

Dear All,

We are pleased to present the second issue of the newsletter of the Polish Science Contact Agency (PolSCA) of the Polish Academy of Sciences! We have just completed a yet another busy period, full of activities focused mainly on issues related to the next framework program Horizon Europe. In addition, members of the PolSCA team actively participated in various events, including the international, interdisciplinary conference 'Capitalism, personality and culture' in Paris ([link](#)) or conference held by the French CNRS 'Which scientific diplomacy for Horizon Europe. The contribution of the main players' ([link](#)).



Here, we have prepared for you a summary of the most important events of the second quarter of 2019, as well as those planned for the coming months. In a brief summary, we present the actions that have been taken to prepare the Horizon Europa program and inform you about the most recent Work Programs and competitions under Horizon 2020.

We wish you interesting reading!

On the behalf of the PolSCA team – **prof. Małgorzata Molęda-Zdziech, director**

The most recent activities

Conference 'After the European elections. What future for Europe?'

On May 28th 2019, the French-Polish-German scientific meeting took place at the University of Warsaw as part of the series 'Academic looks: seminar Actualité critique'. It was devoted to the situation in Europe after the elections to the European Parliament. One of the organizers of the conference was the Polish Science Contact Agency, represented by prof. Małgorzata Molęda-Zdziech.



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A series of meetings 'Discussions on Horizon in the PolSCA Office'

In May 2019, Polish Science Contact Agency began a series of meetings on EU framework programs, both Horizon 2020 and changes as well as new instruments proposed in Horizon Europe (HEU). These meetings are mainly addressed to the representatives of Polish regions in Brussels, who can suggest different solutions supporting the research and science community at the regional level.



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Study visit and conference on digital transformation

In June 2019, PolSCA co-organized two events in Brussels, the leading theme of which was digitization and technological changes. The first of them - the study visit '[Transforming and Digitizing Industry](#)' - was an excellent opportunity to present the potential of the Polish manufacturing industry, as well as familiarize with European initiatives that support entrepreneurship and innovation. The aim of the second event - the V4 conference 'Digital Transformation' was to gather experts, specialists, researchers and practitioners dealing with the issues of digital transformation.



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Presentation of the PolSCA activities in Cracow and Brussels

In the second quarter of 2019, PolSCA team had the opportunity to present the profile of its activity twice. Dr Adam Knapik - at the invitation of the Jagiellonian Centre for African Studies - took part in [a seminar of MA and doctoral students of the Jagiellonian University](#), where he presented the structure of the Horizon Europe program as well. Moreover, Dr Justyna Kramarczyk explained how research liaison office works during the international course for young scientists 'Navigating Brussels. How can the EU help you to develop your scientific career'.



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Coming events

- ✚ September 9th, October 4th – meetings with experts (from EC, REA) for representations of Polish regions and business organisations in Brussels
- ✚ October 7th – AI Networking Event
- ✚ October 10th – conference „The future of the EU, military cooperation and transatlantic relation’ (Paris)
- ✚ November 18-20th – autumn edition of the ‘V4 Training’ for managers of EU-funded research projects



We also invite you to a series of brokerage events, for instance of Societal Challenges, Transport, Swafs (Science with and for Society) or AI and Health; current information to be found on the [PolSCA website](#).

Strategic planning process within Horizon Europe - hot summer, while awaiting for the "hot" autumn of 2019



The past quarter was a bit quieter, because it was time for the Commission to work on the next steps of preparation for the Horizon Europa framework program, while Member States and R&D sector organizations' were getting ready for these stages. Already at the beginning of April 2019, the representatives of the [IGLO](#) network - as part of the IGLO Open seminar - had the opportunity to get to know the EC's plans in the field of the so-called **strategic planning**, as [PolSCA](#) wrote about it [HERE](#). In addition, a number of organizations have started publishing their position papers, e.g. [NETH-ER](#), [EARTO](#)

or [The Guild](#) (of which Jagiellonian University is a member) have already referred to specific aspects of the future implementation of the program, including issues like synergies, financial aspects (MGA, lump-sums etc.) or the presence of **SSH** within the framework program, which was a major issue of the working paper by the Vienna-based [Institute for Advanced Sciences](#).

In May, the [call for experts](#) within the **Mission Boards** was announced, while at the beginning of July EC has announced the names of five Chairs. A role of Chair of the climate-neutral and smart cities board was offered to Prof. Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, former president of Warsaw. Soon we hope to learn the full composition of the five Boards. At the same time, the EC is starting a dialogue with the Member States as part of the so-called *Shadow Strategic Configuration of the Horizon Europe Program Committee* (SPC).



In the second quarter, the **Polish Academy of Sciences** is preparing a network of its institutes to participate in the consultations on the 2021-2024 **Strategic Plan**. This includes a thorough analysis of clusters and topics covered therein, and proposals for partnerships under the 2nd pillar. The Commission announces the opening of registration for a highly anticipated event of the **EU Research & Innovation Days** and closes it quickly due to its above-average interest (more information [HERE](#)). At the same time, by the end of June we get a taste of what the co-creation process of Horizon Europe and the first Strategic Plan will look like: The European Commission publishes the [orientations](#) material and launches the [consultation](#) process, which will end on **September 8th**. [PolSCA](#) is currently preparing further materials and activities in this respect towards the network of PAN institutes.

European Research Council ([ERC](#))

[Advanced Grants](#) | ERC-2019-AdG | **29/08/2019**
[Proof of Concept](#) | ERC-2019-PoC | **19/09/2019**

Excellence in Science Office – [Grant-up!](#) offers support for all candidates interested in participating in these competitions

[Starting Grants](#) | ERC-2020-StG | **16/10/2019**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions ([MSCA](#))

[MSCA-COFUND-2019](#) | 4/04/2019 >> **26/09/2019**
[MSCA-IF-2019](#) | 11/04/2019 >> **11/09/2019**
Calls for ITN and RISE will be opened in the 2nd half of 2019

Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

[Twinning](#) | WIDESPRED-05-2020 | 24/07/2019 >> **14/11/2019**
[ERA Chairs](#) | WIDESPRED-06-2020 | 24/07/2019 >> **14/11/2019**
[Widening Fellowships](#) | 11/04/2019 >> **11/09/2019**

EIC Pilot under H2020 ([link](#))

Pathfinder | [FET Proactive](#) and [Transition to Innovation](#)
eg.: AI&Robotics, ICT in Health, Climate change technologies
Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) | **27/10/19** and 19/02/20

The last Work Programmes and Calls of [Horizon 2020](#)

Read how UE is planning to invest **11 billion EURO** in R&D via [NCP](#) web service. EC publishes [#factsheets](#) regarding its [focus areas](#) and H2020 [country profiles](#), including [Poland](#).