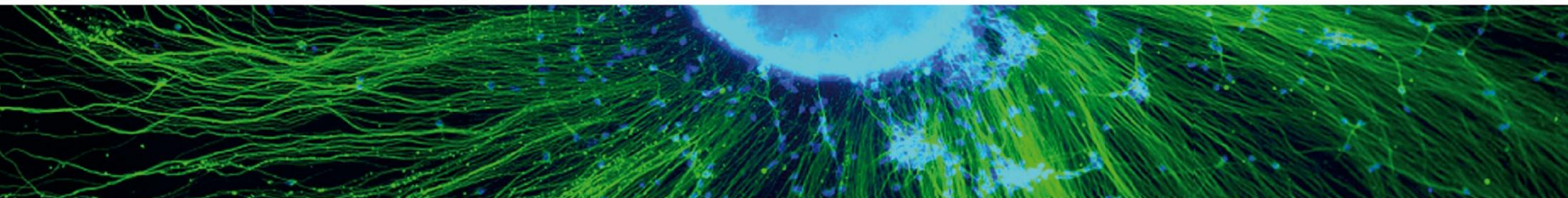




European Science Foundation



EuroUnderstanding: an ESF EUROCORES programme

Malmö, 14 October 2011

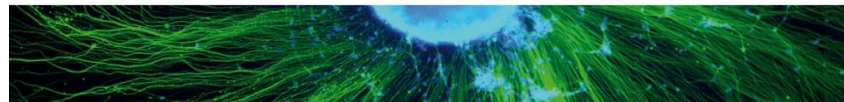
**Dr. Eva Hoogland, Senior Science Officer
Humanities and Social Sciences Unit**



