Constitutive General Assembly

Friday January 16th, 2015, 10.00–17.00
University Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, 17,
rue de la Sorbonne, Paris 75005

Draft Minutes 270115

Minutes: Poul Holm, ECHIC, and Lejf Moos, EASSH

Attachments:

1. List of participants
2. Letter from the French Minister for Education, Higher Education and Research, Ms Najat Vallaud-Belcacem – French version and English translation
3. Full version of Slides from Embedding session
4. Working Groups' Reports

1. Welcome and Opening

The meeting opened at 10.30.

Philippe Boutry (President, Paris 1, Panthéon, Sorbonne) welcomed participants and read the opening statement by the French Minister for Education, Najat Vallaud-Belcacem, in her absence (see full text attached). The Minister apologized for her absence due to the day of remembrance of the victims of the Charlie Hebdo terrorist acts and expressed the importance and invitation to the social sciences and humanities to research the causes and possible actions for the future of Europe.

Lejf Moos thanked for the hospitality of the University and stated that the tragedy of the Charlie Hebdo underlined the leading role of France in developing and defending civil liberties.

Unfortunately, Mr Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation sent his apologies shortly before the meeting and the proposed agenda item on The Role of the Social Sciences and Humanities in Horizon 2020 had to be cancelled.

2. Report and discussion of the Workshop "Embedding Social Sciences and Humanities in Horizon 2020"

This workshop was organized by DG RTD on 27 November 2014, and members of the EASSH core group attended as well as a number of prospective members of EASSH. Didier Georgakakis, ECPSA, Noel B. Salazar, EASA, Gaby Lombardo, Science Europe, and Angela Schindler-Daniels, NET4SOCIETY, reported on the meeting.

Angela Schindler-Daniels, (ASD) outlined that the background for the workshop was cuts in direct funding for the SSH in Horizon 2020; the Commission now sees SSH primarily as a cross-cutting issue across the thematic priorities. The need to embed SSH is nothing new but there seems to be a new sincerity about it. The workshop reflected that the Commission realizes that

how to go about embedding remains a challenge. Monitoring embedding is also a problem because of lack of data. The Commission is actively looking for methods to improve embedding such as setting up SSH correspondents across H2020 pillars (a designated person responsible for promoting SSH embedding in funded projects) as well as organising events and workshops to facilitate embedding. DG Connect is looking at new ways to include the SSH as well. DG Connect is considering calling for 'sister projects' to provide perspective and social contexts for projects that are technologically driven. EC flags that 37% of all topics in the WP2014/15 are SSH relevant.

ASD further outlined the main points raised by the SSH representatives at the meeting. They argued that the SSH should be treated as science (and not as a cross issue like gender). The first Work Programme shows clear weaknesses in embedding. The Commission needs to recognize that its priorities have effects not just at the European level but knock-on effects on the design of national funding programmes of Member States. It was made clear at the meeting that the SSSH community is no longer a scattered community but speaks with a stronger coordinated voice.

The full Power Point presentation can be found in the attachment No 3

Didier Georgakakis, ECPSA, pointed to challenges with H202: EC focuses on innovation rather than research, which fit badly with SSH, and has a negative impact on national research policies;

the budget for Societal Challenge 6 has been cut severely; securing good science is a challenge and so is 'embedding' SSH in all calls, as Angela Schindler-Daniels has pointed out.

Noel Salazar, EASA: need for SSH to be present at all stages to make sure that loss of translation is minimized. Good science requires best methodologies regardless of disciplines. The Commission consists of people and people make mistakes so there is a need for better engagement.

In the discussion Patrick O'Donovan, IHA, stated that the over-identification of research with innovation is alarming. We are facing a crisis for the SSH in H2020. We need to work with national delegates to influence wording.

Peter Golding, ECREA: we need to advocate that the SSH should not be seen as just the handmaiden of communication of science.

Sandra Laugier, CNRS, asked why the SSH delegates had argued to make a distinction between mainstreaming of gender and of SSH? Gender science is research. AS-D responded that gender needs to be mainstreamed across all projects but the SSH have a specific research agenda which needs to be articulated and may not always be relevant in all projects.

Carmella Agori, ESA: why not flip the question: how can technological solutions be embedded within the social challenges? We need to overcome the technocratic misunderstanding of social problems.

Dorethee Brantz, EAUH: we need to promote critical debate and disagreement – how can we do this if we need to be embedded and promote innovation technology?

Andre Torre, ERSA: who knows what is inclusive and smart? Cannot be left to technologists.

