

Funding Report

Monitoring Social Sciences and Humanities

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The Social Sciences and Humanities are influential for all Member States and for the European Commission. Thousands of researchers carry out research across a vast range of subjects of national and international interest. They do so taking into account the organisational structures, framework conditions, cultural preferences and political priorities in their countries.

METRIS, an initiative of the Directorate-General for Research (DG RTD), is an entry and reference point for social sciences and humanities research in Europe. Commissioned by the Science, Economy and Society Directorate of DG RTD and executed via the Metris-Network, it pursues the collection, regular updating, and analysis of information on social sciences and humanities at national and European levels.

METRIS products

All products are brought together on the website www.metrismetrisnet.eu which makes available METRIS country profiles for the EU27 countries, plus a total of 15 other countries, including the associated countries with the European Union's Research Framework Programme.

The website provides access to the following services and publications:

- Regularly updated country profiles of SSH systems in 42 countries;
- A news service;
- Annual monitoring reports for all countries covered;
- An annual synthesis report bringing together key points on SSH;
- Links to relevant reports and websites.

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Table of Contents

1. Overall Context for Funding	1
1.1 Impacts of the economic crisis	1
1.2 Administrative changes in research funding	4
2. Budget allocations for SSH research	7
2.1 Overall expenditure on SSH	19
3. Overview of EU priorities in Funding SSH Research	23
3.1 FP7 SSH priority	27
3.2 European Research Council	29
3.3 FP7 Research infrastructures	31
3.3.1 DG Regio funding for Research Infrastructures	35
3.4 ERA-NETs and Joint Programming Initiatives	36
3.4.1 ERA-NETs	36
3.4.2 Article 169/185 initiatives	37
3.4.3 Joint Programming Initiatives	39
3.5 HORIZON 2020	42
4. Findings and Conclusions	43

Table of Figures

Figure 1	SSH in GBOARD — spending per inhabitant 2007–2011	8
Figure 2	Relative share of SSH-dedicated GBAORD allocated to Social Sciences and Humanities, 2007–2011	14
Figure 3	Share of SSH in GERD	21
Figure 4	FP7 Budget Execution by Theme 2007–2013, in million Euro 24	
Figure 5	FP7 funding for programmes directly/indirectly relevant to SSH topics	25
Figure 6	Overall FP7 Results by participants and funding	27
Figure 7	FP7 Budget execution SSH Theme 2007–2013 (€millions). 27	
Figure 8	FP7 SSH funding of EU-27 participants 2007–2011	28
Figure 9	FP7 SH funding of non-EU participants, 2007–2011	29
Figure 10	FP7 funding of ERC projects involving SSH (EU-27), 2008–2010 30	
Figure 11	FP7 funding of ERC projects involving SSH (non-EU), 2008–2011	31
Figure 12	FP7 funding of Research Infrastructures (EU & non-EU participants, excluding JRC), 2007–2011	32

Table of Tables

Table 1	Indicators of crisis: GDP growth, unemployment, government debt (2007–2012)	3
Table 2	Total GBAORD as a % of total general government expenditure	6
Table 3	Total civic R&D appropriations (GBAORD) by socio economic objective, R&D related to Social Sciences and Humanities, financed from GUF and other sources in Euro per inhabitant (share of SSH in GBAORD).....	7
Table 4	GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: political and social systems, structures and processes, in Euro per inhabitant	9
Table 5	Total GBAORD by socio-economic objectives: Political and social systems, structures and processes (millions of euro)	11
Table 6	GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: culture, recreation, religion and mass media, in Euro per inhabitant	12
Table 7	GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: culture, recreation, religion and mass media (Millions of euro)	13
Table 8	Changes in public funding for SSH research 2011–2012	15
Table 9	Share of SSH in GERD, Euro per inhabitant, 2007–2010/2011 (SSH/GERD)	20
Table 10	Total intramural expenditure (GERD) by Higher Education sector in SSH, in Euro per inhabitant	22
Table 11	Classification of proposals selected for funding under the ERC Starting and Advanced Grants schemes by scientific domain (No. and % of total selected proposals), 2011–2012	30
Table 12	Categorisation of FP7-funded Research Infrastructure projects by scientific domain	33
Table 13	SSH-related RI projects funded under FP7	33
Table 14	Analysis of FP7 funding of SSH-related Research Infrastructures	34
Table 15	Profile of SSH Research Infrastructures projects in the preparatory phase	35
Table 16	DG Regio allocation of RIs infrastructure investments.....	36
Table 17	ERA-NETs and Article 169/185 programme networks having a Socio-economic sciences and humanities as a thematic priority and/or as a research field in FP7.	39
Table 19	Participation of countries in SSH related JIPs	41

Table 20	Joint Programming Initiatives compared to ERA-NETs and Article 185 programmes	42
Table 21	HORIZON 2020 funding of SSH-relevant projects	42

Introduction

1. Overall Context for Funding

The METRIS monitoring initiative covers 42 countries which are highly varied in terms of population, socio-economic development and policy priorities. The funding of social sciences and humanities (SSH) research tends to reflect national priorities, but there is often a lag in translating research priorities to funding and project implementation. The review covers the period 2007–2012 (with some indications for 2013) so that in the tables provided it is possible to observe trends, though the focus on individual country programmes tends to be concentrated on developments in the period April 2011–December 2012. The statistics reported in the tables that follow do not cover all 42 countries, since Eurostat only reports data on selected non-EU countries. Furthermore, even for EU countries, funding data are not always reported in a consistent and complete manner; however, we highlight relevant developments as indicated in the METRIS country reports.

1.1 Impacts of the economic crisis

No review of SSH research funding can be complete without a discussion of the overall economic context in which it is implemented. The economic and financial crisis which began in the autumn of 2008 has had a significant impact on all of the EU and non-EU countries surveyed, though the results of the crisis are highly varied. Some countries have experienced fairly mild and short-term effects, whereas in others, there have been serious and prolonged impacts on the national socio-economic and political fabric. Table 1 below displays selected indicators (GDP change, unemployment rates and government debt/surplus as a share of GDP), which provide general parameters for understanding the recent economic situation in the surveyed countries and the overall context in which SSH research is funded. The discussion in the following sections will refer to the data in this table, and allow the reader to make a correlation to economic and social developments that underlie the funding levels — taking into consideration that there is frequently a lag between macro trends and research implementation, as funding programmes are often multiannual in nature.

There have been two phases of the crisis — the first was in 2008–2009, when the initial impact of the financial crisis was felt, without the more severe and longer term impacts on employment and demand which have been observed in 2010–2012 (and continue during the current period). In the table it is evident that in 2007, before the crisis, all economies experienced some growth, though the rates varied sharply. The New Member States of Central and Eastern Europe (with the exception of Hungary) tended to show faster growth than the old Member States. Italy and Denmark particularly stand out as slow-growth countries in 2007, a situation also seen in the USA. The recession began to show its effects in 2008 in some countries, whereas by 2009 all countries were experiencing

negative growth (with the exception of Poland, where growth slows, but does not decline throughout the period under observation). The EU-27 experienced an overall drop in GDP of -4.3% in 2009. The Baltic countries (EE, LV, LT) were particularly hit hard by double-digit recession. However, by 2010, most countries' economies were growing again — albeit at slower overall rates. And some, like Greece and Croatia, did not experience any positive growth. Portugal began a downward slope, accompanied by rising unemployment. By 2012, the overall EU economy was in decline again, particularly in Southern Europe and in the Balkans, though also in Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands. At the same time, the economies of the Baltic countries, Poland, Slovakia, Norway, the US and Japan were growing.

With regard to unemployment — a major theme of SSH research — Spain and Greece had around a quarter of the labour force out of work by 2012 — with unemployment also in the double digits in Bulgaria, Estonia, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Croatia. However, in the three Baltic countries, unemployment rates were substantially lower than the highs experienced in 2010 — signs of economic recovery, confirmed by rising GDP statistics. Austria, the Netherlands, Germany and Luxembourg had unemployment rates far below the EU average. In fact, unemployment in Germany and Austria has declined in recent years, a situation also seen in Japan, as well as in several other countries (Malta, Finland, Sweden, Turkey, USA) since 2010.

Practically all countries (except Norway) had higher debts than surpluses during the observation period, with the most serious imbalances seen in Spain and Greece. Ireland had the most dramatic debt situation in 2010, but rigorous belt-tightening measures steadily reduced the deficit over recent years. While the overall ratio for the EU-27 has declined since 2009, the fact that most of the countries for which we have data have more than 3% debt does not create a fertile climate for increased public funding of SSH research. Most countries have introduced some type of austerity programme, which has also affected SSH research funding — though in some countries, like Italy, for example, even sharper budget cuts were introduced in 2012, the effects of which we can see in Table 4 and Table 5 in the following section.

Table 1 Indicators of crisis: GDP growth, unemployment, government debt (2007–2012)

	GDP at market prices % change on previous year						Unemployment rate (annual ave. %)						Government debt/surplus (% of GDP)					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
EU27	3.2	0.3	-4.3	2.1	1.6	-0.3	7.2	7.1	9.0	9.7	9.7	10.5	-0.9	-2.4	-6.9	-6.5	-4.4	-4.0
Belgium	2.9	1.0	-2.8	2.4	1.8	-0.3	7.5	7.0	7.9	8.3	7.2	7.6	-0.1	-1.0	-5.6	-3.8	-3.7	-3.9
Bulgaria	6.4	6.2	-5.5	0.4	1.8	0.8	6.9	5.6	6.8	10.3	11.3	12.3	1.2	1.7	-4.3	-3.1	-2.0	-0.8
Czech Republic	5.7	3.1	-4.5	2.5	1.9	-1.3	5.3	4.4	6.7	7.3	6.7	7.0	-0.7	-2.2	-5.8	-4.8	-3.3	-4.4
Denmark	1.6	-0.8	-5.7	1.6	1.1	-0.5	3.8	3.4	6.0	7.5	7.6	7.5	4.8	3.2	-2.7	-2.5	-1.8	-4.0
Germany	3.3	1.1	-5.1	4.2	3.0	0.7	8.7	7.5	7.8	7.1	5.9	5.5	0.2	-0.1	-3.1	-4.1	-0.8	0.2
Estonia	7.5	-4.2	-14.1	3.3	8.3	3.2	4.6	5.5	13.8	16.9	12.5	10.2	2.4	-2.9	-2.0	0.2	1.2	-0.3
Ireland	5.4	-2.1	-5.5	-0.8	1.4	0.9	4.7	6.4	12.0	13.9	14.7	14.7	0.1	-7.4	-13.9	-30.8	-13.4	-7.6
Greece	3.5	-0.2	-3.1	-4.9	-7.1	-6.4	8.3	7.7	9.5	12.6	17.7	24.3	-6.5	-9.8	-15.6	-10.7	-9.5	-10.0
Spain	3.5	0.9	-3.7	-0.3	0.4	-1.4	8.3	11.3	18.0	20.1	21.7	25.0	1.9	-4.5	-11.2	-9.7	-9.4	-10.6
France	2.3	-0.1	-3.1	1.7	2.0	0.0	8.4	7.8	9.5	9.7	9.6	10.2	-2.7	-3.3	-7.5	-7.1	-5.3	-4.8
Italy	1.7	-1.2	-5.5	1.7	0.4	-2.4	6.1	6.7	7.8	8.4	8.4	10.7	-1.6	-2.7	-5.5	-4.5	-3.8	-3.0
Cyprus	5.1	3.6	-1.9	1.3	0.5	-2.4	3.9	3.7	5.4	6.3	7.9	11.9	3.5	0.9	-6.1	-5.3	-6.3	-6.3
Latvia	9.6	-3.3	-17.7	-0.9	5.5	5.6	6.5	8.0	18.2	19.8	16.2	14.9	-0.4	-4.2	-9.8	-8.1	-3.6	-1.2
Lithuania	9.8	2.9	-14.8	1.5	5.9	3.7	3.8	5.3	13.6	18.0	15.3	13.3	-1.0	-3.3	-9.4	-7.2	-5.5	-3.2
Luxembourg	6.6	-0.7	-4.1	2.9	1.7	0.3	4.2	4.9	5.1	4.6	4.8	5.1	3.7	3.2	-0.8	-0.9	-0.2	-0.8
Hungary	0.1	0.9	-6.8	1.3	1.6	-1.7	7.4	7.8	10.0	11.2	10.9	10.9	-5.1	-3.7	-4.6	-4.3	4.3	-1.9
Malta	4.1	3.9	-2.6	2.9	1.7	0.8	6.5	6.0	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.4	-2.3	-4.6	-3.7	-3.6	-2.8	-3.3
Netherlands	3.9	1.8	-3.7	1.6	1.0	-1.0	3.6	3.1	3.7	4.5	4.4	5.3	0.2	0.5	-5.6	-5.1	-4.5	-4.1
Austria	3.7	1.4	-3.8	2.1	2.7	0.8	4.4	3.8	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.3	-0.9	-0.9	-4.1	-4.5	-2.5	-2.5
Poland	6.8	5.1	1.6	3.9	4.5	1.9	9.6	7.1	8.1	9.7	9.7	10.1	-1.9	-3.7	-7.4	-7.9	-5.0	-3.9
Portugal	2.4	0.0	-2.9	1.9	-1.6	-3.2	8.9	8.5	10.6	12.0	12.9	15.9	-3.1	-3.6	-10.2	-9.8	-4.4	-6.4
Romania	6.3	7.3	-6.6	-1.1	2.2	0.7	6.4	5.8	6.9	7.3	7.4	7.0	-2.9	-5.7	-9.0	-6.8	-5.6	-2.9
Slovenia	7.0	3.4	-7.8	1.2	0.6	-2.3	4.9	4.4	5.9	7.3	8.2	8.9	0.0	-1.9	-6.2	-5.9	-6.4	-4.0
Slovakia	10.5	5.8	-4.9	4.4	3.2	2.0	11.2	9.6	12.1	14.5	13.6	14.0	-1.8	-2.1	-8.0	-7.7	-5.1	-4.3
Finland	5.3	0.3	-8.5	3.3	2.8	-0.2	6.9	6.4	8.2	8.4	7.8	7.7	5.3	4.4	-2.5	-2.5	-0.8	-1.9
Sweden	3.3	-0.6	-5.0	6.6	3.7	0.8	6.1	6.2	8.3	8.6	7.8	8.0	3.6	2.2	-0.7	0.3	0.2	-0.5
UK	3.6	-1.0	-4.0	1.8	1.0	0.3	5.3	5.6	7.6	7.8	8.0	7.9	-2.8	-5.1	-11.5	-10.2	-7.8	-6.3
Iceland	6.0	1.2	-6.6	-4.1	2.9	1.6							5.4	-13.5	-10.0	-10.1	-5.4	:
Norway	2.7	0.1	-1.6	0.5	1.2	3.1							17.5	18.8	10.6	11.2	13.6	:
Switzerland	3.8	2.2	-1.9	3.0	1.9	1.0												
Montenegro	10.7	6.9	-5.7	2.5	3.2	-0.5												
Croatia	5.1	2.1	-6.9	-2.3	0.0	-2.0	9.6	8.4	9.1	11.8	13.5	15.9	-2.5	-1.4	-4.1	:	:	:
FYROM	6.1	5.0	-0.9	2.9	2.8	-0.3							:	:	:	:	:	:
Serbia	5.4	3.8	-3.5	1.0	1.6	-1.7												
Turkey	4.7	0.7	-4.8	9.0	8.8	2.2	8.8	9.7	12.5	10.7	8.8	8.1	-1.5	-2.8	-7.0	-2.6	:	:
USA	1.9	-0.3	-3.1	2.4	1.8	2.2	4.6	5.8	9.3	9.6	8.9	8.1						
Japan	2.2	-1.0	-5.5	4.7	-0.6	2.0	3.9	4.0	5.1	5.1	4.6	4.3						

Source: Eurostat [nama_gdp_k], [une_rt_a], [gov_dd_edpt1], 24/05/2013 Elaboration J. Culver, colour shading by P. Cunningham.