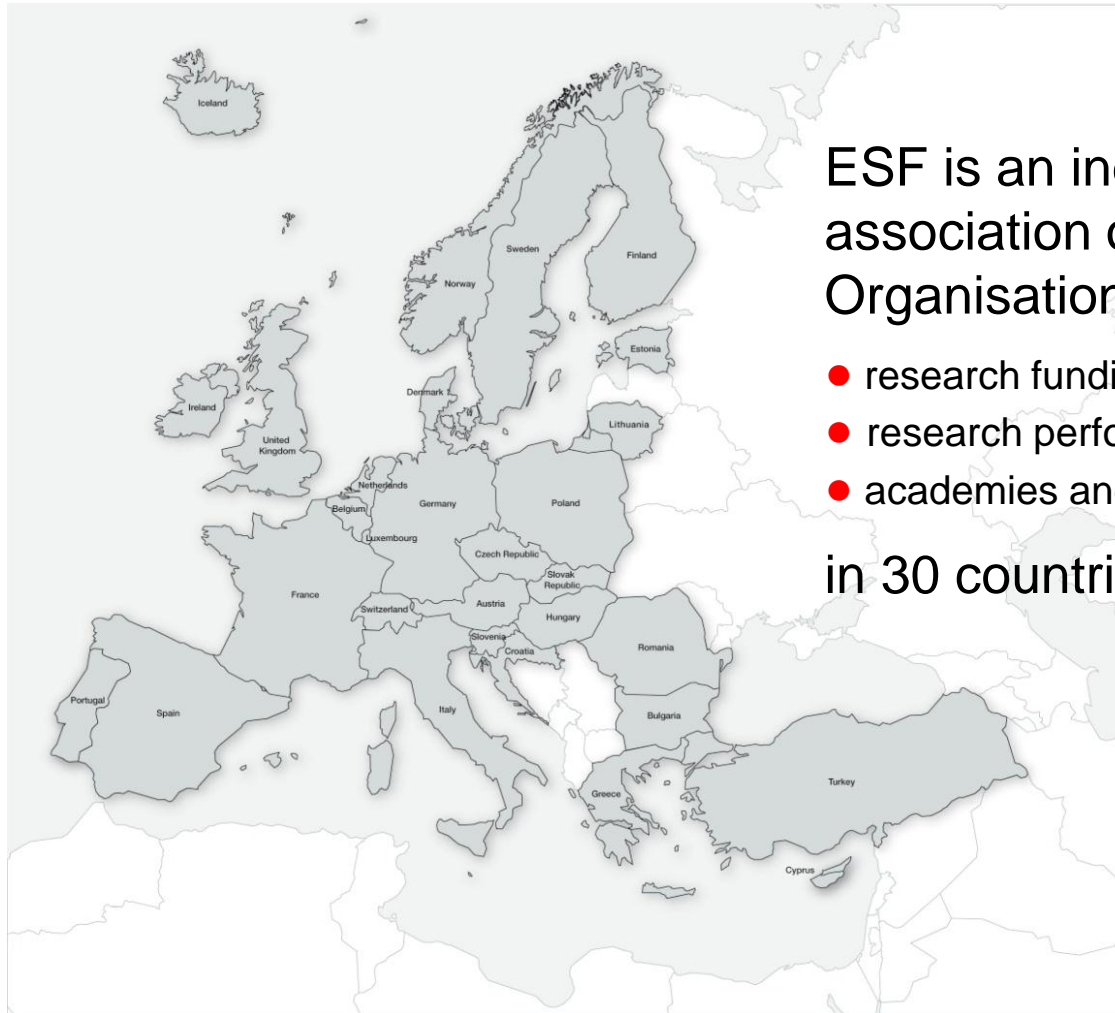
Part 1: About the ESF



European Science Foundation



ESF Member Organisations



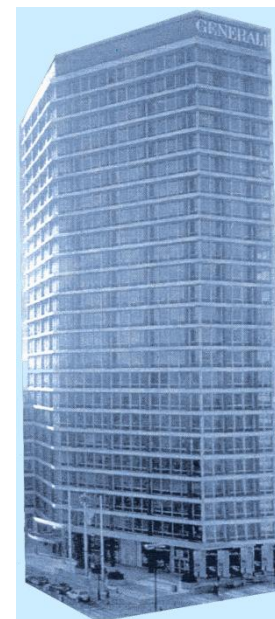
ESF is an independent association of 78 Member Organisations

- research funding organisations
- research performing organisations
- academies and learned societies

in 30 countries

About ESF

- Independent, non-governmental
- Offices in Strasbourg, Bruxelles and Oostende
- Covering all research domains



Setting Science Agendas for Europe

The European Science Foundation provides a common platform for its Member Organisations in order to:

- **advance European research**
- **explore new directions for research at the European level**

Through its activities, the ESF serves the needs of the European research community in a global context.

Its mandate is underpinned by the values of excellence, openness, responsiveness, pan-European, ethical awareness and human values. It coordinates the programmes that are funded directly by national organisations.

Budget in 2010

Total budget managed by ESF: 61 M€

- MOs' contributions to the General Budget: **7,8 M€**
 - for core scientific activities facilitated by 50 members of staff
- Other resources: **53 M€**
 - from Member Organisations for voluntary opt-in activities
 - from Institutional Partnerships (Conferences)
 - from external contracts, mainly the European Commission (including COST, see last slide)

