



Guild Perspectives on FP9

Paramount Questions and Issues of the upcoming FP9

The Vision

1. Europe is at a crossroads – research and innovation must respond to sense of uncertainty by
 - a. Engaging with social/economic inequality and cultural tensions
 - b. Developing ways to engage citizens in social and economic innovation
 - c. Ensure that European research and innovation is intelligible and plausible to the Citizen
2. Investment in R&I will lead to economic growth – but there is no direct link between particular expenditure and a pre-defined outcome
3. Outstanding research and education is based on an exchange of ideas – there is a particular added value to expenditure on research, innovation and education at the EU level

Guiding Principles for R&I Funding:

- There cannot be a compromise on Excellence – but we must build capacity and benefit from different perspectives in the pursuit of excellence
- Autonomy for research organisations and the researcher
- Collaboration to exchange ideas and best practice key to EU added value
- Problems must be addressed (e.g. salaries, growing funding gap EU13/15)
- R&I Funding must be more closely aligned with other parts of the EU budget – notably ESIF and International Cooperation and Development Funding. Key to funding allocations: excellence, not short-term policy objectives.

Strategic Objectives of the next Framework Programme

- Global Sustainable Development Goals
 - More international collaboration; legitimacy for research; more input from the whole scientific spectrum (SSH)
- Support Excellence (ERC, MSCA, etc)
- Strengthen Widening Instruments, e.g.:
 - mainstreaming (ERC, MSCA)
 - Ensuring effectiveness of existing Actions
 - Improve leverage effect on national systems
- More bottom-up calls
 - Strengthen Europe's Regions through research, teaching, innovation

Key Opportunities:

1. Create an FP that citizens understand and support
2. Address issues of growth, inequality, social exclusion – that matter
3. Support excellent science as key EU value-add (ERC, MSCA)
4. Build up social engagement of science and innovation
5. Build capacity for excellence across Europe, in the interest of all

Key Concerns:

1. The politics of simplicity: ‘Citizen Science’ and ‘Impact’
2. Innovation: how will be manage this, and what is the role of the EIC?
3. Defense Budget: part of FP9 or not?
4. ‘Complexity and Low Success Rates: how do we address these?’