



EUROHORCs

EUROPEAN HEADS OF RESEARCH COUNCILS



Prague, 4 May 2009

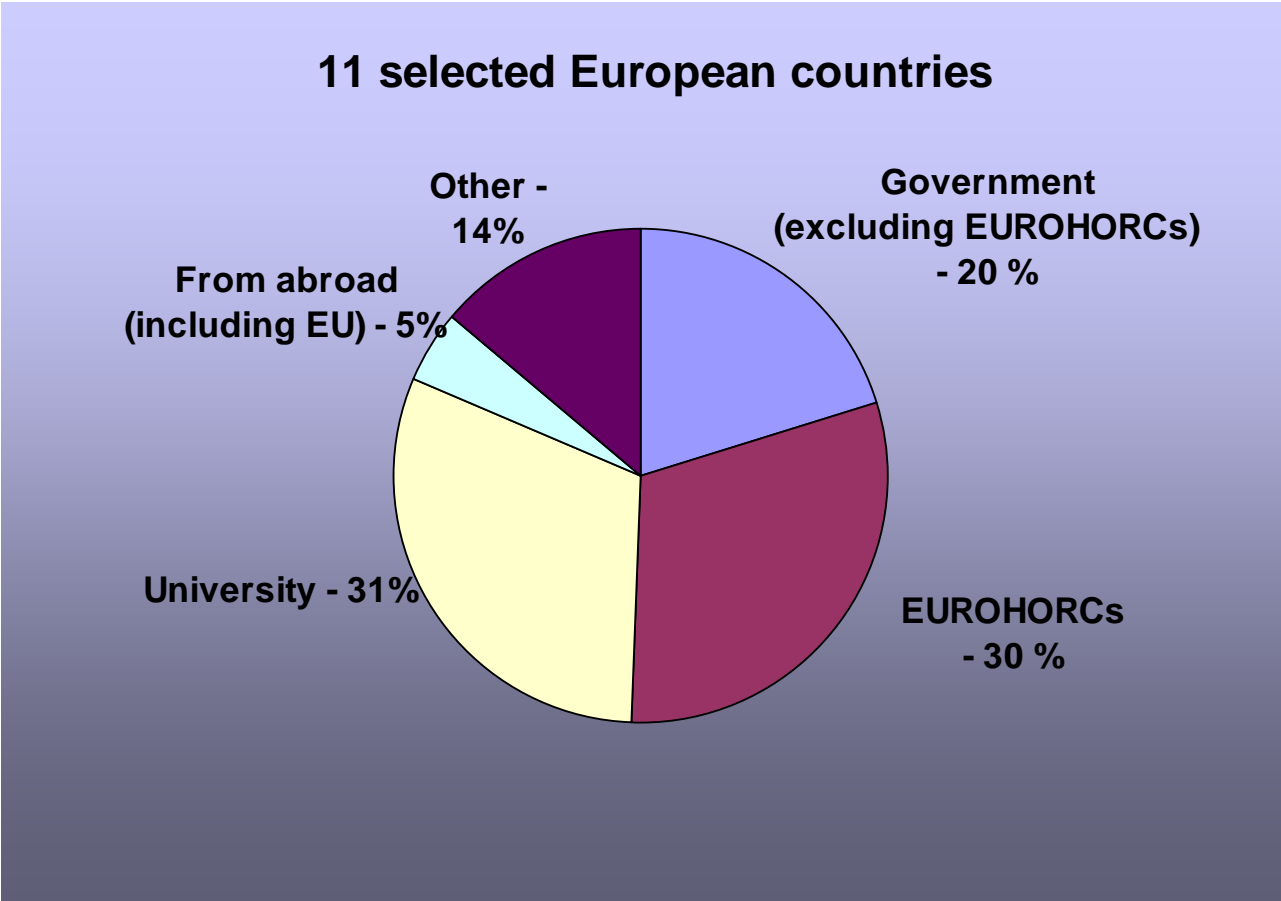
Towards the Vision 2020: Role and Challenges for EUROHORCs

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1. Introduction: What is EUROHORCs?

