Welcome and Introduction

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ERIC

FORUM

Part #1	Long-term sustainability of ERICs and their role in EU R&I arena
09:45	**Views and Plans of the French Presidency of the EU Council** *Elena Hoffert* Head of Implementation of Natonal and European Research Infrastructure Roadmpads, ESFRI Representative and Member of ESFRI Executive Board French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation
10:00	**Views and Plans of the Czech Presidency of the EU Council** *Levák Lukáš* Director, Department of Research and Development. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
10:15	**Key conclusions of the EGERIC report** *Carlo Rizzuto* Chair of the EGERIC Working Group
10:30	**Upcoming policy developments** *Apostolia Karamali* Head of Unit, European Commission
10:45	**Panel Discussion and Q&A from the Audience** Moderator: *Francisco Colomer,* ERIC Forum Chair Setting the scene: Slovenian EU Presidency Conclusions – *Jana Kolar* Participants: Speakers of the morning session

Part #2	ERIC Forum and its partners: Working together towards addressing key challenges in R&I
11:30	**ESFRI – Address by the new ESFRI Chair** *Jana Kolar* ESFRI Chair
11:45	**ERIC Forum and EOSC Association – perspectives for closer collaboration** *Ute Gunsenheimer*
	EOSC Association Secretary General
12:00	**ERIC Forum and EIROForum – joint efforts of Research Infrastructres for a stronger ERA** *Francesco Sette* EIROForum Chair
12:15	**Presentation of ERIC Forum Report – Scaling-up research projects through ERICs: Impact of big science on the research ecosystem** *Golbahar Pahlavan* WP 6 Lead, ECRIN
12:25	**Presentation of ERIC Forum Report - Report on integration of ERICs into pan-European infrastructures. The example of EOSC** *Juan Miguel González-Aranda* WP6 CTO Lifewatch
12: 35	**Panel Discussion and Q&A from the Audience** Moderator: *Anton Ussi*, Vice Chair ERIC Forum Participants: Speakers of the morning session

ERIC FORUM

Who are we? → A bottom-up collaboration of **all** European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERIC)

Organised in **5 Clusters**:

