



HERA

Humanities in the European Research Area

Culture and values are as important as economics and behaviour for an industrially competitive and innovative Europe. Research on societal and cultural cohesion therefore requires commensurate budgetary resources in the area of 3 billion EUR spread evenly over the three dedicated areas in cluster 2 “Inclusive and secure society” and another 10 billion EUR on integrative activities over all pillars of Horizon Europe.

European societies currently face unprecedented challenges, with human and social values that citizens take for granted, such as **democracy, equality and justice being increasingly compromised**. Knowledge and evidence-based policy making are powerful tools to tackle these challenges and to ensure citizens trust in science. Therefore, there is an imminent need to invest more in research in the field of humanities, which lies at the core of European societies. **Identity, history and languages, culture and heritage, democracy and society**, are some of the important issues which are dealt with by the dynamic and diversified humanities and social sciences research community all over Europe and beyond. This need is emphasised in many of the policy papers behind the proposal for Horizon Europe, the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, such as the [Horizon 2020 interim evaluation](#) and the [Lamy report](#).

While it is important to stimulate economic growth and support market-driven innovation through research, it is important that the values that lie at the foundation of all societies are understood. This entails not only involving humanities research as a cross-cutting issue, but ensure that **dedicated funding is allocated to the field**. In line with the EU's proposed mission-led approach in research, the humanities, together with social sciences, could lead a [mission on societies](#), involving technology and natural sciences in a holistic approach to tackling the societal challenges. This approach would place the importance of social and human values at the heart of European funded research.

- We suggest to provide a fair and more even spread of budget between the five clusters, with a budget of 6 billion EUR for the cluster "Inclusive and secure society", spread evenly over the six intervention areas.
- We suggest to keep in mind that cultural and historical conditions and values are needed in tackling global challenges and fostering industrial competitiveness and that these human factors are taken into account in all of Horizon Europe.
- We therefore suggest to provide 10 billion EUR on integrative activities on research on human factors in research and innovation spread over all pillars.
- We suggest to explicitly add social sciences and humanities and their expertise on the human factor as a cross-cutting issue into Horizon Europe's legal foundation and provide the grounds for evaluation and monitoring of this aspect as well as for formulating future work programmes.