

# EASSH 2023

*Silvana Colella – President EASSH  
University of Macerata*

EASSH  
General Assembly 2023

Overview

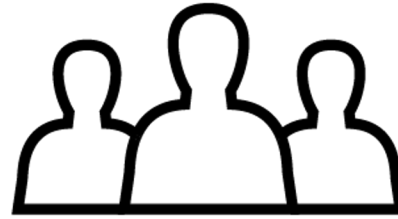
# 2023 in numbers

- ▶ **Over 50 presentations** to large groups of researchers, institutions and member organisation
- ▶ **Over 30 presentations as invited panel speaker** in European-wide conferences (thanks to Board members also for their support)
- ▶ **More than 100 meetings online and in presence** with European and National institution representatives
- ▶ **Collaboration with over 30** research alliance and stakeholders
- ▶ **Over 7,200 visits to the website (+40 % from 2022)**
  - ▶ +56 % for position papers & +46 % for news!
- ▶ **Over 600 downloads: position papers, fellowship, event slides, etc. (+86 %)**
- ▶ **X/Twitter impressions highest** for the fellowship, position papers, events and newsletters
- ▶ **Newsletter subscribers: 178 in October**, up from 153 in June & 161 in Feb
- ▶ **Increased by 30% the overall budget of EASSH** from different sources of income



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# EASSH Team



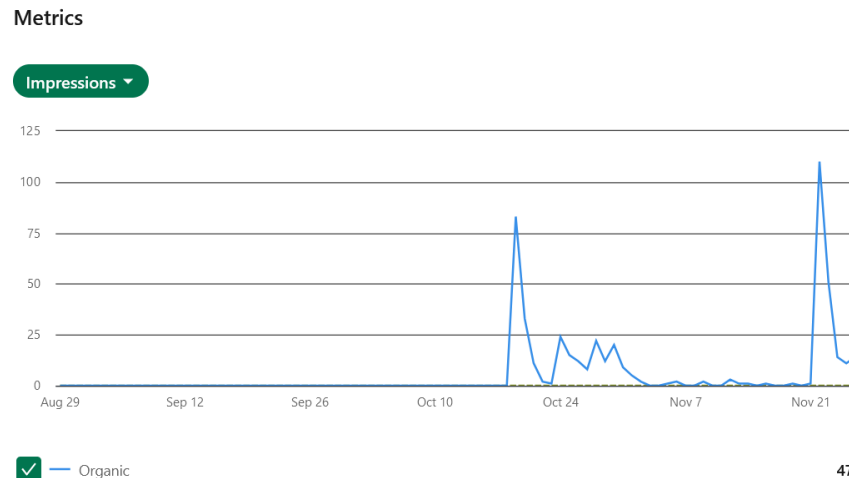
- ▶ Director: Gabi Lombardo
  - ▶ Policy: Maribel Glogowski
  - ▶ Philip Keraudren Fellow: Alexandra Oanca
  - ▶ Communications: Eleanor Smith
  - ▶ Finance: Camille Dubrocq
  - ▶ Administration: Nora Totland
  - ▶ Web design: Daniel Arnrup-Øien



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# 2023 Social Media Highlight

- ▶ X/Twitter:
  - ▶ 1,362 Followers
  - ▶ impressions highest for the fellowship, position papers, events and newsletters
- ▶ Newsletter subscribers: 178 in October 2023
- ▶ LinkedIn EASSH page created early October 2023: Already over 90 followers!



## EASSH – European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities

EASSH aims to promote research on social sciences and humanities as a resource for Europe & the world.  
Research Services · 81 followers · 2-10 employees

Ron & 14 other connections follow this page

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### About

EASSH is a membership organisation made up of scientific networks, associations, disciplinary groups and universities. The main purposes of EASSH are to promote learning and research in the social sciences and humanities (SSH) as a resource for Europe and the world, and to engage with policymakers and ... see more

Show all details →

### Page posts

# New members

## 2023

- KU Leuven
- Scottish Arts and Humanities Alliance (SAHA)
- Institute of International Politics and Economics (IIPE) - Belgrade (Serbia) (ISSS)
- Institute of Social Sciences, Serbia (IIPE)
- Croatian Society of Art Historians (DPUH)
- Helsinki University
- University of Lorraine
- International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden University
- Sage
- Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- Novi Sad University- Fac of Philosophy, Serbia

## 2024

- Wien University (2024)
- Salamanca University (2024)
- Universita' Italiana per Stranieri - Siena (2024)
- Bangor University (2024)
- Turku University (2024)
- Aalborg University (2024)

