

ERA of Inclusive Gender Equality conference: Keeping the Momentum in Brussels

Prague, 20 February 2024 - In celebration of the International Day of Girls and Women in Science, [ERA of Inclusive Gender Equality conference](#) took stage at BOSA, Brussels on 13th of February 2024. The event attracted over 60 attendees in person with a substantial online audience joining remotely. The conference was organised by the Horizon Europe GENDERACTIONplus project under the auspices of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU.

The conference convened key stakeholders to deliberate on future priorities for inclusive gender equality in the European Research Area (ERA), leveraging insights from GENDERACTIONplus benchmark studies and a [position paper](#) drafted to inform the debates about further actions and measures. The position paper identifies current challenges, states our ultimate goals for advancing inclusive gender equality in ERA, and provides a framework for shaping future policies. It focuses on issues of intersectionality and inclusiveness, gender-based violence in research and innovation, the integration of inclusive gender dimension in research and innovation, and on monitoring and evaluation of Gender Equality Plans.

Marcela Linková, project coordinator and Member State Co-Chair of the ERA Forum Subgroup on Inclusive Gender Equality, emphasized the critical developments of recent years while highlighting the need to ensure that inclusive gender equality remains a priority in the upcoming period. Positioning the conference, she emphasized that “the debates were intended to be part of the mosaic of the first inputs into the debate on Framework Programme 10”. Linková also cautioned that developments toward gender equality can be “dismantled with surprising ease and alacrity” and recalled the “simplification” of gender equality provisions from Framework Programme 6 to Framework Programme 7.

Apart from representatives of national authorities and research funders participating in the GENDERACTIONplus project, the speakers at the conference included Sergej Možina, the Member State Co-Chair of the ERA Forum who noted the high level of support among Member States for inclusive gender equality in the current negotiations of ERA Policy Agenda 2025 – 2027, Anne Pepin from the DG RTD’s Gender Sector who highlighted the planned rollout of the legal compliance checks of Gender Equality Plans under Horizon Europe or Prof Genevieve Almouzni, the Chair of the ERC Working Group on Gender and Diversity who discussed the ongoing actions in ERC to address gender biases in research evaluation, a topic that also resonated with Prof Silvia Penati, the Scientific Leader of the newly established TIER Working Group on Inclusive Research Assessment in the CoARA Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment.

The participants found the conference to be impactful, stressing the quality of debates, networking and the practical knowledge gained, for example, about strategies to adopt intersectional perspective at national authority level or good practices to integrate intersectionality in GEPs at RPO level.

For media inquiries or further information, please contact:

Barbora Schneiderová, barbora.schneiderova@soc.cas.cz

+420 602 340 883

Recording of the conference is available online at the [GENDERACTIONplus YouTube channel here](#).



GENDERACTIONplus project is funded by the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101058093.

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.