INSPIRING ERA

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INSPIRING ERA

Bringing the European Research Area (ERA) closer to its research community

28.11.2025

Objectives of the ERA

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➡️ Free movement of researchers, knowledge, and technology

➡️ Strengthening research institutions and infrastructure

➡️ Enhancing cooperation between public and private sectors

➡️ Increasing investment in research and development (R&D)

4 Priorities of the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe

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Deepening a truly functioning internal market for knowledge

Taking up together the challenges posed by the twin green and digital transition, and increasing society's participation in the ERA

Amplifying access to research and innovation excellence across the Union

Advancing concerted research and innovation investments and reforms

4 Priorities of the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe and the 20 ERA Actions of the ERA Policy Agenda 2022-2024

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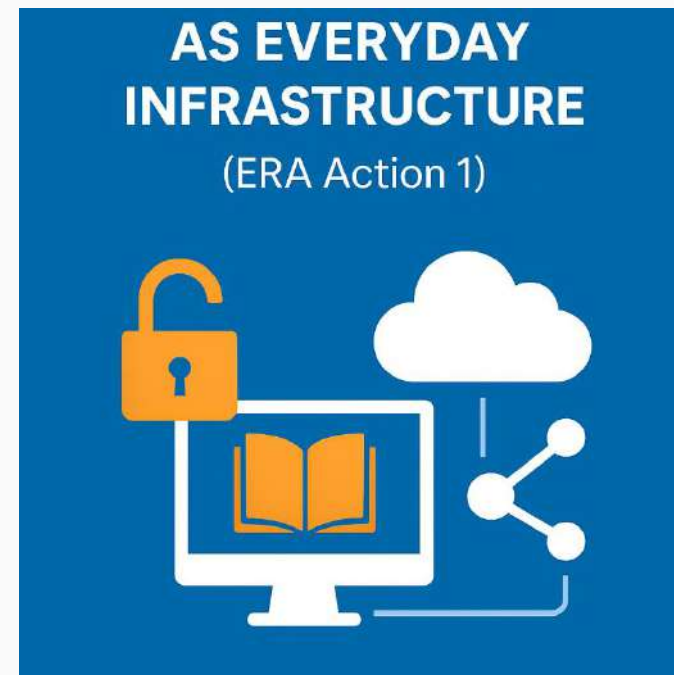| Deepening a truly functional internal market for knowledge	Taking up together the challenges posed by the twin green and digital transition, and increasing society's participation in the ERA	Amplifying access to research and innovation excellence across the Union	Advancing concerted research and innovation investments and reforms
ERA Action 1: Open Science	ERA Action 10: Missions and partnerships	ERA Action 15: R&I ecosystems	ERA Action 18: National processes for ERA implementation
ERA Action 2: Copyright and data legislative framework	ERA Action 11: Green transformation	ERA Action 16: Improve access to excellence	ERA Action 19: ERA monitoring system
ERA Action 3: Research Assessment reform	ERA Action 12: Green/digital transition of Eeurope's industrial ecosystem	ERA Action 17: Research management	ERA Action 20: Investments and reforms
ERA Action 4: Attractive research careers	ERA Action 13: Higher education institutions		
ERA Action 5: Gender equality	ERA Action 14: Bring science closer to citizens		
ERA Action 6: Academic freedom			
ERA Action 7: Knowledge valorisation			
ERA Action 8: Research infrastructures			
ERA Action 9: International cooperation			

Open Science as Everyday Infrastructure

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- ➢ **Making open access the norm**

- ➢ **Building the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)**

- ➢ **Aligning national Open Science strategies**

- ➢ **Tracking who's making progress**

AS EVERYDAY INFRASTRUCTURE (ERA Action 1)

What's in it for you?

If you lead or manage research groups	If you steer a faculty or institute	If you run research support or strategy
➤ Less guesswork about what funders want. ➤ Standardised DMP (Data Management Plan) templates across Europe ➤ Clear FAIR data guidance ➤ Recommendations for suitable repositories ➤ More impact and recognition for non-paper outputs ➤ Datasets and software are stored with: clear meta data and persistent identifiers (e.g. DOIs)	➤ A clear external story for internal investment. ➤ You can justify investments in repositories, data services and Open Science support by pointing to ERA priorities and national strategies. ➤ This is not just internal preference but alignment with how Europe defines modern research infrastructure. ➤ Strategic positioning in alliances and consortia.	➤ Standard building blocks for your processes. ➤ ERA and EOSC provide shared language for templates and support: FAIR data, DMPs, trusted repositories, EOSC readiness. ➤ You can embed these elements into proposal checks, guidelines and training. ➤ Opportunities to become a recognised service provider.

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Research Careers & Assessment

➢ **A common direction for research assessment**

  ➢ Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment

  ➢ Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA)

➢ **A European framework for research careers**

  ➢ European framework to attract and retain research, innovation, and entrepreneurial talents

  ➢ European Charter for Researchers

➢ **Support platforms and data**

  ➢ ERA Talent Platform

What's in it for you?