# Expressions of interest 2024

- ▶ European Central University (CEU)
- ▶ Suffolk University
- ▶ Lund University
- ▶ ULB - Brussels
- ▶ French University Association
- ▶ IRIS - Research Infrastructures for Cultural Heritage
- ▶ University of Barcelona



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# EASSH in Expert groups

- ▶ ESFRI - stakeholders forum
- ▶ ERA Forum
- ▶ CoARA: Coalition for the advancement of research assessment - signed agreement
- ▶ Expert group for the drafting of Generative AI Guidelines
- ▶ Scientific Board of the CSA BrainHealth - to prepare a European partnership
- ▶ Collaboration with the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership - Expression of interest to become full partners sent in November



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# EASSH priority in ERA actions

- ▶ **Action 3:** Advance towards the reform of the Assessment System for research, researchers and institutions to improve their quality, performance and impact
- ▶ **Action 4:** Promote attractive and sustainable research careers, balanced talent circulation and international, transdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility across the ERA
- ▶ **Action 5:** Promote gender equality and foster inclusiveness, taking note of the Ljubljana declaration - EUR support
- ▶ **Action 6:** Deepening the ERA through protecting academic freedom in Europe
- ▶ **Action 9:** Promote international cooperation - Global approach to R&I



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# Proposed new ERA Actions 2025-2027

1. Enabling open science via sharing and re-use of data, including through the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
2. Attractive and sustainable research careers
3. Strengthen Sustainability, Accessibility and Resilience of Research Infrastructures in ERA
4. Strengthening inclusive gender equality in the European Research Area
5. Research Assessment
6. Strengthening knowledge valorisation in R&I
7. Revamping the SET-Plan
8. Strengthening Freedom of Scientific Research in the EU
9. Global Approach to R&I
10. Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles in an Inclusive Manner (ERA-SLIM)
11. Unleashing the full R&I potential of Europe's universities
12. Accelerating industrial transformation for Europe's competitive sustainability and strategic autonomy
13. Scale-up of the Plastic Pirates
14. Borrow a researcher
15. MLE on Science Capital
16. Building trust in science for a stronger and more democratic European society
17. Improve EU-wide access to excellence
18. Research Management



# Update on CoARA: Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment

- ▶ Proposal for an SSH working group submitted on 4 May 2023
- ▶ Steering committee asked for clarifications (august 2023)
- ▶ Resubmission of the proposal (9 November 2023)
- ▶ Approved on **6 December!!**
  
- ▶ **EASSH WG**
  - ▶ 15 partners, two co-chairs: ENRESSH and Federation of Finnish Learning Societies
  - ▶ Two-year programme
  - ▶ 23 February 2024 - Workshop in Brussels



# EASSH 2023-24

- ▶ **7 December 2023** - Publications of two reports on the twin transitions (incl. Data analysis of SSH research in H2020; Data analysis of SSH publications (2017-2020) - Launch event in January 2024
- ▶ **24 January 2024** - Webinar: “Translational Research” with T&F and EATRIS
- ▶ **23 February 2024** - Evaluating SSH research globally - Brussels
- ▶ **2024 Belgian Presidency Conference on “Combining SSAH and STEM expertise in evidence-informed policymaking”**



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# Position papers 2023-24

Published and available online:

- ▶ Translational research: workshop report
- ▶ FP10 recommendations - for the FP10 task force of the MS (ERAC)

Foreseen for 2024

- ▶ Reform of research evaluation: the SSH community engagement (2024)
- ▶ Social Impact and social readiness levels. A view from SSH researchers (2024)
- ▶ Mid-term evaluation data and results (2024)
- ▶ Impact of technology on SSH research (2024)
- ▶ Series of papers: SSH research and policy priority areas (eg. AI, Climate Change, Health) (2024-25)





# EASSH Future

Gabi Lombardo

# EASSH 2023-2026: Three years forecast

- ▶ Focus on designing the conditions to ensure the SSH contribution in the next Framework programme
- ▶ Encourage networking meetings between EASSH members for funding opportunities
- ▶ Develop capacity for deeper engagement with members
- ▶ Increase SSH research questions into specific areas (eg. area studies China and Africa; social policy/employment; twin transition; blue economy; health studies)
- ▶ Coordinate a narrative across different continents about SSH research contribution



# Scaling up: from informal member association to a large SSH platform

- ▶ More members from Germany are needed
  - ▶ More financial and human resources are needed for scaling up
  - ▶ Better coordination among members engaged
  - ▶ EASSH think tank?
  - ▶ EASSH hosting a platform?
  - ▶ Stronger involvement of foundations and civil society orgs
- ▶ WHAT DO THE MEMBERS WANT TO SEE MORE OF?**





From Horizon Europe to FP10:  
the place for SSH

and  
EASSH plans 2024-2025

*Gabi Lombardo PhD*

*EASSH - General Assembly  
7<sup>th</sup> December 2023*



# Overview



MID-TERM  
EVALUATION OF  
HORIZON EUROPE  
And 2025-2027 work  
programme



FP10 DESIGN



A COMMUNITY EFFORT



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# Mid-term evaluation of Horizon Europe

The background features a solid light green area on the left, transitioning into a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green geometric shapes (triangles and polygons) on the right, creating a dynamic, layered effect.

