

Key milestones of the EUA Campaign “EU funding for universities”

EUA’s activities in 2018 are based on the results of its [member consultation on Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+](#), woven in with the current work on efficient university management in the framework of the [USTREAM project](#) and [university autonomy](#) with the updated [EUA Autonomy Scorecard](#).

Upcoming:

- **Fourth [EUA Funding Forum](#), 18-19 October 2018 “Frameworks that empower, universities that deliver”**. University leaders and managers will discuss with public and private funders, including the European Commission, how to improve the European funding landscape for universities.

First semester 2018:

- EUA issues its [analysis](#) of the European Commission’s proposal for Horizon Europe, reacts and proposes amendments to the reports of the members of the European Parliament responsible for the Horizon Europe proposal.
- EUA campaigns with other university networks for a **doubling of the budget** for the next EU framework programme.
- EUA issues the results of its consultation: “[Impactful Simplification of the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation](#)”.

Winter 2017/18:

- Setting up of the **EUA Simplification group**, composed of university practitioners with background in strategic development and governance, administration, finance and research support and experience in participation in EU funding programmes. The group was developed as a follow-up to an initial meeting focused on the acceptance of institutional accounting practices in EU research funding with university managers, private funders, the European Commission and the European Court of Auditors.
- Invitation to EUA to represent the university sector in the European Commission’s **expert group “Innovation in auditing research programmes”** (first meetings held in February 2018)
- **Survey “New forms of funding targeting simplification of the Framework Programme”**, aiming to collect specific evidence on ways to further simplify and enhance the effectiveness of the EU Framework Programme, making the administration of projects less complex and costly in terms of resources spent. The PDF copy of the questionnaire can be consulted [here](#).
- **[Policy event “Excellence in research, innovation and education: The universities’ recommendations for an efficient and ambitious FP9”](#)** hosted by MEP Christian Ehler at the European Parliament, Brussels, 9 November 2017.

Milestones 2016-2017:

July 2017: the High-level Group on maximising impact of EU Research and Innovation

Programmes, convened by the European Commission, issued [recommendations](#) for future investment in research and innovation. [EUA responded](#) to the report, welcoming the group's conclusions on the need to prioritise research and innovation in both EU and national budgets and further simplify and optimise the EC's research and innovation programmes.

June 2017: EUA took part in a hearing of the European Parliament on the cost effectiveness of the Horizon 2020 programme, organised by the Committee for Budget Control. EUA was represented by its Vice-President Paul Boyle, who outlined EUA's core messages for the enhanced simplification and efficiency of EU research funding.

May 2017: EUA released its [position paper](#): "Ambitious funding for excellent research in Europe post-2020", which focuses on the following point: the budget dedicated to supporting research and innovation must increase in order to effectively address the challenges at hand. So, where should the additional funds come from? The paper proposes several scenarios and analyses of what is needed to meet the objective of simple, sufficient and sustainable funding at EU level, and in particular how to foster efficiency in the system. EUA advocates for a quantitative and qualitative leap in EU research funding, and suggests to open a discussion on a possible ring-fencing or shift of funding for R&I from ESIF or other sources for a more ambitious and well-functioning research programme.

March 2017: Joint campaign "[a new momentum for the European Research Area](#)", highlighting the need to increase and improve the delivery of EU research funding.

December 2016: Release of the [results of EUA's membership consultation on Horizon 2020](#). This large-scale consultation provides the core principles for EUA's advocacy towards FP9 and for its "EU funding" campaign.

The consultation results regarding funding and modalities outline key priorities, including securing ambitious grant-based funding; enhancing programme efficiency and success rates; developing a strategic approach to efficiency and sustainability of research funding at European, national and institutional levels; improving cost coverage; enabling trust-based simplification and fostering EU funding synergies.

October 2016: [3rd EUA Funding Forum](#), Porto, Portugal, and release of the [EUA 2016 Public Funding Observatory](#)

September 2016: University funding under pressure – a call for dialogue at European level, a joint event organised by EUA and the Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU, Brussels, Belgium.

July 2016: EUA presents its views at the European Parliament workshop on the mid-term review of the Financial Regulation ([see presentation](#) of the discussion, [proceedings of the workshop](#))

June 2016: [An EUA review on one year of EFSI: No benefit for universities](#)

May 2016: [EUA's input to the revision of the EU's Financial Regulation](#)