



Norwegian Research Council

April 28<sup>th</sup> 2017

**Preliminary Positions on the EUs next Framework Programme for research innovation ("FP9") – University of Bergen**

- 1) There is a general lack of success of the SSH-integration. The severe social and cultural challenges in Europe, in relation to democracy, unemployment, inequality, migration, terrorism and the role of Europe in the world, should be given more attention in the work for a solid policy in FP9.
- 2) The commission should establish a general policy for interdisciplinarity across FP9 that readdress and rethink the current efforts to integrate the social sciences and humanities. This way, we can avoid the pitfalls of taking for granted that our societies are working.
- 3) The role of ERC should not be downplayed and the budget in the first pillar should not be changed, but within Societal Challenges more funds should be allocated to frontier research at lower TRLs in order to ensure synergy between activities in ERC and topics in Societal Challenges
- 4) Enabling technologies and the relationship between health and society must all fit into an overall framework. A more strategic and comprehensive approach towards these issues is necessary in the new framework programme.
- 5) On March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017, the European Commission published an evaluation report pushing Blue Growth higher on the political agenda. As one of Europe's key 'emerging industries Blue Growth should be outlined as one of FP9's main missions
- 6) The Commission will launch a preparatory action on Defence research in 2017. This programme should not be part of the scope of a future framework programme. Neither should it have any implications for future financing of the new framework programme.

We also refer to the previous position paper from the rectors of Norway's universities for further key points in preparation of the next framework programme.

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