1.2 Administrative changes in research funding

The economic crisis has given added impetus to various restructuring and reform programmes that were aimed at rationalising and improving the performance of ministries and research councils, as well as to improve transparency and accountability where public funding is concerned. Several countries underwent reorganisations or reforms that affected the funding of the SSH research system during 2011–2012. For example:

- In November 2011, the deepening economic and financial crisis in Italy led to appointment of a technical government, which initiated an austerity programme (“spending review”) focused on reducing government expenses and increasing fiscal revenues by raising taxes and cracking down on tax evasion. Many government programmes, including the guidelines of the Ministry for Education University and Research for 2012 (April 4, 2012), were revised due to the changed political priorities of the Ministry. The performance-improving measures of Italy’s “Gelmini” Reform (Law 240 of 30 December 2010) went into effect and were being implemented during 2011–2012 amidst austerity measures.
- In Austria the Minister of Research initiated a debate on stopping basic funding to private non-profit organisations engaged in SSH research which led some of them to be integrated into universities or become better positioned in the international market.
- The Swiss Parliament passed the Federal Act on Funding and Coordination of the Higher Education Sector (HFKG) on 30 September 2011 which will come into effect at the beginning of 2014 at the earliest.¹ The new Law will completely overhaul institutions governing and coordinating Swiss higher education, also defining access requirements to higher education and laying the foundations for an accreditation council responsible for quality assurance. While the Confederation and cantons continue to be responsible for operating and funding their universities and universities of applied science, the HFKG replaces the Federal Act on Financial Aid to Universities and on Cooperation in the Field of University Education and the Federal Act on Universities of Applied Sciences.
- At the end of 2012, Romania had a change in Government, leading to a split of the former Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports (MERYS) (which had several ministers during 2012) into the Ministry for National Education and the Ministry for Youth and Sports. The reform of the Romanian research and education system launched in 2011 was stalled during 2012. In an effort to improve

¹

http://www.swtr.ch/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=96:hfgk&catid=36&lang=en&Itemid=

links between SSH research results and policies, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Aging Population issued its 2013–2015 Sectoral R&D Plan through [Government Decision 1244/December 2012](#). The Plan's main research priorities seek to support the Ministry of Labour in counteracting the effects of the 2009–2012 recession on the socio-economic landscape in Romania.

- During 2012 Poland implemented a number of reforms in its higher education and research system: [“Building upon Knowledge”](#) shifted competencies for funding to two new government agencies — the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR) and the National Science Centre (NCN) — and modified operations of the Research Institutes and the Polish Academy of Science (PAN). The NCN was established in March 2011 as a governmental executive agency to oversee the funding of basic research activities, thus transferring decision-making on funding away from government structures in order to guarantee greater transparency and focus on excellence. [“Partnership for Knowledge”](#) came into force on 1 October 2011 and is aimed at increasing funding for leading higher education institutions, improving their autonomy and transparency, simplifying the R&D career development path, and providing more support for students. A new evaluation system for scientific entities was presented in the July 2012 Ministerial [Decree concerning the Criteria and Procedures for assigning the Categorisation to Scientific Institutions](#).
- In Croatia the new Draft of the law amending the Law on Science and Higher Education of 2003 was adopted by the Government on 1 February 2013 and sent to parliamentary procedure. The Draft of the law introduces many changes to increase the efficiency of the R&D system and envisages a new model of institutional funding through “programme contracts” between the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports (MSES) and PRO/HEI.
- Outside the EU, Iceland's STPC was expected to introduce a new general policy for science and technology in 2013, while in the United States, there is an on-going debate about the value of SSH research in Congress, including proposals to eliminate SSH funding at the NSF altogether or in various areas. In May 2012, the US House of Representatives passed an amendment to eliminate funding for political science research at NSF.

Overall it can be concluded that during the past few years there have been a number of important changes in the administrative structures and procedures involved in research funding. In particular, most countries engaged in some initiatives to promote greater efficiency, effectiveness, performance (with requisite monitoring and evaluation and indicators), transparency, and improved governance and accountability associated with public research funding; however in many countries these concepts have not yet been translated into

concrete reality or actual research results—a situation made more difficult by budget reductions mandated by the crisis.

Table 2 shows the recent indicators regarding total GBAORD as a share of total general government expenditure. Over the period 2007–2011 there has been an average annual decrease (-0.5%) in government spending on R&D in the EU-27 countries, with substantial differences between countries — both in terms of overall level and in terms of development trends. Estonia Germany, Finland and Portugal have relatively high GBAORD shares of government expenditure, yet the relative shares of non-EU countries like Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, USA and South Korea are as high or even higher. South Korea shows high GBAORD shares and average growth rates, while Iceland, Norway and USA have seen some reduction their R&D shares of government expenditure during the most recent years for which we have data.

Table 2 Total GBAORD as a % of total general government expenditure

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	AAG
EU-27	1.5	1.52	1.53	1.49	1.47	-0.5
Belgium	1.25	1.36	1.25	1.27	1.21	-0.8
Bulgaria	0.66	0.8	0.81	0.74	0.7	1.5
Czech Republic	1.36	1.29	1.37	1.36	1.56	3.5
Denmark	1.56	1.64	1.69	1.68	1.77	3.2
Germany	1.77	1.81	1.9	1.93	2	3.1
Estonia	1.42	1.62	1.54	1.76	2.06	9.7
Ireland	1.32	1.23	1.16	0.81	1.05	-5.6
Greece	0.62	0.59	:	:	:	-4.8
Spain	1.93	1.87	1.79	1.71	1.51	-6.0
France	1.42	1.65	1.64	1.49	1.5	1.4
Italy	1.34	1.3	1.24	1.22	1.13	-4.2
Cyprus	1.02	1	1.08	1	0.97	-1.2
Latvia	0.83	0.75	0.47	0.37	0.38	-17.7
Lithuania	0.96	1.26	1.2	1.05	1.19	5.5
Luxembourg	1.01	1.21	1.22	1.36	1.39	8.3
Hungary	0.78	0.87	0.91	0.73	0.6	-6.3
Malta	0.35	0.35	0.37	0.55	0.53	10.9
Netherlands	1.72	1.71	1.68	1.7	1.58	-2.1
Austria	1.33	1.42	1.48	1.51	1.53	3.6
Poland	0.75	0.7	0.76	:	:	0.7
Portugal	1.69	2.04	2.09	2	2.08	5.3
Romania	0.97	1.01	0.74	0.71	0.68	-8.5
Slovenia	1.23	1.15	1.4	1.22	1.09	-3.0
Slovakia	0.62	0.79	0.88	0.96	1.23	18.7
Finland	2.04	1.99	1.99	2.08	2	-0.5
Sweden	1.55	1.54	1.66	1.69	1.62	1.1
United Kingdom	1.49	1.36	1.35	1.27	1.22	-4.9
Iceland	2.02	1.59	2.15	2.05	1.98	-0.5
Norway	1.87	1.82	1.87	1.9	1.87	0.0
Switzerland	:	2.28	:	2.39	:	2.4
Russia	1.13	1.14	:	:	:	0.9
United States	2.76	2.6	2.76	2.41	:	-4.4
Japan	1.91	1.89	1.81	1.83	:	-1.4
South Korea	2.91	2.99	3.02	3.39	:	5.2

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \times (\text{value year } 1+n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

Source: Eurostat [gba_nabste]; AAG adjusted by number of years of data available

In terms of development trends, the increase in Slovakia's GBAORD share is impressive, as is the decrease experienced in Latvia. However, it is important not to attach too much importance to isolated statistics without understanding the overall context of government spending and economic developments. Sometimes numerically quite small amounts can mean a statistically significant change where relatively small research budgets are concerned in the smaller countries, whereas in the larger countries such as Germany and UK (and large non-EU economies such as the US and Japan), fractional shifts can mean billions of Euros.

2. Budget allocations for SSH research

The share of SSH in GBAORD is quite variable for the 17 countries for which Eurostat has provided data. Overall there has been an average annual increase of 3.6% in terms of Euros per inhabitant — however, these statistics provide only a partial view, since many countries are missing, compounded by data gaps in some years. In Table 4 it would appear that countries like the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, France and Germany devote substantial shares of GBAORD to SSH, though in France this share has remained relatively static while it has grown in the others.

Table 4 Total civic R&D appropriations (GBAORD) by socio economic objective, R&D related to Social Sciences and Humanities, financed from GUF and other sources in Euro per inhabitant (share of SSH in GBAORD)

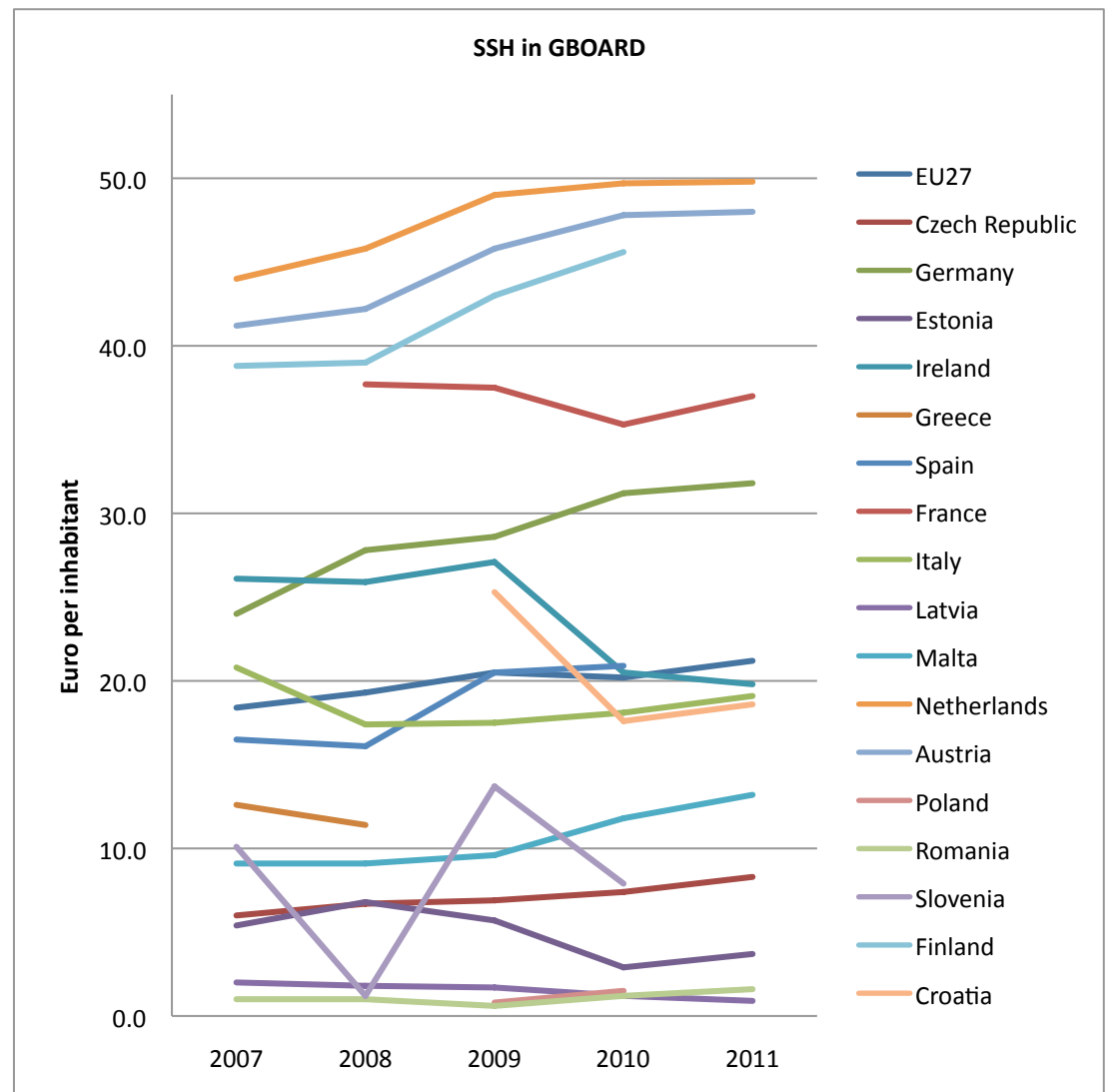
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	AAG*
EU27	18.4	19.3	20.5	20.2	21.2	3.6
Czech Rep.	6.0	6.7	6.9	7.4	8.3	8.5
Germany	24.0	27.8	28.6	31.2	31.8	7.3
Estonia	5.4	6.8	5.7	2.9	3.7	-9.0
Ireland	26.1	25.9	27.1	20.5	19.8	-6.7
Greece	12.6	11.4				-9.5
Spain	16.5	16.1	20.5	20.9		8.2
France		37.7	37.5	35.3	37.0	-0.6
Italy	20.8	17.4	17.5	18.1	19.1	-2.1
Latvia	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.2	0.9	-18.1
Malta	9.1	9.1	9.6	11.8	13.2	9.7
Netherlands	44.0	46	49.0	49.7	49.8	3.1
Austria	41.2	42.2	45.8	47.8	48	3.9
Poland			0.8	1.5		87.5
Romania	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.6	12.5
Slovenia	10.1	1.2	13.7	8		-7.9
Finland	38.8	39.0	43.0	45.6		5.5
Croatia			25.3	17.6	18.6	-14.3

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 * (\text{value year } 1 + n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

Source: Eurostat data provided by Technopolis; calculations: J Culver.

