

**Press release:** Initiation of the second consultation phase of the CIMULACT project

**Location:** Offline and online in 30 countries across Europe

<http://www.cimulact.eu/partners/>

**When:** From now until October 9th 2016



## Responsible research requires dialogue

**More than a thousand citizens and a variety of other actors will in the coming months be consulted in a large-scale effort to have citizens setting the direction for European research.**

Citizens, stakeholders, experts and policy-makers will during this autumn be consulted across Europe in an attempt to make research more compliant with societal needs and concerns. The effort involves 30 national face-to-face consultations as well as an online consultation.

The consultations are made as a part of the second phase of the CIMULACT (Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation on Horizon2020) project which aim is to engage citizens in redefining EU's research and innovation agenda.

### It begins with responsible funding

The European Commission's budget for research and innovation for the period 2014-2020 sums up to €70 billion. The funding process is directed through a number of work programmes that each define an area of interest. Each work programme holds a number of topics with a call text that researchers can apply funding for.

*"If we want to lead European research in the direction where citizens find that it solves their problems and fulfill their needs, then we have to have calls that are based on these needs",* says Lars Klüver, Director of the Danish Board of Technology Foundation, who coordinates the project.

The goal is therefore to gather citizen's needs and concerns in a form that can easily be transformed into EU research topics.

### Bridging the gap between science and society

In the first phase of the CIMULACT project the citizens made visions where they expressed their needs and concerns for the future. Hereafter a variety of actors including citizens, stakeholders, experts and the project partners made the visions into research scenarios.

*"Now we ask citizens, stakeholders and experts to look at that and make it even better, so it lives up to their needs and solves their concerns",* explains Lars Klüver.

The European Commission has followed the project closely from its beginning, and Lars Klüver reads this as an important signal:

*"These kinds of projects will and really can have big impact on European research and innovation funding programmes."*

