



Advancing Nursing Research

ENRF Newsletter November 2019

Dear ENRF colleagues and Friends,

Nursing research has the power to shape EU policy making into something with a stronger focus on evidence-based decision making. The ENRF is ready to serve as a platform for these researchers to coordinate with each other and to obtain information on the latest news and funds relating to the nursing profession. It is key that we all take on this endeavour together to improve the lives of patients and people across Europe.

We are living in times in which our healthcare systems are under growing pressures coming from several factors – ageing populations, the rise of people living with chronic diseases, co-morbidities, and more. Nurses, by default, are used to embracing innovation in healthcare as far as it is fit-for-purpose and leads to people-centred-care. Nursing researchers are in the privileged position of being between those two “worlds”, bridging innovation to clinical practice, and ensuring its right adoption.

Moreover, the European Parliament, together with the European Commission, is fine-tuning the next research programme of the EU: Horizon Europe. For this research and innovation framework programme an initial agreement between institutions has been signed. This programme will provide €100 billion to fund research in the EU, for the period 2021-2017.

The ENRF continues committed informing and influencing the European Commission and European Parliament and as such bringing nursing research to the frontline of excellence and impact.

Paul De Raeve
ENRF Secretary General

ENRF News

The future objectives for EU-funded research and innovation

The ENRF participated in an open consultation by the European Commission on the future objectives for EU-funded research and innovation. With the interest of nursing researchers in mind, the input provided in this consultation aimed at identifying the most pressing challenges that EU-funded research and innovation should tackle in the upcoming future. The outcome of this consultation is expected to shape the distribution of funds within the upcoming Horizon Europe programme. Further details on this consultation are available [here](#).

EU Health Programme

The EU Health Programme is a funding instrument of the EU fostering cooperation among the EU Members States with the aim of further fostering and developing EU health activities. The third edition of the EU Health Programme has a budget of €449.4 million, and will cover the timeframe 2021-2027.

Last October, a high-level conference on the EU Health Programme was organised in Brussels, with the presence of the outgoing EU Commissioner for Health Vytenis Andriukaitis, and the Deputy Director-General of DG Sante, Martin Seychell. The ENRF was present at this event, networking with EU and healthcare stakeholders, highlighting the importance of investing in nursing research to tackle the health problems of the EU’s population, and exploring ways for nursing researchers to get EU funds that benefit them. Further information on the EU Health Programme is available [here](#). An ENRF Briefing Note was published on this topic. You can read it [here](#).

EU News

European Parliament’s Research Committee expected to choose new leadership

MEP Cristian Buşoi, member of Romania’s National Liberal Party, is expected to be designated as chair of the Committee on Industry, Research, and Energy (a.k.a. ITRE) - the main committee in charge of the Horizon European research programme last stages of the negotiations before approval with the European Commission. Cristian Buşoi holds a PhD in public health. He is currently Vice-Chair of the committee on environment, public health and food safety. More information on his career is available [here](#).

Roadmap for Innovation

Healthcare transformation is the product of a shared vision between a broad range of stakeholders to establish the future of care delivery and to develop new patient-centred, evidence-driven models in which value is rewarded over volume. These and other are tackled in the roadmap for innovation, which highlights digital health and big data. The full roadmap is available [here](#).

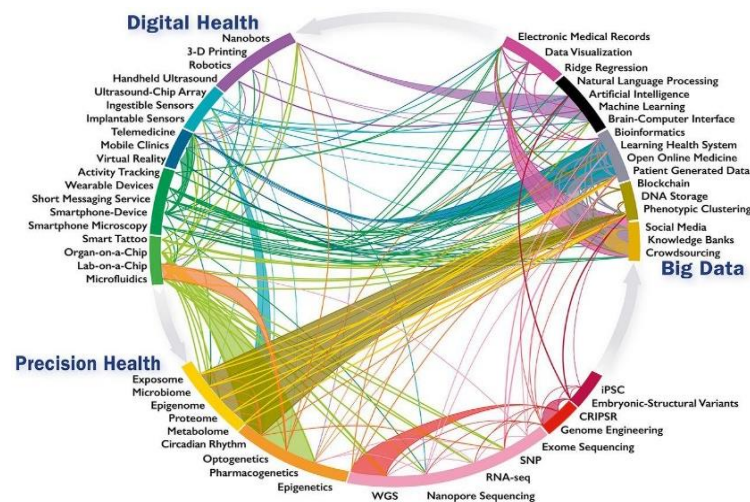


Figure: “Few innovations in healthcare”

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Top networkers in Horizon 2020

The [Horizon 2020 research programme](#) requires that partners build strong transnational consortiums before applying for research funds. That is, only collaborative projects including several countries can be accepted for funding. However, data show that some countries are more proactive and successful than others when building these. The most common collaborations include Germany, France, the UK, Italy, and Spain.