Figure 1 illustrates the trends and shows the positioning of the countries for which we have the relative data.

Figure 1 SSH in GBOARD – spending per inhabitant 2007–2011



Source: Eurostat data provided by Technopolis; calculations: J Culver

Given the somewhat limited availability of data for the overall GBAORD share dedicated to SSH, it was decided to report on two other parameters for which there are more extensive data available: GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives – both for *political and social systems, structures and processes* (Table 4 and Table 5) and for *culture, recreation, religion and mass media* (Table 7 and Table 8).

The government budget allocation for research regarding political and social systems, structures and processes actually showed a fairly large average annual increase in terms of spending per inhabitant, registering an AAG of 14.8% during 2007–2011, the years for which we have overall EU-27 data. It is important to point out that these average data tend to

mask the real dynamics: for example in the case of Italy, where such spending rises to €21.7 per inhabitant and then drops to less than half that amount by 2012, and in Luxembourg which shows an extraordinary level of spending in 2008 and 2009, and then plunges in 2010. The Nordic countries tend to have relatively high per capita levels of such spending, whereas the US and Japan stand out for their particularly low levels. In the US this can be explained by the fact that much of this research is funded by the private sector or foundations rather than the government.

The Central and Eastern European countries tend to have comparatively low levels of per capita spending, with the exception of Estonia and Slovenia which have levels similar to countries like Spain and Austria and higher than Ireland.

Table 4 GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: political and social systems, structures and processes, in Euro per inhabitant

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	AAG*
EU-27	3.4	5.7	5.5	6.7	5.9	:	14.8
Belgium	6.8	6.7	7.4	7.4	7.4	:	2.1
Bulgaria	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	:	-29.3
Czech Rep.	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.0
Denmark	11.6	10.3	10.6	9.5	11.6	10.3	-2.3
Germany	3.8	4.2	4.9	4.9	3.9	4.1	1.5
Estonia	3.1	5.1	2.5	2	3.7	:	4.5
Ireland	3.3	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.9	-10.5
Greece	1.6	1.7	:	:	:	:	6.3
Spain	4.4	3.9	2.7	2.2	2.4	:	-14.1
France	1.8	9.3	8.6	11.5	13	:	63.9
Italy	4.6	15.3	13.9	21.7	13.7	9.6	15.9
Cyprus	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	0	:	-100.0
Latvia	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	:	-29.3
Lithuania	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	:	-15.9
Luxembourg	57	77.8	83.5	30.4	31.4	32.5	-10.6
Hungary	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.4	0.1	:	-38.5
Malta	0.1	0.2	0	0	0	0	-100.0
Netherlands	7.9	8.4	8.7	7.7	8.2	7.4	-1.3
Austria	3.3	3.5	3.1	3	2.8	3.2	-0.6
Poland	0.3	0.5	:	:	:	:	66.7
Portugal	2.8	2.5	3.5	4.1	4.2	3.8	6.3
Romania	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.5	1.3	1	58.5
Slovenia	3.3	3.5	7.7	0.6	2.1	2.8	-3.2
Slovakia	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	-3.6
Finland	15.3	14.8	16.2	16.5	19	18.2	3.5
Sweden	5.6	4.2	6.1	7.6	9	:	12.6
United Kingdom	3.7	3.7	3.7	2.9	2.4	:	-10.3
Iceland	52.8	43	48.9	49.5	40.4	44.2	-3.5
Norway	22.5	23.5	27.8	32.5	34.2	37.4	10.7
Switzerland	:	4.6	:	5.6	:	:	10.3
Croatia	:	0.8	1	0.8	0.6	:	-9.1
Russia	0	0	0	:	:	:	0.0
United States	1.9	1.7	1.8	:	:	:	-2.7
Japan	0.5	0.6	0.8	:	:	:	26.5

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \times (\text{value year } 1 + n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

Data: Eurostat gba_nabsfin07; calculations: J Culver.

Table 5 allows a better appreciation of the total amounts that have been invested in SSH relevant research (*political and social systems, structures and processes*) in recent years — even if only providing a partial picture of SSH research funding in EU27 and selected other countries. Such funding in the EU27 rose from nearly €1.68 billion to a high of €3.35 billion in 2010, declining to €2.96 billion in 2011 — though still registering an average annual growth of 15.2% over the 2007–2011 period. The biggest EU investor in this field was Italy, whose investment surged from only €269.9 million in 2007 to over €1.3 billion in 2010, then dropped to €831 million in 2011 and €583 million by 2012. France and Germany are other large investors, with the French budget showing a very significant increase — an AAG of 63.8% during 2007–2011 and a more than seven-fold rise in volume. In contrast the UK’s budget is relatively small. In fact, far smaller than Norway’s budget and somewhat higher than the Netherlands’, the UK’s investment had been marked by a steady decline since 2009, while Norway’s budget has increased. The US has the largest budget of the non-EU countries, which nevertheless was dwarfed by Italy’s investment in this field from 2008 to 2010 and was lower than the French investment in 2009 and 2010.

Among the New Member States, Romania’s funding of research in this field stands out in that its budget is larger than Austria’s in 2010 and 2011. Romania’s budget has also risen substantially, as has Poland’s, though Polish data is only available for two years in the series.

Table 5 Total GBAORD by socio-economic objectives:
Political and social systems, structures and processes
(millions of euro)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	AAG*
EU27	1,678.947	2,823.081	2,754.261	3,354.472	2,960.923		15.2
Belgium	71.82	71.548	79.243	80.352	81.328		3.2
Bulgaria	2.723	2.639	0.887	0.633	0.47		-35.5
Czech Rep	8.666	9.265	8.335	7.851	9.589	8.222	-1.0
Denmark	63.029	56.29	58.58	52.583	64.317	57.458	-1.8
Germany	311.654	347.191	398.1	403.765	317.0	336.237	1.5
Estonia	4.142	6.807	3.362	2.646	4.921		4.4
Ireland	14.3	8.3	7.8	8	7.6	8.6	-9.7
Greece	18.388	18.92					2.9
Spain	194.103	176.52	122.637	100.547	109.926		-13.3
France**	117.4	593	554	744	846		63.8
Italy	269.92	912.69	836.3	1.306.9	831	583	16.7
Cyprus	0.515	0.21	0.2	0.1	0.019		-56.2
Latvia	1	0.569	0.142	0.141	0.142		-38.6
Lithuania	0.579	0.666	0.637	0.406	0.406		-8.5
Luxembourg	27.149	37.654	41.207	15.275	16.078	17.08	-8.9
Hungary	7.028	8.156	6.97	13.694	0.844		-41.1
Malta	0.035	0.093	0	0	0.002	0	-51.1
Netherlands	129.977	137.119	142.655	127.231	137.058	123.464	-1.0
Austria	27.202	29.186	25.541	25.063	23.124	27.147	0.0
Poland	11.893	20.728					74.3
Portugal	29.498	26.86	37.49	44.14	44.52	39.89	6.2
Romania	2.081	4.73	5.118	31.314	28.355	21.64	59.7
Slovenia	6.554	6.987	15.711	1.292	4.384	5.749	-2.6
Slovakia	3.444	3.081	2.652	2.756	3.758	2.931	-3.2
Finland	80.626	78.65	86.417	88.3	102.351	98.072	4.0
Sweden	50.81	38.689	56.69	70.775	84.498		13.6
UK	222.417	225.96	225.39	182.91	149.556		-9.4
Iceland	16.239	13.549	15.622	15.73	12.867	14.124	-2.8
Norway	105.27	111.264	133.184	158.078	168.219	186.365	12.1
Switzerland		34.648		43.469			12.0
Croatia		3.502	4.619	3.536	2.82		-7.0
Russia	3.847	4.069	3.444				-5.4
USA	561.36	514.006	540.579	574.036			0.7
Japan	66.233	77.298	98.082	101.841	118.061	117.036	12.1

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \times (\text{value year } 1+n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

** France's data includes culture, recreation, religion and mass media and other SSH fields.

Data: Eurostat gba_nabsfin07; calculations: J Culver.

Government spending on research focused on *culture, recreation, religion and mass media* tends to receive a lower share of per capita funding than the above objective and has experienced a smaller overall average annual increase in the per capita share. In several countries, per capita spending on such research has dropped to zero or a negligible amount. In Denmark, Germany and Estonia there have been some notable increases, whereas the average annual increase in Portugal actually masks an overall decline since 2009.

Table 7 GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: culture, recreation, religion and mass media, in Euro per inhabitant

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	AAG*
EU-27	1.8	1.9	1.8	2	1.9		1.4
Belgium	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3		1.2
Bulgaria	0.3	0	0.1	0.1	0.2		-9.6
Czech Republic	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	9.9
Denmark	4.9	7.4	6.5	5.8	6	8	10.3
Germany	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.9	4.2	4.1	9.5
Estonia	1.9	2.4	3	6.7	7		38.5
Ireland	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0
Greece	0.2	0.2					0.0
Spain	2.7	3	2.1	1.9	1.4		-15.1
Italy	2.6	1.7	2.5	2.8	1.7	1.6	-9.3
Cyprus	2	1.9	1.3	0.7	0.5		-29.3
Latvia	1.5	1.6	0.4	0.2	0.1		-49.2
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	0		0.0
Luxembourg	3.1	3.1	2.5	1.9	2.6	3.2	0.6
Hungary	0.4	0.4	0	0.2	0		-100.0
Malta	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Netherlands	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.8
Austria	1.1	1.1	1	1	0.8	1.1	0.0
Poland	0.1	0.3					200.0
Portugal	0.5	4.8	4.7	4	4	3.6	48.4
Romania	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.6	43.1
Slovenia	3.6	4.3	0.1	6.8	1.7	2.3	-8.6
Slovakia	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.5	-1.3
Finland	2.1	2.1	2	2.6	2.6	2	-1.0
Sweden	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8		18.9
United Kingdom	4.1	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.2		-6.0
Norway	4.2	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.9	5.3	4.8
Switzerland		0.8		0.9			6.1
Croatia		1.1	1.8	0.9	0.7		-14.0
Russia	0.1	0.1	0.1				0.0
United States	0	0	0.1				0.05
Japan	0.2	0.6	0.8				100.0

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \cdot (\text{value year } 1+n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

Data: Eurostat gba_nabsfin07 ; calculations: J Culver

While accounting for only around one-half to a third of the total government funding for research dedicated to political and social systems, structures and processes (see Table 5), the funding of initiatives associated with culture, religion and mass media (

Table 8) was still substantial. Total EU government funding exceeds €1 billion in 2010 — which could be regarded as the “peak year” of government support for SSH. In this category of research, Germany and the UK invest very substantial amounts (together accounting for more or less half of the total), followed by Italy and Spain (for France there is no breakout of SSH data). Altogether these four countries account for more or less three-quarters of the spending in this field, though Spain has experienced a very sharp decline in such investment between 2008 and 2011. Also Italy and the UK register reductions in such funding, though in Italy the spending cut is more dramatic. Among non-EU countries, only Japan between 2008 and 2010 shows an investment

that even comes near the levels of the EU27 leaders, yet this country sharply decreases its investment in 2011 to only a quarter of the 2010 level.

Table 8 GBAORD by socioeconomic objectives: culture, recreation, religion and mass media (Millions of euro)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	AAG*
EU27	896.943	929.589	921.38	1.014.939	957.921	:	1.7
Belgium	43.231	47.404	47.474	46.982	46.955	:	2.1
Bulgaria	2.388	0.15	0.417	0.697	1.209	:	-15.6
Czech Rep.	5.115	6.269	4.053	3.879	5.239	8.005	9.4
Denmark	26.669	40.679	35.871	31.891	33.528	44.387	10.7
Germany	212.027	214.543	251.2	316.798	339.9	338.034	9.8
Estonia	2.486	3.26	4.071	8.924	9.418	:	39.5
Ireland	0.4	0	0	0	0.1	0	-100.0
Greece	2.325	2.487	:	:	:	:	7.0
Spain	120.046	136.588	97.133	88.366	66.388	:	-13.8
Italy	152.09	101.47	148.5	169.6	101.1	94.4	-9.1
Cyprus	1.538	1.464	1.061	0.601	0.442	:	-26.8
Latvia	3.428	3.7	0.992	0.423	0.283	:	-46.4
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	0	:	0.0
LUX	1.498	1.476	1.236	0.958	1.351	1.678	2.3
Hungary**	3.749	4.351	0.183	1.623	0	:	-24.4
Malta***	0	0.038	0.023	0.03	0.03	0.05	7.1
Netherlands	17.788	17.674	20.596	20.546	20.944	20.491	2.9
Austria	8.753	9.527	8.393	8.208	6.534	9.143	0.9
Poland	4.493	12.841	:	:	:	:	185.8
Portugal	5.765	51.35	49.99	42.17	42.53	38.11	45.9
Romania	1.1	3.164	4.08	13.105	15.697	12.648	63.0
Slovenia	7.277	8.623	0.206	13.855	3.504	4.683	-8.4
Slovakia	8.459	8.074	7.564	7.052	8.954	7.836	-1.5
Finland	11.175	10.957	10.599	14.03	13.967	10.62	-1.0
Sweden	3.892	3.016	4.238	6.606	7.641	:	18.4
UK	250.183	240.295	209.002	202.611	200.023	:	-5.4
Norway	19.797	21.012	18.894	20.939	23.918	26.261	5.8
Switzerland	:	6.3	:	7.245	:	:	7.2
Croatia	:	4.804	7.807	4.038	2.886	:	-15.6
Russia	8.83	9.346	11.378	:	:	:	13.5
USA	13.864	12.918	17.924	20.367	:	:	13.7
Japan	26.183	75.966	96.294	104.826	24.045	25.359	-0.6

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \times (\text{value year } 1+n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last. **for

Hungary, AAG calculated for 2007–2010

***for Malta, AAG calculated for 2008–2012. No data for Iceland, South Korea, France — data for France included under GBAORD dedicated to political and social systems, structures and processes

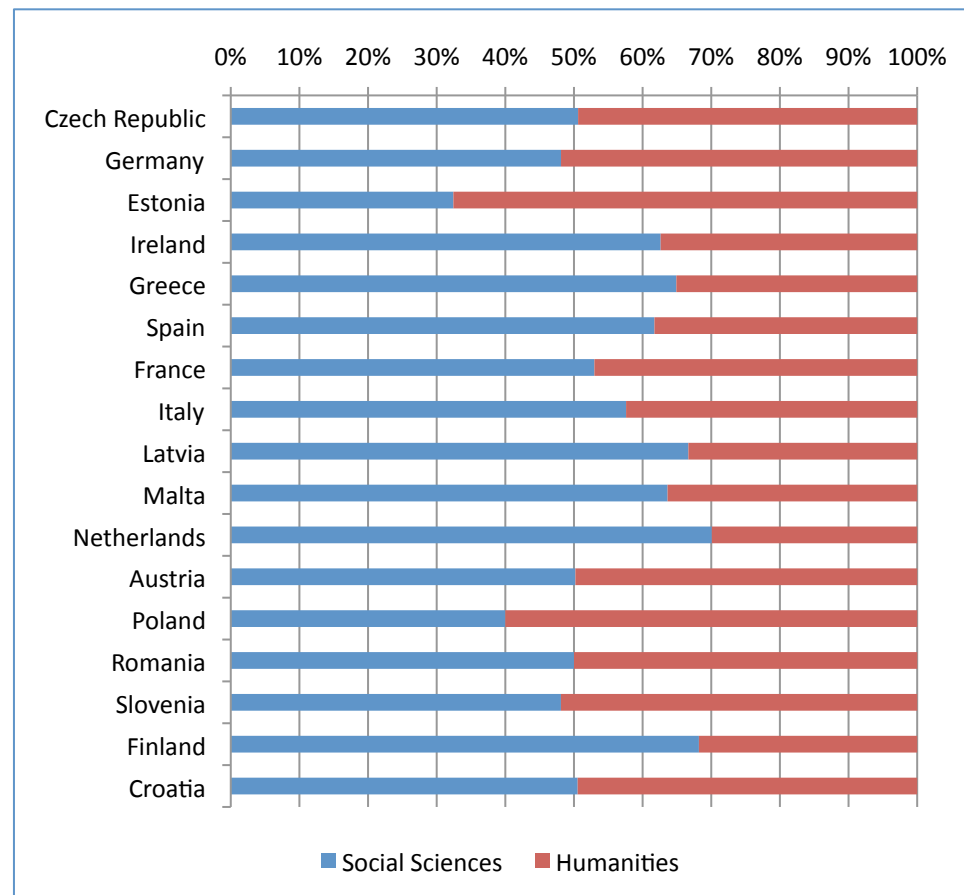
Source: Eurostat, Total GBAORD by NABS 2007 socio-economic objectives [gba_nabsfin07].

