



# European Research Area – Overview and Governance

**Explanatory Meeting on the Acquis  
Chapter 25: Science and Research  
11 March 2019**

**European Commission  
DG RTD**

*These slides accompany the explanation of the acquis to Albania and North Macedonia and can only be used for that purpose.  
Their content is subject to further development of the acquis and interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Union.*

# ERA's Treaty base

## Art. 179(1) TFEU

*"The Union shall have the objective of strengthening its scientific and technological bases by achieving a **European research area** in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely, and encouraging it to become more competitive, including in its industry, while promoting all the research activities deemed necessary by virtue of other Chapters of the Treaties."*

## ...in conjunction with Declaration 34 TFEU:

*"...the Union's action in the area of research and technological development will pay due respect to the fundamental orientations and choices of the research policies of the Member States."*

# ERA's Treaty base

## Art. 179(2) TFEU

*"For this purpose the Union shall, throughout the Union,*

- encourage **undertakings**, including small and medium-sized undertakings, **research centres and universities** in their research and technological development activities of high quality;*
- it shall support their efforts to cooperate with one another, aiming, notably, at permitting **researchers** to cooperate freely across borders and at enabling **undertakings** to exploit the internal market potential to the full, in particular through the opening-up of national public contracts, the definition of common standards and the removal of legal and fiscal obstacles to that cooperation."*

# ERA's Treaty base

## Art. 182(5) TFEU

*"As a complement to the activities planned in the multiannual framework programme, the European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and after consulting the Economic and Social Committee, shall **establish the measures necessary for the implementation of the European research area.**"*

# ERA: Political base

- **Commission Communication on “A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth”, COM(2012) 392 final, 17/7/2012**
  - proposal of ERA priorities
  - proposals for actions for each priority
  - proposal of a monitoring mechanism
- **Council Conclusions on “A reinforced European research area partnership for excellence and growth”, 11/12/2012**
  - endorsement of the Commission proposals
- **Council Conclusions on “The European Research Area Roadmap 2015-2020”, 30/5/2015**
  - endorsement of the ERA Roadmap developed by the European Research Area and Innovation Committee in close cooperation with the Commission
- **Council Conclusions on “Governance of the European Research Area”, 30/11/2018**
  - guidance on future ERA advisory structure

# ERA implementation

## ➤ ***Six ERA Priorities***

1. More effective national research systems
2. Optimal transnational cooperation and competition, including 'jointly addressing grand challenges' and 'research infrastructures'
3. An open labour market for researchers
4. Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research
5. Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge, including 'knowledge circulation' and 'open access'
6. International cooperation

## ➤ ***ERA Roadmap 2015-2020***

- ✓ The ERA Roadmap has identified a limited number of top actions at national and EU-level to implement the ERA Priorities

## ➤ ***ERA Monitoring Mechanism (EMM)***

- ✓ The EMM is a set of 24 core indicators jointly defined by Member States, research stakeholders and the Commission measuring progress on the ERA Priorities

