



EASSH

Designing a new EFP

*EUA-CDE Thematic Workshop - Liege 2026
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- 01** A democratic system for R&I funding

- 02** Designing a new Framework Programme

- 04** The EC proposal

- 05** Next steps

Overview





A democratic process

- ▶ R&I is part of **MFF EU budget**
- ▶ Approval of the FP: three parties EC, EP and MS
- ▶ Member States' priorities inform the European Research ecosystem
- ▶ Industry and science lobbying between approvals
- ▶ Proposals for large European programmes stem co-funded programmes
- ▶ The work programme is drafted and discussed with Prog Committees of National representatives

=> There are few large European SSH programmes





Design a new Framework Programme

The European Framework Programme (FP): Why does it matter?



establishes the scientific and technological objectives to be achieved/fixes priorities;



indicates the broad cross-border research priorities (pillars ERC; Clusters; Missions;



mirrors funding distribution amount.



sets rules for participation and respective shares in activities (eg SSH as a principle; experts' selection; Monitoring and reporting)

The political agenda: main reports and guidelines

- Letta's report: "**Much more than a market**" April 2024
- Von Der Leyen's EU Strategic Agenda and "**Europe's Choice: Political guidelines for the next European Commission 2024–2029**" of July 2024
- Draghi's report: "**The future of European competitiveness**" September 2024
- Heitor's report: "**Align, act, accelerate - Research, technology and innovation to boost European competitiveness**", October 2024
- **Safer Together** Niinisto Report (March 2025)
- **Make business easier and Deepen the Single Market** (Letta Report) (**Europe's Choice**)
- **Unlock innovative potentials:** disruptive innovation, new technologies
- **Rise to the challenge of a new era for European defence and security** (**Europe's Choice**; **Draghi Report**)
- Defence narrative must consider **civilian resilience** (Niinistö report)
- **The Cultural Compass for Europe** **NEW**



- ▶ The EC proposal

16 July 2025

The next Framework Programme structure

What is the Commission proposing?

With a proposed **€175 billion** budget, the new programme will be based on four pillars.

Pillar I

EXCELLENT SCIENCE

€44.079 BILLION

EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

SCIENCE FOR EU POLICIES

Pillar II

COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIETY

€75.876 BILLION

COMPETITIVENESS¹ :
1. Clean Transition and Industrial Decarbonisation
2. Health, Biotech, Agriculture and Bioeconomy
3. Digital leadership
4. Resilience and Security, Defence Industry and Space

SOCIETY:
1. Global societal challenges
2. EU Missions
3. New European Bauhaus Facility

Pillar III

INNOVATION

€38.785 BILLION

EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS AND THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE

Pillar IV

EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

€16.262 BILLION

ERA POLICIES

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURES

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

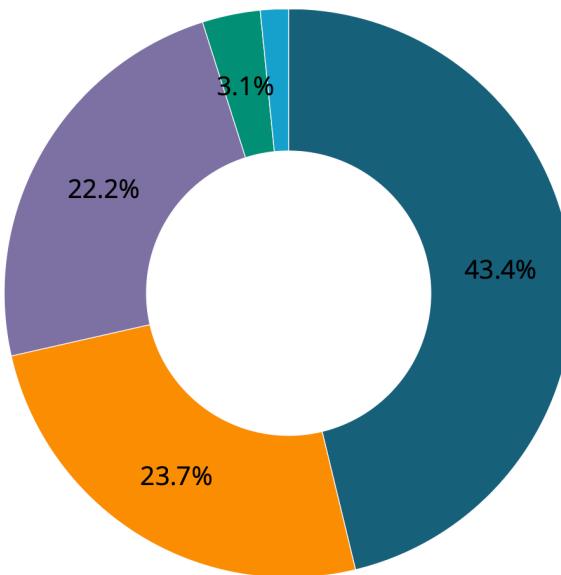
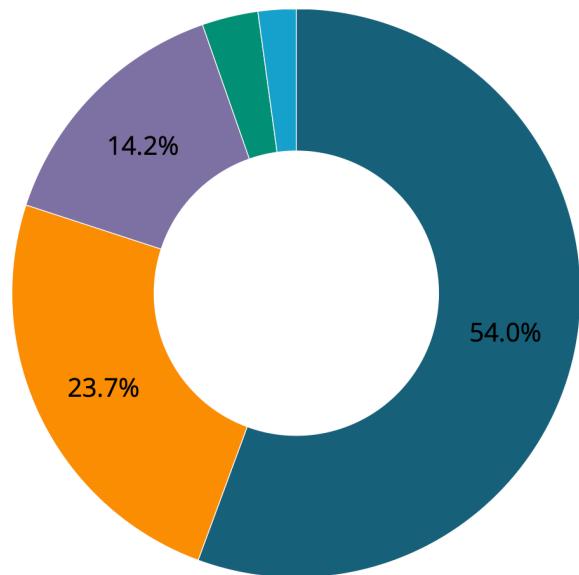
Horizon Europe 2: Structure (proposed)