Funding trends show highly diverse patterns and it is difficult to make generalisations regarding Old Member States versus New Members. What stands out in Table 8 is that counties such as Ireland and Hungary appear to have stopped funding of such research, whereas in Lithuania, it is not clear whether the data reveal that there is no such funding or that the amount is too negligible to register. Slovenia's funding in 2012

was roughly one-third of the 2010 level, whereas the Czech Republic's funding for research in this field more than doubled between 2010 and 2012 — as is the case for Estonia, which saw a tripling of its funding between 2008 and 2011. Romania stands out as having the highest average annual rates of increase of all countries (not counting Poland, for which we only have two years of data), despite the dip in spending in 2012.

Table 2 shows the relative shares of social sciences versus humanities in GBAORD. Most of the 17 countries covered show a predominance of social sciences, though in Poland and Estonia humanities clearly enjoy a large share of SSH funding.

Figure 2 Relative share of SSH-dedicated GBAORD allocated to Social Sciences and Humanities, 2007–2011



Source: Technopolis

Table 10 summarises the major changes in public funding for SSH research and the launching of funding for new SSH areas and programmes.

Table 10 Changes in public funding for SSH research 2011–2012

Measures	EU Countries	Non-EU
Spending cuts	BG, IT, HU, SK, CY, GR, UK, RO, LV	AL, US, HR
Spending increases	DE, CZ, SE, PL, AT, LT, EE, LU, SI	CA, IL, JP
Funding for new SSH areas / new programmes launched	GR, LT, IT, DE	CA

Source: METRIS Country Reports 2012

Most of the EU Member States experienced a decline in public funding for SSH research during the period covered by the most recent METRIS Country Reports – while the statistics reported in the EUROSTAT tables tend to provide a more mixed picture (though also Table 5 and

Table 8 show that total funding is lower in 2011 than in 2010, while for 2012 the data are incomplete – with some countries registering increases and others decreases). Some of the European Member States reduced overall research funding, not only that dedicated to SSH, due to efforts to consolidate public finances and reduce public deficit e.g. Greece, Portugal, Spain, Ireland, Slovenia, Cyprus, and Bulgaria.

In countries which have received significant support from Structural Funds, reductions are observed mainly in institutional funding as a result of the significant cuts in salaries and remuneration of researchers. In contrast, competitive funding, which is mainly financed by Structural Funds, was only slightly affected, while in some cases new programmes are being added to the existing policy mix (e.g. Greece).

For example:

- In Greece salaries were cut an average of 26% during the period 2010–2013. Given that the general university funds account for almost 50% of the public funding of R&D, the reduction of the salaries had a significant impact on the overall funding. Similarly, the funding for public research organisations was also drastically reduced due to salary cuts. At the same time a new programme for academic research was added to the existing policy mix.
- Similarly in Cyprus, all employees of public services and organisations, including researchers and university personnel, had to pay an once-off special levy and their salaries were reduced 6–12.5% in the form of special taxation.
- In Bulgaria R&D funding was also reduced for all scientific areas, including SSH. The budget of the National Science Funds, which is the main funding instrument, was decreased from €69.6m in 2009 to a mere €15.3m in 2012. Accordingly, the budget of the Bulgarian Academy of Science was also sharply reduced in 2010, after which it remained rather stable, with the budget dedicated SSH to fluctuating at around €4.5m.
- Funding of SSH in Spain also declined, following the overall trend of public funding cuts. Programme grants to SSH projects experienced

an 18% decrease in 2012 compared to 2011. However, the reduction was not a result of changes in the budget or priorities, but it was rather due to the low quality of the proposals submitted.

- Due to austerity measures, Slovenia experienced a reduction in overall public research funding from €217m in 2010 to €177m in 2012. Despite the overall reduction, the share of SSH in SRA funding was slightly increased by 1.4% compared to the previous two years. On the other hand, institutional funding for SSH dropped 10% during the period 2008–2012.

Reductions were also observed in some countries as a result of more structural changes. For example:

- In Slovakia the priority shifted away from SSH and towards natural sciences and technology areas, resulting in a reduction of funding to SSH.
- Over the past few years, the UK has been reducing the share of public funding of R&D in public expenditures, thus also affecting funding of SSH. Science Budget allocations to the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) have been reduced to £153.3m in 2012/13 from £177m in 2010/11. Figures for the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for 2012/13 have been reduced to £98.37m compared to £108.8m in 2010/11. In 2012/13, the UK Higher Education Funding Councils allocated £389m to SSH which is significantly lower than the £650m provided in 2005/06.

Following a different trend, other EU Member States experienced increases. For example:

- Austria's public funding of SSH recovered in 2012 after a reduction in 2010 and 2011, mainly due to reduction of individual funding. At the same time the overall public funding (GBAORD) increased annually by an average of 3.6% since 2007.
- In Poland there was an increase in the budget of the National Programme for the Development of Humanities, whose budget in 2012 reached PLN 89m, representing an increase of 78% compared with the amount foreseen in the initial budget for the Programme.² Furthermore, research and post-doc grants in humanities financed by NCN increased in 2012 by 50%, from PLN 24m in 2011 to PLN 36m, as did those for social sciences from PLN 40m in 2011 to PLN 59m in 2012.
- In Sweden the overall institutional funding for R&D was increased in 2012 by 3.8% compared to 2011, positively affecting also SSH funding (GBAORD) which amounted to €128m (SEK1157m) for Humanities and €281m (SEK2533m) for Social Sciences. In

² <http://www.nauka.gov.pl/ministerstwo/zdaniem-ministra/strona/1/>

contrast, individual funding, which is the main route for competitive funding, slightly decreased from €52.4m in 2011 to €51.6m in 2012.

Non-EU countries experienced varying trends regarding SSH research funding. Some of them reduced funding due to horizontal cuts in public expenditures, while in other countries reduction of funding was the result of changes in public policy. For example:

- In Albania, state budget cuts for 2011–2012 to the national programmes managed by the Agency for Research, Technology and Innovation (ARTI) were an indication that overall availability of funding to support R&D in general is reduced and this has affected the development of social science and humanities research projects.
- The Croatian government announced new budget cuts for R&D for 2013 as well as further reductions in 2014 and 2015, but detailed measures remain to be seen after the adoption of the State Budget;
- In the United States concerns about the value of SSH research have been raised in Congressional hearings, reports, and legislative proposals. These concerns are manifest in proposals to eliminate SSH funding at the NSF altogether or in various areas. In May of 2012, the US House of Representatives passed an amendment to eliminate funding for political science research at NSF. Although these activities have not been enshrined into final legislation, they do indicate a level of concern about SSH investments in the US. These considerations are also reflected on the funding of SSH which experienced in 2011 a decline of 11% compared to 2010.

On the other hand, some of the non-EU countries increased their public funding of SSH research. For example:

- In Japan spending on SSH research was slightly increased by 1% in 2012 compared with 2011 mainly due to increases of funding directed to education research and to culture, recreation, religion and mass media. Institutional funding for SSH is also increasing compared with other fields.
- The SSH disciplines in Canada received about 13% (€558.5m [CAD753m]) of all federal R&D funding in 2012 which is 10% higher than in 2010. Since 2000 the share of the federal budget dedicated to SSH has increased from 20% to 28%. Of all Canadian provinces in 2012, the province of Ontario, which includes the national capital region (NCR), accounted for the highest provincial public funding on SSH R&D, at €890m (CAD1.2b). This was followed by Quebec with €457m (CAD616m) and British Columbia with €200m (CAD270m). The three regions together provided total funding of €1.55b, which represents an increase of 24.5% over 2010 funding.

Among the **new programmes introduced** during the period under observation were the following:

- In Italy the government launched the **Smart Cities and Communities and Social Innovation Programme** in July

2012, allocating €655.5m for initiatives to promote development of smart cities — €170m for grant funding, €485.5m for favourable credits. Around €25m is reserved for social innovation projects presented by young people up to 30 years of age. Areas covered include: **security of the territory, aging of society**, welfare technologies and **inclusion**, domotics, **justice, schools**, waste management, technologies of the sea, health, transport and terrestrial mobility, last-mile logistics, smart grids, sustainable architecture and materials, **cultural heritage**, water resources management, and cloud computing technologies for smart government.

- In Denmark, the Programme Commission for Peace and Conflict of the Danish Council for Strategic Research launched the programme **Strategic Research, Peace and Conflict 2012–2015**, with a budget of €4m, aimed at strengthening the basis for Denmark to contribute with non-military solutions to current international conflicts.
- Poland launched the National Programme for Development of Humanities (NPDH)³ in November 2010 and has organised two rounds of calls: in May 2011 with the budget of PLN 110m (€25.3m) and in March 2012 with the budget of PLN 88.9m (€20.4m). The latter represents 1.4% of the 2012 science budget in Poland. The Programme’s budget in 2011–2012 of almost PLN 200m (€46m) is similar to that distributed via NCN schemes to SSH research projects (PLN 210m or €48.3m).
- In Albania and other non-EU Balkan countries, the allocation of **IPA funds** for the period 2011–2013 as well as funds for multi-beneficiary programmes and cross-border cooperation represent a big opportunity for organisations involved in SSH, particularly in the fields of law, political science, management, economics and education.
- In Germany, the BMBF’s previous programme “Freedom for Research in the Humanities” will be continued and extended by the new **“Framework Programme for the Humanities, Cultural and Social Sciences”** from 2013 to 2017 with a total budget of €380 million.
- Despite overall cuts on public spending, programme funding in Greece was not affected. In contrast, the new programme for academic research called “Excellence” was added in the existing policy mix. The programme was launched in July 2011, although the funding started in 2012. It is estimated that the total funding for SSH will amount to around €8m. The programme supports highly

³http://www.nauka.gov.pl/fileadmin/user_upload/ministerstwo/Inicjatywy/Programy_ministra/20101105_Narodowy_Program_Rozwoju_Humanistyki.pdf

talented researchers working in Greece in order to implement research projects of the highest quality in areas of their own interest without thematic restrictions.

2.1 Overall expenditure on SSH

A further measure of investment in SSH research is the share of government expenditure on R&D (GERD) devoted to SSH during the period 2007-2010/2011. Eurostat has published data for only 20 countries in addition to the EU-27 average. While the AAG is positive for the period 2007–2011, it obscures the decline that has taken place since 2010 with the second phase of the economic and financial crisis. Countries such as Denmark, Iceland and Norway spend very large per capita amounts on SSH, followed by countries such as Ireland, Portugal and Slovenia and even Cyprus. However, since data is missing for many countries, it is only possible to make a partial judgement.

