High-level conference
EU research and innovation in our daily life

27 November 2018, 14:00-19:00 CET
European Parliament, Brussels

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK – TOPICAL DIGEST
November 2018

Research and innovation are not only important drivers of economic development and job creation, they are also indispensable elements of our daily lives. Examples include areas such as health and wellbeing (e.g. radiotherapy, cancer treatment), sustainable environment (e.g. weather forecasts, solar energy), transport (e.g. satnav, e-cars), innovative consumer products (e.g. tablets, smartphones) and security (e.g. border control, tsunami alerts). The involvement of the European Union in research activities (outside the coal and nuclear fields) began in the 1970s. With the deepening of European integration, research became a Community competence. In this regard, several successive framework programmes were adopted. As of May 2018, the current framework programme, Horizon 2020, has supported over 18 000 projects, with over €31 billion awarded. The following publications of the European Parliament's Research Service and Policy Departments provide background information and analysis on research, development and innovation related topics on a broad scale. In addition, a briefing has been prepared specifically for the high-level conference: [Research and innovation in the EU – Evolution, achievements, challenges](.)

Interim evaluation of Horizon 2020
Briefing by Vincent Reillon, European Parliamentary Research Service, March 2018
As required by its regulation, the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 – the current EU framework programme for research and innovation – began in October 2016 with a public consultation to gather feedback from stakeholders three years in. The Commission performed its own mid-term evaluation and asked experts to evaluate the programme's specific instruments. In parallel, the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the advisory committees conducted their own, separate evaluations of the programme.

European app economy: State of play, challenges and EU policy
Briefing by Marcin Sczepanski, European Parliamentary Research Service, May 2018
Ten years have passed since the app economy was launched. Since then apps have evolved to play an increasingly important role in the life of citizens and have become crucial to the success of many industries. Growing connectivity and availability of portable devices ensure that this trend will continue. The European app economy is rather successful and accounts for just under a third of revenues in the global market.

European Artificial Intelligence (AI) leadership, the path for an integrated vision
Study by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies, September 2018
As a general-purpose technology, artificial intelligence (AI) is expected to bring about far-reaching effects on business and society. Worldwide, governments have launched ambitious programmes to support the development of AI-based technologies and achieve technology leadership.

3D bio-printing for medical and enhancement purposes
Study by Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA), European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2018
3D bio-printing is defined here as the use of 3D printing technology for applications related to the body, whether they include biological material or not, and whether or not their purpose is medical. It includes any application for rehabilitating, supporting or augmenting any kind of biological functionality. The impacts of 3D bio-printing are uncertain, and it is not clear what actions may be required to foster responsible development of the technology.

Further reading:

[EU Research Policy: Tackling the major challenges facing European society](#)
Briefing by Christian Salm, European Parliamentary Research Service, March 2017

[An EU intellectual property policy to boost innovation](#)
Briefing by Elodie Thirion, European Added Value Unit, EPRS, April 2018

[EU framework programmes for research and innovation: Evolution and key data from FP1 to Horizon 2020 in view of FP9](#)
In-depth Analysis by Vincent Reillon, European Parliamentary Research Service, September 2017

[European Technology and Innovation Platforms](#)
'At a glance' note by Vincent Reillon, European Parliamentary Research Service, May 2017

[European space policy: Historical perspective, specific aspects and key challenges](#)
In-depth Analysis by Vincent Reillon, European Parliamentary Research Service, January 2017

[European high-performance computing joint undertaking](#)
'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Maria Del Mar Negreiro Achiaga, EPRS, June 2018

[Forward-looking policy-making at the European Parliament through scientific foresight](#)
Briefing by Lieve Van Woensel, Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA), EPRS, August 2017

[Should we fear artificial intelligence?](#)
In-depth Analysis by Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA), EPRS, March 2018

[Ten more technologies which could change our lives](#)
In-depth Analysis by Christian Kurrer, Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA), EPRS, July 2017

What If...?

