Deloitte.

How do EU agencies and other bodies contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy and to the Juncker Commission Agenda?

November 2016

Table of contents

What this report is about

Decentralised EU agencies and other bodies are important drivers of the successful implementation of the goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda. This report presents their contribution to the priorities set out in the Union's strategic guidelines. This is illustrated by showing how agencies deliver benefits to EU citizens across various themes of their everyday lives.

Since the 1990s, the European Union and Member States have set up specialised bodies which are decentralised from the historical core location of the EU administration. The 37 EU decentralised agencies[1], 7 European joint undertakings and other bodies in the scope of this report (hereafter: 'agencies') are located across many Member States in order to bring Europe closer to citizens. They help the European Institutions make decisions and implement policies thanks to their expertise in specialised areas.

The agencies were created to respond to a particular need. Each of them carries out legal, technical and scientific activities and tasks in various areas, ranging from transport to security, from energy to health or from financial services to telecoms. They have an impact on the everyday life of more than 500 million European citizens.

Agencies have gained visibility by taking on an increasingly important role in the activities of the EU. Overall, the 2015 budget of the 44 agencies represents less than 0.8% of the EU's total budget (about €1.2 billion)[3] , and their workforce amounts to about 5,500 staff in 2016[4]. In order to achieve even more benefits for the citizens, they collaborate within the EU Agencies Network (EUAN). The Network is currently composed of 44 EU agencies and cooperates closely with European Institutions and Member States.

Challenges facing the Union and Member States include recovery from the 2008-2012 economic and financial crisis, the migration crisis, internal and external security threats, and climate change. EU agencies play a key role in implementing measures to respond to these challenges. They coordinate and pool together scientific and technical expertise and resources from European Institutions, national governments, authorities and industry. As a result, the EU can capitalise on the value agencies add in order to implement the strategic goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy and of the Juncker Commission Agenda.

The action of several agencies also has an external dimension. In particular, some of them encourage the development of international standards which bring value to the rest of the world.

The purpose of this report is to present the benefits of EU agencies in a clear and understandable way to a range of audiences, including citizens, members of the European Parliament and stakeholders and beneficiaries of agencies' services. Its aim is not to evaluate the performance of individual agencies but to explain and illustrate the contribution they make to the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda – which in turn allows them to work towards the improvement of citizens' everyday lives.

[1]   ACER, BEREC Office, CdT, CPVO, CEDEFOP, CEPOL, EASA, EASO, EBA, ECDC, ECHA, EDA, EEA, EFCA, EFSA, EIGE, EIOPA, EMA, EMCDDA, EMSA, ENISA, ERA, ESMA, ETF, EUIPO, EUISS, Eurofound, Eurojust, EUROPOL, eu-LISA, EU-OSHA, FRA, FRONTEX, EIT, GSA, SatCen, SRB.

[2]   Joint undertakings – namely BBI JU, Clean Sky 2 JU, FCH JU, F4E, IMI 2 JU, SESAR JU, S2R JU - are collaborative structures set up for the "efficient execution of Union research, technological development and demonstration programmes" under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

[3]   Consolidated annual accounts of the European Union – Financial year 2015, p. 33, http://ec.europa.eu/budget/library/biblio/documents/2015/EU_AnnualAccounts2015_EN.pdf, consulted on 1 September 2016.

[4]   Budgets – Definitive adoption (EU, Euratom) 2016/150 of the European Union's general budget for the financial year 2016, p. 152, http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2016:048:FULL&from=E, consulted on 1 September 2016.

This report reviews the contribution of the 44 agencies of the EU Agencies Network against two major strategies setting the tone and direction for Europe in the last decade: the Europe 2020 Strategy, elaborated by the Barroso in 2010, and the Juncker Commission Agenda, published in July 2014. Agencies' contribution is analysed based on their missions, strategic objectives and actions as defined in their Founding Regulations and translated into their Annual Work Programmes and Annual Activity Reports.

The first section of the report presents the background to the EU's strategic objectives set out by the EU Treaties, the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda. It establishes the methodological approach chosen for the analysis, namely the Value Map of the EU agencies.

The second part of the report provides the analysis of agencies' contribution to the objectives of the two EU strategies according to five themes that cover several key aspects of citizens' everyday lives:

- Ensuring an area of freedom, security and justice,
- Supervising financial systems,
- Supporting EU businesses and innovation (including separate sections on innovation, energy, transport and digital connectivity),
- Fostering citizens' well-being (including separate sections on citizens' protection and skills and education),
- Providing security and defence.

The concluding chapter summarises this analysis and the agencies' contributions to innovation, growth, jobs, the digital society, the internal market, climate change and energy policies, the economic and monetary union, justice and fundamental rights, the migration agenda, and Europe's external policies.

Finally, the annexes contain a detailed analysis of the contribution of each of the 44 agencies to the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda.

The Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda

In order to understand the contribution of agencies to the European Union's work, it is important to also understand the Union's purpose and strategic objectives. These have evolved in order to address new challenges and to respond to unexpected crises, while ensuring overall coherence with Member States' common evolution. For the purpose of this report, the overall objectives of the European Union are illustrated at three levels: the Treaty on European Union (TEU), the Europe 2020 Strategy, and the Juncker Commission Agenda.

The Treaty of the European Union: the EU's overall objectives and focus

The foundations of the Union's actions are enshrined in the Treaty on European Union[5] – (hereafter: TEU) as amended by the 2009 Lisbon Treaty; the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union[6] – hereafter: TFEU). The Treaty sets the foundation for the Member States' common evolution by defining principles, values and objectives that all peoples and citizens of the Union may claim equally..

In short, the Treaty defines the common principles and values binding Member States and the overall objectives for which they confer competences to the supranational level. It also defines the respective spheres of competence framing the cooperation between the Union and Member States and the policy areas in which this cooperation is implemented. Lastly, it defines the institutional framework organising the Union's actions and identifies the areas in which its intervention is foreseen..

Article 3 of the TEU sets out the overall objectives, which form the basis for EU agencies' *raison d'être*:
- Promoting peace and the well-being of citizens in Europe;
- Building and sustaining an area of freedom, security and justice;
- Establishing an efficient and sustainable internal market;
- Establishing an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro;
- Upholding and promoting the Union's values in its relations with the wider world.

The Europe 2020 Strategy: Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

In the aftermath of the 2008 economic and financial crisis and the high level of unemployment and pressure on social cohesion it created, the Europe 2020 Strategy was drawn up by the European Commission in March 2010.

The uncertain and turbulent times the Union has faced since the beginning of the economic and financial crisis has led the European Commission to elaborate on the short- and long-term priorities that guide the strategic and tactical objectives and actions of the EU Institutions. These constitute the framework, from the top level of the Europe 2020 Strategy pillars down to the strategic activities implemented by the EU agencies, enabling the reflection on how those bring value to the peoples and citizens of Europe.

The Europe 2020 Strategy essentially focuses on two of the five overall objectives – the internal market and the economic and monetary union. It targets *Smart*, *Sustainable* and *Inclusive Growth*: *t*hree mutually reinforcing priorities with the ultimate objective of delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. The implementation and monitoring of the Europe 2020 Strategy is guided and steered via five interrelated headline targets, quantitative indicators and objectives towards investment in research and development, employment, energy efficiency, education and reduction of poverty.

The ambitions and objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy are translated into initiatives focused on a variety of policy areas and specific key actions to which many agencies contribute.

EU Policy Focus Areas

Articles 2 to 6 of the TFEU establish the policy areas of focus with a view to achieving the objectives set by the Treaty.

- Internal market, including the establishment of the competition rules necessary for its proper functioning; Monetary policy for the Member States whose currency is the euro;
- Conservation of marine biological resources under the common fisheries policy;
- Common commercial policy;
- Social policy;
- Economic, social and territorial cohesion;
- Agriculture and fisheries;
- Environment;
- Consumer protection;
- Transport;
- Trans-European networks;
- Energy;
- Freedom, security and justice;
- Common safety concerns in public health matters;
- Research, technological development and space;
- Development cooperation and humanitarian aid;
- Economic policies within the Union
- Protection and improvement of human health;
- Industry;
- Culture;
- Education, vocational training, youth and sport;
- Civil protection;
- Common foreign and security policy, including a common defence policy;
- Administrative cooperation

---

[5] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:115:0013:0045:en:PDF , consulted on 25 May 2016.
[6] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A12012E%2FTXT, consulted on 25 May 2016.

Smart Growth

Developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation

Smart Growth targets focus on reaching an ambitious economic outcome based on knowledge and innovation. High performance targets for education, research, innovation, information sharing and communication technologies, as well as the assurance that they can be materialised into growth-fostering products and services are key to closing the gap with the EU's US and Asian competitors.

EU areas of actions
Innovation, Education, Training and Lifelong Learning, Digital Society at regional, national and EU level.

Sustainable Growth

Promoting a more resource-efficient, greener and more competitive economy

Sustainable Growth addresses the challenges inherent to building a resource-efficient, sustainable and competitive economy. Europe has ambitions to become a leader in the development of new processes and technologies – including green technologies –and acknowledges the importance of fostering its advanced knowledge of ICT, exploiting EU-scale networks, reinforcing the competitive advantage of its businesses and assistance to consumers.

This approach strives to meet the constraints and challenges of a low-carbon, resource-constrained world – while preventing environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and unsustainable use of resources. It also fosters economic, social and territorial cohesion.

EU areas of actions
Clean and Efficient Energy, Climate Change and Competitiveness

Inclusive Growth

Fostering a high-employment economy delivering economic, social and territorial cohesion

High levels of employment, robust skills, a level of poverty as low as possible and modern labour and social systems are key drivers for social cohesion and enhanced adaptability to change and uncertainty. Overall, they are at the core of Inclusive Growth.

Inclusive Growth is about ensuring equal rights and opportunities for all citizens in the labour market, in the context of increased competition and an ageing population. It addresses notions of gender equality and more generally of corporate social responsibility within the world of business.

EU areas of actions
Employment, Skills and Fight against poverty

The Juncker Commission Agenda

The Juncker Commission Agenda was published in July 2014. It identifies ten key policy areas as part of an agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change.

The European Commission's priorities

1 A new boost for jobs, growth and investment

The objective of this cross-cutting priority is the mobilisation of up to €300 billion of public and private investment in the real economy between 2015 and 2017. This constitutes additional funds to be invested in infrastructure, education, research, innovation and energy efficiency. In that respect, the Juncker Commission Agenda feeds into all of the Europe 2020 Strategy areas of action: innovation, education, training and life-long learning, digital society, competitiveness, employment, skills and fighting poverty.

Moreover, these goals correspond to the Europe 2020 Strategy objective of investing 3% of the EU GDP in R&D. They are also in line with the Europe 2020 Strategy targets in terms of encouraging education, boosting employment and fighting poverty.

2 A connected Digital Single Market

This priority aims at creating a connected Digital Single Market which is expected to generate up to €250 billion of additional growth and hundreds of thousands of jobs throughout the Union up to 2020. Reinforcement of data protection, telecommunication and copyright rules are set to increase the use of digital technologies and online services..

3 A resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

This priority entails increasing the Union's energy efficiency by pooling resources, combining infrastructures and uniting Member States' negotiating powers vis-à-vis third country suppliers. Development of renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing energy efficiency are also included in this objective.

4 A deeper and fairer Internal market with a strengthened industrial base

This priority aims at increasing the weight of industry in the EU GDP to 20% by 2020, thereby ensuring that Europe remains a global leader in strategic sectors with high-value jobs. In order to enable this, the EU should, amongst other things, invest in new technologies, facilitate access to markets and finance, and ensure that workers have the skills industry needs. This priority also aims at stricter controls on banks within a Capital Markets Union and at further facilitating the free movement of workers, while combatting tax evasion, tax fraud and money laundering.

5 A deeper and fairer Economic and Monetary Union (EMU)

This priority targets the reform of the EMU and the re-balancing of the way conditional stability support is granted to Eurozone Member States in difficulty. In particular, it aims at replacing the "troika"[7] with a more legitimate and accountable structure with increased parliamentary oversight at EU and national levels. This objective also foresees the inclusion of a social impact assessment in any support and reform programme.

6 A reasonable and balanced free trade agreement (FTA) with the US

This priority targets the negotiation of a reasonable and balanced FTA with the United States, which would benefit the European economy by creating jobs and growth, while ensuring the protection of Europe's safety, health, social, cultural diversity and data protection standards.

7 An area of Justice and Fundamental Rights based on mutual trust

This priority aims at reinforcing the Union as an area of justice and fundamental rights based on shared European values. This involves fighting discrimination, strengthening data protection, combating cross-border crime and terrorism, as well as increasing judicial cooperation among Member States.

8 Towards a new policy on migration

This priority strives to address shortages of specific skills and the demographic challenges of the Union, a strong common asylum policy and a stronger stance on irregular migration and trafficking of human beings. These policies, based on a spirit of solidarity, aim to secure Europe's borders.

9 A stronger global actor

This priority aims at asserting Europe's role on the global stage by integrating some defence capacities within a permanent-structured cooperation and increasing synergies in defence procurement between Member States.

10 A Union of Democratic change

This priority involves setting up a political rather than technocratic dialogue between the EU institutions, citizens and national parliaments, as well as increasing transparency in the contact with stakeholders and lobbyists. This Union of Democratic Change also entails a review of the legislation applicable to the authorisation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). This priority is thus cross-cutting and can be considered as a horizontal aim re-enforcing all other priorities.

EU agencies' strategic objectives and activities
Each of the 44 agencies has a mandate to act in a variety of policy areas, in line with the European Commission's priorities that are presented above. Most agencies also operate in collaboration with other agencies and the European Commission Directorates-General at a cross-cutting level.

The strategic objectives and key actions of each agency are defined in its founding acts and translated into its annual and multi-annual work programmes. Their implementation serves the effective and efficient execution of its mission and contributes to the realisation of the Juncker Commission priorities, the Europe 2020 strategic actions and ultimately the fundamental objectives of the Lisbon Treaty.

[7] The troika is a group of international lenders composed of the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Connecting the dots: from the EU's objectives to the EU agencies' strategic actions

The Europe 2020 Strategy, the Juncker Commission priorities and agencies' objectives are well aligned. Agencies' key activities support the EU's goals enshrined in these agendas. In most cases, the strategic objectives and activities of EU agencies correspond to several Juncker Commission Agenda priorities, EU action areas and growth pillars of the Europe 2020 Strategy, both at the level of the internal market and outside Europe's frontiers. This is illustrated in the Value Map presented below.

The EU Value Map

Europe 2020 Pillars

The Europe 2020 Strategy aims at "smart, sustainable and inclusive growth". These growth components form the pillars of this Strategy and constitute the top layer of the Value Map.

Level of EU action

Within the Union's **internal frontiers**, also referred to as the internal or single market, agencies, bodies and offices drive at the achievement of the Treaties' objectives. In relation to the **wider world**, also referred to as Europe in the world, agencies, offices and bodies contribute to upholding and promoting European values and interests and to the protection of its citizens.

Areas of EU action

Each pillar of the Europe 2020 Strategy is composed of three focus areas of EU action. These are in general interrelated, and most EU agencies, bodies and offices operate in several areas.

Juncker Commission priorities

The Juncker Commission Agenda constitutes the policy framework guiding the actions of EU institutions and national governments for the period between 2014 and 2019. While it builds on the Europe 2020 Strategy (which focuses on economic objectives), it also covers a wider scope of policy areas, encompassing a total of ten priority areas.

Strategic objectives and activities of EU agencies

The strategic objectives and key actions of each agency are defined in its funding acts and translated into its annual and multi-annual work programmes. In most cases, the strategic objectives and activities of EU agencies connect with several EC priorities, several areas of EU actions and several pillars of the Europe 2020 Strategy, considered both at the level of the internal market and outside Europe's frontiers. Most agencies also operate in collaboration with other agencies and DGs, with objectives and targets operating at a cross-cutting level.

Smart Growth

Sustainable Growth

Inclusive Growth

Europe in the world

Single Market

Innovation	Education, Training, Life-long Learning	Digital Society	Competi-tiveness	Climate Change	Clean and Efficient Energy	Fighting Poverty	Skills	Employ-ment

Jobs, Growth & Investment

Digital Single Market

Energy Union & Climate Change

Internal Market

Economic and Mone-tary Union

Balanced EU-US FTA

Balanced EU-US FTA

Justice & Fundamental Rights

Justice & Fundamental Rights

Migration

A stronger global actor

Democratic change

EU agencies' strategic objectives are represented in each individual value map in the Annexes

EU agencies' strategic activities are represented in each individual value map in the Annexes
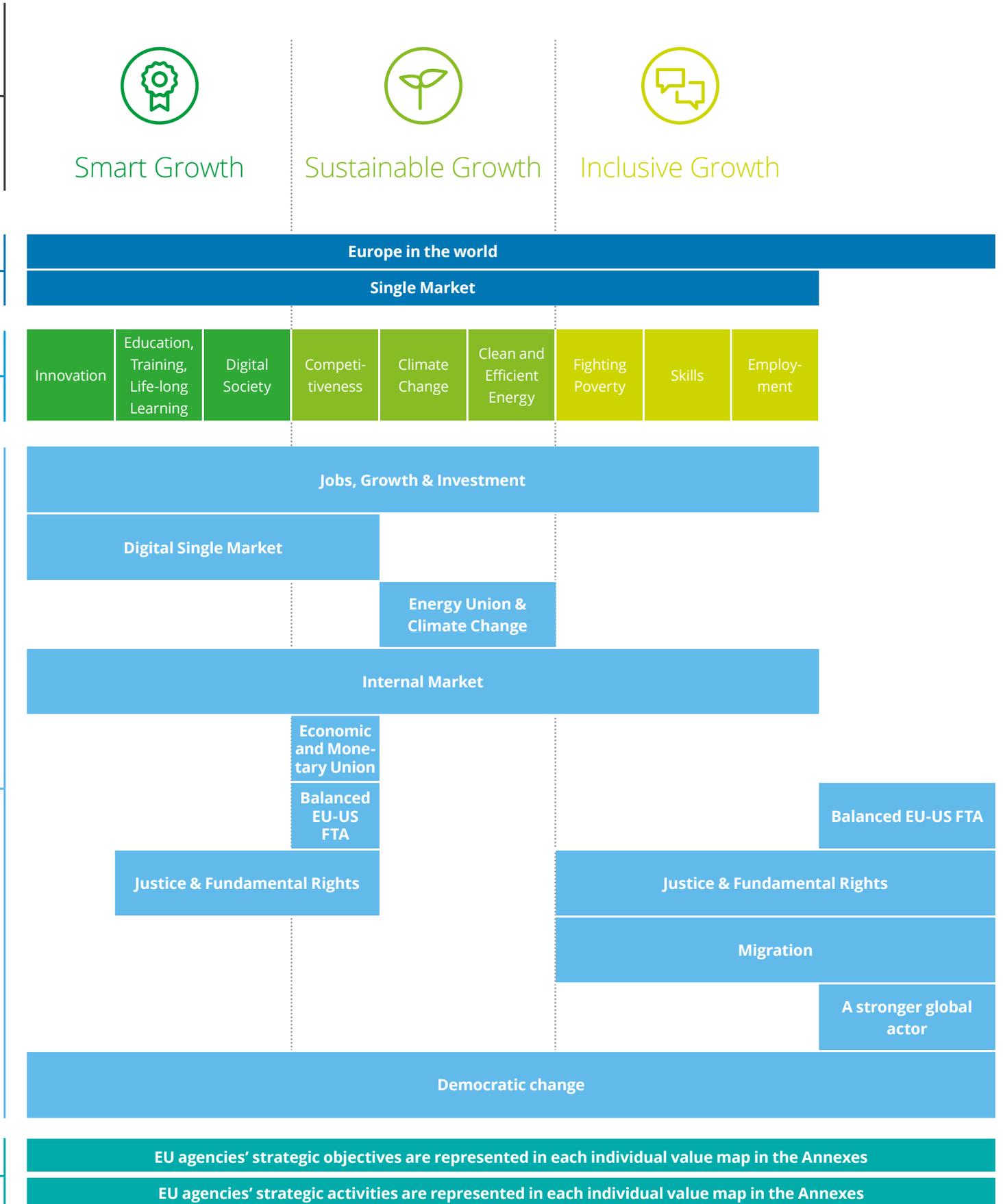
Figure 1: Value map of the EU

The EU Value Map links agencies', bodies' and offices' key activities to the Union's strategic objectives for 2020 and to the Juncker Commission priorities.

The Lisbon Treaty sets the foundation for the Member States' common destiny by defining principles, values and objectives for all the people in the Union. The uncertain and turbulent times the Union has faced since the beginning of the economic and financial crisis has led the European Commission to elaborate on the short- and long-term priorities that guide the strategic and tactical objectives and actions of the EU Institutions. These constitute the framework, from the top level of the Europe 2020 Strategy pillars down to the strategic activities implemented by the EU agencies, bodies and offices, enabling the reflection on how those bring value to the peoples and citizens of Europe.
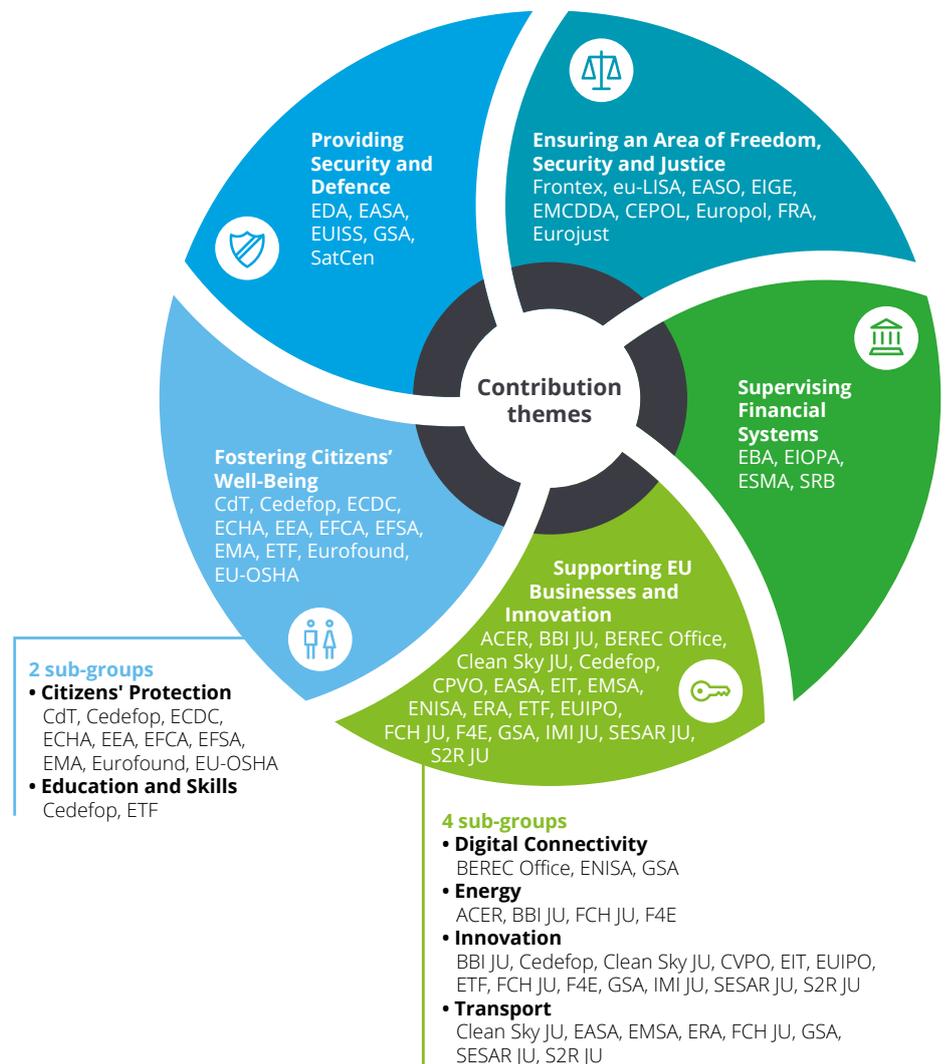
Contribution of EU agencies: What's in it for citizens?

By contributing to the achievement of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda's priorities, EU agencies deliver tangible benefits to European citizens. In order to contribute optimally to the achievement of these priorities, agencies interact actively with each other. For this report, the correspondence between EU agencies' primary missions and objectives with five contribution themes are presented. This facilitates the analysis of the agencies' contribution according to themes covering different aspects of citizens' everyday lives.

The five contribution themes

Figure 2 schematically depicts the five main groups of EU agencies by contribution theme defined in this report, namely "Fostering Citizens' Well-Being", "Supporting EU Businesses and Innovation", "Supervising Financial Systems", "Ensuring an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice", and "Providing Security and Defence". Two main themes are subdivided into different thematic sub-groups – i.e. "Fostering Citizens' Well-Being" in 'Citizens' Protection' and 'Education and Skills'; and "Supporting EU Businesses and Innovation" in 'Digital Connectivity', 'Energy', 'Innovation' and 'Transport'.

Figure 2: Grouping by contribution themes

Providing Security and Defence
EDA, EASA, EUISS, GSA, SatCen

Ensuring an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice
Frontex, eu-LISA, EASO, EIGE, EMCDDA, CEPOL, Europol, FRA, Eurojust

Contribution themes

Supervising Financial Systems
EBA, EIOPA, ESMA, SRB

Fostering Citizens' Well-Being
CdT, Cedefop, ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFCA, EFSA, EMA, ETF, Eurofound, EU-OSHA

Supporting EU Businesses and Innovation
ACER, BBI JU, BEREC Office, Clean Sky JU, Cedefop, CPVO, EASA, EIT, EMSA, ENISA, ERA, ETF, EUIPO, FCH JU, F4E, GSA, IMI JU, SESAR JU, S2R JU

2 sub-groups
- **Citizens' Protection**
  CdT, Cedefop, ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFCA, EFSA, EMA, Eurofound, EU-OSHA
- **Education and Skills**
  Cedefop, ETF

4 sub-groups
- **Digital Connectivity**
  BEREC Office, ENISA, GSA
- **Energy**
  ACER, BBI JU, FCH JU, F4E
- **Innovation**
  BBI JU, Cedefop, Clean Sky JU, CVPO, EIT, EUIPO, ETF, FCH JU, F4E, GSA, IMI JU, SESAR JU, S2R JU
- **Transport**
  Clean Sky JU, EASA, EMSA, ERA, FCH JU, GSA, SESAR JU, S2R JU

The contribution themes in a nutshell
The contribution themes were defined in line with the different objectives stated in Article 3 of the Treaty on the European Union, which form the agencies' *raison d'être* (see the chapter: "The Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda"). Moreover, other factors were taken into account, such as the existence of official networks of other forms of collaboration between agencies (e.g. the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network, the European Supervisory Authorities), the types of agencies (e.g. public-private partnerships, agencies under the Common Security and Defence Policy), as well as the current state of cooperation between agencies. It is also important to note that agencies were allocated to a contribution theme based on their primary mission and objectives with the purpose of facilitating the presentation of their contribution towards the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda.

These contribution themes are used to structure the next sections presenting the contribution of EU agencies to the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda.

Ensuring an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

The EU Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network (composed of **Frontex**, **eu-LISA**, **EASO**, **EIGE**, **EMCDDA**, **CEPOL**, **Europol**, **FRA** and **Eurojust**) helps build and sustain an area of freedom, security and justice where free movement of people is guaranteed.

These agencies contribute to increasing judicial and police cooperation in Europe, raising awareness on gender equality and the respect of fundamental rights, the fight against serious cross-border crime and terrorism, and better cooperation on external border management, migration and asylum.

Supervising Financial Systems

The supervision of financial systems enhances the protection of consumers of financial products and services. This is particularly important for the functioning of the internal market and in an economic and monetary union that shares a currency, the euro.

EU agencies operating in this theme – **EBA**, **EIOPA**, **ESMA** and the **SRB** – work towards ensuring that the money consumers place or invest in financial products (e.g. bank accounts, pension funds, bonds, mortgages, etc.) is safe and that taxpayers will not bear the costs of any future financial crisis.

Providing Security and Defence

The Union strives to guarantee the security of EU citizens and to promote peace within and beyond its borders. The Juncker Commission Agenda also aims to increase the cooperation between Member States in the field of security and defence.

The four Security and Defence agencies, **EDA, EASA, GSA, EUISS** and **SatCen** support the EU's external policy in achieving these goals in order to increase prosperity and safeguard democracy in the Union and abroad.

Supporting EU Businesses and Innovation

An efficient and sustainable internal market is paramount to growth, employment, competition, quality of the environment and scientific progress in Europe. Its achievement entails addressing challenges in four areas in particular: digital connectivity, energy, innovation and transport.

Digital connectivity
BEREC Office, ENISA and **GSA** contribute to creating a connected Digital Single Market by helping establish efficient telecommunications networks and services for European citizens and businesses.

Energy
ACER, BBI JU, the EIT, FCH JU and **F4E** participate in ensuring safe, affordable and environmentally friendly energy for all European citizens. They strive to offer EU citizens and companies fair energy prices, the choice between energy providers, continued supply of affordable energy, sustainable, cleaner sources of energy, competitiveness within the European energy sector and limited polluting emissions for a cleaner environment.

Innovation
BBI JU, Cedefop, Clean Sky 2 JU, CPVO, the EIT, ETF, EUIPO, FCH JU, F4E, GSA, IMI 2 JU, SESAR JU and **S2R JU** contribute to creating an environment conducive to innovation and investment in Europe. Their activities include developing skills, setting up collaborative research projects, facilitating the market entry of innovative products and services and protecting intellectual property rights.

Transport
Clean Sky 2 JU, EASA, EMSA, ERA, FCH JU, GSA, SESAR JU, S2R JU are working towards harmonising and improving transport systems in Europe in order to make travelling safer, cheaper and more efficient for all Europeans.

Fostering Citizens' Well-Being

EU agencies contribute to promoting the well-being of citizens at two levels:

Citizens' protection
CdT, ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFCA, EFSA, EMA, EU-OSHA and **Eurofound** aim to improve the protection of citizens in all their social and economic activities, within a sustainable and healthy environment.

They provide scientific advice and support policy-makers to ensure the protection of European consumers, patients and workers through safe medicines, chemicals, products, food.

Education and Skills
Cedefop and **ETF** promote the development of skills and education in all Member States, in particular to match the evolving needs of the labour market.
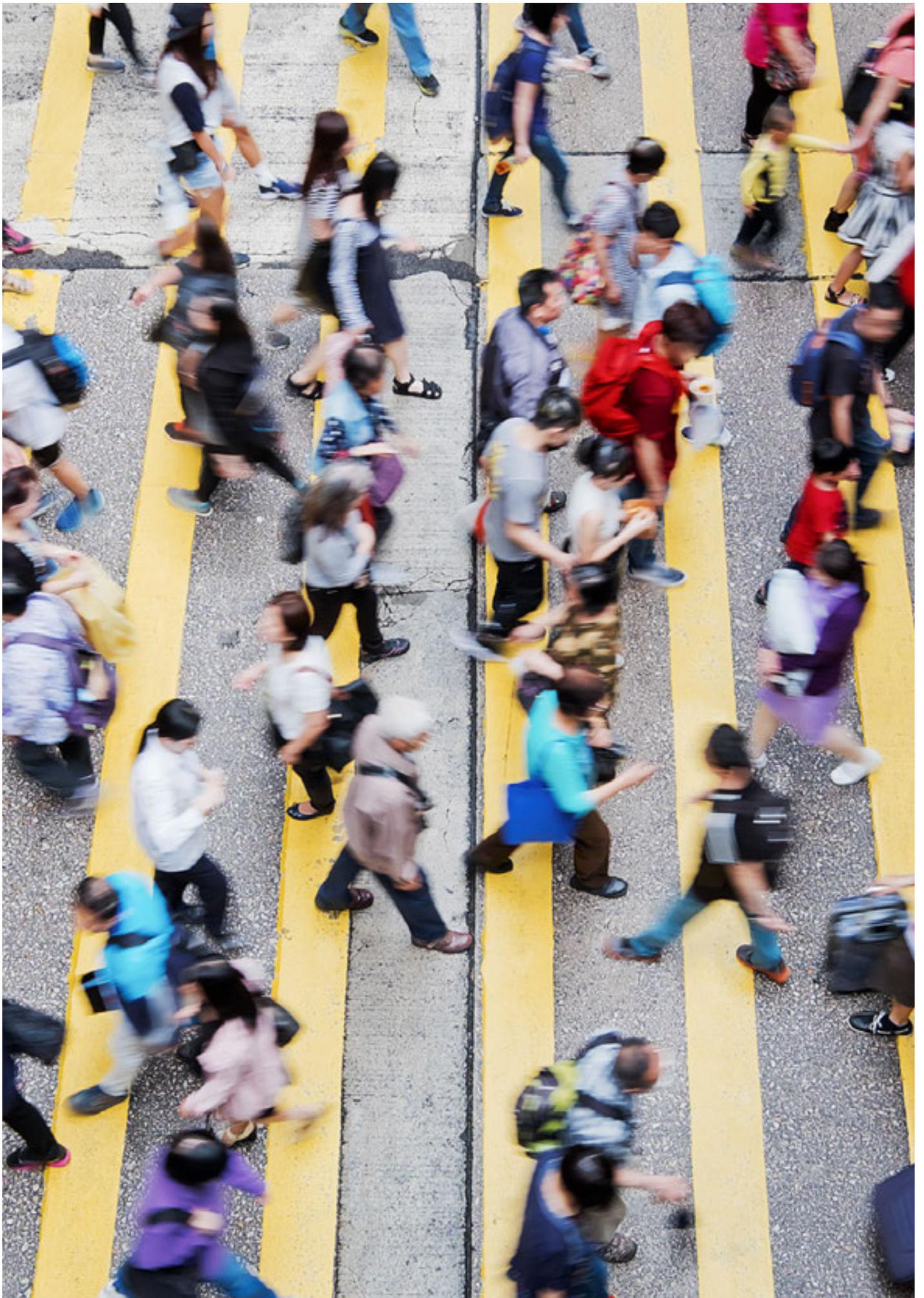
Contribution theme 1

Ensuring an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Within this contribution theme, EU agencies contribute to more judicial and police cooperation in Europe, an increased awareness of gender equality, more attention to respecting everyone's fundamental rights, the fight against serious cross-border crime and terrorism, more cooperation regarding external border management, migration and asylum.

European Border and Coast Guard Agency **(Frontex)**
Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice **(eu-LISA)**
European Asylum Support Office **(EASO)**
European Institute for Gender Equality **(EIGE)**
European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction **(EMCDDA)**
European Agency for Law Enforcement Training **(CEPOL)**
European Police Office **(Europol)**
EU Agency for Fundamental Rights **(FRA)**
EU's Judicial Cooperation Unit **(Eurojust)**

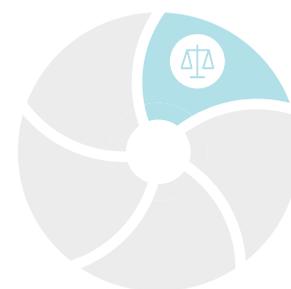# Ensuring an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Ensuring the free movement of people within the Schengen area, guaranteeing a high level of security to citizens within that area by enhancing police and judicial cooperation, managing external borders, migration flows and asylum, and promoting fundamental rights.

Agencies contribute to the implementation of EU policies in the field of border management, justice, fundamental rights, migration, asylum and the fight against serious and organised crime. As such, they take up important roles in promoting internal security, fundamental rights and gender equality. Touching all facets of the EU's priorities related to the area of freedom, security and justice, they contribute to the achievement of Inclusive Growth in Europe. The nine Justice And Home Affairs (JHA) agencies have been operating as a network since 2006. The network facilitates bi- and multilateral cooperation, and allows the exploitation of synergies in the execution of strategic and operational activities, training and the management of external relations. The agencies concerned are Frontex, eu-LISA, EASO, EIGE, EMCDDA, CEPOL, Europol, FRA and Eurojust.

Working for citizens

For the citizens, ensuring an area of freedom, security and justice means:

- ☑ Free movement of people within the Schengen area

- ☑ Enhanced border management at EU external borders

- ☑ Equal treatment of men and women

- ☑ Promotion of the fundamental rights of all people living and travelling in the EU

- ☑ Fighting against serious cross-border crime and terrorism

- ☑ Suppression of violence against women and children

- ☑ Protection of people in need and vulnerable groups, including migrants

- ☑ Enhanced coordination to secure the EU's external borders

Background

> **The EU offers its citizens an area of freedom, security and justice, which constitutes one of the fundamental objectives of the Union as put forward in the Lisbon Treaty. However, the elimination of internal border controls is accompanied by compensatory measures to ensure the security of all citizens.**

The idea of more cooperation in the area of justice and home affairs dates back to the 1970s with the first move towards more police cooperation to fight terrorism. The 1980s witnessed the start of the dismantling of the internal borders between five EU Member States with the signing of the Schengen Agreement in 1985. Since its foundation, the 'Schengen Area' has gradually been expanded and currently covers 26 states, four of which are not part of the EU. Within the Schengen area, people can move freely across internal borders without border control. However, the removal of these controls requires the adoption of other provisions to ensure and maintain security within the area. External borders need to be managed. This includes policies on border checks, asylum and immigration, and judicial and police cooperation that need to apply to the 44,000 km of external sea borders and the almost 9,000 km of land borders along which the Schengen area currently extends.

The area of freedom, security and justice was incorporated into the European Treaties as of 1993, with the Maastricht Treaty. Since 2007, it is part of the European Union, together with the Schengen *acquis*. It allows an 'opt out' for the United

Kingdom and Ireland, whereas Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania are candidate countries.

Article 3(2) TEU states that "the Union shall offer its citizens an area of freedom, security and justice without internal frontiers, in which the free movement of persons is ensured in conjunction with appropriate measures with respect to external border controls, asylum, immigration and the prevention and combating of crime".

Moreover, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights is legally binding on the EU. This Charter is a single document that defines the personal, civil, political, economic and social rights of EU citizens.

Agencies' contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights

> **Agencies contribute to the area of justice and fundamental rights in multiple ways. FRA provides evidence and raises awareness on the situation of fundamental rights in the EU, and offers access to effective remedies where rights are violated; EIGE focuses more in particular on equality between men and women in political and economic life. Eurojust, Europol and CEPOL work towards enhancing judicial and police cooperation, hence contributing to security in Europe.**

Fundamental rights are an important value of the EU. It is all about safeguarding the minimum requirements that need to be respected so that every person can be treated with dignity. Justice, gender and consumer equality include principles – such

as democracy, freedom, tolerance, the rule of law – that are key to citizens' everyday lives.

Fundamental rights

FRA issues opinions and formulates advice in the domain of fundamental rights for policy-making and legislative processes. It does this through the collection and analysis of data – ranging from legal analysis through to social statistics. This includes the creation of large-scale survey data on different groups in the population and pressing fundamental rights issues as they relate to EU policies. The purpose is to ensure that the fundamental rights of all people living in the European Union are protected, respected and fulfilled.

In 2015, FRA carried out the second EU-wide survey of experiences of discrimination and victimisation of immigrants and ethnic minorities (EU-MIDIS II): about 25,000 people from immigrant and ethnic minority groups participated.

The promotion of fundamental rights underpin many aspects of the Single Market and Europe 2020, and hence support Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth respecting fundamental rights.

EIGE focuses on gender equality, gender mainstreaming and raises citizens' awareness on gender equality issues. Gender mainstreaming refers to the

incorporation of gender considerations into all policy-making processes. The participation of women in economic and political life is of paramount importance to meet the Europe 2020 Strategy's employment targets, hence fighting poverty and bringing economic growth. **FRA** and **EIGE** work together on the topic of the eradication of violence against women. They also collaborate in this respect with other agencies such as **Eurofound** and **EU-OSHA**.

EIGE's Gender Equality Index 2015 shows a slight advance in gender equality between 2005 and 2012: the score for the 28 EU Member States rose from 51.2 in 2005 to 52.9 (out of 100) in 2012, showing that the EU remains only halfway towards gender equality.

Justice and the fight against cross-border crime

In the field of justice, **Eurojust** strives to strengthen judicial cooperation and coordination to fight serious cross-border crime and terrorism. **Eurojust** supports the coordination of cross-border investigations and prosecutions, and ensures the gathering of evidence for court proceedings. **Eurojust**'s coordination meetings bring together judicial and law enforcement authorities from Member States and third States to resolve legal and practical difficulties resulting from the 30 existing different legal frameworks of the EU and beyond. Its coordination

centres enable real-time exchange of information and simultaneous execution of investigative measures. **Eurojust** offers legal expertise to Member States' competent national authorities through facilitating the application of EU legal instruments. Examples include the European Arrest Warrant, the European Investigation Order, and joint investigation teams.