Table 12 Share of SSH in GERD, Euro per inhabitant, 2007–2010/2011 (SSH/GERD)

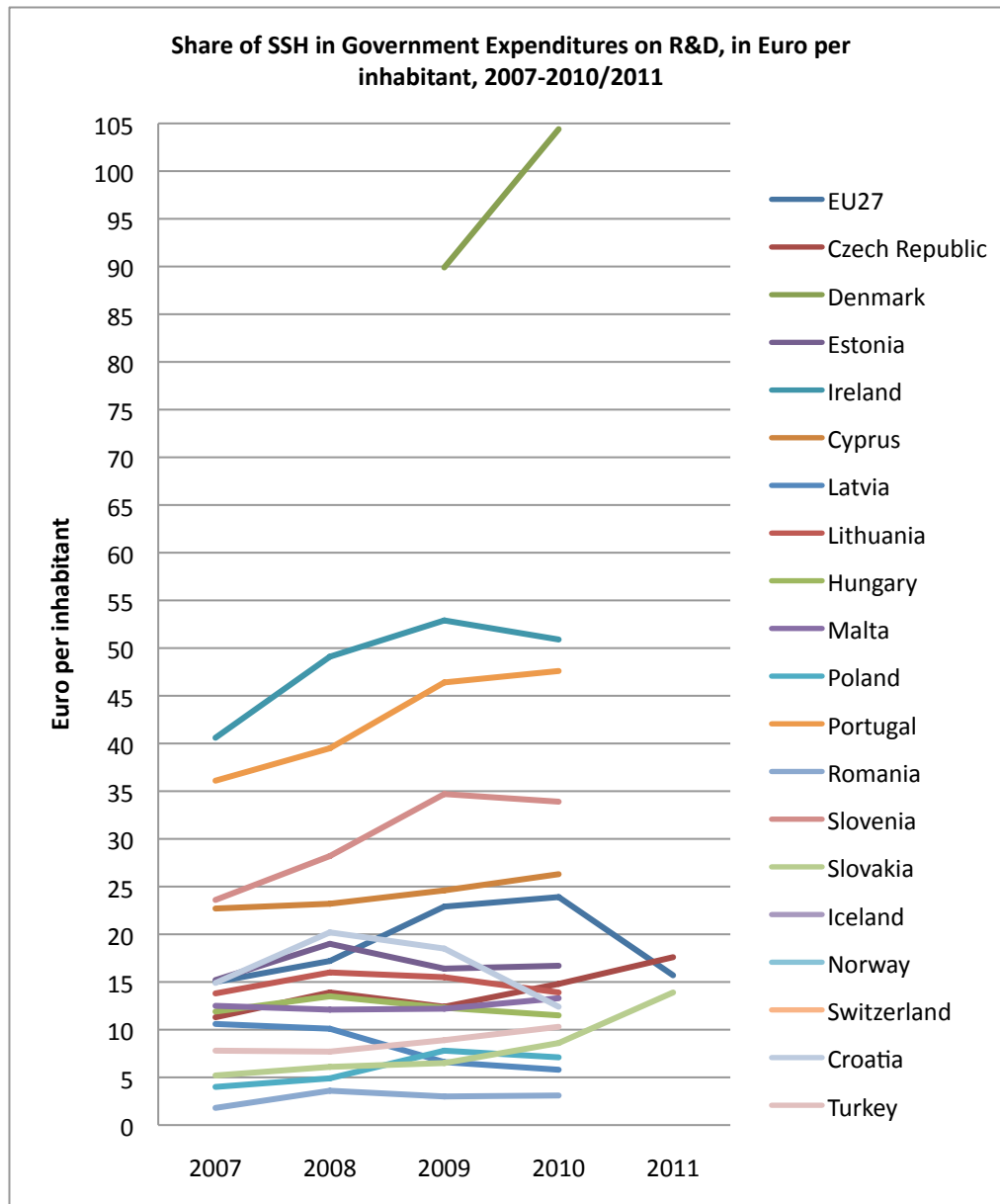
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	AAG*
EU27	15	17.2	22.9	23.9	15.7	1.1
Bulgaria	1.7	2.2	2.7	2.0		5.6
Czech Republic	11.3	13.9	12.4	14.8	17.6	11.7
Denmark			89.9	104.4		16.1
Estonia	15.2	19.0	16.4	16.7		3.2
Ireland	40.6	49.1	52.9	50.9		7.8
Cyprus	22.7	23.2	24.6	26.3		5.0
Latvia	10.6	10.1	6.6	5.8		-18.2
Lithuania	13.8	16.0	15.5	13.9		0.2
Hungary	11.9	13.5	12.3	11.5		-1.1
Malta	12.5	12.1	12.2	13.3		2.1
Poland	4.0	4.9	7.8	7.1		21.1
Portugal	36.1	39.5	46.4	47.6		9.7
Romania	1.8	3.6	3.0	3.1		19.9
Slovenia	23.6	28.2	34.7	33.9		12.8
Slovakia	5.2	6.1	6.5	8.6	13.9	27.9
Iceland	98.0		199.5			42.7
Norway	137.9		141.3			1.2
Switzerland		40.2				
Croatia	14.9	20.2	18.5	12.4		-5.9
Turkey	7.8	7.7	8.9	10.3		9.7

*Average annual growth rate for the data and years available: $100 \cdot (\text{value year } 1+n / \text{value year } 1)^{(1/n)} - 100$, where n is the difference in years between the first value and the last.

Eurostat provides no data for Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden or the UK.

Data: Eurostat; calculations: J Culver.

Figure 3 Share of SSH in GERD



Data: Eurostat.

More complete data is available for spending on SSH research in universities, which shows an overall decline in the AAG for the EU27 — however, when examining the data through 2010 (a year in which most European economies experienced growth), most of the countries for which we have data show at an increase in the amount spent per capita, in some cases significant growth. Again, the Scandinavian countries show a high propensity to invest in such research, followed by the Netherlands, Austria and Ireland.

Table 13 Total intramural expenditure (GERD) by Higher Education sector in SSH, in Euro per inhabitant

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	AAG
EU27	23.7	21.1	28.3	23.6	16.1	-9.2
Belgium	31.2	32.7	35.7			7.0
Bulgaria	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6		14.5
Czech Republic	4.9	5.1	4.7	5.9	7.4	10.9
Denmark	67.9		78.1	88.7		9.3
Germany	26.2	29.4	31.5	34.0		9.1
Estonia	10.4	13.1	11.6	11.4	15	9.6
Ireland	37.1	45.7	50.2	48.2		9.1
Greece						
Spain	30.1	33.1	33.9	33.7		3.8
France						
Italy	31.4	36.8	37.0	35.7	35.6	3.2
Cyprus	15.6	16.5	17.4	20.0		8.6
Latvia	6.2	6.3	3.1	3.4		-18.1
Lithuania	10.7	12.9	10.7	11.1		1.2
Luxembourg			30.2			
Hungary	6.1	6.3	6.2	5.9		-1.1
Malta	11.9	11.2	11.3	12.3	14.1	4.3
Netherlands	58.1	63.6	71.5			10.9
Austria	46.3		54.7			8.7
Poland	2.5	3.2	6.2	4.9		25.1
Portugal	17.5	26.0	34.1	34.0		24.8
Romania	0.4	2.2	1.5	2.3		79.2
Slovenia	6.6	8.2	12.6	12.2		22.7
Slovakia	2.3	2.7	3.2	5.7		35.3
Finland	65.0	65.7	72.9	79.2		6.8
Sweden	57.2		60.4			2.8
Iceland	43.6		26.3			-22.3
Norway	94.3		94.9			0.3
Switzerland		40.2				
Croatia	8.2	10.7	10.2	4.4		-18.7
Turkey	6.7	6.6	8.0	9.7		13.1
Japan	35.3	31.6	36.7			2.0

Note: No data for Greece, France, UK and United States.

Source: Eurostat data provided by Technopolis; calculations: J Culver.

3. Overview of EU priorities in Funding SSH Research

The European Commission has supported research in socio-economic sciences and humanities over the last four framework programmes, aiming at contributing to an understanding of the major socio-economic, political and cultural challenges facing Europe and the rest of the world. EU support to SSH research facilitates excellence in research by harnessing and sharing knowledge and by strengthening collaboration among countries and between various disciplines.

In FP7 European Commission has dedicated Theme 8 of the Cooperation programme to “Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (SSH)”, which has become the world’s largest research funding programme for SSH. The overall objective of the programme is “promoting and investing in world-class, state-of-the-art research based primarily upon the principle of excellence”. In addition the programme aims at providing “policy-makers and stakeholders on a national and European level with the evidence-based knowledge required to maintain and enhance Europe’s competitiveness and the well-being of its people”⁴. The research priorities under FP7 are the following:

- growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society;
- social cohesion, and social, cultural and educational challenges in an enlarged EU;
- combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective;
- major trends in society and their implications;
- sustainability, environmental challenges, demographic change, migration and integration, quality of life, and global interdependence;
- Europe in the world (covering migration, poverty, crime and conflict);
- the citizen in the European Union;
- socio-economic and scientific indicators;
- foresight activities, such as the future implications of global knowledge, migration and aging.

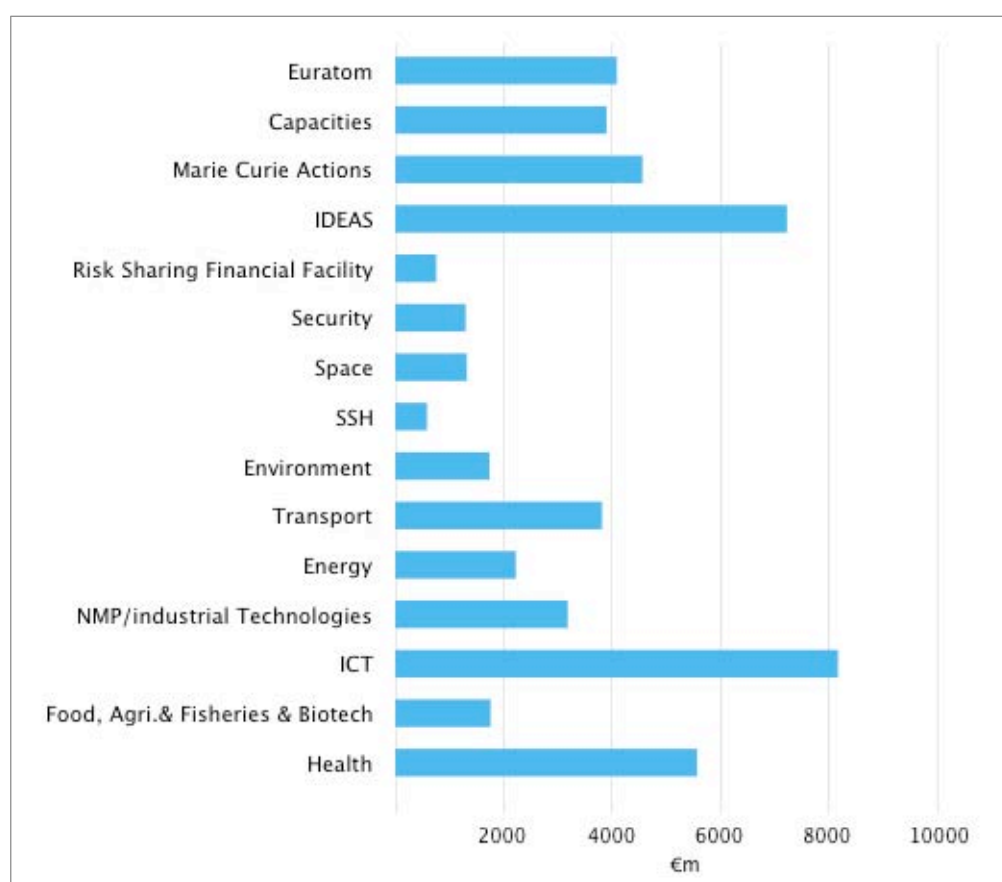
In addition to Theme 8 “SSH”, socio-economic and humanities research is also integrated into the cross-cutting issues of other Themes of the specific programme Cooperation. Moreover, SSH research is also funded in the specific programmes Ideas (ERC), People (Marie Curie

⁴ Schindler-Daniels A., C. Bitterberg, R. Sarkar, M. Krotki, L. Titarenko (2011), “SSH Experiences with FP7 – a Commentary”, net4society

Actions) and Capacities (e.g. “Science in Society” or Research Infrastructures).

Among the various themes supported by FP7 Funding (totalling over €50 billion through 2013), SSH received the smallest share. However, it is necessary to take into consideration that also projects under IDEAS, Marie Curie Actions and Capacities may involve SSH topics. Figure 4 shows the funding of FP7 themes — SSH accounts for only 1.2% of the total.

Figure 4 FP7 Budget Execution by Theme 2007–2013, in million Euro

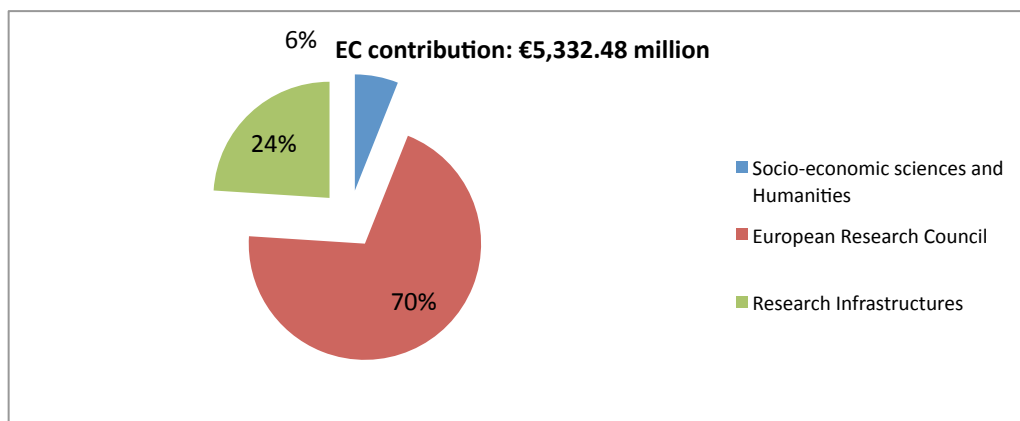


Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=budget elaboration by J. Culver.

Taking this consideration into account, data referring to the period 2007–2011 show that FP7 funding allocated to activities related directly or indirectly to SSH research amounted to around €5.3 billion, with the lion’s share (70%) going to activities associated with the European Research Council, followed by nearly a quarter to research infrastructures. Only 6% of this amount went to the SSH research calls, totalling €321.8 million (on the other hand, the data shown in Figure 6 FP7 SSH Funding in the next section reflects total funding of €384.8 million, with the share for EU27 countries reaching €356.98 million). Since the more recent data from the FP7 website shows that the total spending on the SSH Theme through 2013 was expected to be €587

million (Figure 4 above), this indicates that ERC and research infrastructures play far more important roles in the funding of actual SSH research than the FP7 SSH thematic priority.

Figure 5 FP7 funding for programmes directly/indirectly relevant to SSH topics

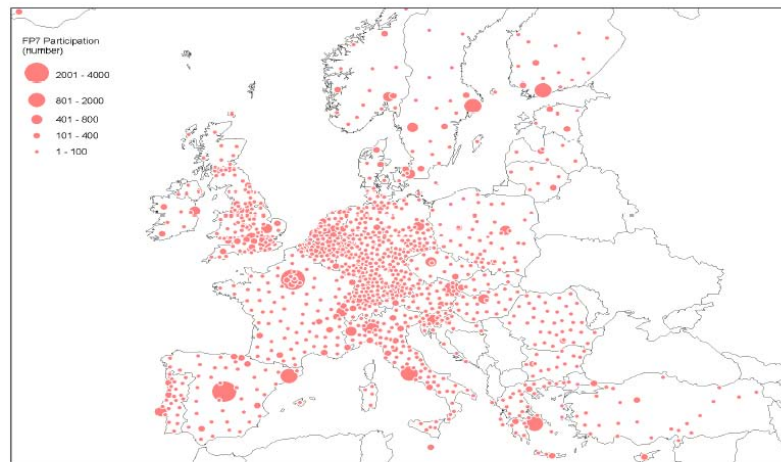


Source: DG-RTD, CORDA database

FP7 Funding played an important role in supporting research activities throughout Europe. The maps below show the geographic distribution of participants and of funding allocation for the FP7 programme from 2007–2011. The maps below show participation in FP7 funding in general — including SSH research. While it does not allow making conclusions regarding the territorial diffusion of FP7 SSH research in particular, it does provide an indication of the overall context for FP7 research activity in Europe and Associated Countries. There are a number of characteristics that stand out:

- There are higher concentrations of participants and funding in the swath of territory that extends from southern England, through the Low Countries to Austria.
- At the same time, funding and participants are concentrated in capital cities and large metropolitan areas, which can be identified in Map 1 and Map 2 by the large circles concentrated around Paris, Madrid, Rome, Stockholm, Helsinki, Athens, Brussels, Barcelona, and Vienna, and somewhat smaller circles associated with London, Dublin, Budapest, Warsaw, Turin and Milan.
- Germany and the Low Countries, however, show a fairly diffused geographical distribution of FP7, with some higher concentrations around Berlin, Amsterdam and Brussels as well as Luxembourg.
- The mapping suggests that participants located at the European peripheries have had lower frequencies of success.

