Presidency of the Czech Republic of the Council of the EU in 2022



REGON – Regional Grant Office Network Meeting 1st June 2022, Brno

1. CZECH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

POLITICAL FRAMEWORK

- After 2009, historically the second Czech EU Council Presidency
- To be commenced on 1st July and concluded on 31st December
- Integral part of the Presidency Trio of France Czechia Sweden
- Eighteen-month Presidency Trio Programme from December 2021
- European Commission's Work Programme/Policy Agenda for 2022
- CROSS-SECTORIAL FLAGSHIP PRIORITIES
 - Managing the refugees' crisis and post-war recovery of Ukraine
 - Energy security of Europe
 - Reinforcement of the European defense capacities and cyberspace security
 - Strategic resilience of the European economy
 - Resilience of the democratic institutions

• SECTORIAL PRIORITIES IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH

- European research infrastructure ecosystem
- Synergies in the research and innovation funding in Europe
- European innovation agenda





2. EUROPEAN RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE ECOSYSTEM

• **RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES** as an essential component of the European critical infrastructure and a key instrument for the post-pandemic recovery with great potential to strengthen resilience and preparedness of the European societies to tackle present and future societal and economic crises requiring knowledge-based solutions

HIGH-LEVEL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Follow-up on strategic orientations of the 2020 ESFRI White Paper and the 2021 ESFRI Roadmap Update, and endorsement of the EU Council Conclusions to set out top-priority actions to advance the European research infrastructure ecosystem
- Call for action by the Brno Declaration to develop a global research infrastructure ecosystem, taking into account the political priorities of the EU external relations, based on multilateralism and balanced reciprocal openness, promoting a level playing field underpinned by fundamental values and common framework conditions

• Key Presidency Events

- European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures 18th – 19th October 2022 in Brno
- International Conference on Research Infrastructures 19th – 21st October 2022 in Brno



3. Synergies in the Research and Innovation Funding in Europe

• SYNERGIES between national/regional and European research and innovation funding instruments, including the Horizon Europe EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, EU Cohesion Policy Funds, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Digital Europe Programme, InvestEU Fund, etc., as a key tool to increase the research and innovation funding intensity in Europe and exploit the full potential of the science and technology cooperation in the EU

HIGH-LEVEL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Organisation of a flagship conference on synergies to share experience, and exchange good practices and lessons learned, identify bottlenecks preventing from harvesting the full potential of synergies
- Call for action by the Prague Declaration to reinforce the commitments by the European Commission and Member States to continue removing barriers on synergies, and endorsement of the EU Council Conclusions following the report by the European Court of Auditors

• Key Presidency Events

- Conference on Synergies in the Research and Innovation Funding in Europe 7th – 8th July 2022 in Prague
- Informal Meeting of European Research Ministers 21st – 22nd July 2022 in Prague



4. EUROPEAN INNOVATION AGENDA

• EUROPEAN INNOVATION AGENDA, leading to a more integrated and cohesive European innovation ecosystem as an instrument to reinforce the European capacities and capabilities to accelerate and master the innovative solutions and facilitate the post-pandemic recovery, green and digital (twin) transition, and open strategic autonomy of the EU

HIGH-LEVEL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Adoption of the EU **Council Conclusions** following the publication of the Commission Communication on the New European Innovation Agenda
 - Improve access to risk finance by start-up companies, which develop breakthrough, disruptive and deep-tech innovation, and create new markets, and thereby close the scale-up gap in Europe
 - Reform framework regulatory conditions for innovation to mobilise the private capital investments in European innovative enterprises
 - Strengthen and better interconnect innovation ecosystems at the EU and Member State levels to facilitate cooperation of innovation actors
 - Bridge the innovation divide and close the innovation gap, which are still persisting between European countries / the EU's macro-regions
 - Advance business and entrepreneurial skills in higher education, academia, research, vocational education and training programmes



5. POLICY DOCUMENTS

EU COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON WIDENING

- Following the report by the European Court of Auditors
- Adoption within three months after release of the report

• EU COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON SYNERGIES

- Following the report by the European Court of Auditors
- Adoption within three months after release of the report
- EU COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
 - Adoption by Research COMPET on 2nd December 2022
- EU COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON INNOVATION
 - Adoption by Research COMPET on 2nd December 2022
- PRAGUE DECLARATION ON SYNERGIES IN THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING IN EUROPE
 - Endorsement by European Research Ministers per rollam
- BRNO DECLARATION ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
 - Endorsement by participants of ICRI 2022



6. Key Presidency Events (I)

CONFERENCE ON SYNERGIES IN THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING IN EUROPE

7th – 8th July 2022 in Prague

INFORMAL MEETING OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH MINISTERS

 $21^{st} - 22^{nd}$ July 2022 in Prague

ATTACHÉ TRIP

 $9^{th} - 12^{th}$ September 2022 in Prague and South Bohemia

RESEARCH WORKING GROUP OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EU

13th – 14th September 2022 in Prague

EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

13th – 14th September 2022 in Prague

FORMAL MEETING OF THE EU COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL – RESEARCH

30th September 2022 in Brussels (TBC)

WORKSHOP ON THE FORESIGHT IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

1st half of October 2022, exact date to be decided





6. Key Presidency Events (II)

EUROPEAN STRATEGY FORUM ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

18th – 19th October 2022 in Brno

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

19th – 21st October 2022 in Brno

KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE

10th – 11th November 2022 in Prague

EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD SYMPOSIUM AND EOSC STEERING BOARD MEETING

14th – 17th November 2022 in Prague

CONFERENCE ON THE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

24th – 25th November 2022 in Prague

FORMAL MEETING OF THE EU COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL – RESEARCH

2nd December 2022 in Brussels











THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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