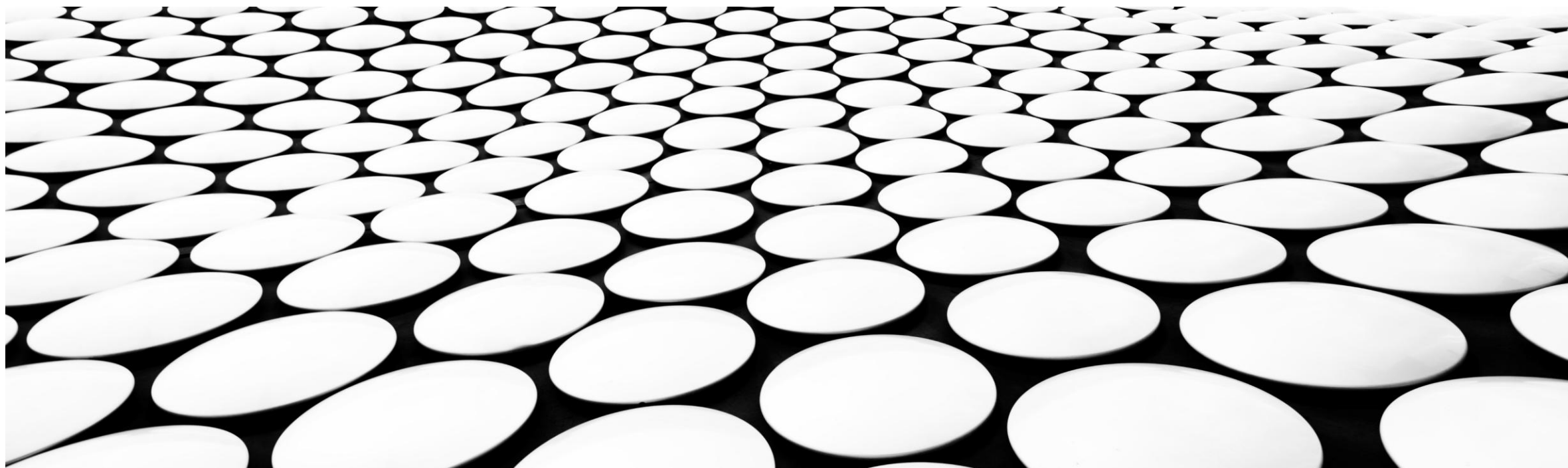

Social sciences and humanities in 70 years of EU R&D funding

Nikos Kastrinos for the EASSH general assembly - 5-6 December 2024



THE EVOLVING CONTEXT

Globally

- Rising instrumentalization of science associated with interdisciplinarity and “science in crisis”
- Rising big corporate actors
- Rising Asia / changing world order - with opportunities and challenges for SSH

EU level

- Evolving European integration as a “search” process
- Politics in Europe – Russia, nationalisms, anti-others sentiments, information wars...
- European Research funding as a growing part of international cooperation and coordination efforts

Nationally

- Social Sciences and Humanities are differentiated parts of most national research systems with widely varying degrees of instrumentalization (e.g. science for policy) – whether this is changing as part of a “Europeanization Process” is an open research question.

PHASES IN THE HISTORY OF THE EU R&I POLICY

Pre-history (1952-1973)

- Technical Support to ECSC and CAP
- The Joint Nuclear Research Centre

Early years (1970-1986)

- Europe +30 - FAST
- Support to Science
- Participation in ESF
- Definition of European programmes

Adolescence (1982-2013)

- FP1-FP7
- Member States and Stakeholders
- European Added Value resting on additionality

Coming of age (2013-...)

- More concern for citizens
- Less worry about overlaps and more synergy with MS agendas

THE 3 FACES OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES IN EU R&D

Instrument

- SSH as support to policy:
 - scientific credibility for policy assumptions
- provider of “data” the administration needs

