (EU) 2024/774 of 1 March 2024

Commission Recommendation (EU) 2024/736 of 1 March 2024



Translating available scientific knowledge and research results to innovative solutions, including through more **experimentation**, **peer learning** and **testing** of new models as well as **trying out good practices** in different environments.

Expected outcomes:

- Value creation for economy and society by increased interlinkages and cooperation between knowledge valorisation actors.
- New solutions to societal and economic challenges by stronger uptake and deployment of research results, including through the involvement of citizens and civil society.
- Improvements of structures, strategies, practices and skills for knowledge valorisation through sustainable reforms and new initiatives.

Target groups:

- Academia/Research
- Industry/SMEs
- Public administration/policy-makers
- Society/Citizens

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01

Call opening / closing:
15 May 2024 / 25 September 2024

Type of action: CSA

Budget: EUR 2 million

Indicative number of projects: 2



Scope: Proposals should address **at least one** of the following challenges:

1. Experimentation in knowledge valorisation:

- Schemes and incentives for researchers to engage with society, and for citizens and citizens' groups to engage
 in knowledge valorisation, promoting the co-creation of new solutions and uptake of research results.
- Focus on barriers and opportunities in academia-society collaboration.

2. Transfer of best practices in knowledge valorisation in academia-industry linkages or quadruple helix-based innovation:

- Introduce and implement one or several new best practices or reform an existing practice (expected consortia with 'best practice owners' and partners planning to introduce change)
- Create tangible change in terms of strengthening knowledge valorisation capacities in some or all participating entities at strategic and/or investment level and/or through the implementation of new or adapted instruments, tools, guidelines, trainings.
- Possible synergies with cohesion policy.



Principles and best practices to follow:

- EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform
- The EU Guiding Principles for Knowledge Valorisation



Novelties and differences from the 2023 topic

- **✓ Explicit link to the policy context and the Guiding Principles**
- "...in line with the ERA policy Agenda action 7 upgrade EU guidance for a better knowledge valorisation and with the European Council recommendation on the Guiding Principles for knowledge valorisation"
- ✓ More clarity in the two types of challenges (experimentation transfer)

 Text adapted to better explain the scope of the two challenges and what is expected
- ✓ No "policy recommendations"

 Previous reference to "develop policy recommendations and links to other relevant actions" has been omitted.
- ✓ Explicit mentioning of the need to involve practitioners beyond academic institutions

 "The involvement of practitioners beyond academic institutions would allow to address the challenges appropriately".



Tips – Good to do!

✓ Clearly address the concrete challenges

Explain in the proposal which challenge is addressed, one of the two, or both challenges

✓ Take account of the policy background

Demonstrate how the proposal takes account of the policy background (Guidelines for Knowledge valorisation, Codes of Practice)

✓ Focus on concrete actions and tangible change

Looking for innovative ways/ actions that lead to tangible change (not academic research or general guidance material/recommendations)



Science comes to town

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-02

Kaia Kert RTD.A.2 - ERA, Spreading Excellence and Research Careers



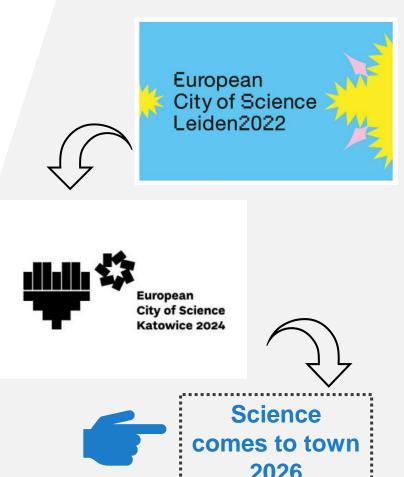
Science comes to town – Context

ERA Policy Agenda Action 14 – Bring science closer to citizens

Aim: Increase societal responsibility, trust and commitment in science and innovation by engaging stakeholders, local communities and citizens in the design and implementation of R&I policies and solutions.

