



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION

STRONG UNIVERSITIES FOR EUROPE

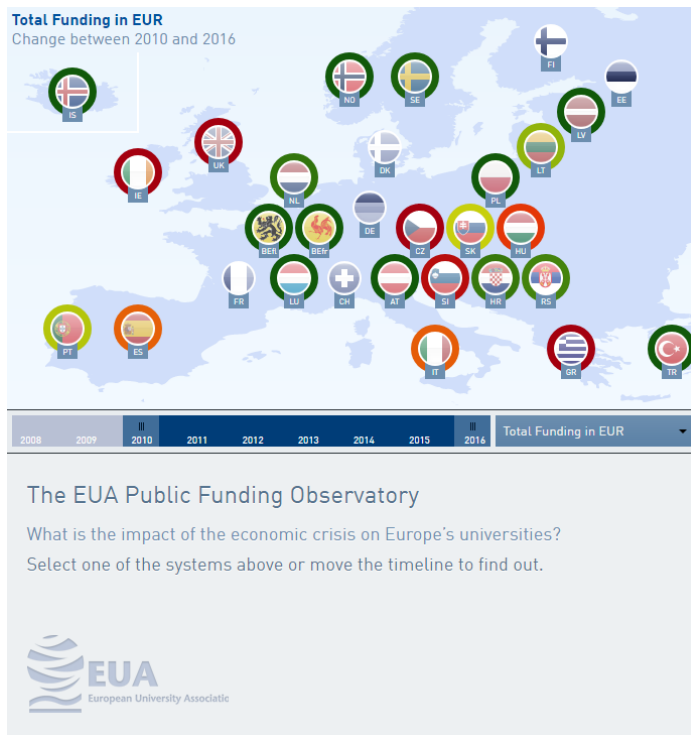
The future of European Funding

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Malta, April 2017

Content

1. National and European Funding
2. The way towards European Funding
3. Funding for research and key challenges
 - Underinvestment
 - Widening Participation
 - Simplification
4. Efficiency
5. Discussion

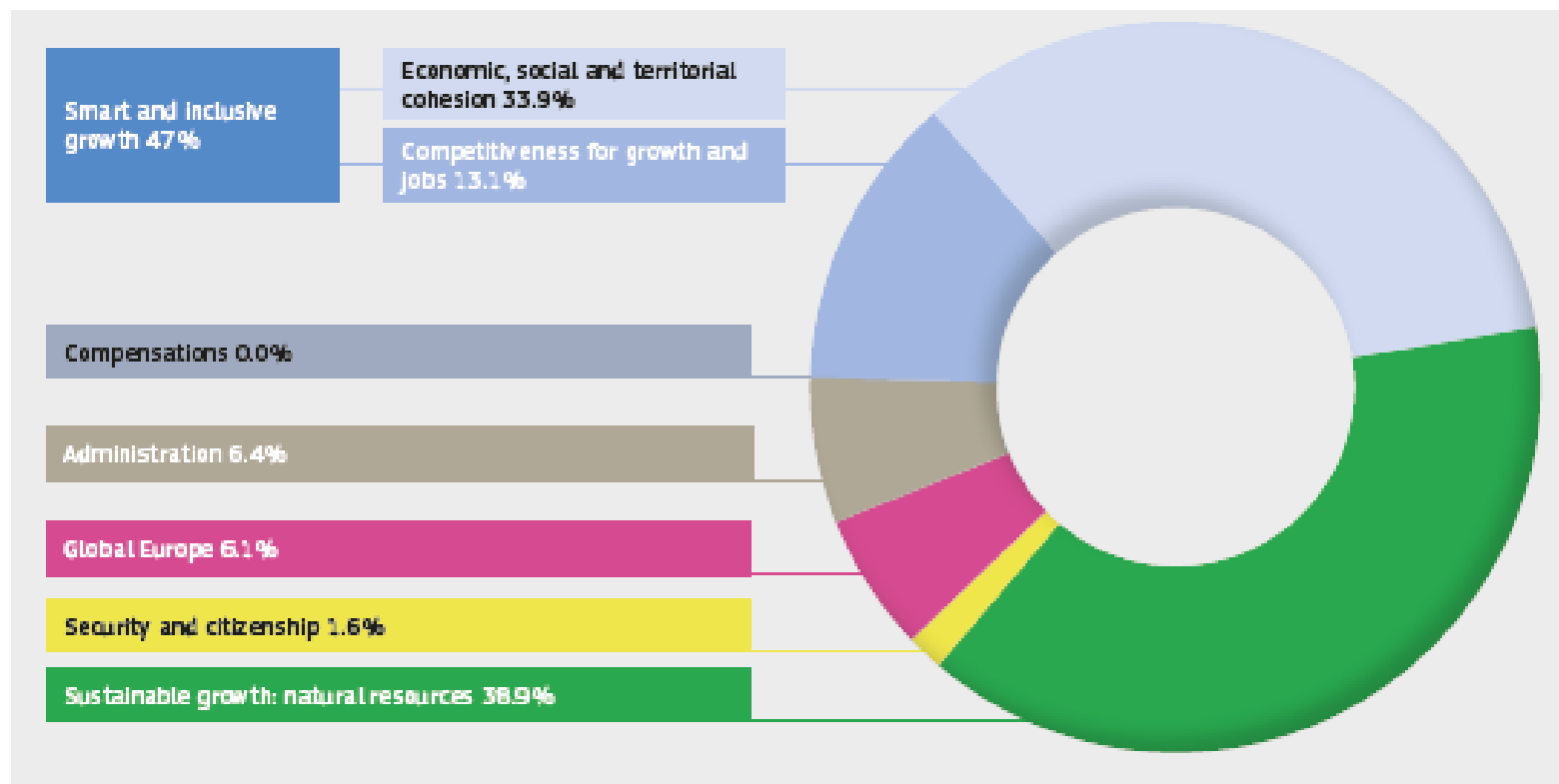
National and European Funding are linked