ESF Activities

SCIENCE STRATEGY

Forward Looks

Science Policy
Briefings

Exploratory
Workshops

SCIENCE SYNERGY

EUROCORES
Research Programmes

Research Networking
Programmes

Research
Conferences

SCIENCE MANAGEMENT

Peer Review
support

Coordination of
EUROHORCs projects

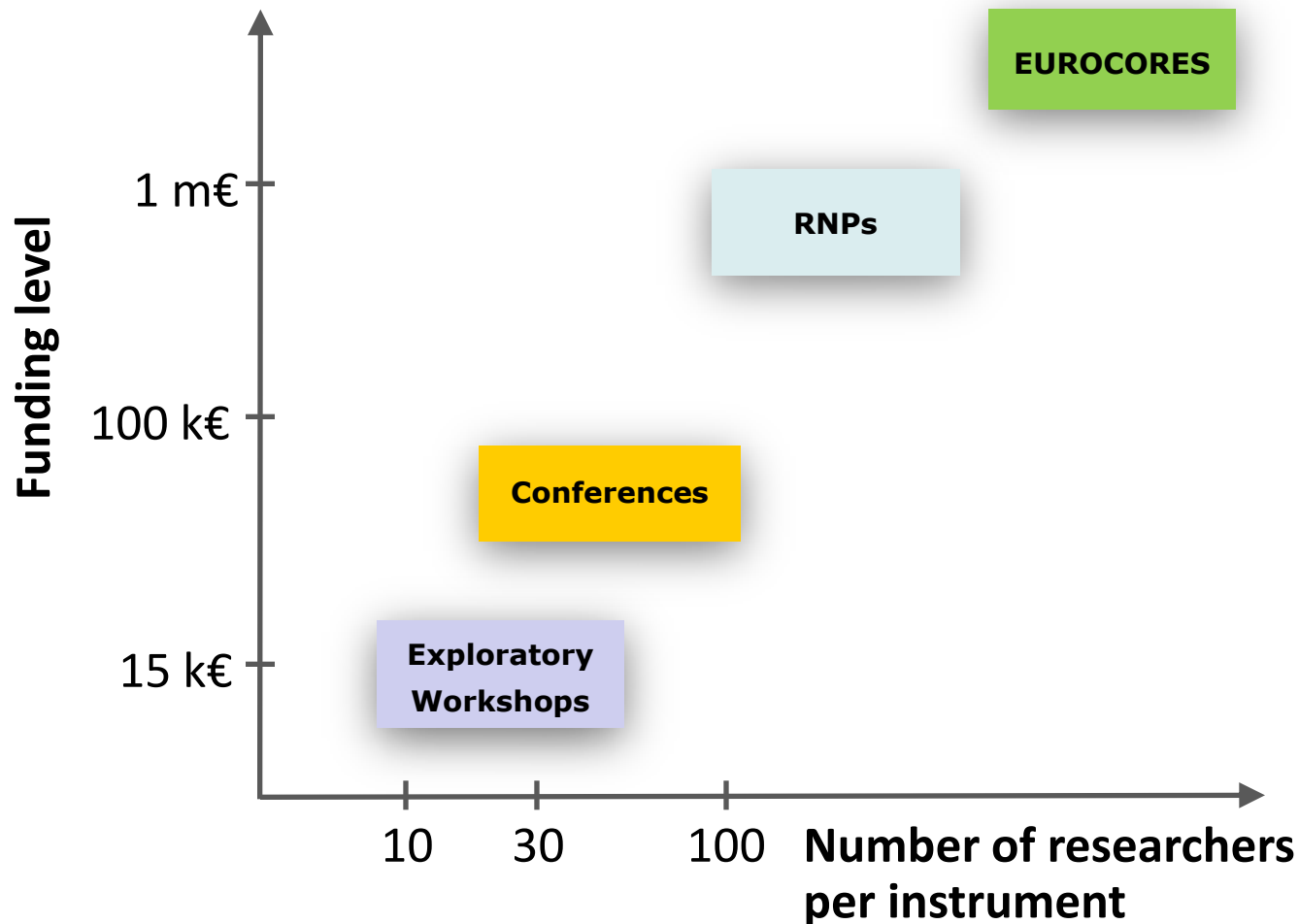
Coordination of
EC projects

Implementing agent
for COST through EC
contract

Member Organisation Fora

Range of Instruments

Funding to researchers direct or indirect from ESF



A time of change

ESF has been in discussion with EUROHORCs (European Heads of Research Councils) about a possible merger of the two organisations:

To create a united voice for science in Europe and a powerful driving force to lead the future of the European Research Area

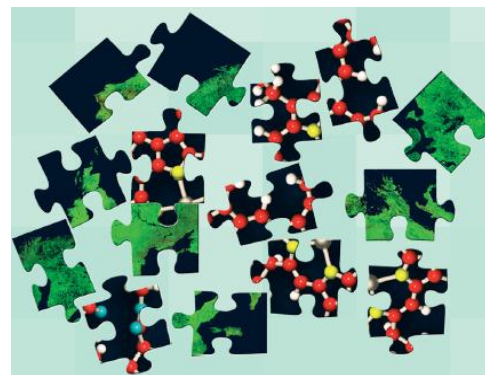
Although discussions of the merger of the two organisations have not yet been resolved, existing commitments will be unaffected.

