H2020
Twinning and ERA Chairs
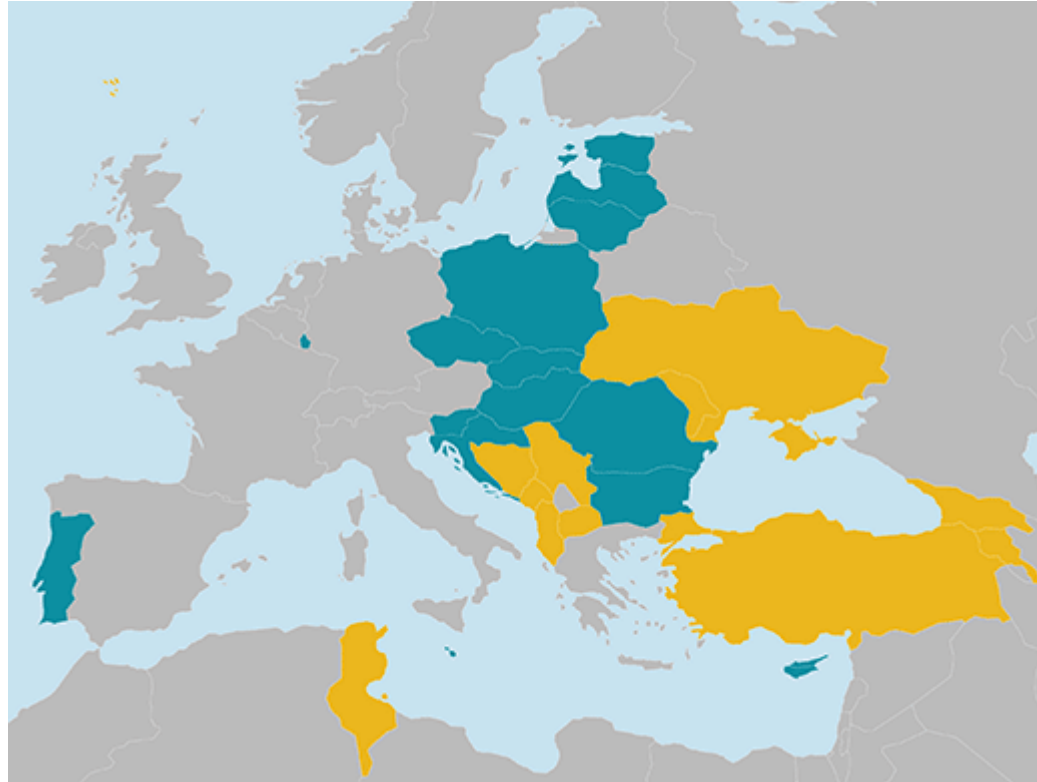
Open Science Days 2017

EU Zone

Ministry of Science of Montenegro

Branka Žižić – Widening NCP

Goal of the session

- Help in finalisation of proposals for the current call (Twinning – Nov 2017)

- Timely preparation for the next round of calls

Widening countries

- **Input**: Better access of researchers & innovators to international networks
- **Result**: Improved scientific capabilities of widening countries to seek competitive funding in international fora

Twinning: Aim, Objectives & Partnership

Aim of the action:
- Strengthen a defined field of research in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries.

Main objectives:
- Enhance the S&T capacity of the institutions-Focus on institution in Widening Country
- Raise the research profile of the institution and of its research staff

The Partners: (Minimum Conditions)
- ONE institution located in a "Widening" MS/AC (COORDINATOR)
- A minimum of TWO additional partners from two different MS or AC other than the country of the coordinator.

Proposals

- Scientific strategy for excellence and innovation in a defined area of research;
- Outline the scientific quality of the partners;
- Activities supported:
  - Short term staff exchanges; expert visits and short-term training; workshops; conference attendance; dissemination and outreach activities.
- Expected Impact:
  - Research excellence, in particular, in the selected field of research;
  - Improved capability to succeed in competitive research funding;
  - Enhanced reputation, attractiveness and networking;
  - The expected potential impact of the project illustrated by a number of indicators.

  Indicators: expected future publications in peer reviewed journals, collaboration agreements with businesses, intellectual property, new innovative products or services.