SOME TRENDS

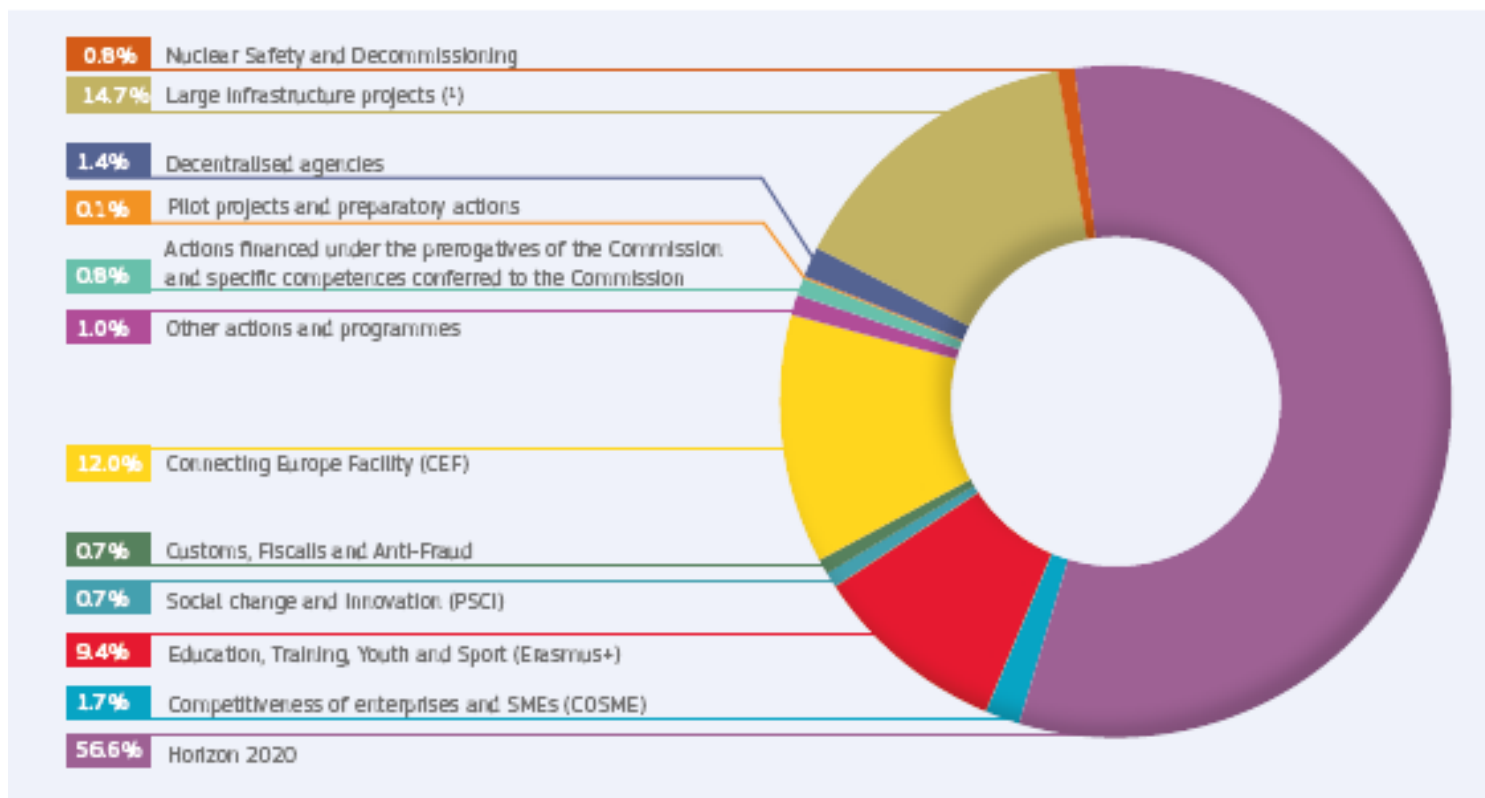
- Cuts in public funding
- Growth in student numbers
- Disparity in overall funding between the systems
- More performance indicators
- Demands on efficiency
- Different degrees of Autonomy

Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020



MFF 2014-2017

Heading 1a: Competitiveness for growth and jobs



The steps towards future European Funding



Some developments to watch

- Less Europe ?
 - Less money at European level (Brexit, etc.)
 - Higher pressure on setting priorities
- More financial instruments and tools
 - More loans and equity instruments instead of grants
 - Cascade funding
- More efficiency
 - Budget focused on results

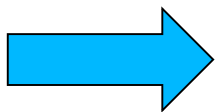
3 reasons EFSI is not suited for universities

- 1.** Loan schemes and financial instruments are not suitable to fund university-based research
- 2.** Universities in most European countries are not allowed to borrow money or can do so only under strict conditions
- 3.** The nature and the scale of projects considered for financing essentially excluded universities from the scheme

Added value of European Funding programmes

Mobility and research programmes are delivering high added value!

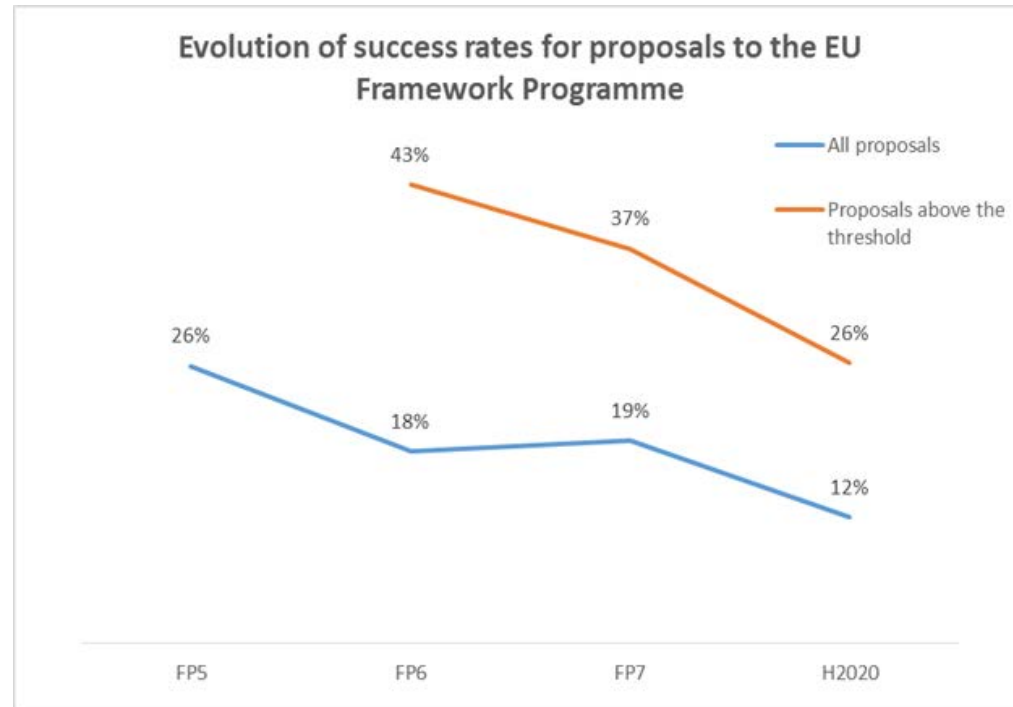
- High return on public investment
- New R&D expenditures
- Growth in GDP
- Jobs
- Collaboration
- Student and staff mobility