Related ERA work programme actions:

- European Union Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS)
- European Contest for Young and Early Career Researchers (EU TalentON)
- City of Science programme





Science comes to town – Expected outcomes

A small group of at least 3 cities that jointly design and implement a vibrant and engaging yearlong programme of activities, connecting local R&I communities with citizens and stakeholders around the topic of science and its role in society.

Expected outcomes:

- Programme with a robust concept and brand promoting R&I in Europe and fostering dialogue and exchange on science and its role in society.
- Improved science communication by showcasing the latest R&I developments and through experimentation with connecting citizens and scientists.
- Enhanced discussion and debate on the future of science and R&I policy in Europe with stakeholders and citizens.
- Improved appeal of younger generations to careers in R&I.

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-02

Call opening / closing: 15 May 2024 / 25 September 2024

Type of action: CSA

Budget: EUR 6 million

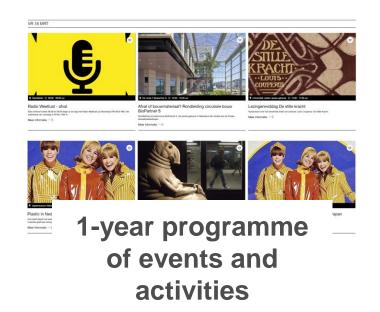
Indicative number of projects: 1



Science comes to town – Key components









EUCYS - Concept

Science competition that brings together first prize winners of national science contests for school science projects to compete for prizes and awards.



Each year brings together talented students from 40+ countries



14-20 year-old students



Highlight scientific student achievements and attract young people to careers in R&I





EUCYS – Participation



Past EUCYS

Zurich Berlin Brussels Seville Luxembourg

Bergen Copenhagen Vienna

Helsinki

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

140-150 Valencia Sofia

Stockholm

nationalities

40

Prague

Salamanca 2k-5k

> Budapest Lisbon Porto

Milan Dublin Tallinn

Thessaloniki

Amsterdam Warsaw

Leiden Bratislava European Commission

EU TalentOn – Concept

Science competition that brings together early-career researchers to work on scientific solutions to societal challenges.



Every 2 years brings together researchers from the EU and beyond



Early career researchers (21-35 years old, Master, PhD etc.)



Attract researchers to careers in science and promote opportunities in academia, industry and start-ups





EU TalentOn – Participation



EUCYS & EU TalentOn – Programme



EUCYS & EU TalentON – Prizes

Prizes are awarded to projects:

- Core monetary prize by EC
- Other prestigious prizes and awards donated to the contest, e.g., by international research organisations.

Financial support in the form of multiple prizes to the total amount of:

■ EU TalentOn: €80,000

■ EUCYS: €70 000





EUCYS & EU TalentON – Organisation

- EUCYS and EU TalentON Contest Rules and Guidelines will be made available.
- The city that will host EUCYS 2026 must provide as part of the proposal the commitment from its respective National EUCYS Organiser to run the competition as part of the project.
 - List of EUCYS national organisers

More information and inspiration:

EUCYS website

EU TalentON website

Video of EUCYS 2023 Brussels

Video of EUTalentON 2022 Leiden



Year-long programme – Concept

A year-long programme of interactive and engaging events and activities that highlight the contribution of science to society and the results of R&I projects.



Communities at local, regional and European level



Involve different ages, social groups and stakeholders: students, researchers, citizens, policymakers, business and third sector.



Increase the understanding, uptake and impact of R&I in society and showcase the richness and diversity of the European scientific landscape



Science comes to town - Scope

Make-up of the consortium:

- At least 3 cities of 3 different Members
 States and/or Associated Countries, with the majority being in Member States.
- Consortium partners: Legal entities that can represent the host cities and/or join them in designing and implementing the activities.
- City authorities: Commitment letters from cities.
- R&I dimension: Universities, research organisations etc.

Important aspects to keep in mind:

- Develop concept and brand.
- **Experiment** with interactive and engaging formats.
- Open science, citizen science, science education, public engagement.
- Develop synergies: other events & activities, incl.
 European Researchers' Night and Researchers at School initiative.
- Encouraged to design and implement activities that reach communities beyond the ones in the cities directly participating (e.g., satellite events).



