France Universités
Réunion des correspondants Europe
Maison Irene & Frederic Joliot-Curie
22-11-2022

Volet Recherche des Universités européennes et vision de l'excellence de la DG R&I

Apostolia KARAMALI

Head of Unit

R&I Actors and Research Careers

European Commission, DG R&I

© European Union, 2020

Policy Framework

Pact for research and innovation in Europe

- **10 values and principles**
- **4 priority areas**
  - Deepening ERA
  - Broadening ERA and relevance
  - Amplifying access to excellence
  - Advancing R&I investments and reforms
- **Research and development targets**

ERA Policy Agenda

- Designed to contribute to the priority areas of the Pact for R&I, setting out the voluntary **ERA actions** which are defined and coordinated at Union level.

- **20 actions for 2022-24**

ERA Governance

ERA Forum (+ subgroups)

Expert group for coordination and implementation of the ERA, together with EU countries, Associated countries and stakeholders

ERAC

high-level strategic policy body, providing advice

Council

Decision making
"Owner" of Policy Agenda

ERA Monitoring

- Ensure a proper basis for **evidence informed policy making**
- Provide evidence and analysis **in the context of the European Semester**

ERA Policy Agenda

DEEPENING A TRULY FUNCTIONING INTERNAL MARKET FOR KNOWLEDGE

1. Open sharing of knowledge, incl. EOSC
2. Data legislation fit for research
3. Reform of research assessment
4. Strengthen research careers
5. Gender equality and inclusiveness
6. Protect academic freedom
7. Better knowledge valorisation
8. Research infrastructures
9. International cooperation, reciprocity

TOGETHER FOR TWIN GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSITION, AND INCREASING SOCIETY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ERA

10. R&I Missions and Partnerships for ERA
11. Green energy transformation
12. Transition of industrial ecosystems
13. Empower higher education institutions
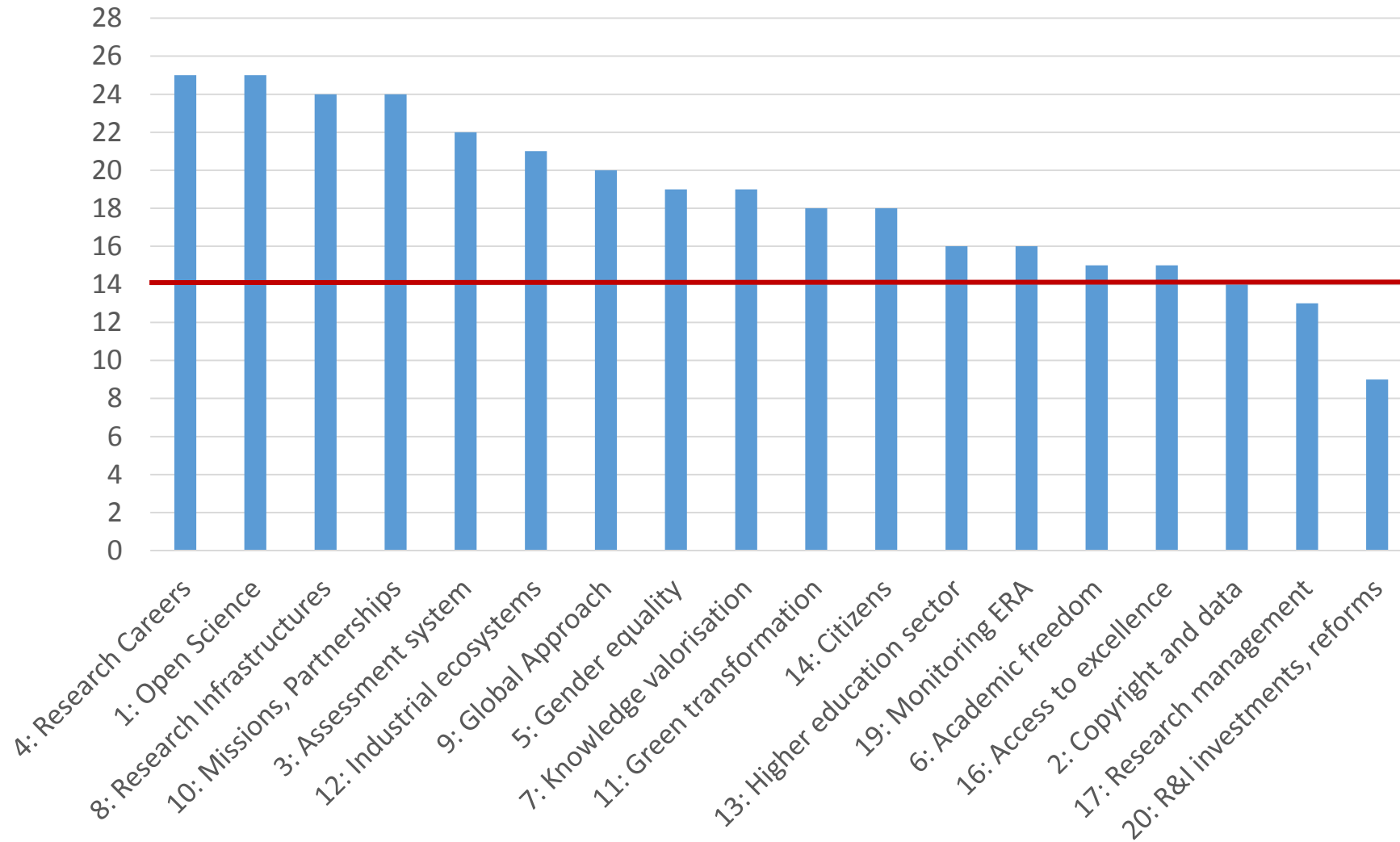14. Bring science closer to society