High effectiveness but low efficiency

Three challenges for future European funding for Research

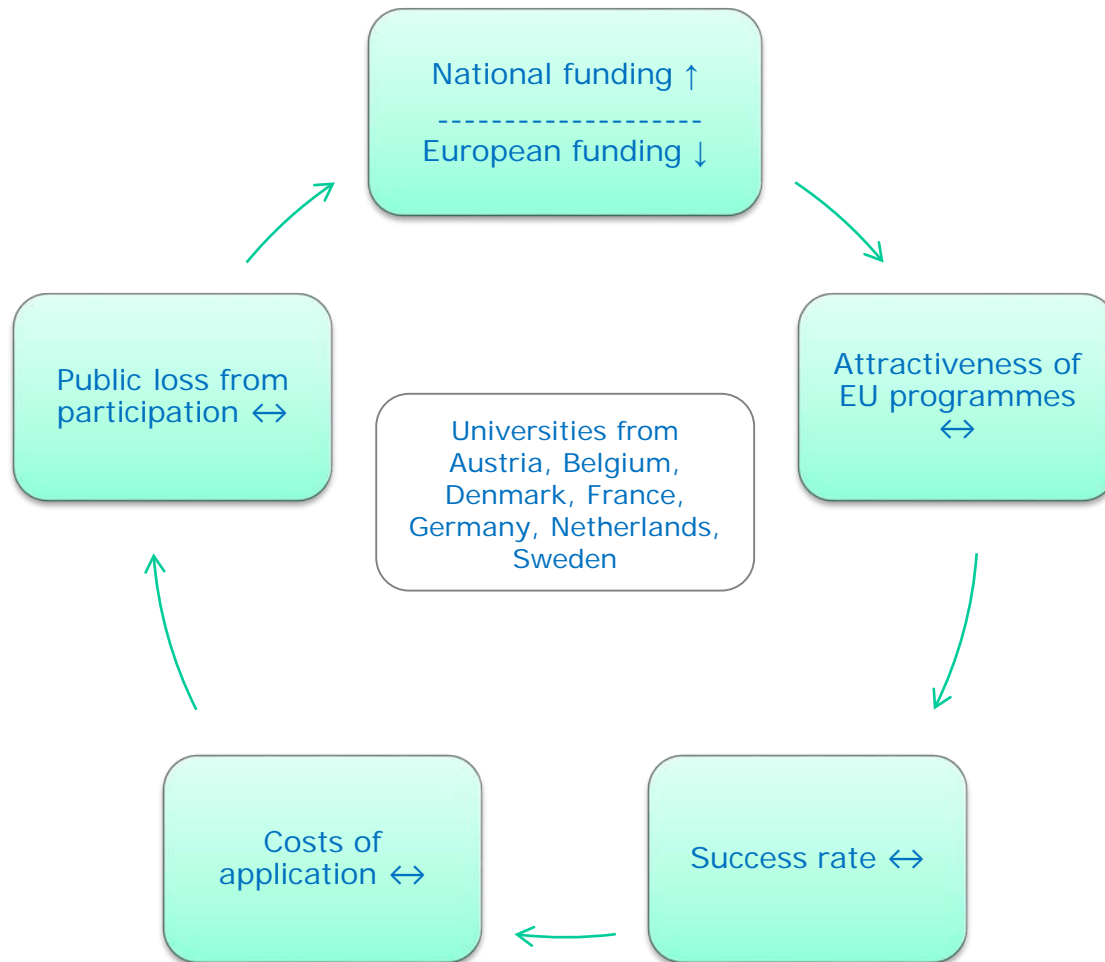
- Underinvestment
 - Low success rate
 - Low cost-benefit ratio
 - High application and management costs
 - Lost opportunity
 - Impact on academic behaviour
- Widening participation gap
- Lack of simplification