# EASSH in Horizon Europe:



Invited to Lamy's meetings



Worked with a coalition of associations (budget campaign; legal text; etc.)



Technical position papers for SSH inclusion and integration (SSH cluster, higher budget, more funding to ERC)



Focus on contribution of SSH research (beyond SSH cluster)



SSH integration: calls design, evaluations processes, reviewers and monitoring of bottlenecks

- ▶ Legal text referring to social, cultural and human aspects in all parts (“a human-centric approach”)
- ▶ An SSH cluster with €2.1Bn; a new panel in ERC for SSH; more attention to SSH and social impact
- ▶ Better understanding of SSH research for integration
- ▶ Active and invited to close meeting discussing calls design, evaluations processes, etc.
- ▶ *The effective integration of SSH in all clusters, including all missions and partnerships, is a principle through the programme cycle. (HE Strategic Plan)*



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# Mid term Evaluation of HE



**EC Mid-term evaluation of HE  
report: 2024**



**EASSH evaluation focus:**

- Success rates
- SSH in all clusters and all areas of HE
- Best practices of integration across the programme
- The importance of the SSH driven cluster

Results to be presented at  
The Belgian Presidency Conference: EASSH session



# 2025-2027 work programme

- ▶ Support to New European partnerships under approval by MS - pathways to FP10
- ▶ New work programme: topics and calls on governance and social transformation
- ▶ Wider involvement of DGs to support, engage, and provide resources for SSH related topics
- ▶ SSH integration monitoring: what methodology?
- ▶ More SSH topics in other clusters



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# Social transformations and resilience

## Objectives:

- ▶ Strengthen the knowledge base in Europe and develop innovative solutions to tackle critical social transformations driven by the green and digital transitions, global trade patterns and demographic change
- ▶ Provide policymakers at European, national and regional levels with evidence-based recommendations that can inform new strategies and policies to address these societal transformations
- ▶ Increase the resilience of EU societies to global crises
- ▶ Build capacity among the R&I community and policymakers to respond to long-term socio-economic changes



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# Impact

- ▶ Supporting the **modernisation of social protection** and inclusive access to essential services, particularly for groups at risk of poverty and social exclusion
- ▶ **Future of work** (access to quality jobs, under decent working conditions, re-/up-skilling for the future workforce, innovative job transitions especially in green sectors, new forms of work organisation, gender-equal and inclusive workplaces)
- ▶ **Fostering education and skills development** in the context of the green and digital transition, including EU mobility policies, and help counter socio-economic and political inequalities, contributing to a comprehensive European strategy for inclusive growth and upwards convergence
- ▶ **Contributing to a fair transition** in line with the Council recommendations on ensuring a fair transition towards climate neutrality



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# Brain Health objectives

- ▶ Find cures for brain disorders and **living with brain diseases through narratives of patients**
- ▶ Enable **early diagnosis** for early personalised treatments that are affordable and accessible to everyone
- ▶ Promote **evidence-based prevention** at individual and community levels, including **family narrative and longitudinal studies**
- ▶ Optimise the **clinical management** of affected persons, including identification and diffusion of best practices and standards, structures and cares, **health care policies and support for families and carers**



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# Current Eur Partnerships under discussion for MS approval

- ▶ **Brain Health**
- ▶ Forests and forestry for a sustainable future
- ▶ Innovative materials for EU (I'm for EU)
- ▶ In-orbit demonstration and validation
- ▶ Raw materials for the green and digital transitions
- ▶ **Resilient cultural heritage**
- ▶ **Social transformations and resilience**
- ▶ Solar photovoltaics
- ▶ Textile of the future
- ▶ Virtual worlds



