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MEETING DOCUMENT

From: ERAC Secretariat
To: ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject: PowerPoint presentation: Review of ERA Advisory Structure 2018

Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation "Review of ERA Advisory Structure 2018" given under item 4.1 of the ERAC plenary agenda of 17/05/2018.



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Review of ERA Advisory Structure 2018


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17 May 2018, 38th ERAC Plenary Meeting, Brussels



Outline of Work and Milestones


	Part 1	Part 2
Activities	<u>Documentary analysis</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of ERA-related groups and their work based on various documents Self-assessment from Chairs 	<u>Survey</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online survey of ERAC delegations (incl. EC), EU Presidencies, ERA-related groups, ERA-stakeholders Preparatory exchanges with different actors
Time frame	March – June	May – July
Milestones	<p>20 April: deadline to send self-assessments</p> <p>17 May: progress report in ERAC Plenary</p> <p>3 August: draft final report distributed to ERAC</p> <p>24 August: deadline for feedback to final report</p>	<p>4 – 29 June: online survey open</p>



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Part 1:

Documentary Analysis



Part 1: Documentary Analysis

- **Request to provide documents** sent out to all ERA-related groups on 19 March
→ documents received by end of March
- **Division of groups** within Rapporteur team:
 - CH = ERAC, ESFRI, SWG HRM, SWG OSI
 - NO = GPC, SWG GRI, SFIC
- Assessment by means of **codebook with 4 main dimensions**:
 1. Scope of the group
 2. Organisation and working conditions
 3. Output
 4. Impact
- State of play: **Documentary analysis completed**

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Part 1: Self-assessment Reports

- Template for group's **self-assessment reports**, with questions along the same dimensions
- Idea: **Short reports** (max. 1'000 words)
- Template sent out to Chairs on 3 April, deadline for reply = 20 April.
- 5 reports submitted so far.

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Part 1: Findings (1)

- **Preliminary summary of findings:**
 - **General issues** concerning all groups
 - Specific issues for **each group**
- Findings to be **validated through survey** (Part 2)!

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Part 1: Findings (2)

General issues:

- Coverage of ERA Priority in mandates
- Need to clarify advisory role
- Level of representation, expertise and commitment of country delegates
- Monitoring
- Collaboration with other groups
- Transparency and visibility of ERA Adv. Structure

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Part 1: Findings (3)

Group-specific issues:

- **ERAC:** Superordinate role < > responsibility for ERA Priority 1?
- **GPC:** JPI < > JPP?
- **ESFRI:** Implications of revised procedures?
- **SWG HRM:** Working dynamic after transfer?
- **SWG GRI:** Impact of the transfer and role of EC?
- **SWG OSI:** Gaps ERA Priority < > mandate < > activities
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Part 2:

Survey



Part 2: Basic Principles (1)

- **Exchanges** with various actors *in preparation* of survey:
 - ERAC (SB and Plenary)
 - EC
 - ERA Stakeholders
- Only **result of survey responses** in final report
- Draft of questionnaire ready
→ **Presentation and discussion today**



Part 2: Basic Principles (2)

- **Survey** (*adaptive LimeSurvey*) **addressed** to:
 - ERAC delegations (incl. Co-Chairs?)
 - European Commission
 - All other 6 ERA-related Groups (Chair)
 - ERA stakeholders
 - EU Council Presidencies
- **One reply** per ERAC delegation / EC / ERA-related group / ERA stakeholder / EU council presidency (*categorised*)
- Mostly closed-ended questions (0-100 scale), open-ended questions where necessary
- Survey open: **4 – 29 June 2018** (no extension)

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Part 2: Today's Discussion

- Agreement with **basic outline of questionnaire?**
 - Reasonable **length?**
 - Major elements **missing?**
 - Any **no-go's?**
- **No detailed discussion** of individual questions
- Possibility to provide **concise and short feedback** with concrete suggestions
by **23 May**

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Part 2: Basic Outline of Questionnaire

A. Questions for each Group:

- ERAC
- GPC
- ESFRI
- SWG HRM
- SWG GRI
- SWG OSI
- SFIC

B. General Questions on ERA Governance

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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (1)

A. Questions for each Group:

- A1 Common questions
- A2 Group-specific questions

B. General Questions on ERA Governance

- B.1 Questions on overall ERA structure & preferences for future developments of ERA

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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (2)

A. Questions for each Group:

A.1 Common questions

A.2 Group-specific questions

B. General Questions on ERA Governance

B.1 Questions on overall ERA structure & preferences for future developments of ERA

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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (2)

1. Common questions for each group (along the same dimensions as Part 1)

1. Scope of the group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correlation mandate < > ERA priority • Correlation mandate < > work 	3. Output <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satisfaction with number of publications • Quality of publications (practical value, comprehensibility...)
2. Organisation and working conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement/commitment of the Chair and Steering Board • Relation with the EC • Overlap with EC expert groups • Level and commitment of country delegates • Active participation of country delegates • Transparency of decision-making 	4. Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of output • Uptake of recommendations at national / EU / stakeholder level • Importance for Presidency priorities
5. General assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What to improve? • Continuation of group 	

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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (3)

A. Questions for each Group:

A1 Common questions

A2 Group-specific questions

B. General Questions on ERA Governance

B.1 Questions on overall ERA structure & preferences for future developments of ERA

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Part 1: Findings (3)

Group-specific issues:

- **ERAC:** Superordinate role < > responsibility for ERA Priority 1?
- **GPC:** JPI < > JPP?
- **ESFRI:** Implications of revised procedures?
- **SWG HRM:** Working dynamic after transfer?
- **SWG GRI:** Impact of the transfer and role of EC?
- **SWG OSI:** Gaps ERA Priority < > mandate < > activities
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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (4)

