

RRI Forethinkers Workshop

Personal invitation

20-21 March 2020, Rome (Italy)



Dear RRI Fellow,

While the future of RRI in *Horizon Europe* is still rather uncertain, it is not as bleak as it appeared in 2019. RRI is included in Horizon Europe as operational objective 2 (c) (article 2 of the Specific programme implementing Horizon Europe: *promoting responsible research and innovation, taking into account the precautionary principles*). Several advocates in ERA member states have called for higher visibility of RRI in Horizon Europe. Moreover, the *Orientations towards the first Strategic Plan for Horizon Europe* keeps the door open for RRI and even indicates a 'home' for RRI in *Horizon Europe* (in *Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system*)¹.

However, there is still a need to continue to reinforce the importance of RRI and to help show how RRI can be operationalised properly in Horizon Europe. Our targets should be both the European Commission, the representatives of the ERA member states in the so-called Shadow Committees for *Horizon Europe*, and perhaps also other groups with influence on the next framework programme. In order to influence the development of Horizon Europe, where many important choices will be made this spring, we believe that this is a crucial time for joining forces. We therefore invite key RRI proponents, from key European RRI projects, and a range of ERA member states, to meet for a workshop where the aim is to agree on, and coordinate, actions intended to help advance RRI in Horizon Europe.

As time is of the essence, and we expect that quite a few of you might already be attending the *Fit4RRI* conference in Rome 19-20 March 2020, we invite for a workshop at 20-21 March 2020 in Rome, directly after the closing of the conference. Please see the draft programme below.

We are grateful for having received funding from the Research Council of Norway to work for strengthening RRI in Horizon Europe and can offer some travel or accommodation support for those who don't have their own funding. Please let us know if you would like to go, but lack funding.

We are also grateful for the collaboration with the European New HoRRizon project on this workshop. As many of you know, this is an important ongoing RRI project with a main aim to work for better integration of RRI into Horizon Europe, and with important results so far from working with RRI in all parts of Horizon 2020. We are also grateful for the kind offer of the *Fit4RRI* organisers and Sapienza Università di Roma to host the workshop at their premises.

We very much hope to welcome you to our workshop in Rome!

Kind regards,

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/orientations-towards-first-strategic-plan-horizon-europe_en

Ellen-Marie Forsberg, Alexander Gerber and Siri Granum Carson

Draft program

Friday March 21st

14.00: Welcome & Introduction. Ellen-Marie Forsberg & Alexander Gerber

14.30: Perspectives and plans from New HoRRizon. Erich Griessler

14.45: Comments from the European Commission, DG RTD (tbc)

15.00: Tour de table (2-minute impulses by each participant) and discussion

16.00: Group session I, over coffee: Common standpoints; policy challenges; advocacy strategies and tactics

17.00 Plenary presentation and discussion I: Findings and points for further discussion

17.30: Group session II: Follow-up discussion from session I

18.30: Plenary II: Summary of consensus point from session I and II

19.00: Drinks and then dinner

Saturday March 22nd

09.30: Revisit of our results from Friday afternoon

09.45: Action plans for 2020:

- Who does what in their respective member states
- Who does what related to the EC, the European Parliament, and other ERA stakeholders

This session should end up with an agreed and specific action plan.

11.15: Coffee break

11.30: Planning a Policy Workshop in Brussels. Ellen-Marie Forsberg

12.30: Plans for a second RRI Forethinkers Workshop

13.00 Lunch and good-bye