



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The Director-General

Brussels,
RTD.DDG1.A5 (2018)206919

Subject: Public consultation on the next EU Research & Innovation programme

Dear research and innovation stakeholders,

On 10 January 2018, the European Commission launched a series of public consultations clustered by key policy areas, in preparation for the EU's next long-term budget post-2020 (MFF). Citizens, organisations and businesses can give their views online until 8 March 2018.

The consultation on EU funds in the area of investment, research & innovation, SMEs and single market can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-eu-funds-area-investment-research-innovation-smes-and-single-market_en.

Your feedback is essential. This is **THE** moment to express your support, based on the EU added value of EU R&I programmes¹, building on the success of Horizon 2020² and given the importance of research and innovation in extending the frontiers of knowledge, boosting Europe's productivity and competitiveness, addressing the grand societal challenges and sustaining our socio-economic model and values. It is important that these messages are clearly passed.

The public consultation on the Interim Evaluation of Horizon 2020 received over 3500 replies - a strong signal of your interest. Please mobilise your networks so that we gather even more views for this important consultation. Let's make "*Foster research and innovation across the EU*" (dedicated box in the consultation questionnaire) stand out as a clear priority for the future.

I would like to thank you in advance for your support and your feedback.



Robert-Jan Smits

¹ See Annex 4 of '[LAB-FAB-APP: Investing in the European future we want](#)', published in July 2017

² COM(2018)2 - Horizon 2020 interim evaluation: maximising the impact of EU research and innovation