



## DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (RTD)

Public Consultation:

Horizon 2020 "Science with and for Society"

Work Programme 2018-2020

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

The objective of Part V of Horizon 2020 'Science with and for Society' is: "to build effective cooperation between science and society, to recruit new talent for science, and to pair scientific excellence with social awareness and responsibility". To that end, it indicates that the focus will be on the following 8 specific activities:

- a)** Make scientific and technological careers attractive to young students, and foster sustainable interaction between schools, research institutions, industry and civil society organisations;
- b)** Promote gender equality, in particular by supporting structural changes in research institutions and in the content and design of research activities;
- c)** Integrate society in science and innovation issues, policies and activities by incorporating the needs and values of citizens, thereby increasing the quality, relevance, social acceptability and sustainability of research and innovation outcomes in various fields of activity, from social innovation to areas such as biotechnology and nanotechnology, etc.
- d)** Encourage citizens, including children and youth, to engage in science through formal and informal science education, and promote the diffusion of science-based activities, namely in science centres and through other appropriate channels;
- e)** Develop the accessibility and the (re-)use of the results of publicly-funded research;
- f)** Develop the governance for the advancement of responsible research and innovation by all stakeholders (researchers, public authorities, industry and civil society organisations), which is sensitive to the needs and demands of society, and promote an ethics framework for research and innovation;
- g)** Take due and proportional precautions in research and innovation activities by anticipating and assessing potential environmental, health and safety impacts;
- h)** Improve knowledge on science communication in order to enhance the quality and effectiveness of interactions between scientists, general media and the public.

The aim of this consultation is to obtain views and contributions from a broad constituency on the potential strategy and priorities of the 'Science with and for Society' Work Programme for the period 2018-2020. Contributions will complement the opinion provided by an External Advisory Group of high-level experts set up by the Commission according to article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 establishing Horizon 2020.

The present consultation is structured around a set of questions which take into account the policy momentum and general framework set by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker's priorities, Commissioner Moedas' strategy on 'Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the World', and builds upon the Science with and for Society part of the Horizon 2020 Work Programmes 2014-2015 and 2016-2017.

## A. Information about the respondent

\* 1. Are you responding to this questionnaire on behalf of/as:

- An individual
- A single organisation
- A network of organisations

\* 2. Please enter your name or the name of your organisation

300 character(s) maximum

European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)

\*

3. Please enter your e-mail address (this data will not be made public)

nineta@euchems.eu

\*

4a. Please indicate the type of organisation represented

- Not applicable (if individual)
- Higher education establishment
- Primary and/or secondary education
- Academy of science or technology
- International research centre
- Public research centre
- Private/commercial research centre
- Private non-profit research centre
- Non-research public sector
- Non-research private non-profit
- CSO (Civil Society Organisation)
- Non-research international organisation
- Non-research commercial sector including SMEs
- Consultancy
- Science museum or science centre
- Media sector
- Other

Please specify the type of your organisation if 'Other':

International not-for-profit association

#### **4b. Transparency Register ID**

If you are answering as an organisation/institution, please provide your Register ID number. If your organisation/institution responds without being registered, the Commission will consider its input as that of an individual and will publish it as such.

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#### **5. Have you or your organisation applied for funding under the current and/or any previous EC Framework Programmes for Research (e.g. H2020, FP7, FP6)?**

- Yes  
 No

#### **\* 6. Please enter your country of residence or where your organisation is based.**

Belgium

#### **\* 7. Language of your contribution**

English

#### **\* 8. Please indicate your preference for the publication of your response on the Commission's website:**

(Please note that regardless the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under [Regulation 1049/2001](#) on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In this case the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable data protection rules.)

- Under the name given: I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication.
- Anonymously: I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication.
- Please keep my contribution confidential. (it will not be published, but will be used internally within the Commission)

\* 9. **Gender** (this data will not be made public but used for statistical purposes only)

- Female  
 Male

\* 10. **Year of birth** - e.g. 1975 (this data will not be made public but used for statistical purposes only)

1963

## B. "Science with and for Society" Priorities for the Work Programme 2018-2020

\* 1. **What aspects of 'Science with and for Society', relating for instance to public engagement, science education, gender, ethics, open access and governance, require action under the Work Programme 2018-2020? Do you think they should be integrated across societal challenges and leadership in enabling and industrial technologies?**

1000 character(s) maximum

Several aspects are key to develop the advancement of scientific knowledge in society. First of all, scientific education shall be better accessible (financed) at all levels throughout education system. Moreover, scientific communication should become part of programs at schools, however emphasising that its understanding is first, only then appropriate communication can start.

Progress can be made only if also gender and ethics issues are properly taken into consideration. This is not yet the case, especially at the leadership level.

\* 2. **What activities, types of publications and events, and impacts could be foreseen from the Work Programme 2018-2020? Which innovations (understood in their broadest sense including social innovations) relating to aspects of 'Science with and for Society' could reach market or societal deployment within 5-7 years?**

1000 character(s) maximum

This is a sensitive issue, as it requires a balanced act between attractiveness for citizens and understanding of a certain scientific issue. While it is easy to say that YouTube, interactive magazines and other mobile platforms shall be used to promote science to citizens, including politicians, it is crucially important to do this in such a way that it triggers curiosity, which is essential for trying to get better and deeper understanding of a certain phenomena. As an example: it is rather often claimed that science should be brought in bars, to entertain people, but if this is the case, how to do it properly, as not to bring across wrong message of being trivial and easily handled by anyone, without scientific education?

If apps and similar mobile platforms are used, should there be quality recognition system set up in order to distinguish between those of good and less good quality?

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**3. Which existing and emerging challenges (relating for instance to science and technology, innovation, markets and policies) and potential game changers (such as the role of the public sector in accelerating changes) should be taken into account?**

1000 character(s) maximum

As for the public sector, it certainly has its power in setting the rules. Else, it is important to address ignorance, pseudoscience, fraud, plagiarism and other negative aspects.

**\* 4. Which areas would benefit most from the integration of horizontal aspects such as the social sciences and humanities, responsible research and innovation, gender aspects, and climate and sustainable development?**

1000 character(s) maximum

Chemistry is certainly a clear example of importance of integration of horizontal aspects. Its research output is inevitably linked to quality of life of any and every citizens on a daily base. By starting with (appropriate) chemistry education at a primary school, through secondary school and university to a (research) laboratory or industrial plant, producing a product needed on a daily base, we can firmly claim that all the above horizontal aspect are (shall be better) included.

**\* 5. Which policies or initiatives should be supported by a) 'Science with and for Society' and b) other parts of Horizon 2020, in order to mainstream Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) within and outside the European Union?**

1500 character(s) maximum

- \* Encourage (innovative) teaching of science in schools;
- \* Bring science closer to citizens (social media, apps);
- \* Support for establishing horizontal collaboration;
- \* Support to balanced approached in terms of ethics in the broadest sense

## **6. Do you have any further comments?**

*1500 character(s) maximum*

EuCheMS, the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences, aims to nurture a platform for scientific discussion and to provide a single, unbiased European voice on key policy issues in chemistry and related fields.

Representing more than 160,000 chemists from more than 40 Member Societies and other chemistry related organisations, EuCheMS relies on a unique network of active researchers involved in all the fields of chemistry. Through the promotion of chemistry and by providing expert and scientific advice, EuCheMS aims to take part in the solution to today's major societal challenges.

Further information:

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EuCheMS General Secretary

[www.euchems.eu](http://www.euchems.eu)

## **Contact**

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