

EURASHE Research Community of Practice:

Developing institutional EU Research Support Strategies

30th November 2021, 14:30 - 16:30 CET, online

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Over the past decade, research and innovation activities have been gaining more importance within the mission and profile of professional higher education (PHE), namely Universities of applied sciences. The recent global developments, emerging climate, societal and digital challenges and urgency for specific local solutions opened new opportunities for professional higher education institutions, focusing on applied sciences and skills based on a close partnership with the world of work and local ecosystems. These aspects have also been reflected in various European initiatives and funding schemes, not only within Horizon Europe, Recovery and Resilience Facility but also in various national and regional provisions often supported by EU funding.

It is a matter of readiness and capacity of universities of applied sciences to respond to these opportunities. There has never been such a need to develop relevant institutional strategies, define institutional priorities, mobilise their capacities, and identify relevant partnerships. Some countries have also called PHE institutions to get such strategies ready to combine EU funding and possible national or regional resources.

Therefore, it seems to be quite timely to provide a platform for exchange between institutional leaders and responsible officers on their experience and approach to tackling such challenges, exchange of experience, and mutual learning.

There will be two parts within this EURASHE Research Community of Practice:

- **30 November 2021** A starting **webinar** providing an introduction to the theme
- **1 April 2021** An meeting in Fulda, Germany for ca 30 participants as an interactive workshop based on UAS Fulda case (event is planned providing that the restrictions would allow)

The **EURASHE Research Community of Practice (ResCoP)** has been launched as a platform for practitioners and leaders from PHE institutions in charge of internationalisation of research and innovation to provide opportunity for mutual learning, exchange of views and experience regarding the concept, specifics, various approaches to research and innovation within PHE institutions (universities of applied sciences), as well as exchange on concrete tools and instruments related to research, innovation and education with the regional focus as key pillars of PHE mission.

The ResCoP concept builds on concrete cases and experience of projects or individual institutions, which serve as input for further discussion, exchange of views and learning within small groups' assignments. The long-term objective is to enhance a collective knowledge and potential European project partnership, base with European-wide applicability that improves their performance and capacity, translated into other institutions' practices. EURASHE intends to set the Research Community of Practice as a permanent community for mutual learning.

THEMES

The November webinar will focus on:

- Overview of EC funding opportunities for applied research and innovation activities of universities of applied sciences, update on any future patterns coming from the European Strategy for Universities; DG RTD European Commission
- EURASHE research and innovation related priorities, ERA Hubs, UAS4EUROPE Innovation Action Plan
- The case of institutional strategy for EU and national support for research within the national/regional authorities' policies (UAS Fulda, State of Hessen)
- Input for the workshop in Fulda, Germany in April 2022

The webinar should serve as a preparatory introduction to the later workshop in Fulda, Germany on 1 April 2022, which will build the interactive small group discussions based on UAS Fulda case and input gathered from the webinar participants. It is expected that practical issues like capacity for following European policies and funding schemes/existence and role of liaison person, internal capacity planning and motivation for EU funding, challenges and positives of developing internal research support strategy, engagement of partners and stakeholders, capacity and profile of UAS researchers... might be addressed.

EURASHE would like to express our gratitude and high appreciation to UAS Fulda representatives who kindly contribute to the event and share their experience and host the workshop in April 2022. For more about the institution, see <https://www.hs-fulda.de/>.

SPEAKERS

- **Stijn Delaure** - Policy Officer, academic research and innovation policy, DG RTD, European Commission
- **Armando Pires** – EURASHE President
- **Thomas Berger** - EU staff unit, Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and the Arts
- **Viktoria Beinrott** - European research management and international relations at Hochschule Fulda

Moderated by **John Edwards**, EURASHE Secretary General

AGENDA

Time	Item
14:30 – 14:40	Welcome. John Edwards, EURASHE Secretary General
14:40 – 15:10	<p>Opportunities and challenges for EU funding of user-oriented research at universities of applied sciences, partnership with the world of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stijn Delaure, Policy Officer, EC DG RTD <p>Overview of opportunities of benefitting from EU funding for applied research and innovation activities of universities of applied sciences, reflection on patterns and conclusions emerging within the European Strategy for Universities</p>
15:10 – 15:25	<p>EURASHE - Research related policies and priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armando Pires, EURASHE President <p>Overview of reviewed EURASHE strategy and priorities, ERA Hubs concept, UAS4EUROPE Innovation Action Plan, consultations with EC and further plans.</p>
15:25 – 15:40	<p>State of Hessen, Germany - Support for UAS activities and instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Berger, EU staff unit, Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and the Arts <p>The state of Hessen offers a new EU research support programme, called Hessen Horizon. This programme aims at supporting universities and research organisations to be more successful in participating in European research funding programmes. This session will give an overview about the rationale and potential impacts of the Hessen Horizon programme.</p>
15:40 – 16:10	<p>UAS Fulda case: Institutional strategy for EU and national support for research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viktoria Beinrott, EU research management and international relations, UAS Fulda <p>Fulda University of Applied Sciences will share the experience about the implementation of the EU research support strategy “Fulda Horizon” within the programme Hessen Horizon. Active involvement of other participants is expected, especially to share knowledge and lessons learned from other UAS.</p>
16:10 – 16:25	<p>Discussion, questions & answers</p> <p>Input and expectations for the ResCoP in Fulda (April 2021)</p>

Time	Item
16:25 – 16:30	Wrap and conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none">Armando Pires, EURASHE President

TARGET GROUP

UAS leaders and practitioners engaged in research and innovation

- Webinar (30 November 2021) – no capacity restrictions
- Workshop (1 April 2022) – limited capacity of ca 30 people

REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 30 NOVEMBER 2021 WEBINAR

- **Registration** at <https://bit.ly/31q8pGv>
- For further details, please, contact EURASHE Secretariat at maite.de.jesus@eurashe.eu

**More informaton and registrations for the workshop on the 1st of April 2022, coming soon.