Of course, this brings an opportunity for nursing researchers at those countries to build alliances and get enrolled in consortiums applying for EU funds. However, nursing researchers from smaller countries should also get more active in getting these funds, whether if they build alliances among them, or with bigger more experienced players.

In the following chart, you can see some interesting patterns on which countries are keener to collaborate with who.

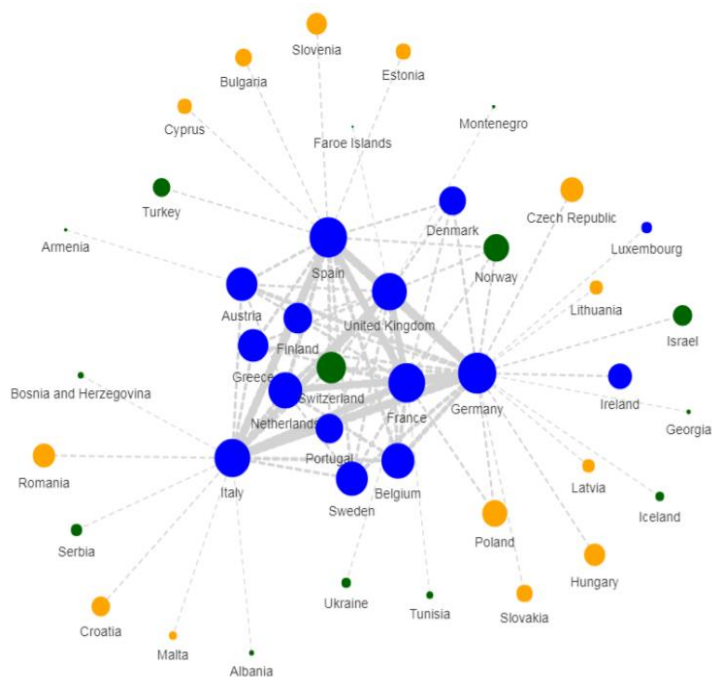


Figure: "Structure of the Horizon 2020 collaboration network"

Research funding agencies in central Europe team up to boost regional cooperation

The [Austrian Science Fund](#), the [Czech Science Foundation](#), [Poland's National Science Centre](#) and the [Slovenian Research Agency](#) have all formed a new partnership with the aim to boost research cooperation in their countries via joint funding and the evaluation of cross-border research projects. This new partnership has been named as the Central European Science Partnership (CEUS). These four agencies have agreed on opening the way for researchers in central Europe to form cross-border collaborations and propose bilateral or trilateral research projects. More information on the CEUS is available [here](#).

'Research' reinstated in job title of the EU Research and Development Commissioner

The elected Bulgarian Commissioner for research, Mariya Gabriel, will finally see the word "research" added to her job title, after intense pressure from the EU stakeholders to the incoming President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen. **Mariya Gabriel will now be Commissioner for Research, Innovation, Education, Culture & Youth.** More information on Mariya Gabriel is available [here](#).

Interesting Reading

Europe 2024: A new health agenda

The [Science|Business network](#) has put together an expert roundtable with the mission to set out recommendations for the health agenda of Europe for the period 2019-2024. This proposed agenda is supposed to boost the resilience, equity and sustainability of Europe's healthcare systems.



The published report addresses the questions of how the European institutions can help healthcare systems to innovate while maintaining quality and delivering the economic benefits of a healthy population and a strong life sciences sector. The report can be requested for free [here](#).

Meta-analysis of Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation

The [Joint Research Centre of the European Commission](#) has published a study entitled "Meta-analysis of Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation", considering priorities and policy measures, that review and elaborate a meta-analysis of Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation. It focuses on the priorities identified by regions/countries, and policy measures at the regional and national levels. This report is available in PDF [here](#).

The State of Health in the EU

The 'State of the Health in the EU' initiative aims at making health system information, expertise and best practices easily accessible to policymakers and everyone who helps to shape health policies. It gathers the latest evidence on health and captures it in a series of concise, digestible reports. Further information, as well as a video, are available [here](#).

