

Commission proposal for **Horizon Europe**

THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION
PROGRAMME (2021 – 2027)

#HorizonEU

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Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in Horizon Europe (HE)

Horizon Europe

Investing to shape our future

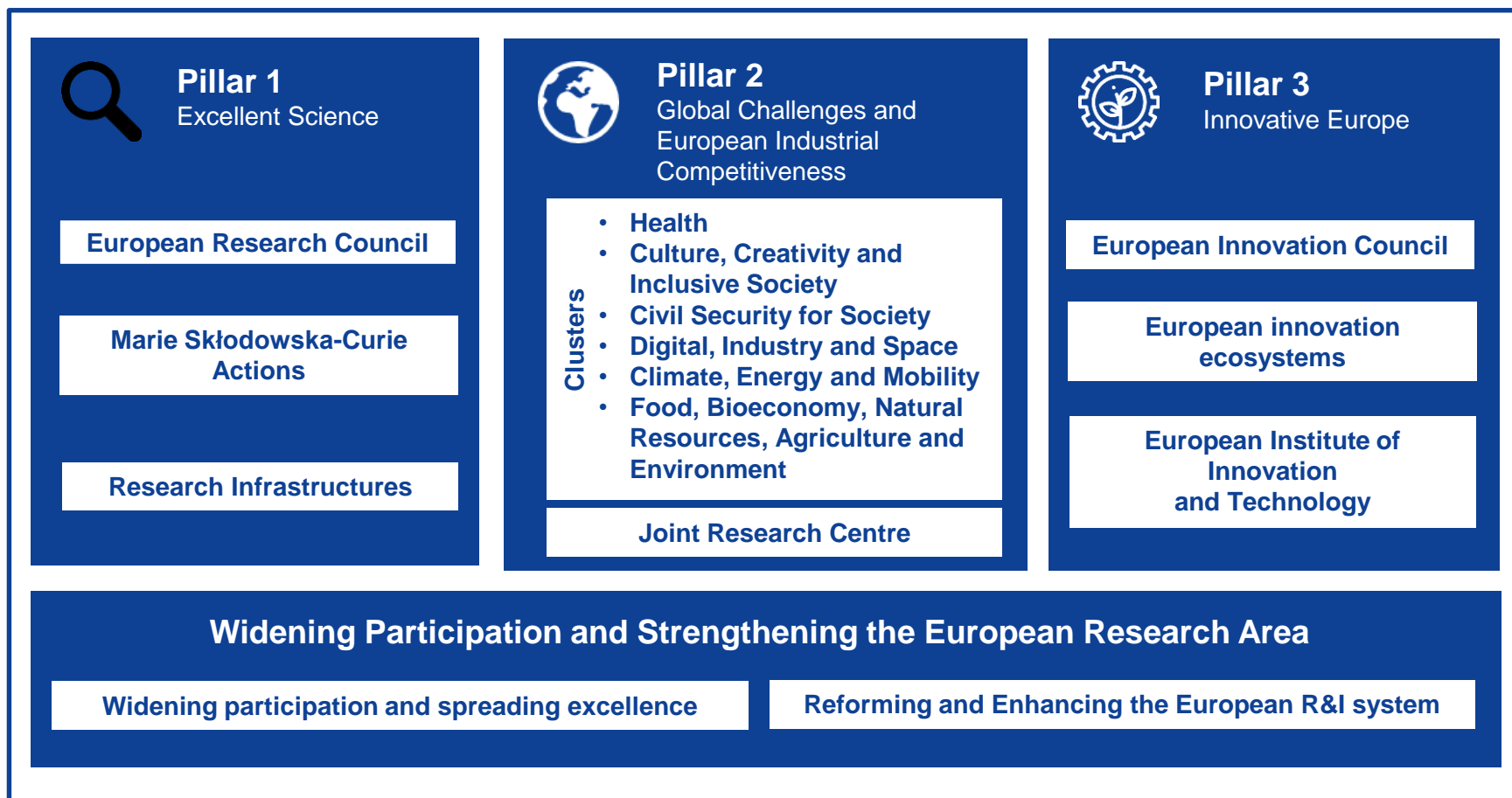
A sustainable, fair and **prosperous** future for **people** and **planet** based on European values.