Science comes to town – Programme

Concept for the annual programme in the proposal:

- Vision for content: focus, scope of activities, preliminary programme
- Outreach strategy
- Contribution to long-term vision for the cities

Co-design of the **detailed draft programme** of activities will be a priority deliverable, due no later than 3 months before the launch of the programme.

Programmed activities & resources

- Events funded partially or fully by the grant (e.g., EUCYS, EU TalentON)
- Activities funded partially or fully by the grant (e.g., the overall coordination and communication activities)
- Activities and events financed by the cities (e.g., already established activities of the cities and other partners). Monetary or in-kind sponsorships are encouraged.

Reporting:

- Implementation: All programmed activities
- Related costs: Only activities financed by the grant





European City of Science Leiden 2022

Leiden European City of Science 2022

365

the 1st European

365 days-science-festival,

connecting science with society,

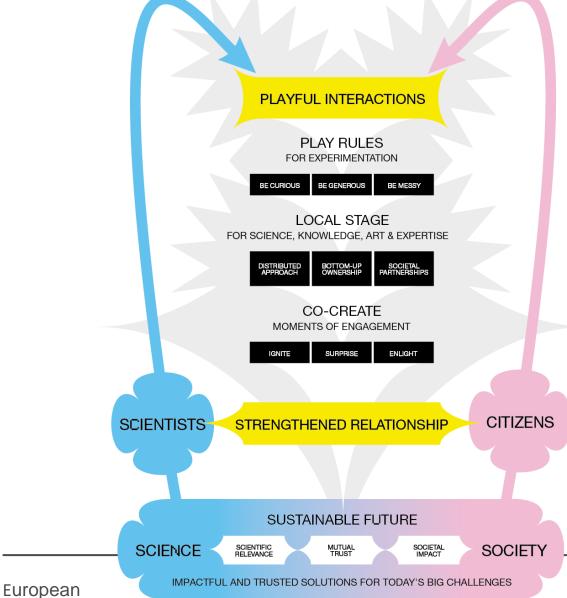
covering the spectrum of human knowledge:

science, expertise, arts and craft,

for anyone with a curious mind!







City of Science

Leiden2022





THE LEIDEN2022 MODEL FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH SCIENCE

A new, scalable, co-creation method to spark playful interactions between scientists and citizens, aimed at connecting science with society

www.modelleiden2022.nl

TODAY'S BIG CHALLENGES

365 days





"This year Leiden will be a bridge, sharing science, knowledge, art and skills building new connections between science and society in innovative and open ways."

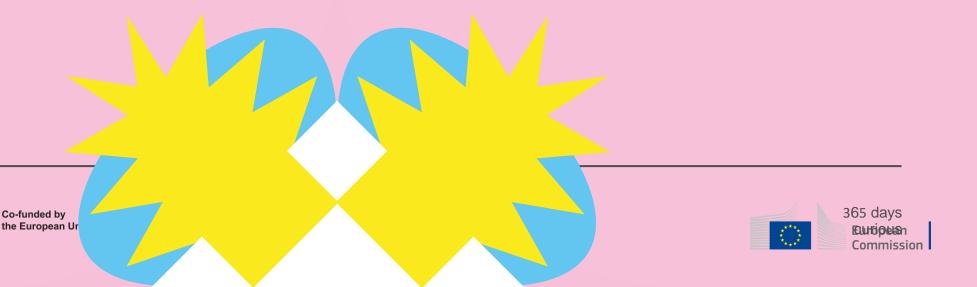
Mariya Gabriel - European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth - European Commission.





highlights

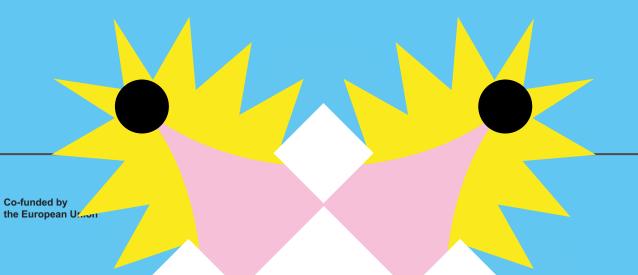
10th Euro Science Open Forum
European Science in the City Festival
33rd edition of EUCYS
1st edition of EU TalentOn
New EuropeanBauhaus



