



Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje



# HORIZON EUROPE

## *Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence*

6 July 2021 | 13:00 – 15:30  
Online via WebEx

*Under the **patronage of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU**, the Slovenian Business and Research Association in Brussels (SBRA), the European Office of Cyprus – Brussels Office, NCBR Office in Brussels – Business & Science Poland, Eötvös Loránd University and the National Research, Development and Innovation Office in Hungary have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the virtual information event on **Horizon Europe: Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence**.*

*This virtual event will focus on the **research communities of the widening countries**: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.*

*In the **first part**, the Slovenian presidency and the representative of the research organisation will present their views on the importance of the widening programme.*

*The **second part** of the event, will be dedicated to the presentation of the **experiences of the previous widening projects and the discussion on how to best achieve the following key objectives** of the Horizon Europe Widening participation programme:*

- 1. Encourage institutional reforms and transformation processes of the R&I system at national and regional level in widening countries in line with ERA principles;*
- 2. Mobilise national investments in R&I capacity in widening countries;*
- 3. Raise the bar for excellence of R&I actors in widening countries in partnership with outstanding European and international institutions ('win-win situation');*
- 4. Increase number of participations and success rates of widening actors in research and innovation projects in other parts of Horizon Europe (notably in pillars 2 and 3);*
- 5. Promote the creation of new innovation ecosystems and scale up existing ones by a set of measures, which include, among other, place based and international collaboration between academia and business in widening countries;*
- 6. Foster brain circulation, including inter-sectoral mobility for researchers and innovators and turn it into brain gain for widening countries.*

In the **third part** of the event , the first two destinations of the working programme **Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area** will be presented:

1. *Improved access to excellence;*
2. *Attracting and mobilising the best talents.*

The deadline for registration is 5 July 2021. Please register at:  
<https://www.sbra.be/en/content/widening-participation-and-spreading-excellence>

## Draft Programme

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13:00 Welcome by the Moderators & Organisers

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13:10 PART 1: IMPORTANCE OF THE WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING OF EXCELLENCE

- *Tanja Vertelj, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia, Slovenian Presidency to the EU*
- *Dr. Gregor Anderluh, director, National Institute of Chemistry, Slovenia*

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13:30 PART 2: WIDENING PARTICIPATION: PAST EXPERIENCE AND WAY FORWARD

*Round table:*

- *Justyna Olko, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Research and Practice in Cultural Continuity, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw*
- *Tamás Kozsik, Eötvös Loránd University*
- *Marios Demetriades, Director of Research and Innovation Support Service at the University of Cyprus and Executive Director of the European Office of Cyprus*
- *Mike Burnard, InnoRenew CoE, Slovenia*

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14:30 PART 3: PRESENTATION OF THE WORKIING PROGRAMME WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

- *Manuel Aleixo, Acting Head of Unit, ERA Governance and Implementation (RTD.A.2)*

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15:15 Discussion

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15:30 Conclusions & closing remarks

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Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union