- Tackling **climate change** (35 % budgetary target)
- Helping to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals**
- Boosting the Union's **competitiveness and growth**



→ **Enabling societal, economic & ecological transitions**

Horizon Europe: Preliminary structure



Clusters in 'Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness'

Clusters	Areas of intervention	
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health throughout the life course • Non-communicable and rare diseases • Tools, technologies and digital solutions for health and care, including personalised medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and social health determinants • Infectious diseases, including poverty-related and neglected disease • Health care systems
Culture, creativity and inclusive society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy and Governance • Social and economic transformations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture, cultural heritage and creativity
Civil security for society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster-resilient societies • Protection and Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cybersecurity
Digital, Industry and space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing technologies • Advanced materials • Next generation internet • Circular industries • Space, including Earth Observation • Emerging enabling technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key digital technologies, including quantum technologies • Artificial Intelligence and robotics • Advanced computing and Big Data • Low-carbon and clean industry • Emerging enabling technologies
Climate, Energy and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate science and solutions • Energy systems and grids • Communities and cities • Industrial competitiveness in transport • Smart mobility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy supply • Buildings and industrial facilities in energy transition • Clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility • Energy storage
Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental observation • Agriculture, forestry and rural areas • Circular systems • Food systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and natural resources • Seas, oceans and inland waters • Bio-based innovation systems in the EU Bioeconomy

Co-creation and co-design process for SSH integration

- Very useful network of SSH liaison officers in RTD and associated DGs, crucial for SSH embedding across H2020
- For the 2020 WPs up-date: crucial informal pre-consultation with SSH liaison officers on initial inter-disciplinary input into WPs and co-creation of SSH related topics (October-November 2018), inclusion of drafting suggestions
- Also key role of formal consultation phase and active involvement of unit B6 in this process inside DG RTD (December 2018-February 2019) for second round of SSH integration comments for topic drafters

Indication of SSH Evolution 2019-2020

- Total increase in the share of SSH flagged topics from c. 41 % in 2019 to possibly c. 46% in 2020 (+5 pp year on year)
- Very strong foreseeable differences between SCs, with SC6 still in first position but other SCs gradually improving
- Important variations from 2019 to 2020 for certain sectoral areas: e.g. notable increase in potential SSH flagging for health and climate, as well as energy and transport areas