Einar Thomassen, EASR: we need examples of successful embedding of SSH in existing h2020 projects. Wolfgang Mackiewicz, CEL/ELC, responded that these are very early days of H2020 but FP7 shows that the order of the day was interdisciplinarity and involvement of stakeholders. Angela Schindler-Daniels added that Net4Society is currently working on mapping such projects. Gabi Lombardo, Science Europe, pointed to the Science Europe brochure on humanities important projects for society

Alan Kirman AMU: the disregard of social context is a major problem of our competence as society. Embedding needs to be reframed as ESA suggested.

Arianna Ciula, EADH: we should not just be embedded but have a voice on what embedding means.

Jacques Dubucs, Head of SSH at French Ministry of Education, then intervened with a specially prepared statement on the research agenda of the SSH following the Charlie Hebdo and other dramatic events in European countries. The French government considers that a suitable response to the challenge of radicalization cannot be limited by technological response but must be accompanied by SSH research. Dubucs outlined a vast research agenda on the challenge of radicalization, the mechanisms, the role of prisons, the role of the Near East. Islam should be a focus, Islamic theology, scholarship, and hermeneutics of texts. We cannot fight terrorism without understanding the subjective dimension of radicalization. We need contributions by cognitive science, anthropology, law studies, and studies of social media. This research agenda needs to be included in the next Work Programme of H2020. Dubucs concluded by stating that the SSH needs to refrain from deconstructing the question and respond by implementable and manageable answers.

3. Presentation of the EASSH Paris Statement,

Lejf Moos presented the proposed Paris Statement and outlined that the task of the break-out groups in the afternoon would be to identify the objectives for EASSH in the coming year.

EASSH PARIS STATEMENT

EASSH
European Alliance for Social
Sciences and Humanities

5

- Who and Why
- The 'European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities' brings together scientific networks, associations and disciplines. The main purpose of EASSH is to promote European social sciences and humanities as a resource for Europe and the world.
-
- What
- EASSH is a gateway to the social sciences and humanities for the European research system of policy makers, advisors, public-private partnerships, administrators and practitioners.
- EASSH advises on architectures, frameworks and processes of multi-national and European research programmes.
- EASSH highlights the potential of the social sciences and humanities to contribute to the benefit, innovation and resilience of societies.
-
- How
- The annual 'EASSH Parliament of Social Sciences and Humanities' brings the SSH community into debate with representatives of European institutions, private and public partners and other disciplines.
- EASSH working groups bring SSH expertise to bear on the public debate to strengthen European research and may interact with public and private partners.

Didier Georgakakis explained the potential of using the concept of 'Parliament' rather than conference or congress as a special event to bring together big figures of SSH and leading stakeholders such as the Commissioner, MEPs, etc. Arianna Ciula, EADH, and Karl Donert, EUROGEO, questioned the wisdom of using the word as we are still in the process of establishing ourselves.

Peter Golding, ECREA, queried the use of the word 'gateway' and suggested that EASSH should provide links not just for policy makers but also for scientists.

Patrick O'Donovan, IHA, proposed a new wording that EASSH 'highlights breadth and substance of SSH research and potential'. He agreed with PG that EASSH rather than being a gateway should be a channel working in both directions.

Alan Kirman, AMU: the text should talk of the SSH 'contribution' rather than 'potential'. Gateway for both directions.

In other interventions it was suggested that EASSH should be a channel for civil society and not just the European Parliament, and that the words 'university' and 'research' are absent from the statement. The notion of the European 'research system' was questioned.

Amended Statement

EASSH PARIS STATEMENT

EASSH
European Alliance for Social
Sciences and Humanities

January 20th, 2015

In this version of the Paris Statement, the proposals have been taken in.

Who and Why
The 'European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities' (EASSH) brings together scientific networks, associations, disciplines and universities. The main purpose of EASSH is to promote research on social sciences and humanities as a resource for Europe and the world.

What
EASSH is a channel to and from the social sciences and humanities for the research system of civil society, policy makers, advisors, public-private partnerships, administrators and practitioners.

EASSH advises on architectures, frameworks and processes of multi-national and European research programmes.

EASSH highlights the potential of the social sciences and humanities to contribute to the benefit, innovation and resilience of societies.

How
The annual 'EASSH Convention of Social Sciences and Humanities' brings the SSH community into debate with representatives of European institutions, private and public partners and other disciplines.

EASSH working groups bring SSH expertise to bear on the public debate, to strengthen European research and may interact with public and private partners.