Twinning: Call 2017 details

- Eligible Costs:
  - Coordination and networking;
  - Joint activities;
  - Dissemination and outreach activities.
  - Infrastructure, equipment & research costs will NOT be funded.
- Twinning Call 2017:
  - Budget: €30 million
  - Call publication: 14 October 2015
  - Call opening: 11 May 2017
  - Call deadline: 15 November 2017
  - Project Size: up to €1 million (eligibility condition)
  - Project Duration: up to 3 years (eligibility condition)
- Implementation: Coordination and Support Action
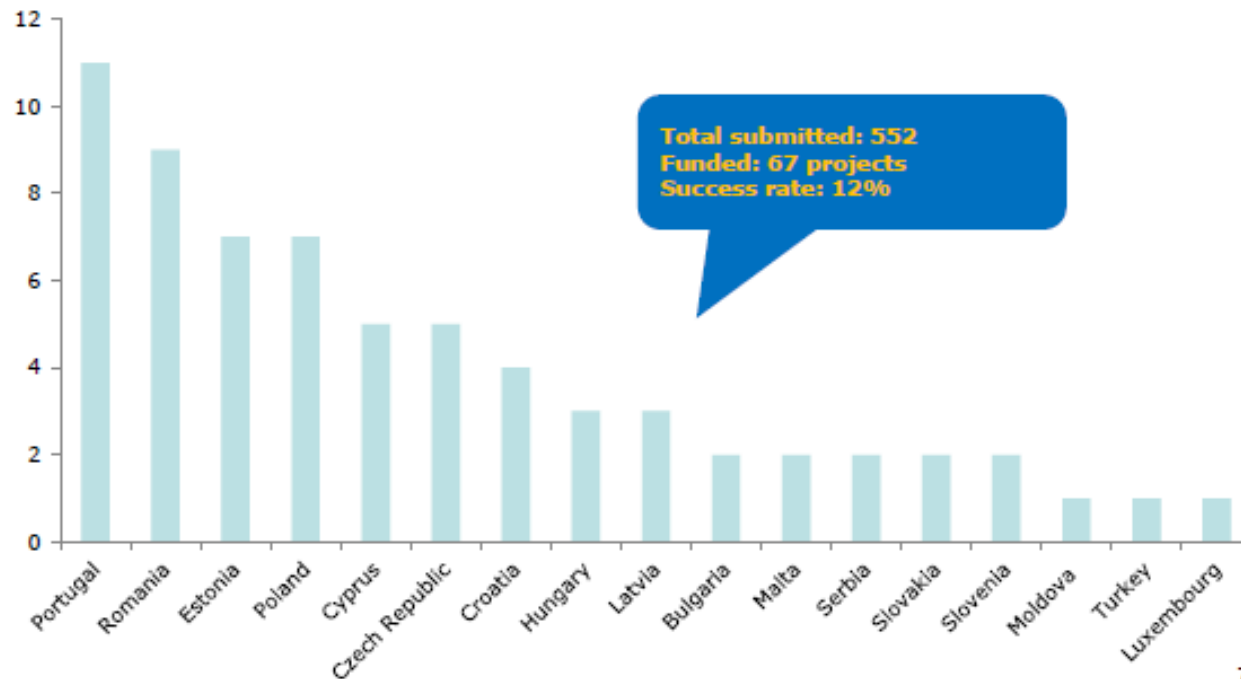
Twinning: Call 2018

- Coming soon!
- Dates: end October, publication of Work Programme
- Opening of new call: May 2018
- Deadline: November 2018
- Some changes: research costs OK…

Success in previous cycle

Twinning: Lessons learned (1)

- Some points learned from the Interim Evaluation:
- + The establishment of the <u>Twinning collaborations</u> was highlighted as the most important result achieved so far.
- + The <u>institution's capabilities in networking and competing for international funding</u> have been increased.
- - The project coordinators find that <u>research costs</u> need to be covered.
- - Some of the Twinning institutions are <u>managing for the first time a large EU project</u> and the extent of this challenge was not expected.

Lessons learnt for future calls:

- Clear definition of the <u>scientific strategy</u> towards excellence in the relevant research field;

- Better illustration of the <u>scientific qualities of "advanced" partners</u> and their added value to the project;

- Outline the expected impact of the twinning exercise <u>on the institution</u> in the Widening country (and even at the national/regional level) based on specific indicators.

ERA Chairs

- ERA Chairs stands for excellence to institution.
- ERA Chairs projects bring outstanding academics, with proven research excellence and management skills, to universities and research institutions in Widening countries with potential for research excellence. They aim to attract and maintain high quality human resources under the direction of an outstanding researcher (the 'ERA Chair holder') while at the same time implementing structural changes necessary to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis.

ERA Chairs

- Objectives of the action:
  - Bring high quality researchers and managers (the ERA Chair and his/her team) to universities and other research organisations with the potential for research excellence.
  - Institutions should implement structural changes to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis.
- Participants
  - One single applicant (mono-beneficiary action) located in a Widening country.

ERA Chairs: Proposal Design & Impact

- Proposals:
  - Bottom-up approach but connected with the ERA Chair holder expertise to fully capitalise on his/her presence;
  - Include measures to foster ERA priorities (open recruitment, peer review, gender balance, Charter & Code);
  - Include a plan to increase Research Capacity - if infrastructures foreseen present a strategy for funding (including possible from use of ESIF funding).
- Expected Impact:
  - Increased attractiveness of institution and region for excellent researchers;
  - Research excellence in the fields covered by the ERA Chair;
  - Improved capability of the institution to succeed in competitive research funding;
  - Institutional changes to comply with ERA priorities.

