

e-IRGSP4 action in support of DG CNECT e-Infrastructure policy groups

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Background

There are several groups in the area of Research and ICT Infrastructures that provide policy recommendations, advice or reflections contributing in their fields of expertise to the EC. As part of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme there are also new advisory bodies (Advisory Groups of Experts) forming and others closing or changing. For a better understanding and cooperation, and to find synergies between efforts made, it was deemed necessary to have an overview of the existing policy groups in the area of or related to Research Infrastructures and e-Infrastructures along with their roles, especially under Horizon 2020.

e-IRGSP4 in collaboration with the European Commission generated an overview document, naming the different policy groups and giving a short overview over their activities and inter-relations. The focus is on active groups and other related initiatives which are relevant to e-IRG.

Aim of the action

The aim of the action is to provide a living document, which describes the state and the activities of the different policy and advisory groups which are providing policy support to the EC, related to e-IRG. Furthermore, overlapping areas should be depicted to enable cooperation and interaction between the policy groups and initiatives. The initial list of groups is following:

- Digital ERA forum, i.e. ex-eInfrastructure Policy Forum (eIPF) merged with the member state forum for regular exchange and reporting on national developments foreseen in the ERA Communication COM(2012)392.
- e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG)
- European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)
- ERA Communication EC Expert Groups (CLOSED): i) Digital ERA & Open Access, ii) Research Infrastructures
- Horizon 2020 Advisory Group on Research Infrastructures
- Science Europe Working Group on Research Infrastructures
- Research Infrastructures Programme Committee (or Management Committee - responsible for the Work Programmes)

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
<p>Digital ERA forum (ex-eInfrastructure Policy Forum - eIPF merged with the member state forum for regular exchange and reporting on national developments foreseen in the ERA Communication COM(2012)392)</p>	<p>European Commission / DG CONNECT</p>	<p>Forum for reporting on national developments and exchanging views among members states and the EC</p>	<p>EC, member and associated states – Appointed by Research-related ministries</p>	<p>Active</p>
<p>e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG) www.e-irg.eu</p>	<p>Member States</p>	<p>Advisory body to the EC and member states on electronic infrastructures. Acting as coordination platform for all components of EU e-Infrastructures. Mission: Pave the way towards a general-purpose European e-Infrastructure Vision: The vision for the future is an open e-Infrastructure enabling flexible cooperation and optimal use of all electronically available resources</p>	<p>EC, member and associated states - – Appointed by Research-related ministries</p>	<p>Active</p>

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
<p>European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm?pg=esfri</p>	<p>Member States / DG RTD</p>	<p>A strategic instrument to develop the scientific integration of Europe and to strengthen its international outreach. The competitive and open access to high quality Research Infrastructures supports and benchmarks the quality of the activities of European scientists, and attracts the best researchers from around the world. The mission of ESFRI is to support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy-making on research infrastructures in Europe, and to facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to the better use and development of research infrastructures, at EU and international level.</p>	<p>EC, member and associated states— Appointed by Research-related ministries</p>	<p>Active</p>
<p>ERA Communication EC Expert Groups (temporary): i) Digital ERA & Open Access, ii) Research Infrastructures</p>	<p>European Commission</p>	<p>Temporary Expert Groups on Digital ERA & Open Access and Research Infrastructures.</p>	<p>Appointed experts by the EC</p>	<p>CLOSED</p>

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
<p>H o r i z o n 2 0 2 0 A d v i s o r y G r o u p o n R e s e a r c h I n f r a s t r u c t u r e s i n c l u d i n g e - I n f r a s t r u c t u r e s</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=2940</p>	<p>European Commission / DG RTD with DG CONNNECT</p>	<p>To contribute to the implementation of Horizon 2020, the European Unions's new funding programme for research and innovation for the period 2014-2020, and in particular of the Part 'Research Infrastructures' within the 'Excellent Science' pillar, by giving advice to the Commission services (the advice provided will contribute to a broader policy context: to the Europe 2020 Strategy, the innovation Union, and other relevant EU policies).</p>	<p>Appointed experts by the EC</p>	<p>Active</p>

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
Science Europe Working Group on Research Infrastructures http://www.scienceeurope.org/policy/working-groups/Research-Infrastructures	Science Europe	The Research Infrastructures Working Group brings together experts on planning and management of research facilities from across the Science Europe membership. Responsible to tackle common challenges related to research infrastructure among Science Europe members (the association of European Research Funding and Performing Organisations (RFO-RPO)).	Appointed experts by Science Europe	Active
Research Infrastructures Programme Committee (or Management Committee - responsible for the Work Programmes)	European Commission / Co-chaired by DG RTD and DG CONNECT	Responsible for overseeing next Work Programmes and approving funding requests for projects related to Research Infrastructures and e-Infrastructures, co-chaired by DG RTD and DG CONNECT	EC, member and associated states – Appointed by Research-related ministries	Active
National Contact Points on Research Infrastructures (NCPs on RIs) http://www.euroris-net.eu/	Member States	Responsible for disseminating information regarding calls and supporting the Research Infrastructure Programme Committee members in their work	Member and associated states – Appointed by Research-related ministries	Active

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - Global Science Forum (GSF) http://www.oecd.org/science/sci-tech/oecdglobalscienceforum.htm	OECD	Provides a venue for consultations among senior science policy officials of OECD member countries. It produces findings and action recommendations on high-priority science policy issues requiring international consultations/co-operation, and identifies opportunities for collaboration on major scientific undertakings.	OECD member countries	Active
EIROforum Information Technology http://www.eiroforum.org/activities/it/index.html	EIROforum	The coordination of major IT issues such as licensing of software, IT security, Sharing expertise and experience in the IT domain, Collaboration and cooperation on large projects to foster European excellence in specific IT areas.	EIROforum members	Active

Group name – website	Initiator	Purpose	Representation	Status
<p>The Carnegie group of G8 + 05 Science Advisers - Group of Senior Officials (GSO) on Global Research Infrastructures</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206801/G8_Science_Meeting_Statement_12_June_2013.pdf</p>	G8+05	<p>The Carnegie Group of G8 + 05 Science Advisers established a Group of Senior Officials (GSO) on Global Research Infrastructures to reach a common understanding on matters such as governance, funding and management of large-scale research infrastructures. The European Commission is member of the GSO group. There is also a sub-group on data.</p>	G8+05 countries	Active (Status presentation as of last year @ ICRI 2014)