AMPLIFYING ACCESS TO RESEARCH AND INNOVATION EXCELLENCE ACROSS THE UNION

15. Regional and national R&I ecosystems
16. EU-wide access to excellence
17. Strategic capacity of public RPOs/RFOs

ADVANCING CONCERTED R&I INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS

18. Coordination national support for ERA
19. ERA monitoring mechanism
20. Prioritisation and coordination of R&I investments and reforms

European Commission

Member States' commitment per action

28-10-2022

ERA Action 13: *Empower higher education institutions* to develop in line with the ERA, and in synergy with EEA

Cooperation for excellence

- Raise excellence in science and in value creation through integrated and inclusive cooperation between universities and with other R&I actors

  - *Support implemention of ERA actions, in particular digital transition & research careers*

Competitiveness

- Improve global visibility and competitiveness of Europe's universities

  - *Create critical mass in research and innovation in key policy areas*

⇒ **ERA Forum subgroup**

European Commission

ERA Action 13 subgroup
proposed work stream (tbc)

❖ ***Studies (ongoing)*** *– Q1 2023*

1. assessment of the impact of Horizon support to the European Universities pilot alliances

2. mapping and modelling of national excellence initiatives

3. definition of the perimeter of excellence at institutional and cooperative level

❖ ***Workshops with stakeholders*** *– Q1-2 2023*

- on digital needs (e.g. digital R&I infrastructure) towards Connected Universities

- implementation (upcoming) European Framework for Reseach Careers

❖ ***Development of future support mechanisms for universities*** *– Q3-4 2023*

- support for institutional change in ERA priorities

- coordinated support for cooperation of universities in R&I (partnership?)

