A Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe

The adoption of the Pact is a step forward in our ambition to create an ERA fit for the future. It shows our common commitment to mobilise research and innovation policies with concrete actions towards the challenges of today and notably the green and digital transitions.

Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

The Pact sets out principles for research and innovation for the first time ever. It incentivises joint action and simplifies monitoring and coordination.

Values and principles for research and innovation

Upholding values
- Ethics and integrity of research and innovation
- Freedom of scientific research
- Gender equality and equal opportunities for all

Working better
- Free circulation of researchers, staff, knowledge and technology
- Pursuit of excellence
- Value creation and societal and economic impact

Working together
- Coordination, coherence, commitment
- Global outreach
- Inclusiveness
- Societal responsibility
Priority areas for joint action

The priority areas represent a set of policies to build a true European single market for research and innovation. They align with the values and principles and provide a stable long-term framework for the joint ERA policy agendas.

Deepening a truly functioning internal market for knowledge

- Open science
- Research infrastructures
- Gender equality, equal opportunities for all and inclusiveness
- Careers and mobility of researchers and research assessment and reward system
- Knowledge valorization
- Scientific leadership
- Global engagement

Taking up together the green transition and digital transformation and other challenges with impact on society, and increasing society’s participation in the ERA

- Challenge-based ERA actions
- Synergies with education and the EU Skills Agenda
- Synergies with sectorial policies and industrial policy, in order to boost innovation ecosystems
- An active citizen and societal engagement in research and innovation

Enhancing access to research and innovation excellence and enhancing interconnections between innovation ecosystems across the EU

- More investments and reforms in countries and regions with lower research and innovation performance
- Synergies between Union, national and regional funding programmes
- Increased collaborative links and excellence-based integration of research-performing organisations from countries with lower R&I performance

Advancing concerted research and innovation investments and reforms

- Support to prioritise and secure long-term research and innovation investments and policy reforms
- Coordination of research and innovation investments
Prioritising investments and reforms

The Pact will mobilise EU, national and regional resources by prioritising public expenditure on research and development. Additionally, it will create the conditions and support for stronger private research and innovation investments:

- EU countries should contribute to the EU target of investing 3% of EU GDP in research and development.
- EU countries are encouraged to consider the use of national sub targets to reflect the EU priorities.

Policy coordination and monitoring

The new European Research Area requires close collaboration amongst EU countries, as well as with the European Commission. Simplifying the coordination and monitoring will help EU countries to develop and implement ERA policies.

POLICY COORDINATION

ERA policy agenda sets out the jointly agreed ERA actions for the next years

On a voluntary basis, EU countries can develop their own national processes, such as strategies or roadmaps

MONITORING

ERA scoreboard & dashboard

Regular policy dialogues between the Member States and the Commission

Commission reports on progress of the ERA implementation

POLICY PLATFORM

A platform to facilitate information sharing

More information at
European research area (ERA) | European Commission (europa.eu)
https://europa.eu/!YmgHHX