For more information:

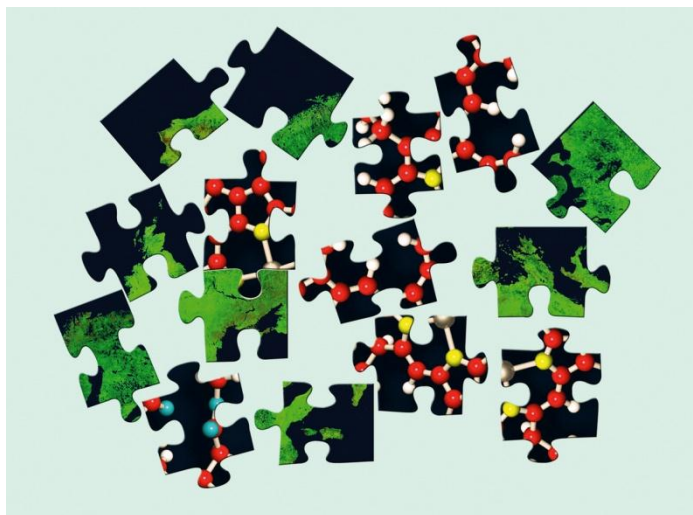
www.esf.org/about-esf/latest-developments-between-esf-eurohorcs.html

Part 2: About EUROCORES

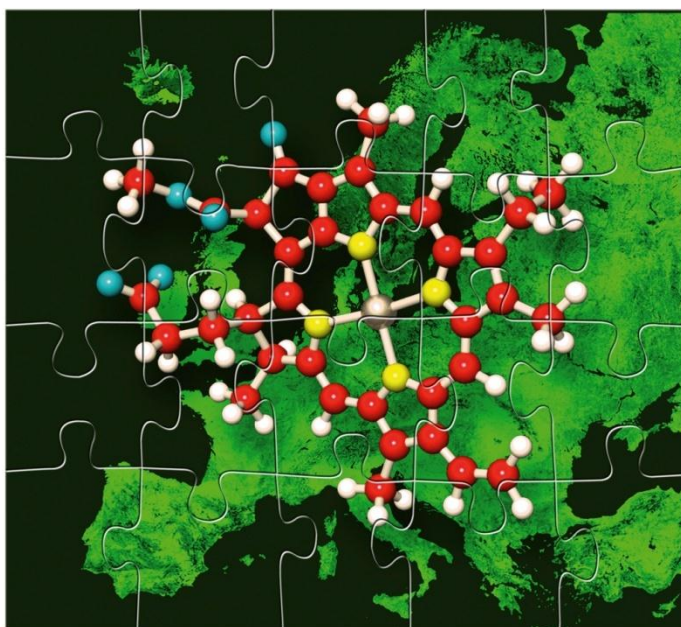
European Collaborative Research Programmes



**fragmented
research strengths**



**new, integrated
knowledge**



EUROCORES Vision

Responsive mode

- Bottom-up, researcher-led identification of themes
- Consultation with funders
- Combines researcher's needs and strategic priorities

Funding agencies join forces

to support cutting edge collaborative research on complex / broad questions

Create critical mass in a global context:

New approaches, new collaborations, new knowledge

Complementary to national research programmes and EC framework programme

EUROCORES – Main Features

- Multi-national research projects
- European competition
- Funding remains national
- ESF ensures quality control
- Provides flexible framework for collaboration of national funding agencies

A Eurocores programme typically involves

- 8-20 countries participating in Call for Proposals (EuroUnderstanding: 18)
- a research budget of ca. 5 M€ (EuroUnderstanding: 3M€)
- A running time of 3 years

Part 2: About EuroUnderstanding





About EuroUnderstanding

The EUROCORES programme

**“Understanding and Misunderstanding:
Cognition, Communication and Culture”
(EuroUnderstanding)**

invites researchers from the Humanities to collaborate with each other, as well as with colleagues from the life sciences and social sciences, to analyse the conditions for interpersonal, intra-group and intergroup understanding. The programme works towards an integration of the different levels of analyses in a non-reductionist framework and in this way advances the science and scholarship of understanding and misunderstanding.

Running time: 2011- 2014

www.esf.org/eurounderstanding

EuroUnderstanding - Collaborative Research Projects (CRPs)



Communication in Context: Shared Understanding in a Complex World (CCCOM)

Project Leader: Åsa Wikforss, Stockholm University

Digging for the roots of understanding (DRUST)

Project Leader: Guenther Knoblich, Radboud University Nijmegen / CEU Budapest

Understanding the Normative Dimensions of Human Conduct: Conceptual and Developmental Issues (NormCon)

Project Leader: Josef Perner, Universität Salzburg

EuroUnderstanding – Supporting funding organizations



Forsknings- og
Innovationsstyrelsen
Ministeriet for Videnskab
Teknologi og Udvikling