ERA Chairs: The ERA Chair holder

- The ERA Chair should be an outstanding researcher and research manager with a proven record of leadership;
- The ERA Chair appointment must follow an open and merit-based recruitment process - to be subjected to monitoring by the European Commission;
- ERA Chair holder should be appointed in a full time position but part-time arrangements are possible;
- The institution should ensure autonomy for the Chair and his/her team;
- ERA Chairs can be of any nationality;

ERA Chairs: Costs & Call 2017 details

- **Eligible Costs:**
  - Salaries of ERA Chairs and his/her team.
  - Contribution towards measures aimed at facilitating structural changes at the institution: - **ERA priorities;**
  - Costs including training, meetings, publication and patenting costs, equipment (minor part of budget and duly justified);
- The grant will **not cover for infrastructures and research costs!**
- **ERA Chairs Call 2017:**
  - Budget: €33.91 million
  - Call publication: 14 October 2015
  - Call opening: 12 April 2017
  - Call deadline: 5 October 2017
  - Project Size: up to €2.5 million (eligibility condition)
  - Project Duration: up to 5 years (eligibility condition)
  - Implementation: Coordination and Support Action

ERA Chairs: Lessons learnt

Lessons learned for future calls:
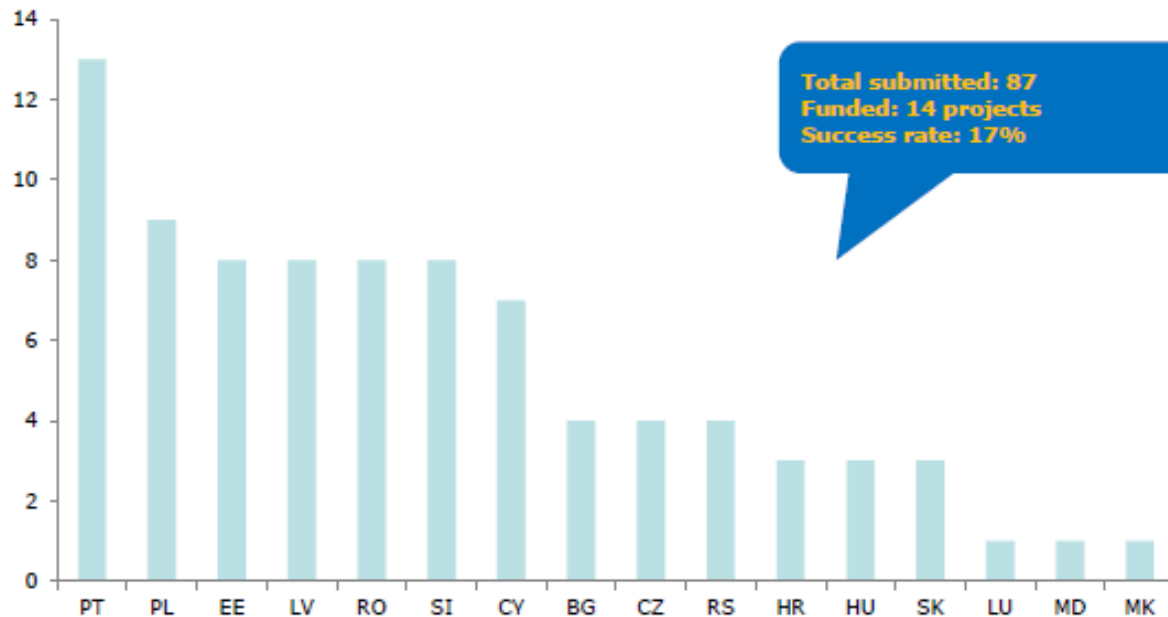
- Clearly define objectives towards <u>institutional changes</u>

- Demonstrate the <u>role and autonomy</u> of the ERA Chair holder

- Work Packages should be consistent and contribute to an overall Action Plan

- <u>Management structures</u> need to be well defined and simple.

Success in previous call

ERA Chairs: 2014 call statistics

Proposals per Country

Total submitted: 87
Funded: 14 projects
Success rate: 17%

Success in previous call

ERA Chairs 2014 call – Successful proposals

Institution Country	Proposals per Country in the main list
PT	4
EE	3 (+1)
CY	2
PL	2
HR	1
RO	1
Total	**14**

WP2018-19
Coming soon!

