Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

WORKING PAPER

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject:	ERAC videoconference on 10 September 2020 - Item 5 - European R&I Days

Dear ERAC delegates,

Please find enclosed the document from the European Commission The European R&I Days, with a view to the ERAC videoconference on Thursday 10 September (agenda item 5).

Best regards,

ERAC Secretariat

In view of item 5 of the agenda of the ERAC informal Videoconference on 10 September 2020, delegations will find attached information on the "2020 European Research and Innovation Days" virtual conference.

2020 European Research and Innovation Days, 22-24 August

Between 22 and 24 September, the European Commission will host the 2020 edition of the European Research and Innovation Days, Europe's annual flagship event on the future of research and innovation.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, this year's event will take place virtually, giving participants from all over Europe and beyond the opportunity to participate safely and co-design the future of research and innovation. The conference provides an opportunity to connect, take stock of the achievements of research and innovation over the last year and gather broad input from policy makers, stakeholders and citizens on how research and innovation policy and funding can deliver on the European Green Deal, digitalisation and other priorities.

Organisation of the event has reached its final phase. The virtual conference will feature over 100 sessions, 400 speakers, numerous dedicated panels and matchmaking opportunities. The programme is divided over 10 thematic hubs, including:

Policy (focused on Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area);
European Green Deal;
Digitalisation;
Horizon Europe;
Missions;
Smart implementation;
International cooperation;
European Innovation Council;
European Institute of Innovation & Technology;
European Research Council.

The 'Policy hub' will have a special focus on the European Research Area, including sessions on how the EU can best support national research and innovation policy reforms, new instruments and funding sources, open science and knowledge sharing, and the role of co-design and community interaction.

In addition, the event will host prestigious prize ceremonies, including the Women's Innovator Price, iCapital Award, Horizon Impact Award and the European Innovation Council Horizon Prize for Affordable Tech for Humanitarian Aid.

Next to the policy conference, a dedicated 'Science is Wonderful' exhibition will bring science closer to citizens through virtual hands-on experiments, 3-D live demonstrations and chats with European and international researchers.

You can consult the programme and register for the event on the R&I Days 2020 website.