Europol also contributes to combating serious cross-border crime and terrorism. It functions as a support centre for Member States' law enforcement authorities, and as a criminal information hub by exchanging and analysing criminal intelligence. The agency focuses on terrorism and online radicalisation, cybercrime, migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings, illicit drugs, mobile organised groups, cigarette smuggling, intellectual property crime, VAT fraud and money laundering.

These matters are also supported indirectly by **CEPOL** that provides training to law enforcement officers in order to enhance police cooperation in Europe.

EMCDDA works together with **Europol**, **Eurojust** and **CEPOL** on the specific issues of drug trafficking.

The agencies working in the field of migration and asylum, such as **EASO**, also contribute to the fundamental rights theme by helping EU Member States to fulfil their international obligations in this respect. Moreover, **EASO** supports cooperation among Member States on matters related to vulnerable applicants, such as children and unaccompanied minors, "victims of torture and other cruel and inhuman treatment, persons at risk because of their gender, gender identity or sexual orientation and any other groups of applicants with special needs"[8] . This aim is also followed by **Frontex**. In its daily activities, it provides assistance to vulnerable groups. The agency identifies vulnerable groups in the mixed migratory flows passing the external border and rescues them when in distress at sea. **Frontex** organises dedicated joint operations and provides training to border guards on identifying people in need of protection and the fight against trafficking in human beings.

A total of 98 Joint Actions were coordinated by Europol in 2015. The biggest coordination effort targeted Illegal Immigration, Trafficking in Human Beings, Drugs and Organised Property Crime and resulted in successful operational outcomes, such as nearly 900 arrests, the seizure of 7.7 tons of drugs, 1,400 tons of stolen metal, 190 tons of counterfeit pesticides, €136k in cash and the confiscation of 254 vehicles.
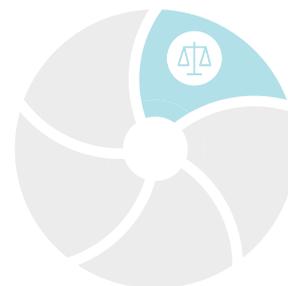
Agencies' Contribution to a new policy on migration

> **EASO, Frontex, eu-LISA, Eurojust and Europol help to ensure the free movement of people within the Schengen area. The focus is on enhancing coordination of external border management, dealing with migration flows and promoting the common asylum system.**

Many agencies contribute to migration and asylum priorities. They help Member States and third countries cater for asylum seekers and refugees, often in emergency situations, in the framework of a Common European Asylum System (CEAS). Moreover, some of these agencies work on securing Europe's borders, combatting serious and organised crime and facilitating migration and asylum flows and processes.

EASO works towards the coherent implementation of the Common European Asylum System, with the objective of ensuring that the EU functions as a single area as far as asylum is concerned, by adopting common practices and processes. As such, similar cases are treated in a similar way and result in a similar outcome in all EU member states.

In order to fulfil its mission, **EASO** provides training to asylum and reception officers; special and emergency support to EU+ countries[9] with specific needs or whose asylum and reception systems are under particular pressure; and last but not least information on the flows of asylum seekers and Member States' capacity to respond to them.

Frontex works towards more coordination between EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries[10] in order to establish common rules, standards and procedures for external border control. The agency provides technical and operational assistance to Member States through joint operations and rapid border interventions, and ensures the practical execution of measures in a situation requiring urgent action at the external borders. **Frontex** deploys technical equipment and border guards from Member States to patrol, carries out border checks and collects data on cross-border crime.

Frontex also provides technical and operational assistance in the support of search and rescue operations for persons in distress at sea. The agency also organises, coordinates and conducts the return operations of third-country nationals who have received a legal decision to leave EU territory. It carries out risk analyses and monitors the situation at external borders in order to identify potential threats, risks and vulnerabilities. It organises training to enhance the harmonisation of border control goals, methods, standards and terminology.

Through their activities to combat serious cross-border crime and terrorism, **Europol** and **Eurojust** also work in the field of migration and asylum. The European Migrant Smuggling Centre at **Europol** provides, among others, on-the spot analytical and investigation support to disrupt the activities of criminal networks in relation to migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings. Additionally, **Europol** can deploy, upon request, guest officers from Member States to perform secondary security checks. **Eurojust** supports

In 2015, Frontex contributed to the rescue of more than 250,000 people at sea. It deployed 15 vessels along with several helicopters and planes in Italy, and 17 vessels along with aerial means in Greece.

investigations, prosecutions and on-the-spot operations to disrupt the activities of criminal networks in relation to trafficking of human beings, as well as to combat illegal immigration. **CEPOL** organises training for law enforcement officers on these topics to increase cooperation and enhance policing in Europe. **FRA** promotes fundamental rights in various aspects of border management and asylum.

eu-LISA ensures the 24/7/365 functioning of the European Union's (EU) largest IT systems and their respective communication infrastructures in the area of freedom, security and justice: Eurodac, SIS II and VIS. With information technology, **eu-LISA** safeguards the EU's internal security and supports the implementation of asylum, migration and border management policies.

---

8   EASO Work Programme 2016 – Rev. 2, p. 25.
9   European Union Member States plus Switzerland and Norway.
10   Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

👓 European 'Hotspots'

The 'Hotspot approach' was presented by the European Commission in May 2015 in its European Agenda on Migration. The objective is to help Member States that face exceptional migratory pressure at the EU's external borders.

Since May 2015, the Hotspot approach has been implemented in different places in Italy and in Greece. It is the result of the close collaboration between four EU Agencies: **EASO**, **Frontex**, **Europol** and **Eurojust**. The agencies provide the authorities of the concerned Member States with on-the-spot support to identify, register and fingerprint incoming asylum seekers. In addition, **FRA** has - with the support of the Commission - been engaged in the hotspots to assist with the identification of fundamental rights compliance needs.

EASO helps teams support the provision of information, registration, identification and referral of asylum seekers, whereas **Frontex** is in charge of coordinating the return operations of migrants whose asylum application was refused, irregular migrants or persons with no right to remain in the EU. Moreover, **Frontex** deployed experts and technical resources from other Member States within joint maritime operations who have contributed to sea border surveillance, search and rescue of persons in distress, land coastal patrolling, screening, identification and registration of persons, etc. **EASO** is also supporting the implementation of relocation of applicants for international protection from Greece and Italy. In Greece, **EASO** has been supporting the admissibility procedure and more recently eligibility within the context of the EU-Turkey Statement.

Europol and **Eurojust** provide the Member States with analytical and investigation support to dismantle smuggling and trafficking in human beings networks. **Europol** can deploy guest officers from other Member States to perform secondary security checks. National prosecutors have been appointed as **Eurojust**'s contact points to support the hotspot locations and to channel relevant information and cases to **Eurojust**'s national desks for judicial follow-up and coordination at EU level.

Moreover, **eu-LISA** supports the activities of Member States working within the Hotspots by providing large-scale IT systems and databases, such as Eurodac, the fingerprint database used for processing asylum applications and determining the country responsible for handling the application.

eu-LISA manages the central systems of three large scale IT systems:

- *Eurodac*
  The European Asylum Dactyloscopy (fingerprint) database, Eurodac, helps Member States and Associated Countries[11] to manage asylum applications. It is a European database that stores and processes the digitalised fingerprints of asylum seekers and irregular migrants who have entered a European country. This helps determine the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application.

- *Schengen Information System II (SIS II)*
  The second-generation Schengen Information System is a large-scale IT system that supports the exchange of information on people and objects between national police, border control, customs, visa, migration and vehicle registration and judicial authorities. Since people and goods can move throughout the Schengen Area without being checked at internal borders, SIS II is a tool used to ensure internal security in Europe.

- *Visa Information System (VIS)*
  VIS supports the implementation of the EU's common visa policy and facilitates border checks. The system enables dedicated national authorities and **Europol** to enter and consult data, including biometrics, for short-stay visa requests to access the Schengen Area.

---

[11]   Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland

On 15 December 2015, eu-LISA's Visa Information System (VIS) processed its 20,000,000th visa application. The fee of these applications amount to around €1.0 billion in non-fiscal revenues for Member States since operations began on 11 October 2011.

The agencies work together on migration, asylum and border management priorities to increase the efficiency of their actions and exploit synergies. For example, they collaborate on specific issues, such as support to vulnerable groups of migrants. **FRA** also provides key research evidence and input to the work of these Agencies with respect to the fundamental rights of asylum seekers and migrants, in particular as regards vulnerable groups such as children, women and persons with disabilities – for example, by providing targeted input to training material as well as direct training, and through research collaboration. Together, these Agencies also organise specific actions, such as the *'Hotspot' approach* in which **EASO**, **Frontex**, **Europol** and **Eurojust** participate

Freedom, Security and Justice Agencies also collaborate with other agencies, including **SatCen**, which provides satellite images for border surveillance, and **EMSA** and **EFCA** as far as maritime surveillance is concerned.

Agencies' Contribution to a safer and healthier Internal Market

Within the Justice and Home Affairs Network, a special focus is given to drugs and drug addiction through the work of the EMCDDA, which contributes to citizens' safety and health.

The **EMCDDA**'s purpose is to support sound decisions and actions at EU and national level by providing factual, objective, reliable and comparable information concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences. In this way, it aims to contribute to a more secure and healthier Europe. Independent, science-based information is a vital resource to help Europe understand the nature of its drug problems and better respond to them. The **EMCDDA** not only offers policymakers the data they need for drawing up informed drug laws and strategies. It also helps professionals and practitioners working in the field pinpoint best practice and new areas of research.

The **EMCDDA** works together with **Europol**, **Eurojust** and **CEPOL** on drug trafficking issues. One of the agency's key tasks is to detect new drugs appearing on the European market that could pose health risks to European citizens. In cooperation with **Europol**, **EMA** (the European Medicines Agency), the European Commission and EU Member States, it carries out early-warning and risk-assessment activities that may pave the way for legal controls.

In 2015, 98 new psychoactive substances (NPS) were reported for the first time within Europe. This brings the total number of NPS monitored by the EMCDDA to more than 560, and more than half of these were reported in the last three years alone.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources

- DG Migration and Home Affairs, The Hotspot approach to managing exceptional migratory flows, http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/2_hotspots_en.pdf, consulted on 29 August 2016.
- EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/charter/index_en.htm, consulted on 26 August 2016.
- Justice and home affairs, https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/justice-home-affairs_en, consulted on 26 August 2016.
- An area of freedom, security and justice: general aspects, www.europarl.europa.eu/atyourservice/en/displayFtu.html?ftuId=FTU_5.12.1.html, consulted on 26 August 2016.
- **CEPOL** Work Programme 2016
- **CEPOL** Annual Report 2015
- **CEPOL** Single Programming Document – Years 2017-2019
- Communication from the Commission to the European parliament, The Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "Establishing a European Law Enforcement Training Scheme", COM(2013) 172 final, Brussels, 27.03.2013
- **EASO** Work Programme 2006, Rev. 2
- **EASO** Work Programme 2006, Rev. 3
- Five Years of **EASO**: results and perspectives
- **EASO** Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2016
- **EIGE** 2016-1018 Single Programming Document

- **EIGE** Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- External Evaluation of the European Institute for Gender Equality (**EIGE**/2014/OPER/01)
- **EMCDDA** General Report of Activities 2015
- **EMCDDA** Strategy and work programme 2016-2018 – Annual work programme 2016
- **eu-LISA** Strategy 2014-2020
- **eu-LISA** Annual Work Programme 2016
- **eu-LISA** Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- **Eurojust** Multi-Annual Strategy 2016-2018
- **Eurojust** Annual Report 2015
- **Eurojust** Annual Work Programme 2016
- **Eurojust**'s website, www.eurojust.europa.eu, consulted on 22 September 2016.
- **Europol** Strategy 2016-2020
- **Europol**'s website
- **Europol** Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- **Europol** Review 2015 – General report on **Europol** activities
- **FRA** Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017
- Presentation of Fundamental Rights Report 2016 by Chairperson of Management Board, http://fra.europa.eu/en/speech/2016/presentation-fundamental-rights-report-2016-chairperson-management-board, consulted on 28 June 2016
- **FRA** Annual work programme 2016, http://fra.europa.eu/en/about-fra/what-we-do/annual-work-programme, consulted on 28 June 2016
- **Frontex** General Report 2015
- **Frontex** at a glance
- **Frontex**' Single Programming Document 2016-2019

Contribution theme 2

Supervising Financial Systems

The agencies working in the field of supervising financial systems contribute to enhancing the protection of consumers of financial products and services. Within this contribution theme, EU agencies work towards ensuring that the money consumers place or invest in financial products (e.g. bank accounts, pension funds, bonds, mortgages, etc.) is safe and that taxpayers will not bear the cost of any future financial crisis.

European Banking Authority (EBA)
European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA)
European Securities and Markets Authorities (ESMA)
Single Resolution Board (SRB)

Supervising Financial Systems

Strengthening consumers' protection through more integrated European supervision and the regulation of financial systems

The agencies' actions support the efficient functioning of the Single Market and a deeper Economic and Monetary Union, which will boost competitiveness in Europe (and within the euro area). EBA, EIOPA, ESMA and the SRB contribute to the Sustainable Growth objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy.

Working for citizens

The agencies dedicated to the supervision of financial systems work towards ensuring that the money consumers place or invest in financial products (e.g. bank accounts, insurance, pension funds, bonds, mortgages, etc.) is safe and that taxpayers will not have to bear the costs of a financial crisis. For the citizens this means:

- ☑ Fairer, more transparent and more understandable information on financial products and services

- ☑ Informed choice of financial products based on the consumer's risk profile

- ☑ Enhanced protection for the consumption of financial products and services (mortgages, loans, deposits, bank accounts, payments, electronic money, insurance, pensions, etc.)

- ☑ European cross-border payments that are as easy as national payments

- ☑ Safe financial products to invest in

- ☑ More funding sources possibilities for projects that will create jobs and growth

- ☑ Guaranteed insurance even in the case of insolvent banking institutions

- ☑ Protection from bearing the costs of failing banks

- ☑ More stable and reliable financial systems

- ☑ Same level of consumer protection across the Union

Background

Learning from the experience of the financial and economic crisis of 2007-2008, the EU set a priority to reinforce the supervision of financial institutions. Financial institutions include banks, insurance companies, pension funds and other financial institutions (such as credit rating agencies). Three agencies were created to take part in this objective. The purpose is to prevent another similar crisis and its adverse effects on citizens.

The financial and economic crisis of 2007-2008 revealed shortcomings in the supervision of financial services institutions. Supervision was performed by national authorities. This national approach to supervision did not reflect the reality of financial globalisation and interconnected European financial markets, where many institutions carry out cross-border operations. The crisis emphasised the weaknesses of the model, such as the lack of cooperation, coordination and trust between national supervisors, and the inconsistent application of EU law across Member States.

Moreover, the financial and economic crisis put the stability of the financial system under severe strain and posed serious risks to the functioning of the internal market. Restoring and maintaining a stable and reliable financial system is therefore a necessary condition for rebuilding and preserving trust in the internal market, and, in the end, fostering sustainable economic growth through regained market confidence.

In this respect, the European Institutions called for a more integrated European supervision of financial markets, to enhance the protection of consumers of financial products and services and to re-instil trust in the financial system.

The European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs), as part of the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS)
The European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) was established with the purpose of ensuring consistent and coherent micro- and macro-prudential financial supervision[12] in the EU.

The micro-prudential supervision is carried out by:
• The three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) founded in 2011, i.e. the **EBA**, **EIOPA** and **ESMA**;
• The Joint Committee of the ESAs;
• The National Competent Authorities (NCAs).

The macro-prudential oversight is conducted at EU level by the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) which comprises the European Central Bank (ECB), the national central banks, the ESAs and the European Commission.

The ESFS works as an integrated network towards the efficient functioning of the Single Market, through its actions regarding the harmonisation of the regulatory and supervisory framework and its equal and coherent application across Europe. While the day-to-day supervision of the financial institutions mainly remains at a national level, the three ESAs bring EU-wide uniformity of rules and harmonise supervisory approaches across the EU. The ESFS's purpose is therefore to link national supervisors within a strong EU network. The ESFS also collaborates with other financial supervisory networks, such as the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM).

In 2015 EIOPA worked on the finalisation of the Insurance Single Rulebook, producing the 2nd set of Solvency II technical standards and guidelines.

---

[12] The micro-prudential supervision is the supervision of individual institutions, while the macro-prudential supervision focuses on system-wide risks to financial stability.

Consumer protection: Information for investors across the financial sector

The Regulation on Key Information Documents for Packaged Retail and Insurance-Based Investment Products (PRIIPS) adopted in 2014 introduced the new Key Information Document (KID). The KID is a simple, standardised document which is designed to present the main features of an investment product in a consumer-friendly manner, allowing consumers across the EU to compare investment-linked insurance policies, investment funds and investment products.

EBA, EIOPA and **ESMA** have jointly produced a number of technical standards specifying the exact contents of the KID: it must outline the product's aims, how risky it is, when investors can get their money back, how much it costs and its expected returns. All of this information must be set out in a standard way, regardless of the type of investment product. The main objective of KID is to enhance consumer protection and trust in the financial markets, which in return could contribute to growth and investment in Europe.

The EBA established a Single Rulebook for banking, including 117 technical standards and 46 guidelines.

The ESAs' contribution to an efficient functioning of the Single Market

One of the main purposes of the three agencies is to protect the citizen when he/she consumes financial services and products (e.g. by taking out a loan or a mortgage, taking out an insurance policy, depositing money in a bank account, buying shares and bonds or transferring money). These agencies strive to ensure that consumers buy financial services and products according to their risk profile and that unfair products and services are prohibited. Moreover, they want to make sure that financial institutions are capable of respecting their contractual commitments and do not become insolvent. In this respect, the agencies enhance consumer protection by the early detection of consumer detriment, develop sound regulation, ensure its common application across Europe, and promote prudent common supervisory practices.

Through their contribution to the integrity and stability of the financial system, the transparency of markets and financial products and the protection of consumers, the three European Supervisory Authorities act towards the improvement of the functioning of the internal market.

Their main activities can be categorised into four themes.

A. Regulatory work. The ESAs contribute to the achievement of an effective European level playing field in each of their respective areas of responsibility – i.e. banking, securities and markets, and insurances and occupational pensions – by elaborating a single rulebook applicable to all financial institutions in the internal market. They develop technical standards and guidelines that need to be applied in a coherent manner in the Member States and by this means, lay the basis for supervision. They also provide technical advice and opinions to the EU Institutions in the area of their competence.

B. Supervisory convergence. The ESAs promote supervisory convergence across the Member States and coordinate international supervision of cross-border groups. This creates a common supervisory culture that benefits the economy. They ensure high quality, effective and consistent supervision of financial institutions. They also prevent regulatory arbitrage, a practice in which financial institutions might seek to avoid unfavourable regulation by geographic relocation.

C. Risk assessment. The ESAs monitor and assess market developments in their area of responsibility in order to identify micro-prudential trends and potential risks and vulnerabilities. They may (temporarily) prohibit or restrict financial products or activities that could jeopardise the orderly

functioning of the financial markets as well as the integrity and stability of the financial system.

D. Consumer Protection. Through their activities in the field of regulation, supervisory convergence and risk analysis, the ESAs promote transparency, simplicity and fairness of financial products and services in the internal market. This protects the consumers of these products and services, be it depositors, investors, policyholders or pension scheme members and beneficiaries.

In 2015 ESMA took enforcement action against 1 Credit Rating Agency (CRA) in respect of a number of infringements of the requirements of the CRA Regulation regarding governance and compliance.

In order to carry out these four core tasks and ensure consistency in their approach, **EBA**, **EIOPA** and **ESMA** cooperate and coordinate their efforts under the coordination of a Joint Committee. The Joint Committee of the ESAs conducts cross-sectoral risk assessment and proceeds with joint regulatory work, for example in the field of anti-money laundering or

financial conglomerates. It also contributes to the exchange of information with the ESRB, which carries out macro-prudential oversight, and to the development of the relationships between the ESAs and the ESRB.

Agencies' contribution to the completion of the Financial Union and to a deeper Economic and Monetary Union (which in turn will promote competitiveness)

On top of the measures that have been discussed, two additional actions have been taken. The Banking Union is being created as an additional step in the protection of citizens. One of the purposes of this Union is to ensure that banks are robust and that customers will not pay the cost of failing banks.

Second, the Capital Markets union is to be created to strengthen the free movement of capital. The Capital Markets Union would enable citizens who want to develop and invest to access funding from other sources than the traditional banking sector, hence fostering the creation of jobs and growth.

The Banking Union and the Capital Markets Union are planned to further evolve in the coming years.

"The Banking Union is a way to better protect taxpayers from the cost of bank rescues."[13]

Five Presidents' Report

The so-called "Five Presidents' Report"[14] presents a roadmap towards the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in order to create a better and fairer life for citizens as well as increase competitiveness in the euro area. It lays a process in two consecutive stages that implies progress in the fields of Economic, Financial, Fiscal and Political Unions.

A deeper EMU goes hand in hand with the completion of the Financial Union: they are complementary and mutually reinforcing. As demonstrated during the financial and economic crisis, if no single financial system exists, the monetary policies are not applied uniformly across Member States.

As such, the completion of the Financial Union not only helps to deepen the EMU but also supports the completion of the internal market for financial services. It comprises two main components in which financial services agencies participate.

1. Completing the Banking Union
The Banking Union aims to further integrate the controls on banks on top of what has already been put in place through the ESFS.

---

[13] Five Presidents' Report, p.11.
[14] Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 27 June 2016.

It comprises three elements.

- The **Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM)** ensures the coherent and consistent supervision of credit institutions under the responsibility of the ECB. The **EBA** collaborates with the SSM mainly by providing tools to enhance regulatory and supervisory convergence and ensure consistent supervisory practices, comparable supervisory outcomes and compliance with EU rules.
- The **Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM)** establishes and enforces an effective resolution regime and thus helps avoid further bank bailouts at the taxpayers' expense. The **SRB** is at the centre of the SRM, as a planning and decision-making body, and manages the Single Resolution Fund (SRF), a fund financed by the banking sector which could be used as a last resort when a credit institution is being restructured.
- The **European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS)**, still at the conceptual stage, could increase resilience in case of future crises. The **SRB** is closely involved in the technical and political discussions on its conception.

The **EBA** has been collaborating with the SRB since its start in order to provide its experience of resolution planning in the EU.

2. Establishing the Capital Markets Union
The Capital Markets Union (CMU) will deepen the internal market by developing the free movement of capital but will also benefit the euro area. It will ensure a greater diversity of financing and complement the traditional bank financing by better connecting investment projects to capital. By deepening the integration of capital markets, it will also reinforce cross-border risk-sharing, hence improving the capacity of the financial system to absorb shocks. The CMU will also reduce the cost of capital, hence increasing the competitiveness in the euro area.

ESMA's main objectives of enhancing investor protection and promoting stable and orderly financial markets are in line with the CMU's goals. Through its four core activities, i.e. completing a single rulebook, promoting supervisory convergence, assessing risk and conducting direct supervision, the **ESMA** has already implemented actions that underpin the CMU and is ready to further collaborate in that direction. **EIOPA**'s work regarding the development of a Standardised Pan-European Personal Pension Product would also contribute to the establishment of the CMU, by attracting more retirement saving that would increase the provision of long-term capital. Moreover, the tools and activities deployed by **EIOPA** to build and facilitate a common supervisory culture and enhance supervisory convergence in the field of insurances and occupational pensions also support this strategic objective of building a CMU through the achievement of better protection of the policyholders.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources

- The European Banking Authority at a glance
- The EBA 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Work Programme
- The EBA 2016 Annual Work Programme (revised)
- EBA Annual Report 2015
- Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 establishing a European Supervisory Authority (European Banking Authority), amending Decision No716/2009/EC and repealing Commission Decision 2009/78/EC
- EIOPA Annual Report 2015
- EIOPA Annual Work Programme 2016
- EIOPA Single Programming Document 2017-2019
- EIOPA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2015-2017
- Regulation (EU) No 1094/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 establishing a European Supervisory Authority (European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority), amending Decision No 716/2009/EC and repealing Commission Decision 2009/79/EC
- ESMA Strategic Orientation 2016-2020
- ESMA Annual Work Programme 2016
- ESMA Annual Report 2015
- Regulation (EU) No 1995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 establishing a European Supervisory Authority (European Securities and Markets Authority), amending Decision No 716/2009/EC and repealing Commission Decision 2009/77/EC
- SRB Work Programme 2016
- Regulation (EU) No 806/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2014 establishing uniform rules and a uniform procedure for the resolution of credit institutions and certain firms in the framework of a Single Resolution Mechanism and a Single Resolution Fund and amending Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010.
- 2016 Work Programme of the Joint Committee of the European Supervisory Authorities
- Joint Committee of the European Supervisory Authorities' website, About Us, https://esas-joint-committee.europa.eu/about-us, consulted on 8 July 2016.
- Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 27 June 2016.
- Capital Markets Union – Unlocking funding for Europe's growth, http://ec.europa.eu/finance/capital-markets-union/index_en.htm, consulted on 8 July 2016.
- ESMA response to the Commission Green Paper on Building a Capital Markets Union, 13 May 2015, https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/library/2015/11/esma-2015-856_esma_response_to_ec_green_paper_on_cmu.pdf, consulted on 8 July 2016

Supporting EU Businesses and Innovation

Innovation

The relevant agencies contribute to creating incentives for investment and innovation in Europe. Their activities include developing skills, setting up collaborative research projects, facilitating the market entry of innovative products and services and protecting intellectual property rights.

Energy

In the field of energy, EU agencies participate in ensuring safe, affordable and environmentally friendly energy for all European citizens.

Digital Connectivity

The agencies dedicated to supporting EU businesses and innovation through digital connectivity contribute to completing a connected Digital Single Market.

Transport

In the field of transport, EU agencies are working towards harmonising and improving transport systems in Europe in order to make travelling safer, cheaper and more efficient for all Europeans.

Innovation

*Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking **(BBI JU)***
*European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training **(Cedefop)***
*Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking **(Clean Sky 2 JU)***
*Community Plant Variety Office **(CPVO)***
*European Institute of Innovation and Technology **(EIT)***
*European Training Foundation **(ETF)***
*EU Intellectual Property Office **(EUIPO)***
*Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking **(FCH JU)***
*Fusion for Energy **(F4E)***
*European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency **(GSA)***
*Innovative Medicines Initiative **(IMI 2 JU)***
*Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research Joint Undertaking **(SESAR JU)***
*Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking **(S2R JU)***

Transport

*Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking **(Clean Sky 2 JU)***
*European Aviation Safety Agency **(EASA)***
*European Maritime Safety Agency **(EMSA)***
*European Union Agency for Railways **(ERA)***
*Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking **(FCH JU)***
*European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency **(GSA)***
*Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research Joint Undertaking **(SESAR JU)***
*Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking **(S2R JU)***

Energy

*Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators **(ACER)***
*Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking **(BBI JU)***
*European Institute of Innovation and Technology **(EIT)***
*Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking **(FCH JU)***
*Fusion for Energy **(F4E)***

Digital Connectivity

*Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications **(BEREC Office)***
*European Union Agency for Network and Information Security **(ENISA)***
*European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency **(GSA)***

Innovation

Creating an innovation-friendly environment in Europe

Many EU agencies are dedicated to fostering an environment conducive to innovation and growth in Europe. All of them contribute to the Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth objectives of the Union. They do so by creating incentives for investment and innovation. Activities range from skills development, setting up collaborative research and innovation projects, to facilitating the market entry of innovative products and services and the protection of intellectual property rights. The agencies concerned include Cedefop, CPVO, the EIT, the ETF, EUIPO, GSA and joint undertakings (JU) in the fields of bio-based industries (BBI JU), air transport (Clean Sky 2 JU), fuel cells and hydrogen (FCH JU), Fusion for Energy (F4E), medicines (IMI 2 JU), Single European Sky air traffic management (SESAR JU) and rail (S2R JU).

Working for citizens

The EU agencies which participate in boosting innovation in Europe by encouraging collaboration of the public and private sector on ambitious research and innovation projects.

☑ Ensuring innovative ideas quickly turn into new products and services for European citizens

☑ Protecting the intellectual property rights of European innovators

☑ Developing skills to create a new generation of European entrepreneurs

Background

Innovation is the cornerstone of the European Commission's strategy for fostering long-term growth, the creation of quality jobs in Europe and improving citizens' well-being. Innovation has become a major economic asset for countries and their citizens in the face of global competition and rapidly changing consumer needs. Barriers to innovation and its translation into new products and services need to be removed.

Increasingly, the ability to innovate has become a main driver for competitiveness. The EU acknowledges the importance of innovation and promoting scientific and technological advances is one of its fundamental objectives[15]. To that end, the Europe 2020 Strategy set the objective of investing at least 3% of the European Union's GDP in research and development.

However, several barriers prevent Europe from fully exploiting its potential for innovation: research efforts are spread between industry and academia, entry costs in nascent industries are sometimes high and the effectiveness with which specific skills and market demand are matched is often poor. Agencies address these challenges in multiple ways to boost innovation in the Union.

Agencies' contribution to jobs, growth and investment

EU agencies encourage investment in innovation and support Smart Growth in Europe. Their main focus is on developing entrepreneurial skills, supporting research programmes within public-private partnerships (PPP), increasing the performance of the European economy thanks to new technologies and protecting intellectual property rights. In this way, they contribute to creating jobs for Europeans.

In line with the Europe 2020 objective of Smart Growth, agencies create incentives for investment in innovation in the Union. This involves contributing to improvements at each stage of the innovation process.

Developing new skills is paramount to creating the innovators of tomorrow in Europe.

For that purpose, **Cedefop** focuses on expanding and raising the skills of the European workforce through vocational education and training in line with changing research and labour market needs. For example, to support the green economy requires adapting skills at all levels and across many sectors. The **ETF** supports the development of similar skills in neighbouring countries.

Tackling the scourge of antimicrobial resistance

Antibiotic-resistant bacteria kill 25,000 people in the EU every year and cost the European economy €1.5 billion. Without new antibiotics, we risk returning to an era where doctors are unable to treat many infections. The Innovative Medicines Initiative's €650 million New Drugs for Bad Bugs programme is addressing many of the challenges hampering the development of new antibiotics. The COMBACTE project has set up a pan-European network of clinical trial sites to make it easier to run clinical trials of new antibiotics. The network includes almost 800 hospitals in 36 countries, as well as over 500 laboratories. A number of trials of novel antibiotics designed to treat some of the toughest infections are now being carried out through the network.

[15]   Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
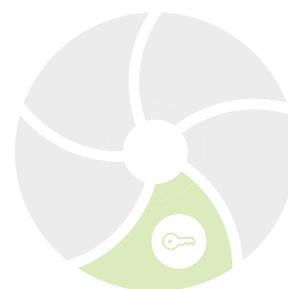
The **EIT** works towards integrating business, higher education and research in order to foster an entrepreneurial culture among Europeans, while **IMI 2 JU** develops education and training projects for all those involved in the development of medicines.

Collaboration between public and private actors within cross-sectoral knowledge communities is also key to reinforcing Europe's innovation capacities. Specific research and innovation programmes therefore pool resources and facilitate knowledge-sharing between a wide variety of stakeholders which do not traditionally work together: industry stakeholders and, particularly, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), research and technology centres, universities and Member States' representatives. The involvement of both the industry and research communities ensures that research is driven by industry needs and that the results translate efficiently into marketable outcomes for European companies, especially for SMEs.

Moreover, **BBI JU**, **CleanSky 2 JU**, **FCH JU**, **IMI 2 JU**, **SESAR JU** and **S2R JU** adopted the PPP formula. PPP allows the leveraging of additional funds from the public and private sectors to make up for the uncertainty, risks and high demonstration and market entry costs. These deter investment in innovation in nascent industries such as bio-based products or fusion energy. By encouraging the large-scale deployment of technology applications, these PPPs shape a new industrial policy for the globalisation era and reinforce Europe's industrial leadership.

It is important to note that the speed with which research is translated into breakthrough innovations has a positive impact on the performance of the European economy. Agencies therefore participate in the development of innovative performance-enhancing solutions, particularly in the fields of medicine, health, agriculture, transport, climate change, digitalisation and energy. These contribute to increasing production, e.g. new plant varieties enable higher agricultural outputs (**CPVO**); overcoming cost and time inefficiencies, – for instance in air traffic management (**SESAR JU**) or medicines research and development (**IMI 2 JU**); and translating satellite navigation services (**GSA**) technology from European space programmes into useful applications that impact all areas of citizens' everyday life.

The Union's competitiveness is furthermore reinforced by the protection of intellectual property rights. Indeed, efficient protection regimes encourage companies to invest in research and innovation since they significantly raise the chances of recovering the investment when innovations can be turned into marketable economic assets. It is important that property rights are protected, both in the internal market and in third countries. In this respect, **CPVO** and **EUIPO** grant intellectual property rights and work towards the convergence of property rights protection systems to enhance predictability for companies wishing to invest abroad and to fight counterfeiting. Every year, **EUIPO** registers around 120,000 EU trade marks and 85,000 designs, while **CPVO** protects around 25,000 plant varieties. In addition, recognition of European standards

worldwide strengthens the competitiveness of the European industry.

Finally, the agencies fuel the creation of highly-skilled jobs in blooming industries in Europe. In the case of **CPVO**, the potential for new jobs is particularly high in rural and underdeveloped areas. These constitute important pillars for knowledge-based and inclusive growth.

Agencies' contribution to a connected Digital Single Market

> **The agencies help develop the digital potential of Europe. They promote the growth of innovative start-ups, raise the protection of intellectual property rights and develop the digital skills of European citizens.**

Agencies work towards the European digital agenda by encouraging the development of digital and information technologies. In particular, they contribute to the creation of innovative European start-ups and provide them with tools that help achieve breakthroughs in the field of information and communication technologies. **GSA** helps using GNSS technology through digital tools such as the Internet of Things or Big Data in various sectors of the economy. **S2R JU** contributes to transforming the oldest transport mode – rail transport - into a modern and sustainable transport mode. The use of digitalisation creates seamless journey experiences for passengers.

Moreover, **EUIPO** contributes to establishing an efficient Digital Single Market with standards and regulations that

are adapted to the digital revolution and new consumer behaviour. In particular, they encourage the use of technology for a more effective enforcement of intellectual property owners' rights, and develop and share online tools, such as databases, to reinforce the protection regime. They also raise awareness among policy-makers and the general public on the importance of intellectual property rights for European innovators.

Cedefop is also committed to helping Member States and social partners develop digital skills for the European labour force. The digitalisation of the economy means IT operations and the need for IT skills are emerging in nearly all economic sectors. This includes the growing need to collect and analyse data to improve Europe's long-term employability and productivity.

Agencies' contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

> **Innovation plays a significant role in climate change mitigation. EU agencies support innovation towards sustainable development. Some contribute to cross-sectoral innovative improvements, while others focus on reducing the environmental impact of specific sectors.**

Agencies focus on assessing and reducing the environmental impact of flights **(CleanSky 2 JU, GSA, SESAR JU)**, agriculture **(CPVO)**, energy **(BBI JU, F4E, FCH JU)** and railway systems **(GSA, S2R JU)**. **FCH JU** seeks to advance the use of hydrogen and fuel cell systems in energy and transport. The **EIT** promotes cross-sectoral research on innovations

conducive to sustainable development. These initiatives allow the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption, an increased protection of biodiversity and better resource efficiency.

In the field of energy, the PPPs and **F4E** help achieve the Energy Union goals by working towards increasing supply security, cost-efficiency and sustainability of the European energy mix through the increased share of renewable sources. Developing the use of alternatives to polluting fossil fuels, namely biomass **(BBI JU)**, fusion energy **(F4E)**, fuel cells and hydrogen for energy and transport **(FCH JU)** and raw materials **(EIT)** is essential to reaching the Union's environmental goals and decreasing its dependency on external sources which make it vulnerable to economic, environmental and geopolitical instability. Moreover, it contributes to reducing the cost of energy in value chains and thus further boosts the competitiveness of the European economy.

### Agencies' contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal Market with a strengthened industrial base

> **The internal market is reinforced when innovation allows European businesses to turn their ideas into new products and services that are adapted to consumers' changing demands. Innovators should also enjoy the same level of protection across all Member States.**

EU agencies play a vital role in helping to turn new knowledge and innovative ideas into products and services that directly benefit European citizens. While Europe has a strong track record of research,

turning research results into new products and services is far from easy. The key is to tackle major societal challenges through investment in research and innovation, focusing on areas where both market potential and the need to resolve major societal challenges are greatest.

As a result, consumers can enjoy improved services that are better tailored to their needs and with minimised risks. **CleanSky 2 JU, FCH JU, SESAR JU** and **S2R JU** offer travellers better transport systems through safety improvements, capacity increase, lower environmental impact, improved service levels and reduced life cycle costs within a Single European Railway Area and with harmonised air traffic management systems. In the health sector, patients are offered more effective and efficient treatments that are tailored to their evolving needs thanks to the **IMI 2 JU** efforts. And in the energy sector, citizens and companies will ultimately benefit from a wider range of affordable energy sources.

To make all this happen, PPPs such as **Clean Sky JU, FCH JU, IMI 2 JU, SESAR JU** and **S2R JU** bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including academics, industry scientists, SMEs, and regulatory authorities. By working together, they are able to rapidly share and validate new knowledge, ideas and resources, and turn them into products and services that are meaningful to Europe's citizens. In the pharmaceutical sector, **IMI 2 JU** is delivering knowledge, tools and resources that help to speed up the drug development process and make it more efficient. This helps boost the competitiveness of Europe's life science sector, and in the long term will help to deliver even safer, more effective medicines for patients.
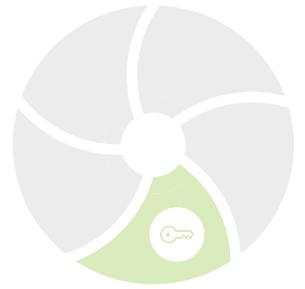
Intellectual property-intensive industries for the EU economy

A joint study by **EUIPO** and the European Patent Office shows how IPR-intensive industries contribute to the EU economy in terms of jobs (including the quality of jobs), growth and resilience:

- IPR-intensive industries generated 27.8% of all jobs in the EU during the period 2011-2013. Taking indirect jobs into account, the total number of IPR dependent jobs rises to 82.2 million (38.1%).
- IPR-intensive industries generated more than 42% of total economic activity (GDP) in the EU, worth € 5.7 trillion.
- IPR-intensive industries pay significantly higher wages than other industries, with a wage premium of 46% over other industries.
- IPR-intensive industries have proved most resilient to the economic crisis.
- 93% of EU exports are accounted for by IPR-intensive industries.

EUIPO and CPVO contribute to the development of these fundamental industries.

Source: Intellectual property rights intensive industries and economic performance in the European Union

The supply side also benefits from the action of **CPVO** and **EUIPO** since they allow all producers to benefit from the same level of intellectual property rights protection across the Union, which contributes to the dynamism of an internal market that can rapidly adapt to changes in digital technology and consumer behaviour. Through innovation, the internal market is thereby able to contribute to achieving Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency and body's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- BBI JU Strategic Innovation Agenda
- Cedefop Work Programme 2016
- CleanSky 2 JU Amended Bi-Annual Work Plan
- CPVO Work Programme 2016
- EIT Triennial Work Programme 2016-2018
- FCH JU Multi-Annual Work Plan
- SESAR 2020 Multi-Annual Work Programme
- S2R JU Strategic Master Plan
- Strategic Research Agenda for IMI2
- Treaty on European Union
- What is Fusion for Energy?

Transport

Ensuring safe, efficient and effective transport of people and goods in Europe

The agencies supporting EU businesses and innovation in the field of transport foster Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth by contributing to the building of competitive, safe and sustainable transport systems in Europe. They include Clean Sky 2 JU, EASA, EMSA, ERA, GSA, SESAR JU and Shift2Rail.