- Dates: end October, publication of Work Programme
- **WIDESPREAD-03-2018: Twinning**
  - **May – Nov 2018**
- **Widening fellowships 2018 and 2019**
  - **April – Sept 2018 and 2019**
- **ERA Chairs: Call 2019**
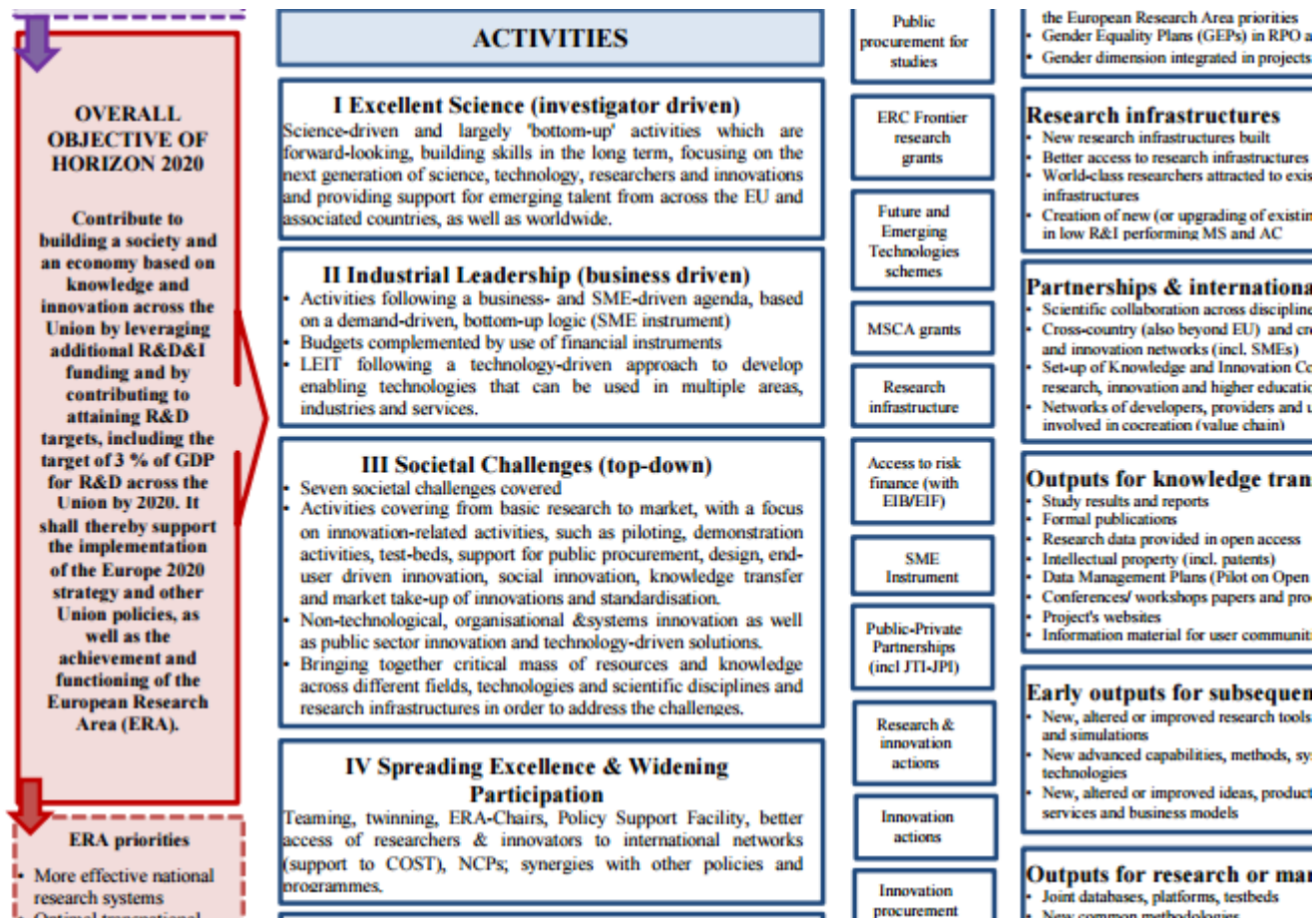 - **July – Nov 2019**

Some changes: research costs OK...

Teaming

- Establishment of new institutes in W countries 15 – 20 M EUR (+ parallel national funding)

- Expected next call: 2020

H2020 Intervention logic

- https://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations/pdf/archive/h2020_evaluations/intervention_logic_h2020_052016.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none

Information

- Research Participant Portal (RPP) EC: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html
- National Contact Point – Ministry of Science of Montenegro: http://www.mna.gov.me/ministarstvo/Horizont2020/HORIZON_2020_-_NCP/
- Previous projects: CORDIS
- Partner Search: RPP http://www.mna.gov.me/ministarstvo/Horizont2020/175160/Pretraga-partnera-za-naucnu-saradnju-na-Participant-Portalu-Evropske-komisije.html

Thank you for your attention!

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