4. Abstracts: Reports from the working groups

These abstracts have been constructed and summarized on the basis of the group reports (see attachment)

Group 1

1. Continue the role of bridge building by initiating a constructive dialogue with other organisations (including but not limited to the Commission) as well as with our members.
2. reflect on impact of research and teaching and redefine impact agenda and establish a Special Interest Group on Impact also focused on visibility of SSH
3. reflect on new societal challenges (e.g. advise Commission for future programme) building on an interdisciplinary agenda (

WG1 summary: Bridge building, impact agenda, new societal challenge

Group 2

4. Formalization: legal procedure, identify new members and invite, website, social media presence
5. Questionnaire: examples of impact (success stories), what changes are happening with

1. regard to national resources
2. Create research agenda: EASSH facilitating regular event to bring together researchers, funders, politicians and private sector, to force implications of research

WG2 summary: formalization, questionnaire on impact stories, create research agenda

Group 3

3. from Parliament to Convention in Statement
4. organise a Round Table to underline the importance of the impact of the research results.
5. The third recommendation was to organise working groups on major topics/themes involving all the SSH disciplines. The interdisciplinary perspective is fundamental to approach a major critical issues.
6. the communication strategy: website, dialogue with practitioners, impact of research

WG3 summary: Round tables and Working Groups, communication

Group 4

7. EASSH must be a pluralist body, but also maintain and take advantage of individual expertise
8. Create a concise Statement about the importance of SSH in Europe. Perhaps get a call for case studies. Maybe identifying things on the horizon, issues we deal with should be problem oriented for example to run high profile events.
9. Communication, visibility on how to bring EASSH to the attention of and connection with of others: In order to undertake research which identifies topics, and to establish an agreed benchmark (measure) of SSH in research and come up with recommendations for a future Research Agenda for SSH.
10. organising a Futures workshop / conference with the European Commission and some of these other groups

WG4 summary: pluralistic, concise statement, communication, and visibility, connections

Group 5

11. visibility and EASSH website featuring: EASSH documents, constitution, statements, info on member organisations. A searcheable tool by coutries, disciplines, topics, projects. Forum for news announcements to promote events/ initiatives of member organisations
12. issuing position statement vis a vis the Commission, development of structure of communication needs to be worked out between the members and EASSH Boar. creation of working groups on particular issues, e.g.: multidisciplinarity, outreaching, embedding, coordination of national positions,

WG5 summary: website, position statements, working groups

Coordinators summing up on major next steps:

1. *visibility, communication, formalization*
2. *develop EASSH commonalities, interdisciplinarities and discipline specialities*
3. *developing proactive research agenda*

5. Discussion and vote of EASSH proposed Constitution,

Olivier Bouin, NETIAS, presented the proposal and thanked Jon Deer, RISE, for his contribution in writing up the constitution.

The language of the Constitution is written with a view to longevity and is therefore broad and inclusive.

ASSOCIATION
"European Alliance for the Social Sciences and the Humanities"

DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION
Paris, January 16th 2015

Olivier BOUIN
FMSH-RFIEA-NETIAS

FOUR MAIN AREAS IN THE CONSTITUTION:

1. PURPOSE
2. MEMBERSHIP
3. GOVERNANCE
4. TRANSITION

1. PURPOSE

Article 3

The "European Alliance for the Social Sciences and the Humanities" promotes the importance and value of the social sciences and humanities (SSH) at all pertinent levels and through all relevant actions in Europe and beyond.

The aims are:

- to promote European social sciences and humanities as a resource for Europe and the world;
- to provide a contact point for national, European and international SSH organisations, and pertinent policy- and decision-makers;
- to provide a forum for the discussion of matters of common interest;
- to further the interests of its members with respect to the institutions of the European Union and other European and international bodies in all fields relevant to SSH;
- to promote ethically justified and responsible SSH research at all levels;
- to ensure that proper attention is provided to SSH at all levels of education.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Article 6

The Association is comprised of **four groups of members**: (i) the Group of the Founding Members, (ii) the Group of Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies, (iii) the Group of co-opted Individuals and (iv) the Group of Individuals.

No member may belong to more than one group.

Members of the Association may be natural persons or those created in public or private law.

6.2 Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies Group

The members of this group are **entities established under public or private law**, i.e. institutions of higher education and research, associations and academies in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities, or **natural persons representing organisations that do not have the status of a legal entity**. Each member pays a membership fee.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Article 8: Resources

The resources of the Association may include:
- Membership fees;
- Subsidies and other contributions made by international organizations, state and local governments and communities, and public institutions;
- Donations and bequests, from individuals or properly constituted legal entities;
- All other revenues derived from properties not prohibited by law and relevant regulations.

- **Membership fees**

- Proposed fees: €250 for Institutions and €50 for individuals

3. GOVERNANCE

Article 9: General Assembly

9.1 Common provisions

The General Assembly consists of all members of the Association. **It has the power to set the policy, budget and organization of the Association** and all other matters relevant to the purpose of the association.