ERA Action 13
workstream towards:

Support to policy:

Support to establish **national initiatives for excellence** in support of HEIs

Development of **European excellence initiative** *(European dimension of HEIs on R&I)*

Recommendations towards a **Connected Universities** initiative *(digital infrastructure/skills)*

Programme (partly ongoing, actions in test phase):

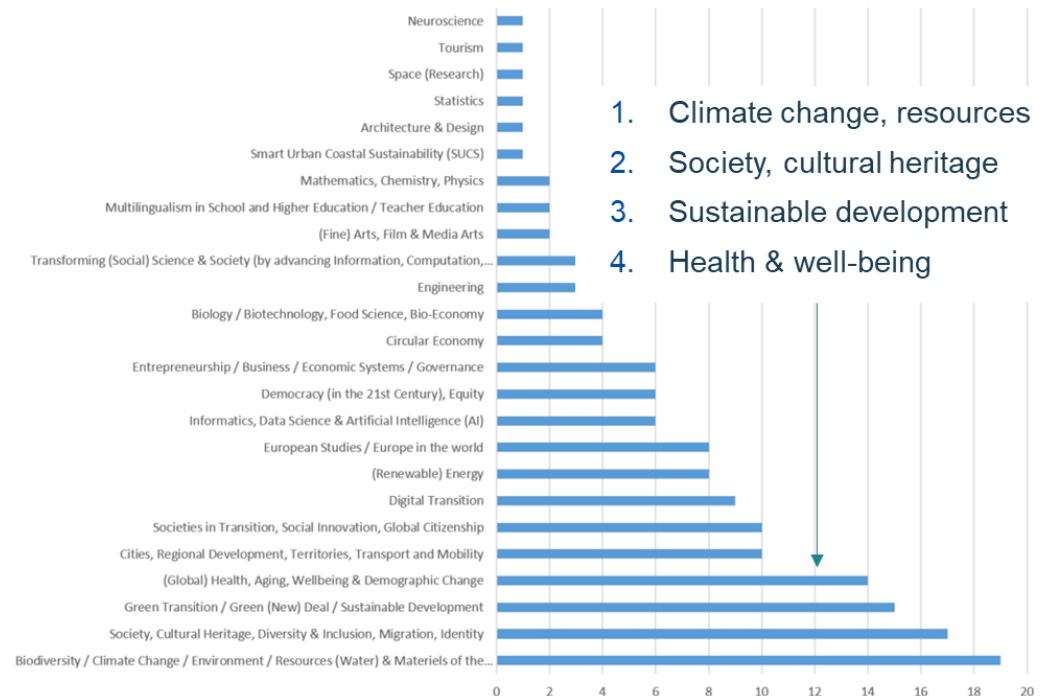**Counseling** to support institutional change in HEIs in ERA priorities *('acceleration services')*
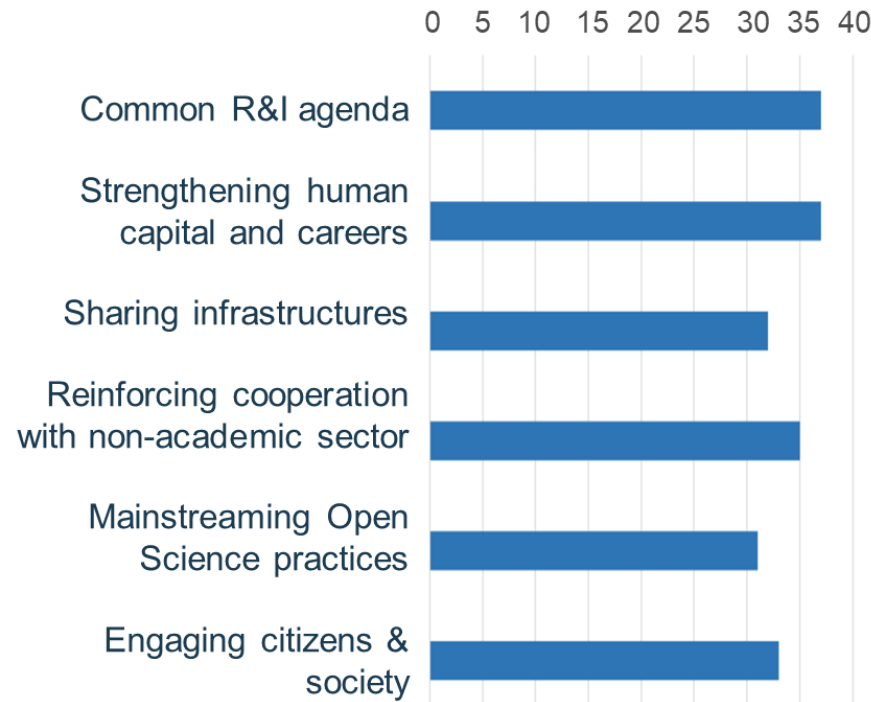
Capacity building through inclusive cooperation of HEIs *(WIDERA 2023 'excellence funding')*