- ▶ Pilar 1: Frontier research (ERC, MSCA, JRC)
 - ▶ from €25 billion to €44 billion
- ▶ Pillar 2: Collaborative Research
 - ▶ €53.5 billion to €75.8 billion.
 - ▶ Competitiveness (€68.2) - Clean trans, Life Science, Digital Leadership, Resilience, Security, Defence & Space => ECF
 - ▶ & Society (€7.6) - global societal challenges such as migration, disinformation, democracy, social and economic transformations, inclusive societies and social cohesion
- ▶ Pillar 3: Innovation (from €13.6 billion to €38.7 billion)
 - ▶ EIC
 - ▶ Innovation ecosystems
- ▶ Pillar 4: Research policy
 - ▶ From €3.4 to €16.2 billion
 - ▶ Research Infrastructures
 - ▶ Widening Programme



Horizon Europe and FP10 Budget compared

■ Pillar 2 ■ ERC and MSCA ■ Innovation* ■ Widening participation and spreading excellence ■ JRC (non-nuclear)



Source: Chart: David Matthews
Source: [European Commission](#)
Get the data Created with [Datawrapper](#)



Society includes:

- ▶ Global Societal Challenges such as migration, disinformation, and the safeguarding, strengthening and promotion of democracy, as well as social and economic transformations, inclusive societies and social cohesion
- ▶ New European Bauhaus Facility
- ▶ EU Missions



Focus on
Society - EUR
7.6Bn

EASSH Key focus points in the Negotiation: EP, MS, EC

- ▶ Budget: keep the proposed budget of €200bn
- ▶ Competitiveness:
 - ▶ SSH in all policy windows (art 5)
- ▶ Society in FP10 is for research on society
 - ▶ Societal Challenges SSH-led SC
 - ▶ Missions: to be allocated to the other policy windows
 - ▶ New European Bauhaus: in HE received a very small amount
- ▶ ERC, MCSA
 - ▶ More directionality is at stake
 - ▶ More control from the EC policy agenda



Society is for Research on Society

Society in FP10 proposal is for
research on society



EASSH Position Paper

25 September 2025

www.eassh.eu

EASSH calls for the European Parliament and the member states to support the following key issues in the EC proposal for a new framework programme (FP10):

- Society. focus on research on societal challenges
- SSH integration.
- Excellent Science (ERC, MSCA, and research infrastructures.)



Society in FP10 is for research on society: A programme

Democracy

Education

Europe in the 2040 world

Culture and Knowledge

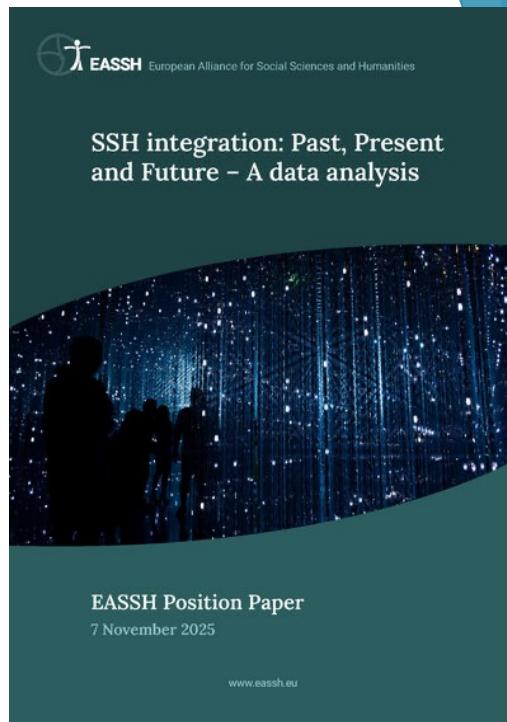
Healthy and productive societies

EASSH presents its analysis and recommendations based on the EC's first monitoring report on SSH integration under Horizon Europe.