Vetenskapsrådet



Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



FCT Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
MINISTÉRIO DA CIÊNCIA, TECNOLOGIA E ENSINO SUPERIOR



Ministerstwo Nauki
i Szkolnictwa Wyższego



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

EuroUnderstanding – cross-CRP Networking



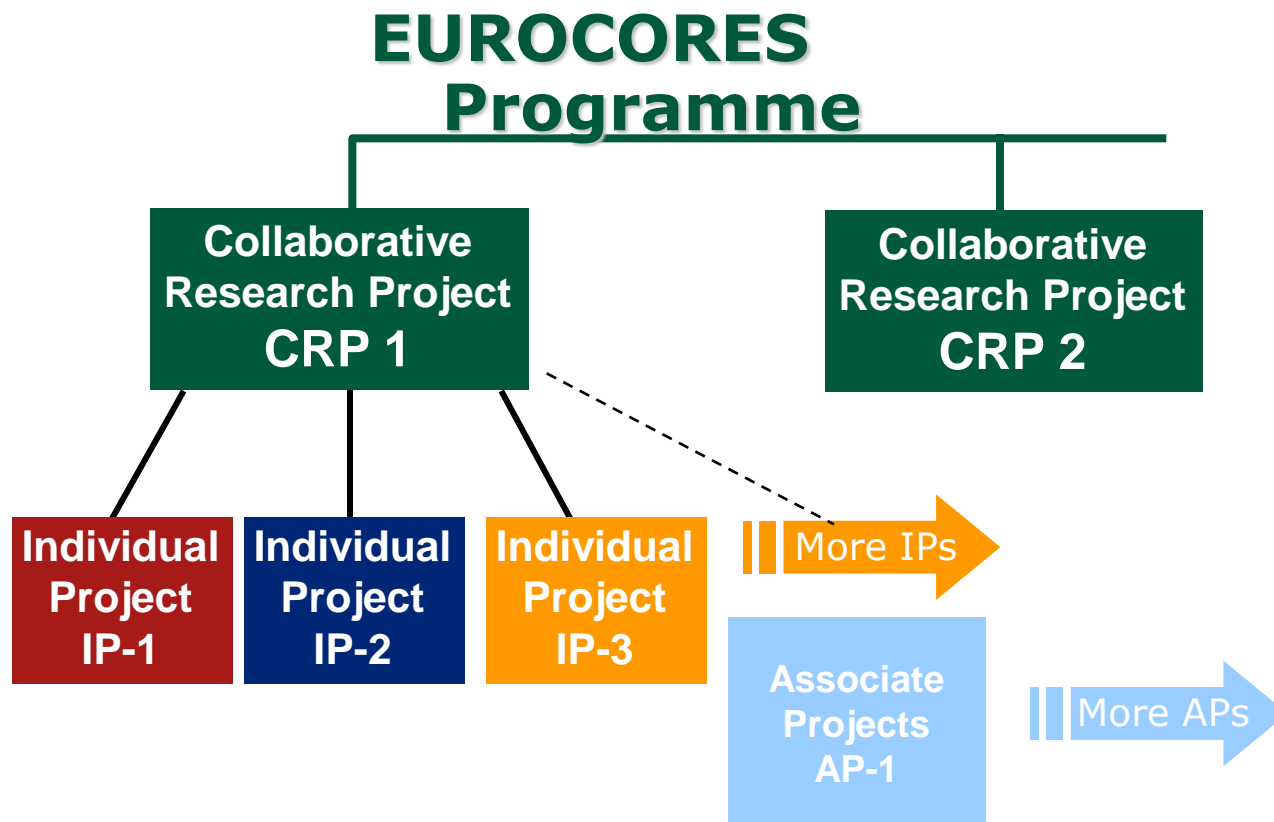
- “EuroUnderstanding Launch Meeting”
14-16 October 2010, Malmö, Sweden

Next ?

Aim:

- Enhance existing collaborations;
- Identify new and strategic partnership opportunities;
- Explore aspects of the programme that are not covered by the funded projects

Networking at various levels



EuroUnderstanding – What is Next?

(for EuroUnderstanding members only)



Typically, EUROCORES programmes invite proposals for

- **Networking activities**
- **Training activities**
- **Dissemination activities**
- **Short-Term visits**

(for programme members only)

For the latest information (expected by the end of the year):
www.esf.org/eurounderstanding

www.esf.org/eurounderstanding

eurounderstanding@esf.org