European City of Science Leiden2022

Highlight

KnOWLEDGE throughout the NEIGHBOURHOODS



European City of Science Leiden2022





Knowledge throughout the Neighbourhoods

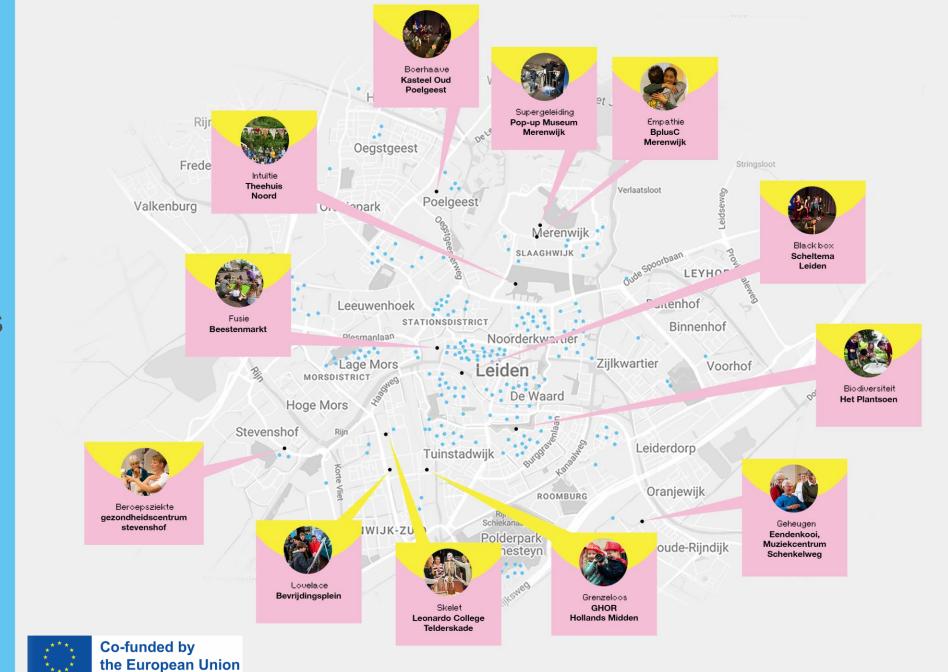
A TOPIC A DAY

206 activities

199+ owners-of-the-day

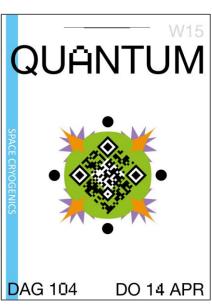
23.000+ participants

101 districts



QUANTUMSOUP in Vreewijk











365 days connecting science with society

RADIO WEETLUST

365 radio shows 410 guests and **numerous** fans!

P.O. BOX 71

600+ Questions asked by citizens

206 Provided answers

52 Scientists

60 YouTube videos

100.000+ Twitter views

KNOWLEDGE THROUGHOUT THE NEIGBOURHOODS

365 topics-of-the-day

206 local activities

23.509+ participants

199+ owners-of-the-day

101 neighbourhoods in Leiden & region

134 partners

3 TukTuks

8.4/10 appreciation rate





33rd edition 65.000 participants 132 finalists 87 projects from 32 countries

8.4/10 appreciation rate delegates

ESOF 2022 - EUROSCIENCE

119 scientific sessions, plenaries,

3.138 delegates from 87 countries

6 live-only, 48 hybrid, 63 online

494 speakers from 54 countries

OPEN FORUM

keynotes & workshop

7.5/10 appreciation rate

10th edition

9/10 appreciation rate jury

100+ congresses & symposia 2000 participants, 13.000+ delegates

BRANDING LEIDEN2022

1222 QR-logo's distributed 61.035 QR-logo's scanned

COMMUNICATING LEIDEN2022

161.819 website visits

2,8% average engagement rate



City of Science Leiden2022

European

Many thanks to 1000s of local, national and European, known and anonymous, formal and informal partners. Together, we brought Leiden European City of Science 2022 to life.