Meetings are convened by invitation of the President. A pre-invitation issued by the President shall contain the Agenda as proposed by the Board, and is sent to each member of the Association at least sixty days in advance of the date of the General Assembly. **Members can submit additional items up to thirty days before the Assembly** when the invitation is sent with the final Agenda drawn up by the Board.

9.2 Ordinary General Assembly Meetings

The annual ordinary General Assembly will **set the guidance for the annual programme of the Association**.

3. GOVERNANCE

Article 10: The Board

10.1 Composition of the Board

The Board consists of:

- the representatives of the Founding Members Group;
- the representatives of Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies Group;
- the co-opted Individuals;
- the representative of the Individual Members Group.

The term of office of the members of the Board shall be three years, renewable once.

The Board shall elect, by majority vote of the members present or represented, the holders of the offices of President, Secretary General and Treasurer.

10.3 Powers of the Board

The Board shall **adopt all decisions required for the sound administration of the association, subject to the authority of the General Assembly.**

4. TRANSITION

Article 16:

- The founding members are co-opted on the basis of their major contribution to the forming of the association. They appoint three representatives who form the transitional Board.

- **At the first General Assembly** convened by the transitional Board, the Founding Members, present or represented, **ratify the accession of Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies as well as Individual Members to membership of the Association**.

- The Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies Group appoints three representatives and the Individual Members Group appoints one representative to transitional Board.

- The **transitional Board composed of representatives of the Founding Members Group, Higher Education and Research Institutions, Associations and Academies Group and Individual Members Group** will **co-opt three qualified Persons** as members of the Board.

- The **first meeting of the Board in the composition as determined in Article 10** hereof, convened by the President of the transitional Board marks the **end of the transition period**.

LIST OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS

Conseil européen pour les langues / European Language Council

Poul Holm, on behalf of ECHIC - European Consortium of Humanities Institutes and Centres

European Association of Digital Humanities - EADH

European Confederation of Political Science Association - ECPSA

European Educational Research Association - EERA

European Association of Geographers - EUROGEO

Sean Ryder, on behalf of HERA – Humanities in the European Research Area

Jon Deer, on behalf of RISE – Raising the Impact of the Socio-Economic Sciences

Angela Schindler-Daniels, on behalf of net4society

Olivier Bouin, on behalf of NETIAS – Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study

4. TRANSITION

Possible Calendar of Actions in 2015

- January 2015: Official Registration Process (two months)

- March 2015: **First Transitional Board** launches call for membership

- May 2015: Second Transitional Board calls for first General Assembly

- July 2015: **First General Assembly** and Election of other Board members

- September 2015: Third Transitional Board nominates co-opted individuals, elects President and calls for second General Assembly. **End of the transition period.**

- January 2016: Second General Assembly

Discussion

Alan Kirman, AMU, stated that the English translation has certain inaccuracies that should be cleared up.

Carmella Agori, ESA, queried if there could be a distinction between large and small institutional members.

Peter Golding, ECREA: Is there a need to distinguish founding members after the transition? Why do we have individual membership?

Patrick O'Donovan, IHA: it is good to acknowledge debt to the founding members. But the distinct role of founding members is unusual. The President should be elected by general assembly to increase legitimacy.

Lejf Moos stressed the need to include members representing the diversity of SSH and that there is therefore a need for different member categories.

Olivier Bouin stressed that the constitution may be revised in 3-4 years but here and now there is a need for continuity. So need to ensure the continuing support of founding members in the next few years. Similarly the ability to appoint qualified members is valuable for a board in its early stages.

Karl Donert, EUROGEO, stated that his board will not approve the proposed level of fees and proposes lower fees.

Arianna Ciula, EADH, proposed to keep fees low and allow for additional donations by larger institutions.

Decisions

Olivier Bouin then asked for a vote on *membership fees*. 16 votes were in favour of fees of 20 euro for individuals and 100 euro for institutions/organisations. 6 votes were in favour of the higher fees of 50/250 euro. The low fees will therefore be implemented in the first call for membership.
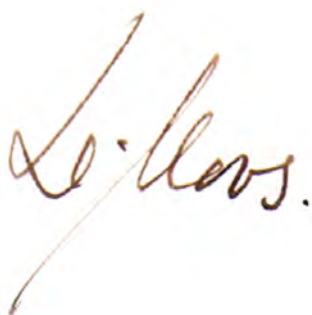
Lejf Moos then proposed a vote on the *constitution, which was approved unanimously*.

