ERA CHAIRS FP7 PILOT CALL

Setting the scene

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European Commission

Horizon 2020
DG Research and Innovation
ERA Chairs

a new measure proposed by the EC under Horizon 2020 to help close the research and innovation divide in Europe
ERA Chairs: Objectives

Commission proposal for Horizon 2020:

"Establishing 'ERA Chairs' to attract outstanding researchers to institutions with a clear potential for research excellence, in order to:
• **Support** these institutions fully unlock this potential and
• **hereby create a level playing field** for research and innovation in the European Research Area.
• **create a competitive research environment**"
ERA Chairs: Expected Deliverables

• **Promote excellence:** Increased excellent research outputs, highly cited publications in international journals, more international collaborations, scouting top talent, highly trained doctoral candidates with the right skills

• **Increase of critical mass of excellent researchers** at the host institution

• **Widening participation:** Significant improvement of the performance of institutions in competitive research funding under the direction of the ERA Chair
ERA Chairs: Expected Deliverables

- **Creation of an ERA 'culture'**: demonstrable open, transparent and merit based recruitment for research positions, operational HR strategies in line with the Charter & Code, gender equality measures in place, external peer assessments for careers

- Mobilise support for facilities and infrastructures **creating synergies between cohesion and research funding**

- **Contribution to growth and jobs** (based on Smart Specialisation Strategies)
ERA Chairs Pilot Call in FP7

- Published under Capacities WP 2013 - Research Potential: Applicants must be located in convergence and outermost regions

- Each successful institution will select its ERA Chair through an open, transparent and merit based recruitment process

- Indicative budget for Pilot Call **EUR 12 000 000** => EU contribution up to 2,4 million euros per chair.

- Maximum **one ERA Chair awarded per country**
ERA Chairs Pilot Call in FP 7 - Proposal

The ERA Chair Institution proposal should contain at least:

• a workplan with SMART objectives to develop their research excellence and improve performance,

• an ERA implementation plan,

• Proposed measures to develop synergies between cohesion and research funding in line with smart specialisation strategies,

• Sustainability plan beyond the lifetime of the ERA Chair grant.
ERA Chairs Pilot Call in FP 7 - Implementation

Grant coverage:

- Funding for the **salary** of the ERA Chair and an associated research team.

- **Work plan and implementation costs**
ERA Chairs Pilot Call in FP 7- Implementation

Selection process:

• Phase 1: Selection of **ERA Chair Institution**

• Phase 2: Selection and recruitment process of **ERA Chair holders** by the Institutions according to open, transparent and merit based recruitment procedures for research positions and an HR Strategy in line with Charter & Code at the host institution
ERA Chairs - 2014-2020

The ERA Chairs will be implemented in Horizon 2020 on a wider scale based on the lessons learned from the pilot.