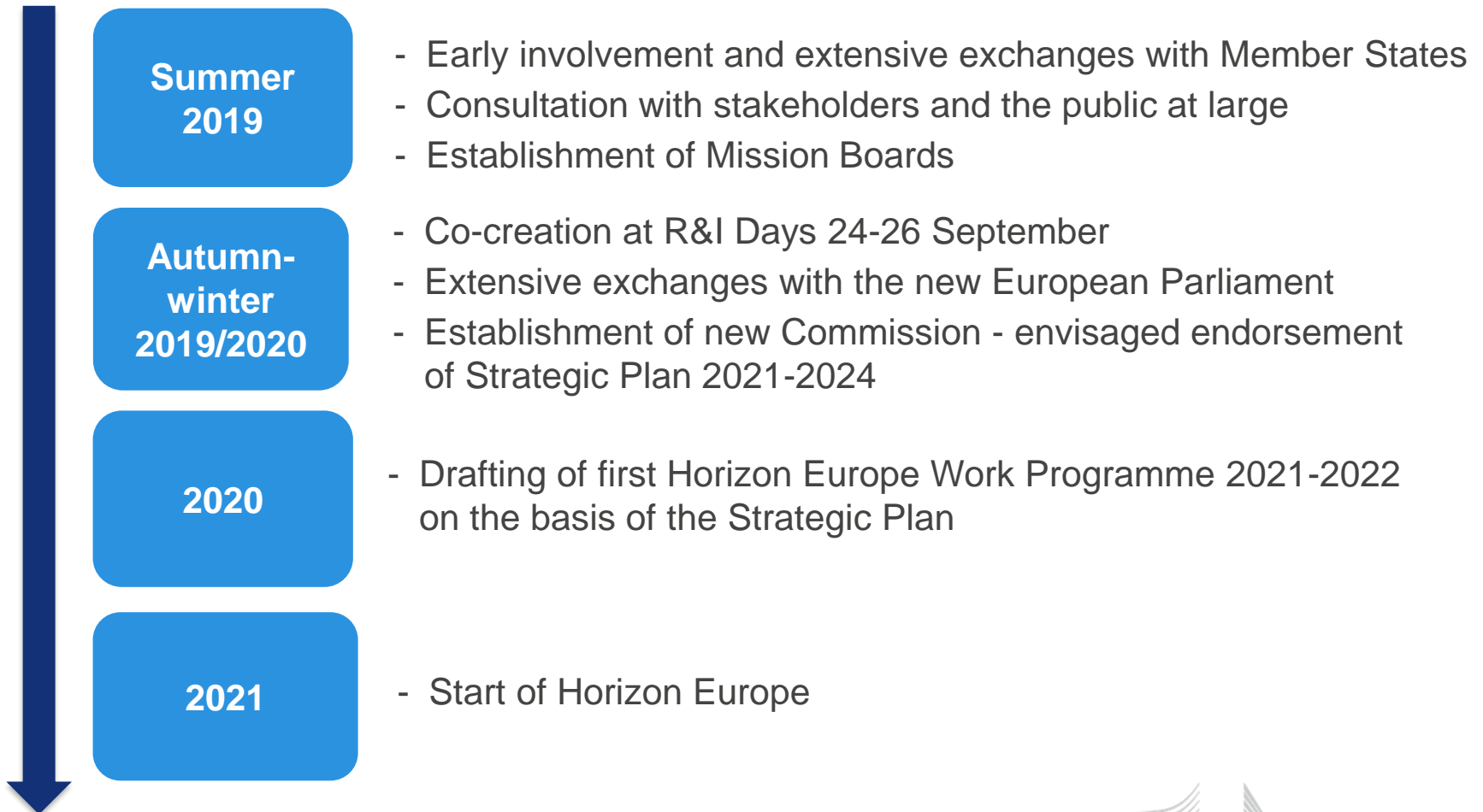
Horizon Europe and SSH

- Inside and across Clusters, including Missions (social, economic, cultural, human aspects are essential for both impact and relevance)
- Continued monitoring while broadening the scope (the ambition is to cover practically the whole of Horizon 2020 and in the future Horizon Europe)
- Interdisciplinary approach and collaboration between STEM and SSH
- SSH monitoring is a precursor across the current programme for monitoring of key cross-cutting issue

Integration of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)

Public Consultation on Strategic Planning Orientations in Horizon Europe – Main Preliminary Results

Steps towards the first Horizon Europe work programme



Overview

- Public **on-line consultation** opened from July to 4. October with over 7,000 contributions on the **Horizon Europe Orientations for Strategic Planning**
- For SSH circa 250-300 contributions, out of which 60-70 are **very meaningful and fundamental for the future**
- First ever **EU R&I Days** in Brussels on 24-26 September: SSH session and EU village, strong interest in SSH from the public

In general terms for SSH

- 51% of survey respondents strongly support the view that social sciences and humanities (SSH) **play a key role across clusters** and that they strongly contribute to increasing the scientific, economic and societal impacts of Horizon Europe.
- This statement is also corroborated in relation with a certain **number of key SDGs**, in this respect e.g. as much as 73% of respondents strongly support the importance of the generalised access to quality education and training
- Fully in line with the Sibiu Declaration **future priorities** of the Union and the main orientations of the future political agenda of the Commission

New elements and main novelties

- A number of respondent clearly stressed the need to gradually move away from a monitoring of SSH integration into the current programme to a **more meaningful societal impact** based approach in the future for HE in order to assess the imprint of SSH
- A relatively significant number of respondents also have pointed out to the necessity of including SSH **even more prominently in the missions** and to some extent also in the future partnerships, as there is yet no SSH centred mission as such (e.g. on socio-economic inequalities).
- They see this improvement as a pre-requisite for a **comprehensive and multi and/or inter-disciplinary approach**

Integration of SSH

Main features

Key notions

- Call for an **enhanced role of SSH** in HE in comparison to H2020
- The presence of SSH related elements **more visible and more systematic**, e.g. in all work programmes and all calls for proposals under HE.
- The need for the strengthening of the existing **SSH stakeholder communities** through structured networking and capacity building activities.
- Advocating for a broader approach to interdisciplinarity in order to modernise the research agenda and make HE a **more innovative and creative programme** in this respect.
- Addressing societal challenges, e.g. such as climate adaptation needs, will require a more intense the use of **behavioural sciences** (i.e.. sociology, psychology)

Specific Ideas

- Interest in exploring and spreading **good practices** of SSH integration, based on successful ventures and examples from the Member States research and science programmes, as well as individual H2020 projects
- Stress on the key notion of future development of **more far-reaching interdisciplinarity**, combining STEM and SSH research fields, particularly learning lessons from the past (e.g. historical and geographical conditions), in order to address emerging societal challenges of the future and ensuring a more cohesive society
- Relevance and importance of **social innovation** which is closely related to SSH, especially in terms of socio-economic novel solutions for integration and inclusion
- Emphasis on more **human centric** and less technology centric focus in HE, e.g. in relation to cluster 1 and a patient centric approach to health R&I

A few quotes...

- *“SSH should be pushed forward into a driver-seat in addressing grand challenges and in implementing mission-oriented research in Horizon Europe.” Centre for Social Innovation*
- *“As this is a hearts and minds issue, interdisciplinarity will be important here: systemic, creative approaches.” Prof.Dr. Christa-Maria Lerm Hayes*
- *“We need: Better knowledge of the behavioural, socio-economic and demographic change to drive sustainability”. AIT Austrian Institute of Technology - Centre for Mobility*