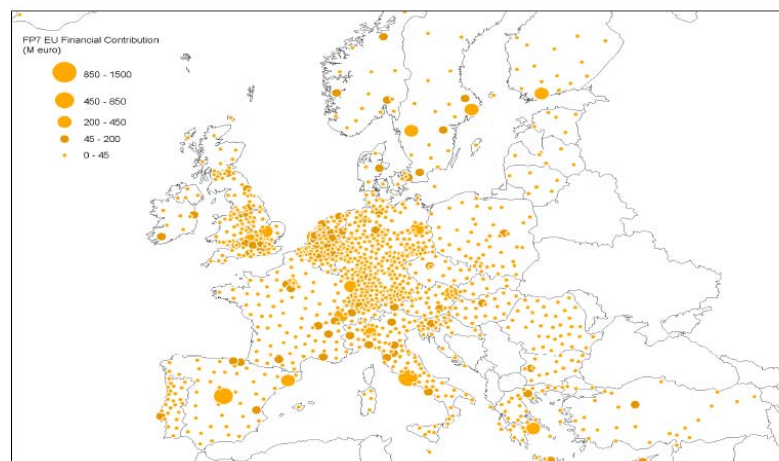
Map 1. Geographic distribution of FP7 Results Number of Participants



Map 1 – FP7 Participation (number) 2007-2011 at NUTS 3 level

CORDA Common Research Datawarehouse 2012
Data Source CORDA-GIS, Country, NUTS3 shape EUROSTAT-GISCO
E-CORDA extraction date: 2012/02/16

Map 2. Geographic distribution of FP7 Results Financial Contribution

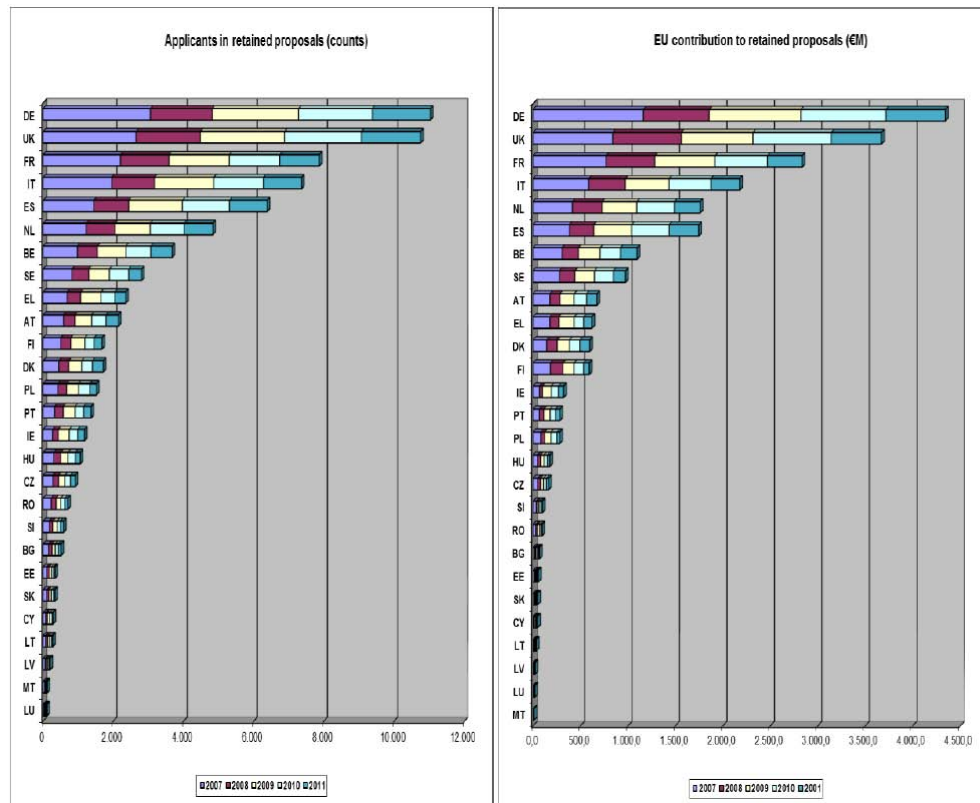


Map 2 – EU Financial contribution (Euro million) 2007-2011 at NUTS 3 level

CORDA Common Research Datawarehouse 2012
Data Source CORDA-GIS, Country, NUTS3 shape EUROSTAT-GISCO
E-CORDA extraction date: 2012/02/16

The overall results for FP7, as recorded in the Fifth Monitoring Report (2012), show that German and UK participants have been most successful in participating in and gaining FP7 funding, followed by those from France and Italy. In terms of funding, the Netherlands is ahead of Spain, even though Spain had more participants, followed by Belgium and Sweden.

Figure 6 Overall FP7 Results by participants and funding

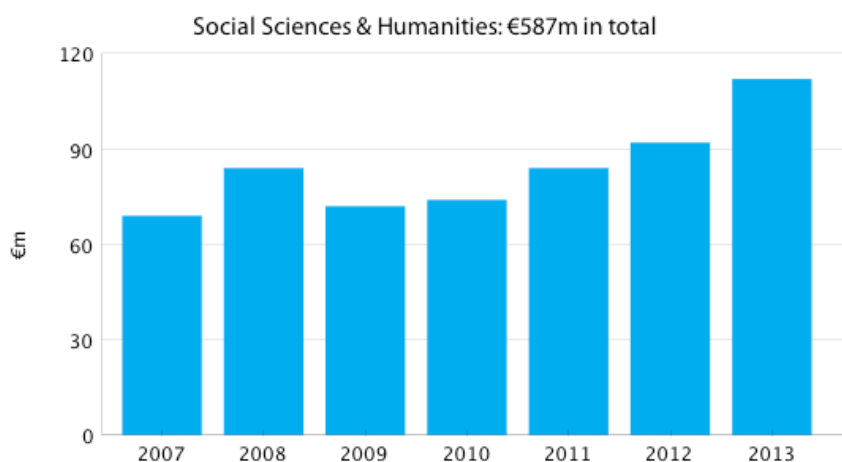


Source: Fifth FP7 Monitoring Report (through 2011)

3.1 FP7 SSH priority

As mentioned above, according to updated information in the FP7 website, overall spending on the SSH Theme is expected to total €587 million during the period 2007–2013, with spending having risen steadily following a decrease in 2009. The amount expected to be spent (in current €) in 2013 is almost twice the amount spent in 2007.

Figure 7 FP7 Budget execution SSH Theme 2007–2013 (€millions)

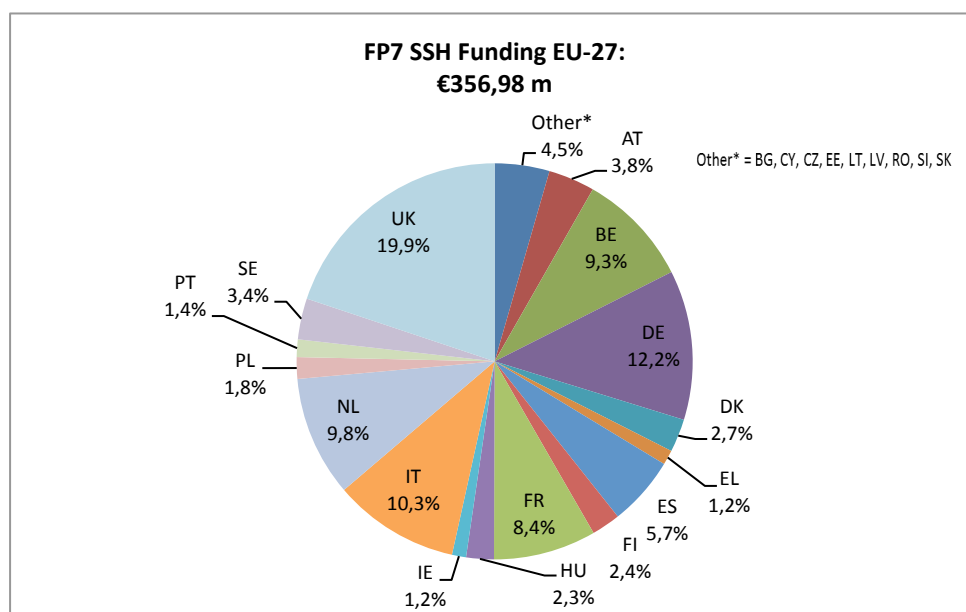


Note: data from 2007–2011 reflect actual expenditure, data from 2012–2013 refer to planned expenditure.
Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=budget elaboration by J. Culver.

Regarding the country distribution for FP7 overall, we only have data for the 2007–2011 period. The distribution of funding for SSH research shows quite different patterns from the overall FP7 results presented in the section above. During 2007–2011, total funding of €384.8 million was dedicated to FP7 SSH projects by the EC, with nearly 93% (€356.98m) going to EU27 participants and 7.2% allocated to non EU-participants.

Of the €356.98 million that went to EU-27 participants, a very large share (nearly 20%) went to those from the UK, followed by participants from Germany and Italy. While the bigger countries tend to gain larger shares of FP7 SSH funding — this has not precluded the fairly large shares gained by NL and BE and the relatively modest share of French participants. On the other hand, new member states gained only very small shares of SSH funding — despite some of them having larger populations than several of the “old” Member States.

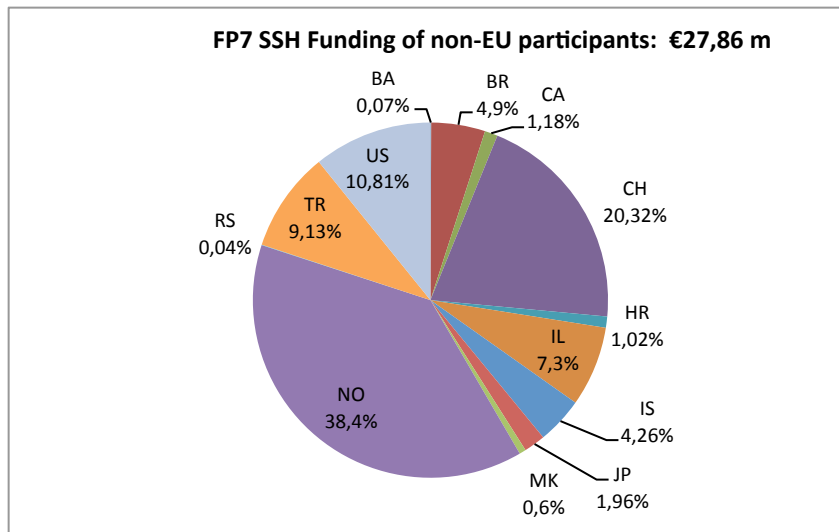
Figure 8 FP7 SSH funding of EU-27 participants 2007–2011



Source: DG-RTD, Corda database. Calculations: Technopolis, elaborations J. Culver

A total of €27.86 million (7.2% of total FP7 SSH funding from the EC) went to non-EU participants, with participants from Norway gaining the largest share, followed by those from Switzerland. The United States accounted for nearly 11%, indicating a fairly high level of activity of American partners in such research.

Figure 9 FP7 SSH funding of non-EU participants, 2007–2011



Source: DG-RTD, Corda database. Calculations: Technopolis, elaborations J. Culver

3.2 European Research Council

The European Research Council (ERC) was established by the European Commission in February 2007 as the first pan-European funding body supporting frontier research in Europe. The ERC has a total budget of €7.5 billion over the period 2007–2013 and is a key component of FP7, particularly with respect to the IDEAS sub-programme. The Commission is proposing to increase the ERC's budget to over €13 billion during the time-frame of the Horizon 2020 programme.

As a bottom-up funder, the ERC allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions in all fields of research, rather than being led by pre-set priorities. In addition to being a funding organisation, the ERC aims to strengthen and shape the European research system and it already has had a growing impact on the European Research Area.

Since its establishment in 2007, the ERC has funded over 3,400 projects throughout Europe. ERC funding is distributed over three main scientific domains — one of which is SSH — in the following sectors:

- Individuals, institutions & markets
- Institutions, values, beliefs and behaviour
- Environment, space & population
- The Human Mind and its complexity
- Cultures & cultural production
- The study of the human past

The ERC is a significant funder of SSH researchers as is demonstrated in Table 14 below. In 2012, the budget for the Starting Grants scheme was €750m of which SSH grantees accounted for 18.7% and approximately €140m in funding. The indicative budget for the

Advanced Grant scheme was €680m of which SSH researchers were awarded 18.2% and approximately €124m in funding.

Table 14 ERC Starting and Advanced Grants schemes by scientific domain, 2011 and 2012, (absolute and relative grants)

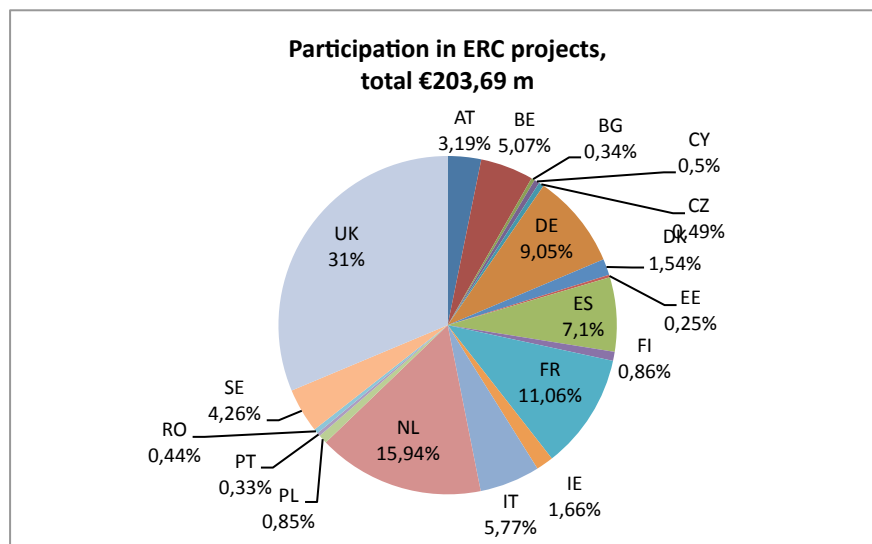
ERC grant scheme	2011	2012
ERC Starting Grants budget	€676m	€750m
Life Sciences	169 (35.2%)	199 (37.1%)
Physical Sciences and Engineering	222 (46.2%)	237 (44.2%)
Social Sciences and Humanities	89 (18.6%)	100 (18.7%)
ERC Advanced Grant budget	€661m	€680m
Life Sciences	107 (36.4%)	111 (36.7%)
Physical Sciences and Engineering	134 (45.6%)	136 (45.0%)
Social Sciences and Humanities	53 (18.0%)	55 (18.2%)

Source: European Research Council

As indicated in Figure 5 in the previous section, of the overall €5.3b budget related to SSH-relevant activities in total FP7 funding for 2007–2011, ERC projects accounted for around 70% or €3.7b.