(VISITS, PARTICIPANTS & JNIQUE VISITORS

1000+ activities with a huge **COMMUNITY BONUS**

5382+ social media community 1.541,480+ social media impressions 43,786+ social media engagement 113,590+ social media video views

FINANCING LEIDEN2022

7.2 million euro budget

4 million co-funded by the European Commission

37 Financial Partners, 4 Founding Partners



20+ experts 8/10 appreciation rate

EU TalentOn

8,5/10 appreciation rate incl. buddies

NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

21 events 25+ local citizens assemblies **1** Ministry of the Future



European Commission

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MOMENTS OF ENGAGEMEN (VISITS, PARTICIPANTS & UNIQUE VISITORS

1000+ activities with a huge **COMMUNITY BONUS**



ESOF 2022 - EUROSCIENCE **OPEN FORUM**

10th edition

119 scientific sessions, plenaries, keynotes & workshop

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494 speakers from 54 countries

7.5/10 appreciation rate

-- > EUCYS

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EU TalentOn

1st edition

5 EU mission arena's

700+ applicants, 104 participants

41 nationalities, 28 countries

26 teams. 26 buddies

20+ experts

8/10 appreciation rate

8,5/10 appreciation rate incl. buddies

■■ NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

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European Commission

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EU TalentOn

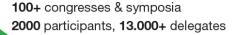
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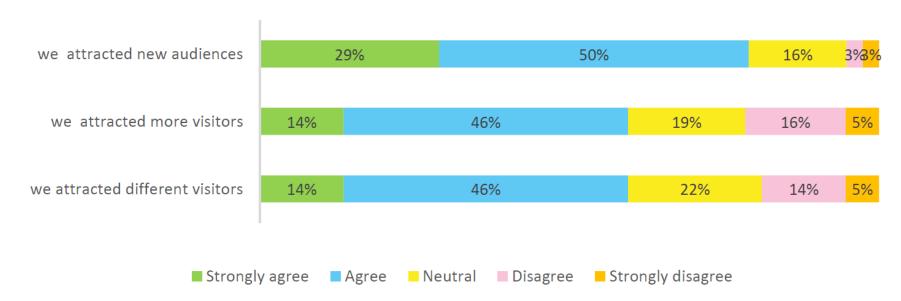


European Commission

RESULTS: NEW AUDIENCES & VISITORS

Engagement in Leiden2022 and attracting visitors

Due to our contribution to Leiden2022 ... (local cultural and social organizations)



European City of Science Leiden2022



Public Engagement with Science

Our dream was to create a legacy of multiple European cities connecting science with society in year-long participatory programs: playful, vibrant, bottom-up, inclusive.

Will you follow in our footsteps?

https://leiden2022.nl/en/newsroom/impact-legacy













European City of Science Leiden 2022

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03

Dario Capezzuto RTD.A.2 - ERA, Spreading Excellence and Research Careers



ERA Policy Agenda Action 4 – Promote attractive and sustainable research careers, balanced talent circulation and international, transdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility across the ERA

Package for attractive research careers (with focus on early career researchers):

Setting standards

 Council Recommendation on a European Framework for Research Careers (incl. new Charter for Researchers)

Supporting implementation

MLE, ResearchComp, ERA Talent Platform one-stop-shop, R&I Careers Observatory, RESAVER...

Promoting cultural change

Reform of research and researcher assessment (COARA.eu; ERA Action 3)

Coordinating investments

Pilot in Horizon Europe 2024 supporting organisational change – possible upscaling 2026-2027



Organisational change and coordination of measures in academic and non-academic organisations to create a talent ecosystem with a large pool of R&I positions that provide intersectoral career opportunities for R&I talents.

Expected outcomes:

- Establishment of talent ecosystems, supplying employers with skilled research talents that match labour market needs.
- Wide implementation of the standards for attractive researcher careers.
- Improved early careers researchers' employability within and beyond academia.

Target groups: Training providers and employers of researchers, incl.