A. Questions for each Group:

- A1 Common questions along the dimensions of Part 1 of the review
- A2 Group-specific questions

B. General Questions on ERA Governance

B.1 Questions on overall ERA structure & preferences for future developments of ERA

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Part 2: Outline of Questionnaire (5)

3. Overall ERA structure & future developments

1. Scope of the ERA advisory structure

- Progress in achieving the objectives of the ERA Priorities
- Number of current ERA-related groups
- ERA Monitoring System
- New EC ERA Communication
- Future directions of the ERA
- Link ERA and FPs
- Link ERA and EHEA

2. Organisation of the ERA advisory structure

- Role of ERAC in the ERA structure
- Coordination through ERAC Steering Board
- Relations between ERA-related groups (collaboration and overlaps)
- Ad-hoc groups <-> standing working groups

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Details (illustration purposes)

2. QUESTIONNAIRE

2.1 Individual assessment of each of the seven ERA-related groups

2.1.1 Generic questions for all groups

Topic	Question	Response scale	Respondents
1. Scope of the group: To what degree are the mandate and activities of the group in line with the ERA Priority they are responsible for?			
Correlation mandate < > ERA priority	Q: Do you think that the group's mandate covers its respective ERA priority sufficiently well and clearly? (Embed mandates in questionnaire or at least link)	0-100	ERAC (incl. EC), Stakeholders, Presidencies, ERA-related group concerned
Correlation mandate < > work	Q: To what degree would you say that the group's work and activities were in line with their mandate? (If applicable: add question asking about missing elements of mandate in WP to validate such a finding from documentary analysis)	0-100	ERAC (incl. EC), Stakeholders, Presidencies, ERA-related group concerned
2. Organisation and working conditions: Assess organisational aspects, such as the group's composition and whether it is active and well integrated into the ERA advisory structure			
Engagement/commitment of the Chair and Steering Board	Q: Do you think that the Chair and Steering Board do enough to ensure that the group can work efficiently? (Maybe two separate scales for Chair and Steering Board?)	0-100	ERAC (incl. EC), ERA-related group concerned

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Details (illustration purposes)

From	What	Check	Where / comments
2015 ERAC Opinion	Which formal ERA-related Groups should continue	✓	Individual group questions (section 5)
	Which formal ERA-related Groups require modification of their mandate	✓	Individual group questions (sections 1, 5)
	Which formal ERA-related Groups should be discontinued, and if there is any residual work how that will be dealt with	✓	Individual group questions (section 5)
	Whether any new formal ERA-related Groups should be established, and if so the proposed mission and timescale	✓	Cross-cutting questions (section 1)
	Which formal ERA-related Groups should be designated as configuration of ERAC, seeking Council approval as required	-	Not to be covered according to informal discussion with Secretariat.
ToR	Scope 1: Assessment of the outputs and results of the different ERA-related groups in the light of the objectives of the ERA priorities	✓	Individual group questions (sections 1, 3, 4)
	Scope 2: Review of the mandates of all ERA-related groups within the remit expressed by Director Generals at ERAC	✓	Individual group questions (sections 1, 5)
	Scope 3: Assessment of in how far the suite of formal ERA-related groups as a whole covers the required research and innovation ground in an appropriate manner; in this context, it is crucial to identify what still needs to be done in order to achieve the objectives of the ERA priorities	✓	Cross-cutting questions (section 1)
	Scope 4: Appraisal of the current number and structure of the ERA-related groups	✓	Individual group question (section 5) and cross-cutting questions (sections 1, 2)
	Scope 5: Recommendations on how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of the ERA priorities by adjusted governance tools, including at the interface to the implementation of the national ERA roadmaps.	?	
	Scope 6: Suggestions for further improving the ERA monitoring and reporting system;	✓	Cross-cutting questions (section 1)
	Scope 7: Proposals on optimising the management of ERA governance in terms of the interaction within, between and beyond the ERAC Steering Board, the ERAC plenary, the other ERA-related groups, other advisory bodies outside ERA but inside the knowledge triangle, the informal "Research Policy Group", the Commission services, the ERA partnership organisations, the Council, the Council Presidencies, and the national level.	✓)	Partly covered by cross-cutting questions (section 2)
	Scope 8: Recommendations on how to increase the impact of the work of the ERA-related groups beyond 2020	✓)	Partly covered by individual group questions (section 5)

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Final Report: Outline

- **Main review (in a few pages):**
 1. Conclusions: Summary of main findings
 2. Recommendations: Modification of mandates, (dis)continuation of groups, creation of new groups
- **Annex (detailed report):**
 1. Description of methodology and procedures
 2. Detailed findings and conclusions from Part 1 and Part 2 for each group

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Dates (as adopted at ERAC Plenary)

- **4 – 29 June:**
Online survey open
- **3 August:**
Circulation of draft final report to ERAC
- **31 August:**
Deadline for written feedback on draft final report
- **10 September:**
Distribution of draft final report for ERAC Plenary
- **17 September:**
Presentation, discussion and adoption of final report in ERAC plenary

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Discussion: Your Input for Group-Specific Questions?

- **ERAC:** Superordinate role < > responsibility for ERA Priority 1?
- **GPC:** JPI <> JPP?
- **ESFRI:** Implications of revised procedures?
- **SWG HRM:** Working dynamic after transfer?
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Your Input on the Questionnaire? Timing

- Agreement with **basic outline of questionnaire?**
- Reasonable **length?** (some 120 questions!)
- Major elements **missing?**
- Any **no-go's?**
- **Timing Adopted at ERAC Plenary:**
 - Deadline for written feedback on draft report:
By 31 August 2018
(Extended deadline: 5 Sept. in single cases)
 - Distribution of draft report to ERAC
Delegations: **10 September 2018**

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Thank you!

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