If you lead or manage research groups	If you steer a faculty or institute	If you run research support or strategy
➢ More room for diverse contributions to count. ➢ It will become easier to argue that supervision, team building, data curation, software, infrastructure work and engagement should be recognised alongside papers. ➢ Clearer language to discuss careers with your team. ➢ Labels for stages and skills that you can use in performance talks, recommendation letters and when helping team members plan next steps – inside or outside academia.	➢ External backing for reforms you may already want. ➢ When you push for tenure-track models, longer contracts, better onboarding or more robust promotion criteria, you can point to European frameworks and commitments – showing that you are not acting alone or randomly. ➢ A reference point for talent strategy. ➢ It also gives you a story to tell: "We are aligning with how Europe defines attractive research organisations" – useful in budget talks, with advisory boards and when joining alliances or excellence schemes.	➢ Standard building blocks for processes and templates. ➢ Concepts like CoARA, the European careers framework, OTM-R and the ERA Talent Platform give you ready-made language and checklists for internal guidelines, evaluation forms and training. ➢ A clearer roadmap for "ERA-aligned" positioning. ➢ Structural priorities on careers and assessment let you plan multi-year work: mapping where your institution stands, setting targets, joining peer networks and using EU language convincingly in strategies and funding applications.

4 Priorities of the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe
8 ERA Actions & 11 Structural Policies of the ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027

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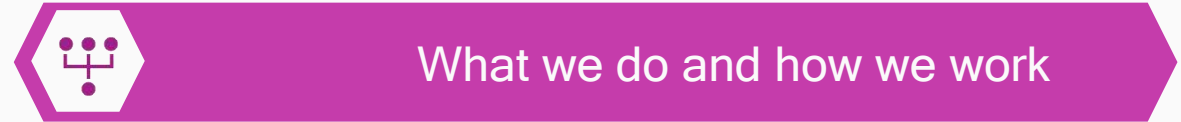| Priorities	ERA Actions	Structural Policies
Deepening a truly functioning internal market for knowledge	**ERA Action 1:** Equity in open science **ERA Action 2:** Advancing the European Science for Policy (S4P) ecosystem **ERA Action 3:** Facilitating and accelerating the responsible use of AI in science in the EU **ERA Action 4:** Enhancing research security	**Structural Policy 1:** Equity in open science **Structural Policy 2:** Research infrastructures **Structural Policy 3:** Gender equality, equal opportunities for all and inclusiveness **Structural Policy 4:** Researchers' careers and mobility **Structural Policy 5:** Research assessment and reward systems **Structural Policy 6:** Knowledge valorisation **Structural Policy 7:** Global engagement
Taking up together the green and digital transitions, and other societal challenges	**ERA Action 5:** Accelerating R&I investments for Europe's industrial transformation and competitive sustainability **ERA Action 6:** Accelerating new approach methodologies (NAMs) to advance biomedical research and testing of medicinal products and medical devices **ERA Action 7:** A harmonised and coordinated framework for a European approach to integrity and ethics in R&I in the face of emerging challenges	**Structural Policy 8:** Challenge-based initiatives **Structural Policy 9:** Synergies with education and the European Skills Agenda **Structural Policy 10:** An active citizen and societal engagement in R&I
Enhancing access to excellent research and innovation for all	**ERA Action 8:** Empowering R&I: A new era in research management.	**Structural Policy 11:** Synergies between EU, national and regional funding programmes
Advancing concerted investments and reforms in R&I	There is **no specific ERA action** proposed under this objective but it is widely acknowledged that boosting R&I investments and adopting structural reforms remains a key priority for the European Commission and the Member States to work closely together using a set of existing instruments.	

Future of the ERA

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Expanding global partnerships beyond the EU

Strengthening green and sustainable research initiatives

The role of AI and digital transformation in European research

New policy initiatives & new Policy Agenda

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What is INSPIRING ERA?

Bringing the European Research Area (ERA) closer to its research community

A **Horizon Europe project** running until December 2026.

Our objectives

➡️ Support the successful implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda

➡️ Disseminate results and lessons learned from ERA Actions

➡️ Facilitate mutual learning and exchange

➡️ Build an ERA community across the whole Europe

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Our Mission

We make ERA outcomes:

Visible

Showcasing tools, services & policies

Understandable

Explaining what policies mean in practice

Usable

Helping researchers and institutions apply ERA outcomes in daily work

INSPIRING ERA ensures that **ERA policies** are **understood**, **applied**, and **improved** through practical engagement and structured feedback. By enabling mutual learning and community building, we help make ERA a lived reality for the people it's designed to serve.

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INSPIRING ERA Website

Factsheets

Newsletter

Events

Explain

Summarise

Connect

How we work – a Two-Way Bridge

Who we reach

INSPIRING ERA

chambers of commerce

public authorities

umbrella researcher orgs

horizon europe projects

regional government

european commission

national contact points

project managers

project coordinators

early career associations

companies

universities

research funder

civil society

professional societies

ngos

erac

era community

research institutes

industry

science communication org

government agencies

citizens

foundations

academia

heis

policy makers

researchers

university alliances

era forum

innovation hubs

trade associations

industry associations

advocacy groups

ministries

entrepreneurs

umbrella funding orgs

student associations

innovation networks

science parks

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Join the ERA Community!

➡ Stay informed about ERA developments that impact research and innovation

➡ Access expert insights, resources and practical tools

➡ Take part in online events and mutual learning exchanges

➡ Receive regular news, updates, and opportunities via our newsletter
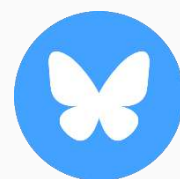
www.inspiring-era.eu/join-the-era-community/
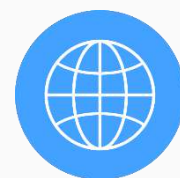
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