- Universities
- Research and technology organisations and infrastructures
- SMEs/Industry
- Government entities
- Civil society organisations

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03

Call opening / closing:
15 May 2024 / 25 September 2024

Type of action: CSA

Budget: EUR 20 million

Indicative number of projects: 15



Scope:

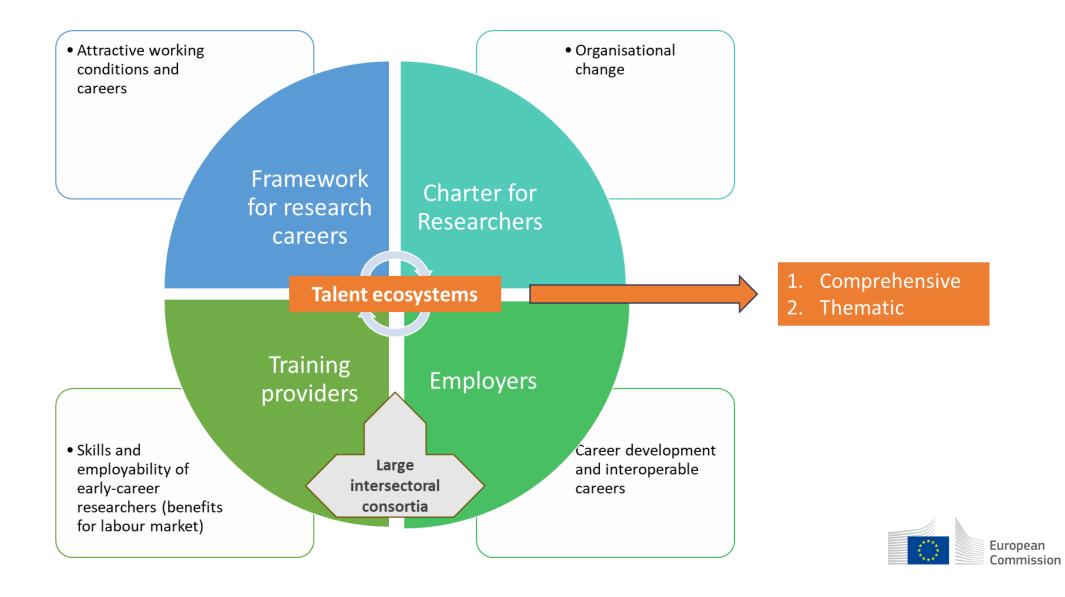
- Supporting whole organisations and innovation ecosystems to implement the standards for attractive research careers laid down in the Charter for Researchers.
- Creation of a large pool of R&I positions, providing organisations, particularly businesses, with well-skilled researchers and other R&I talents.
- Support at the organisational level to improve capacity for training, career development and talent circulation: e.g., strategies, actions plans, joint trainings, career services (Note: No direct support to researchers' salaries or mobility).
- Provide policy feedback on the implementations of the European framework for research careers.

Principles and standards to follow:



- European framework to attract and retain research, innovation and entrepreneurial talents in Europe
- Charter for Researchers and/or HR Excellence in Research Award (Participating organisations are expected to have received the HR Excellence in Research Award or commit to apply the new Charter for Researchers and commit to its implementation (i.e., start the HRS4R process) within the grant duration, as far as relevant for their operations linked to the employment of researchers.)

Talent Ecosystems at a glance



HR Excellence in Research award in a nutshell

HR Excellence in Research award is the mechanism to implement the principles set forth in the Charter for Researchers

- Voluntary, structured and monitored auditing mechanism procedure (continuous assessment)
- Based on gap-analysis and action plans for ongoing monitoring, self-assessment, peer reviews
- Obtain and maintain the HR Excellence in Research award













Pascal MADELEINE

HEAD OF GRADUATE SCHOOL, FACULTY OF MEDICINE, AALBORG UNIVERSITY



AALBORG UNIVERSITY IS MISSION-ORIENTED!



We use a **problem-based learning** approach to meet the **societal** and educational **demands** and **changes**.

We use **health data** and **digitalisation** to find health solutions. This requires actors from different **sectors**.