6. Summary and conclusions of the Assembly – Next steps

Lejf Moos thanked the participants and concluded that the agenda for the next year is to work on visibility, get organized (membership, legal steps), focus more on projects to set the agenda rather than be driven by Commission. There will be an open call for membership in March, and the first general assembly of the legal entity of EASSH will be held in the fall of 2015. After the first General Assembly the elected Board will co-opt qualified individuals in accordance with the constitution and elect the first president. The second general assembly will be held in January 2016.

The meeting ended at 16:50.

Poul Holm and Lejf Moos

Attachment 1

Participants
First General Assembly, Paris, January 16th

160115

1. **AcSS**, Academy of Social Sciences, Stephen ANDERSON, administrator@acss.org.uk
2. **AE**, Academia Europaea, Alain PEYRAUBE, alain.peyraube@gmail.com
3. **CEL/ELC**, Conseil européen pour les langues / European Language Council, Wolfgang MACKIEWICZ, erasmspr@zedat.fu-berlin.de & Manuel Célio CONCEIÇÃO, mconcei@ualg.pt
4. **CLARIN**, Common Language Resources Infrastructure, Martin WYNNE,
5. **CNRS**, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Sandra LAUGIER, sandra.laugier@cnrs-dir.fr
6. **EADH**, European Association for Digital Humanities, Arianna CIULA, arianna.ciula@roehampton.ac.uk
7. **EADI**, European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes, Susanne von ITTER, itter@eadi.org
8. **EASA**, European Association of Social Anthropologists, Noel B. SALAZAR, noel.salazar@soc.kuleuven.be
9. **EASR**, European Association for the Study of Religions, Einar THOMASSEN, einar.thomassen@ahkr.uib.no
10. **EASSH**, European Alliance on Social Sciences and Humanities, Lejf MOOS, moos@dpu.dk
11. **EAUH**, European Association of Urban History, Dorothee BRANTZ, dorothee.brantz@metropolitanstudies.de
12. **ECHIC**, European Consortium of Humanities Institutes and Centres, Poul HOLM, holmp@tcd.ie
13. **ECPR**, European Consortium for Political Research, Rudy B. ANDEWEG, Andeweg@fsw.leidenuniv.nl
14. **ECPSA**, European Confederation of Political Science Association, Didier GEORGAKAKIS, didier.georgakakis@univ-paris1.fr
15. **ECREA**, European Communication Research and Education Association, Peter GOLDING, peter.golding@northumbria.ac.uk
16. **EERA**, European Educational Research Association, Lejf MOOS, moos@dpu.dk
17. **EGPA**, European Group for Public Administration, Eduardo ONGARO, Fabienne MARON, f.maron@iisa-iisa.org
18. **ERSA**, European Regional Science Association, Andre TORRE, torre@agroparistech.fr
19. **ESA**, European Sociological Association, Carmen LECCARDI, carmen.leccardi@unimib.it
20. **ESCLH**, European Society for Comparative Legal History, Aniceto MASFERRER, Aniceto.Masferrer@uv.es and Jean-louis HALPERIN, jean-louis.halperin@ens.fr
21. **ESCoP**, European Society for Cognitive Psychology, Jonathan GRAINGER, jonathan.grainger@univ-amu.fr
22. **ESEH**, European Society for Environmental History, Stéphane FRIOUX, stephanefrioux@yahoo.fr
23. **ESF**, European Science Foundation, Milena ZIC-FUCHS, mzicfuch@ffzg.hr
24. **EUROCLIO**, European Association of History Educators, Blandine SMILANSKY, blandine@euroclio.eu

25. **EUROGEO**, European Association of Geographers, Karl DONERT, kdonert@yahoo.com, eurogeomail@yahoo.co.uk

26. **EUROPAEUM**, Consortium of leading European Universities in SSH, Paul FLATHER, paul.flather@europaeum.ox.ac.uk

27. **FIEC**, International federation of associations of classical studies, Paul SCHUBERT, paul.schubert@unige.ch

28. **FTCP**, Foundation for Transatlantic Culture and Politics, Christof MAUCH, mauch@lmu.de

29. **HDCA**, Human Development and Capability Association, Jean-Luc DUBOIS, jlucdubois@aol.com

30. **HERA**, Humanities in the European Research Area, Sean RYDER, sean.ryder@nuigalway.ie

31. **IHA**, Irish Humanities Alliance, Patrick O'DONOVAN, ptod@ucc.ie

32. **IIAS**, International Institute for Asian Studies, Willem VOGELSANG, w.j.vogelsang@iias.nl

33. **INTERCO-SSH**, International Cooperation in the SSH, Gisèle SAPIRO & Thibaud BONCOURT, sapiro@ehess.fr; t.boncourt@gmail.com