The paper describes EASSH's analysis of and recommendations for SSH integration following the report, in particular:

1. A more robust assessment methodology
2. Sustained implementation and monitoring
3. Facilitate policy- and research-level lessons of experience
4. Using SSH integration to monitor multidisciplinarity
5. Societal challenges implemented across all policy windows

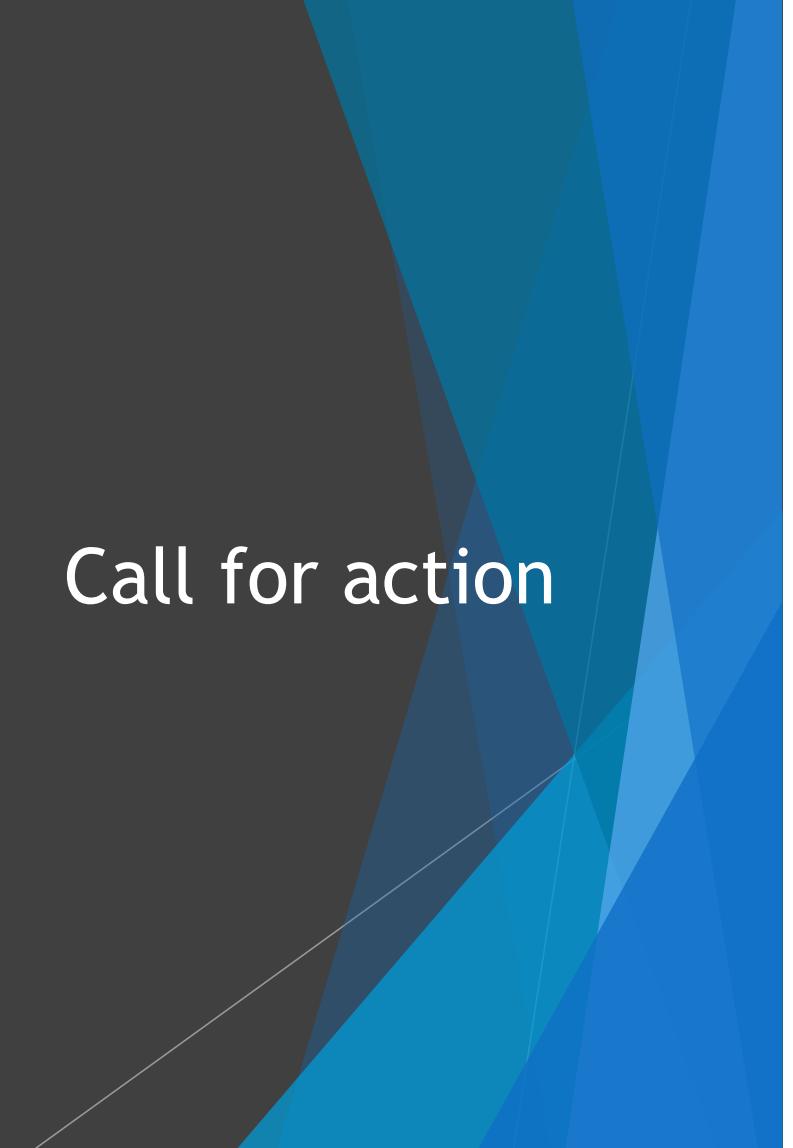
Next position paper: Focus on multidisciplinarity and appropriate inclusion of societal research in all policy windows



SSH integration: past, present and future - A data analysis



- ▶ EASSH to meet Ms Zaharieva, Commissioner for Start-up, R&I and Ms Minzatu Vice-President for Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness
- ▶ Target ministries and research councils
- ▶ Coordinated action and individual actions
- ▶ Be vocal and visible as a community not as individuals
- ▶ Coordinate interventions with Ministries (eg. Deans of SSH faculties together; coordinate 3 things to demand)
- ▶ Participation at key conference and events
- ▶ **Consistency with EASSH's recommendations**



Call for action

Your role



Contribute to EASSH
Mission to consolidate the funding for SSH in the next FP



Disseminate the position paper and engage with dean of your faculty, your rector, VP for research



Mobilise your university to meet Ministry of Science/ Min of finance



Identify research priorities with your community for a coherent programme design



Become an expert reviewer for EU programmes



Engage with science policy debate: it matters!

THIS IS A NEGOTIATION: ALL VOICES COUNT!!!!



Thank you

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