

All European Academies

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SCIENCE POLICY: INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS BY EUROPEAN ACADEMIES

Seminar: Society needs independent analysis:
the role of the OECD

Estonian Academy of Sciences, June 2, 2010





— ALLEA (1)

European Federation of National Academies of Sciences and Humanities

represents 53 academies in 40 European countries

Academies embody:

- scholarly and scientific excellence
- independence from political and commercial interest
- authority in the scientific community and the society



— ALLEA (2)

ALLEA aims at:

- to provide added value to its Member Academies in their activities
- to analyse issues relating to science, research and higher education in their European dimension and to make proposals for their resolution
- to address science policy and science foresight challenges at the European level
- to defend the freedom of science and to strengthen high ethical standards in the conduct of science



— On world (1)

The world is a complex place, where education, research, industry, society, environment, etc are linked locally and globally into complicated networks and patterns; it is through the proactivity of the single elements that new added values emerge.

Research matters because it is “a vital part of the social tapestry of a modern state” (LERU).

Research not only contributes to innovation and to economic development, it is about man, society and the world, about culture and human perception, about inquiry into phenomena; it is response to societal problems, to natural hazards and to climate change, a way of improving health and education and so on.

Science makes a map of world.



— On world (2)

New challenges in research – particle physics, molecular biology, brain research, climate research, energy research, complexity and many more are promising and the results will give without any doubt new knowledge to mankind.

Knowledge about man and nature, knowledge about society, knowledge to be used in practice.

In this fast developing world, academies have an extremely important role fostering top level research, furthering critical thinking in society and promoting independence and freedom of science.

Fascinating time.

— ALLEA



Selected publications, statements:

- European Science and Scientists between Freedom and Responsibility, 1999.
- Reflections on the FP 6, 2001.
- National Strategies of Research in Smaller European Countries, 2002.
- Memorandum on Scientific Integrity, 2003.
- Reflections on FP 7, 2005.
- Challenges of the Future: Reflections of ALLEA on ERA, 2007.
- Reflections of ALLEA on the EC Green Paper, 2008.
- ESF/ALLEA: Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 2009.



— Reflection of ALLEA on ERA

- Knowledge-based society
- Political will to develop ERA must be fed by community
- All shareholders should clearly define (and re-define, if necessary) their role and targets
- Science-society partnership and the freedom of research
- Science ethics

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Reflection of ALLEA on the EC Green Paper 2007

- Clarification needed:
 - ◆ division of responsibility
 - ◆ coordination
 - ◆ fragmentation
- ALLEA view on:
 - ◆ ERA vision
 - ◆ single labour market for researchers
 - ◆ developing infrastructures
 - ◆ strengthening researchers motivation
 - ◆ sharing knowledge
 - ◆ optimizing research programmes
 - ◆ opening to the world science ethics

RESEARCH MATTERS!



Thank you very much for your attention!