



*Research On Societies in Europe*

# **CULTIVATING EUROPE: DEMOCRATIC EUROPE • SOCIAL EUROPE EDUCATED EUROPE**

## **Genesis, First Steps and Recommendations**

***Geny Piotti and Ursula Schlichter  
Working Group ROSE***

*Workshop Coordinating Policy Recommendations for Durable Action  
Brussels 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018*

# Research on Societies in Europe - ROSE



## **Who we are**

Working Group of Officers for EU Research Affairs in German Universities

## **What do we have in common?**

- We work in Universities/Research Institutions with strategic focus on Social Sciences and the Humanities.
- We follow the debate on the Social Sciences and the Humanities in European Framework Programmes and
- We are in contact with the basis (scientists, applications, projects)

# Why ROSE - Analysis



## Striking GAP between

a) the **importance of societal issues for Europe** and the aims the European Commission has recently defined for its future

- ✓ Social Europe
- ✓ creating more unity within our societies
- ✓ Harmonizing social security rights

and

b) surprising **low budget for research on societal issues** very **limited number of projects financed**, high complains of the Commission about the **lack of impact**.

## How to foster a mentality of impact generation from scientific results in Research on Societies?

- Purenness of Science vs. pragmatic vision of science that includes communication for general public and impact
- Encourage involvement of stakeholders in projects
- Encourage diversified instruments for publication of results
- Training simplification without loosing scientific rigor
- Follow the work of projects such as Dandelion/COURAGE and be inspired by their recommendations

# ROSE Action II: towards Institutional Stakeholders



Research On Societies in Europe

**Contact stakeholders** (Commission, ministeries, NCPs, KoWi, policy oriented consortia, communities, networks and alliances etc..)

- State importance of **Research on Societies** and point to contradictions (Europe without research on itself?)
- Redefine **Impact/Missions** in order to include Research on Societies
- Propose **topic ideas** (that cannot be refused)
- Claim for **more budget more project** (in order to enhance impact)

# ROSE – Where are we now



Research On Societies in Europe

## CULTIVATING EUROPE: DEMOCRATIC EUROPE • SOCIAL EUROPE • EDUCATED EUROPE

The screenshot shows the website for ROSE (Research On Societies) on the JGU Mainz website. The page title is "ROSE: Research on Societies". It features the ROSE logo and a list of founding members: Nicole Birkle (JGU Mainz), Geny Piotty (Europauniversität Viadrina Frankfurt), Ursula Schlichter (Universität Mannheim), and Christian Veldmann (Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen). A text box highlights the text: "ROSE ist eine neu eingerichtete Arbeitsgruppe deutscher EU-Referentinnen und Referenten. Unsere wichtigsten Ziele sind die Mitgestaltung bei der Debatte um die Ausgestaltung des nächsten EU Rahmenprogramms für Forschung und Innovation FP9 und die nachhaltige Stärkung der Rolle gesellschaftlich relevanter Forschungen in nationalen Förderlandschaften und im Europäischen Forschungsraum. Wir verstehen diese Wissenschaftsfelder als Eckpfeiler einer zukünftigen Blüte Europas." Below this, it lists the founding members and provides contact information: "Möchten auch Sie unsere Empfehlung und weitere Aktivitäten unterstützen, kontaktieren Sie uns über [rose-eu@uni-mainz.de](mailto:rose-eu@uni-mainz.de)".

Soon: Link to sign for support

The image shows three tilted boxes, each representing a pillar of the ROSE initiative:

- DEMOCRATIC EUROPE**
  - Enhancing trust and transparency in politics
  - Bringing Europe to the citizens in times of crisis
  - Rethinking European Governance in times of crisis
- SOCIAL EUROPE**
  - Ensuring Social Security in times of transformation
  - Enabling Solidarity from the local to the global
  - Making Social Market Economies sustainable
- EDUCATED EUROPE**
  - Ensuring equal education to the citizens
  - Fostering knowledge in a post-factual society
  - Fostering innovation through education

Link to the recommendation  
[http://www.uni-mainz.de/forschung/2609\\_ENG\\_HTML.php](http://www.uni-mainz.de/forschung/2609_ENG_HTML.php)

# ROSE – How did we get there



Research On Societies in Europe

2017

Feb Conference Dinner in Bonn – foundation of initiative (six German EU research officers)

Apr First meeting – define aims, concept and organisation of workshop on SSH

Jun **KoWi Workshop “Research on Societies in Horizon 2020 and beyond”**  
- Interview with Philippe Keraudren  
- Workshop with SSH-interested colleagues

**writing down a 5-pages manifesto**

Dec Second Meeting – fixing content of paper “missions” (2-3 pages)

Jan **Recommendation paper finalized (1 page)**

Feb publication of recommendation

*Future:* Scientist – Stakeholder meeting  
„keep in touch“

2018

## Important issues/best practices

### Visibility

- > Act on our own - join another established group – coordinate with others?

### Identify supporters in key positions

- > in research, university heads, NCPs, ministries, in politics, in European Commission

**Who knows whom?**

### Effective communication

- > distille small, clear messages

### Be open and flexible

- > use options for presentation and publicity
- > react and contribute to current issues

### Representation of the group

- > contact - spokesperson
- > name
- > webpage
- > ongoing communication

**TIME**

# Thank you!

Participation  
in events



*Research On Societies in Europe*

Cooperation

Joining forces

## You are welcome to contact us

[rose-eu@uni-mainz.de](mailto:rose-eu@uni-mainz.de)