Working for citizens

The agencies dedicated to supporting EU businesses and innovation in the field of transport contribute to **harmonising and improving transport systems in Europe.**

☑ Increasing the safety of air, rail and maritime travel

☑ Improving the capacity, reliability and interoperability of transport systems in Europe

☑ Reducing the use of fossil fuels and CO_2 emissions

☑ Decreasing travel service costs for citizens

Background

> **Facing increased traffic, changing mobility needs and rising environmental concerns, the European Union is modernising its approach to transport in order to best support the free movement of people and goods within the Union.**

Free movement of people and goods within the internal market has been the cornerstone of the Union's society and economy. Mobility is also key in ensuring the economic, social and territorial cohesion of Member States enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty as a fundamental objective of the Union[16].

Emerging societal and technological challenges – rising traffic demand, changing mobility patterns and environmental concerns – need to be addressed through the comprehensive modernisation of Europe's transport systems.

The European Commission therefore set up a Roadmap of 40 initiatives in order to build a competitive European transport system ensuring the safe and efficient mobility of people and goods across the Union and in order to remove major barriers to the development of transport. These initiatives will also considerably reduce Europe's dependence on imported oil, free cities from conventionally-fuelled cars by 2030 and cut carbon emissions in transport

S2R JU aims to double the capacity of the European rail system and increase its reliability and service quality by 50%, all while halving life-cycle costs.

by 60% by 2050[17]. Each agency and joint undertaking of this subgroup contributes to one of the Roadmap's objectives in their respective capacity.

In the field of aviation, the Union is set to harmonise and modernise air traffic management in Europe within the Single European Sky framework. This involves ensuring the safety of aeronautical products and the cost- and flight-efficiency and environmental sustainability of air traffic in the face of sustained growth[18].

In the field of rail transport, the Union also works towards the achievement of the Single European Railway Area to make up for the lack of competition, regulation and investment in the rail market[19].

Finally, in the maritime field the Union implements and integrates maritime policy to promote the competitiveness and reduce the environmental impact of maritime transport[20].

The agencies contribute to these achievements and thereby to the Europe 2020 Strategy and Juncker Commission Agenda.

Agencies' contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base

> **The EU transport agencies contribute to achieving safe, effective and efficient transport systems that facilitate the movement of people and goods within the Union.**

Achieving the completion of the Single European Sky, the Single European Railway Area and a European Maritime Space without Borders is paramount to enhancing the competitiveness of the European transport industry. Removing technical and operational barriers and simplifying access for customers (as for **ERA** and **S2R JU**, in the railway sector) and rationalising surveillance procedures is in the interest of European travellers and companies.

A harmonised approach and collaboration across Member States is fundamental to ensuring the safety and environmental compatibility of transport within the internal market. For that purpose, **EASA**, **EMSA** and **GSA** support the definition

---

[16] Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
[17] European Commission, White Paper 2011 "Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area - Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system".
[18] European Commission Communication "Traffic management: the creation of the single European sky".
[19] European Commission Communication concerning the development of a Single European Railway Area.
[20] European Commission Communication "Strategic Goals and Recommendations for the EU's Maritime Transport Policy until 2018".

of high common standards in aviation, maritime and railway transport and operational safety, including through the research and innovation activities carried out by **SESAR JU** and **S2R JU**. **ERA** facilitates the development of EU common railway safety specifications and drives the change to a pro-active railway safety culture with common criteria, targets and methods at EU level.

Moreover, these agencies are key in enhancing the effectiveness of transport means in Europe. They are committed to improving services and user experience by enhancing the reliability, capacity, costs and interoperability of transport infrastructures and services in Europe.

In particular, **SESAR JU** works towards modernising a globally harmonised interoperable and well recognised air traffic management (ATM) system across the aviation systems and Member States. It enables high performance air travel while mitigating the environmental impact of air operations. This entails significant improvements developed by and for aviation and ATM stakeholders and users: airspace and airport capacity increases, safety and environmental and aviation service efficiency improvements, cost reductions and exportable innovative SESAR concepts and solutions.

In the rail sector, ERA delivers benefits to the rail sector through an improved regulatory framework. **S2R JU** fosters the

Making flights more predictable, fuel-efficient and environmentally sensitive

Sharing information between air navigation service providers on a world view aviation intranet has opened up a world of possibilities for more predictable, fuel-efficient and environmentally sensitive flights. One of the first beneficiaries will be airlines flying into Heathrow.

This will allow:
- Reduced waiting time for arriving aircraft in airports: delay will be absorbed in the more fuel-efficient and less congested cruise phase of a flight;
- Reduced aircraft fuel burn: the trial phase of the project has already saved airlines €4 million;
- Innovation: pioneering multi-national cooperation between air navigation service providers through SWIM-enabled architecture (the ATM Intranet);
- Influencing international ATM industry: realising benefits by introducing interoperability using open standards;
- Enabling SESAR deployment: the world's first deployment of a SESAR-based cross-border arrival management system;
- Reduced carbon emissions: the trial has already saved 4.7Kt of fuel and 1.5Kt of CO_2 emissions.

Source:http://www.nats.aero/discover/new-streamlined-heathrow-arrivals-start-europe/
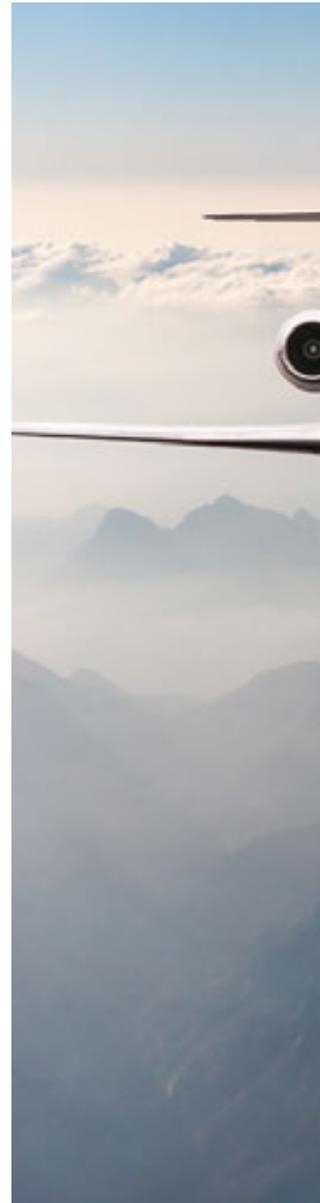
work on advanced traffic management and control systems as well as on improving rail sub-systems and passenger services (e.g. information, ticketing, planning).

Other joint undertakings such as **Clean Sky JU** develop new concepts in order to meet European citizens' evolving mobility needs with cleaner and quieter aircrafts. **FCH JU** supports research projects to reduce the production costs of fuel cell and hydrogen systems to be used in transports systems (including machinery, trains, ships, aeroplanes), which in turn would reduce transport costs.

GSA improves the overall effectiveness of transport. In the field of aviation, the Agency enhances the safety of passengers thanks to landing procedures facilitated by navigation satellite services (GNSS) technology, and optimises airlines' operational management. It also improves the safety of roads through eCall – a system which automatically dials 112, the European single emergency number, in the event of a serious accident –, optimises the access to road infrastructure via road user charging and congestion charges, and enables innovative applications such as connected cars. **GSA** will also play a significant role in signalling for rail and helps save lives thanks to the Search and Rescue service in the maritime field.

Finally, safe and seamless mobility will be achieved thanks to efficiency gains. For that purpose, **ERA** contributes to implementing

The technology developments already made or in progress with the help of Clean Sky 2 JU could reduce aviation CO_2 emissions by more than 20% compared to 2000, i.e. an aggregate reduction of 2 to 3 billion tonnes of CO_2 over the next 35 years.

a single EU train control system, a single set of EU technical specifications for railway vehicles, infrastructure and operations, and is acting as a one-stop-shop for vehicle authorisations and safety certifications. **S2R JU** performs research and innovation enhancing this European system to double railway capacity, increasing reliability and punctuality by as much as 50%, and halving the life cycle costs of a railway. **GSA**'s Galileo system also promotes seamless mobility through its contribution to navigation services.

By participating in the development of a safe, effective and efficient internal market in the field of transport and reinforcing the EU industrial leadership in the transport sector, these EU agencies are key contributors to achieving Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe.

Agencies' contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

The agencies improve the sustainability of Europe's transport systems by ensuring European safety and interoperability and developing innovative solutions for more resource-efficient and sustainable transports.

Reducing the environmental impact of transport has become a major concern in the development of this sector, especially given the sustained increase in mobility in Europe. To ensure the transition towards a resource-efficient society and improve the quality of the environment, **Clean Sky 2 JU**, **FCH JU** and **S2R JU** are developing clean technologies to reduce energy consumption and other externalities such as noise and vibration. Enhanced energy efficiency also decreases pressure on Europe's energy supply security. **GSA** is instrumental in that field as it allows space programme service applications to outline fuel-efficient paths for transportation in the aviation and maritime fields. In the maritime sector, **EMSA** is testing the use of Remotely Piloted Airborne Systems to measure ship emissions. **EMSA** is also supporting the enforcement and monitoring of relevant EU legislation at national level in the field of emissions and greenhouse gases. **FCH JU** helps develop technologies for the development and refuelling of electric cars and buses.

EASA, **EMSA** and **ERA** work towards creating a European level playing field in the implementation of EU environmental standards, which they help develop and maintain. **EMSA** also monitors and sets up quick response mechanisms in the event of adverse events such as oil or chemical spills from ships into water. **ERA** promotes the competitiveness of rail as an environmentally friendly mode of transport and fosters the harmonisation of technical specifications regarding the noise of rail wagons.

All of these improvements contribute to the development of the transport of tomorrow, in line with the Union's objective of resource-efficiency and sustainable development.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency and body's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- Treaty on European Union
- European Commission Communication "Traffic management: the creation croc the single European sky"
- European Commission Communication concerning the development of a Single European Railway Area
- European Commission Communication "Strategic goals and recommendations for the EU's maritime transport policy until 2018"
- European Commission White Paper "Roadmap towards a Single European Transport Area"
- EASA Business Plan 2014-2018
- **EMSA** 5 Year-Strategy
- ERA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2017
- Clean Sky 2 JU Joint Undertaking Amended Bi-Annual Work Plan and Budget 2016-2017
- S2R JU Strategic Master Plan
- European ATM Master Plan 2015
- GSA Annual Work Programme 2016

EMSA helps identify, trace and track illegal discharges and polluters through the satellite image-based service CleanSeaNet. In 2015, 3,052 images were delivered, covering 500 km² per image, enabling the detection of 2,423 possible oil spills.

How do EU agencies contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy and to the Juncker Commission Agenda?

47

Energy

Ensuring the supply of affordable and environmentally friendly energy for citizens

In accordance with their respective missions, objectives and financial resources, agencies contribute to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth through their actions in developing alternative green sources of energy and reinforcing the Internal Energy Market. The agencies supporting EU businesses and innovation in the field of energy include ACER, BBI JU, the EIT, FCH JU and F4E.

Working for citizens

The agencies dedicated to supporting EU businesses and innovation in the field of energy contribute to **ensuring safe, affordable and environmentally friendly energy for all European citizens.**

- ☑ Ensuring fair energy prices
- ☑ Ensuring choice between energy providers
- ☑ Ensuring the continued supply of affordable energy
- ☑ Developing sustainable, cleaner sources of energy
- ☑ Enhancing the competitiveness of the European energy sector
- ☑ Limiting polluting emissions, for a cleaner environment

Background

> **The European Union seeks to ensure the availability of secure, affordable and environmentally friendly energy for all its citizens in the face of increasing resource scarcity, the geopolitical instability linked to the supply of fossil fuels, and environmental concerns.**

The increasing global demand for energy puts pressure on energy systems and aggravates the problem of resource scarcity. Economic growth still largely relies on the use of polluting fossil fuels, which renders Europe's energy supply vulnerable to economic, geopolitical and environmental risks.

This growth model is no longer compatible with Europe's commitment to preserve and improve the quality of the environment, in line with the objectives of the Lisbon Treaty[21]. Moreover, Europe committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 40% compared to 1990 levels, to increase the share of renewable energy to at least 27% and to improve energy efficiency by at least 27% by 2030[22]. The Europe 2020 Strategy spells out the need to decouple economic growth from resource use in order to achieve greater resource efficiency, competitive and sustainable growth and the transition towards a petroleum-free society.

In parallel, geopolitical instability in the EU's Southern and Eastern neighbourhood highlights the need to reduce Europe's reliance on fuel and gas imports, to increase its collective negotiating power vis-à-vis third countries and to diversify its energy sources.

In order to overcome technical, environmental and geopolitical challenges to its energy supply, the European Union is committed to establishing an Energy Union geared towards ensuring supply security, a fully-integrated internal energy market, energy efficiency, emission reduction, climate research and innovation[23].

By contributing to achieving these goals, EU agencies support innovation and the development of the EU energy sector.

Agencies' contribution to jobs, growth and investment

> **Joint undertakings bring together the industry and research communities to develop and place on the market innovative, greener sources of energy. This enhances the competitiveness of the EU economy and contributes to job creation.**

The **EIT**, **F4E**, **BBI JU** and **FCH JU** work towards the full deployment of Europe's industrial and research potential and capacities in the field of energy. **BBI JU** and **FCH JU** are public-private partnerships (PPPs).

The **EIT**, **F4E** and these public-private partnerships (PPPs) aim at fostering collaboration between all the stakeholders involved in the development of the European energy sector, i.e. industry representatives, SMEs, research and technology centres and universities. Pooling the research efforts of industry and academic stakeholders allows research agendas to be driven by concrete needs so their results directly feed into marketable outcomes. It enables stakeholders to address technological and innovation challenges in nascent industries such as the bio-based sector. It also encourages industry involvement in large-scale research projects, especially SMEs.

Moreover, the PPP formula allows the leveraging of funds to make up for the uncertainty, risks and high market entry costs, which deter investment in innovation in nascent energy industries. **FCH JU** participates in the development and market readiness of technological solutions for fuel cells and hydrogen, while **BBI JU** aims to provide the industry with information on the availability of renewable resources for the production of bio-based materials.

Fusion energy: 280 litres of earth crust plus 400 litres of water produce as much energy as 300 tons of oil, the equivalent of the total energy consumed by an average EU citizen during his or her entire life.

---

21   Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
22   2030 Energy Strategy.
23   Energy Union Factsheet.

€3.7bn investments in bio-based innovation in 2014-2020, funding more than 200 cooperative projects through cross-industry clusters in 2020.

F4E, which is publicly funded, works towards developing fusion energy. The **EIT** focuses part of its activities on developing the supply and use of raw materials. By encouraging the large-scale deployment of technology applications in the field of energy, the **EIT**, **F4E** and the PPPs shape a new industrial policy for the globalisation era in Europe.

Activities carried out within these bodies also enhance the competitiveness of the European energy industry by contributing to strengthening its value chains. They strive to allow the production of cheaper energy and the reduction of the cost of energy in the value chain, which benefits all sectors of the economy. By broadening the European industrial base, they foster quality job creation, including in rural areas in the case of **BBI JU**, thus laying the ground for Smart and Sustainable Growth in Europe.

Agencies' contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

> **EU agencies strive to increase energy security and environmental protection by developing greener sources of energy from renewables, increasing energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions.**

Environmental protection is at the core of the new EU energy policy. It aims to decouple economic growth from resource use through increased energy efficiency, and to reduce emissions by replacing polluting fossil fuels with renewable sources of energy. The **EIT, BBI JU, FCH JU** and **F4E** facilitate the development of sustainable and clean energy sources – fusion energy, biomass, fuel cells and hydrogen – which are paramount to the transition towards a low-carbon society. For instance, **BBI JU** supports research and the market entry of processes to use waste and agriculture and forestry residues as a source of industrial production, while **FCH JU** seeks to promote the development of fuel cells and hydrogen technologies and their applications for fuel cell electric vehicles, in particular passenger vehicles and buses. Resource efficiency, a key objective of the Europe 2020 Strategy, is central to climate change mitigation.

These projects also contribute to significantly enhancing security of supply by diversifying the European energy mix (e.g. enhancing the share of renewables as an alternative to conventional sources) and increasing storage capacities. In the case of fusion energy, the projects contribute towards a potentially limitless source of energy. This makes European energy supply less vulnerable to economic, geopolitical and environmental risks. Moreover, **ACER** reinforces energy security by ensuring the smooth functioning of the EU Internal Energy Market for electricity and natural gas, which enables energy to flow freely across Europe through interconnectors.

Agencies' contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal Market with a strengthened industrial base

> **Thanks to the harmonised Internal Energy Market for electricity and natural gas, European consumers are guaranteed affordable energy and a choice of energy provider.**

The smooth functioning of the Internal Energy Market for electricity and natural gas, which **ACER** is in charge of ensuring, is key to providing affordable energy and the choice between energy providers to European citizens and companies – thanks to an open, transparent and competitive energy market. For that purpose, **ACER** implements the integration of national energy markets into a single, European one where fair competition rules are strictly applied.

Agencies' contribution to Europe's footprint in the world in the field of energy

These agencies contribute to making Europe a leader in international research projects on energy and fostering international cooperation on the improvement of energy markets.

BBI JU, **FCH JU** and **F4E** stimulate international research cooperation for the development of new energy sources, ensuring that Europe maintains a leading role in a nascent industry with strong development potential. They provide

the Union's contribution to international projects such as ITER, which focuses on the viability and sustainability of fusion as an energy source. This participation reinforces the EU's standing as a global actor in the fields of energy and research.

Moreover, **ACER** works towards ensuring the international cooperation necessary to the smooth implementation of natural gas and electricity interconnectors. By forcing third countries' energy producers to comply with the rules and obligations of the Internal Energy Market if they wish to access it, the Agency promotes European standards in the field of energy regulation and encourages compliance by third countries.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency, body and office's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources

- Directive 2002/21/EC on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services
- Directive 2009/140/EC
- European Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe"
- BEREC Strategy 2015-2017
- ENISA Strategy 2016-2020
- GSA website: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/

Digital Connectivity

Developing telecoms networks and services in Europe

The agencies supporting EU businesses and innovation in the field of digital connectivity contribute to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth by working towards the completion of a connected Digital Single Market in Europe. They include the BEREC Office, ENISA and GSA.

Working for citizens

The agencies dedicated to supporting EU businesses and innovation through digital connectivity contribute to **completing a connected Digital Single Market.**

- ☑ Ensuring access to affordable, reliable and efficient telecommunications networks and services for European citizens and businesses
- ☑ Facilitating the entry of new competitors in the telecoms market
- ☑ Using space programmes to develop digital trends
- ☑ Reinforcing cybersecurity in Europe
- ☑ Ensuring Europe's lead in the digital market

Background

The development of digital services and networks holds great potential for growth and job creation in Europe. This entails the development of a regulatory framework for the implementation of fair competition rules and efficient network and information security measures.

European citizens and businesses increasingly rely on innovative, affordable and reliable telecommunications networks and services[24]: 315 million Europeans use the Internet every day, and virtually all citizens own a mobile phone[25]. Not only is the digital economy a thriving economic sector, but it also constitutes a key enabler for long-term knowledge-based growth in Europe in the context of fast change and globalisation.

The European Commission set up a first regulatory framework for electronic communications in 2002[26] which was completed in 2009[27]. In addition, it launched its Digital Agenda flagship initiative for the creation of a connected Digital Single Market for content and telecom services in 2010. The Agenda aims in particular at speeding up access to high-speed internet and bringing the difference between roaming and national tariffs to near zero.

In 2015, the European Commission established its Digital Single Market strategy for the development of the European digital economy. In a Digital Single Market, "the individuals and businesses can seamlessly access and exercise online activities under conditions of fair competition, and a high level of consumer and personal data protection, regardless of their nationality or place of residence"[28].

The strategy includes 16 initiatives to be delivered by the end of 2016, which rest on three pillars:

- Ensuring better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe;
- Creating the right conditions and a level playing field for digital networks and innovative services to develop;
- Maximising the growth potential of the digital economy.

In this context, the respect of EU competition rules in the telecoms sector and the guarantee of network and information security are paramount to the completion of a sustainable European Digital Single Market. The agencies are working towards ensuring those aspects, as well as using navigation satellite service technology to boost digital connectivity in Europe.

ENISA runs simulations of EU-wide cybercrises to improve Europe's preparedness. In 2016, the cybersecurity exercise involved more than 500 cybersecurity professionals from 30 EU and EFTA countries and over 300 organisations.

---

[24] The EU regulatory framework for electronic communications defines electronic communications networks as "transmission systems which permit the conveyance of signals by wire, by radio, by optical or by other electromagnetic means" and electronic communication services as "the transmission of signals over these networks, and associated facilities and services of the networks or of the electronic communications services [...] which enable the provision of services via that network or service".

[25] European Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe".

[26] Directive 2002/21/EC.

[27] Directive 2009/140/EC.

[28] European Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe". See: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52015DC0192, consulted on 18 August 2016.

Agencies' contribution to jobs, growth and investment

> **The agencies promote competition and foster investment and innovation in telecoms sector development, to fully benefit European citizens and businesses.**

The Digital Single Market holds significant growth potential both for new start-ups and existing companies: estimates show that it will generate €415 billion per year in the European economy, large-scale jobs creation and significant improvements in the delivery of public services across Member States[29].

With the professional services and administrative support of the **BEREC Office**, **BEREC** is supporting the development of a stable regulatory framework which creates incentives for innovation in new technologies. It thereby contributes to a competitive European telecoms market, with positive spill-over effects on all other sectors of the economy. This complements Digital Agenda initiatives, for instance by speeding up access to high-speed internet in Europe by encouraging investment in broadband and fibre-based networks. Progress is further facilitated by the technological breakthroughs derived from the EU's space programmes, which are translated, thanks to **GSA,** into high-quality, cost-efficient applications for the telecoms sector, as well as in other industries such as mobile commerce or autonomous vehicles.

Moreover, the establishment of a telecoms networks and services environment is conducive to achieving these goals and to fully benefiting EU Citizens and companies. It is linked to the adoption of a regulatory framework that ensures an ambitious balance between shared highest service offering standards and barrier-free, cost-optimised business practices – while guaranteeing fair competition. To that end, **BEREC** assists the European Commission and national authorities on the establishment of regulation and ground-level implementing rules and guidelines to ensure a level playing field for an efficient yet compliant business practice and innovation in the sectors of information technologies and telecoms markets.

This requires the consistent application of EU competition rules on antitrust, state aid and mergers to the telecoms sector. These rules have become especially important since mergers and acquisitions, as well as the growing presence of bundle offers, lead to increased consolidation in this market. **BEREC** monitors the market to avoid the appearance of oligopolies which would impede the entry of new telecoms operators and thus force existing providers to increase the quality of their offer and reduce their prices. This reinforces the competitiveness of the European telecoms market and benefits both consumers and businesses, thereby contributing to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.

Reducing the cost of calls, texts and data download abroad within the EU

The European Commission has significantly reduced roaming tariffs when travelling in the EU. From 15 June 2017, European citizens will pay the same as domestic prices without extra roaming fees during temporary stays within the EU. **BEREC** ensures the smooth transition towards the end of roaming fees by regulating the tariffs of European service providers. It thereby ensures European citizens enjoy cheaper tariffs while preserving the competitiveness of the telecoms market across Member States.

Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus are key enablers for new trends such as Big Data, the Internet of Things and multimodal transportation. GSA contributes to developing related technology applications and services adapted to user needs.

---

[29] European Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe".
See: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52015DC0192, consulted on 18 August 2016.
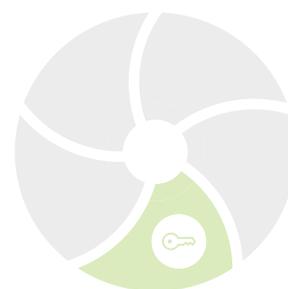
Agencies' contribution to a connected Digital Single Market

> **EU agencies support the convergence of regulatory approaches across Europe to guarantee end-users protection and a high quality of telecoms services.**

The revised EU regulatory framework for electronic communications aims at the provision of additional consumer rights, more consumer choice and better protection of privacy[30]. Regulators are therefore committed to promoting the affordability and accessibility of pan-European telecoms networks and services. These are paramount to the completion of a connected Digital Single Market where businesses and citizens can benefit from a minimum level of services regardless of their location.

A fundamental step towards achieving this goal is the removal of barriers to the cross-border provision of telecoms services. For that purpose, **BEREC** promotes the consistent implementation of a common regulatory approach to consumer protection, net neutrality and international mobile roaming across Member States. Such convergence is key to empowering and protecting end-users of telecoms networks and services.

The goal of these efforts is to safeguard the quality of telecoms services by enabling end-users to have the necessary information to choose between telecom products, to switch between operators and to benefit from net neutrality – i.e. access to all content and applications is ensured regardless of their source, without internet service providers favouring or blocking certain products or websites.

Moreover, the efficient protection of end-users is a condition for the completion of the Digital Single Market. It includes data privacy, internet security and content regulation. In parallel, **ENISA** is in charge of promoting a high level of network and information security in order to protect the Union from threats to its digital environment, in particular by encouraging the development of a common European approach to cybersecurity.

Finally, **GSA** is also contributing to reinforcing digital connectivity in Europe by facilitating the translation of European space programmes into enablers for telecoms and new digital trends such as Big Data, autonomous vehicles or the Internet of Things. For instance, Galileo sets a standard time which constitutes the reference for telecoms networks, while global navigation satellite services provide location services which facilitate the development of mobile commerce or enable the global localisation of the Internet of Things.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency and body's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- Directive 2002/21/EC on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services
- Directive 2009/140/EC
- European Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe"
- BEREC Strategy 2015-2017
- ENISA Strategy 2016-2020
- GSA website: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/, consulted on 18 August 2016

---

[30] Directive 2009/140/EC.
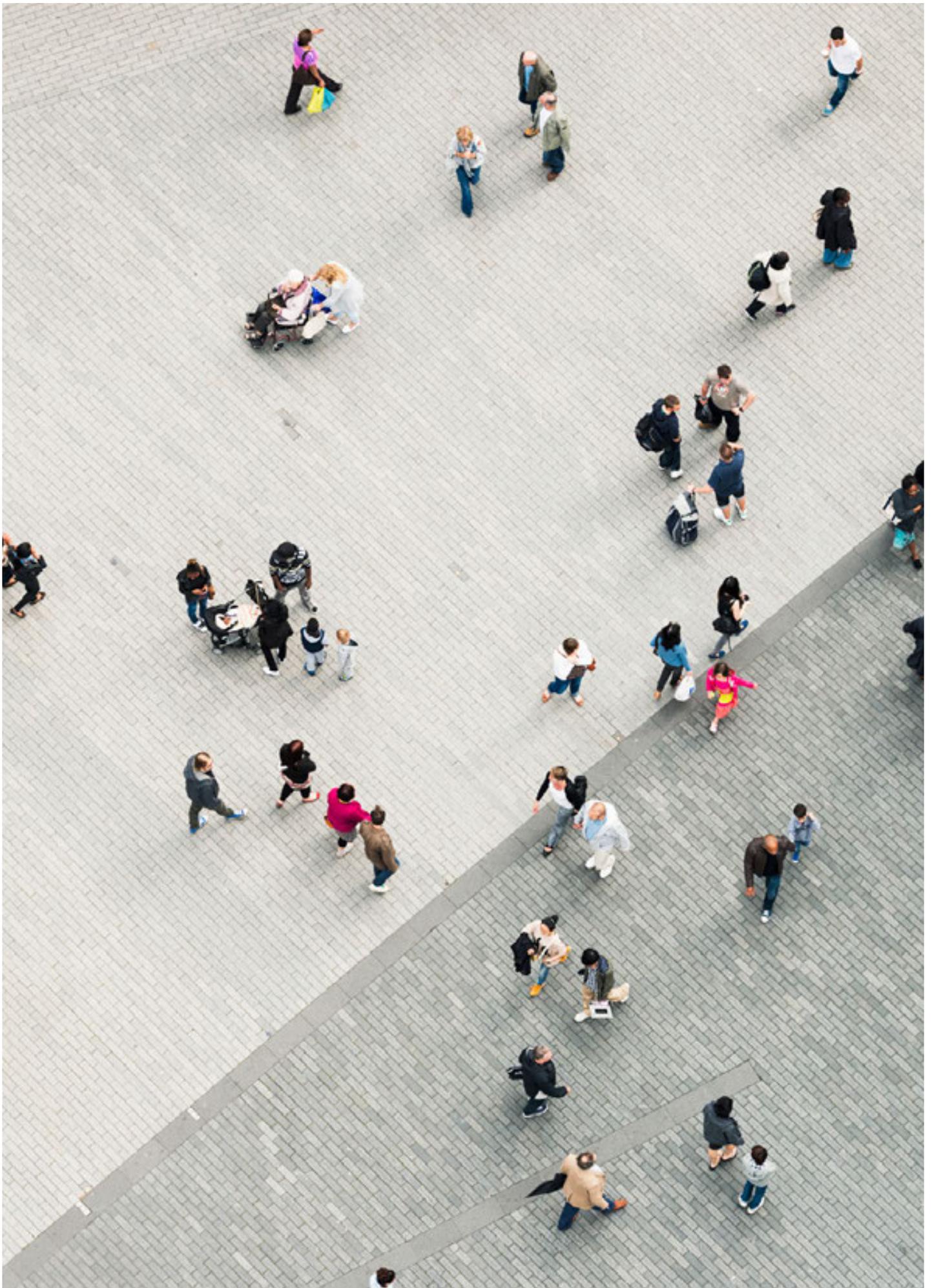
Contribution theme 4

Fostering Citizens' Well-Being

Citizens' Protection

EU agencies contribute to protecting citizens in all their social and economic activities, as well as the environment. They work towards ensuring that Europeans are protected from unsafe products and communicable diseases, and that sustainable development practices counter the effects of climate change, and they promote a fair working environment in all Member States.

Translation Centre (CdT)
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)
European Environment Agency (EEA)
European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
European Medicines Agency (EMA)
European Agency for Health and Safety at Work (EU-OSHA)
*European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)*
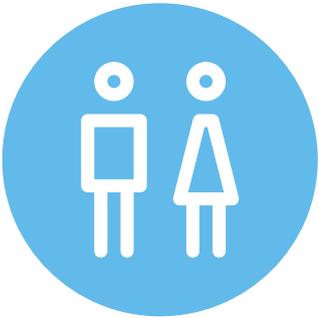
Education and Skills

Fostering citizens' well-being also entails promoting the development of skills and education to better match the evolving needs of the labour market.

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop)
European Training Foundation (ETF)
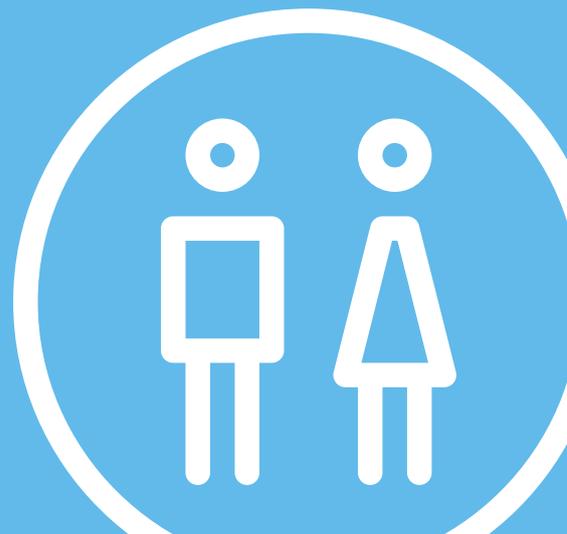
Citizens' Protection

Ensuring citizens', consumers', patients' and workers' protection within the internal market and a healthy environment

The agencies fostering citizens' well-being through increased citizens' protection, contribute to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe. Their actions focus on jobs and growth, the internal market, climate and environment policy, justice and fundamental rights as well as on the Union's contribution to international standards. Contributing agencies include CdT, ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFCA, EFSA, EMA, EU-OSHA and Eurofound.

Working for citizens

The EU agencies dedicated to fostering citizens' well-being contribute to **reinforcing the protection of EU citizens and the environment** and to improving living and working conditions for all throughout the European Union. They work towards ensuring that Europeans are protected from unsafe products and communicable diseases, countering the effects of climate change through sustainable development practices and promoting the development of a fair working environment in all Member States.

☑ Safe food and safety of products sold to European consumers

☑ Prevention of the outbreak and spread of communicable diseases

☑ Protection of the environment from the damaging effects of climate change

☑ Limiting the effects of pollution on human health

☑ Promoting innovation and EU competitiveness for the benefit of EU citizens

☑ Improved working and living conditions for all citizens

☑ Higher global safety standards
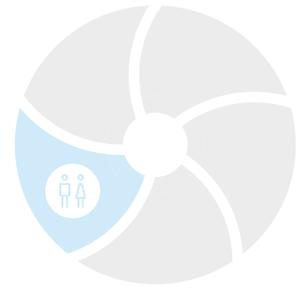
Background

Protecting and maintaining the well-being of its peoples is a fundamental objective of the Union. EU agencies are dedicated to providing EU citizens with the highest standards in the world in terms of patients', consumers', workers' and environment protection across all Member States.

Promoting the well-being of EU citizens is a fundamental objective of the Union: it is inscribed in the Lisbon Treaty[31]. This entails ensuring the highest standards of protection for citizens in all domains of life and economic activity. The Union created a single market, where people and goods can circulate freely. Its *raison d'être* goes beyond the economic dimension of this borderless structure: many EU policies aim at creating "a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment" across Member States[32]. It is therefore necessary to create a level playing field for all citizens to enjoy an equally high quality of life wherever they live, work and study across the Union.

Agencies provide scientific and technical advice to EU and Member State policy-makers to achieve such standards of protection and well-being for citizens in the Union.

Agencies' contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal Market

The single market is an area without borders which contributes to citizens' welfare by offering safe products of the highest quality, thanks to risk monitoring, assessment and minimisation activities carried out by the agencies. They also contribute to achieving fair conditions for the mobility of citizens and workers within this space, as well as the conditions for companies to access all EU markets with safe products.

The single market is one of the greatest achievements of the Union: it creates a prosperous zone where people, goods, services and capital can circulate freely. This success goes beyond the economic dimension in that it also ensures the welfare of European consumers and workers within this area: citizens are provided with safe products of the highest quality, and workers with safe, healthy and productive working conditions.

ECHA, **EFSA** and **EMA** strive to create the best conditions to ensure that products which enter the single market are safe for consumption. Their actions are based on scientific risk assessments: products are placed on the market only once it has been proven that they are safe for consumption[33]. The agencies' activities aim to protect public health by ensuring that the benefits of medicines or products made available to European consumers outweigh the risks, thus preventing threats to consumers' health and safety. In particular, **ECHA**, **EFSA** and **EMA** are involved in the processes of the authorisation and supervision of medicines, chemical substances, food and feed additives and bio-engineered products placed on the internal market, in collaboration with relevant national authorities. They play a direct role in the free movement of products in the single market.

The monitoring and communication activities of EU agencies also serve to reinforce the trust of European consumers in the goods market and in the surveillance systems which monitor them.

In 2015, EFCA organised 17,000 coordinated inspections, allowing the detection of 703 suspected infringements, with 21 million Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) positions received and processed and 6,500 catch certificates and supporting documents analysed.

---

[31] Treaty on European Union, Article 3.1.
[32] Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
[33] For industrial chemicals, safe use needs to be demonstrated.

Moreover, the free movement of workers is a pillar of the dynamism of the single market. **Eurofound** and **EU-OSHA** participate in its reinforcement by providing policy-makers with evidence-based expertise to assist them in creating a level playing field in the Union. This allows European workers to find equally fair and safe working conditions across Member States and encourages their mobility. In this increasingly interconnected environment, **ECDC**'s activities also ensure the proper functioning of the internal market by supporting activities to prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases. It thereby reinforces the social and territorial cohesion of the Union by creating safeguards for the whole population, including those most vulnerable to risks.

Agencies' contribution to jobs, growth and investment

> **Encouraging the development of high standards for the products sold on the internal market reinforces the role of innovation and knowledge in the European growth model.**

By working towards strengthening citizens' well-being, **ECDC**, **ECHA**, **EEA**, **EFSA** and **EMA** promote innovation and competitiveness in their specific policy areas. By encouraging companies to develop products which meet the EU's high standards and solutions, strictly tested for safety and sustainability, thereby giving EU companies a competitive edge in the global market.

In 2015, EMA recommended 93 medicines for marketing authorisation (many of which represent therapeutic innovations that can make a real difference to patients)

By anticipating the impact of long-term trends – such as demographic ageing and digitalisation on job creation and employment –and by monitoring existing practices in Member States, **EU-OSHA** and **Eurofound** also empower EU and national policy-makers and social partners to improve social and work policies. This stimulates job creation in the long term.

Agencies' contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

> **EU agencies monitor and encourage the respect of high environmental standards in order to preserve Europe's natural resources and protect citizens from risks to their health and well-being.**

Protecting the environment and ensuring sustainable development are fundamental objectives of the European Union and its Member States[34]. As climate change is becoming an increasingly salient issue across the world, the Union has set medium- and long-term objectives for the

protection of its natural resources and of its citizens from environment-related threats. Through thematic and cross-sectoral policies, the EU is striving to achieve a long-term objective of "living well within the limits of the planet"[35]. This means ensuring the sustainability of Europe's economic growth model for current and future generations.

Moreover, reducing the impact of human activity on the environment and increasing energy efficiency leads to cheaper energy for European consumers and companies. It reinforces the European economy's resilience to climate-related risks, thereby increasing its competitiveness at a global level.

The EEA contributes to the public debate on a healthy environment and reviews progress towards environmental policy targets through its five-year assessment: 'The European environment — State and outlook 2015' (SOER 2015), the most comprehensive assessment of the European environment's state, trends and prospects in a global context.

---

[34] Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
[35] 7th General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020.

Over 6,000 substances are registered with ECHA, which has delivered over five million classification and labelling notifications for more than 100,000 substances.

EEA contributes to this objective by monitoring the state of the environment, while **ECHA** promotes the safe use of chemicals. Moreover, **EFCA** stimulates sustainable fishing practices in the Union by ensuring compliance with the "landing obligation"[36] and assisting Member States and the European Commission in fighting illegal fishing. As a result, EU citizens enjoy some of the highest environmental standards in the world, for the benefit of current and future generations.

Agencies' contribution to an area of justice and fundamental rights

> **Workers' and consumers' rights are enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty: they are fundamental rights of EU citizens. Protecting these rights through monitoring and policy recommendations contributes to turning the Union into an area of justice and shared values.**

Each agency focuses on protecting a set of rights specific to its domain of activity: **EU-OSHA** and **Eurofound** are dedicated to the rights of workers, while **ECDC**, **ECHA**, **EFSA**, **EEA** and **EMA** defend citizens' and consumers' rights to a safe and healthy environment and promote their health and well-being. **EFCA** works towards the sustainability of fisheries resources and jobs in the fishing industry.

Agencies' contribution to a Union of Democratic Change

> **To promote good governance, transparency and openness in decision-making, EU citizens are entitled to access EU Institutions' documents in all EU languages.**

The Translation Centre contributes to making EU policies, communications and reports available to EU citizens in all official EU languages. It promotes cultural and linguistic diversity in the EU by offering its linguistic services in all 24 official EU languages. Enabling EU citizens to access documentation on the work of the EU in their mother tongue significantly reinforces the transparency and openness of the work of institutions, and thereby the link between citizens and the Union.

In 20 years, the Centre has translated close to 9 million pages for its 61 clients in 24 languages (552 language pairs); the launch in 2007 of the IATE database, open to the public, with 8.6 million terms covering the 24 EU languages: 41 million queries had been submitted to the free public version of IATE by 2015.

Agencies' contribution to improving international standards of citizens' protection

> **The agencies foster citizens' well-being by promoting EU standards abroad and encouraging EU partners to adopt similar measures. This reinforces the Union's standing as a strong global actor committed to the well-being of the world population. The agencies also make information available to consumers, which helps build trust and allows companies to better target their innovation.**

---

[36] The landing obligation laid down in the Common Fisheries Policy entails landing all catches of species subject to catch limits and minimum sizes made in EU waters or by Union fishing vessels.

The Union is committed to upholding its values in its relations with the world[37]. This entails promoting European standards with third countries and international organisations in the framework of trade agreements and international law. Trade partners and neighbouring countries with access to the internal market are encouraged to develop standards akin to that of the Union. In particular, the Union is leading the fight against global warming in that it pushes for the establishment of legally binding emission reduction and biodiversity protection targets. This diplomatic action is backed by state-of-the-art scientific data provided by the agencies.

