Brussels, 4 October 2021

Open letter on ERA governance

Honourable Minister Simona Kustec and Commissioner Mariya Gabriel,

With this letter, the undersigned representatives of research and innovation (R&I) organisations wish to reiterate to the member states and the European Commission the added value of including European R&I stakeholders in the ERA governance system, especially in both its co-creation and implementation. The R&I stakeholders provide high-quality, collective input from different communities within the R&I system, all of which are necessary to achieve an effective and resilient ERA. Including stakeholders in the development of ERA policies and legislation in a structured and sustained way will help the design and take up of ERA policies.

Reminding you of our longstanding and strong historical commitment and efforts towards ERA, and recalling the clear calls for stakeholders’ involvement in the Communication ‘A new ERA for Research and Innovation’ and in the subsequent Council Conclusions, we therefore strongly welcome and support the proposal of the Slovenian Presidency in the draft Council Conclusions published on 7 September as they appropriately “invite the Commission to guarantee that the ERA Forum will:

• ensure appropriate representation at its meetings of the following sectors: universities, research and technology organisations, R&I-intensive businesses, individual researchers and innovators, research infrastructures and R&I-funding organisations, […]

• set up an open online voluntary stakeholder register to increase transparency in the identification of the ERA stakeholders involved in the work of the ERA Forum and its sub-groups.”

Considering the above proposal for ERA stakeholder involvement, as representatives of European R&I organisations we commit to coordinating and self-organising by sector as proposed, to ensure effective engagement and structural representation of different perspectives in the ERA governance.

In light of the future Competitiveness Council that will finalise the ERA governance proposal at the end of November, we remain fully committed to working with you and supporting your continued efforts to ensure structured and systematic R&I stakeholders’ involvement in the ERA Forum.

Yours sincerely,
Signatories:

Michael Murphy
European University Association

Jón Atli Benediktsson
AURORA

Rik Van de Walle
CESAER

Ludovic Thilly
Coimbra Group

Màrius Martínez
Muñoz
ECIU

Martin Vetterli
EuroTech
Universities

Vincent Blondel
The Guild

Luciano Saso
UNICA

Snježana Prijić-Samaržija
YERUN

Marc Schiltz
Science Europe

Jon Deer
European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities

Agnieszka Żyra
European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers

Michael Matlosz
EuroScience

Martin Andler
Initiative for Science in Europe

Mostafa Moonir
Shawrav
Marie Curie Alumni Association

Gemma Modinos
Young Academy of Europe
AGENDA
ISE General Assembly meeting, 9 March 2016
Cologne/Köln, Germany, Zülpicher Str. 47a
12:00 Lunch, Café Feynsinn, Rathenauplatz 7, Köln.
13:00 – 16:45 ISE General Assembly, Institute for Genetics, Zülpicher Str. 47a, Köln
13:00 – 14:15 Block A
A0) Introduction and tour de table (10’)
A1) Adoption of the agenda (5’)
A2) General Report 2015+first months 2016 (15’)
A3) Current activities of the working groups (10’)
A4) Progress Report: Registration of ISE & new offices in Strasbourg (15’)
A5) Funding and annual member dues (20’)
14:15 – 14:30 Coffee Break
14:30 – 15:30 Block B: Parallel sessions
Members (closed session)
Observers
Agenda to be communicated separately.
B1) Tour de table: What can ISE do for you, what can you do for ISE would you consider to join? (15’)
B2) Tour de table: Exchange on current activities and possible collaborations. (20’)
B2) Horizon 2020: Your views and positions (with particular focus on the ISE working group collaborative basic research) (25’)
15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:45 Block C
C1) Synthesis report on the outcomes of the parallel sessions (15’)
C2) The researchers’view on Horizon 2020: Action plan for the mid-term review (35’)
C4) Conclusions, any other business & next meeting (10’)