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# EASSH and FP10

One voice for bigger impact

# Premises: WHERE IS Research and Innovation?

Energy crisis

Wars on EU borders

Food shortage and market difficulties

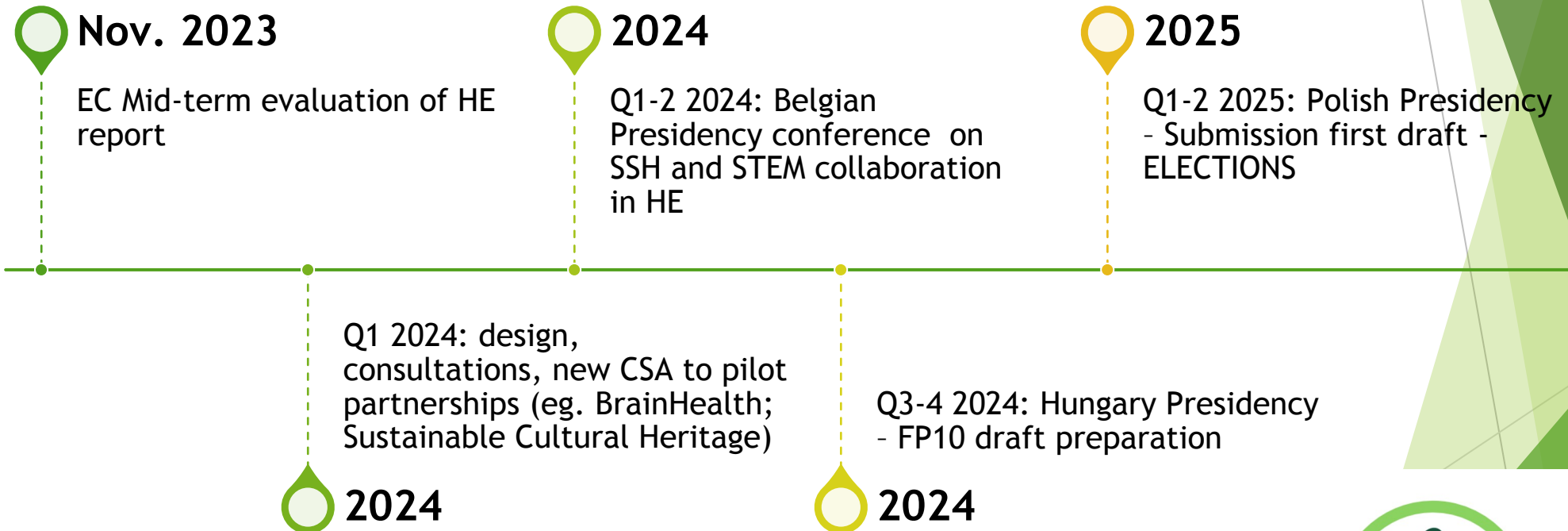
Agriculture

High costs of living



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# Timeline





# Preparation of FP10

- ▶ ERAC task force for FP10
- ▶ High Level Group of experts - EUR rector member of the group
- ▶ Ongoing discussions with the Planning Unit
- ▶ DG Employment supporting the Social Pillar
- ▶ MS not yet aligned on priorities - currently France & Italy remain the strongest supporters of SSH research
- ▶ Smaller countries and widening countries to be lobbied



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# ERAC FP10 task force: EASSH key recommendations

1. A dedicated and appropriate space for supporting research into challenges to society, culture, and human values.
2. An appropriate level of resources comparable to other key priorities with a wider range of intervention areas and a balanced distribution of resources.
3. Appropriate representation of SSH expertise throughout FP10, from the initial design of the programme, through to call drafting and project evaluation.
4. Regular monitoring of SSH integration also under the next FP.
5. Flexibility of project size
6. More resources for ERC and pillar two to support bottom-up collaborative projects
7. More fundamental Research and Innovation Actions in pillar 2



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# *EASSH plan 2024-2026*

# Main commitments

- ▶ European partnerships
  - ▶ Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership
  - ▶ Brain Health
  - ▶ Cultural Heritage Resilience
  - ▶ Social Transformations and resilience
- ▶ Mechanism to encourage SSH coordination in the European research agenda
  - ▶ European (Technology) Platform
- ▶ Research Infrastructures (discussions)
  - ▶ Migration studies
  - ▶ Historical data for climate change
- ▶ Position papers in the pipeline
  - ▶ Impact of technology on SSH research costs - case studies
  - ▶ Horizon Europe - mid-term evaluation - data





# Main events

- ▶ Reform of the Research Evaluation
  - ▶ CoARA Working group
  - ▶ Workshop on 23 February 2024 in Brussels
- ▶ Mid-term evaluation conference
- ▶ Translational research - Series of webinars
- ▶ New ERA policy agenda
- ▶ FP10 - consultations

## Other events:

- ▶ Launch of the two reports on twin transition SSH research
- ▶ Social readiness levels - webinar
- ▶ ERA Forum update for members



Thank You

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