34. **ISSP**, Irish Social Sciences Platform, Linda CONNOLLY, l.connolly@ucc.ie

35. **MENESR,** French Ministry for Research, Isabella EISELT, isabella.eiselt@recherche.gouv.fr

36. **NET4SOCIETY** - transnational co-operation among National Contact Points for Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities, Angela SCHINDLER-DANIELS, Angela.schindler-daniels@dlr.de

37. **NetIAS**, Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study, Olivier BOUIN, olivier.bouin@msh-paris.fr

38. **RCC**, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Christof MAUCH, mauch@lmu.de

39. **RISE**, Raising Impact of Social & Economic Sciences, Jonathan DEER, j.deer@lse.ac.uk

40. **RT,** Responsible technology SAS, Emilio MORDINI, emilio.mordini@responsibletechnology.eu

41. **Science Europe**, Scientific Committees of Social Science and Humanities, Gaby LOMBARDO, Gabi.Lombardo@scienceeurope.org

42. **SLE,** Societas Linguistica Europaea, Magdalena WREMBEL, magdala@wa.amu.edu.pl

43. **UH**, University of Haifa, Michal YERUSHALMY, myerushalmy@univ.haifa.ac.il

Attachment 2: Letter from Minister for Education, Higher Education and Research, Naja Vallaud-Belkacem

French Version

Monsieur le Président

Je tenais à excuser mon absence pour le lancement demain matin du premier colloque des associations européennes en sciences humaines et sociales. Je vous prie de bien vouloir transmettre mes excuses à l'ensemble de vos collègues mais l'actualité de ces derniers jours nous impose de nouvelles priorités.

Je tenais cependant à vous redire tout mon soutien pour la démarche qui est la vôtre. Plus encore dans ce contexte si particulier lié à la montée des extrémismes, à la remise en cause des valeurs de la République, au malaise social et économique, à la contestation et à la fragmentation des valeurs collectives, aux attaques contre le vivre ensemble, tout cela doit collectivement nous interroger. Il y a bien sûr le temps de l'action, il doit y avoir aussi celui de la réflexion.

Je profite donc de cette opportunité de votre rassemblement pour vous adresser ce message. Les sciences humaines et sociales doivent être plus sollicitées et nous attendons de vous de participer à cette réflexion par votre travail de recherche, si utile, mais aussi par votre participation au débat public qui suit naturellement le temps de l'émotion. Vos travaux doivent également aider nos nations à mieux appréhender les causes véritables de ces drames.

L'actualité a réaffirmé le rôle de l'école au sein de la République. C'est d'abord à l'Ecole de la République, creuset de la Nation, que les valeurs de laïcité, de liberté, et de citoyenneté doivent être transmises, comprises et éprouvées. L'éducation est un bien que nous devons collectivement faire vivre et pour cela il doit être irrigué du travail de tous et bien sûr de celui des chercheurs notamment en sciences humaines et sociales.

Je vous remercie de faire part à l'ensemble de vos collègues de ces quelques mots et je vous souhaite des travaux fructueux et une pleine réussite dans votre démarche collective.

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem

English translation (by Wolfgang Mackiewicz)

Mr President

I am writing to apologise for my inability to attend the opening, tomorrow morning, of the first meeting of European social sciences and humanities associations. May I ask you to convey my apologies to all of your colleagues; I am sure they will understand that the events of the past few days have brought about new priorities for me.

However, I want to assure you again of my full support for your initiative, and this all the more so because of the rather specific context in which we find ourselves, that is the rise of extremism, the questioning of the values of the Republic, the social and economic malaise, the contestation and fragmentation of our collective values, the attacks against peaceful coexistence. All these developments must be examined by us together. There is without doubt a time for action and just as assuredly a time for reflection.

Because of this, I should like to take the opportunity of your meeting to convey to you the following message. The social sciences and humanities must be consulted all the more and we expect you to participate in this reflection process through your research endeavours. And, vital though these are, we also look forward to your participation in the public debate that will inevitably follow upon this period where feelings run high. Your work should also help our nations to better understand the real causes of these dramatic events.

Recent events have reaffirmed the role of schools within our Republic. It is above all through the 'School of the Republic', the crucible of the nation, that the values of secularism, freedom, and citizenship should be transmitted, understood, and experienced. Education is a good that we must strive collectively to keep alive, and because of this it must be supported by the work of everyone, in particular by researchers in the humanities and social sciences.

I thank you all for allowing me to share these words with you, and I wish you every success in your activities and your joint endeavour.