Regarding the geographic distribution of the projects of the European Research Council that received EC funding for SSH related activities (total €203.69m for EU27 participants), UK participants are clear leaders, accounting for 31% of funding during 2008–2011. This is nearly twice as much as received by Dutch participants, and roughly three times as much as went to French or German participants. In fact there is a very high concentration of funding to participants from just five countries: UK, NL, FR, DE and ES. There were 10 countries that appeared to receive no funding under this type of initiative in SSH-related themes.

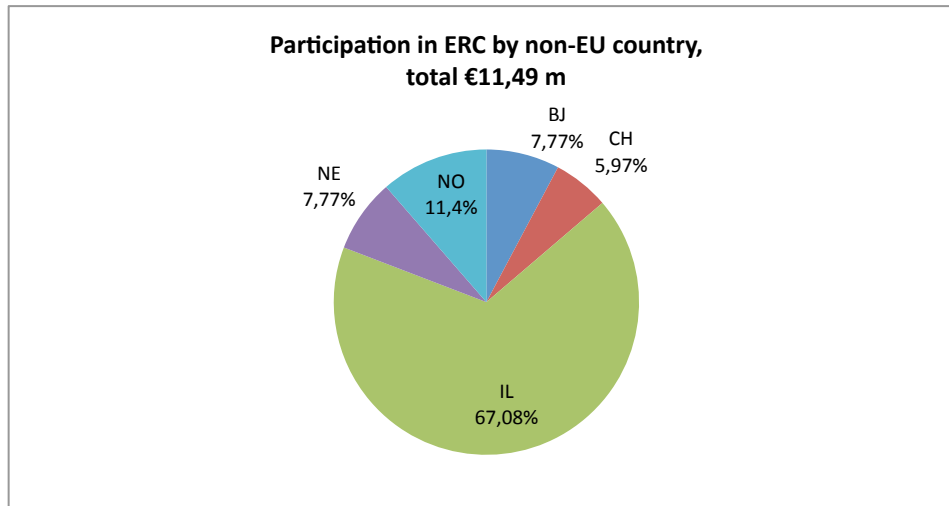
Figure 10 FP7 funding of ERC projects involving SSH (EU-27), 2008–2010



Source: DG-RTD, Corda database. Calculations: Technopolis, elaboration by J. Culver

Among the non-EU participants in ERC projects, those from Israel accounted for two-thirds of the total funding of €11.49 million going to such partners.

Figure 11 FP7 funding of ERC projects involving SSH (non-EU), 2008–2011



Source: DG-RTD, Corda database. Calculations: Technopolis, elaboration by J. Culver

3.3 FP7 Research infrastructures

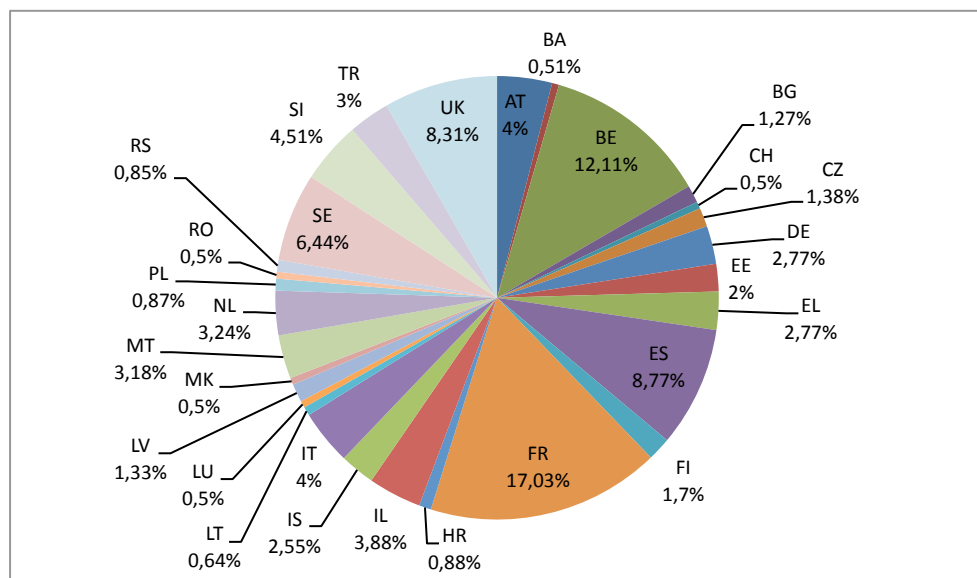
Through the FP7 Capacities programme the Commission seeks to enhance research and innovation capacities throughout Europe and ensure their optimal use. The Capacities sub-programme within FP7 has a budget of €4.1 billion to operate in seven broad areas:

- Research infrastructures
- Research for the benefit of SMEs
- Regions of knowledge and support for regional research-driven clusters
- Research potential of Convergence Regions
- Science in society
- Support to the coherent development of research policies
- International cooperation.

The overall objective of the Research Infrastructures (RIs) module of the FP7 Capacities sub-programme is to optimise the use and development of the research infrastructures existing in Europe, as well as to create new research infrastructures of pan-European interest in all fields of science and technology. The RI module seeks to assist the European scientific community to remain at the forefront of the advancement of research and help industry to strengthen its base of knowledge and technological know-how. It also provides support for policy development and programme implementation, including support to emerging needs.

Approximately €3.7 billion was allocated to Research Infrastructures under FP7. With regard to the geographical distribution of funding for Research infrastructures involving SSH research, a total of €17.7 million were allocated during 2007–2011, including the JRC (which accounts for 55% of EC funding). If the JRC share is excluded, a total of €7.9 million was dedicated to Research Infrastructures involving both EU and non-EU participants. The largest shares of recipients came from France (17%), Belgium (12%), Spain, the UK and Sweden, whereas large countries like Italy and Germany have only small shares – in fact even smaller than the share of Slovenia. Israel accounts for the largest non-EU share of research infrastructure funding, with a larger share of funding than many EU countries, including large players such as Germany and the Netherlands.

Figure 12 FP7 funding of Research Infrastructures (EU & non-EU participants, excluding JRC), 2007–2011



Source: DG-RTD, Corda database. Calculations: Technopolis, elaboration by J. Culver

The majority of FP7-funded RI projects have been in the area of ICT-based e-infrastructures, followed by the Integrated Activities. Table 15 shows that RIs in the SSH category accounted for 17, or 7%, of the 242 projects funded under FP7. The SSH was the fifth highest category after e-infrastructures (47.5%), Life Science (11.6%), Environment and Earth Sciences (11.2%) and Physics and Astronomy (9.5%).

Table 15 Categorisation of FP7-funded Research Infrastructure projects by scientific domain

Scientific domain	No. of projects funded	%
e-Infrastructures	115	47.5
Engineering and Energy	16	6.6
Environment and Earth Sciences	27	11.2
Life sciences	28	11.6
Material Sciences & Analytical Facilities	14	5.8
Mathematics and Computer Sciences	2	0.8
Physics and Astronomy	23	9.5
Social Sciences and Humanities	17	7.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>242</i>	<i>100.0</i>

Source: EuroRis web site

Table 16 provides details of the RI projects in the SSH category which were awarded FP7 funding.

Table 16 SSH-related RI projects funded under FP7

Acronym	Title	Dates
CESSDA-PPP	Preparatory phase project for a major upgrade of the Council of European social science data archives (CESSDA) research infrastructure	01/01/2008 – 30/06/2010
CHARISMA	Cultural Heritage Advanced Research Infrastructures: Synergy for a Multidisciplinary Approach to Conservation/Restoration	01/10/2009 – 30/09/2013
CLARIN	Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure	01/01/2008 – 30/06/2011
wB	Data without Boundaries	01/05/2011 – 30/04/2015
EHRI	European Holocaust Research Infrastructure	01/10/2010 – 30/09/2014
ESS-DACE	The European Social Survey-Data for a changing Europe	01/07/2010 – 30/06/2014
ESSPREP	The European Social Survey Infrastructure Preparatory Phase	18/02/2008 – 17/11/2010
EVARIO	Evaluation of Research Infrastructures in Open innovation and research systems	01/01/2011 – 31/12/2012
GGP	Generations and Gender Programme: A European Research Infrastructure on the Causes and Consequences of Demographic Developments	01/01/2009 – 31/12/2012
MONDILEX	Conceptual Modelling of Networking of Centres for High-Quality Research in Slavic Lexicography and Their Digital Resources	01/04/2008 – 31/03/2010
PIREDEU	Providing an Infrastructure for Research on Electoral Democracy in the European Union	01/02/2008 – 31/01/2011
PREPARING DARIAH	Preparing for the construction of the Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities	01/09/2008 – 28/02/2011
RIFI	Research Infrastructures: Foresight and Impact	01/03/2009 – 31/05/2011
SHARE LEAP	Longitudinal enhancement and access improvement of the share infrastructure	01/01/2009 – 31/12/2010
SHARE-PREP	Upgrading the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe – preparatory phase	01/01/2008 – 31/12/2009
SHARE_M4	Multinational Advancement of Research Infrastructures on Ageing	01/01/2011 – 31/12/2014
STACHEM	Science And Technology for Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in the Eastern Mediterranean	01/11/2008 – 30/04/2010

Source: EuroRis web site

The EU Commission has provided a two-way classification of SSH-related research infrastructures funding provided under FP7. The two main classifications shown in the Table below are:

- Existing infrastructures (further divided into Integrating Activities and ICT-based e-infrastructures)
- New infrastructures (further categorised into Design studies and Construction).

Under the New Infrastructures classification, there were three projects in the Design studies category, and there were six projects in the Construction category of which five were in the Preparatory phase and one in the Implementation phase.

Table 17 Analysis of FP7 funding of SSH-related Research Infrastructures

Existing infrastructures	New infrastructures
Integrating Activities: Networks of RIs (8)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARIADNE: Advanced Research Infrastructure for Archaeological Dataset Networking in Europe • CENDARI: Collaborative European Digital/Archival infrastructure • CHARISMA: Cultural Heritage Advanced Research Infrastructures: Synergy for a Multidisciplinary Approach to Conservation/Restoration • DwB: Data without Boundaries • EHRI: European Holocaust Research Infrastructure • ESS-DACE: The European Social Survey — Data for a changing Europe • SHARE_M4: Multinational Advancement of Research Infrastructures on Ageing • SHARE LEAP: Longitudinal enhancement and access improvement of the share infrastructure 	Design studies (3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GGP: Generations and Gender Programme • PIREDEU: Providing an Infrastructure for Research on Electoral Democracy in the European Union • MONDILEX: Conceptual Modelling of Networking of Centres for High-Quality Research in Slavic Lexicography and their Digital Resources
ICT-based e-infrastructures	Construction (6): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) Preparatory phase (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CESSDA — Council of European Social Science Data Archives – CLARIN — Common LAnguage Resources and technology INitiative – DARIAH — DigitAl Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities – The European Social Survey – SHARE — Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe • (b) Implementation phase (1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DASISH — Data Service Infrastructure for the Social Sciences and Humanities

Note: * The EU Commission has indicated that a new Integrating Activities-funded SSH project, InGRID (Inclusive Growth Infrastructures Diffusion), is under negotiation following a call for proposals in 2012.

Source: DG Research

The following Table 18 provides additional data on FP7 funding of five SSH research infrastructures projects in the Preparatory phase sub-section of the Construction sub-category within the New Infrastructures classification.

Table 18 Profile of SSH Research Infrastructures projects in the preparatory phase

SSH RI Project name	Construction costs	Details
CESSDA — Council of European Social Science Data Archives	€30m	CESSDA provides and facilitates access for researchers to high quality data for social sciences. It promotes the acquisition, archiving and distribution of electronic data and encourages the exchange of data. The infrastructure includes 20 social science data archives in 20 European countries. Collectively they serve over 30,000 researchers, providing access to more than 50,000 data collections per annum.
CLARIN-ERIC — Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure	€104m	This infrastructure facilitates the access for researchers across Europe to multilingual and multicultural content, in all disciplines, in particular the humanities and social sciences. CLARIN-ERIC seeks to the existing, fragmented technology and resources into an accessible, flexible and stable services network available from the user's desktop using semantic web technology.
DARIAH — Digital Research Infrastructures for the Arts and Humanities	€20m	The mission of DARIAH is to enhance and support digitally-enabled research across the humanities and arts. DARIAH aims to develop and maintain an infrastructure in support of ICT-based research practices.
European Social Survey (ESS)	€2m (upgrade costs)	Upgrade of the European social survey set up in 2001 to monitor long-term changes in social values. It is now an academically-driven, long-term pan-European distributed instrument to chart and explain the interaction between Europe's changing institutions and attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of its diverse populations.
SHARE-ERIC — Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe	€23m	SHARE-ERIC is a data infrastructure for the socio-economic analysis of on-going changes due to population ageing. SHARE-ERIC is the upgrade into a long-term research infrastructure of a multidisciplinary and cross-national database of micro-data of about 45,000 Europeans aged 50 or over.
Total	€179m	

Source: DG Research

The funding of €179m for the implementation/upgrade of SSH-related Research Infrastructures in the ESFRI road-map while significant must, however, be regarded in the context of the overall funding provided for RIs in other ESFRI sectors such as Energy (€750m) and Biological and Medical Sciences (€1,120m+).

3.3.1 DG Regio funding for Research Infrastructures

In addition to the funding of €1.7 billion worth of funding provided for Research Infrastructures under FP7, it is important to note that funding for RIs is also provided under the Cohesion Policy and Research (“Structural Funds”) 2007–2013 programme. The programme seeks to reduce regional disparities and promote competitiveness, growth and employment.

DG Regio has allocated €9.74 billion for Research and Development Infrastructures and centres of competence in a specific technology. This funding for RIs accounts for 11.4% of its total RTD investment sub-programme over the period 2007–2013. The DG Regio RIs funding of €9.74 billion is being allocated to categories detailed in Table 16.