Piloting coordination of R&I resources in support of HEI cooperation *(new)*

European Commission

Horizon 2020 support to European Universities

- Horizon 2020 complementary funding (for 39 alliances) – 30% partners from widening countries
- Support for institutional change in key R&I areas (via grant to identified beneficiaries)

- Mid-term review of first generation of 17 alliances on H2020 support: **summer 2022**
  - *Preliminary analysis*: acceleration of change for all partners through inclusive cooperation

European Strategy for Universities

- **Flagship**
  - "Expand to **60 European Universities** with more than **500 universities** by mid-2024, with an Erasmus+ indicative budget totaling EUR 1.1 billion for 2021-2027"
  - "Erasmus+ European Universities initiative, in combination with Horizon Europe, Digital Europe and other EU and national instruments, will support ambitious transnational alliances of higher education institutions"

- **Anticipated added value of a European Excellence Initiative**
  - Focus on global competitiveness in R&I
    - most promising networks of universities only
    - competition for inclusive "excellence in science and value creation"
  - Accelerate R&I role of universities in key EU policy areas (such as Green Deal, Missions)
  - Implement ERA Policy Agenda transformations (assessment reform, careers, ecosystems,…)

European Commission

Horizon Europe, contributing to ERA
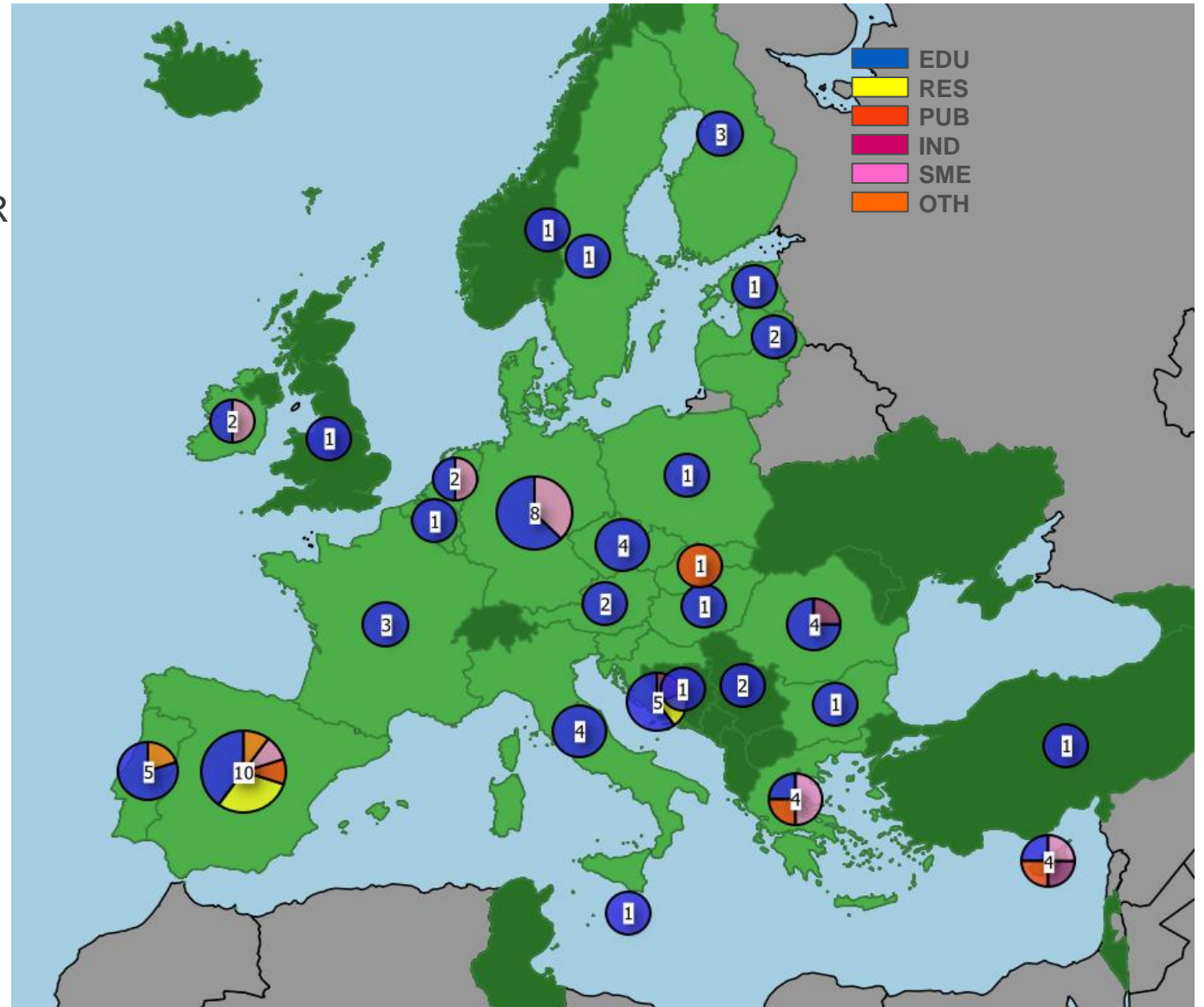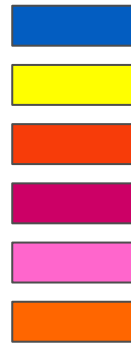
EEI-2021 Outcome: main list beneficiaries