## ➤ ***ERA Progress Report by the Commission***

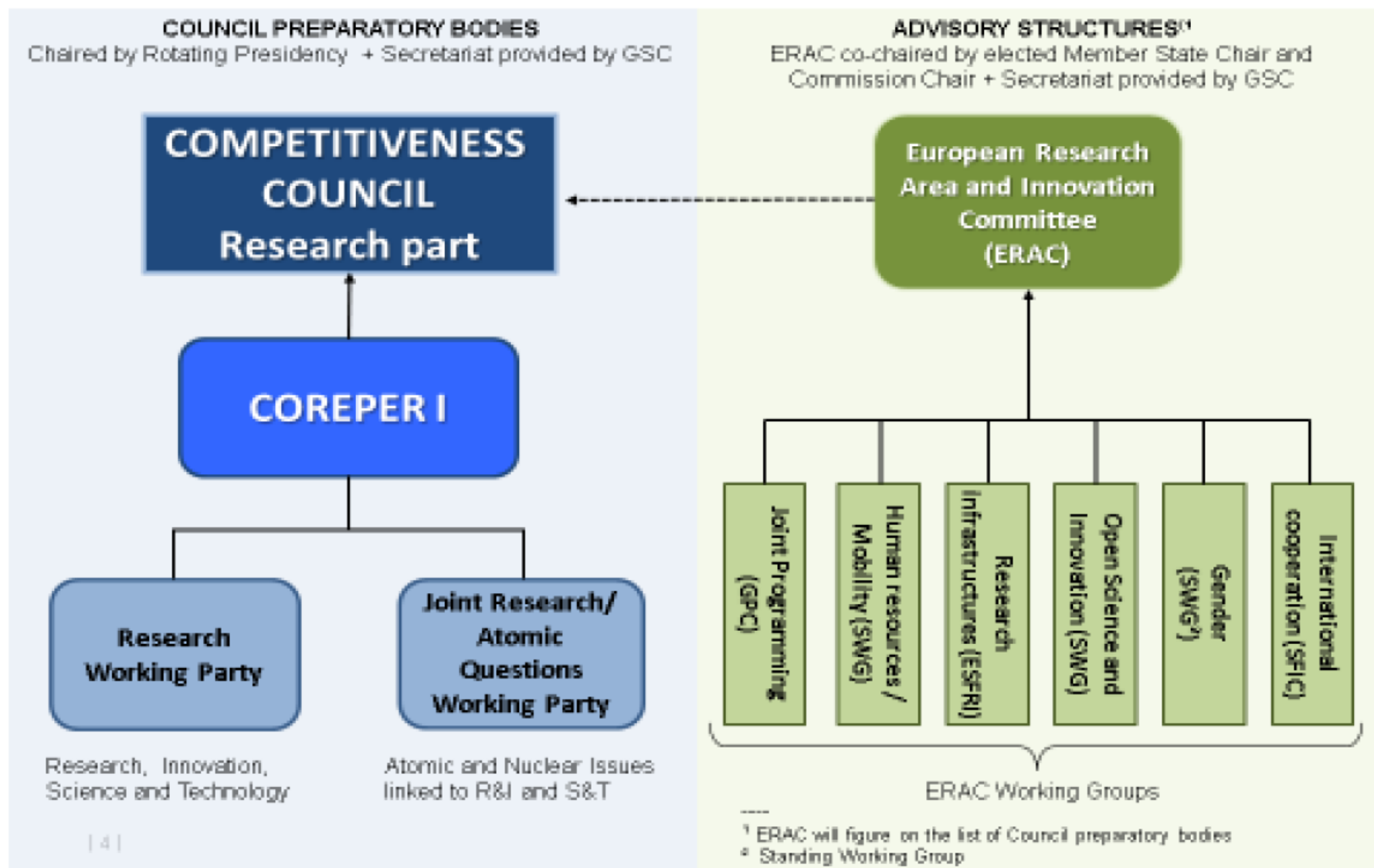
- ✓ Informs on progress based on the EMM indicators for the six ERA Priorities

## ➤ ***National Action Plans (voluntary)***

- ✓ Countries lay out how they want to implement the ERA Priorities

# ERA governance/partnership

## COMPET (RECH) and preparatory bodies + Advisory structures



# ERA: considerations for the future

## Council Conclusions on “Governance of the European Research Area”, 30/11/2018

Main elements on the future of ERA:

- ✓ *INVITES the Commission, to publish by mid-2020 a **new ERA Communication** for the period beyond 2020, [...] , which may propose revised ERA policy priorities and ERA governance and monitoring mechanisms;*
- ✓ *INVITES the Presidencies of the Council to consider organising **regular ERA ministerial conferences**, starting in 2020;*
- ✓ *In view of the expiration of the “**ERA Roadmap 2015-2020**”, SUGGESTS that the Commission, in close collaboration with Member States, undertakes a **careful evaluation of this kind of ERA policy-making tool.***



# ERA: further information

## Website:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/era\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/era_en)

## Commission contact:

**DG RTD**