Table 19 DG Regio allocation of RIs infrastructure investments

Funding category	€ billion	% of funding
Convergence regions	€7.47	75.8%
Competitiveness and Employment regions	€2.25	22.9%
Exploiting RIs across borders, i.e. European Territorial Cooperation (ETC)	€0.13	1.3%

Though DG Regio does not provide a classification of its RI funding by scientific domain, major SSH Research Infrastructures projects such as CLARIN, ESS, DARIAH, SHARE and CESSDA have been widely supported on an individual Member State level.

3.4 ERA-NETs and Joint Programming Initiatives

3.4.1 ERA-NETs

The objective of the ERA-NET scheme is to step up the cooperation and coordination of research activities carried out at the national or regional level in the Member States and Associated States through:

- networking of research activities conducted at national or regional level
- mutual opening of national and regional research programmes.

In FP7 one of the objectives of the ERA-NET scheme is to contribute to the development of the European Research Area (ERA) and the competitiveness of European R&D.

The scheme seeks to further the development of the European Research Area by improving research programme coherence and coordination across Europe. The ERA-NET initiative endeavours to enable national systems to take on tasks collectively that they would not have been able to tackle independently. Policy-makers recognised that both networking and mutual opening require a progressive approach. The ERA-NET scheme has, therefore, a long-term perspective that has regard for the different ways in which research is organised in different Member States and Associated States.

The ERA-NET scheme comprises the following actions:

- **ERA-NET actions** — providing a framework for actors implementing public research programmes to coordinate their activities e.g. by developing joint activities or by mutually supporting joint calls for trans-national proposals
- **ERA-NET Plus actions** — providing, in a limited number of cases with high European added value, additional EU financial support to facilitate joint calls for proposals between national and/or regional programmes.

3.4.2 Article 169/185 initiatives

Article 169 (Article 185 of the Treaty of Lisbon) of the EC Treaty enables the European Union to participate in research programmes undertaken by several European Member States, including participation in the structures created for the execution of national programmes. **Eurostars** is one of the formal structures created within the scope of Article 169. The originality of Article 169 is related to the fact that the proposal comes from the Member States.

The actions supported may cover subjects not directly linked to the ten themes of the FP7 Co-operation sub-programme, insofar as they have a sufficient EU added value. They will also be used to enhance the complementarity and synergy between FP7 and activities carried out under intergovernmental structures such as EUREKA and COST.

NETWATCH portal

The Commission's NETWATCH information portal monitors and provides an analysis of ERA-NETs, ERA-NET Plus, Article 169/185 Initiatives and other self-sustaining networks. The most recent monitoring report, *NETWATCH Mapping and Monitoring: Second and Third Exercises* (2013), published by the Institute for Prospective and Technological Studies provides an analysis of networks active between June-December 2011.

The Monitoring report noted that in June 2011, there were 68 active networks: 43 FP7 ERA-NETs, three FP6 ERA-NETs, eight ERA-NET Plus, four Article 169/185s, two coordination and support actions and eight self-sustaining networks⁵. The December 2011 cohort was largely unchanged compared to that of June 2011 although total number of active networks decreased to 67 after one of the coordination and support actions ended.

Funding for four-fifths of networks monitored by NETWATCH is provided through FP7 and, as a consequence, the thematic focus of these networks is closely linked to FP7 thematic priorities. The analysis of the networks' thematic profile indicates that the *socio-economic sciences and the humanities account for 5% of their thematic domains*. Socio-economic science and the humanities was the fifth most cited research field after the Environment, ICT, Health and Food.

The number of participants in networks funded under FP7 was analysed. The analysis showed that in December 2011 the number of network participation stood at 1,078 and the number of countries represented at 56. In December 2011, the number of countries funded under FP6 was 21 and the number of network participations was 55.

⁵ The self-sustaining networks are those that have continued without EU support. Eight self-sustaining network are CORNET, CRUE, ECORD, ERA-CHEMISTRY, FENCO-NET, PVERANET, SKEP and SNOWMAN.

A key strategic objective of the networks is the implementation of joint calls. The NETWATCH Monitor report noted that 62% of the active networks launched a call in 2011, with 55% of all active networks launching only one call annually. The average budget of joint calls and average public contribution to the joint calls between June and December 2011, where data is available, is unchanged. The most common form of funding was the virtual common pot in which countries and regions paid for their own participants and which did not involve trans-national flows of national funding.

The active networks having a primary socio-economic sciences and the humanities FP7 thematic priority and as a research field include the following:

- ERANID
- HERA Joint Research Programme
- HERA Joint Research Programme Cultural Encounters
- NORFACE Plus

The active networks having socio-economic sciences and the humanities as one of their research fields include:

- BONUS 169
- ECO-INNOVERA
- Eurostar
- RURAGRI

Table 20 profiles eight active networks which either have socio-economic sciences and humanities as a FP7 thematic priority and/or as a research field.

Table 20 ERA-NETs and Article 169/185 programme networks having a Socio-economic sciences and humanities as a thematic priority and/or as a research field in FP7.

Network name	Network type	Thematic priority	SSH as a research field	No. of other research fields	Start date	End date	No. of participants	Funding calls
Eravid	ERA-NET	Socio-economics sciences and humanities	Yes	2	2013	2016	6	First call in 2014
HERA JRP	ERA-NET	Socio-economics sciences and humanities	Yes	0	2009	2013	14	€16.4m (2009)
HERA JRP CE	ERA-NET Plus	Socio-economics sciences and humanities	Yes	0	2012	2017	19	€18m (2012)
Norface Plus	ERA-NET Plus	Socio-economics sciences and humanities	Yes	0	2009	2014	13	€28m (2009–2014)
Baltic 169	Article 169	Environment	Yes	7	2010	2016	10	€22m (2011)
Eco-Innova	ERA-NET	Environment	Yes	7	2010	2014	25	€15m (2011); €10m (2013)
Eurostars	Article 169/185	None (horizontal)	Yes	14	2007	2013	38	€95m (2011)
Ruragri	ERA-NET	Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	Yes	2	2009	2013	24	€8.5m (2012)

Sources: NETWATCH web site, individual network web sites

The analysis of these networks' funding calls is problematic as the networks span different time periods and while some are coming to the end of their programme period others are just commencing. Additionally, some networks have more than one call for proposals per annum, while others issue calls for proposals less frequently. Some networks cite research budgets which include their FP7 funding while others do not. However, a more fundamental point is that socio-economic sciences and the humanities only account for 5% of the FP7 thematic priorities of active ERA-NETs and Article 169/185 programme networks (though as was pointed out earlier some networks may have more than one thematic domains).

3.4.3 Joint Programming Initiatives

Joint Programming is a process designed to ensure the optimisation of existing and future research effort at the level of Member States, aimed at reinforcing cross-border cooperation and the coordination and alignment of national publicly funded research programmes in a limited number of fields, each addressing a specific societal challenge. Potential Joint Programming areas are identified by a High Level Group on Joint Programming consisting of nominees from Member States and the Commission, following a thorough consultation of stakeholders.

Joint Programming involves a structured and strategic process through which Member States agree, on a voluntary basis and in a partnership approach, on common visions and Strategic Research Agendas (SRA) to address major societal challenges. The importance of creating synergies between actions undertaken at EU level (FP7, Horizon 2020) and at Member State Levels (JPIs) has long been recognised.

Ten JPIs have been established to-date, with three of these having a SSH focus:

- **Cultural Heritage and Global Change:** 18 member countries with additional 8 countries having observer status. A pilot call for proposals was published in January 2013 with a budget of €3m covering a three year period;
- **More Years Better Lives — the Potential of Demographic Change:** 13 countries as members (and three observing countries). A Co-ordination and Support Action (CSA) for this JPI, J-Age, commenced in September 2012 with a budget of €1.5m;
- **Global Urban Challenges (Urban Europe):** in 2012, the JPI Urban Europe provided €12m in funding for 10 projects following a pilot call for proposals. Urban Europe has 13 countries as members, with additional two countries as observers.

Table 21 presents an overview of the Member States and Associated countries involved in the above JPIs. Among the Member States, Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden participate in all three initiatives. All other Member States, except Hungary and Luxembourg, participate at least in one initiative either as a full member or as an observer. Of the Associated countries Norway participates systematically in all three SSH JPIs.

Table 21 Participation of countries in SSH related JIPs

Countries	Cultural Heritage	Urban Europe	More Years, Better Lives
Austria	O	M	M
Belgium	M	M	
Bulgaria	O		
Cyprus	M	M	
Czech Republic	M		
Denmark	M	M	M
Estonia	O		
Finland		M	M
France	M	M	
Germany	O		M
Greece	O		
Hungary			
Ireland	M	M	
Italy		M	
Latvia	O		
Lithuania	M		
Luxembourg			
Malta		M	M
The Netherlands	M	M	M
Poland	M		M
Portugal	O	O	
Romania	M		
Slovakia	M		
Slovenia	M		
Spain	M	O	M
Sweden	M	M	M
UK	M		M
Israel	O		
Moldova	M		
Norway	M	M	M
Switzerland			M
Turkey		M	M

M: Full member; O: Observer.

Source: JPIs web sites.

The overall conclusion of the Expert Group established by the EU Commission in 2012 to review Joint Programming stated that the process has initiated quite well, though it can only fully succeed if commitments and financial support from the national administrations and research financing organisations continue.

The main differences between JPIs and ERA-NETs (and Article 185 programmes) are shown in Table 19.

Table 22 Joint Programming Initiatives compared to ERA-NETs and Article 185 programmes

Co-ordinated programmes	Objectives	Funding	Scientific performance	Agenda definition
ERA-NETs	Defined by scientific field	Member & Associated States + European Commission in ERA-net +	Single discipline	Transnational
Article 185 programmes	Most defined by scientific field	Associated States + European Commission	Single discipline	European
Joint Programming Initiatives	Defined by societal challenges	Member & Associated States	Multi- and inter-disciplinary	Transnational

Source: *A functional approach to Joint Programming Initiatives*, a paper prepared by Jacek Gierlinski, Klaus Kubezko, Armin Mathes, Pierfrancesco Moretti, Margit Noll, Enrique Playán, Carlos Segovia, Mats Ulfendahl and Katy Whitelegg

While SSH-themed JPIs are fewer in number than their ERA-NET counterparts, it is important to note that the socio-economic sciences and humanities account for 30% of all JPI projects. This poses the question whether SSH-funded projects are more likely to receive funding where the research issues are defined by societal challenges and where the response requires a transnational multi- and inter-disciplinary approach.

3.5 HORIZON 2020

In terms of future European research funding that involves SSH, the HORIZON 2020 has as one of its main priorities “Societal Challenges” with a total budget of more than €31.7 billion. All priorities have some direct or indirect relevance to SSH, since SSH topics horizontally cut across all priorities, not only the two programmes with strong direct relevance to SSH research: health, demographic change and wellbeing (€8,033m) and inclusive, innovative and secure societies (€3,819m) for the period 2014–2020. Thus, it is expected that the SSH research community will benefit substantially from HORIZON 2020 programmes.

Table 23 HORIZON 2020 funding of SSH-relevant projects

Horizon 2020 Societal Challenges Priority	(million euro, 2014–2020)
Societal Challenges (total proposed budget)	€31 748
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	€8 033
Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research & the bioeconomy	€4 152
Secure, clean and efficient energy*	€5 782
Smart, green and integrated transport	€6 802
Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials	€3 160
Inclusive, innovative and secure societies	€3 819

*Additional €1 788m for nuclear safety and security from the Euratom Treaty activities (2014–2018). Does not include ITER.

Source: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/pdf/press/horizon2020-presentation.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none>

4. Findings and Conclusions

This report has provided an overview and summary of the main trends and data related to the funding of SSH research in EU and selected non-EU countries. Beginning with a brief overview of the recent statistics that provide parameters for the current economic crisis and a review of government funding of R&D, the report engaged in a cross-country assessment of funding and research expenditure. Furthermore, the report has highlighted the range of SSH funding sources at the EU level (FP7, Cohesion/Structural Funds). These sources vary in terms of their programme objectives and consequently in terms of their funding criteria. They also differ in relation to the level of information they provide on funding of SSH research projects.

A number of findings have emerged from the research supporting the elaboration of the report:

- Overall it can be concluded that during the past few years there have been a number of important changes in the administrative structures and procedures involved in research funding. Most countries engaged in some initiatives to promote greater efficiency, effectiveness, performance (with requisite monitoring and evaluation and indicators), transparency, and improved governance and accountability associated with public research funding; however, in many countries these concepts have not yet been translated into concrete reality or actual research results, compounded by budget reductions mandated by the crisis.
- As noted in the individual METRIS country reports and can be seen in the tables presented, a major challenge has been the availability and completeness of data on funding of SSH research. While EUROSTAT data has been widely available for most EU countries, data availability is inconsistent for other countries that are covered by METRIS, and some countries (Brazil, Israel, Canada, Bosnia, Albania) are not covered at all in the database. For some countries we have insufficient or incomplete data, which does not allow an updated or comprehensive analysis to be conducted.
- The review of funding provided through EU initiatives appears to indicate that the SSH is more likely to receive a greater share of overall research funding where the research is aimed at tackling societal issues and where a multi-disciplinary approach is needed e.g. Joint Programming Initiatives.

In general it can be concluded that:

- Comprehensive data on SSH funding is lacking both at a Member State and at an EU level which presents for difficulties in making comparisons between the overall funding available for SSH research and how that funding is allocated between the main components of the SSH research system (people, projects, infrastructure).

- The economic crisis has had a negative impact on funding for SSH research in most, but not all countries covered. The decline of public funding in SSH fields was mainly the result of an overall horizontal reduction of public funding mainly due to the crisis. Only in few countries was the decline of SSH funding the result of a change in priorities away from SSH fields (e.g. towards natural sciences and technology areas).
- The Structural Funds curbed, to some extent, the decline in competitive funding, either in the form of individual or programme funding, in the countries most affected by the public debt and deficit crisis. However the decline in institutional funding became inevitable due to the austerity measures, which mainly affected salaries of researchers.
- The demand for coordination activities and co-programming in SSH was high as it is evident from the high participation of Member States in ERANETs and JPIs. However, the future success of these efforts is highly dependent on the continuation of the commitment and financial support from the national administrations and research financing organisations. In addition, the high share of SSH in JPIs, compared with other initiatives, raises the question as to whether funding of SSH projects is more likely to happen where the research issues are defined by societal challenges and where the response requires a transnational multi- and inter-disciplinary approach.

Considerations

- These SSH funding data lacunae need to be addressed by the Member States and the Commission working in concert.
- Future iterations of the METRIS project might consider the inclusion of data on EU-funded investments in SSH through the Framework Programmes (people, infrastructures) at a Member State level where such information is readily available. For example, the European Research Council which is a major funder of SSH research (estimated at €260m in 2012) publishes extensive statistics on the distribution of its research budget by Member State.