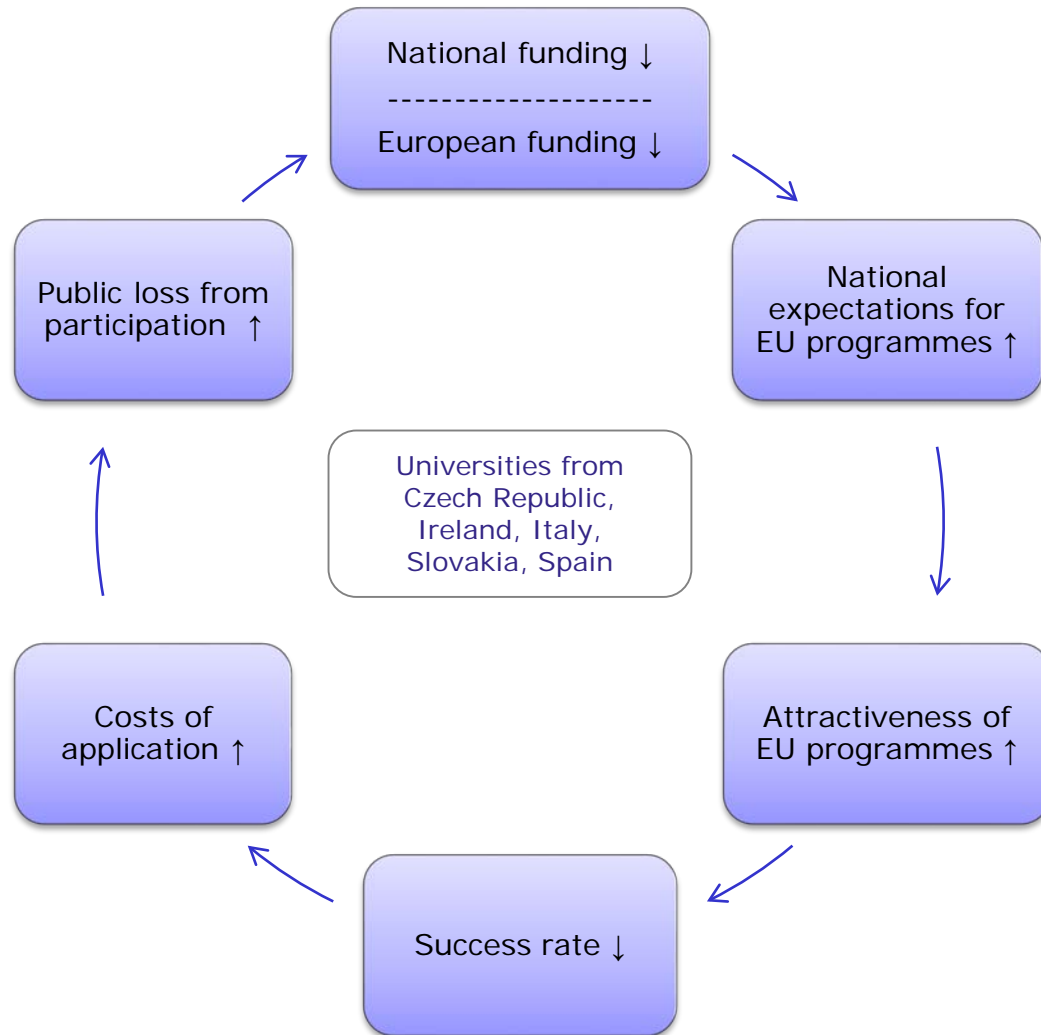
Two different ways to look at it

	European Commission	EUA
Low success rates	Due to attractiveness of the programme and simplification	Underinvestment and national funding
Widening participation	A bit more of current widening instruments + To be mainly solved by national actors	All actors together Integration of instruments across funding, while keeping excellence as key principle
Simplification	In principle achieved	Improvements but important key issues still open

Research funding, success rates and participation (I)

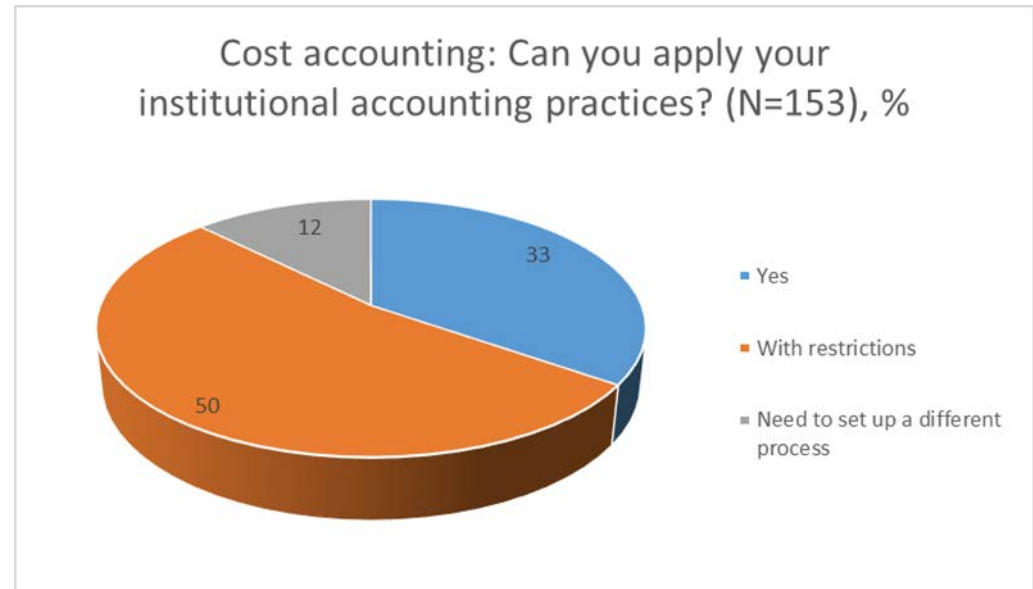


Research funding, success rates and participation (II)



Simplification

- Progress has been achieved with regard to several aspects to further simplify the Framework Programme
- Still several problems with red tape remain like.....
 - cost accounting
 - 62 % cannot use their usual accounting practices



How to increase efficiency

- **Institutions:**
 - ✓ Strategy and support to only put forward top proposals
- **National funders:**
 - ✓ Calculate real costs of participation
 - ✓ Fund unsuccessful top proposals (common pots)
 - ✓ Support institutions in strategic development
 - ✓ Sufficient Funding at national level
 - ✓ Simplification at national level
- **European funders:**
 - ✓ Increase Funding for grants
 - ✓ Reduce costs of application:
 - 2 – stage calls
 - More guidelines and clearer description of calls, esp. with regard to impact
 - Support at application stage
 - ✓ Reduce costs of participation
 - Accept nationally recognised costing methodologies and institutional management and accounting practices

What if.....

- Shifting priorities
- Less money at all levels
- Less grants and more loans

Discussion: What can you do?

- How to communicate use of research at your universities?
- How to get prepared for new developments and funding instruments?
- How to improve internal efficiency in terms of participation?
- How to better link European and national funding?
- What else?

THANK YOU!

More information, data and studies:

www.eua.be

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Total Funding in EUR
Change between 2008 and 2014