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem

Attachment 3 : Power Points from Embedding session

net4society socio-economic sciences & humanities

EASSH
Constitutive General Assembly
January 16th, 2015
Paris

Embedding Social Sciences and
Humanities in Horizon 2020

N4S Coordinator: Angela Schindler-Daniels, DLR e.V.,
Germany   www.net4society.eu

The Basis for „Embedding"

"Social sciences and humanities (SSH) research will be **fully integrated into each of the general objectives of Horizon 2020**."

•Horizon 2020 Regulation

Angela Schindler-Daniels ● NKS SWG, PT-DLR

Embedding SSH: Facts and ???

1. Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) have been a horizontal/cross-cutting (and difficult) issue since FP5 and is not unique to Horizon 2020
2. With Horizon 2020, SSH involvement is , however, primarily foreseen as cross-cutting
3. The 1. Work Programmes of Horizon 2020 showed that the implementation of SSH as a cross-cutting issue is very difficult
4. General consensus that „embedding" is necessary, however, how to go about it remains a challenge.
5. Monitoring embedding is a problem (missing data)
6. Commission is actively looking for methods to improve embedding (introduction of SSH correspondents across H2020 pillars; events, workshop to facilitate embedding)

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Realities: SSH Integration in the WP 2014/15

Share of SSH-flagged topics

37% of all Topics were flagged as SSH-relevant. However, 40% of the respective proposals made no reference to SSH-oriented activities)

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INSTITUTIONS INVITED

- Academia Europea
- ALLEA
- European Association of Social Anthropologists
- European Confederation of Political Science Associations
- European Consortium for Humanities Institutions and Centres
- European Education Research Association
- European Sociological Association
- HERA
- NORFACE
- International Social Sciences Council
- Leibniz Association
- LERU
- Net4Society
- Science Europe

EU Commission Workshop on Embedding SSH (Nov. 2014) WORKSHOP

The Agenda:

- The role of SSH in Horizon 2020

- Discussion on integrating SSH contributions in the design of the calls

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KEY POINTS made by the SSH representatives

- SSH are science and need to be embedded in the challenges on that basis and not as a cross issue like international cooperation or gender mainstreaming
- The first call has shown clear weakness in the process of implementation of the embedding in the Societal Challenges (e.g. Adivsory Groups, call drafting)
- H2020 has a strong influence in the design of national funding programme of MS
- The Community is not longer a scattered number of scientists across Europe but there is a stronger coordination across the stakeholders

Recommendation: Sister Projects

Sister projects would explore the same topics of research, but from different disciplinary perspectives, in order to provide a sense of perspective and societal relevance for projects that are much more technically driven. This approach relies on the acknowledgment that biases are unavoidable in the framing of challenges. Instead of seeking a "perfect", i.e. unbiased description of the call text, it opens the possibility for RRI-SSH experts to challenge the call text and propose constructive alternative framings. Unveiling the biases, challenging them and trying out alternatives will foster innovation through the widening of the imaginaries. Interactions of sister projects among themselves and with the other projects should be structured to encourage a maieutic rather than a confrontational dynamics.

DG Connect:
Institute for European Studies: Shaping 'multidisciplinarity' in the EU's ICT-related research programmes (http://www.ies.be/node/1638)
Study project for the European Commission addresses key issues in the ongoing discussions concerning the role of different disciplines in ICT-related EU-funded research:
•In what situations does use of (a mixture of) multi/trans/inter disciplinary approaches add value to project outputs and impacts?
•What conditions are necessary for such approaches to bear fruit?
•Are there relationships, or (power) dynamics, between specific disciplines that enable or hinder project outputs and outcomes?
•Should we try to diminish distance and difference between disciplines, or should we focus on what each discipline can bring independently to a project?
•How can projects be framed to maximize contribution and output from each of the disciplines involved, and is there scope for greater engagement with the social sciences and humanities to enhance project impacts?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!!

Contact

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Attachment 4: Abstracts/reports from working groups

Working group 1

Group 1 started by reflecting on the specific mission EASSH has to fulfil, especially in comparison with other organisations (e.g. LERU; ScienceEurope) and in relation to its members: how to involve members in meta-discussion which goes beyond disciplines and beyond institutional interests.

These were the key action points proposed by the Group:

- Continue the role of bridge building by initiating a constructive dialogue with other organisations (including but not limited to the European Commission) as well as with our members.

It was stressed that bridge building would be beneficial to both the Commission and our members. EASSH's goal would be to advocate for SSH presence at all levels. For instance, EASSH should aim to persuade the Commission that it would be in their own interest to involve SSH expertise in designing calls and in the evaluation of project proposals.