A publication [series](#) prepared by the Scientific Foresight Service within EPRS, seeking to raise awareness and provide a thought-provoking overview of current and relevant techno-scientific trends. Each publication in the series concerns one trend, such as:
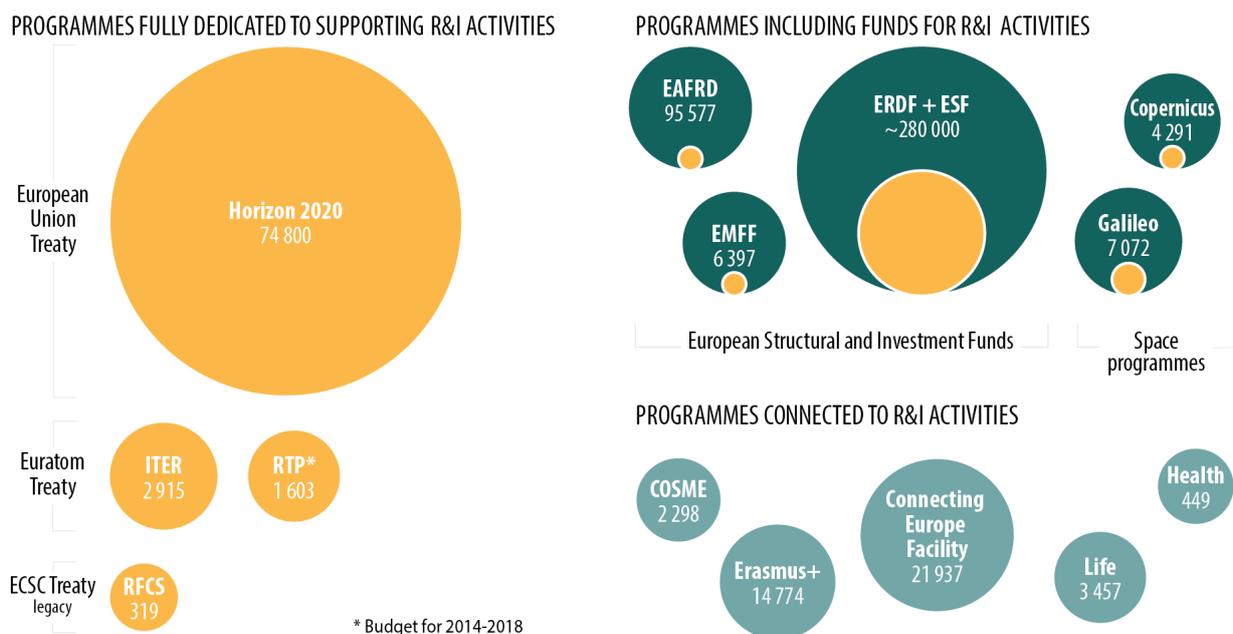
[What if computers were trillions of times faster?](#)
[What if we could 3D-print our own body parts](#)
[What if all our meat were grown in a lab?](#)

In the [Graphics Warehouse](#):

Overview of EU programmes funding, or connected to, R&I activities and their respective budgets (in million euros)

PROGRAMMES FULLY DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING R&I ACTIVITIES

European Union Treaty — Horizon 2020 74 800

Euratom Treaty — ITER 2 915 — RTP* 1 603

ECSC Treaty legacy — RFCS 319

* Budget for 2014-2018

PROGRAMMES INCLUDING FUNDS FOR R&I ACTIVITIES

EAFRD 95 577 — ERDF + ESF ~280 000 — Copernicus 4 291

EMFF 6 397 — Galileo 7 072

European Structural and Investment Funds — Space programmes

PROGRAMMES CONNECTED TO R&I ACTIVITIES

COSME 2 298 — Erasmus+ 14 774 — Connecting Europe Facility 21 937 — Life 3 457 — Health 449

Data source: Multiannual Financial Framework, European Commission, 2015.

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