Shaping the future
health care system
- using digital solutions

EXAMPLES:



Telemedicine



Point-of-care ultrasound

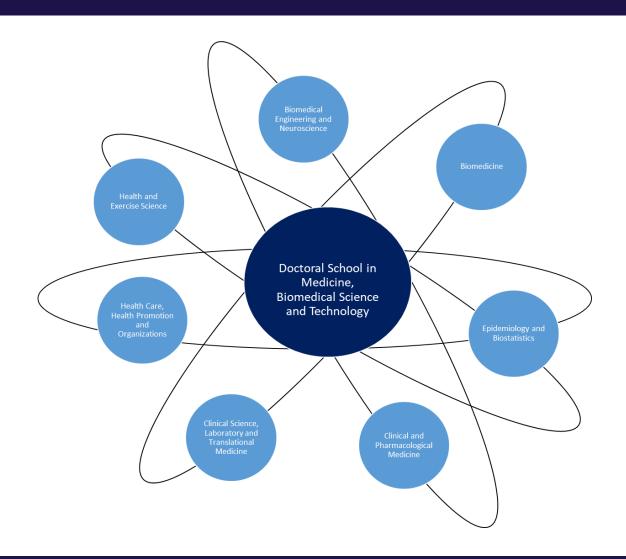


Al in General Practice

AALBORG UNIVERSITY IS MISSION-ORIENTED!

All PhD students are on a mission!

- Scientific programs
- Obligation for more than one supervisor/mentor
- Mandatory external collaboration focus on international collaborator





GRADUATE SCHOOL IN MEDICINE, **BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**



- Mentor offer
- DISC profil offer
- Onboarding of PhDs and supervisors

Start

PhD

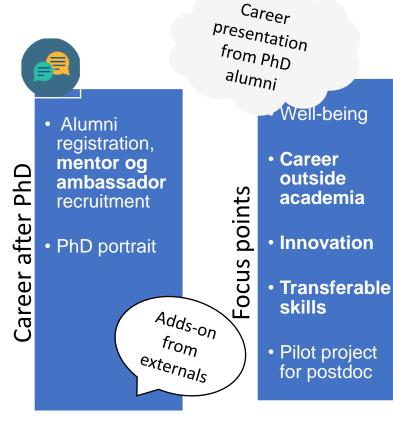
 Funding and Innovation support



- PhD plan including career thoughts
- Career course including career profile

11 month

 Sparring and career coaching





SIGNIFICANCE OF PHD

- Problem-solving
- Analytical thinking
- Handling of medical data
- Communication and presentation
- Know-how on clinical trial
- Supervision competences
- Working independently
- Cross-country collaboration
- BUT nothing regarding H-reflexes in the Trapezius muscle





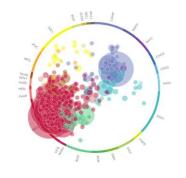
Adapted from the presentation of Steffen N Vangsgaard previous PhD student, currently Director of Data Management and Standarts team at Novo Nordisk

Transferable skills often tested and validated during mobility.

Mobility encompasses **collaboration** accross **sectors/disciplines** and **countries**.



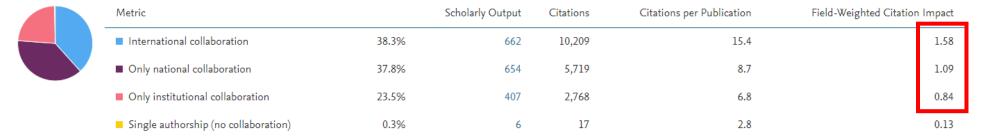
IMPACT OF COLLABORATION IN PHD RESEARCH - Last 5 years



Geographical Collaboration o

B

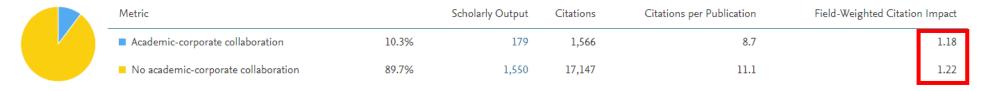
International, national and institutional collaboration by SUND_PHD_2019-2023_04-03-2024 in the selected year range.