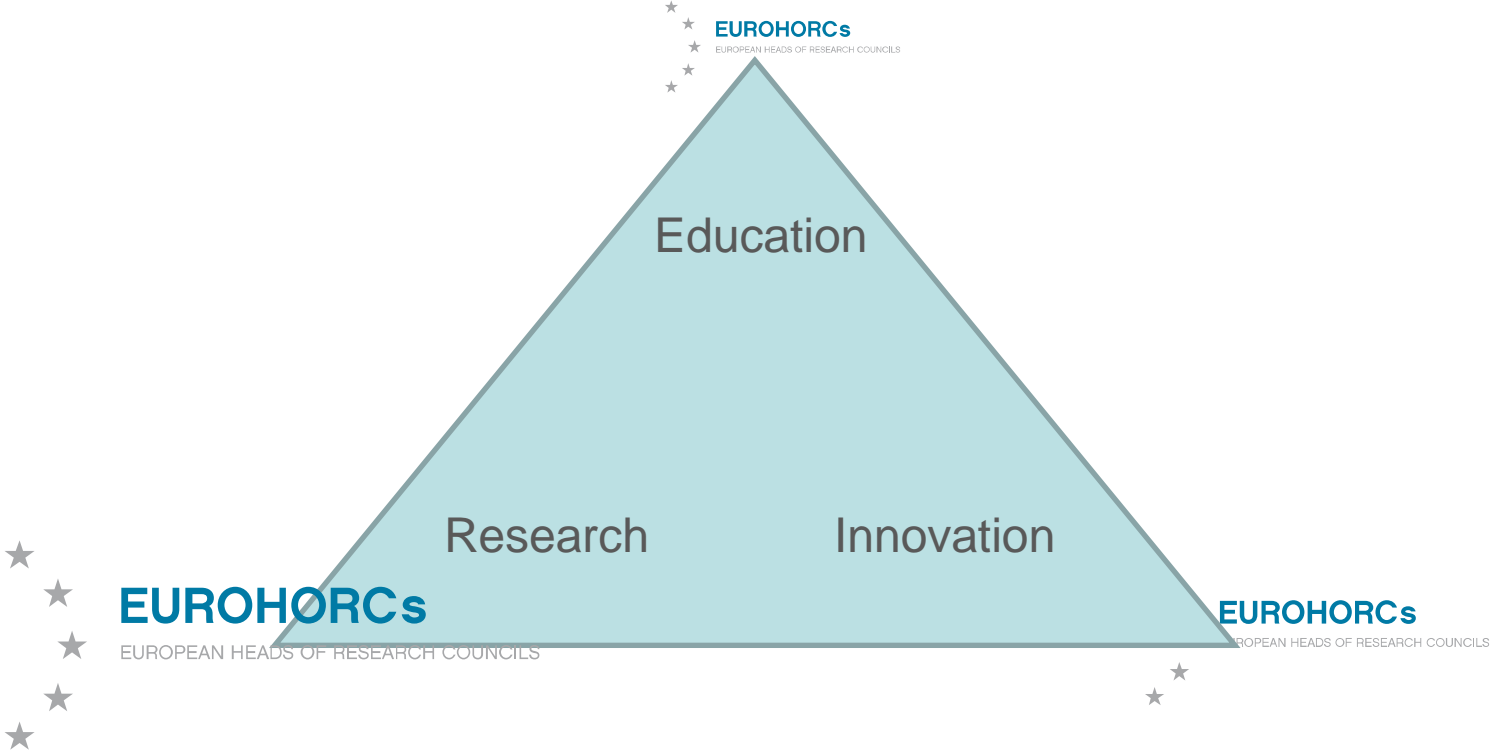
- Informal association of the heads of European research funding and research performing organisations
- 45 organisations from 24 countries
- Represents approx. 30% of total European R&D funding
- Dedicated to promoting excellence in all branches of research
- Current major issues: open access to research results, career development and mobility, co-operation in peer review, facilitation of transnational collaborative research