ECDC, **ECHA**, **EMA**, **EFSA**, **EEA**, **EU-OSHA** and **Eurofound** collaborate closely with their counterparts abroad in order to share knowledge and improve international standards in the areas of sustainable development, food and product safety, communicable disease prevention, improved health, working conditions and social dialogue. They also constitute an expert voice for the Union in their field.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- Charter of Fundamental Rights
- Treaty on European Union
- "Working together for youth employment – From education to the workplace: a global challenge"", joint seminar, 30 June 2011
- 7th General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020
- **EMA** website: http://www.ema.europa.eu/, consulted on 18 August 2016

---

[37]   Treaty on European Union, Article 3.5.
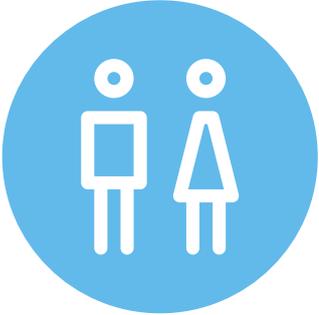
Skills and Education

Promoting the development of skills, training and education throughout life

The agencies dedicated to fostering skills and education contribute to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth through the development of learning and training for European citizens and citizens in neighbouring countries. Contributing agencies include Cedefop and ETF.

Working for citizens

The EU agencies dedicated to encouraging the development of learning and training opportunities contribute to an **optimal matching of skills to the evolving needs of the labour market.**

☑ Development of skills throughout life for employability

☑ Supporting the mobility of workers to match the labour market's needs

☑ Offering citizens increased learning and training opportunities
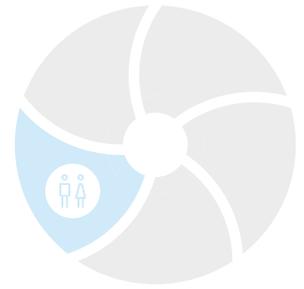
Background

> **Developing skills throughout life is paramount to reinforcing the employability and mobility of citizens across Europe and beyond.**

According to the Lisbon Treaty, the Union has the competence to support, complement or supplement the actions of the Member States in education and training.

As greater emphasis is placed on vocational education and training (VET) to improve employability, Member States work towards improving the alignment of VET provisions with labour market needs. This requires a better understanding of changing labour markets.

Agencies' contribution to jobs, growth and investment

> **Developing citizens' skills is key to boosting the productivity and competitiveness of the EU business environment.**

Cedefop and **ETF** help develop employability and skills in order to address the structural changes in the EU labour market and to empower citizens in Europe and beyond.

In the Union, **Cedefop** promotes skill development and progression opportunities throughout people's lives within the Union. It works on making training systems more flexible and qualifications more transparent to raise qualification levels, increase participation in lifelong learning and encourage mobility. It does so in particular by collecting evidence to help policy-makers revise common European VET priorities and supporting the creation of partnerships for apprenticeships.

ETF projects EU internal policies towards employability and skills and contextualises them to the development needs of neighbouring countries. Thereby it supports knowledge, business and innovation. It enhances trade, prosperity and stability in the Union and its neighbourhood. It also supports skills as a tool for economic growth and social development in partner countries.

By anticipating the impact of long-term trends such as demographic ageing and digitalisation on job creation and employment, and by monitoring existing practices in Member States, these agencies empower EU and national policy-makers and social partners to improve VET, social and work policies. This further stimulates job creation in the long term and reinforces well-functioning labour markets. The agencies therefore contribute to Inclusive Growth by promoting competitiveness and social inclusion within and outside the Union.

Agencies' contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal Market

> **By promoting the development of skills, the agencies support the mobility of workers and citizens within the internal market.**

The free movement of people is a pillar of the dynamism of the single market. **Cedefop** works on promoting mobility for learning and work, by increasing transparency of qualifications. It supports Member States and social partners in their cooperation on common priorities for VET and has contributed to developing tools which European citizens can use to enhance and demonstrate their qualifications in all Member States. For instance, 65 million Europeans have already used Europass, a portfolio of documents to show their knowledge, skills and competences in a standardised format available in 27 languages.

ETF supports the better use of skills in labour migration from and to the EU neighbouring countries. **Cedefop** also contributes to preparing the integration of refugees and asylum-seekers by helping policy-makers to ensure access to education and training or to the labour market.

To promote mobility for learning and work, Cedefop has helped develop Europass, a portfolio of documents that show someone's knowledge, skills and competences in a standard European format available in 27 languages. Since its launch in 2005, more than 65 million Europass CVs have been generated online.

Agencies' contribution to making the European Union a stronger global actor

The agencies foster citizens' well-being by promoting EU standards abroad and encouraging EU partners to adopt similar measures. This reinforces the Union's standing as a strong global actor committed to the well-being of the world population.

ETF directly contributes to the Union's external relations policy by assisting neighbouring countries in expanding their human capital through education, training and labour market reforms. Drawing on EU policies and instruments, ETF's work fosters the well-being of citizens beyond the borders of the Union.

The ETF created a set of migrant support measures from the employment and skills perspective (MISMES). The compendium comprises 300 case studies and demonstrates what works and what does not work in migration.

Cedefop collaborates closely with its counterparts abroad in order to mutualise knowledge and push for the upward convergence of international norms in the fields of sustainable development, product safety, communicable disease prevention, education, working conditions and social dialogue.

In this respect, agencies also constitute an expert voice for the Union in the international arena in their field, which reinforces its diplomatic presence.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- Helsinki Communiqué on Enhanced Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training
- Treaty on European Union
- Charter of Fundamental Rights
- European Commission Communication "A new impetus for European cooperation in vocational education and training to support the Europe 2020 strategy"
- "Working together for youth employment – From education to the workplace: a global challenge", joint seminar, 30 June 2011
- 7th General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020

Providing Security and Defence

Security and Defence agencies support the EU's external policy that strives to guarantee security for EU citizens and territory and promote peace within and beyond the EU's border, in order to increase prosperity and safeguard democracy.

*European Aviation Safety Agency **(EASA)***
*European Defence Agency **(EDA)***
*European Union Institute for Security Studies **(EUISS)***
*European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency **(GSA)***
*European Union Satellite Centre **(SatCen)***

Providing Security and Defence

Working together to promote peace in the world and provide security, democracy and prosperity to European citizens

EASA, EDA, the EUISS, GSA and SatCen contribute to the EU's external policy by strengthening its position as a global actor in the world. They also contribute to Smart and Sustainable Growth within Europe by fostering innovation and research, reinforcing the technological and industrial base of European defence, as well as energy efficiency and renewable energy in the defence and security sector.

Working for citizens

☑ Ensuring peace and security within the EU territory

☑ Promoting peace outside EU borders to reinforce prosperity and democracy

Background

> Pooling Member States' defence capabilities at EU level in order to improve interoperability and reduce costs has been on the European agenda for a long time. With the establishment of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in 2003, it became a reality.

The idea of creating a European defence is as old as the EU integration process: it was already suggested in 1950 in the form of a Europe Defence Community. The 1992 Treaty of Maastricht, further reinforced by the 1997 Treaty of Amsterdam, created the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), "which would deal with all questions relating to the security of the Union, including the eventual framing of a common defence policy, which might in time lead to a common defence"[38]. One year later, the December 1998 Franco-British Saint-Malo Declaration paved the way for a common European policy on security and defence which was launched at the 1999 European Council summit in Cologne. This initiative was strengthened when Member States agreed the Helsinki Headline Goal, and a set of military capability objectives to be completed by 2003. The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) became fully operational as from the European Council summit of December 2001.

In this context, three intergovernmental agencies that operate in the field of security and defence within the EU structure were created: the European Union Satellite Centre (**SatCen**) and the European Union Institute for Security Studies (**EUISS**) in 2002, and the European Defence Agency (**EDA**) in 2004.

Agencies' contribution to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor

> The Security and Defence agencies contribute to the development of the EU's security and defence resources. They carry out research in the field of security and defence and provide EU decision-makers with intelligence. They create a common security culture within the EU through the exchange of ideas and facilitate the development of cooperative military capability. This further reinforces the EU's standing as a global actor in the fields of security and defence. Each of the Security and Defence agencies focuses on specific objectives and activities to contribute to this goal.

SatCen supports EU decision-making in the field of common foreign and security policy, and in particular in defence and security policy. It provides, at the request of the Council or the High Representative, products and services resulting from the exploitation of relevant space assets and

"The European Union will promote peace and guarantee the security of its citizens and territory. This means that Europeans, working with partners, must have the necessary capabilities to defend themselves and live up to their commitments to mutual assistance and solidarity enshrined in the Treaties. Internal and external security are ever more intertwined: our security at home entails a parallel interest in peace in our neighbouring and surrounding regions. It implies a broader interest in preventing conflict, promoting human security, addressing the root causes of instability and working towards a safer world."[39]

Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, June 2016

---

[38] EDA, 10 years of working together, p. 11.
[39] Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy, June 2016, p. 14.

In 2015, SatCen delivered a total of 1,348 satellite imagery analyses, mainly to the EEAS, OSCE, Member States, Frontex and the OPCW-UN Joint Mission. The majority of analyses responded to general security surveillance tasks, followed by support to crisis management and arms control.

collateral data. These include satellite and aerial imagery, and related services. The agency also provides decision-makers with early warning of potential crises so that a diplomatic, economic and humanitarian response can be formulated in a timely manner.

SatCen produces satellite and aerial imagery analysis and intelligence for different stakeholders. The European External Action Service, the European Commission, EU Member States, **Frontex** and international organisations such as the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), NATO or the United Nations all make use of **SatCen**'s imagery analysis and intelligence. **SatCen** provides different types of reports ranging

from brief descriptions for fast response requirements to detailed studies related to topics such as humanitarian aid, contingency planning, general crime and security surveillance, critical infrastructure, military capabilities and weapons of mass destruction.

The **EUISS** fosters a common security culture in the EU. To this end, it publishes extensive documentation and organises events and task forces. In this way, it supports the elaboration and projection of EU foreign policy and enriches the strategic debate on security inside and outside Europe. The EUISS is the interface between experts and decision-makers on a large panel of security-related topics, focused on specific regions or policies.

EDA (European Defence Agency) supports the Council and Member States in their efforts to improve European defence capabilities for the CSDP, especially by promoting defence research, armament cooperation, the development of cooperative military capabilities and joint procurement. It seeks to increase cooperation and interoperability between Member States as well as to harmonise their operational needs, so that Europe can act as an efficient security provider at home and abroad. Some of **EDA**'s key capability development programmes include air-to-air refuelling (AAR), remotely

piloted aircraft systems, cyberdefence and governmental satellite communications.

SatCen and **EDA** collaborate with the EUISS on joint studies related to the topics and policies under their responsibility. They also participate in conferences and seminars organised by the **EUISS**.

SatCen and **EDA** have been working together since 2004 on several projects that require geospatial information for defence purposes. These projects include GISMO (Geospatial Information to Support Decision Making in Operations), GISMO 2 and SULTAN (Persistent Surveillance Long Term Analysis). **EDA** and **SatCen** also collaborate on other topics and programmes such as the Space Situational Awareness programme, maritime surveillance, Big Data exploitation in the space and security domain, future space-based earth observation systems, cyberdefence, imagery exploitation and geospatial analysis and applications.

Although **EASA**'s main missions concern civil aviation, its role in supporting the military and defence industry in the field of aviation safety is increasingly important.

"A sustainable, innovative and competitive European defence industry is essential for Europe's strategic autonomy and for a credible CSDP." [40]

Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, June 2016

[40] Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy, June 2016, p. 45.

It works in particular on topics such as the risks of flying over conflict zones and cybersecurity.

Through its contribution to the development of the only GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) programme under civilian control in the world, Galileo, **GSA** guarantees Europe's autonomy. Its technology applications enable it to play a larger role in global disaster relief and development projects. Moreover, through the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre, **GSA** plays an important role in averting threats to the security of the Union and Member States and mitigating serious harm arising from the deployment, operation or use of the European GNSS. **GSA** also includes an autonomous body, the Security Accreditation Board, which takes accreditation decisions for it two satellite navigation programmes, Galileo and EGNOS. Finally, **GSA** plays a key role in ensuring the security and coordination of public regulated services. These are used in Member States for sensitive applications requiring effective access control and a high level of service continuity, even in crisis situations.

Agencies' contribution to innovation and a more competitive internal market

> **The Security and Defence agencies also contribute to innovation in the fields of security and defence. They support research projects, especially for SMEs.**

EDA stimulates innovation in the European defence industry, which has been under severe financial strain in recent years. It promotes dual-use research and technologies (i.e. both civil and military) in the fields of security and defence. **EDA** manages many research programmes and projects, and in this way, enables cooperation and synergies for Member States. Moreover, **EDA** reinforces the European defence technological and industrial base. For example, it supports SMEs that set up research projects to get access to European Structural and Investment Funds.

Moreover, in the context of Horizon 2020, **SatCen i**s participating in the BigDataEurope project, and in particular in the Big Data in Secure Societies programme. This programme aims at assessing tools that help to manage extremely large and complex datasets in a timely and efficient manner.

With the aim of exploiting synergies between the civil and military worlds, **EASA** collaborates with **EDA** and other institutions active in the military domain to address the defence and security challenges for aviation safety. Civil and military aircraft operate from the same airports and use the same airspace. Moreover, a very important part of military (transport) aircraft design can be shared with civil aircraft. **EASA** certifies the civil configuration of military or dual-use products (planes, tankers, helicopters and drones), hence contributing to the growth and competitiveness of the European defence sector.

Support for dual-use SMEs

To promote greater innovation across the defence industry in Europe, the European Defence Agency (EDA) facilitates dual-use companies' access to European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), especially for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Since 2013, the EDA has been raising awareness of EU funding opportunities by delivering ESIF workshops, seminars and training in many Member States. To date, about 1,300 defence-related experts from Ministries of Defence, SMEs, universities, research and technology organisations, etc. have benefitted from them. The EDA's "Guidelines for facilitating SMEs' access to the defence market", revised in May 2015, provides recommendations to Member States on how to improve access by defence-related SMEs to information, defence procurement, supply chains and finance.

Agencies' contribution to a cleaner and more efficient energy union

The Security and Defence agencies play a role in reducing and greening the EU's energy consumption. They support research programmes aimed at developing energy efficiency and sustainable energy in Europe.

EDA launched a cross-cutting energy and environment programme that spans the capability, armaments and research and technology aspects. It focuses on energy efficiency, sustainable energy and alternative energy sources, among other topics. For instance, it tackles the issue of the reduction of fuel and energy consumption by deployed military forces, and works towards the development of alternative energy facilities at military sites. It also aims at assessing the impact of new technologies and future energy policies on defence capability and design strategies in consequence. Together with the European Commission, it organises the Consultation Forum on sustainable energy in the defence and security sector.

Please refer to the Annexes for more information on each agency's individual contribution and actions towards Europe 2020 objectives and Juncker Commission priorities.

Sources
- EDA's website, www.eda.europa.eu, consulted on 29 August 2016
- EDA Annual Report 2015
- EDA's brochure "Together for a stronger Europe"
- Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy, June 2016
- EDA, 10 years of working together
- **SatCen**'s website, www.satcen.europa.eu, consulted on 29 August 2016
- **SatCen** Annual Report 2015, consulted on 29 August 2016
- EUISS's website, www.iss.europa.eu
- The EUISS Annual Report 2015
- Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy, June 2016
- Defence and Security Challenges for Aviation Safety, presented by Patrick Ky, EASA Executive Director, to the EP SEDE Sub-Committee Meeting on 13/07/2016 (Brussels).
- Decision No 1104/2011/EU
- Regulation (EU) 512/2014
- Council Decision 2014/496/CFSP

Key takeaways

Building on their expertise in a wide range of areas, the agencies support the European Institutions as they make decisions and implement policies. The decentralisation of tasks to agencies targets increasing the efficiency of the European Union, but also brings Europe closer to citizens in many Member States. As decisions in more and more policy fields are taken and implemented by the Union, agencies play an important role in many aspects of the everyday life of citizens. These include food, medicine and chemical safety, education and knowledge, work environments, justice and fundamental rights, transport and security.

For the past four decades, EU Agencies have supported the work of the European Institutions and Member States. In 20 years, the number of EU agencies, bodies and offices has gone from 10 in 1995 to 44 in 2016. A growing number of specialised tasks has been decentralised from the core of European Institutions to bodies located across the European Union.

The Union has gone through crises of various natures – financial and economic, migratory, internal and external security. In the face of these crises, agencies have been flexible and adaptive to ever-changing circumstances, participating in their resolution. They have focused on delivering value and tangible benefits for European citizens and businesses.

The agencies are instrumental in bringing to life the fundamental objectives of the Union underlined in the Lisbon Treaty, namely:

- Promoting peace and the well-being of citizens in Europe;
- Building and sustaining an area of freedom, security and justice;
- Establishing an efficient and sustainable internal market;
- Establishing an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro;
- Upholding and promoting the Union's values in its relations with the wider world.

Their actions for the implementation of these objectives enhance the well-being of citizens and the competitiveness of the Union.

This report demonstrates how agencies contribute to the Europe 2020 Agenda and the Juncker Commission Agenda by highlighting nine areas in which they positively impact various aspects of citizens' everyday lives.

In the field of **freedom, security and justice**, agencies contribute to ensuring the free movement of people within the Schengen area, guaranteeing a high level of security to citizens within that area by enhancing police and judicial cooperation, managing external borders, migration flows and asylum, and promoting fundamental rights.

When it comes to the **supervision of financial systems**, agencies work towards strengthening consumer protection through more integrated European supervision and regulation of financial systems.

Moreover, agencies create incentives for investment and **innovation** in Europe. Their activities include developing skills, setting up collaborative research projects, facilitating the market entry of innovative products and services and protecting intellectual property rights.

They ensure safe, efficient and effective **transport** of people and goods in Europe, as well as the supply of affordable and environmentally friendly **energy** for citizens and businesses.

They support EU businesses and innovation through **digital connectivity** by participating in the completion of a connected Digital Single Market.

Agencies also focus on **protecting citizens** in all their social and economic activities, as well as the environment. They work towards ensuring that Europeans are protected from unsafe products and communicable diseases, and that sustainable development practices counter the effects of climate change, and promote a fair working environment in all Member States.

They strive for the development of **skills and education** to better match the evolving needs of the labour market.

Finally, agencies support the Union's external policy that strives to guarantee the **defence and security** of EU citizens and territory and promote peace within and beyond the EU's borders, in order to increase prosperity and safeguard democracy.

And the action of agencies also has an external dimension as they encourage the development of international standards, thereby bringing value to the rest of the world in addition.

Agencies operate in a dynamic environment. They are ready to adapt to the Union's evolving objectives. They are already working towards the new goals highlighted by Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in the 2016 State of the Union address, in particular the preservation of the European way of life and the empowerment and defence of citizens[41]. Their missions and actions are fully in line with the Union's 2017 budget focus on growth, jobs and addressing migration and its root causes.

---

41   State of the Union 2016 by Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, 14 September 2016.
42   ACER Communication Strategy 2014-2015, p. 4.

EU agencies are ready to face the future.

Ensuring an **area of freedom, security and justice** through the free movement of people, enhanced police and judicial cooperation, managed external borders, migration flows and asylum, and the promotion of fundamental rights

Creating incentives for investment and innovation through the development of skills, collaborative research projects, facilitated market entry of innovative products and services and protection of intellectual property rights

Supervising and regulating financial systems to strengthen consumers' protection

Ensuring the safe, efficient and effective **transport** of people and goods in Europe

Ensuring the supply of affordable and environmentally friendly **energy** for citizens and businesses
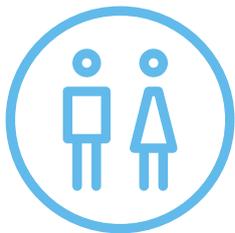
Protecting citizens, consumers, workers and the **environment**

Enhancing **digital connectivity** through the completion of a connected Digital Single Market

Guaranteeing the defence and security of EU citizens and territory and promoting peace within and beyond the EU's borders

Developing **skills and education**

Annexes

Individual contribution of the EU agencies and other bodies:

- Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators **(ACER)**
- Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking **(BBI JU)**
- Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications **(BEREC Office)**
- Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union **(CdT)**
- European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training **(Cedefop)**
- European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training **(CEPOL)**
- Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking **(Clean Sky 2 JU)**
- Community Plant Variety Office **(CPVO)**
- European Aviation Safety Agency **(EASA)**
- European Asylum Support Office **(EASO)**
- European Banking Authority **(EBA)**
- European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training **(ECDC)**
- European Chemicals Agency **(ECHA)**

- European Defence Agency **(EDA)**
- European Environment Agency **(EEA)**
- European Fisheries Control Agency **(EFCA)**
- European Food Safety Authority **(EFSA)**
- European Institute for Gender Equality **(EIGE)**
- European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority **(EIOPA)**
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology **(EIT)**
- European Medicines Agency **(EMA)**
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction **(EMCDDA)**
- European Maritime Safety Agency **(EMSA)**
- European Union Agency for Network and Information Security **(ENISA)**
- European Union Agency for Railways **(ERA)**
- European Securities and Markets Authority **(ESMA)**
- European Training Foundation **(ETF)**
- European Union Intellectual Property Office **(EUIPO)**
- European Union Institute for Security Studies **(EUISS)**

- European Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice **(eu-LISA)**
- European Agency for Safety and Health at Work **(EU-OSHA)**
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions **(Eurofound)**
- The European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit **(Eurojust)**
- European Police Office **(Europol)**
- European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Developemnt of Fusion for Energy **(F4E)**
- Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking **(FCH JU)**
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights **(FRA)**
- Euroepan Border and Coast Guard Agency **(Frontex)**
- European GNSS Agency **(GSA)**
- Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking **(IMI 2 JU)**
- Euroepan Union Satellite Centre **(SatCen)**
- SESAR Joint Undertaking **(SESAR JU)**
- Shift2Rail Joint Undetaking **(S2R JU)**
- Single Resolution Board **(SRB)**

ACER
Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators

ACER contributes to Sustawinable Growth via its actions towards an efficient functioning of the Single Market by working towards the completion of the Internal Energy Market, tackling the infrastructure challenges, monitoring wholesale energy markets, and dealing with longer-term regulatory challenges. Through its work, ACER contributes to an efficient, transparent, competitive and sustainable Internal Energy Market.

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2011
- **Location:** Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Staff:** 92 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **ACER's mission is to "work towards the completion of the EU internal energy market for electricity and natural gas by complementing and coordinating the work of national energy regulators at EU level"[42].**

Background
ACER was created in 2011 in order to support the completion of the Internal Energy Market, hence filling the regulatory gaps inherent to the national competences of the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs). Initially, the Agency contributed to the development of common market and network operation rules and to the development of the European energy networks. At the same time, the Agency started coordinating and supporting the Electricity and Gas Regional Initiatives in order to accelerate the integration of energy markets into a single market. As from 2012, the Agency began to monitor the Internal Energy Market.

Following the publication of different legislative acts (see examples in the paragraphs below), ACER's mandate has continued to be revised in the last years and its tasks and responsibilities are still expected to evolve to meet the future challenges of the energy market. In order to fulfil its mission, ACER currently focuses on four strategic areas.

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the Internal Market
ACER works towards the completion of a competitive and transparent internal market for electricity and natural gas that will benefit consumers by offering them more choice, fair cost-reflective prices and the security of energy supply. This is mainly achieved through the Agency's action in the following two areas.

1. (Post-) Completion of the Internal Energy Market
The Council of the EU declared in 2011 that the Internal Energy Market should be completed by 2014. This objective has advanced significantly but some progress is still needed. Being one of the core priorities of the agency, ACER has contributed substantively to this aim and still continues on its track by working towards the development and adoption of Network Codes and Guidelines (aiming at the harmonisation of the rules for the cross-border exchange of electricity). Through its activity, ACER also collaborates with the different NRAs.

Another activity within this area of action is the monitoring of the Internal Energy Market to identify the needs for regulatory interventions. Moreover, ACER publishes the Annual Market Monitoring Report which comprises all relevant developments in the EU's gas and electricity markets.

"In 2015, progress toward completing the Internal Energy Market (IEM) has continued apace. Together the Agency and the national regulators (NRAs) have made significant advances in developing and implementing the Network Codes; contributed to the promotion of essential energy infrastructure; and taken a giant leap towards ensuring the transparency and integrity of wholesale energy markets. All this is good news for consumers who stand to benefit substantially from a well-functioning IEM."[43]

Lord Mogg, Chair of ACER's Board of

Regulators should be completed by 2014. This objective has advanced significantly but some progress is still needed. Being one of the core priorities of the agency, ACER has contributed substantively to this aim and still continues on its track by working towards the development and adoption of Network Codes and Guidelines (aiming at the harmonisation of the rules for the cross-border exchange of electricity). Through its activity, ACER also collaborates with the different NRAs.

Another activity within this area of action is the monitoring of the Internal Energy Market to identify the needs for regulatory interventions. Moreover, ACER publishes the Annual Market Monitoring Report which comprises all relevant developments in the EU's gas and electricity markets.

2. Wholesale energy market integrity and transparency
ACER contributes to the implementation of the Regulation on Wholesale Energy

Market Integrity and Transparency (REMIT), which aims at a well-functioning European energy market in which energy is traded with transparency and integrity, i.e. where prices reflect the balance between supply and demand. REMIT also includes some provisions on trade and fundamental data reporting, which provides ACER with the necessary information to monitor and detect market manipulation, market abuse and insider trading. Abusive practices are notified to NRAs for further investigation.

This work also contributes to the security of energy supply which is also a crucial aspect of the European Commission's Energy Union priority.

Contribution to an energy Union and climate change
3. The infrastructure challenge
ACER works in the framework of the Trans-European Energy Infrastructure (TEN-E) Regulation that aims at the development of critical energy infrastructures for example through Projects of Common Interest (PCIs), which also contribute to a more integrated European energy market.

ACER is engaged in energy network development projects with the purpose of "removing 'energy islands', i.e. better connecting those EU regions whose systems have limited interconnection capacity with the rest of the Union"[44]. ACER identifies potential PCIs through cost-benefit analyses and can decide on investment requests and cross-border cost allocation of PCIs.

As such, ACER supports the development of a cost-efficient network that prevents bottlenecks due to physical congestion at interconnection points on the transmission systems, hence improving energy security and enhancing sustainability.

4. Future challenges (including the integration of renewable energy source)
ACER works towards the future of energy networks, one of the challenges of which will be the integration and greater penetration of renewable energy sources. Those changes will help to reach EU climate targets but may require specific regulatory responses.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
ACER is collaborating with **ESMA** for the activity of monitoring energy markets for abusive behaviour and insider trading. It is

also collaborating with third countries whose energy networks are connected with the EU's network (e.g. Switzerland, Norway).

Moreover, relevant EU regulations and ACER's work also impact the jurisdiction of Contracting Parties of the Energy Community, which are non-EU countries.[45]

The Early Voluntary Implementation Process

In 2006 the European Energy Regulators launched the Electricity and Gas Regional Initiatives to promote regional cooperation and accelerate the implementation of the Internal Energy Market. It consisted in the voluntary implementation of the Network Codes and Guidelines provisions, still in the rule-making process, so that it could benefit the energy consumers before that the rules for cross-border exchange of energy became binding. As from its creation in 2011, ACER took over the coordination and supporting role in this process. This strategy was particularly successful in the case of electricity day-ahead market and in the allocation of capacity on cross-border gas interconnectors. When a few Network Codes and Guidelines entered into force at the end of 2014, the progress achieved by the early implementation process made it possible to claim that the Internal Energy Market was substantially completed in several areas.

Sources
- ACER Annual Activity Report for the year 2015
- ACER Communication Strategy 2014-2015
- ACER Work Programme 2016 -Revised Jan 2016
- ACER Market Monitoring Report 2015
- Regional Initiatives Status Review Report 2015

---

[43]   ACER Annual Activity Report for the year 2015, p. 9.
[44]   ACER Work Programme 2016 – Revised Jan 2016, p. 17.
[45]   Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

BBI JU
Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking

BBI JU is a public-private partnership (PPP) dedicated to developing a sustainable European bio-based industry. It contributes to Smart and Inclusive Growth in Europe by fostering innovation, competitiveness and job creation in rural areas. It also works towards ensuring Sustainable Growth through the development of a clean source of energy in the context of the transition towards a petroleum-free society.

BBI JU

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION — EUROPE IN THE WORLD

SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION: INNOVATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING | DIGITAL SOCIETY | COMPETITIVE-NESS | CLIMATE CHANGE | CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY | FIGHTING POVERTY | SKILLS | EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES: JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT | ENERGY UNION & CLIMATE CHANGE

BBI JU's Strategic Objectives:
- Demonstrate technologies that enable new chemicals, materials and consumer products from European biomass, which replace the need for fossil-based inputs
- Develop business models that integrate economic actors along the value chain
- Set-up flagship biorefinery plants that deploy the technologies and business models for bio-based materials, chemicals and fuels and are competitive with fossil based alternatives

BBI JU's Strategic Activities:
- Value chain demonstration projects
- R&D projects focused on filling the gaps in technological innovations
- Value chains supporting projects addressing cross-cultural challenges

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking
- **Foundation year:** 2014
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 21 FTEs (AWP 2016)

The BBI JU is a €3.7 billion PPP between the Union and the Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC), a non-profit organisation which represents the industry group that supports the BBI JU initiative. Its members include European small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), regional clusters, trade associations and industry-led stakeholder fora (European Technology Platforms) involved in the bio-based industry. The PPP's mission is to increase investment for the development of sustainable and competitive European bio-based industry and value chains. EU funds amount to €975 million within the Horizon 2020 research programme, while private investments represent €2.7 billion.

Background
The European Commission has highlighted the importance of bio-based industries and value chains both for the transition towards a sustainable, post-petroleum society[46] and for European competitiveness[47]. These goals coincide with the Lisbon Treaty objectives of sustainable development, environment protection and scientific advance, as well as territorial cohesion[48]. Europe 2020's Innovation Union flagship initiative encompasses these considerations by setting to improve framework conditions for research and innovation in Europe. To this end, the BBI JU Initiative carried out by the Joint Undertaking is aiming to develop the emerging use of biomass for industrial and energy purposes in line with the imperatives of food security, natural resources scarcity and environment protection. The growth of this nascent sector is stalled by the dispersion of technical competences and the lack of public data on the availability of renewable biological resources for the production of bio-based materials, which is necessary for the establishment of competitive value chains in Europe. Contribution to jobs, growth and investment The BBI JU focuses on addressing the technology and innovation challenges faced by the nascent bio-based industry and its value chains. In particular, the lack of publicly-available information on the availability of biomass supply for bio-based industries creates uncertainty and thus deters private investment in research, demonstration and deployment activities in Europe.

"A strong European bio-based industrial sector will significantly reduce Europe's dependency on fossil-based based products, moving Europe more quickly towards the many socio-economic benefits of a post-petroleum society."[49]

Philippe Mengal, Executive Director

46. Commission Communication, "Innovating for Sustainable Growth: A Bioeconomy for Europe".
47. Commission Communication, "A Stronger European Industry for Growth and Economic Recovery".
48. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.
49. BBI JU 2016 Call for proposals, p.3.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment

The BBI JU focuses on addressing the technology and innovation challenges faced by the nascent bio-based industry and its value chains. In particular, the lack of publicly-available information on the availability of biomass supply for bio-based industries creates uncertainty and thus deters private investment in research, demonstration and deployment activities in Europe.

The BBI JU implements research and innovation activities to mitigate risks and support the development of sustainable bio-based value chains, with the collaboration of all the value chain stakeholders, i.e. primary production and processing industries, consumer brands, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), research and technology centres and universities.

"A strong European bio-based industrial sector will significantly reduce Europe's dependency on fossil-based based products, moving Europe more quickly towards the many socio-economic benefits of a post-petroleum society."

Philippe Mengal, Executive Director

By allowing the potential of the European bio-based sector to unfold, the BBI JU contributes to high-skilled jobs creation, especially in Europe's rural and underdeveloped areas, and significant increases in farmers' incomes, a driver of Inclusive Growth in the long term. It participates in the re-industrialisation of the EU economy through the development of bio-based products which benefit consumers, farmers and diversify industries' revenue streams.

It also enables Europe to be at the forefront of research on the bio-economy and fosters Smart Growth based on an innovative use of resources, thereby boosting European companies' competitiveness in line with the EU Innovation Union flagship initiative.

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

The BBI JU supports the development of an industry which turns waste, agriculture and forestry residues into greener everyday products through innovative, waste-free technologies. Its actions are therefore instrumental in achieving Europe's sustainable development goals. In particular, it participates in the achievement of the 2030 targets of replacing at least 30% of oil-based chemicals and materials with bio-based and degradable ones, and of meeting Europe's transport energy needs with advanced biofuels, while optimising land use and food security.

The BBI JU Initiative plays a key role in the transition towards a petroleum-free society, increasing resource efficiency and limiting the environmental impact of economic growth. It thus actively works towards achieving Sustainable Growth in Europe.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The BBI JU collaborates closely with other EU programmes in a wide range of areas, including environment, competitiveness and SMEs. It also works with Cohesion Policy funds and Rural Development Policy towards strengthening regional and national research and innovation capabilities in the framework of specialised strategies.

Sources
- Treaty on European Union
- Commission Communication "Innovating for Sustainable growth: A Bioeconomy for Europe"
- Commission Communication "A Stronger European Industry for Growth and Economic Recovery"
- Council Regulation (EU) 560/2014
- BBI JU Factsheet
- BBI JU Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda
- Combining BBI (H2020) and European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) to deploy the European Bioeconomy
- BBI JU 2016 Call for proposals
- BBI JU Work Plan 2016

Fostering regional growth in Europe through multipurpose biorefineries

The 2014 FIRST2RUN project, which received a €17 million EU contribution, demonstrates the technological, economic and environmental sustainability at an industrial scale:
- transforming under-utilised crops like cardoon (a typical thistle growing wild in Sardinia) into chemical building blocks to be turned into biolubricants, cosmetics and bioplastics;
- processing them in different ways (chemical, biochemical, thermochemical);
- creating value from by- and co-products for energy, feed products and added value chemicals.

The impact will be to revitalise the local economy by reconverting old industrial sites and the creation of skilled jobs: estimated 60 new skilled jobs every kiloton of produced bioplastics across the whole value chain.

BEREC Office
Office of the Body of European Regulator for Electronic Communications

The BEREC Office assists BEREC in achieving its contribution towards Smart and Sustainable Growth. BEREC enables an efficiently functioning Internal Market by promoting competition and investment, fostering the internal market, as well as empowering and protecting end-users.

BEREC and the BEREC Office

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION		EUROPE IN THE WORLD	
		SINGLE MARKET	
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION / EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING / DIGITAL SOCIETY / COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE / CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY / FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS / EMPLOYMENT
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT / DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET / INTERNAL MARKET		
BEREC's Strategic Objectives	Promoting competition and investment	Promoting the internal market	Empowering and protecting end-users
BEREC's Strategic Activities	Promoting competition / Fostering a favourable climate for investment / Supporting innovation	Supporting convergence / Taking down barriers	Promoting end-user choice, accessibility and affordability / Safeguarding an open internet / Promoting end-user protection online

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2010
- **Location:** Riga, Latvia
- **Staff:** 27 FTEs (AWP 2016)

Background
Regulation (EC) No 1211/2009 established two different bodies: BEREC and BEREC Office.

BEREC is a body without legal personality, composed of the Board of Regulators which brings together representatives of National Regulatory Authorities (NRA) of the EU Member States responsible for the regulation of electronic communications. BEREC strives to enhance the internal market for electronic communications and network services. BEREC's mission is to "[ensure] the independent, consistent, and high-quality application of the European regulatory framework for electronic communications markets for the benefit of Europe and its citizens"[50].

The BEREC Office is a decentralised agency of the EU. Its mandate is to provide professional and administrative support services to BEREC. The mission of the BEREC Office is to "provide superior professional support to BEREC by assisting it in an efficient, proactive and timely manner in the achievement of its objectives, and thus contributing to the development of the electronic communications market for the benefit of Europe and its citizens"[51]. In this respect, the BEREC Office's main objectives are[52] to:

- maintain appropriate capacity while taking into account the effects of technology and market developments;
- develop expertise to encompass EU regulatory developments;
- assist BEREC to improve its working methods and quality of output.

The BEREC Office is responsible for:
- establishing the BEREC Expert Working Groups (EWGs) and supporting their activities;
- best practices and information collection, exchange and dissemination among NRAs;
- for providing assistance to the Board of Regulators, its preparatory bodies and to the BEREC Chair and Vice-Chairs and;
- for ensuring the internal and external transparency and accountability of BEREC's activities.

As highlighted by their mission statements, BEREC and BEREC Office both contribute in the same way to the EU 2020 Strategy and the European Commission priorities since the one is supporting the activities of the other.

50. BEREC Strategy 2015-2017, p. 2.
51. Annual and Multiannual Programming of the BEREC Office Activities 2017-2019, p. 7.
52. Annual and Multiannual Programming of the BEREC Office Activities 2017-2019, p. 12-13.

Contribution to innovation and competitiveness

A competitive European telecom market enhances European economy and fuels innovation. Two of BEREC's strategic priorities are "promoting competition and investment" and "empowering and protecting end-users". BEREC and the NRAs focus on creating the right (effective and consistent) regulatory environment in order to promote competition and foster investment and innovation. In the last year, the market has shown increasing convergence and consolidation through important mergers and acquisitions, as well as through the growing presence of bundle offers. As such, BEREC monitors the market to avoid the appearance of oligopolies that would impede competitiveness.

Telecommunications is a dynamic sector that has required the development of an intricate web of regulatory measures and rules. While insuring that the market is not distorted, this regulatory framework must also be stable and create incentives for investment in new technologies. BEREC takes a forward-looking and technologically neutral point of view when considering regulations for new business models and technologies.

Regulatory intervention is also necessary to protect citizens' benefits. BEREC and the NRAs ensure that end-users have the necessary information to make sound choices between telecom products. They also make sure that end-users can benefit from the ease of switching between operators, so that they access offers that meet their needs. This behaviour is indeed important to foster competitiveness. As such, regulators promote consumer's choice, accessibility and affordability. Moreover, BEREC and the NRAs want to make sure that end-users benefit from an open internet and that the quality of the telecommunication services is safeguarded.

Finally, BEREC is concerned with end-users protection (including e.g. data privacy, internet security and content regulation) and seek collaboration with other bodies where appropriate to achieve this aim.

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the Internal Market and to a Digital Society

BEREC's third strategic priority relates to the fostering of the internal market. To that effect BEREC's objective is to complete the digital single market so that European businesses and citizens, whatever their location, can benefit from a minimum level of services and access pan-European services. In this respect, BEREC supports the convergence of IP network technologies.

In order to achieve this objective, it is important for BEREC and NRAs to develop a consistent regulatory approach based on fair and transparent processes throughout Europe. Moreover, BEREC aims at removing barriers to cross-border provision of telecommunication services. Cross-border issues falling under BEREC's mandate include a common European approach to consumer protection, to net neutrality[53] and to international mobile roaming.

Cooperation with agencies and other bodies

The BEREC Office is collaborating with **ENISA** in the field of the implementation of the internal control standards, ex-post controls and business continuity and with eu-LISA on data protection matters.

BEREC's work on Network Neutrality

In 2016 BEREC launched a public consultation on guidelines of the implementation of the new EU rules on Network Neutrality. These guidelines will govern the future use of internet and they are of paramount importance for both the telecommunications industry and the citizens of Europe. During this public consultation the BEREC Office has received and process an unprecedented number of almost half a million contributions. The report prepared by the BEREC Office that summarises the opinions expressed during the public consultation has been used in the finalisation of the guidelines on Network Neutrality.

Sources
- BEREC strategy 2015 - 2017
- BEREC Work Programme 2016
- BEREC Annual Report 2015
- Annual and Multiannual Programming of the BEREC Office Activities 2017-2019
- BEREC Office Work Programme 2016
- BEREC Office Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015

---

53. Net neutrality refers to the equal treatment by Internet Service Providers of data from providers of content, applications or services that is transferred through their network on the request of end-users.