→ 9 projects supported

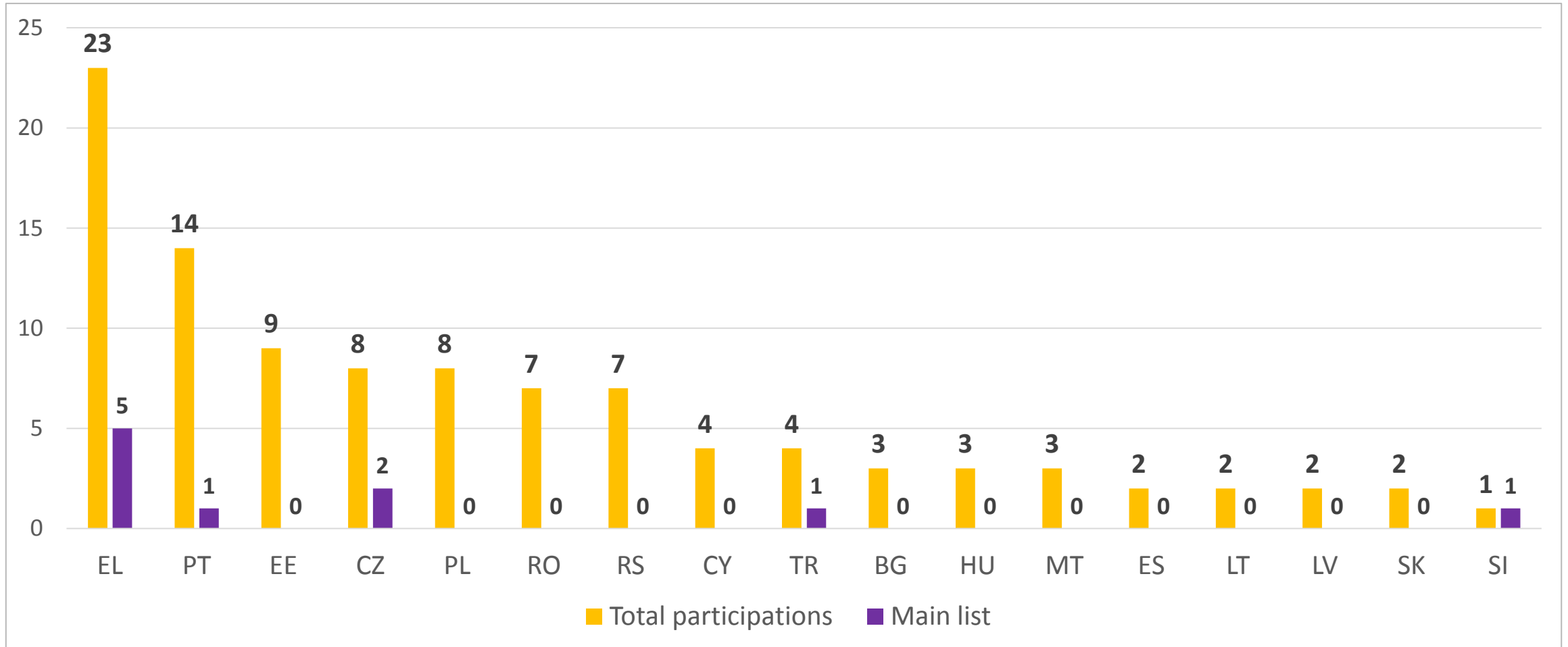**76 applicants** in main list requesting 18,1 MEUR
- **Member States:** **92,1%**
- **Associated Countries:** **6,6%**
- **United Kingdom:** **1,3%**

Partners per sector:
- Education: 55 72,3%
- Research orgs: 3 4%
- Public: 3 4%
- Large Enterprises: 4 5,3%
- SMEs: 9 11,8%
- Other: 2 2,6%

