



Advancing Nursing Research

ENRF UPDATE

November 2018



Dear ENRF colleagues and Friends,

This is a very crucial moment for the EU research future, with national governments and MEPs debating on the [long-term EU budget](#).

The European Commission's proposal for the next Research Framework Programme – Horizon Europe – has given an important signal on the EU vision for

the future of research in Europe. Three million nurses in the EU are in real need of concrete support to nursing research to inform health and social policies in Europe.

We strongly believe that nursing research is of paramount importance to develop fit-for-purpose health and social policies. Therefore, the ENRF calls on national and EU policy-makers to provide further support to nursing research and policies placing the patient at the centre of care, with the nurses playing a central role in the coordination and integration. In particular, the ENRF calls on the Member States and the EU Parliament to consider the need of a accessible health and social care for EU citizens in their negotiations for the EU budget.

Within this context, the ENRF is committed to promote nursing research and invite all institutes and organisations carrying out research activities to [join](#) and enrich our research network!

Karen Bjørø
ENRF President

Nursing Now! EFN becoming the European Region



Lord Nigel Crisp joined the EFN General Assembly announcing that EFN has become the European lead of the Campaign. Elisabeth noted the Nursing Now Campaign represents a very unique opportunity to make a difference and leave a legacy for the future of

nursing. Lord Crisp reminded the Members that 'Nursing Now' is a 3-year campaign undertaken in collaboration with ICN and WHO, with 16 countries on its Board and active groups in over 50 countries. He also noted his gratitude to the RCN for supporting the Campaign secretariat with office space. Lord Crisp noted that building on the Campaign the World Health Assembly in 2020 will be centred on Nursing, which represents an important policy opportunity. Lord Crisp discussed the focus points of the Campaign specifically around advocating for policy changes to make nurses central to achieving universal health coverage, developing primary health care, and tackling non-communicable diseases. Making 2020 the year of nursing, and the year of change and celebration becomes a historic moment for nursing globally.

ENRF News

ENRF President at the EFN GA



During the 108th EFN General Assembly held in Slovakia in October, the ENRF President, Karen Bjørø, presented the latest developments of the ENRF work to the EFN Members. In this occasion, the ENRF President mainly focused on the ongoing developments of the Foundation, and

the Foundation SORP 2017-2020.

ENRF Board Directors meeting

On 26 October, the ENRF Directors (Dorota Kilanska – Poland, Kate Seers, UK) and ENRF President (Karen Bjørø, Norway) hold their annual online meeting to discuss the ENRF current and future priorities. The Directors focused mainly on the governance of the Foundation and the next steps forward, exploring the future strategy of the ENRF, especially now all National Reference Points provided input to how to visualise and empower nursing research in the EU.

EU News

EU funding opportunities after 2021

The European Parliament and the Council of Ministers are still negotiating the proposal on the future EU Research Programme for 2021 – 2027. The EU funds on health proposed by the European Commission include:

- Horizon Europe: investment on health and health research are included under the second pillar “global challenges and industrial competitiveness”, cluster health. The proposed budget for this pillar foresees more than 25 billion euro, with 7.7 billion euro to the health cluster. The six main areas of intervention are: health through the life course; environment and social health determinants; non-communicable and rare diseases; healthcare systems; infectious diseases; digital tools.
- Digital Europe programme, a budget of 9.2 billion euro is proposed to shape and support the digital transformation of Europe's society and economy. The programme includes the use of digital technologies in areas of public interest, including health.
- The ESF+, that will integrate the current EU health programme within the “health strand” (413 million euro). The reason for this integration is the aim to enhance the link between health and social issues and having better coordination with all health-related investments in shared funding.

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The UK can still be part of H2020

The UK and the EU are taking steps forward in reaching an agreement on Brexit. Recent discussions are including the position of UK researchers currently involved in H2020 projects. The discussed draft deal guarantees the British participation in H2020 with the UK paying for any British researchers whose EU grants have been approved up to the end of the current EU programme. In particular, the [draft withdrawal agreement](#) published on November 14 states that “During the transition period, any reference to Member States... shall be understood as including the United Kingdom.” This implies that the UK will retain all the rights it currently has - so long as the deal is approved by the UK parliament and the EU 27 Member States.

Future of research after Brexit

With the draft Brexit agreement under negotiations between the EU and the UK, the future of the UK participation to the EU next research programme, Horizon Europe, is still unknown. The most feasible solution seems to rely on the negotiations of an “associate country” status for that programme, as Switzerland, Norway and 14 other countries already do. According to an [analysis](#) prepared by the UK government, under current rules, the UK post-Brexit would be allowed to take part in “calls open to third country participation.” But they will no longer be able to apply for three major EU funding programmes: the European Research Council, some parts of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship programme and the SME Instrument, because EU rules say scientists applying for these competitions must be based at host institutions that are legal entities in the EU or associated countries.

Further decision will be taken only after Brexit will take place, on 29 March 2019.

Updates in the H2020 final calls



The European Commission has adopted a decision to update the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, with amendments to different parts of the Work Programme for 2019. In particular, the revised Work Programme includes new calls for [Future and Emerging Technologies \(FET\)](#) activities in High Performance Computing and future battery technologies.

EU to fund more social innovation

The European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, has recently emphasised the importance of [social innovation](#), toward which the EU will devote greater attention and funding. Namely, the Commissioner has declared that “In the European Union, we are going to put more money into social innovation, not because it’s trendy, but because we believe that the future of innovation is about social innovation”.

Institutional policies on open access to research

The [European University Association](#) (EUA) had developed a survey on the degree of implementation of institutional policies on open access to research publications and research data, as well as research data management (RDM). The survey revealed that institutional policies on open access to research publications are already implemented in 62% of universities. Moreover, results also show that the majority of universities need more skilled staff, across a range of different areas (e.g. technical, legal, research) to better deal with RDM and open access to research data.

EU science leaders call for more funding to compete internationally

The presidents of six European science organisations jointly call for more funding to finance top-quality scientific research in order to boost European competitiveness and cooperation. In particular, the Presidents of Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft, Leibniz-Gemeinschaft and Max-Planck-Gesellschaft called on policy makers to promote excellence, to go beyond the improvement of existing technologies. Another crucial priority of the group is the need to safeguard the European Research Council.

Many pharma industries leave AMR research

Several large pharmaceuticals companies have been distancing themselves from the development of antimicrobial. Currently, Allergan and AstraZeneca have already suspended their antibiotic research program, GlaxoSmithKline has put its antibiotics assets under review, and Medicines and Sanofi shifted their antimicrobial portfolio to other, small companies. The last announcement has come from Novartis, that has announced that is [ending antibacterial and antiviral research](#) to “prioritise resources”.

With some exceptions

Meanwhile, the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) has launched



a new [Antimicrobial Resistance Accelerator Programme](#). The new IMI AMR Accelerator aims to progress the development of new treatments and vaccines for resistant bacterial infections. The programme is composed of three pillars: A Capability Building Network will coordinate the program and carry out research to strengthen the scientific basis in the AMR field; the Tuberculosis Drug Development Network will work to accelerate the discovery of new combinations of drugs to treat Tuberculosis; and Portfolio Building Networks will support collaborative efforts to discover, develop and advance new and innovative agents to prevent or treat AMR. The IMI AMR Accelerator is part of the latest IMI Calls for proposals, which have a total budget of €434 million.

Progress in preventing AMR

A report (FAO-OIE-WHO) highlights that [countries are making substantial progress](#) in tackling the growing issue of antimicrobial resistance, however, serious gaps still remain and require urgent action.