CdT
Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union

The CdT (Centre de traduction) is the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union. It contributes to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe by facilitating transparency in governance and fair access to documentation in all EU citizens' languages, and ensuring citizens' involvement in the work of the Union, acting as a support agency.
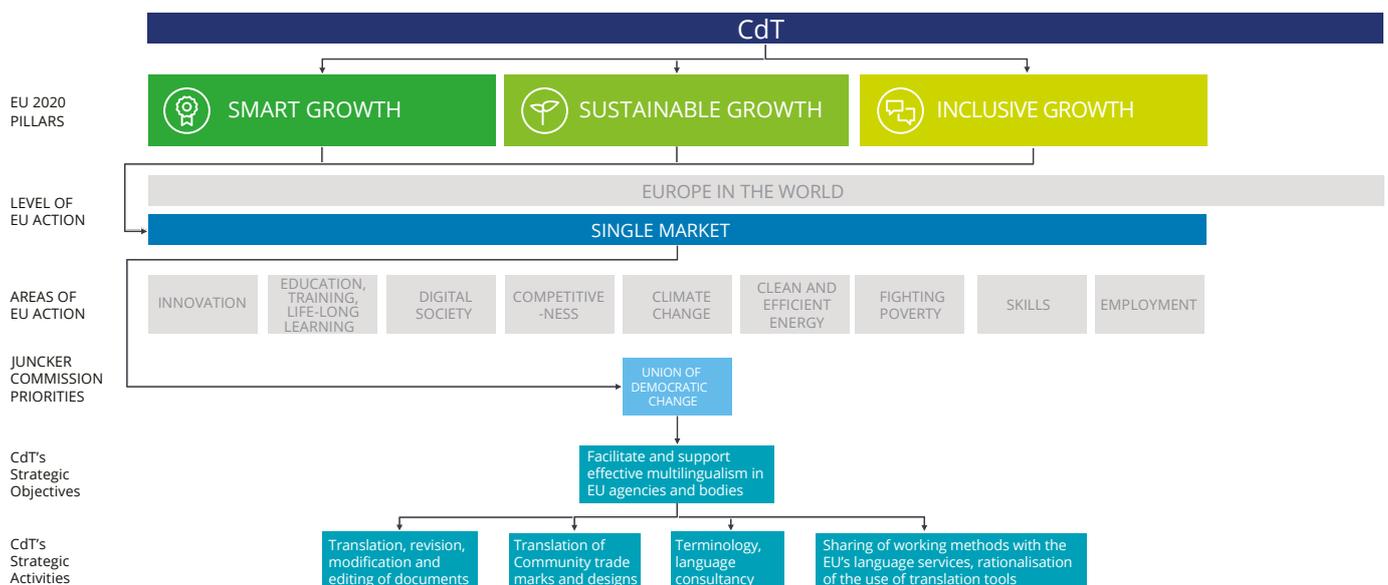
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1994
- **Location:** Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- **Staff:** 197 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> The Translation Centre's mission is to "provide translations and related language services to EU agencies and bodies according to agreed quality criteria, deadlines and prices. In addition, the Translation Centre aims to contribute to rationalising the use of resources and harmonising procedures in the field of EU translation through interinstitutional cooperation" [54].

Background
The Translation Centre was established as a shared service provider for the EU agencies and bodies in order to meet their language needs, in addition to absorbing surplus work of the EU institutions which have their own translation services. With the successive enlargements of the European Union, which increased the number of EU official languages to 24, each EU citizen is entitled to access documents of the EU institutions, agencies and bodies in his or her language.[55]

This fundamental right aims at promoting good governance in the Union by ensuring the transparency and openness of its work and by triggering the participation of civil society in the democratic process. The translation of official documents is therefore all the more important since the Union is committed to respecting its cultural and linguistic diversity.[56]

Contribution to a Union of Democratic Change
As the shared service provider of language services for the EU agencies and bodies, the Translation Centre contributes to the European Commission's priority of making the European Union a Union of democratic change. In fulfilling its mandate, the Translation Centre facilitates effective multilingualism in the Union by playing its role in partnership with its clients in ensuring access by EU citizens to information in the various EU official languages.

> "During [the first 20 years of its existence], the Centre delivered almost 9 million pages to its 61 clients, thus playing a key role in facilitating and supporting effective multilingualism in the European Union." [57]
>
> **Máire Killoran, Director**

54. CdT Strategy 2016-2018 Moving forward, p.3.
55. Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 15.
56. Treaty on the European Union, Article 3.3.
57. Highlights of the year 2015, p.4.

As the shared service provider of language services for EU agencies and bodies, the Translation Centre was established in order to achieve economies of scale, centralise the costs of outsourcing and avoid the proliferation of mini-translation services in various EU agencies. The centralisation of the provision of translation services for the EU agencies and bodies in the Translation Centre is a cost-efficient solution designed by the EU legislator in order to ensure efficient use of taxpayers' money.

The Translation Centre provides a broad range of language services to the EU institutions, agencies and bodies in the 24 EU official languages (552 language pairs), as well as in various non-EU languages. Its activities include the translation of EU trade marks and designs for the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

In addition, the Translation Centre participates in interinstitutional cooperation between the EU translation services in order to streamline resources and standardise procedures, in line with the latest technological developments, resulting in substantial savings in translation at EU level.

Not only does the Translation Centre support the work of EU institutions, bodies and agencies, but it also contributes to making EU policies, communications and reports available to all EU citizens. It promotes multilingualism in the EU by offering its linguistic services in all 24 EU official languages. Enabling EU citizens to access documentation on the work of the EU in their mother tongue significantly reinforces the transparency and openness of the work of institutions, and thereby the link between citizens and the EU. This is paramount to achieving a Union of Democratic Change.

IATE: A success story in the field of interinstitutional cooperation

By catering for the diverse multilingual communication needs of the EU agencies and bodies, as well as for the specific needs of the EU institutions, the Translation Centre contributes to bringing the EU and its numerous fields of activity closer to EU citizens.
One of the most striking achievements of interinstitutional cooperation was the launch by the Translation Centre of the IATE project (Inter-Active Terminology for Europe) in 2003.
The IATE terminology database has been open to the public since 2007 and brings together the terminological resources of all the EU translation services. The Translation Centre manages this large-scale project on behalf of its EU institutional partners.
With 8.6 million terms covering the 24 official languages of the Union, this database is a highly popular resource not only for translators but also for any citizen who has questions about terms used in EU legislation and publications.
In 2015, 41 million queries were submitted to the public version of IATE, which is accessible free of charge at http://iate.europa.eu.

Sources
- Council Regulation (EC) No 2965/94
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1645/03
- Council Regulation (EC) No 2610/95
- Treaty on European Union
- Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
- CdT Work Programme 2016
- CdT strategy 016 – 2018
- CdT Highlights of the year 2015
- http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/translating/officiallanguages/index_en.htm, consulted on 29 August 2016

Cedefop
European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

Cedefop is dedicated to supporting the development of European vocational education and training (VET) policies and contributing to their implementation. Cedefop is a leading actor in many European initiatives to modernise VET to respond effectively to changing skill needs in order to improve employability, address inequality, increase productivity, raise the labour market participation of a shrinking and ageing labour force and develop the green economy. It thus supports Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.
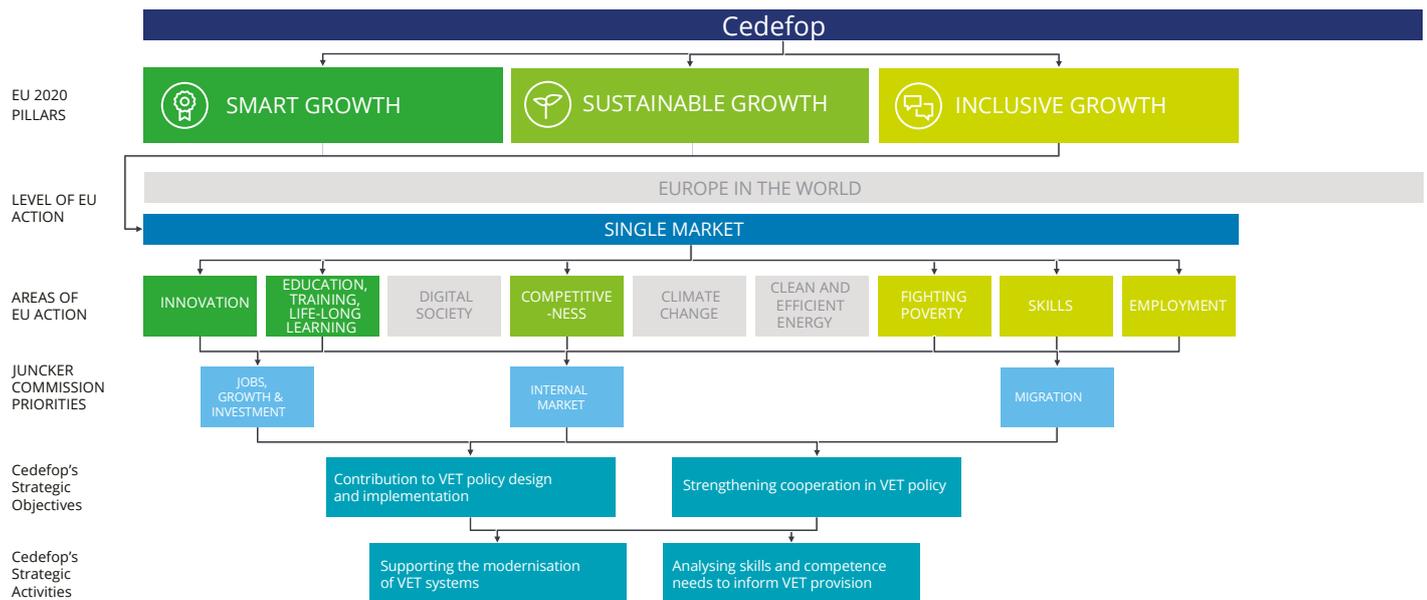
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1975
- **Location:** Thessaloniki, Greece
- **Staff:** 94 FTEs (AWP 2016)

Since its foundation, Cedefop has supported European vocational education and training (VET) policy initiatives. Changing stakeholder needs has seen Cedefop's work evolve. Its original 1975 founding regulation is being revised to reflect that Cedefop is now recognised as a centre of expertise with an important European VET policy support role and a leader worldwide on qualifications frameworks, skill forecasting and green skills[58].

Being at the interface of VET and the labour market, Cedefop provides new knowledge and evidence, monitors policy trends and analyses policy developments. The agency also acts as a knowledge broker for countries and stakeholders to "strengthen European cooperation in VET and support the European Commission, Member States and social partners in designing and implementing policies for a world-class and inclusive VET that provide skills and qualifications relevant for working lives and the labour market"[59].

Cedefop's work is widely used by EU Institutions and international bodies, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Through tailored publications, videos and social media activities, the Agency also reaches out to a wider VET audience.

Contribution to jobs, growth & investment
Supporting modernisation of VET systems Under the Copenhagen process, which began in 2002 and was subsequently included in the Europe 2020 Strategy, Cedefop has worked with its stakeholders to modernise VET systems and make them more flexible to raise qualification levels, increase lifelong learning and encourage mobility. Cedefop's regular reports on policy developments and challenges for VET are used by policymakers to agree and monitor common European VET priorities. Using Cedefop's analyses, the European Commission, Member States and social partners agreed on new priorities for 2015-2020.

To support policy development and implementation, Cedefop will continue to monitor and report on progress made in addressing new priorities. Cedefop's Country statistical overviews set out 33 indicators that monitor the performance of VET systems, including progress towards

---

58. Cedefop Evaluation Report 2013.
59. Cedefop draft Programming Document 2017-2020.

the Europe 2020 targets of at least 40% of 30-34-year-olds completing tertiary level education and reducing rates of early school leaving to below 10%.

"Many demands are being made of VET; these include improving employability, addressing inequality, managing changing skill needs, increasing productivity, raising the labour market participation of a shrinking and ageing labour force and developing the green economy. Cedefop is involved in many European initiatives to help VET meet these demands." [60]

Joachim James Calleja, Director

Preceding Europe 2020 Strategy but now linked to its flagship initiative Youth on the move, to promote mobility for learning and work, Cedefop has played a major role in developing several common European tools, including the European qualifications framework (EQF) and Europass as well as the new Mobility Scoreboard for VET. The EQF compares all types of national qualifications with each other and those from other countries. Cedefop also maintains Europass as a portfolio of documents that show someone's skills in a standard European format available in

27 languages. The mobility scoreboard for VET aims at helping Member States identify where to invest effort to ensure mobility for learning is successful.

Apprenticeship is being revived in the Union. Through its data and research, Cedefop advocates for work-based learning and encourages international partnerships under the European alliance for apprenticeships. It reviews Member States' apprenticeship arrangements at their request.

Analysing skills and competence needs
To strengthen alignment between VET and a changing labour market, Cedefop produces the only pan-European skill supply and demand forecasts. First produced in 2008, the forecasts now support the Europe 2020 New skills and jobs flagship initiative. The forecasts for the Union and each Member State reveal differences across countries that may influence national VET policy priorities. With the European Commission, Cedefop operates the EU Skills Panorama, a web platform with data on trends in skills and jobs across Europe.

Addressing skills mismatch is an EU policy priority. Cedefop's 2014 European skills and jobs survey on skill mismatch provides strong evidence that traditional ideas of skill mismatch being due to a lack of available skills is too simplistic. The survey shows around 25% of highly qualified young adult employees in the EU are overqualified for their job, while 33% need only basic or no ICT skills at all in their jobs.
In June 2016, the European Commission, drawing on Cedefop's work, launched its Skills Agenda, which Cedefop will be key in implementing.

Contribution to the new policy on migration
It remains to be seen how the influx of refugees and asylum seekers into the EU will affect VET. Cedefop is examining how Member States are integrating new arrivals into education and training or the labour market. European tools and validation systems could play an important role. Cedefop, with the European Commission, periodically publishes new European guidelines for validating informal and non-formal learning.

In recent years, Cedefop has also contributed to developing evidence to help policy makers address the challenges of demographic change.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
Cedefop works with **ETF** and **Eurofound**. It also cooperates with international organisations such as the OECD, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and UNESCO. Cedefop's activities complement those of other European, national or international organisations[61].

Sources
- Cedefop Evaluation Report, 2013
- Cedefop Annual Report 2015
- Cedefop work programme 2016
- Evaluation of the EU Agencies under the remit of DG EMPL: Eurofound, CEDEFOP, ETF and EU-OSHA
- Cedefop website: http://www.cedefop. europa.eu/en, consulted on 29 July 2016
- Cedefop's draft programming document for 2017-20 (in consultation at the European Commission)

---

60. Cedefop Annual Report 2015, p. 9.
61. Cedefop Evaluation Report 2013.

CEPOL
European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training

CEPOL is a European Union agency that fosters European and international law enforcement cooperation through training. As such, it contributes to Inclusive Growth and to the area of freedom, security and justice within the Single Market as well as to the Juncker Commission priority 'Europe in the world'. CEPOL aims to become a world-class hub, and a driver of change in the law enforcement training field. One which contributes to addressing European and global security issues by bringing the law enforcement communities closer together to share good practices, knowledge and know-how.

CEPOL

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION
EUROPE IN THE WORLD
SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION: INNOVATION · EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING · DIGITAL SOCIETY · COMPETITIVE-NESS · CLIMATE CHANGE · CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY · FIGHTING POVERTY · SKILLS · EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES: JUSTICE & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

CEPOL's strategic objectives: Deliver efficient training and education services · Strengthen law enforcement cooperation at EU level

CEPOL's Strategic Activities: Train executive/ operational police & law enforcement officials · Increase interoperability and share good practices · Maintain & develop training portfolio · Improve partnership, collaboration, cooperation across the EU · Improve partnership, collaboration, cooperation of external relations

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2005
- **Location:** Budapest, Hungary
- **Staff:** approx. 50 FTEs in 2016

CEPOL is an agency of the European Union dedicated developping, implementing and coordinating for law enforcement officials. Since 1 July 2016, the date of its new legal mandate, CEPOL's official name is "The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training". CEPOL has dedicated National Units (CNUs) in every Member State to provide information and assistance to law enforcement officials who wish to participate in CEPOL's activities. CNUs also support CEPOL's operations.

Contribution to the area of Justice, Freedom and Security
CEPOL contributes to a safer Europe by facilitating cooperation and knowledge sharing among law enforcement officials of the EU Member States and to some extent, from third countries, on issues stemming from EU priorities in the field of security; in particular, from the EU Policy Cycle on serious and organised crime.

CEPOL brings together a network of training institutes for law enforcement officials in EU Member States and supports them in providing frontline training on security priorities, law enforcement cooperation and information exchange. CEPOL also works with EU bodies, international organisations, and third countries to ensure that the most serious security threats are tackled with a collective response. The agency's annual work programme is built with input from this network and other stakeholders, resulting in topical and focused activities designed to meet the needs of Member States in the priority areas of the EU internal security strategy. Moreover, CEPOL assesses training needs to address EU security priorities. CEPOL constantly strives to offer innovative and advanced training activities by integrating relevant developments in knowledge, research & technology, and by creating synergies through strengthened cooperation.

CEPOL in a nutshell

- Supports, develops, implements & coordinates training for law enforcement officials;
- Awards grants to national training institutions (framework partners) for the implementation of its training portfolio;
- Cooperates with third countries within the framework of working arrangements
- Trains leaders, future leaders and trainers;
- Integrates research into training.

CEPOL's stakeholders are essential actors in assessing the training needs of the European law enforcement community. The annual Work Programme was elaborated with input from the agency's network and stakeholders, and resulted in topical and focused activities in line with the EU internal security strategy, and tailored to the needs of Member States. The portfolio of activities is developed around eleven strategic priorities areas, ranging from leadership to counter-terrorism, cybercrime, EU cooperation and serious and organised crime. Learning products were designed to facilitate sharing of knowledge and good practices, and to contribute to the development of a common European law enforcement culture.

A comprehensive assessment system is in place to ensure the quality of CEPOL's training portfolio. Course evaluation aims at assessing training efficiency, but also at measuring participants' satisfaction rates. Post-course evaluations are carried out on participants and their line managers approximately six months after the completion of a residential activity.

"In 2015, the agency's training portfolio encompassed 151 training activities (85 residential activities and 66 webinars), 428 exchanges in the frame of the European Police Exchange Programme- EPEP, 24 online modules, one online course, and nine common curricula. For the fifth year in a row the outreach of the agency has increased: CEPOL trained 12 992 law enforcement professionals in 2015 vs. 10 322 in 2014."[62]

Dr. Ferenc Bánfi, CEPOL Executive Director

CEPOL's portfolio focuses on 11 priority topics stemming from the EU Agenda on Security:

01. The EU Policy Cycle to tackle Serious and Organised Crime 2014-2017 (in 2015, 21 residential courses and 41 webinars);
02. Other organised international crime (in 2015, six residential courses and seven webinars);
03. Counter terrorism (in 2015, six residential courses and two webinars);
04. Special law enforcement techniques (in 2015, nine residential courses and five webinars);
05. EU police and judicial cooperation and networks (in 2015, 12 residential courses and four webinars);
06. External dimension of the area of Freedom, Security and Justice (in 2015, nine residential courses and one webinar);
07. Maintenance of law and order and public security (in 2015, six residential courses);
08. Leadership, learning, training and language development (in 2015, five residential courses and seven webinars);
09. Research and science (in 2015, a global conference and one webinar);
10. Crime prevention (in 2015, two residential courses);
11. Fundamental rights (in 2015, three courses and ten webinars).

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

As from 1st July 2016, CEPOL has a coordinating role in the implementation of the European Law Enforcement Training Scheme (LETS) proposed by the Commission in 2013. This scheme foresees a more efficient coordination of trainings between Member States, the EU Justice and Home Affairs agencies (CEPOL, EASO, EIGE, EMCDDA, eu-LISA, Eurojust, Europol, FRA, Frontex) and international organisations such as i.e. Interpol. The objective is to ensure a coherent approach and response to law enforcement training needs. The scheme aims at:

- ensuring that law enforcement cooperation instruments (e.g. Europol's databases) are well known and used;
- equipping law enforcement officers with the knowledge and skills needed to combat cross-border crime;
- guaranteeing that officers working with third countries or contributing to EU civilian missions are properly trained.
- LETS shall hence contribute to enhancing policing standards and collaboration across the EU.

Sources
- CEPOL Work Programme 2016
- CEPOL Annual Report 2015
- CEPOL Single Programming Document Years 2017-2019
- Communication from the Commission to the European parliament, The Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "Establishing a European Law Enforcement Training Scheme", COM(2013) 172 final, Brussels, 27.03.2013

62. CEPOL Annual Report 2015, p. 6.

Clean Sky 2 JU
Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking

Clean Sky 2 JU contributes to Smart and Sustainable Growth through its actions to foster research and innovation in the air transport sector. It aims at creating resource-efficient transport that respects the environment, ensuring safe and seamless mobility and building industrial leadership in Europe.
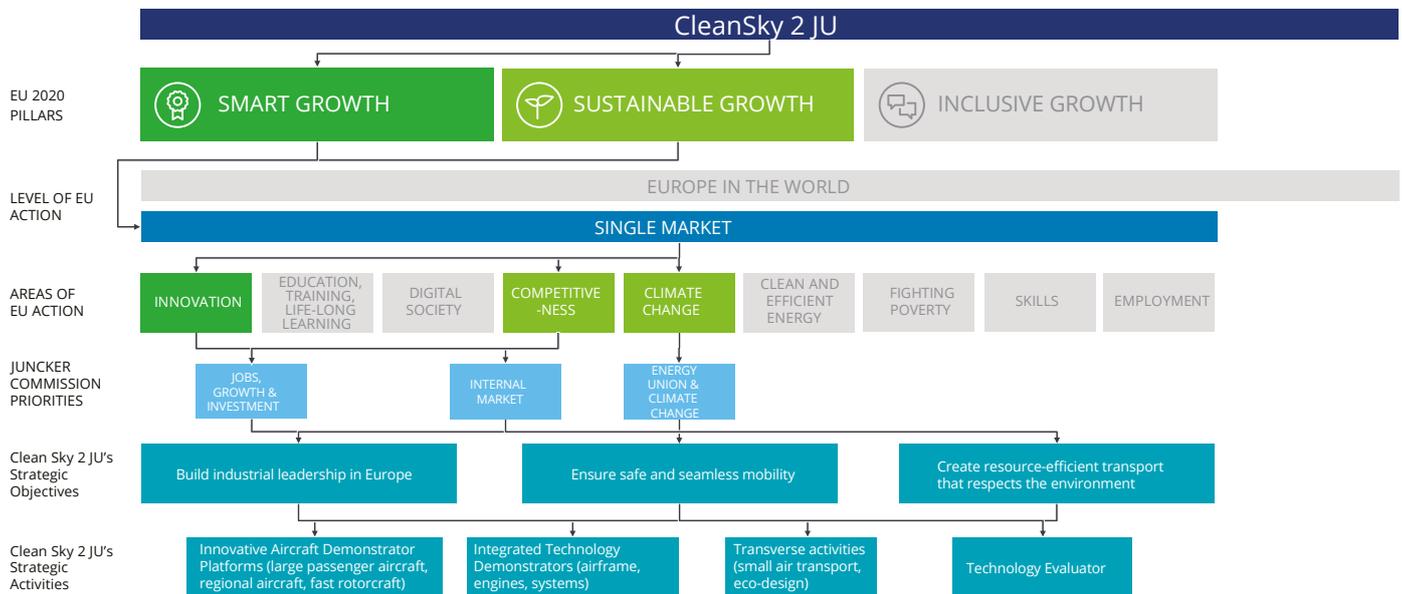
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking
- **Foundation year:** 2008 for Clean Sk JU and 2014 for Clean Sky 2 JU
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 44 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **Clean Sky 2 JU mission is to "develop and mature breakthrough 'clean technologies' for Air Transport".[63]**

Background
Clean Sky Joint Undertaking was created in 2008 within the 7th Research Framework Programme as a public-private partnership between the European Commission and the European aeronautical industry, in order to bring together the research and innovation efforts in a coherent €1.6 billion programme. Its purpose is to reduce the environmental impact of the life cycle of the aeronautical products and to achieve by 2020 the following environmental goals (compared to year 2000 values):

- fuel consumption and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions reduced by 50%,

- Nitrous oxides (NOx) emissions reduced by 80%,

- Reduction in perceived external noise of 50%.[64]

The Clean Sky 2 JU has seen the collaboration of major aeronautical manufacturers but also of a large number of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) from all the air transport sectors. The research and innovation work to develop, integrate and validate new technologies has been structured in six Integrated Technology Demonstrators (ITDs): smart fixed wing aircraft, green regional aircraft, green rotorcraft, sustainable and green engines, systems for green operations and eco-design. Moreover, Clean Sky 2 JU has put in place a Technology Evaluator, i.e. a simulation network that assesses the environmental and societal impact of the developed

technologies. Following the positive outcomes of Clean Sky 2 JU , the European Commission extended the programme with Clean Sky 2 JU, which started in 2014 within the Horizon 2020 framework. Clean Sky 2 JU research and innovation activities are funded by private and public investments of about €4 billion and will run until 2024. The transition period between the two phases of the Clean Sky research programme is foreseen for 2014-2017.

Contribution to smart and sustainable growth
Clean Sky 2 JU fosters the development of near-term solutions and longer term breakthrough innovations in order to fulfil the following objectives:
- **Creating resource-efficient transport that respects the environment.** Clean Sky 2 JU focuses on completing the work of Clean Sky programme in achieving the 2020 environmental targets. In addition, Clean Sky 2 JU works towards the achievement of the 2050

63. Clean Sky 2 JU Amended Bi-Annual Work Plan and Budget 2016-2017, p. 7.
64. Clean Sky 2 JU Amended Bi-Annual Work Plan and Budget 2016-2017, p. 9.

targets aiming at cutting 75% of CO_2 emissions, 90% of NOx emissions and reaching 65% of noise reduction.

- **Ensuring safe and seamless mobility,** involving the creation of new concepts to meet the evolving citizens' mobility needs.
- **Building industrial leadership in Europe** as far as air transport system is concerned and maintaining highly skilled jobs in Europe by creating a competitive supply chain of research bodies, academia and SMEs.

The first objective contributes to the EU 2020 Strategy area of action aiming at fighting climate change and the European Commission's priority on Energy Union and climate change. The second and third objectives contribute to EU 2020 Strategy areas of action "innovation", through increased R&D spending, and "competitiveness", by boosting the industrial base. This corresponds to the Juncker Commission priority "Jobs, Growth and Investment".

The objective of Clean Sky is to develop selected technologies towards a higher level of maturity so that they can prove to be efficient in operational situations. The purpose of the Integrated Demonstration Programmes (ITDs) is to integrate different technologies at higher system or aircraft level and conduct realistic operational assessments to evaluate their feasibility and their environmental impact. A second Clean Sky's instrument is the concept aircraft, where technologies are integrated in a viable conceptual configuration for rotorcraft, business jets, or regional and large commercial aircrafts.

Clean Sky 2 JU programme builds on Clean Sky activities described above and is made of a technology evaluator and

- Innovative Aircraft Demonstrator Platforms (IADPs) for large passenger aircraft, regional aircraft and fast

rotorcraft;
- Integrated Technology Demonstrators (ITDs) focusing on airframe, engines and systems;
- Transverse activities consisting in small air transport and eco-design.

Through the funding of those different research programmes, Clean Sky 2 JU contributes to Europe 2020 Strategy's smart and sustainable growth, by fostering investments in innovative technologies that will make air transport greener, enhance the competitiveness of the European industry and safeguard highly skilled jobs in Europe.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

Clean Sky 2 JU cooperates with **SESAR JU** – which focuses on Air Traffic Management – for a greener European air transport system, in order to avoid overlap and ensure consistency between the two research and innovation programmes. Their cooperation covers some joint activities in relevant research areas. Flight trajectory management influences for example the possible aircraft fuel economy.

Sources
- Clean Sky website, WWW.CLEANSKY.EU
- Clean Sky 2 JU Amended Bi-Annual Work Plan and Budget 2016-2017
- Clean Sky Joint Undertaking, Annual Implementation Plan 2014

PROUD: A SERTEC Clean Sky project

SERTEC is a Spanish SME with a high-level of R&D development, working primarily in the aeronautical and defence industries developing engineering projects, tooling, testing, aircraft upgrades, tracking systems and simulators. It is part of the Smart Fixed Wings Clean Sky technology platform working on innovative laminarity for wings.

As part of the Clean Sky programme in PROUD (precision outer wing assembly devices), SERTEC is working on two different parts: new concept tooling and automatic wing assembly. The project has achieved innovative solutions for the design and manufacturing of the tooling of two different kinds of configuration for the outer wings. In addition, it has developed a new way of using intelligent systems and high precision robots to accomplish small parts assembly automatically (or with low human interaction).

CPVO
Community Plant Variety Office

CPVO manages the EU plant breeders' rights system and grants intellectual property rights for plant varieties. It thereby creates strong incentives for innovation and investment in new plant varieties, leading to higher and more sustainable agricultural outputs and job creation in rural areas. The CPVO therefore contributes to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.
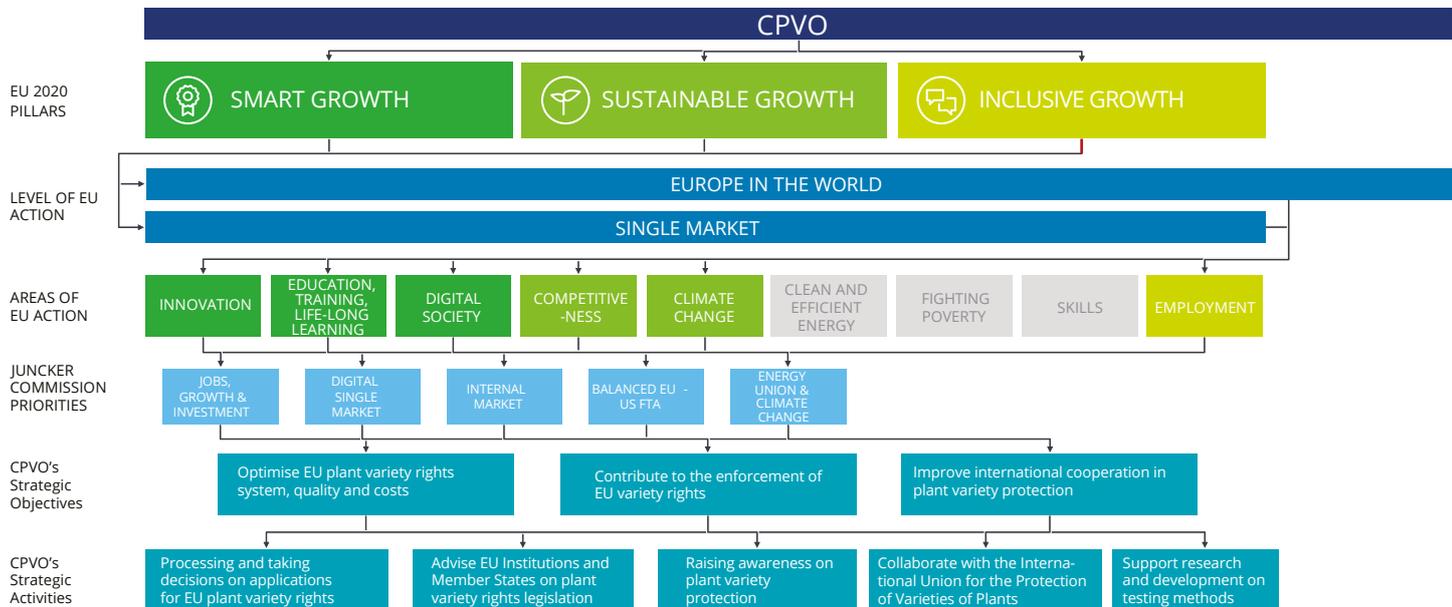
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1995
- **Location**: Angers, France
- **Staff:** 45 FTEs (AWP 2016)

The CPVO's mission is "to foster innovation in plant varieties by high quality processing of applications for Community plant variety rights at affordable costs while providing policy guidance and assistance in the exercise of these rights for the benefit of stakeholders".[65]

Background
The EU enjoys the biggest intellectual property rights system for plant varieties in the world: the plant breeders' rights (PBR) system. It allows the free use of protected plant varieties for the breeding of new varieties and promotes innovation on plant breeding. The CPVO manages this system and grants intellectual property rights for plant varieties within this unified framework at EU level.

Contribution to a new boost for jobs, growth and investment
Protecting plant varieties enables breeders to collect royalties and thereby recover their investment in research and development. By ensuring the effective protection of plant breeders' rights in the Union and abroad, the CPVO is instrumental in fostering research, development and innovation in new plant varieties.

The increased yields resulting from improved crops generate additional farm income and jobs, especially in the most disadvantaged areas[66]. Encouraging job creation is of paramount importance in the plant breeding and seed production sector, which already involves over EU 7,000 companies – a majority of which are family-owned SMEs.

The work of the CPVO work contributes to the economic sustainability of these companies, and the competitiveness of the EU plant breeding industry, the world's largest exporter of seed plant material. The Office is also involved in the development of intellectual property training programmes in partnership with European universities and Commission research programmes, to reinforce knowledge in this field.

"The Community protection system managed by CPVO provides an added value in the sense that breeders can get return on investment throughout the entire European Union."[67]

65. CPVO Strategic Plan 2010-2015, p.3.
66. "The economic, social and environmental value of plant breeding in the European Union", CPVO study.
67. CPVO Brochure, p.3.

Contribution to a digital single market

The CPVO encourages the use of digital technologies for more efficient enforcement of plant variety rights. It has developed and shared numerous online databases such as Variety Finder or Plant Variety Rights (PVR) CaseLaw which reinforce the protection and allow sharing information on existing intellectual property rights through digital tools.

Contribution to a forward-looking climate change policy

The CPVO supports the development of increasingly resistant new plant varieties which reduce the use of crop protection products and of fossil fuels in agriculture. Increased yields also decrease the need for additional land cultivation. This contributes to a reduction of CO_2 emissions and water consumption and a better conservation of biodiversity, thus leading to the achievement of the Union's climate change policy goals.

Innovation in plant breeding also increases food security in the face of climate change and a growing world population.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market

Helping plant breeders to be informed, verify and enforce their intellectual property rights on new varieties, and combat fraud reinforces the internal market. Online databases set up by the CPVO allow the comparison of the implementation of intellectual property law in the field of plant breeding across the Union. This ensures plant breeders enjoy the same level of protection in all Member States.

Within the EU plant breeders' rights system, small farmers are allowed to produce seeds from protected varieties (including potatoes and cereals) for use in their own exploitations. By ensuring the management of a system which foresees the protection of the most fragile producers, and therefore strives towards a fairer internal market, the CPVO also takes part in reinforcing economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Union as foreseen in the Lisbon Treaty.[68]

Contribution to a reasonable and balanced free trade agreement with the USA and to Europe's footprint in the world

The CPVO works with the European Commission to ensure the protection of European plant breeders' rights in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) with the United States, currently under negotiation. It cooperates with the US Department for Agriculture towards obtaining protection on both sides and on plant variety testing.

The CPVO also exports European intellectual property rights protection standards by encouraging neighbouring and EU candidate countries to develop harmonised plant variety protection systems.

The CPVO collaborates with non-EU countries and regional organisations for the promotion of the international standards and capacity-building in South America, China, Africa and East Asia.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The CPVO collaborates with **EUIPO** in the framework of the European Observatory on infringements of intellectual property rights. The CPVO set up a case law database of judgments on intellectual property rights infringements to be hosted by the EUIPO[69].

PROUD: A SERTEC Clean Sky project

Breeders have confidence in the EU system. The EU PVR system is the biggest in the world in terms of received applications (3,500/year) and titles in force (more than 25,000).
In the past 15 years, plant breeding in the Union has contributed to:

- Yearly increase in yields on average, e.g. an additional 47 million tons of grains and 7 million tons of oilseeds produced in the EU;
- More carbohydrates, proteins and vegetable oils to feed between 100 and 200 million humans;
- Social welfare gains of almost EUR 9 billion in the agricultural sector and more than EUR 14 billion to the EU GDP;
- An additional farm income of EUR 7,000 on average and 70,000 new jobs in the agricultural sector;
- Ornamental breeders have over the past 20 years bred and protected more than 24,400 new varieties; this has contributed to the creation of jobs and business opportunities in the horticultural sector.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) 2100/94
- Treaty on European Union
- CPVO Brochure
- CPVO Strategic Plan 2010-2015
- CPVO Strategic Plan Implementation 2010-2011
- CPVO Annual Report 2015
- CPVO Work Programme 2016
- The economic, social and environmental value of plant breeding in the European union

---

68. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
69. CPVO Work Programme 2016, p.12-13.

EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

EASA is active in the civil aviation transport domain being the European Union Authority for Aviation Safety and has as main mission to ensure the highest common level of safety and environmental protection for EU citizens within Europe and worldwide, i.e. EU citizens' freedom of movement and capacity for mobility in a highly secured area. EASA contributes to Smart and Sustainable Growth, jobs, competitiveness and innovation via its action within the aviation policy area leading to a safe and environmentally friendly internal aviation Single Market in civil aviation safety and creating a level playing field for the EU Industry, notably by developing a single regulatory and certification process among Member States in the fields of safety and environmental protection. The Agency also acts globally through its work with other international aviation organisations and regulators to make sure all aircrafts are safe - guaranteeing the safety of EU citizens when travelling by air worldwide - and meet environmental standards. It also contributes to address the defence and security challenges related to aviation safety

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location:** Cologne, Germany
- **Staff:** 676 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EASA's mission is to "provide safe air travel for EU citizens in Europe and worldwide" [70]

Background
The aviation industry in which EASA operates is dynamic and constantly evolving using new technologies and business models. The expected improvement of the economy, the increasing trade globalisation and the growing participation of emerging markets are factors that are shaping the future of the aviation sector as they involve an increase in the number of passengers and aircrafts. This will have impacts on developments regarding aircraft size, aerodromes and airlines capacity and Air Traffic Management (ATM) as well as on the environment. Moreover, the scarcity of energy supplies and cybersecurity threats represent challenges that will trigger further evolution in the sector.

Against this evolving background, EASA assists the European Commission, National Aviation Authorities, the aviation sector and the General Aviation Community in order to make sure civil aviation, through all its developments, achieves the highest level of safety and environmental protection for EU citizens on a global perspective. The Agency carries out activities in the fields of safety management and promotion, regulation, certification, oversight and international cooperation. It advises the European Commission on legislative matters and ensures that regulations are applied correctly by all aviation stakeholders.

Contribution to a safe Internal Market and EU's footprint in the world
EASA works in the framework of the Single Market providing the highest common standards of aviation safety and environmental protection for the transport of people and goods. Its work articulates around 7 main activity areas:

1. Safety strategy, management, promotion and data collection
EASA has put in place the European Aviation Safety Programme (EASP) and Plan (EASp)

to ensure sound safety policy, planning and implementation and the continuous improvement of common safety standards. The EASp has as near-term objective the improvement of risk assessment and performance measurement; as medium-term objective, the implementation by all EASA States[71] of the EASP and their safety management system (SMS) to pro-actively manage safety risks; and as long-term objective, the implementation of predictive systems[72]. Moreover, EASA monitors aviation safety by collecting and analysing data related to all parts of the SMS. The purpose of this activity is to identify key safety risks and support their mitigation.

2. Regulation
EASA is responsible for the preparation of EU legislation in the field of civil aviation safety and environmental protection in order to achieve a cost-effective and efficient regulatory system. EASA takes an integrated approach dealing with all aspects of civil aviation domain, such as aircrews, aerodromes, aeronautical products, operators, ATM/ANS, etc.

3. Certification Product Safety/ Environmental compatibility

EASA carries out the initial airworthiness and environmental certification of aeronautical products and parts, and of the continuing airworthiness oversight. Moreover, it provides upon request certification-related services to the industry, aviation authorities or other public institutions (such as the validation of EU products in third countries). Furthermore, EASA issues mandatory safety directives and disseminates safety and security information, which is a means of achieving continuous operational safety and to promote risk awareness and safety culture among the aviation sector stakeholders. EASA issues and publishes for example mandatory Airworthiness Directives and Safety Information Bulletins on issues such as operations, flight crew licensing, aerodromes, or Air Traffic Management/Air Navigation Services (ATN/ANS).

EASA is also part of the EU strategy regarding cybersecurity and the safety of passengers flying over or near to conflict zones. It also seeks synergies with the defence industry regarding the certification and continuing airworthiness of military (transport) or dual use aircraft.

4. Organisation approvals

The Agency is responsible for the approval and oversight of organisations located outside the EU Member States that are responsible for the production, maintenance, training, continuing airworthiness management, and flight crew licensing as well as the approval and oversight of design organisations (i.e. organisations where most aircraft design activities take place in a controlled and approved environment) wherever located.