1. Environment

2. Health and Food

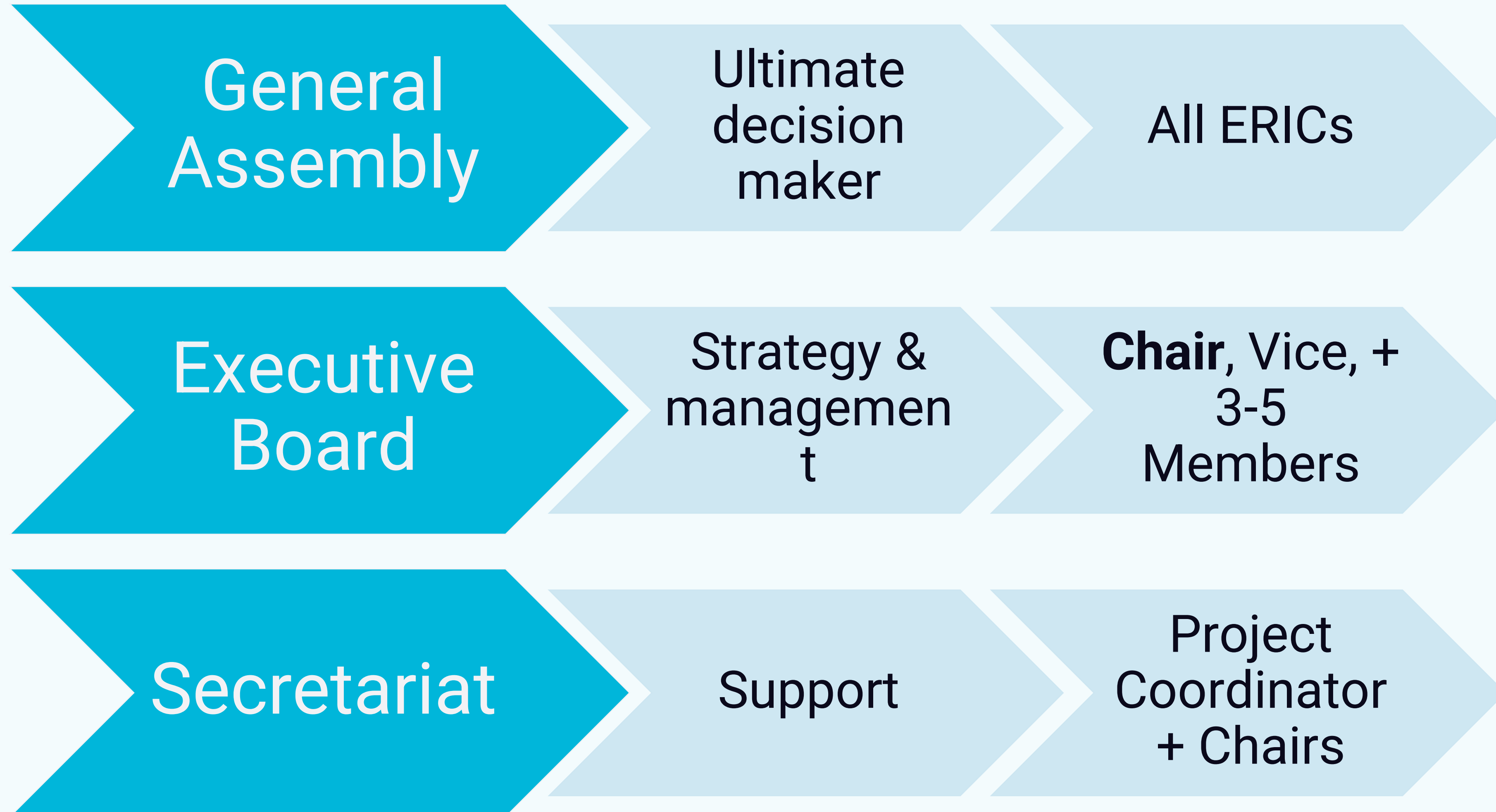3. Energy

4. Physical sciences and eng.

5. Social and cultural innovation

ERIC Forum governance

General Assembly	Ultimate decision maker	All ERICs
Executive Board	Strategy & management	**Chair**, Vice, + 3-5 Members
Secretariat	Support	Project Coordinator + Chairs

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ERIC Forum ExBo

ERIC Forum Chairs:

ERIC Forum Chair: Francisco Colomer (Director, JIVE ERIC) –

Physical Sciences and Engineering Cluster

ERIC Forum Vice-Chair: Anton Ussi (Operations and Finance Director,

EATRIS-ERIC) – **Health and Food Cluster**

ERIC Forum Executive Board Members:

Social Sciences and Humanities cluster: Franciska de Jong (Executive

Director, CLARIN-ERIC)

Life Sciences cluster: Wolfgang Fecke (Director General, EU-

OPENSCREEN ERIC)

Environment and Earth Sciences cluster: Juan Miguel Gonzalez

Aranda (Chief Technical Officer, LifeWatch ERIC)

ERIC FORUM

Mission of the ERIC Forum

- Internal:
  - Share best practices;
  - Identify common challenges;

- External:
  - Be the voice of the ERICs on all matters of common interest
  - Foster the visibility, impact and sustainability of ERICs
  - Contribute to the development of the ERIC regulation, ESFRI framework and European and international research context;

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▷ Our achievements

- ERIC Forum Implementation Project (2019-2022)

- *Joint* position papers

- *Joint* technical & innovation reps.
  - ERICs and RIS3, *EOSC*

- *Joint* policy briefs:
  - PB1: Funding models for access
  - PB2: Scaling projects through ERICs
  - *PB3: Socio-economic impact*

- Contribution to UN SDGs

ERIC Forum Position Papers

- ERIC Forum Position paper on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Research Infrastructures.
- ERIC Forum's written contribution to ERAC ad-hoc working group on the future of the ERA
- ERIC Forum's response to the ERAC Working Group on ERA Priorities and Goals.
- ERIC Forum position paper on Horizon Europe Mission Areas.
- ERIC Forum's contribution to the Open Consultation for the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).

ERIC Forum Policy Brief

Funding models for access to ERIC multinational / transnational services

September 2020

ERIC Forum has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N. 823798

ERICs' CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ERICs and RIs in ERA

Brussels, 30.9.2020
COM(2020) 628 final

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

A new ERA for Research and Innovation

{SWD(2020) 214 final}

New European Research Area – Towards a Responsible Knowledge-Driven Society of the 3rd Millennium

ERA for Research Infrastructures

Recommendations

Research infrastructures (RIs) are key elements of the European Research Area (ERA). Two years after its conception in 2000, the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) was established, mandated by the EU Council to support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy-making on research infrastructures in Europe and to facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to the better use and development of research infrastructures at the EU and international levels. Since then, a thriving system of over 50 European RIs has been established, among which 23 ERICs, mobilising approximately €20 billion investments across the EU. The system is complemented by

COM(2021) 407 final

2021/0230 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

on a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe

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ERICs and RIs in ERA

Council Conclusions– ERA Policy Agenda: Actions (1)

Deepening a truly functioning internal market for knowledge

1. Enable the open sharing of knowledge and the re-use of research outputs, including through the development of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)

2. Propose a EU copyright and data legislative and regulatory framework fit for research

3. Advance towards the reform of the Assessment System for research, researchers and institutions to improve their quality, performance and impact

4. Promote attractive and sustainable research careers, balanced talent circulation and international, transdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility across the ERA