- Proposal action 1: Reflect on the impact of research and teaching with a view to redefining the impact agenda (e.g. provide evidence of the relevance of SSH research to our society; demonstrate the role of SSH in teaching and hence in developing critical thinking); reflect on what is meant by impact from an SSH perspective (sophisticated concept):
- establish a Special Interest Group on Impact, which would also focus on the visibility of SSH.
- Proposal action 2: Reflect on new societal challenges (e.g. advise the Commission in regard to future programmes) to be addressed in the framework of an interdisciplinary agenda (convince ourselves of the value of collaboration also within SSH), thereby also ensuring visibility (facilitate public understanding of SSH):
- EASSH playing the role of facilitating collaboration across SSH disciplines; sharing ideas independent offunding opportunities, and contributing to the identification of major issues that require an interdisciplinary research effort (and think how to sell this to our own members) → we have to start thinking about the next EU framework programme.

Group 2 on next steps for action:

- EASSH should firstly establish itself formally and take steps to ensure its membership is broad enough to give legitimacy to claims to be speaking for humanities and social sciences across Europe. This would include the establishment of a website.

- There should be a (brief and undemanding) questionnaire to members to establish what, if any, evidence there was of national or international difficulties for social science or humanities research, especially in relation to other scientific areas. Examples should also be gathered of 'success stories' illustrating the importance and impact of SSH research.

- Lobbying of relevant bodies armed with this knowledge should be undertaken as far as resources allow – e.g. a regular event to allow for gateway dialogue between researchers, policy makers, research fund managers etc. , possibly dissemination of briefings somewhat like ESF 'Forward Looks'.

Recommendations by **Discussion Group 3**

- ➤ The first discussion point was on the role of the EASSH and the term Parliament.

The discussion group 3 suggested to better define the main role of EASSH and to change the term Parliament in the draft Paris Statement under the item 3: How by the term Convention. The annual EASSH Convention of Social Sciences and Humanities brings the SSH community ….

➢ The second recommendation is to organise a Round Table: The discussion group 3 recommended organising a Round Table of the Representatives of Associations on the definition of main issues to be addressed. To underline the importance of the impact of the research results.

➢ The third recommendation was to organise working groups: The discussion group 3 proposed to organise working groups on major topics/themes involving all the SSH disciplines. The interdisciplinary perspective is fundamental to approach a major critical issues. We have different ways to address these questions. This proposal is also important to define the research agenda of EASSH for the coming years.

➢ The fourth recommendation concerns the communication strategy: The discussion group suggested to have a discussion on : How to communicate the results of our discussion (format/content, letter to key leaders/decision makers, policy notes/white papers, to develop a website with a forum, to organise a dialogue with practitioners, to organise public meetings open to mass media …

Here is the **work of group 4**
EASSH must be a pluralist body, but also maintain and take advantage of individual expertise in the group...

1. Create a concise Statement about the importance of SSH in Europe - consider the audience, not for us for others. But also for researchers to identify with us, perhaps get a call for case studies - that demonstrate the added value of SSH research in helping bring understanding to problems and demonstrate the shared scientific mission with all areas is research, also the intrinsic importance of SSH research ... Maybe identifying things on the horizon

Issues we deal with should be problem oriented for example to run high profile events - invite figureheads - illicit the response of intellectuals - could be public meetings on big topic, not only Europe

We need to provide information that expresses the diversity of ... and excellence in SSH
Suggest we find a way to visualise the fields - in a dynamic way - a medium to long term goal, should use SSH to do this in a visual and interactive

2. How to bring EASSH to the attention of others?
Connect with other organisation EuroScience , Acadamea Europea, European University Inst in Florence, Jean Monnet Centres, International Associations, social organisations, NGOs, Council of Europe

In order to:
* Undertake research which Identifies topics under-researched and under-funded eg through COST, with European Research Centre
Establish an agreed benchmark (measure) of SSH in research
* enable EASSH to come up with recommendations for a future Research Agenda for SSH.
What about organising a Futures workshop / conference with the European Commission and some of these other groups ... To generate big ideas in dealing with the future issues

WorkGroupe 5

1. Increasing visibility through modern media communication tools.
Developing/launching EASSH website featuring:

EASSH documents, constitution, statements, info on member organisations (1 page format for info on members). A searchable tool by countries, disciplines, topics, projects. Forum for news announcements to promote events/ initiatives of member organisations.
A call for volunteers who'd like to get involved in supporting the website development (sending request for info, uploading it online, etc.).

2. Issuing position statement
EASSH should issue position statements strengthening members' positions vis a vis the Commission, to promote initiatives taken by the members. Specific structure of communication needs to be worked out between the members and EASSH Board in this respect.

3. Proposal for creation of working groups
they should be focused on particular issues, e.g.
- multidisciplinary
- outreaching
- embedding
- coordination of national positions, strengthening national agendas, impacting proposals, programmes, and committees.

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