5. Oversight of the European Aviation System

EASA has been tasked with the monitoring of the implementation by competent national authorities of EU regulation in the field of air operations, aircrew, ATM/ANS, aerodromes and airworthiness. This activity also contributes to EASA's objective of improving safety standards. EASA is also part of the EU system of ramp inspections[73] on aircrafts used by EU and third country operators. Inspections are carried out when there is suspicion of non-compliance with the requirements or by way of spot-checks. In addition, EASA also grants authorisations for third country operators performing air transport operations into the EASA states.

👓

EASA's work on General Aviation (GA)

A few years ago EASA established a vision and commitments for the GA industry, including better and lighter regulation, which was urgently needed after the initial regulations imposed too much 'red tape' on the GA community.

6 GA strategic principles:
- One size does not fit all;
- Philosophy of minimum necessary rules;
- Adopt a risk-based approach;
- Protect 'grandfather rights' unless there are demonstrable and statistically significant safety reasons against doing so;
- Apply EU smart regulation principles;
- Make the best use of available resources and expertise.

6 GA key objectives
- Facilitate access to IFR Flying;
- Allow the training of private pilot outside Approved Training Organisations;
- Simplify and reduce the costs related to the maintenance of your aircraft (Part M Light, Part CAO);
- Allow and promote the introduction of new technology (or the Standard Changes and Repairs Process);
- Simpler certification process;
- Develop the use of Industry Standards (or CS-23 reorganisation).

EASA has successfully put in place specific actions to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

6. International cooperation

EASA aims at continuously improving cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and enhancing external relations with third countries, through the implementation of Bilateral Agreements (currently with the US, Canada and Brazil), Working Arrangements and technical cooperation projects with various states and regions around the world. EASA's main objectives on the international scene are the reinforcement of safety and environmental protection, the promotion of

---

the EU standards and the support to the EU industry interests.

Contribution to an Energy Union and climate change

EASA's regulatory, oversight and certification activities aim at promoting high standards of environmental protection for EU citizens. EASA plays a leading role in developing and implementing ICAO environmental standards for aircraft noise, engine emissions and CO_2. Moreover, EASA publishes, together with the European Environment Agency (EEA) and Eurocontrol, the European Aviation Environmental Report on a periodical basis. It has also developed impact assessment tools and guides research projects in cooperation with the European Commission.

Contribution to the creation of jobs, growth and investment

The certification of aircraft is a key enabler for growth. EASA aims at facilitating the European aviation industry competitiveness, innovation and emerging technologies through proportionate and risk- and performance-based safety regulations, which generate high-value jobs and stimulate growth.

Collaboration with other agencies and bodies

EASA collaborates with other EU agencies, such as:
- **EDA** regarding the harmonisation of military aviation safety requirements, and especially certification and continuing airworthiness of military or dual-use aircraft as well as cybersecurity and the fly over or near to conflict zones;
- **SESAR JU** regarding regulatory, certification and standardisation matters of the systems/services developed by the ATM research programme;
- **EEA** regarding environmental protection matters and the publication of the European Aviation Environmental Report;
- **ECHA** regarding the implementation of the REACH Regulation.

Sources
- EASA 2016 Work Programme
- EASA Annual Activity Report 2015
- EASA Business Plan 2014-2018
- EASA website
- Draft EASA Programming Document 2017-2020
- EASA General Aviation Roadmap – Work in Progress
- European Aviation Environmental Report 2016 (www.easa.europa.eu/eaer/)
- Defence and Security Challenges for Aviation Safety, presented by Patrick Ky, EASA Executive Director, to the EP SEDE Sub-Committee Meeting on 13/07/2016 (Brussels).

---

71. EASA States are the 28 EU Member States plus Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.
72. The system analyses the processes and the environment to identify potential future safety issues.
73. Ramp inspections are carried out by the Member States on the airport ground between the arrival and departure of the aircraft via a specific checklist.

EASO
European Asylum Support Office

EASO contributes to Inclusive Growth within the Single Market as well as indirectly elsewhere in the world through its work regarding the Juncker Plan priorities 'migration policy' and 'justice and fundamental rights'. The Agency provides practical and technical support to Member States and EU Institutions in migration-related matters, operational support to Member States and third countries with specific needs in terms of asylum or with particular pressure on their asylum and reception systems, and scientific input for EU policymaking and legislation in asylum matters.

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2010
- **Location:** Valletta, Malta
- **Staff:** 149 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **EASO's mission is to "contribute to the implementation and development of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) by providing support and facilitating, coordinating and strengthening practical cooperation among EU+ countries[74] as an independent centre of expertise on asylum"[75]**

Background
The EU provides to its citizens an area of freedom, security and justice. Within that space, the EU ensures to apply harmonised rules regarding the way it grants international protection to those fleeing prosecution in their home countries. As

far as the right to international protection are concerned, the EU hence represents a single area, which needs to be underpinned by a Common European Asylum System (CEAS) to ensure that similar cases are treated in a similar way and result in a similar outcome.

Contribution towards a new policy on migration
In this context, EASO plays a key role in supporting the EU Institutions, Member States and other bodies regarding further development of the CEAS and the achievement of common asylum practices and processes. In order to fulfil its mission, EASO carries out five main activities.

Permanent support
In order to create a common approach on asylum, EASO supports and encourages the practical harmonisation of asylum systems by providing common training (material) to asylum and reception officers. EASO

also aims at facilitating common standards within the CEAS. EASO works towards the development of a comprehensive common country of origin information (COI[76]) system.

Special support
To EU+ countries with specific needs regarding the coherent and comprehensive implementation of the CEAS, EASO provides tailor-made assistance and support, including capacity building, relocation and special quality control processes.

Emergency support
EASO provides emergency support to EU+ countries whose asylum and reception system are under particular pressure. EASO deploys EU+ countries' experts under Asylum Support Teams or increases the presence on site of its staff or Member States' experts, in the so-called 'Hotspot' approach (providing on-the-spot staff and equipment to face exceptional migration

---

74. European Union Member States plus Switzerland and Norway.
75. EASO Work Programme 2016 – Rev. 2, p. 5.
76. COI refers to the information relative to where asylum seekers come from, the clear identification of which is can be decisive for the assessment of the credibility of their claim.

pressures) in cooperation with the European Commission and other justice and home affairs agencies (i.e. Frontex, Eurojust and Europol).

Information and analysis support

EASO collects and exchanges accurate and up-to-date information and documentation relative to the CEAS and makes it available via a single point of information, the Information and Documentation System. EASO's work also includes gathering common COI and the development of the Early warning and Preparedness System (EPS) that aims at providing EU+ countries and EU Institutions "with accurate, timely information and analyses on flows of asylum seekers to and within the EU and the EU+ countries' capacity to deal with them"[77].

Third country support

EASO supports the external dimension of the CEAS through partnerships with international organisations and third countries, by promoting capacity building of asylum and reception systems in key neighbouring third countries, providing training and improving the quality of the asylum process, in countries of origin, transit and destination, and coordinating Member States' actions on resettlement.[78]

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights

"As a centre of expertise on asylum, EASO helps Member States fulfil their European and international obligations to give protection to people in need"[79]. Moreover, EASO supports their cooperation on

matters related to vulnerable applicants, such as children and unaccompanied minors, "victims of trafficking in human beings, victims of torture and other cruel and inhuman treatment, persons at risk because of their gender, gender identity or sexual orientation and any other groups of applicants with special needs"[80]

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EASO is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network. EASO hence closely collaborates especially with Frontex, FRA, eu-LISA, EUROPOL, CEPOL and Eurojust. In particular, EASO works with:

- **CEPOL, Europol, FRA and Frontex** on vulnerable groups issues;
- **Frontex** on training programmes, quality initiatives, data analysis sharing in the context of EPS and COI, and operational support, including the Hotspot approach (in which Eurojust and Europol also play an important role);
- **FRA** on information sharing, exchange of research and data collection methodologies, best-practices and expertise related to fundamental rights.

Furthermore, EASO also collaborates with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on training, quality processes, trends and analysis, vulnerable groups, resettlement and (third country) operational support. EASO also cooperates with members of courts and tribunals with the goal to harmonise judicial decisions made in asylum cases.

EASO's contribution to Hotspots

Present in all operational Hotspots in Greece and Italy, contributing to relocation and registration of asylum seekers, over 10.000 participants in our training modules, provision of Country of Origin Information, developing tools to assist Member States asylum systems.

Europe is facing the biggest migratory flow in modern history, and EASO is there to support Member States asylum systems, the EU as a whole and refugees to better cope with the migration challenges. EASO is actively present in Italy and Greece coordinating all activities, supporting the registration, relocation, and further processing of applications of international protection.

EASO's added value: expertise, rapid assistance for countries facing migratory pressures, training and vital information relevant for decision makers.

Sources
- EASO Work Programme 2006, Rev. 2
- EASO Work Programme 2006, Rev. 3
- Five Years of EASO: results and perspectives
- EASO Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2016

---

77. Ibid., p. 16.
78. Ibid., p. 32.
79. Five Years of EASO: results and perspectives, p. 3.
80. EASO Work Programme 2016 – Rev. 2, p. 25.

EBA
European Banking Authority

EBA contributes to Sustainable Growth via its actions towards an efficient, transparent and stable Single Market, by enhancing financial stability, the integrity, efficiency and orderly functioning of the banking sector and increasing consumer protection. Through its actions towards a Banking Union, EBA also contributes to a deeper Economic and Monetary Union, which will enhance the competitiveness in the euro area.
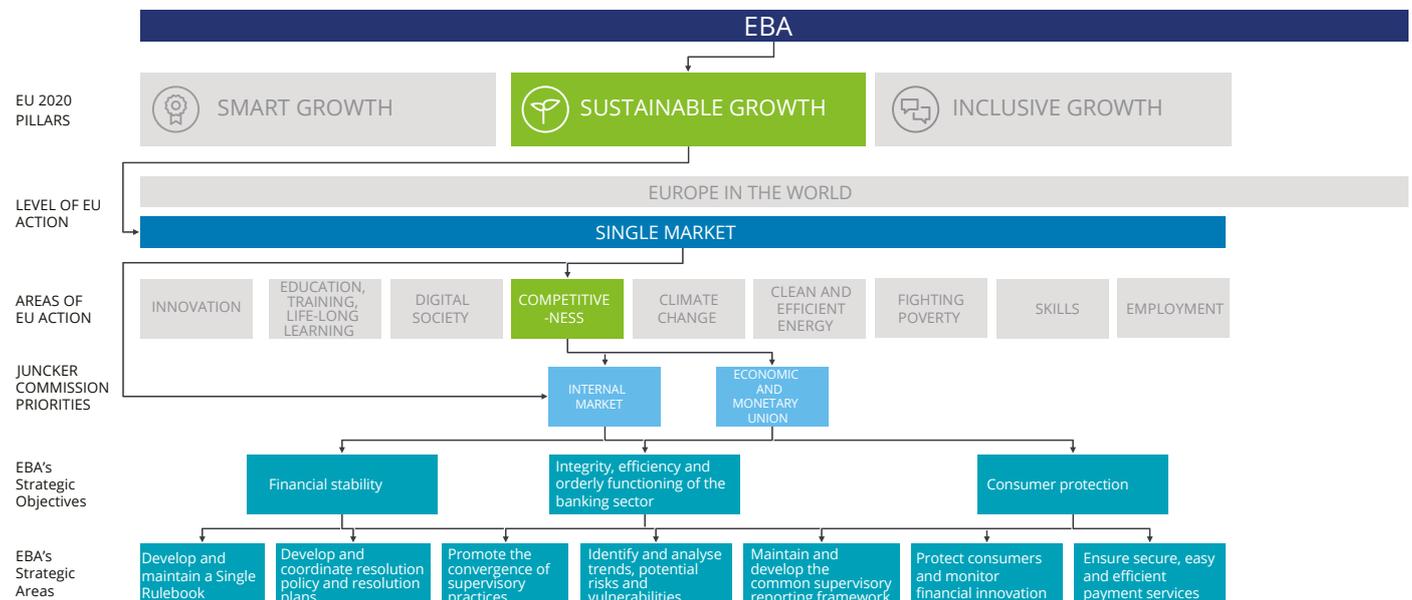
The agency at a glance
- **Type**: Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2011
- **Location:** London, United Kingdom
- **Staff:** 189 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> The EBA's mission is to "build a single regulatory and supervisory framework for the entire banking sector in the 28 EU Member States, so as to ensure an efficient, transparent and stable Single Market that benefits its consumers, businesses and the broader economy" [81]

Background

The EBA was established in the aftermath of the financial and economic crisis of 2007-2008, which revealed shortcomings in the supervision of financial services institutions due to a lack of cooperation, coordination and trust between the national supervisors, as well as an inconsistent application of EU law across Member States. The severe strain on the stability of the financial system caused by the crisis also put at risk the functioning of the internal market. Restoring and maintaining a stable and reliable financial system is therefore a necessary condition to rebuild and preserve trust in the internal market, and hence foster economic growth. The so-called "Five Presidents' Report" [82] presents a two-stage roadmap towards the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in order to create a better and fairer life for citizens as well as increase competitiveness within the euro area. The first stage comprises among others the completion of the Financial Union, which encompasses the completion of the Banking Union and the settlement of a Capital Markets Union (CMU).

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the internal market

The EBA's work is driven by the reform package adopted by the G20 [83] that includes an action plan to gradually strengthen banks' capital and liquidity, as well as regulatory reforms in the area of recovery and resolution of failing financial institutions to ensure that the cost of bank rescues does not fall on taxpayers. The EBA has three intertwined strategic objectives, i.e. "to maintain financial stability in the EU; to safeguard the integrity, efficiency and orderly functioning of the banking sector; and to foster consumer protection in all EU Member States by identifying and seeking to address consumer detriment in the financial services sector" [84]. In order to realise these and to contribute to the efficient functioning of the Single Market, the EBA identified eight strategic areas for its activity.

> "I am very proud that the Single Rulebook in banking is now a reality, with 117 technical standards and 46 guidelines delivered in key areas." [85]

Andrea Enria, EBA Chair

81. The EBA 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Work Programme, p. 8.
82. Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 27 June 2016.
83. The EBA 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Work Programme, p. 7.
84. The EBA 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Work Programme, p. 8.
85. EBA Annual Report 2015, p. 10.

1. Playing a central role in the regulation and policy framework with the development and maintenance of the Single Rulebook. The objective is to contribute to a level playing field for financial institutions, provide the regulatory basis for a single EU banking sector, and improve the quality of the Financial Regulation as well as the overall functioning of the Single Market.

2. Promoting the development and coordination of resolution policy and resolution plans, and developing common approaches for the resolution of failing financial and credit institutions and financial market infrastructures. The EBA develops resolution plans, assesses resolvability and addresses the obstacles to resolvability. It also compares the plans and provides benchmarks to resolution and supervisory authorities in order to promote common approaches to resolution.

3. Promoting the convergence of supervisory practices to a high standard so as to ensure that regulatory and supervisory rules are implemented equally across all Member States. This activity is essential for the Single Market since it aims at achieving consistent conclusions and a real level playing field.

4. Identifying and analysing trends, potential risks and vulnerabilities stemming from the microprudential level across borders and sectors. The EBA identifies, analyses and addresses key risks in the banking sector in order to ensure the stability of the financial system and the orderly functioning and integrity of financial markets.

5. Maintaining and developing the common supervisory reporting framework, as well as strengthening its role as an EU data hub for the collection, use and dissemination of data on EU banks. The EBA plays the role of a data transparency hub for the banks in Europe, in order to make data available for various stakeholders and improve banks' own disclosures.

6. Protecting consumers and monitoring financial innovation. The EBA enhances the protection of consumers by monitoring and tackling consumer detriment. It stimulates transparency, simplicity and fairness for financial products and services.

7. Ensuring secure, easy and efficient payment services across the EU. The objective is to guarantee a comprehensive set of rules that would make all cross-border payments in Europe as easy as payments within a Member State.

8. Functioning as a competent, responsible and professional organisation, with effective corporate governance and efficient processes. The purpose is to continue to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the support and administrative processes and to collaborate with the other ESA's to reach economies of scale.

The EBA's exercise on Transparency

The EBA has published in November 2015 the outcome of its 2015 EU-wide transparency exercise and provided detailed bank-by-bank data on capital positions, risk exposure amounts and asset quality on 105 banks from 21 countries of the European Economic Area (EEA) as part of its ongoing commitment to enhancing transparency in the EU Banking sector. The data, which shows improvements in the resilience of the EU banking sector, is published at the highest level of consolidation, covering around 70% of total EU banking assets for the reference dates of 31 December 2014 and 30 June 2015. By disclosing these fully comparable figures in user friendly formats, the EBA aims to promote greater understanding of capital positions and exposures of the EU banking sector and foster market discipline in the Single Market.

Contribution to the Banking Union and the deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union

The Banking Union comprises three pillars: the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) and the European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS). The EBA collaborates with the SSM mainly by providing tools to enhance regulatory and supervisory convergence and ensure consistent supervisory practices, comparable supervisory

outcomes and compliance with EU rules. Moreover, it has stepped up its participation in supervisory colleges where joint and coordinated actions are put into place.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The EBA operates within the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) that has the purpose of ensuring consistent and coherent micro- and macro-prudential financial supervision[86] in the EU. Micro-prudential supervision is carried out by the three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) – i.e. the EBA, the European Securities and Markets Authority **(ESMA)** and the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority **(EIOPA)** –, the Joint Committee of the ESAs and the National Competent Authorities (NCAs). Macro-prudential oversight is conducted at the EU level by the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) which comprises the European Central Bank (ECB), the national central banks, the ESAs and the European Commission.

The EFSF works towards an efficient functioning of the single market thanks to a regulatory and supervisory framework that is applied equally across Europe. While the day-to-day supervision of the financial institutions mainly remains at national level, the three ESAs bring EU-wide uniform rules and harmonise supervisory approaches across the EU. The ESFS, and the EBA in particular, also cooperates with other supervisory authorities such as the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM).

The EBA has also collaborated with the **SRB** since its creation in order to provide its experience of resolution planning in the EU via the participation to working groups and various committees.

EBA also collaborates with **ENISA** regarding the cybersecurity challenges of cloud computing in the financial sector.

Sources
- The European Banking Authority at a glance
- The EBA 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Work Programme
- The EBA 2016 Annual Work Programme (revised)
- EBA Annual Report 2015
- Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 26 August 2016.

86. The micro-prudential supervision is the supervision of individual institutions, while the macro-prudential supervision focuses on system-wide risks to financial stability.

ECDC
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

ECDC participates in the protection of public health by identifying and assessing threats to public health from communicable diseases. ECDC thereby contributes to Inclusive Growth by ensuring all citizens within the Union enjoy the same safeguards against infectious diseases. This fosters Smart and Sustainable Growth by boosting workers' productivity and reinforcing the sustainability of healthcare systems. ECDC also enhances the Union's footprint in the world by expanding the Union's high standards worldwide.

	ECDC		
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD		
	SINGLE MARKET		
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION / EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING / DIGITAL SOCIETY / COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE / CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY / SKILLS / EMPLOYMENT
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT / INTERNAL MARKET		
ECDC's Strategic Objectives	Surveillance of communicable diseases	Epidemic intelligence Support to response	Scientific advice
EDCD's Strategic Activities	Collection and dissemination of scientific and technical data / Provision of scientific opinions and technical assistance	Provision of timely information to EU, national and international decision-makers in the field of public health	Coordination of the European network of bodies in the field of public health / Coordination of the European network of bodies in the field of public health

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2005
- **Location:** Stockholm, Sweden
- **Staff:** 286 FTEs (AWP 2016)

ECDC "identifies, assesses and communicates current and emerging threats to human health posed by infectious diseases and supports the Member States in their preparedness and response efforts".[87]

Background
The need to ensure a high level of health protection in the definition and implementation of all EU policies and activities is enshrined in Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. This entails the need to address gaps in Europe's defence system against communicable diseases and outbreaks.

Prevention and control are of utmost importance for the Union since ever-increasing interconnectedness gives rise to more complex and numerous cross-border threats to human health. Moreover, health has been singled out as an important factor in economic recovery[88] in Europe.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
ECDC provides EU Institutions and Member States with impartial, evidence-based scientific support on communicable diseases and health threats in order to support the efficiency of prevention and control systems for communicable diseases within the Union.

Protecting citizens from communicable diseases and unknown threats contributes to achieving all three Europe 2020 objectives of Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. Indeed, health is a crucial driver for growth in that it increases

workers' productivity and employability, contributes to the financial sustainability and efficiency of healthcare systems by reducing infections-related costs. For that purpose, ECDC provides advice to the European Commission for research and innovation programmes.

"Reducing the burden of infectious diseases in the highly interconnected Europe of today is always a collaborative effort."[90]

Dr. Françoise Weber, Former ECDC Management Board Chair

ECDC is also geared towards reducing inequalities within and across Member States by providing tools and technical assistance to them to set up an equal

87. Achievements, challenges and major outputs 2014, p.3-4.
88. Commission staff working document "Investing in Health".
89. Commission staff working document "Investing in Health".
90. ECDC Strategic Multi-Annual Programme 2014-2020, p.1.

protection from communicable disease threats to all, especially to the most deprived populations which are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases [89].
By supporting the achievement of each of these objectives, ECDC contributes to delivering more jobs, growth and investment to Europe.[91]

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the internal market

ECDC activities also ensure the smooth functioning of the internal market by contributing to the protection of citizens from the health threats caused by communicable diseases and arising from the increased mobility within Europe and with the rest of the world. Indeed, increased interconnectedness of people and products aggravates the risk of spread of communicable diseases and outbreaks. In particular, ECDC surveillance, monitoring and risk assessment activities facilitate the swift withdrawal of products unsafe for consumption from the internal market if they endanger the health of European consumers.

Contribution to Europe's footprint in the world

ECDC contributes to Europe's footprint in the world through technical cooperation with third countries and international organisations in the detection and protection from communicable diseases. It shares its knowledge on communicable diseases with the World Health Organisation and the main other centres for disease prevention and control, and expands Europe's high standards worldwide.

ECDC activities, which are open to the participation of third countries, also promote the integration of European standards in the field of prevention and control of communicable diseases in countries which are bound by agreements with the Union to implement EU legislation, especially in the neighbourhood. The agency assists the Commission in developing cooperation on communicable diseases with third countries.

Cooperation with other agencies and public bodies

ECDC collaborates with other EU agencies to foster cooperation and the exchange of scientific information in the field of public health. It has signed Memoranda of Understanding with **EFSA**, related to food safety, prevention and control of communicable diseases, and support to emergency response; with **EMA** in the fields of vaccination, antimicrobial resistance, antivirals and substances of human origins; and with the **EMCDDA** on monitoring, communication and prevention of the spread of drug-related infectious diseases in Europe. ECDC also punctually collaborates with **EEA, EASA, Europol, Frontex** and **FRA.**

European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD)

EAAD is a European health initiative coordinated by the ECDC which aims to provide a platform to support for national campaigns on the prudent use of antibiotics. Each year, EAAD is marked by national campaigns on the prudent antibiotic use. In 2015, 41 countries took part in EAAD.

The goal of EAAD is to provide an evidence-based focus for national campaigns, as well as key messages, campaign materials, technical and political support at EU and Member States levels.

EAAD was awarded the European Health Award in 2016. The award supports initiatives focused on the development of sustainable and innovative concepts which successfully address current challenges. The jury stated: "The project is dealing with probably the most important threat to public health today: antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The EAAD has contributed to placing this issue high on the national and international public and political agenda".

Sources
- Regulation (ec) No 851/2004
- Commission staff working document "Investing in health"
- ECDC strategic multi-annual programme 2014-2020
- Achievements, challenges and major outputs 2014
- ECDC Annual Work Programme 2016

---

91.   ECDC website: http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/aboutus/Partnerships/Pages/partnerships.aspx.

ECHA
European Chemicals Agency

ECHA contributes to the free movement of chemical substances while ensuring the protection of consumers, workers and the environment. Not only does it participate in the efficient functioning of the Internal Market, but it also fosters innovation and the competitiveness of European companies by pooling scientific resources on chemicals and supporting the development of safe new substances at EU level. It contributes to reinforcing the EU's footprint on chemicals legislations worldwide by promoting EU standards with third countries and international partners.

ECHA			
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD		
	SINGLE MARKET		
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION / EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING / DIGITAL SOCIETY / COMPETITIVE-NESS / CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY / FIGHTING POVERTY / SKILLS / EMPLOYMENT	
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT	INTERNAL MARKET	
ECHA's Strategic Objectives	Help companies comply with the legislation	Advance the safe use of chemicals	Address chemicals of concern / Provide information on chemicals
ECHA's Strategic Activities	Delivering opinions on the authorisation of chemicals	Registering chemicals	Evaluating substances registration dossiers / Building scientific and regulatory capacity at EU level

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2007
- **Location:** Helsinki, Finland
- **Staff:** 580 FTEs (AWP 2016)

ECHA is "the driving force among regulatory authorities in implementing the EU's ground-breaking chemicals legislation for the benefit of human health and the environment as well as for innovation and competitiveness. ECHA helps companies to comply with the legislation, advances the safe use of chemicals, provides information on chemicals and addresses chemicals of concern"[92].

Background
The EU chemicals legislation consist of four Regulations which oversee the circulation of chemicals in the Internal Market while guaranteeing the protection of humans and the environment:

- the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals;
- the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of hazardous chemicals;
- the Biocidal Products Regulation;
- the Prior Informed Consent in the international trade of hazardous chemicals and pesticides.

ECHA is in charge of their consistent implementation across the Union, in line with the objectives of the Lisbon Treaty's objectives.[93]

Contribution to the efficient functioning of the Internal Market
ECHA's mandate derives from the necessity to harmonise regulatory requirements regarding chemicals and to ensure their consistent implementation across the European Union and the European Economic Area (EEA)[94], in order to guarantee the free movement of substances within a safe framework for human health and the environment throughout the supply chain.

"[In 2015] Over half of the dossiers checked by ECHA were on substances expected to have the greatest impact on improved protection for people and the environment."[95]

**Geert Dancet,
Executive Director**

For that purpose, it manages the registration, evaluation, labelling and restriction of chemicals, hazardous chemicals and biocidal products. Companies must submit authorisation applications for prioritised substances to ECHA, who delivers a scientific opinion. On the basis of the Agency's assessment of the risks and socio-economic consequences, the European Commission decides whether or not to grant the authorisation. ECHA also

92. ECHA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2018, p.9.
93. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.
94. The EEA includes Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway, which are also part of the Internal Market.
95. ECHA Annual Report 2015, p.4.

manages the registration process, which companies must document by providing the Agency with all the information on the substances they manufacture or import. Finally, ECHA evaluates the compliance of registration dossiers, examines proposals to test substances and, in cooperation with Member States, evaluates substances to see whether they represent a risk for human health or the environment.

This aims to guarantee that sufficient information is available, in order to ensure that unacceptable risks from chemicals are addressed at EU level while substances of very high concern (SVHCs) are controlled and progressively replaced by safer alternatives[96], thus maintaining a smooth functioning of the internal market and protecting European citizens and environment. Classifications and labelling also aim to inform consumers and workers on the safe manufacture and use of chemicals.

Since EU legislation has assigned the responsibility to assess and manage risks posed by chemicals to the industry, ECHA assists companies in complying with these obligations as well as in making safety information available to users and workers. The Agency also works with national competent authorities to address identified concerns regarding safe use.

ECHA also implements the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR), which ensures that sufficient information about biocidal products[97] is available so that consumers can use them safely. The BPR aims to harmonise the market at Union level. The EU authorisation of biocidal products is coordinated by ECHA.

Contribution to fostering innovation and competitiveness in the EU

ECHA also fosters innovation and competitiveness in the field of chemicals by acting as a hub for building scientific and regulatory capacity at EU level. It provides specific support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which are the bedrock of European growth, and allows companies to protect confidential business information while complying with transparency requirements.

Contribution to Europe's footprint in the international regulation of chemicals

The European Union benefits from the most ambitious chemicals legislation in the world. ECHA contributes to increasing Europe's footprint worldwide by sharing information and experience with the increasing number of countries adopting similar legislation. It collaborates with industry and public authorities which are developing high standards akin to the European ones, especially in Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States. ECHA also promotes EU standards in the international trade of hazardous chemicals by regulating their export by European companies to non-EU countries, submitting them to notification and consent requirements. It shares knowledge on how to best ensure the safe storing, transport, use and disposal in developing countries.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

ECHA cooperates closely with **EFSA** through information exchange and cooperation on substances raising food safety concerns and with **EMA** so as to exchange the agencies' scientific expertise without duplicating activities. ECHA also collaborates with **EU-OSHA** on the safe use of chemical substances by workers.

Easier access to information on 120,000 chemicals

ECHA maintains the world's largest regulatory database on chemicals. ECHA is making this information more accessible to the general public by using info cards.

The infocards give a summary of the key information on a chemical substance in plain English. Users can read about the chemicals they are exposed to, where they are commonly used, whether they are hazardous and the precautions that they might need to take.

Sources
- Regulation 1272/2008 (CLP)
- Regulation 528/2012 (BPR)
- Regulation 649/2012 (PIC)
- Treaty on European Union
- ECHA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2018
- ECHA Annual Report 2015
- ECHA Work Programme 2016

---

96. ECHA Multi-Annual Work Programme, p.15-16.
97. Biocidal products are "used to protect humans, animals, materials or articles against harmful organisms, like pests or bacteria". See: http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/biocidal-products-regulation.

EDA
European Defence Agency

EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY

EDA belongs to the agencies dedicated to the contribution theme aiming at providing security and defence to the Union. Through its actions towards strengthening of the EU's position as a global actor via cooperation and capability development, EDA also contributes to Smart and Sustainable Growth by fostering innovation in the defence industry, promoting a competitive European Defence Equipment Market, strengthening the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base and improving energy efficiency and renewable energy in the defence and security sector.

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Agency under the CSDP
- **Foundation year:** 2004
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 127 FTEs in 2016

> **EDA has the mission to "support the Council and the Member States in their effort to improve the European Union's defence capabilities for the Common Security and Defence Policy"[98] (CSDP).**

Contribution to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor in the world

As a Council Agency, EDA contributes to the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and in particular to the CSDP through different types of actions and programmes in diverse domains in which Member States decide to participate or not depending on their national priorities. The Agency works in the fields of capability development, research and technology, armament cooperation and related industrial matters.

Capability development and armament cooperation

EDA works on improving military capabilities between Member States through cooperation in order to cope with the lack of European capabilities, interoperability and cooperation to make the EU a credible security provider that can defend its interests.

EDA also supports Member States in the joint procurement of military assets to decrease costs and increase interoperability and harmonisation of their operational needs.

Among its portfolio of projects, the EDA is working on four priority programmes for capability development welcomed by the European Council in 2013:

- **Air-to-air refuelling:** the main purpose of this programme is to facilitate and support the pooled acquisition of tanker aircraft for European air forces that will enable sustained air combat operations (the EU is nowadays very dependent on American capabilities).

- **Remotely piloted aircraft systems** (RPAS): RPAS have both civil and military applications (e.g. infrastructure surveillance, firefighting, disaster or environmental monitoring, border control, etc.). The objective of this programme is to have a common approach to technical, regulatory and operational aspects of RPAS and to integrate military drones in European skies.

- **Cyberdefence:** military operations on sea, air, land and in space are more and more dependent on cyberspace. The objective is to promote cyber awareness and to encourage cooperation to develop cyberdefence along common standards.

- **Governmental Satellite Communications** are important for both civil and military operations and missions (e.g. diplomatic communication, humanitarian and emergency response, security). EDA supports cooperation on the development of a future satellite communication capability with various types of industrial and institutional partners.

98. The European Defence Agency at a glance, p. 1.

"A sustainable, innovative and competitive European defence industry is essential for Europe's strategic autonomy and for a credible CSDP. It can also stimulate growth and jobs. A solid European defence, technological and industrial base needs a fair, functioning and transparent internal market, security of supply, and a structured dialogue with defence relevant industries. Furthermore, ensuring participation of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the defence sector can improve innovation and investment in the military technologies of tomorrow."[99]

Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, June 2016

Furthermore, EDA also works on other programmes where it seeks to enhance cooperation between European Member States, such as countering improvised explosive devices, harmonisation of ammunition qualification, training and exercises, and support to operations.

Contribution to innovation and to more competitiveness in the internal market. Research & Technology and industrial matters

EDA stimulates greater innovation in European defence industry, which has been under severe financial strain in recent years. It promotes dual use (i.e. civil and military) research and technologies in the field of security and defence. EDA manages many research programmes and projects, enabling cooperation and synergies for Member States. In particular, the Agency implements the Pilot Project for defence research on behalf of the European Commission and supports the

Commission and Member States in setting up the Preparatory Action on defence research by 2017. Moreover, EDA reinforces the European defence technological and industrial base. For example, it supports SMEs to gain access to European Structural and Investment Funds.

Contribution to a cleaner and more efficient energy

EDA launched a cross-cutting energy and environment programme that spans capability, armaments and research and technology aspects. It focuses among others on energy efficiency, sustainable energy and alternative energy sources. It tackles for example the issue of reduction of fuel and energy consumption by deployed forces, and works toward the development of alternative energy facilities at military sites. It also aims at assessing the impact of new technologies and future energy policies on defence capability in order to design strategies in consequence. Together with the European Commission, it also organises a Consultation Forum on sustainable energy in the defence and security sector.

Preparatory Action for CSDP-related research

The EDA is involved in preparations for the launch of the Commission's so-called 'Preparatory Action' (PA) on defence research in 2017. Whereas today's EU multiannual research programme (Horizon 2020) is exclusively dedicated to civilian-focused research, the PA is meant to test defence research implementation and funding within an EU framework with the aim of having it fully integrated in the European Union's next multiannual framework (2021-2027). In the run-up to the PA, the EDA is currently managing and implementing (on behalf of the Commission) a Pilot Project for defence research which was launched in March 2016 (call for proposals) and through which grant agreements worth almost €1.4 million are awarded for two defence technological projects and one R&D project.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

SatCen: EDA has been cooperating with SatCen since its inception on several important projects necessitating geospatial information for defence purposes. They also contribute together to the Space Situational Awareness programme and other projects or studies related to maritime surveillance, Big Data exploitation in the space and security domain, cyberdefence, etc. In July 2016, that cooperation was formalized and further strengthened through an exchange of letter between the two agencies.

Frontex: EDA is involved in the implementation of the EU Maritime Security Strategy, for example by developing, in cooperation with Frontex, future hospital and crisis management ships or connecting national maritime surveillance information systems. Those projects have both military and civil applications.

EASA: EDA cooperates closely with EASA in its efforts towards the harmonisation of certification procedures for military aviation safety (Military Airworthiness regulations), that are nowadays national.

ESA: EDA collaborates with the European Space Agency (ESA) in a wide range of activities related to space-based assets: satellite communication, earth observation, RPAS command and control, as well as protection of space and ground infrastructure.

SESAR JU: EDA plays an important role in facilitating coordination between Member States and international organisations (such as Eurocontrol and NATO) with the SESAR Joint Undertaking in order to integrate the military dimension into the management of sky air traffic.

ECHA: EDA is working with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and Member States in establishing harmonised standards for mitigating the impact of REACH[100] by introducing exemptions where necessary in the interests of defence.

Sources
- EDA's website, www.eda.europa.eu
- EDA Annual Report 2015
- EDA's brochure "Together for a stronger Europe"
- Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy, June 2016

---

[99]. Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy, June 2016, p. 46.
[100]. The European Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) lays the ground for a system of registration of chemical substances within the Union. Chemicals and their intended use have to be reported to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) by their producers or importers.

EEA
European Environment Agency

European Environment Agency

EEA contributes to achieving the objective of sustainable development and measurable improvement in Europe's environment by providing policy-makers and the public with independent scientific data, indicators and assessments on the state of the environment. It supports the implementation of climate change and environment policies to achieve Europe's long-term goals for sustainable development, in line with the objective of Smart Growth, and contributes to pushing for the adoption of high-quality European environmental monitoring standards at the global scale.
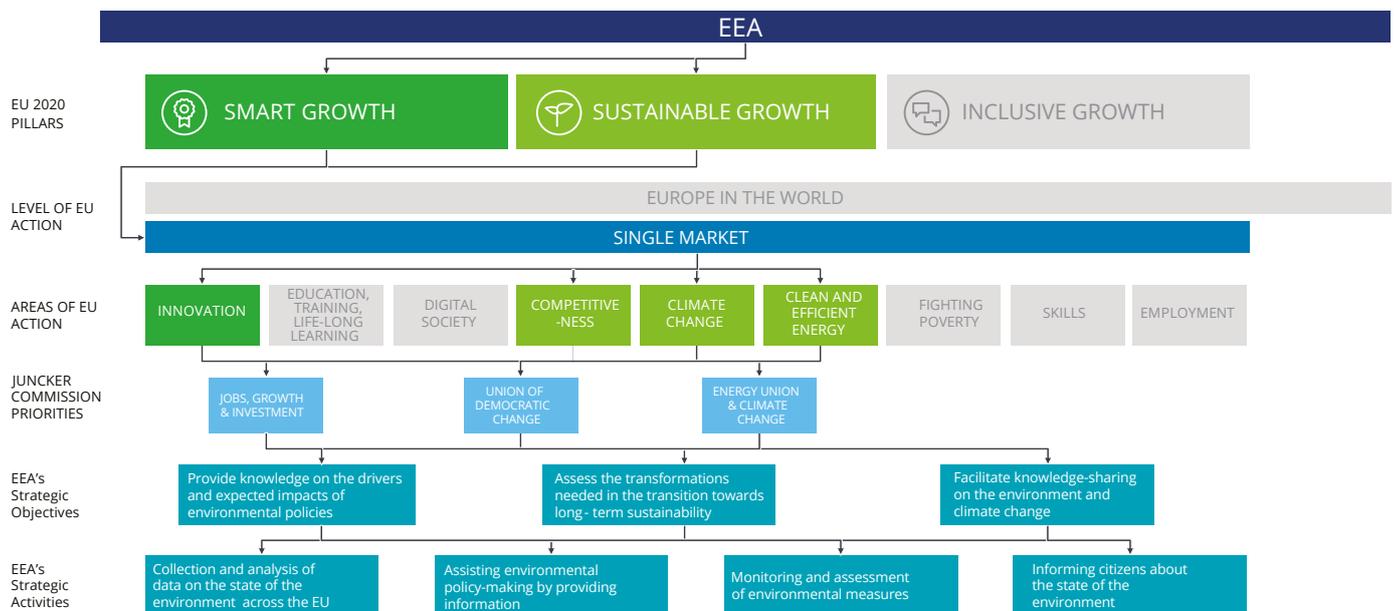
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1993
- **Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Staff:** 205 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **EEA's mission is to provide EU Institutions and Member States with "objective, reliable and comparable information at European level enabling them to take the requisite measures to protect the environment, to assess the results of such measures and to ensure that the public is properly informed about the state of the environment, and to that end, the necessary technical and scientific support"[101].**

Background
Protecting the environment and ensuring sustainable development are fundamental objectives of the Union and its Member States[102]. As climate change is becoming an increasingly salient issue, the Union has set long-term objectives for the protection of its resources and of its citizens from the climate change-related threats. Through thematic and cross-sectoral policies, the EU is striving to achieve its long-term vision of "living well within the limits of the planet"[103]. This means ensuring the sustainability of the European development and a balanced growth model for current and future generations.

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy
EEA supports the effort for sustainable development by providing EU and national decision-makers with the necessary information to shape, implement and assess environmental policies, on the basis of the precautionary principle. It produces indicators and reports in the fields of climate change mitigation and impacts, energy and transport, vulnerability and adaptation. Every five years, it publishes a comprehensive assessment of the European environment's state, trends and prospects. This data and assessments constitute a sound basis on which to lay the ground for the Union's environmental policy.

"The Agency will map out the essential transformations needed to help Europe make the transition to an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable society."[104]

**Dr. Sybille van den Hove,
Chair of the EEA Scientific Committee**

101. Regulation (EC) 401/2009, Article 1.
102. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
103. 7th General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020.
104. EEA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2018, p.5.

