

## **ENRF Briefing Note**

## Horizon 2020 – a European Country Analysis

The European Commission has published a country report providing information on how each of the EU countries

(and some other countries associated to EU research funds) have benefitted from the EU Research and Innovation (R&I) policies and funds—and more concretely the Horizon2020 programme. These country reports are accessible via an interactive dashboard here.

After clicking on a specific country, a full set of choices providing further information on that country displays for the user – depending on the country, there is a maximum of six options.



In the first row of categories, readers can further deep into is the are the R&I Observatory (a.k.a. RIO) country reports – these provide an analysis of the R&I system covering the economic context, main actors, funding trends and human resources, policies, and national and regional smart specialisation strategies. Most of the data is collected from Eurostat (the official statistical office of the EU).

Following, the European Semester information concerning R&I is accessible. The European Semester is the EU's



annual cycle of economic policy coordination. It provides an updated overview of strengths and weaknesses, as well as areas to improve. Lastly, still in the first row, one can see the key indicators covering the four innovation dimensions (Inputs-Investments, Framework Conditions, Innovation Outputs and Impact). Again, these are all based on Eurostat's findings and are all accompanied by interactive visualisations.

The second row of categories continues providing useful information for nurse researchers and interested readers. The first thing readers can access is the <u>European Research Area</u> (a.k.a. ERA) dashboard. The ERA is a unified research area which is open to the world and based on the internal market that enables free circulation of researchers, scientific knowledge and technology. More concretely, the link dashboard's function is to allow for an easy comparison of the implementation of the ERA across the EU Member States. Then, the "Library" section displays national policy documents and other information focusing on areas of relevance for R&I policies. Lastly, by clicking on "Organisations" readers can access a list of relevant organisations within the national R&I system together with a short description on these. This last category is certainly useful for nurse researchers in the look for fellow peers and stakeholders with whom to liaise in their own country or abroad.

Having all this information compiled in one single place is an excellent opportunity for nurse researchers to compare countries with each other – from Europe and beyond. If they are considering moving to another country to conduct their research activities there, they can fine-tune their search based on their interests and look for other organisations, funds, stakeholders, etc.

In addition to that, nurse researchers can also take a look at how the country they are based-in scores in the different areas of related R&I and, accordingly, try to push the national nursing research community to improve

even further and ultimately reach impact and excellence.

One of the main take-aways that ENRF reference points and nurse researchers should keep in mind after reading this briefing note is that there are a lot of opportunities at the EU level to fund their research activities and that these funds are accessible for all. In a similar vein, the EFN has published other Briefing Notes on the <u>EU Health Programme and how it links to nursing research</u>, as well as on the <u>Lump Sum Pilot (a simplified H2020 funding)</u>. All of

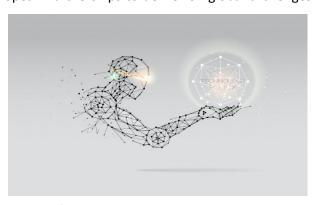


these come in a context in which nursing research is more needed than ever before. Europe's healthcare systems are going through a process of profound transformation driven, first and foremost, by the digitalisation of healthcare. This phenomenon is an answer to other underlying problems such as the ageing populations, the growing number of patients living with chronic diseases, and the scarce financial resources.



Nursing researchers could monitor the development and application of the next EU's the next research and innovation framework programme – Horizon Europe. This programme is expected to be an ambitious €100 billion research and innovation programme to succeed Horizon 2020. Investing in research and innovation is investing in Europe's future, in knowledge and new solutions to maintain and improve the European way of life. Horizon Europe will support European Partnerships to deliver on global challenges

and industrial modernisation through concerted R&I effort with the Member States, private sector, foundations and other stakeholders. Emerging technologies with strong market potential and prospects for improving productivity and creating socially beneficial solutions are of great interest for Research and Innovation policymakers. Today Innovation Policymaking is based on a limited set of information from publications, patents and research data (s. Innovation Scoreboard). To better understand the development of new technology ecosystems, policymakers need detailed and appropriate indicators from the end-



user to co-design the European way of life. Nursing research is therefore key. The nursing research community is in a position to provide Members of the European Parliament with timely and solid information from the healthcare ecosystem with the aim to align innovation policies across Europe.



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European Nursing Research Foundation (ENRF)
Registration Number: 0533.978.961
Clos du Parnasse 11B, 1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 2 511 34 84 - Fax: +32 2 512 35 50
Email: enrf@enrf.eu – Web: www.enrf.eu