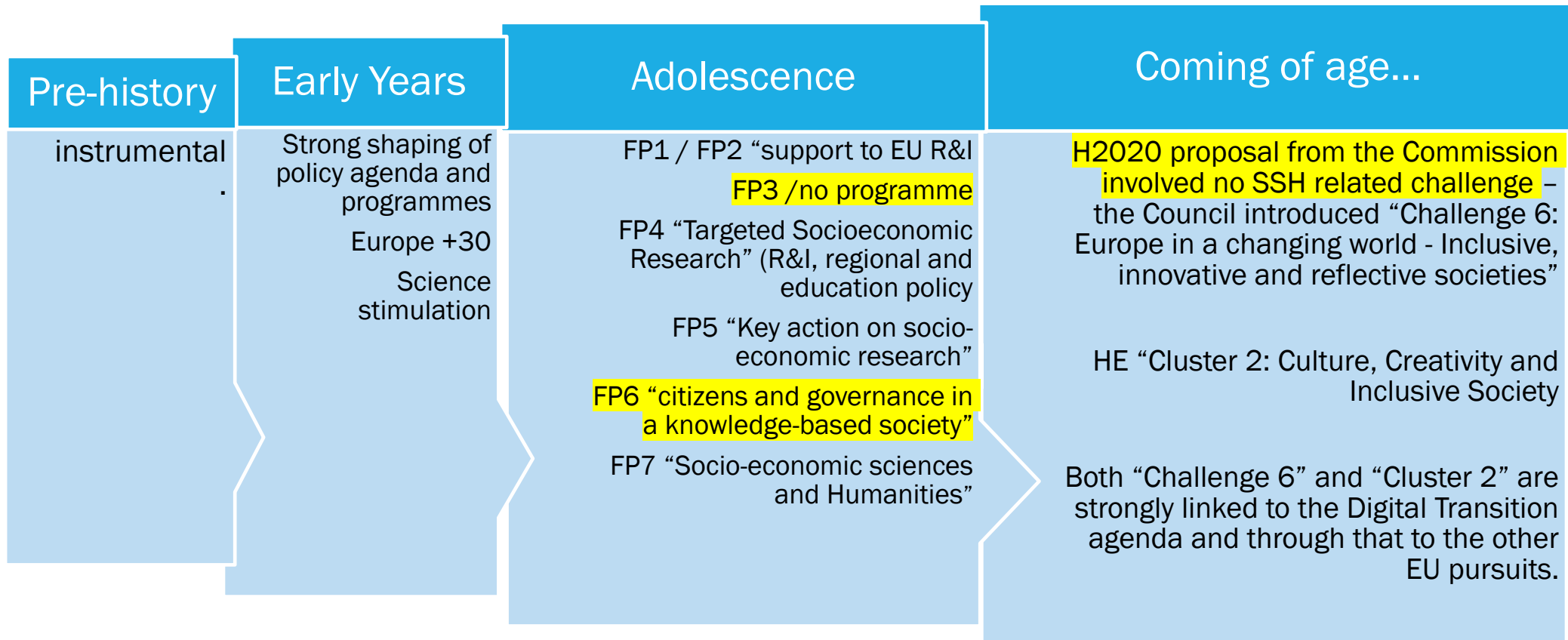
Cultural pursuit

- “basic science” and general education and culture

Sphere of politics

- SSH as moral and analytical support to the European project
- SSH as a sphere of European integration

THE THREE FACES OF SSH IN THE HISTORY OF EU R&I



HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on
defence research
& development*

Research
actions

Development
actions

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications



**Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE**

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



**Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES &
EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL
COMPETITIVENESS**

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



**Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE**

European Innovation
Council

European innovation
ecosystems

European Institute of
Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint
Research
Center

* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Scenarios for the future FP

is the FP fit for purpose?

the challenge for SSH

Incremental:
as is
with more joint undertakings in the challenges part

(not so) Radical:
“Science”,
“Innovation”,
“Policy support”

Radical dilution of the policy: e.g. an innovation fund entrusted to a bank

To support the solution of problems in society – through industry or policy

To support industrial competitiveness - do subsidies work?

To achieve societal missions?

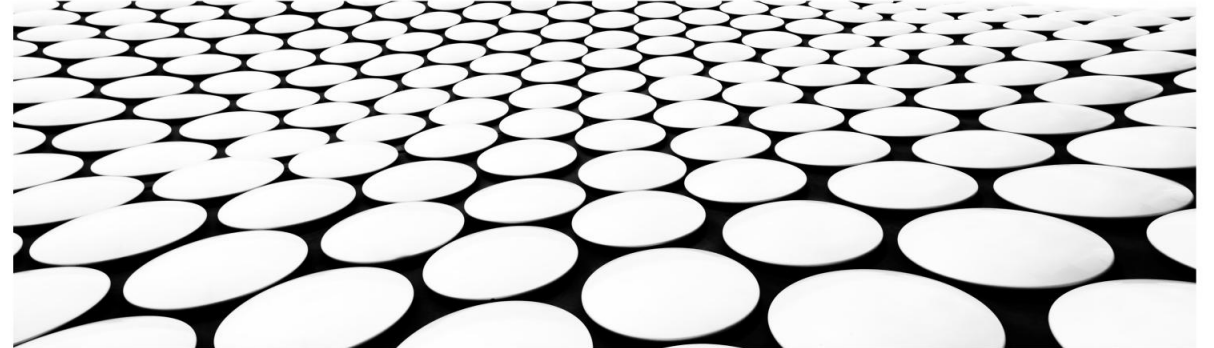
To unify its three “faces”

To become the means of reaching the purpose

**Thank you very
much for your
attention!**

**Social sciences and humanities in 70 years
of EU R&D funding**

Nikos Kastrinos for the EASSH general assembly - 5-6 December 2024



nikos.openc@gmail.com