1. Introduction: EUROHORCs and European R&D Funding



Approximation for 2008

1. Introduction: EUROHORCs in the European Knowledge Triangle



2. Towards the Vision 2020

Contributions from EUROHORCs and its Members:

- “The European Research Area (ERA) is firmly rooted in society and responsive to its needs and ambitions in pursuit of sustainable development
- The ERA defines the European way to excellence in research and is a major driver of European competitiveness in the globalised world
- 1. The modernisation of research, education and innovation systems go hand in hand
- 2. The ERA underpins the development of European competitiveness...
- 3. ...and provides coordinated support to researchers and research institutions engaged in excellent research
- 4. At the same time, S&T capacity building is promoted across the EU
- The ERA provides a seamless area of freedom and opportunities for dialogue, exchange and interaction open to the world”

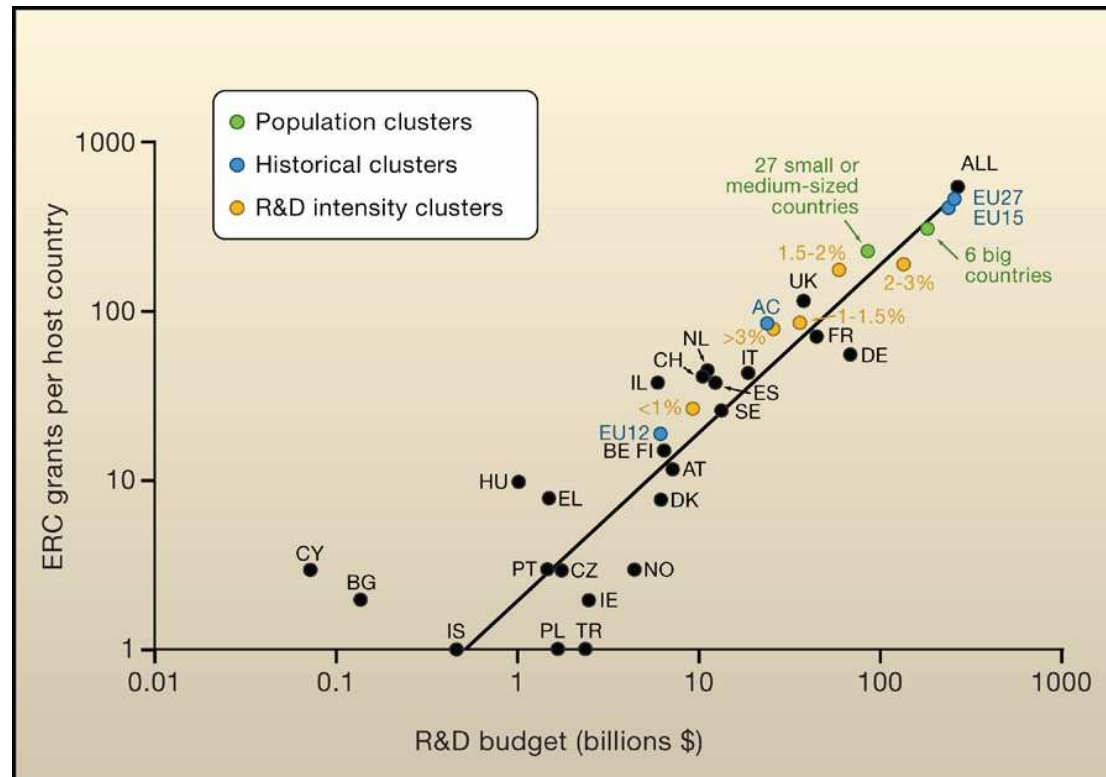
3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

Research Typology:

- Type A: **Curiosity-driven basic research** without specific goal
- Type B: **Goal-oriented research with unknown pathway** (e.g. medical research, environmental research)
- Type C: **Goal-oriented research with known pathway** (e.g. development of fusion reactor)
- Type B and C research can only be done when Type A research is ensured
- **All types of research need stable support:** „stop and go“ systems impede the development of high quality research and destroy existing competence

3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA needs more funding



Kafatos et al., Cell 136, March 6, 2009

3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA Needs More Competition

- Fragmentation is not primarily an issue of too little coordination but mainly a consequence of restricted competition within 'protected' national research areas
- The National Research Funding Organisations are important players to help overcome the 'competition fragmentation'
- Research needs the uninhibited mobility of people

3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA Needs Subsidiarity

1. Things that can be done at national level alone

- ⇒ GOV: Strengthen national research landscape, remove barriers to research, ensure compatibility of research systems, ...
- ⇒ EUROHORCs: attractiveness of grants, ensuring “emergence of new generations of researchers”,...

2. Things that can be coordinated through EUROHORCs

- ⇒ Mobility of researchers, common evaluations, opening up national programmes, joint programmes and collaboration in variable geometry, ...

3. Things that can be coordinated at EU level

- ⇒ Joint programmes, launch of research infrastructures, ...

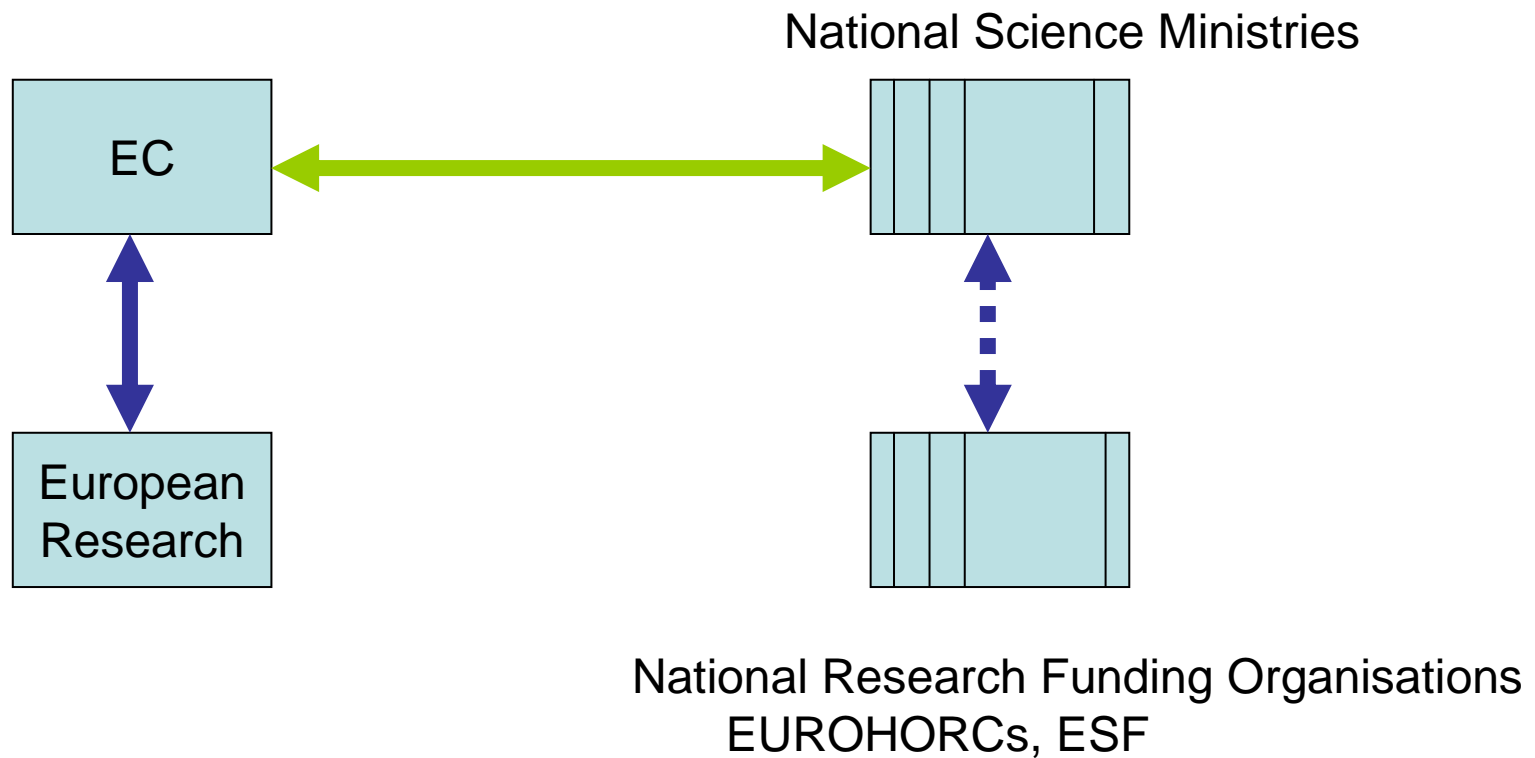
4. Things that can be done at EU level alone