Academic-Corporate Collaboration ©

Metric guidance + Add to Reporting Export

Academic-corporate collaboration by SUND_PHD_2019-2023_04-03-2024 in the selected year range.



>1 means that the output is more cited than expected according to the global average.

1.58 means 58% more cited than expected!

MOBILITY IN TALENTED RESEARCH ECOSYSTEMS

Advantages of having external collaborations:

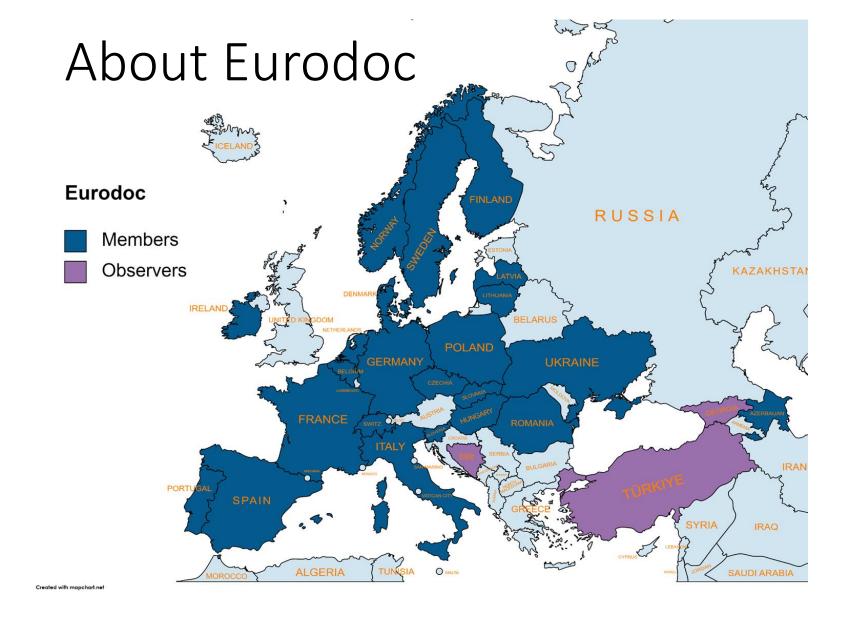
- Higher impact of research
- Competences and network development (monodisciplinary to pluridisciplinary)
- New R&I ideas, projects and opportunities
- Career opportunities beyond academia, career interoperability between sectors
- Special focus for postdoc, dual-career

»To advocate for positive change in the policies, culture, and environment that affect the quality of training, well-being, and employment conditions of early career researchers«



Pil Maria Saugmann

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- The European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (Eurodoc)
- grassroots federation of 24 national associations of early career researchers
 (ECRs) from 22 countries across Europe
- established in 2002 and based in Brussels
- representative of doctoral candidates and junior researchers at the European level
- engages with all major stakeholders in research, higher education, and innovation in Europe

Early research careers.



A bit about precarity

"Precarious employment is many things, with amongst other aspects lack of proper employment, unreasonably short employment periods, or part-time positions being key contributors. However, precarious employment also includes lack of equal access to a country's social security network, lack of career perspectives and continued job insecurity, all of which affect more than just the individual professional lives of ECRs (Wellcome, 2020). As such, precarious employment conditions are a marker of the low quality of employment conditions in the higher education sector."

Eurodoc

About SECURE



Sustainable Careers for Researcher Empowerment



Objectives

- 1. Develop a comprehensive Research Career Framework integrating relevant existing policies
- 2. Develop a range of tenure tracklike models integrating best practices from existing use cases
- Conduct trials at organisations to implement, test, and refine the Research Career Framework
- 4. Engage research stakeholders for co-design and validation of the Research Career Framework
- 5. Mainstream the Research Career Framework through EURAXESS, policy briefs, and a summit and policy roundtable

The Early Career Perspective

The status quo is that the early research career is very precarious, and the **goal** should be to **mitigate** this precariousness.

However **precariousness** is multidimensional and when designing solutions targeting early career researchers - **include them** at all stages.

Thank You! Questions?



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Thank you



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