The Agency contributes to achieving the EU's emissions reduction and biodiversity targets in order to move towards a low carbon, resource efficient and climate resilient economy by 2050. It is particularly useful for providing information on how to enhance emission reductions across sectors such as energy and transport and promote the development of renewable energy in the Union's energy mix. The EEA contributes to building a resilient Energy Union with assessments on greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment

EEA acts at the interface between science and policy: it provides policy-makers with knowledge based on the latest environmental information for them to best shape and implement policies geared towards sustainable development. Using research and innovation to lay the grounds for Europe's transition towards its long-term sustainability objectives is paramount to the Smart Growth branch of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

Measures analysed by EEA have a direct impact on sustainable development, in particular those aiming at the implementation of the circular economy, resource efficiency and waste management and prevention. These contributions also lay the basis for the Resource Efficient Europe and Innovation Union priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy. Further exploiting the potential of green energy is key to enhancing the EU economy's competitiveness by providing secure, affordable and sustainable energy to citizens and companies. Making economic development less dependent on non-renewable energy and resources also reinforces the economy's resilience to risks.

Contribution to the European footprint's on sustainable development worldwide

The Union is the world's leading actor in the fight against climate change. Based on EEA monitoring, expertise and

information, the Union takes major steps to achieve the objective of limiting the temperature increase. The Agency also exchanges knowledge with international organisations such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the International Energy Agency, the United Nations. The Agency supports EU engagement in international fora with the information necessary to push for sustainable environmental policy developments, such as at the COP21 conference on climate change. Finally, it contributes to expertise and capacity-building in the European neighbourhood.

Contribution to a Union of Democratic Change

Communicating to citizens about the state and outlook of their environment helps raising awareness about threats and best ways to overcome them. By publishing data and assessments, EEA contributes to policy-makers' transparency efforts and is committed to informing citizens, thereby thriving for a Union of Democratic Change.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EEA works on environmental issues with **ECDC and ECHA.** EEA's networking activities mainly take place through the European environment information and

observation network (Eionet), which constitutes the framework for collaboration with the national contact points of EEA's 33 EU member and third countries.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) 401/2009 on the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network
- Treaty on European Union
- 7th General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020
- EEA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2014-2018
- EEA Annual Report 2015
- EEA Work Programme 2016

Using modern information and communication technologies (ICT) for environmental observation and reporting

EEA cooperates with the European Space Agency (ESA) in the field of Earth observation and the environment for scientific expertise and technical information exchange, thus allowing for better data access. For instance, the Sentinel-2A satellite provides data for the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service, which provides information on land cover and land change use, as well as on changes in the vegetation and water cycle.

EEA also uses ICT for environmental reporting: 89 regular data flows cover a wide range of the EU environment acquis. They provide modern reporting tools and increasingly automated data integration for public and private actors.

EFCA
European Fisheries Control Agency

EFCA contributes to the implementation of the control legislation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). It also reinforces the European Union's stance as a global actor in the field of fisheries by dealing with the international dimension of the CFP.

EFCA

| EU 2020 PILLARS | SMART GROWTH | SUSTAINABLE GROWTH | INCLUSIVE GROWTH |

LEVEL OF EU ACTION — EUROPE IN THE WORLD / SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION: INNOVATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING | DIGITAL SOCIETY | COMPETITIVE-NESS | CLIMATE CHANGE | CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY | FIGHTING POVERTY | SKILLS | EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES: INTERNAL MARKET

EFCA's Strategic Objectives:
- Coordination of fisheries control and inspection by Member States
- Support of Commission and Member States in the monitoring, control and surveillance of the CFP
- International dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

EFCA's Strategic Activities:
- Assistance to the Commission and Member States for the implementation of the CFP
- Data monitoring and networks
- Support in the common implementation of a level-playing field
- Support the international dimension of the CFP and the fight against IUU activities

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2005
- **Location:** Vigo, Spain
- **Staff:** 61 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> EFCA's mission is "to organise operational coordination of fisheries control and inspection activities by the Member States and to assist them to cooperate so as to comply with the rules of the Common EU Fisheries Policy (CFP) in order to ensure its effective and uniform application"[105].

Background
The CFP aims at regulating fishing so as to protect marine biological resources and to create a level playing field for all actors of the fishing industry.

The conservation of marine biological resources under the CFP is an exclusive competence of the Union under the Lisbon Treaty[106]. The CFP foresees the environmentally sustainable management of fisheries by ensuring the traceability, security and quality of products sold in the internal market. It also contributes to the social sustainability of fishing and aquaculture in Europe by establishing fair living standards in the fisheries sector, stable markets and ensuring the availability of food supply at reasonable prices[107].

Contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal market
EFCA contributes to the efficient implementation of conservation and management measures within this framework by coordinating fisheries control activities at national level and by supporting the Commission and Member States the monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries in line with the CFP guidelines.

In practice, the agency helps Member States comply with existing measures by coordinating and enhancing control and inspection. It also provides trainings and maintains data and systems on fisheries. Its activities encompasses in particular on compliance with the "landing obligation" laid down in the CFP, which entails landing all catches of species subject to catch limits and minimum sizes made in EU waters or by Union fishing vessels. This requirement is meant to reduce the levels of unwanted catches and discards, which threaten both marine ecosystems and the financial viability of fisheries[108].

EFCA contributes to creating a level playing field in which all fishers can live from their activity, which stimulates the competitiveness and Smart Growth within the internal market.
EFCA also participates in the protection of the marine environment and the sustainable management of commercially exploited fish species. It thus promotes Sustainable Growth in Europe.

105. Council Regulation (EC) 768/2005 establishing A Community Fisheries Control Agency, Article 1.
106. Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 3.1.
107. Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, Recital (4).
108. Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, Recital (23).

> "With EFCA's support, the European Union is much better prepared to reduce unwanted catches for the years ahead."

Reinhard Priebe,
Chair of EFCA's Administrative Board[109]

Contribution to the global presence of the Union in the field of fisheries

The work of EFCA is also geared towards supporting the EU's role as a global actor through the international dimension of the CFP. It assists the Union with carrying out its international obligations relating to control and inspection by assisting the Union and Member States in their relations with third countries and international fisheries organisations. It also cooperates with the competent authorities of third countries in monitoring and compliance with international fishing rules. By doing so, it ensures the EU's presence in the international fisheries arena, thereby pushing for the adoption of Europe's high standards at the international level.

In particular, EFCA assists the Member States and the European Commission in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, which is key in the protection of global marine resources in a sustainable perspective, in line with EU long-term objectives of environmental preservation.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EFCA collaborates with **Frontex** and **EMSA** on the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard capacity. This structure was introduced in December 2015 to better protect the EU's external borders by joining management efforts at EU level. In practice, the three agencies regularly exchange information regarding operational activities, share best practices and technological developments in the field of maritime surveillance.

EFCA's achievements in 2015:

- 17000 coordinated inspections;
- 703 suspected Infringements detected;
- 38 training events involving 12% of the Union Inspectors;
- 21 million Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) positions received and processed;
- 6.500 catch certificates and supporting documents analysed;
- Budget execution: 99.6%;
- 100% of the Staff establishment plan filled.

Sources
- Council Regulation (EC) 768/2005 establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency
- Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
- Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy
- Regulation (EU) 2015/812
- EFCA Annual Report 2015
- EFCA Work Programme 2016
- EFCA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2016-2020

---

109. EFCA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2016-2020, p.8.

EFSA
European Food Safety Authority

EFSA contributes to ensuring the safety of food and feed products sold in the internal market, by assessing risks and delivering opinions based on scientific data. By informing decision-makers and consumers, EFSA helps protect the health of EU citizens, while reinforcing the functioning of the internal market and supporting EU industry in the remit of its activities. Through its cooperation with health and food safety organisations world-wide, the Agency also contributes to the advancement of science and knowledge on food safety issues. EFSA therefore promotes Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe through increased consumer health protection.
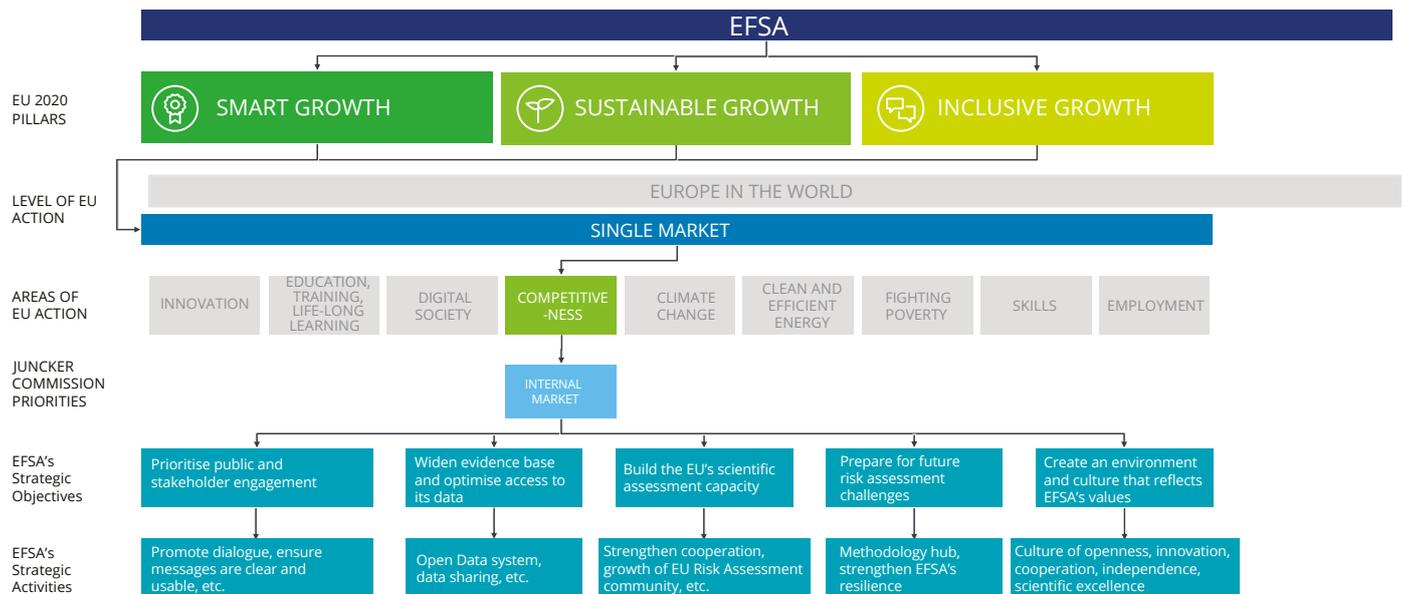
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location:** Parma, Italy
- **Staff:** 447 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EFSA's mission is to "provide scientific advice and scientific and technical support for the Community's legislation and policies in all fields which have a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety. It shall provide independent information on all matters within these fields and communicate on risks".[110]

Background
EFSA was set up following a series of food crises in the late 1990s to be a source of scientific advice and communication on risks associated with the food chain. Since it was set up, EFSA has delivered scientific advice on a wide range of issues such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Salmonella, food additives such as aspartame, allergenic food ingredients, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), pesticides, and animal health issues such as avian influenza. EFSA is committed to safeguarding the independence of its experts, methods and data from any undue external influence and to communicating openly and transparently about its work.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market
EFSA empowers European consumers by providing information on food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, nutrition, plant protection and health, which allows them to make informed consumption choices, in line with the requirements of the EU Food Law[111]. The agency therefore contributes to the well-being of citizens, a fundamental EU objective[112].

"The advice that EFSA provides to risk managers underpins the laws and regulations of the EU, as well as evolving policy priorities and needs, to protect European consumers from food-related risks – from field and factory to fork."[113]

EFSA collects and analyses data and scientific literature to assess risks related to food and feed safety. It provides risk managers at EU and Member States levels with independent scientific advice on food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, plant health, nutrition and GMOs. Its independent scientific advice serves as a basis for timely, well-informed and coherent

---

110. Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, Article 22.
111. The EU Food Law "provides the basis for a high level of protection of human health and consumers' interest in relation to food [...] whilst ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market". See Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, Article 1.1.
112. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.1.
113. EFSA Strategy 2020, p. 7.

decision-making by risk managers at EU and Member States level. EFSA communicates with the public on risks to food and feed safety in order to further improve consumer protection through better understanding and awareness-raising.

EFSA's actions create the conditions to guarantee that food placed on the European market is safe and provides independent advice on contentious issues such as GMOs, pesticides, additives and contaminants. This enables the adoption of common standards and measures at EU level, which is a necessary condition to ensure the free movement of food and feed across Member States. Preventing fragmentation reinforces the EU internal market, which is paramount to sustainability and growth.

Moreover, EFSA supports the EU industry in the remit of it activities by improving upon competitiveness and promoting new employment opportunities. It does so both directly, e.g. by safeguarding public health, and indirectly, e.g. by strengthening consumer confidence in the food safety system.

Contribution to the European footprint on worldwide food safety standards

Thanks to EFSA's work, the EU enjoys some of the highest food safety standards in the world. This means that products shall not be sold on the internal market until it has been proven that they do not present risks for human and animal health. The Union is also one of the major global food and feed traders. EFSA works together and exchanges knowledge with food safety experts in the EU and globally to ensure excellence and efficiency and to maximise the available risk assessment capacity and potential.

EFSA believes that the totality of food safety expertise in Europe and internationally is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

EFSA's scientific support extends to EFTA and EU accession countries which have to directly transpose and implement EU food safety regulations to have access to the EU common market.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EFSA collaborates closely with **ECDC, ECHA, EMA and EEA** in order to harmonise and rationalise risk assessment at EU level.

EFSA also works closely with EU Member States, European Neighbourhood countries and international food safety actors on streamlining methodologies, prioritising research needs and avoiding duplication of work. It cooperates with all stakeholders involved in food and feed safety, from consumers groups to academia, from farmers and distributors to international organisations and third countries.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) No 178/2002
- Treaty on European Union
- EFSA Annual Report 2014
- EFSA Programming Document 2016-2018
- EFSA Strategy 2020

Pesticides and bees: the EFSA effect

Bees are critically important in the environment, sustaining biodiversity by providing essential pollination for a wide range of crops and wild plants. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations estimates that of the 100 crop species that provide 90% of food worldwide, 71 are pollinated by bees. Amid growing concern over declining honeybee numbers, EFSA was asked by the European Commission to assess the specific risks to bees posed by neonicotinoids, a group of widely used systemic pesticides.

EFSA performed risk assessments on three substances ¬– clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam – and concluded that all three posed acute or chronic risks to bees. As a result of EFSA's conclusions, in 2013 the European Commission imposed restrictions on their use across the European Union.

EFSA is also leading a major long-term project to assess the way that other «stressors» ¬– such as parasites, pathogens and malnutrition – interact with pesticides to affect bees.

EIGE
European Institute for Gender Equality

Through its actions towards the promotion of equality between women and men, EIGE contributes to different aspects of the Single Market that can bring Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth as defined in the Europe 2020 Strategy: a more equal inclusion of women in economic and political life, which also goes through education and skills, impacts Europe's competitiveness, allows to reach employment targets and prevents both women and men from falling into poverty. EIGE works towards ensuring dignified life, free of gender-based violence.

	EIGE		
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD		
	SINGLE MARKET		
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION · EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING · DIGITAL SOCIETY · COMPETITIVE-NESS · CLIMATE CHANGE · CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY · FIGHTING POVERTY · SKILLS · EMPLOYMENT		
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JUSTICE & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS		
EIGE's strategic objectives	Provide high quality research and data	Timely, innovative communications that meet the targeted needs of key stakeholders	Promote gender mainstreaming in all policy areas
EIGE's Strategic Activities	Identify gender equality challenges and gaps through the provision of reliable and comparable data	Identify and fill the gaps in the availability of reliable and valid information and data on gender-based violence	Foster relevant stakeholders' awareness of the tools developed to support gender mainstreaming · Process and disseminate newly found knowledge and existing resources

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2010
- **Location:** Vilnius, Lithuania
- **Staff:** 43 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EIGE's mission is to "become the European knowledge centre on gender equality"[114].

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights
EIGE works on the area of freedom, security and justice and contributes to as well as promotes gender equality and gender mainstreaming (i.e. incorporation of gender considerations in all policy-making processes) in all EU policies and subsequent Member States' policies.

Moreover, it supports the EU Institutions, especially the European Commission, as well as Member States in raising citizens' awareness on gender equality issues.

"EIGE has an important mission to fulfil, and even more so today with the current challenges facing Europe. From the impacts of the financial crisis to increasing migration challenges, internal security concerns and rising intolerance and discrimination, it is more important than ever that the response to these challenges takes into consideration a gendered approach."[115]

Virginija Langbakk, EIGE Director

To carry out its mission, EIGE collects analyses and disseminates objective, reliable and comparable information and data to support policy-makers and other stakeholders in the decision-making process in order to achieve gender equality. EIGE communicates the results of its research, spreads knowledge and raises awareness on gender equality through different channels such as its Newsletter and publications, but also social media, workshops, seminars and campaigns.

EIGE has published a Gender Equality Index revealing that in all areas covered by the analysis – i.e. work, power, time, knowledge, money, and health; there is still discrimination against women[116].

Equality between men and women represents a fundamental value of the EU. EIGE strives to make it a reality for all Europeans, and even beyond. This has impacts on the whole Single Market, on aspects such as education, competitiveness, employment, skills and

114. EIGE 2016-2018 Single Programming Document, p. 7.
115. EIGE Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015, p. 7.
116. EIGE 2016-2018 Single Programming Document, p. 8.

the fight against poverty. The contribution of gender equality to improve those different aspects is intertwined. Although European women are on average better educated than men, they comparatively occupy less influential or power positions in politics or in the economy. The utilisation of women's talents and their contribution to the political and economic life or to any other decision-making area are therefore of paramount importance for Europe to remain competitive and for European economic well-being. Women's engagement in the economy is also crucial to meet Europe 2020 Strategy's employment goals, hence bringing economic growth. Moreover, increasing women's economic independence will also contribute to reducing poverty.

EIGE furthermore focuses on other related topics such as the eradication of violence against women.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EIGE is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network, and collaborates in particular with **FRA** regarding the topics of violence against women, migrant and Roma populations for the Gender Equality Index. It also cooperates with other EU agencies, such as:

- **Eurofound** in the domain of the Gender Equality Index;
- **EU-OSHA** in order to fill the information or data gaps relative to gender risks in occupational safety and health.

EIGE also works together with the EU Institutions and other EU bodies such as the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and Eurostat. EIGE collaborates with national equality bodies and international organisations such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE, UN Women and OECD to avoid overlaps and foster synergies where appropriate.

Gender Equality Index

EIGE's Gender Equality Index measures gender gaps in and across all 28 EU Member States. It was launched in 2013 and two years later, was further revised to include a time series that measured progress in gender equality in the EU from 2005 to 2012.

This unique measurement tool supports evidence-based policy-making and indicates where political priorities should be shifted to accelerate the process of achieving a gender-equal Europe and the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy, such as the target employment rate of 75% overall for women and men.

The Index has become increasingly significant in the past years as some Member States have adopted it as their standard monitoring tool within their national or regional statistical systems (e.g. Ireland, Estonia, Luxembourg and the Basque Region).

EIGE's Gender Statistics Database which contains the data used to calculate the Index is a useful tool that can help with monitoring the progress of the Europe 2020 Strategy. The database contains a specific entry point for the Strategy and lists the different indicators that measure the targets, such as the tertiary education rate, broken down by sex and age group (30 -34).
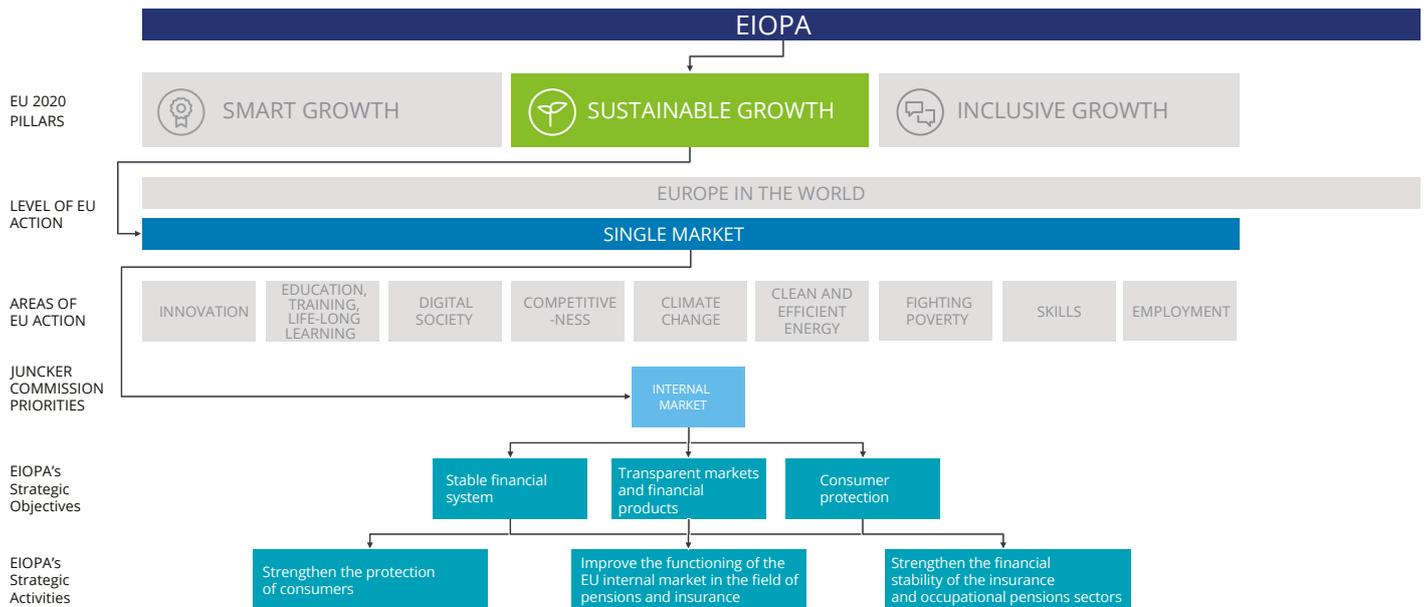
Sources
- EIGE 2016-1018 Single Programming Document
- EIGE Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- External Evaluation of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE/2014/OPER/01)

EIOPA
European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority

EIOPA contributes to Sustainable Growth through its actions towards an efficient functioning of the Single Market, by enhancing supervisory convergence, reinforcing preventive consumer protection as well as by preserving financial stability.

EIOPA	

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD
	SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION	EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING	DIGITAL SOCIETY	COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS	EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	INTERNAL MARKET

EIOPA's Strategic Objectives	Stable financial system	Transparent markets and financial products	Consumer protection

EIOPA's Strategic Activities	Strengthen the protection of consumers	Improve the functioning of the EU internal market in the field of pensions and insurance	Strengthen the financial stability of the insurance and occupational pensions sectors

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2011
- **Location:** Frankfurt, Germany
- **Staff:** 151 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EIOPA aims at "strengthening European supervisory arrangements with a view to better protect policyholders, pension scheme members and beneficiaries and to rebuilt trust in the financial system"[117] .

Background
EIOPA was established in the aftermath of the financial and economic crisis of 2007-2008, which revealed shortcomings in the supervision of financial services institutions due to a lack of cooperation, coordination and trust between the national supervisors, as well as an inconsistent application of EU law across Member States. The severe strain on the stability of the financial system caused by the crisis also put at risk the functioning of the internal market.

Restoring and maintaining a stable and reliable financial system is therefore a necessary condition to rebuild and preserve trust in the internal market, and hence foster economic growth.

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the internal market
EIOPA's core responsibilities are to enhance the financial system stability, to ensure the transparency of markets and financial products and protect consumers, i.e. policyholders and pension scheme members and beneficiaries. In order to achieve those objectives and contribute to the efficient functioning of the internal market, EIOPA defined in Single Programming Document 2017-2019 four strategic objectives:

1. Strengthening the protection of consumers. EIOPA strives to ensure transparency, simplicity, accessibility and fairness across the internal market for consumers in order to restore the lost confidence. EIOPA carries out regulatory and supervisory activities in order to make sure that insurance companies provide consumers with quality products and services and with all the information they need and can understand in order to make informed decisions.

2. Improving the functioning of the EU internal market in the field of pensions and insurance. This objective entails similar high standards of consumer protection and supervision of the insurance providers and a consistent application of the regulation. EIOPA contributes to the development of a sound and prudent regulatory framework and to its implementation across the EU, with the purpose of achieving a common supervisory culture and consistent supervisory practices. Through for example the provision of trainings, participation in colleges and forums, the delivery of peer reviews and bilateral visits and engagement with National Competent Authorities, EIOPA promotes convergence in the application of high quality supervision within Europe.

117. EIOPA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2015-2017, p. 3.

3. Strengthening the financial stability of the insurance and occupational pensions sectors. EIOPA continually monitors and assesses trends, potential risks and vulnerabilities in order to safeguard the stability of the financial system. The anticipation of risks and their pro-active mitigation is crucial to facilitate and coordinate preventive supervisory actions and further enhance consumer protection.

"We will continue to build a truly European supervisory culture that thanks to its risk-based forward-looking approach promotes financial stability, mitigates possible disruptions in the market and ensures the similar level of protection for insurance policyholders, pension scheme members and beneficiaries as well as other consumers of financial products."[118]

Gabriel Bernardino, EIOPA Chair

4. Acting as a responsible, competent and professional organisation. Following the development of Solvency II regulation, EIOPA is currently shifting from an organisation primarily providing regulatory services, to an organisation supporting quality supervision and convergence within the EU. This requires strong, efficient and effective internal processes.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EIOPA operates within the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) that has the purpose of ensuring consistent and coherent micro- and macro-prudential financial supervision[119] in the EU. Micro-prudential supervision is carried out by the three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) – i.e. the EIOPA, the European Securities and Markets Authority **(ESMA)** and the European Banking Authority **(EBA)**–, the Joint Committee of the ESAs and the National Competent Authorities (NCAs). Macro-prudential oversight is conducted at the EU level by the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) which comprises the European Central Bank (ECB), the national central banks, the ESAs and the European Commission.

The ESFS works towards an efficient functioning of the single market thanks to a regulatory and supervisory framework that is applied equally across Europe. While the day-to-day supervision of the financial institutions mainly remains at national level, the three ESAs bring EU-wide uniform rules and harmonise supervisory approaches across the EU. The ESFS also cooperates with other supervisory authorities such as the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) towards the completion of a Banking Union.

Sources
- EIOPA Annual Report 2015
- EIOPA Annual Work Programme 2016
- EIOPA Single Programming Document 2017-2019
- EIOPA Multi-Annual Work Programme 2015-2017

A common European supervisory culture: EIOPA's contribution

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) has prepared Solvency II standards and guidelines, as well as providing advice and calculating risk free interest rates. On 1 January 2016 **Solvency II was implemented in all European Union countries.** This is a huge step forward for policyholder protection and the insurance single market in the European Union. For EIOPA as well as for the insurance market this day marked the beginning of a new journey, **with the start of ensuring consistent and convergent supervision across the European Union**. With the momentum of this important milestone, **EIOPA's main strategic focus shifted from regulation to building a common European supervisory culture.**

The advice to the European Commission on the **development of a simple, standardised and fully transparent Pan-European Personal Pension Product (PEPP)** is an important step forward **in contributing to the implementation of the European Union Capital Markets Union.**

Furthermore, EIOPA continues to place the **protection of consumers and beneficiaries at its heart by further enhancing and implementing a preventive, risk-based conduct of supervision.**


[118.] EIOPA Annual Report 2015, p. 7.

[119.] The micro-prudential supervision is the supervision of individual institutions, while the macro-prudential supervision focuses on system-wide risks to financial stability.

EIT
European Institute of Innovation and Technology

The EIT is dedicated to creating an environment conducive to innovation in Europe by encouraging the collaboration of higher education, research and business organisations within multidisciplinary, pan-European Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). It thereby contributes to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth through the long-term creation of jobs and skilled talents in a knowledge-based economy.
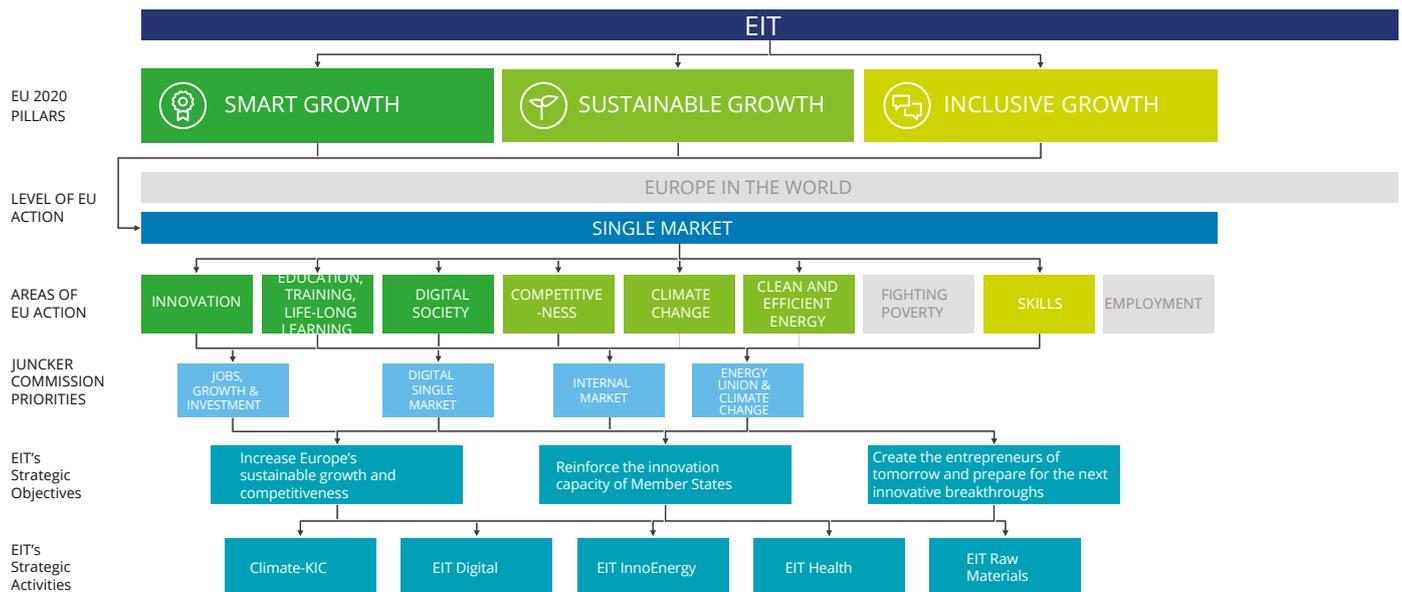
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Institute
- **Foundation year:** 2008
- **Location:** Budapest, Hungary
- **Staff:** 58 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> The EIT's mission is "to contribute to sustainable European economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of the Member States and the Community. It shall do this by promoting and integrating higher education, research and innovation of the highest standards"[120].

Background
Innovation is a key driver of growth, competitiveness and social well-being, which are fundamental objectives of the European Union[121] and highly reliant on knowledge. The EIT was therefore set up to overcome the lack of geographical and cross-sectoral collaboration between innovation players in Europe. It aims to make the most of Europe's extensive research base to turn innovative ideas into new products and services, thereby strengthening the capacity to meet the rapidly changing demands of consumers and contribute to making Europe a leading global innovation actor.

The EIT brings together higher education, research and business actors – the three sides of the "knowledge triangle" – within Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). These partnerships constitute the first EU-level ecosystems where human, financial and physical resources are pooled to optimise research efforts and their prompt translation into breakthrough innovations in order to tackle specific societal challenges.

Contribution to a new boost for jobs, growth and investment
The EIT is a key initiative of the Innovation Union, which aims to increase Europe's global competitiveness and growth by creating an environment conducive to innovation and to its translation into marketable products and services. As a flagship initiative, the EIT, which is an integral part of Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, seeks to facilitate the creation of new business opportunities as well as foster innovation in existing companies. The pillar of the EIT's strategy is to enable the geographical and organisational mobility in order to instil an entrepreneurial culture among all innovation actors.

The EIT is dedicated to creating this change in mind-sets by setting up education programmes geared towards the development of entrepreneurship and innovation skills. These programmes are based on partnerships between universities, companies and research centres and offer international, cross-sector experiences and applied innovation and entrepreneurship education.

---

120. Regulation 294/2008, Article 3.
121. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.

Contribution to a connected Digital Single Market

The EIT contributes to fostering European innovation and entrepreneurship in the field of innovation and communication technologies (ICT). EIT Digital, its ICT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC), are designed to support the development of breakthrough ideas and facilitate their placing on the market by providing a place for students, entrepreneurs, SMEs, start-ups and business actors to meet, exchange ideas and turn them into marketable innovations.

Creating such platforms for innovation in the field of digitalisation fuels the dynamism of European start-ups and participates in the development of ICT products and services. This contributes to the establishment of an efficient and innovative Digital Single Market in the Union.

"What makes the EIT unique: its focus on education, giving talent space to develop, and creating a culture of entrepreneurship in Europe."[122]

Tibor Navracsics,
European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport responsible for the EIT

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

Within its Climate-KIC, the EIT integrates research efforts focusing on climate change adaptation and mitigation. It thus stimulates climate change entrepreneurship among students and professionals through education activities that seek to foster the development of innovation conducive to sustainable development.

The EIT also participates in the effort to develop sustainable energy through EIT InnoEnergy. This partnership aims to facilitate the development of climate-related start-ups. The KIC's strategy to achieve sustainability entails reducing the cost of energy in the value chain, increasing energy security and reducing CO_2 and other greenhouse gas emissions. This benefits citizens directly by encouraging the supply of cheap, secure and sustainable energy. The work of this KIC is complementary to that of EIT Raw Materials, which aims to develop a cost-efficient, secure, sustainable supply and use of raw materials.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base

By enabling turning ideas into new products and services which meet the demands of consumers, the EIT feeds the dynamism of the EU internal market. It thereby ensures that research efforts and innovation match ever-changing societal needs.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

As an integral part of Horizon2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, the EIT cooperates closely with European bodies involved in innovation, namely the European Commission and in particular the Joint Research Centre with which the EIT has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation.

Creating European innovation hubs

The EIT's KICs are developing into thriving innovation hubs. Since 2011, 32 innovation hotspots have been set up across Europe, with an already telling record:

- **Europe's largest innovation network bringing together more than 800 partners;**
- **1141** business ideas incubated;
- **205** start-ups created;
- **558** knowledge transfers and adoptions operated;
- **280** new or improved products and services created.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) No 294/2008
- Treaty on European Union
- Decision No 1312/2013/EU on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the EIT
- EU Agencies working for you
- The EIT at a glance
- EIT Annual Activity Report 2015
- EIT Triennial Work Programme 2016-2018
- EIT website

---

122. See: https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/europe%E2%80%99s-top-new-innovators-honoured-eit-awards, consulted on 19 August 2016..

EMA
European Medicines Agency

EMA contributes to protecting citizens' health in the Internal Market through the evaluation and supervision of medicinal products for humans and animals on the basis of robust scientific evidence. It also stimulates innovation and the competitiveness of the pharmaceutical industry by bringing scientific, regulatory and administrative support to the development of new, innovative medicines. The Agency encourages Smart and Sustainable Growth by creating an environment which places EU actors at the forefront of the medicine industry worldwide.
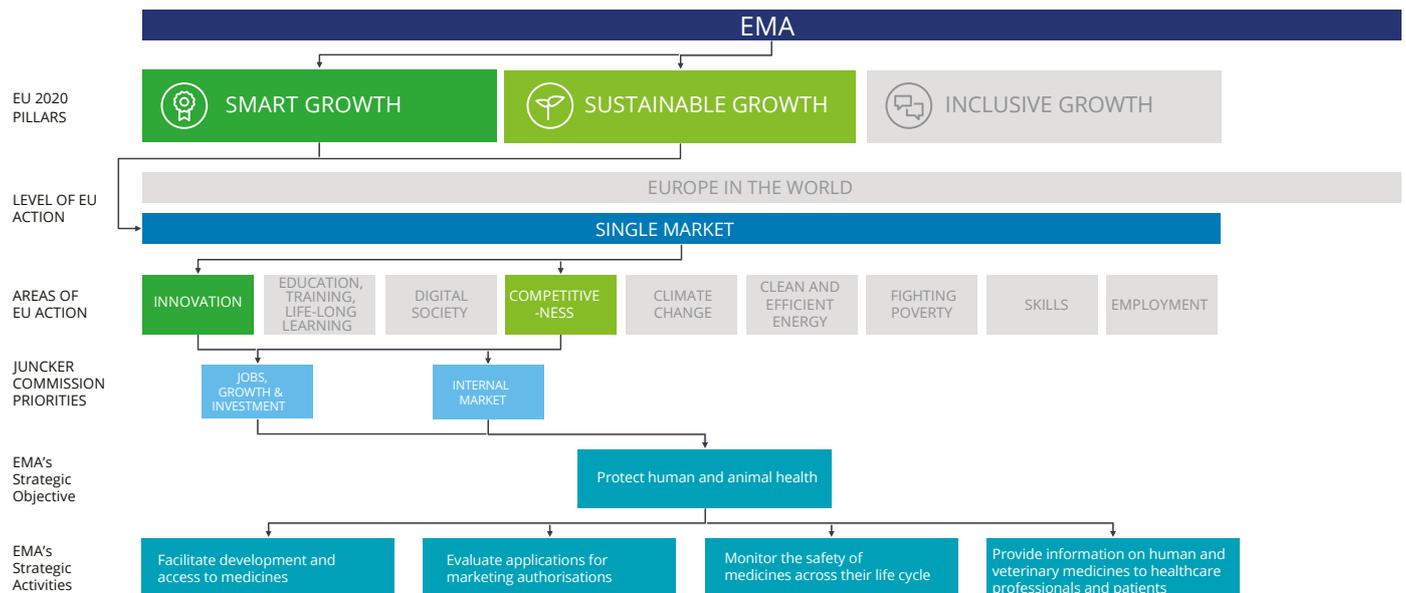
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1995
- **Location:** London, United Kingdom
- **Staff:** 890 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EMA's mission is "to foster scientific excellence in the evaluation and supervision of medicines, for the benefit of public and animal health"[123]

Contribution to a deeper and fairer Internal Market
EMA evaluates, supervises and monitors medicines developed for use by patients in the European Union. Since its establishment in 1995 EMA has recommended approximately 1000 medicines to the European Commission for a marketing authorisation for all EU Member States. Many of these medicines are innovative medicines, including biotechnology products and cell- and gene therapy products.

EMA is responsible for the centralised evaluation procedure which allows the marketing of a medicine on the basis of a single marketing authorisation which is valid throughout the Union. Pharmaceutical companies submit a single authorisation application to EMA. The Agency then carries out a scientific assessment of the application and gives a recommendation to the European Commission on whether or not to grant a marketing authorisation. Once granted by the European Commission, the centralised marketing authorisation is valid in all Member States and EEA countries. The use of the centralised procedure is compulsory for most innovative medicines, including medicines for rare diseases.

The safety of all medicines that are available on the European market is carefully monitored throughout their entire life span. EMA coordinates the EU system of safety monitoring, which connects all Member States, the European Commission and EMA in a close network. If there is a safety issue with a medicine that is authorised in

more than one Member State, the same regulatory action is taken across the Union and patients and healthcare professionals in all Member States are provided with the same guidance.

This allows EU patients to benefit from scientific developments while the risks of harm inherent in any medicine are minimised and managed.

EMA has been a trailblazer for transparency in public health and pharmaceutical research. The Agency publishes its assessment report and has also started to publish the clinical data on which its recommendations for marketing authorisations for medicines for human use are based on. This benefits patients, healthcare professionals, academia and industry.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
The second pillar of EMA's mission is support to research and innovation, thus contributing to the dynamism of innovation

---

123.   EMA Annual Report 2015, p.4.

in the field of medicines in the Union. The Agency advises researchers and companies on how to best comply with EU regulatory requirements and standards. EMA gives scientific advice to developers of new medicines. This facilitates the translation of scientific research into new and innovative medicines that address the needs of European patients'. In particular, the Agency provides active regulatory, financial and administrative support through its SME office to small and medium-sized enterprises – a major source of innovation in the Union.

The Agency plays a leading role in creating an environment that places the EU pharmaceutical industry at the forefront globally, thereby fostering Smart and Sustainable Growth in Europe.

"The Agency [is] proactive and effective in its dual role as gatekeeper, protecting patients from unsafe treatments, and enabler, facilitating the development of new and innovative medicines."[124]

**Professor Guido Rasi,
EMA Executive Director**

Contribution to Europe's role in worldwide medicine regulation
EMA, together with the European Commission and in close cooperation with Member States, works to forge ties with partner organisations around the world. These activities aim to foster the timely exchange of regulatory and scientific expertise and the development of best regulatory practices globally.