5. Promote gender equality and foster inclusiveness, taking note of the Ljubljana declaration

6. Deepening the ERA through protecting academic freedom in Europe

7. Upgrade EU guidance for a better knowledge valorisation

8. Strengthen sustainability, accessibility and resilience of research infrastructures in the ERA

9. Promote a positive environment and level playing field for international cooperation based on reciprocity

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

10. Make EU R&I missions and partnerships key contributors to the ERA

11. An ERA for green transformation

7. Accelerate the green/digital transition of Europe's key industrial ecosystems

8. Empower Higher Education Institutions to develop in line with the ERA, and in synergy with the European Education Area

9. Bring Science closer to Citizens

European Commission

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Expert Group on ERIC (EGERIC) report

- Analysis of the implementation of the ERIC regulations, with issues and recommendations for:

  - ERICs

  - EU member states

  - European Commission

Summary Outcomes: issues
(& scope for improvement)

EGERIC

- Lack of overview and governance, both by the EC and by several Governments (but some do show best practice examples); lack of organized and comparable data
- Unfavourable employment frame, staff discriminated vs other EU Entities;
- Limited implementation of VAT (in particular on in-kind contributions)
- Lack of coherence between formal (statutes) and effective (reports) commitment of ERIC members (Governments) in distributed operations: possible effects on long term sustainability (some confusion with EU projects), and effects on the visibility and recognition of the ERICs;
- ERICs ready to develop services in EU projects and partnerships, but need specific support;
- Disconnect centre-to-periphery (at Governance and ERIC levels)
- Attractive to third Countries, but limits in formal participation

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Some technical suggestions

EGERIC

- National and EU evaluation and participation to projects should be equally open to ERICs as to national institutions/universities. Positive evaluation if they host an ERIC hub/node??
- Practical Guidelines should be extended to the operations phase and underline the best practices now available (e.g. on tax exemptions for in-kind contributions)
- A registry function, collecting and curating FAIR data on ERICs: it could be contracted (e.g. to an Agency or the ERIC Forum). Also, some expert-based joint support services could be developed in a cost-effective way.
- A template for the annual reports would help future assessments.
- An expert review of the existing Statutes could help to improve some and develop a more detailed reference template and a more coherent glossary
- Representing Entities should always be clearly given the exercise of specified rights and discharge of specified obligations
- Countries could agree on additional statute provisions not planned in the Regulation (for example on personnel) as done in International Organizations

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Recommendations I   (to MS and the EC)

EGERIC

Enhancing the scientific capability of the ERA:

A recurrent (yearly) appraisal based on standardised data should allow assessment, visibility, and effective "System Governance". The status of ERIC personnel and its mobility should be harmonized to that working for the EU. Training activities should be expanded throughout. Diversity at top level should be improved. Potential as multidisciplinary data aggregators should be supported. The use of structural funds and tax exemptions should be increased by implementing also through nodes.

Overcoming fragmentation, improving coordination and reinforcing Governance and Sustainability:

Set-up a knowledge based Governance of the ERIC system including distributed activities with a Register-like function supporting the ERIC Committee, ESFRI and ERIC Forum. Support development of joint multidisciplinary services. Implement ERIC synergies in projects and in R&D targets by all funding streams. Overcome duality between centres and peripheries and recognize hosting of ERIC activities.

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Recommendations II

EGERIC

Improving links with Society, Economy and Competitiveness:

Allow full interaction of ERICs with value adding organizations, recognize distributed activities at same level of their hosts. Dedicated investment in communication, dissemination and in TT should be available. Clustering and multidisciplinary responses as services to external requirements should be supported, while sharing resources. Overlap and potential conflict with hosting institutions should be solved by recognition of added values. The consortium legal frame could link more widely university and research systems.

Strengthening the global approach:

Full participation of distributed ERIC's hubs and nodes in missions and partnerships should be implemented by clear policies also on national funding. Focused support is recommended to guide ERICs potential towards SDGs and international challenges. Communication strategy should target global dimension. Clear guidelines should help Third Countries to enter ERICs as members.

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EF - ERIC Committee: collaboration

- <u>One voice:</u> collect and report the **position** of all ERICs on future matters of common interest linked to the ERIC Regulation
  - ERICs implement the Regulation every day !

- <u>Honest broker:</u> ERIC Forum can help the ERIC Committee to liaise with all ERICs
  - Maintain a **registry**, documentation, monitoring and evaluation tools

- <u>Symbiotic:</u> ERIC Committee can also help ERICs !
  - MS partner in an ERIC can help **new accessions** (of other MS / to other ERICs) in discussions at the ERIC Committee
  - Ensuring the **eligibility** of ERICs in national/regional funding calls
  - "ERIC label" to increase the interest of collaboration, e.g. by industry

For discussion

- Role of ERIC Forum
  - Representation, governance of diversity
  - Help ERA policy and inform of position, data registry, etc.

- Impact and contribution to challenges & Missions
  - Research performing vs. Science facilitator service organisations
  - Access !
  - Attracting third countries for global communities

- Communication and visibility (of ERICs, nodes, actions, impact)
  - In Member States
  - Interaction with Universities (for nodes), ERIC personnel
  - Tax exception: for members, for in-kind