- ⇒ ERC, research infrastructures, removing legal barriers for research, ...

3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA Needs Clear Structures

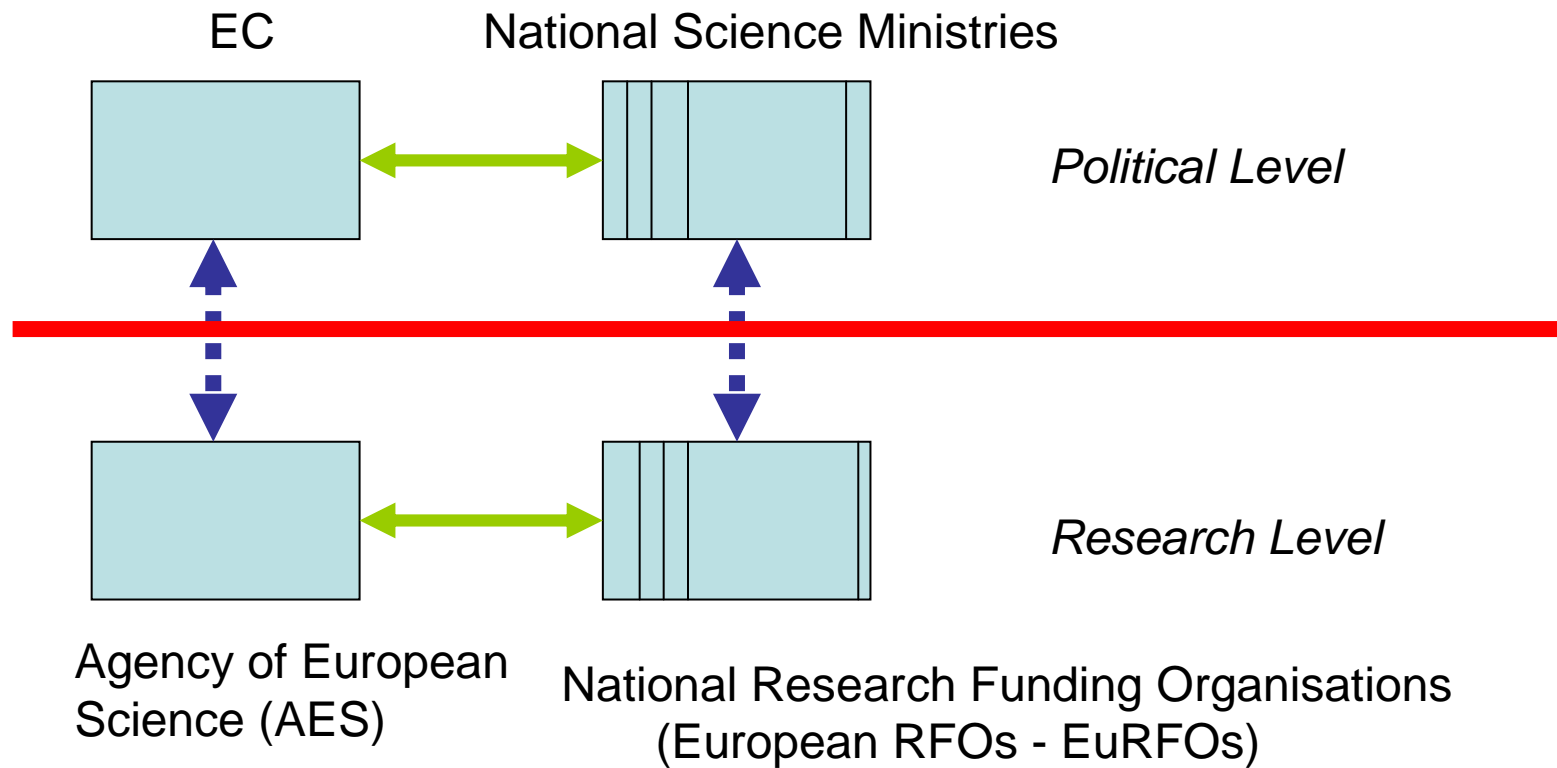
Current situation:



3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA Needs Clear Structures

And next?



3. EUROHORCs' Point of View

ERA Needs Visions ... “Vision 2020” but also...

EUROHORCs – ESF Roadmap

1. An effective European research policy, capitalising on (...) diversity;
2. A stimulating education system;
3. A single European labour market for researchers;
4. Adequate funding for top quality curiosity driven research;
5. Transnational funding, benchmarking of quality and shared scientific priorities for strategic research and bottom up researcher-driven programmes;
6. Excellent research institutions;
7. World-class research infrastructures;
8. Open access to the output of publicly funded research and (...) research data;
9. Effective and trusted bridges between science, society and the private sector;
10. Openness to the world.

4. EUROHORCs Actions to Realise ERA (I)

The European Young Investigator Award

- 2004-2007: The EURYI Scheme allowed young scientists with the potential to become world class leaders to create their own team in Europe
- In total, 95 EURYI Awards, of up to €250.000 per year for five years, were awarded
- The fourth and final EURYI Award was awarded in 2007 with the launch of the ERC Starting Grants



4. EUROHORCs Actions to Realise ERA (II)

Money Follows Researcher

- The Money Follows Researcher (MFR) agreement allows researchers to take with them the remainder of their current grant when moving to another country

MFR: Participating Organisations

Austria: FWF

Belgium: FNRS, FWO

Denmark: DCIR

Estonia: ETF

Finland: AKA

France: CNRS, INSERM

Germany: DFG

Hungary: OTKA

Iceland: Rannis

Italy: CNR, INFN

Luxembourg: FNR

Netherlands: NWO

Norway: RCN

Portugal: FCT

Spain: CSIC

Sweden: VR

Switzerland: SNF

UK: AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC,
ESRC, NERC, MRC, STFC

4. EUROHORCs Actions to Realise ERA (III)

- Lead Agency Procedure – reciprocal recognition of evaluation results
- Money Follows Cooperation Line – unilateral funding of small research parts abroad
- Set up of common infrastructures
- Bilateral/Multilateral Joint Programmes
- Bilateral/Multilateral Researcher Exchange Programmes
- Preparation of an Open Access Agreement between Publishers and European ROs

Most of all...

ERA Needs Dialogue and Collaboration

- EUROHORCs has a role to play and is ready to take up the challenges within its competences
 - Challenges highlighted by the Roadmap
 - Creation of a grant union for better mobility of persons and knowledge
 - Opening of national programmes and funding schemes
 - Launch of bilateral initiatives
- Continuous dialogue should be ensured between Ministers, EC and EUROHORCs
 - E.g. Lisbon High Level Workshop, January 2009 and follow-up

Thank You for Your Attention