Excellence Hubs - € 50ME -Coordinators
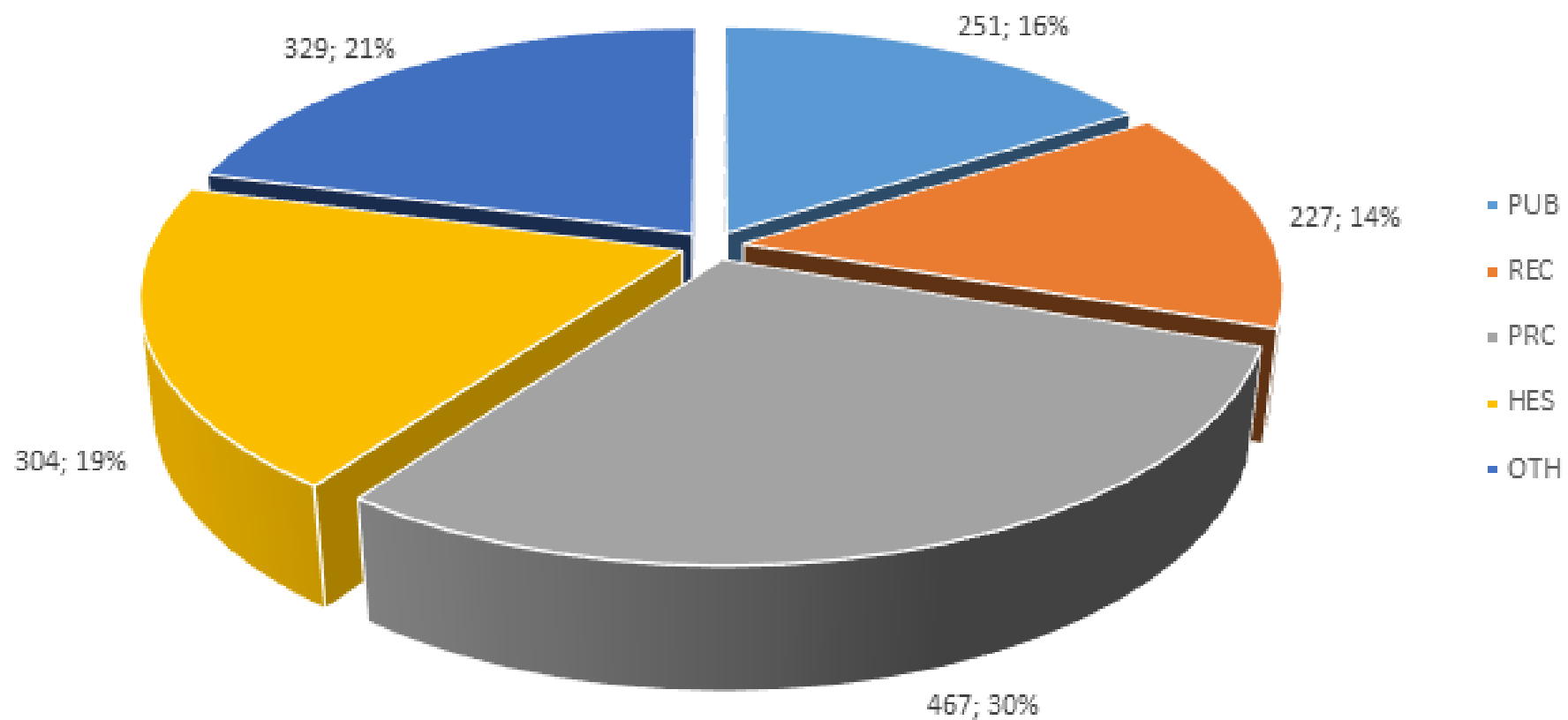

Total number of eligible proposals: 102
Total number of retained: 10

Excellence Hubs

Beneficiaries per type of organisation

- 251; 16% — PUB
- 227; 14% — REC
- 467; 30% — PRC
- 304; 19% — HES
- 329; 21% — OTH

European Commission

WIDERA WP 2023-2024 in a nutshell

Destinations

- **Improved access to Excellence:**

  - 7 calls, 8 topics; call deadlines 12/4/2023, 28/9/2023, 7/3/2024 and 26/9/2024

- **Attracting and mobilising the best talents**

  - 4 calls; call deadlines 7/3/2024 and 26/9/2024, and 2 aligned to MSCA 13/9/2023 and 11/9/2024

- **Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system**

  - 2 calls, 24 topics; call deadlines 9/3/2023 and 12/3/2024

Budget

- ~900 M€ of which ~445 M€ on topics/actions 2023, ~455 M€ on topics/actions 2024

WIDERA 2023-2024 *(DRAFT)*:

Destination #1 ACCESS:

Excellence funding for HEIs

- *Coordination and Support Action*

- Aim: to raise excellence in science & value creation in HEIs, and increase global visibility and competitiveness

- Support to implement ERA priorities, through inclusive and integrated collaboration in alliances of HEIs

Budget EUR 54 million (tbc)

HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-03

**Call closure:
12 April 2023 (tbc)**

- Competitive support for inclusive alliances of HEIs, for joint R&I agenda

- Implementation of ERA Policy Agenda, incl. attractive careers, digital transition, sharing resources and infrastructures

- Up to 20% budget for research activities

- Emphasis on widening countries

Subject to change - the WP is yet to be published

European Commission

For further information

[European Research Area](#)

[European Research Area Policy Agenda 2022-2024](#)

[Horizon Europe](#)

[Funding and Tenders Portal](#)

European Commission