EMA has signed cooperation agreements with regulatory authorities (United States, Japan, Australia, Canada, Switzerland) and promotes EU standards across the world. International collaboration in the evaluation and monitoring of medicines is of utmost importance in view of globalised supply chains and the generation of clinical data outside Europe. Information sharing and collaboration allow efficiency gains and also contribute to the convergence of global medicines regulatory standards, in line with safety standards for European consumers. In addition, EMA offers support such as training and capacity building to countries with less developed regulatory infrastructures, thus acting as a reference authority for medicines worldwide.

Cooperation with other EU agencies and bodies
Aside from its cooperation with national regulatory authorities within the European medicines regulatory network, EMA collaborates closely with its partner EU agencies in related fields.

- Collaboration with **ECDC** encompasses information and monitoring of vaccines, anti-microbial resistance and antiviral medicines;

- EMA exchanges information and works on risk communication with **EFSA** e.g. on the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals;

- Collaboration with **ECH**A entails information exchange on the evaluation and risk management of chemicals, especially for the establishment of residue limits for biocides;

- EMA and the **EMCDDA** collaborate in the fields of psychoactive substances and abuse of medicines;

- EMA also collaborates with the **EEA** on issues of common interest.

Bringing significant benefits to patients

- In 2015, EMA recommended 93 medicines for marketing authorisation, which include 39 new active substances. These are substances that have previously never been authorised in a medicine in the European Union.

- Many of these medicines represent therapeutic innovations that can make a real difference to patients suffering from serious conditions such as cancer, diabetes and neurological diseases.

- Most of the noteworthy therapeutic innovations in 2015 took place in the area of cancer. Newly approved cancer therapies deactivate 'suppressive signals' to kill cancer cells, use monoclonal antibodies to direct the immune system towards cancer cells, modulate the activity of genes to treat multiple myeloma or use a genetically engineered virus to kill cancer cells.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 establishing a European medicines Agency
- EMA Annual Report 2015
- EMA Work Programme 2016
- EMA website

---

124. EMA Annual Report, p.9.

EMCDDA
European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

EMCDDA contributes to a safer and healthier Europe by monitoring the situation of the drugs problem in Europe as well as its solutions, by facilitating the exchange of best practices, assessing risks of new psychoactive substances and developing tools and instruments to monitor and evaluate EU and national drug policies. Through its dedicated actions, EMCDDA hence contributes to a better functioning of the Single Market. It contributes also to the Juncker Commission's priority "justice and fundamental rights" through its collaboration on drug trafficking.
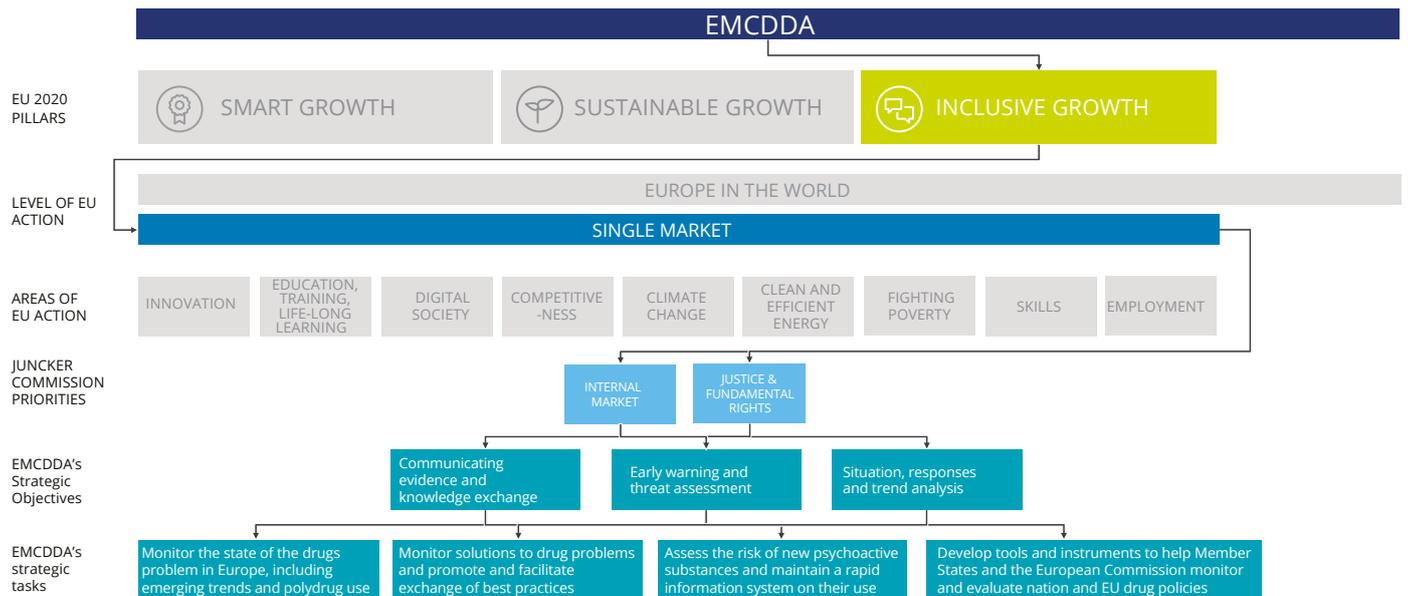
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1993
- **Location:** Lisbon, Portugal
- **Staff:** 102 FTEs (Aug. 2016)

> EMCDDA's mission is to "provide the EU and its Member States with a factual overview of European drug problems and with a solid evidence base to support the drugs debate"[125].

Contribution to a safer and healthier internal market
EMCDDA has the vision to contribute to a safer and healthier Europe by working as a European hub for drug-related information. In this respect, EMCDDA provides the EU and Member States with independent evidence-based information that enables decision and policy makers to better understand drug issues and take appropriate action. EMCDDDA's objective, factual, reliable and comparable data also help other stakeholders, such as professionals and practitioners, have an overview of the situation and tackle new areas of research. In order to fulfil its mission, EMCDDA works in three action areas.

1. Communicating evidence and knowledge exchange
The main customers of EMCDDA's information and data are the European Parliament, the Council of the EU, the European Commission, the European External Action Service, the Member States, other EU agencies and international bodies and organisations. EMCDDA collects data and analyses it in order to disseminate it to its customers which allows them to address the drug phenomenon in an appropriate way.

EMCDDA carries out strategic and situational analyses and assesses trends, developments and threats of the drug use in Europe. It produces different types of reports on the drug situation:

- The annual European Drug Report (EDR) includes information on trends and developments, statistics, overviews per country and specific analyses.

- The EU Drug Markets Report (EMDR), published every three years and elaborated together with Europol, tackles strategic and operational aspects of trends and developments of the drug phenomenon. This report is published every three years.

- The European Drug Responses Report (EDRR), also published every three years, focuses on the drug responses in the EU and their effectiveness and formulates recommendations for improvement. The first edition will be published in 2017.

Next to these main reports, EMCDDA also produces more focused analyses on e.g. a specific emerging topic or a geographical region. Moreover, EMCDDA also contributes to the exchange of knowledge and best practices, for example through trainings.

125.   EMCDDA Strategy and work programme 2016-2018 – Annual work programme 2016, p. 4.

EMCDDA manages the European information network on drugs and drug addiction (Reitox), which is also its main data source. Built as a network of 30 National Focus Points (i.e. all EU countries, Norway and Turkey), Reitox allows EMCDDA to gather information on drugs and drug addiction, regulations and policies in force and responses, but also to broaden the exchange of knowledge through different sectors such as health, justice and law enforcement.

2. Early warning and threat assessment

Another action area is the risk and trend monitoring and threat assessment of new psychoactive substances (NPS). Over the last years, the NPS have increased in terms of availability, sorts and number. Those substances result in severe harms and damages and even in death. In this respect, EMCDDA focuses on pro-active data gathering by improving the Early Warning System (EWS), hence enabling early identification of emerging trends, developments and risks and allowing an early response to it. EMCDDA implements the system together with Europol, and with the active contribution of EMA and the European Commission. The EWS includes the monitoring of serious adverse events in the framework of toxicovigilance and new policies, legislation and health and social responses to NPS. It is a key element to enable the exchange of forensic and toxicological analytical data, quick notifications and public health alerts on NPS, as well as risks and illicit markets monitoring and analysis. Moreover, together with its partners (Europol, ECDC and EMA), EMCDDA also detects and monitors emerging and new trends and threats in drug use and drug markets using other different risk and information assessment tools.

3. Situation, responses and trend analysis

EMCDDA's monitoring activities focuses on the drug situation and the responses that are developed to address it, both as far as the demand for and the supply of drugs are concerned.

In the area of drug demand, EMCDDA performs monitoring using well-established key epidemiological indicators covering aspects such as the patterns of drug use, the number and profile of drug users requesting treatment, the number of deaths or infectious diseases due to drug use, etc. EMCDDA also covers the issue of misuse of medicines.

In addition, EMCDDA performs work on the response side to drug use in order to get a better picture of treatment services in the EU, national estimates on treatment needs and gaps between treatment systems in EU. As far as drugs supply is concerned EMCDDA performs data review on drug seizures, market size and drug-related crimes. It reports on drug prices, purity and contents. Another point of interest is the production facilities' sites, on which information is collected by Europol.

Contribution to an area of justice and fundamental rights

Through its work, EMCDDA plays an important role in justice and law enforcement for drug-related issues. In collaboration with CEPOL, Europol and Eurojust, it contributes to the fight against cross-border crimes such as drug trafficking.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EMCDDA is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network and from among its members, it mainly collaborates with **CEPOL, Eurojust and Europol**, with the purpose of creating a safer Europe. For example, it cooperates with CEPOL on training matters; with Europol on emerging trend analyses and on the EU Drug Markets Report; and with Eurojust on drug trafficking cases.

EMCDDA works towards improving health in Europe and collaborates in this respect with **ECDC** on drug-related infectious diseases evolution and epidemiology, and with **EMA** regarding pharmacovigilance and misuse of medicines.

EMCDDA also works with international partners such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Cooperation between EMCDDA and Europol

The EMCDDA and Europol implement the EU Early Warning System (EWS) on new psychoactive substances (NPS) since 1997, when it was established. Under the provisions of the Council Decision 2005/387/ JHA on the information exchange, risk assessment and control of new psychoactive substances, the EU EWS was strengthened and both agencies, in collaboration with their respective networks, play a central role in detecting NPS, assessing their characteristics and paving the way for eventual control measures. They also work closely together to actively monitor drug markets in Europe, to identify emerging threats and perform strategic analysis. Numerous joint reports are produced under the Council Decision and in addition, two editions of the EU Drug Markets report have been produced in 2013 and 2016. Thanks to a combination of EMCDDA's drug monitoring and analytical capacity and Europol's operational intelligence on organised crime, this report provides and analysis of illicit drug market trends, covering all aspects from production to trafficking, distribution and consumption. Illicit drugs remain one of the key threats to the EU's security and to the safety of its citizens. The latest report analysed the cost for society and its numerous impacts on e.g. the economy, individuals and the environment, as well as its link with other types of criminality and terrorism.

Sources
- EMCDDA General Report of Activities 2015
- EMCDDA Strategy and work programme 2016-2018
  Annual work programme 2016

EMSA
European Maritime Safety Agency

EMSA is active in the maritime transport domain and has as fundamental mission to ensure the free movement of people and goods in a safe and green environment by preventing sub-standard shipping, preventing major accidents and reducing the environmental footprint of maritime transport. EMSA contributes to Sustainable and Smart Growth via its actions towards a safe, environmentally friendly and efficient Single Market, by providing technical and scientific assistance to EU Member States and the European Commission, by monitoring the implementation of EU maritime legislation, by improving cooperation between Member States, by delivering maritime information services, by providing operational assistance on request from Member States and by carrying out operational preparedness, detection and response tasks with respect to pollution caused by ships and marine pollution by oil and gas installations. Through its activities, EMSA also strengthens Europe's footprint in the world through capacity building in neighbouring regions sharing EU sea basins and contributing to the levelling-up of international standards in the maritime domain.
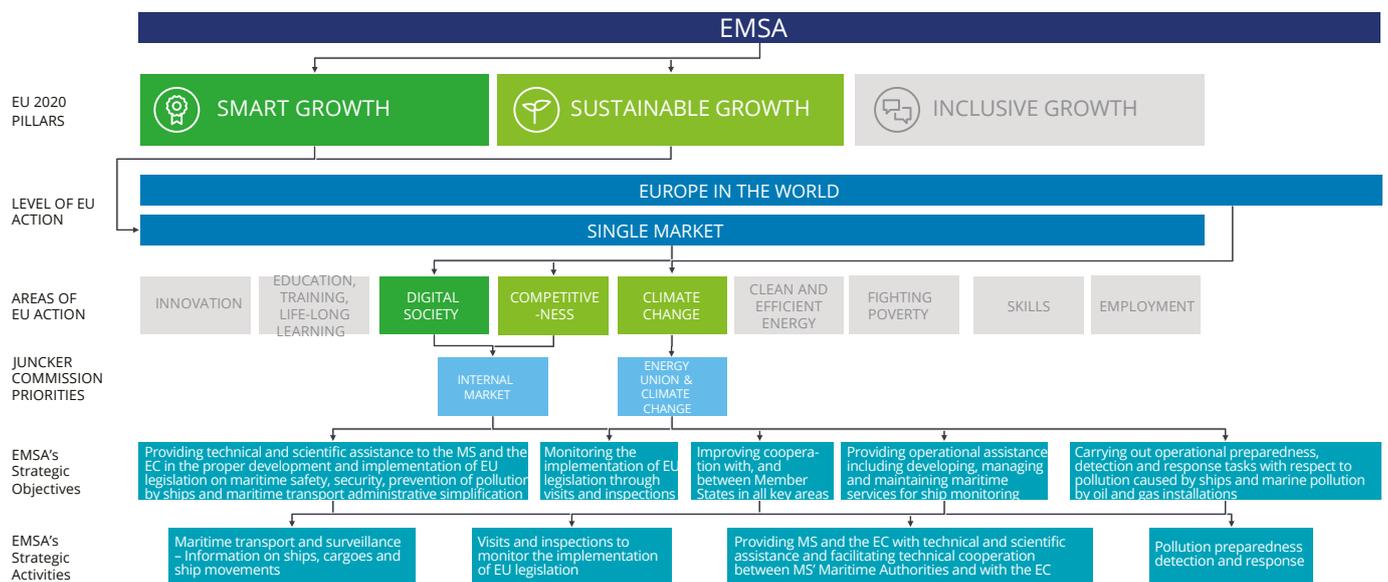
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location:** Lisbon, Portugal
- **Staff:** 253 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **EMSA's mission is to "ensure a high, uniform, and effective level of maritime safety, maritime security, prevention of, and response to, pollution caused by ships as well as response to marine pollution caused by oil and gas installations"[126].**

Background
The idea of the creation of a regulatory agency active in the field of maritime safety and prevention of pollution from ships dates back to the late 1990s. EMSA was finally created in 2002 and its mandate has progressively been enlarged to encompass measures such as the efficiency of maritime transport and quality shipping.

EMSA's work currently articulates around four activity domains that contribute to a safer, more efficient and greener Single Market.

Contribution to a safe and efficient Internal Market and EU's footprint in the world
1. Maritime transport and surveillance – Information on ships, cargoes and ship movements
EMSA acts as a major provider of information to EU maritime stakeholders and, where appropriate, other communities. The Agency has developed and maintains different platforms and information systems for data exchange, e.g. SafeSeaNet, Long Range identification and Tracking (LRIT) and THETIS, which can be used by the Member States' maritime authorities to monitor maritime traffic and pollution and ensure enforcement of relevant EU legislation. EMSA uses satellite images, provided by the European Space Agency and other satellite operators, to assist Member States with maritime surveillance and pollution detection.

EMSA also contributes to optimising the functioning of the Internal Market by supporting the creation of a European maritime transport space without barriers and by enhancing maritime transport logistics. In this respect, EMSA seeks to harmonise and rationalise ship reporting

126. EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015, p. 9.

documentation. It has developed the National Single Window, an electronic solution to simplify administrative procedures for ship operators, masters and agents to report ship data only once and make this information available to all relevant authorities. In addition, it provides relevant data to Member States and other EU stakeholders with maritime related tasks through a growing portfolio of Integrated Maritime Services and functionalities. Tailor-made maritime information and situational awareness is made available to support authorities with their respective activities in maritime safety, fisheries control, anti-piracy, border control and law enforcement.

2. Visits and inspections to monitor the implementation of EU legislation

EMSA carries out visits and inspections related to maritime safety and pollution prevention in EU and EFTA Member States since its creation. These visits provide the European Commission and EFTA Surveillance Authority with information on the extent to which the EU legislation objectives are concretely implemented, and provide the visited Member States with an opportunity to give their point of view on the effectiveness of EU legislation. Furthermore, EMSA conducts inspections in third countries, related to the training of seafarers, and of Classification Societies recognised in the EU, thereby enhancing ship safety not only for EU registered vessels, but in EU waters in general.

Based on the results of the visits and inspections conducted, EMSA carries out horizontal analyses and research on the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of the provisions in force.

3. Providing Member States and the Commission with technical and scientific assistance and facilitating technical cooperation between Member States' Maritime Authorities and with the Commission

EMSA assists the Commission and/or Member States with the implementation of various European directives. For example, regarding the directive related to accident investigation in the maritime transport sector, the Agency supports Member States by providing EMCIP, a platform to store accident investigation reports, thus gathering lessons learned and best practises, and through training with the objective of harmonising the way

accidents are investigated within the EU. EMSA also provides harmonised training tools for Member States and technical advice to the Commission on port state control, ship safety, marine equipment, maritime security, standards for seafarers, classification societies. The portfolio of training and e-training tools is also available to neighbouring countries, extending the capacity building function to third-countries sharing an EU sea basin.

⊙⊙

THETIS: Supporting the collective effort to clear seas of substandard shipping

To support Member States in ensuring the compliance of ships calling in their ports with EU and international legislation, EMSA set up THETIS. This database provided a targeting mechanism for the selection of ships for inspection, the recording and sharing of the inspection results, and a fair sharing of the burden between authorities.

Given its success, the system was extended into THETIS-EU, a single platform to record and exchange information on compliance checks with the Sulphur Directive. This system facilitates Member States' legal obligations, guarantees a high level of uniformity in inspection and fuel sampling to the industry and ensures the collected information is shared throughout the Union.

THETIS-EU will be adapted further to provide a more efficient way of identifying and selecting substandard shipping that could pose a threat to the marine environment and air quality. It is already being equipped with new modules to support the implementation of regulations so that its 900 users will be able to consult, record and exchange data on inspections, annual fuel consumption and verifications while targeting vessels requiring inspection.

Contribution to an Energy Union and climate change

4. Pollution preparedness detection and response

EMSA takes into account the environmental protection considerations when carrying out its aforementioned activities (i.e. maritime transport monitoring and visits and inspections). Moreover, EMSA provides guidance to Member States and seeks to create a European level playing field in the implementation of environmental legislation and standards. For example, EMSA contributes to the development of enforcement mechanisms for the uniform implementation of the directive aiming at reducing air pollution due to sulphur oxides. EMSA also supports the European Commission in the monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions from maritime transport.

Moreover, EMSA works on other environmental aspects such as the port reception facilities required to treat the different types of waste a ship can produce.

In addition, EMSA has developed an oil spill response capacity and can provide operational support to Member States in case of pollution in any of the seas surrounding the European Union. For this purpose, EMSA has developed a network of stand-by oil recovery vessels, specialised depots with dedicated pollution response equipment and dispersants. Accidental spills and deliberate discharges can be detected and monitored with the satellite-based detection and monitoring system called CleanSeaNet, available to all EU Member States.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EMSA has cooperation agreements with i.a. **Frontex, EFCA** and EUNAVFOR Atalanta and Sophia. EMSA provides tailor-made maritime information and situational awareness to support their respective activities.

Sources
- EMSA Work Programme 2016
- EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- EMSA 5 year - Strategy

ENISA
European Union Agency for Network and Information Security

The EU Cybersecurity Agency
Through its work in the field of cybersecurity, ENISA contributes to Smart Growth via its actions towards an efficient functioning of the Single Market and of the Digital Single Market. It strives to anticipate and support the EU in facing emerging network and information security challenges; to promote network and information security as an EU policy priority; to support the EU in maintaining state-of-the art network and information security capacities, and to foster the emerging European network and information security community. Through its actions in the field of data protection, ENISA also contributes to the area of justice and to citizens' fundamental rights.

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year**: 2004
- **Location:** Heraklion & Athens, Greece
- **Staff:** 84 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **ENISA's mission is to "contribute to securing Europe's information society by raising awareness of network and information security and to develop and promote a culture of network and information security in society for the benefit of citizens, consumers, enterprises and public sector organisations in the Union"[127]**

Background
ENISA was set up in order to raise awareness on network and information security (NIS) challenges within the EU.

To rely upon a constantly evolving digital environment for all economic and societal activities requires indeed proper practices, policies, organisations and capacities as far as NIS is concerned. ENISA contributes to this overarching objective, and thereby to a proper functioning of the internal market and ultimately economic growth.

ENISA's activity areas are threefold: the Agency supports NIS policy making and implementation, it formulates recommendations to its stakeholders, and carries out operational work. Through those three activities, it also brings together the NIS community.

ENISA works as a centre of expertise on cybersecurity in Europe and supports the EU Institutions, the Member States, the private sector and the citizens in achieving a high level of NIS, the importance of which

has been highlighted in the recent EU political agenda – notably in the European Cybersecurity Strategy (2013), the European Cyberdefence Policy Framework (2014), the European Digital Single Market (2015) and the Network and Information Security directive (2016)[128].

Contribution to the proper functioning of the internal market and to the Digital Single Market
ENISA is helping the Union and the Member States to improve their capacity to prevent, detect and deal with cybersecurity issues and incidents. Cybersecurity is essential for safeguarding trust in information systems and communication networks, and therefore for the smooth and efficient functioning of the internal market. A high level of network and information security is also a prerequisite of achieving a European Digital Single Market that has the potential to create

127. ENISA Strategy 2016 – 2020, p. 6.
128. ENISA Strategy 2016 – 2020, p. 5.

hundreds of thousands of jobs and to foster economic growth. ENISA contributes to this by focusing on four strategic objectives:

1. Expertise – Anticipating and supporting Europe in facing emerging network and information security challenges

ENISA collects, analyses and disseminates information on cyber issues taking into account the current and new technologies and their implementation, such as smart infrastructures (e.g. smart grids, cities, cars and airports), e-health, cloud and Big Data. This enables the Agency to have a view on the future risks and threats and to anticipate them – for example as far as infrastructures, businesses and citizens' private data are concerned.

2. Policy – Promoting network and information security as an EU policy priority

ENISA plays an advisory role towards the EU Institutions and Member States regarding the development and implementation of EU laws. The Agency provides to the European Institutions advice, preparatory work or other analyses concerning existing or new NIS policies and laws (e.g. regulations regarding breach notification and incident reporting in the context of Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP)). ENISA also strives to promote the NIS aspects in all policies covering (directly or indirectly) digital aspects or the Digital Single Market. Moreover, ENISA collaborates with the Member States and other public and private stakeholders in order to ensure the proper implementation of the NIS policies, according to an EU-wide approach.

3. Capacity – Supporting Europe in maintaining state-of-the-art network and information security capacities

ENISA helps Member States, the private sector, EU Institutions and the citizens (through NIS promotion via different projects) enhance their cybersecurity knowledge, skills and competencies in order to make their networks more resilient and secure.

The Agency plays a significant role in assisting member States in transposing the NIS Directive. In particular, as secretariat for the CSIRT network established under the Directive, ENISA actively promotes the

exchange and implementation of existing good practices in addition to stimulating discussion on areas in which new challenges are arising.

Last but not least, ENISA has been active in supporting capacity building through a training program that is specifically targeted to the needs of the CSIRT community.

4. Community – Fostering the emerging European network and information security community

Simultaneously to its other objectives, ENISA seeks to promote cooperation at EU level regarding NIS-related topics. It fosters collaboration and dialogue between different stakeholders – such as Member States, law enforcement and data privacy communities, as well as the public and private sector in general.

Pan European Exercises

Cyber Europe exercises are simulations of large-scale cybersecurity incidents that escalate to EU-wide cyber crises. The exercises offer opportunities to analyse advanced cybersecurity incidents but also to deal with complex business continuity and crisis management situations.

Cyber Europe exercises feature scenarios inspired by real-life events, developed by European cybersecurity experts. ENISA is currently organising Cyber Europe 2016, which is the 4th exercise in the Cyber Europe series.

Cyber Europe 2016 (CE2016) is the largest and most comprehensive EU cyber-security exercise to date. It is a multi-event cyber exercise that involves more than 500 cyber-security professionals from 30 EU and EFTA countries and over 300 organisations.

The cybercrisis cooperation activities, which include the pan European exercise (see insert: 'success story'), provides an excellent example of how ENISA fosters increased cooperation by working together closely with stakeholder communities to achieve common goals.

Contribution to justice and fundamental rights

Through its various aforementioned activities, ENISA also contributes to justice and citizens' fundamental rights. For example, through the organisation of the annual European Cybersecurity Month, the Agency reaches out to a large number of citizens in order to increase their knowledge and skills on how to protect their digital lives. Similarly, ENISA has delivered concrete advice on dealing with data protection and privacy issues and is co-organiser of the Annual Privacy Forum (APF).

Cooperation with agencies and others stakeholders

ENISA organises joint workshops, trainings and activities with **Europol**'s Cybercrime Centre (EC3) in order to raise awareness on data protection and exchange knowledge, expertise and information with law enforcement communities. Moreover, Europol contributes with ENISA to the organisation of the European Cybersecurity Month. ENISA is also working together with **CEPOL** as far as cybersecurity trainings are concerned.

Moreover, ENISA collaborates with **EBA** and the European Central Bank (ECB) regarding the adoption of secure cloud systems in the finance sector. It also work with the **EDA, GSA and eu-LISA** and other EU Institutions or bodies such as the European Parliament, the Internal Audit Service.

Sources
- ENISA Annual Activity Report 2015
- ENISA Strategy 2016-2020
- ENISA working programme 2016

ERA
European Union Agency for Railways

ERA contributes to the effective functioning of the Single European Railway Area (SERA) without frontiers, in particular by creating a harmonised approach to safety, removing technical barriers, advancing the single European Train Control and Communication System (ERTMS), and promoting simplified access for customers for the European rail sector. The extension of ERA's mandate in 2016, following the entry-into-force of the technical pillar of the Fourth Railway Package, makes it the main body responsible for issuing vehicle authorisations and safety certificates across the whole EU. Through its actions, ERA plays an important role in improving the competitive position of the railway sector by setting the ground for a healthy business environment in the railway system, which is consequently empowered to compete globally. Its actions also go in line with Europe's fight against climate change, by supporting a 'green' transport mode; with the orientation towards digitalisation, by enhancing the use of cut edge technologies for information exchange and communication, as well as with social inclusion, by promoting the access of persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility to the rail services.
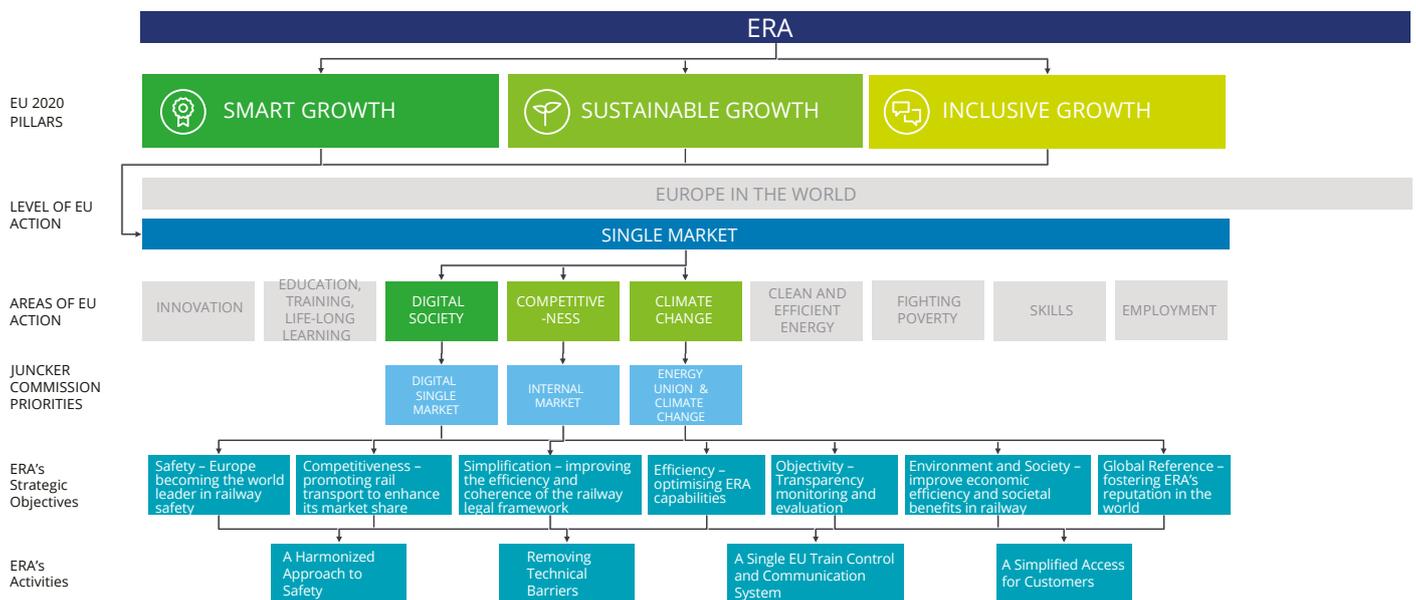
ERA's mission is to "to contribute to the effective functioning of the SERA without frontiers, in particular by: 1) promoting a harmonised approach to railway safety, 2) devising the technical and legal framework in order to enable removing technical barriers, and acting as the System Authority for the Single European Train Control and Communication System, 3) improving accessibility and use of railway system information, and by 4) acting as the European Authority under the 4th Railway Package issuing vehicle authorisations and safety certificates, while improving the competitive position of the railway sector".[129]

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2004
- **Location:** Valenciennes, France
- **Staff:** 169 FTEs (AWP 2016)

Background
ERA works in the framework of the European Commission's White Paper on transport, the overarching objective of which is to create the SERA. The final goal is to enhance, at EU level, the competitiveness of rail in order to boost the modal shift towards a more sustainable mode of transport, a more efficient spending of public money on rail, the opening of domestic rail passenger transport to competition, and the removal of technical and administrative barriers to encourage market entry.

1. A harmonised approach to safety
In order to promote a safe use of rail as a transport mode, ERA facilitates

the development of EU railway safety specifications and drives the change to a pro-active EU railway safety culture with common criteria, targets and methods. ERA pays particular attention to ensuring an enhanced safety performance monitoring and to the development of a shared understanding at EU level, based on the results of the Regulatory Monitoring Matrix. ERA will continue working with stakeholders to establish the risk acceptance criteria, in view of defining an acceptable level of risk for the technical systems. With the Fourth Railway Package in force, it will also act as the One Stop Shop (OSS) for issuing EU Single Safety Certificates.

2. Removing technical barriers
In a system where responsibilities have been historically shared between railway undertakings, infrastructure managers and national governments, ERA acts as the authority for all EU railway technical specifications for interoperability (TSIs) for

vehicles, infrastructure and operations, in cooperation with EU standardisation organisations. This includes the monitoring of those national rules which are redundant with the TSIs and the gradual process of their "cleaning up", for the benefit of the final customers. In order to make the vehicle authorisation process more effective, ERA proposes a harmonised accreditation scheme for the notified bodies in charge with the technical checks. With the Fourth Railway Package in force, ERA will also act as the One Stop Shop for issuing EU vehicle authorisations.

3. A single EU train control and communication system (ERTMS)
ERA acts as the de facto system authority for the harmonized ERTMS specifications and for their coherent implementation in the railway system. With the Fourth Railway Package in force, it will assume the system authority role formally, also with a specific role in the process leading to the authorisation of ERTMS implementation projects. Building on the successful delivery of the European Train Control System (ETCS) baseline 3, of the Global System for Mobile communications - Railways (GSM-R) specifications and of the harmonized Operational Rules, the focus is progressively moving to the follow-up of the development, testing and implementation, with dedicated attention to the return on experience, both in technical and operational aspects. ERA has been defining the roadmap enabling ETCS communications on IP based radio technologies and works on defining the new radio communication systems by 2018.

4. A simplified access for customers
Easy access to rail services, as well as to the relevant rail data are crucial for the passenger and freight customers.

The technical specifications for the telematics applications enable operators to permanently locate freight trains and exchange documents related to the carried goods and support the issuing of seamless tickets covering operators in several countries and the exchange of travel-related data. Society is also strongly demanding an improved access for persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility (PRMs) to the stations and trains across the EU. ERA is covering these aspects through a dedicated set of technical specifications (PRM TSI) and the associated inventory of accessibility characteristics for all the train stations across EU. Moreover, ERA develops and maintains different databases and registers

that ensure transparency and equal access to documents for the railway stakeholders. For example, it enables them to check their vehicle status, the authorised types of vehicles, or verify the compatibility of their trains with the different routes.

Contribution to an efficient Internal Market
By removing the technical and operational barriers in the railway system, by fostering harmonisation and standardisation, as well as by providing more effective certification and authorisation processes, ERA is supporting the competitiveness of rail. Its position as regards internationalisation matters is also crucial for ensuring a competitive EU position in the global market.

Contribution to Energy Union and climate change
By improving rail competitiveness and interoperability, ERA seeks to foster a shift towards a more environmentally friendly and sustainable mode of transport. Moreover, as part of its regulatory work, ERA fosters harmonisation concerning notably energy efficiency and other environmental aspects, such as noise of rail wagons.

Contribution to the Digital Single Market
Though traditionally less prone to digitalisation, railways are now moving more and more in this direction. ERA promotes the enhanced use of digital technologies (ETCS, automated train operation), the enhanced use of IT tools for better services (OSS, vehicle registers, infrastructure register) as well as the migration towards online distribution of train tickets (with the support of the telematics applications)

Collaboration with other agencies and bodies
ERA provides support and gives advice to the **S2R JU** that aims at fostering innovation and research to create a Single European Railway Area and to improve the competitiveness and the attractiveness of the railway sector.

It also cooperates with **INEA Executive Agency** in evaluating rail-related investment projects.

Sources
• ERA Multi Annual Work Programme 2014-2017
• ERA Programming Document 2016
• Strategic Vision for the European Union Agency for Railways, 2016

ERA acting as a One Stop Shop for issuing EU Single Safety Certificates

ERA acting as a One Stop Shop for vehicle authorisations, safety certifications and approval of ERTMS Trackside technical solutions. As part of the implementation of the Fourth Railway Package adopted in 2016, ERA is developing a One Stop Shop (OSS) functionality for all applications for vehicle authorisations, for single safety certificates and for the approval of technical solutions of ERTMS Trackside projects at EU level. For the applicants, OSS will be the single entry point where they will submit the application files as well as the source of information on the stages and the outcomes of their applications. In concrete terms, from June 2019, a manufacturer building a locomotive intended to run in more EU countries will have the possibility to request a single authorization instead of authorizing it in each of the concerned Member States. Likewise, a railway undertaking will have the possibility to request and receive a single safety certificate valid in more Member States.

While keeping the good cooperation with the national safety authorities, ERA will use the OSS to facilitate the coordination and the exchange of information, as well as to ensure the coherence and transparency of the application processes and certification decisions. Ultimately, this will result in faster and easier processes and lower costs for the applicants, thus contributing to boosting the competitiveness of the railway sector and to achieving the Single European Railway Area. The functional and technical specifications for the OSS will be finalized beginning 2017. Subject to their adoption by the ERA Management Board, they will be implemented for the first release of the OSS to be used in the shadow running phase from mid-2018.

ESMA
European Securities and Markets Authority

ESMA contributes to Sustainable Growth via its action towards an efficient functioning of the Single Market, by enhancing investor protection and promoting stable and orderly financial markets. Through its actions towards building a Capital Markets Union, ESMA also contributes to the deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union that will increase competitiveness in the euro area.
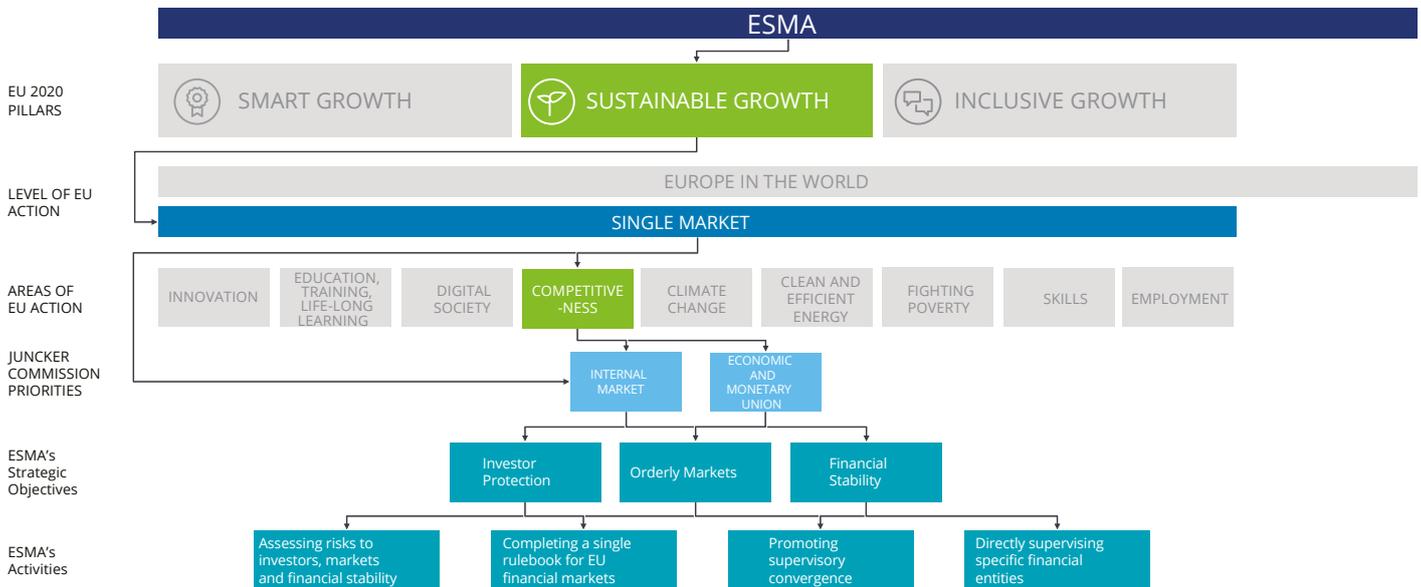
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2011
- **Location:** Paris, France
- **Staff:** 208 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **ESMA's mission statement is to "enhance investor protection and promote stable and orderly financial markets"[130]**

Background
ESMA was created in the aftermath of the financial and economic crisis of 2007-2008, which revealed shortcomings in the supervision of financial services institutions due to a lack of cooperation, coordination and trust between the national supervisors, as well as an inconsistent application of EU law across Member States. The severe strain on the stability of the financial system caused by the crisis also put at risk the functioning of the internal market. Restoring and maintaining a stable and reliable financial system is therefore a necessary condition to rebuild and preserve trust in the internal market, and hence foster economic growth.

The "Five Presidents' Report"[130] presents a two-stage roadmap towards the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in order to create a better and fairer life for citizens as well as increase competitiveness within the euro area. The first stage comprises among others the completion of the Financial Union, which encompasses the completion of the Banking Union and the creation of a Capital Markets Union (CMU).

The CMU aims at further integrating financial markets. By enhancing the free movement of capital, one of the EU Single Market's core freedoms, it will not only deepen the internal market for financial services but also benefit the euro area. The CMU has the ambition of complementing traditional bank financing of the economy by better connecting capital to investment projects across Europe that need those funds to grow and create jobs. Deeper and more integrated capital markets will also reduce the cost of capital and increase the competitiveness. By reinforcing cross-border risk sharing, the CMU will improve the capability of the financial system to absorb shocks, hence making it more stable and resilient[132].

> "ESMA's supervisory convergence work will be an important building block of the Capital Markets Union (CMU), as consistent application is needed to ensure that the single rulebook on paper becomes a single market in practice."[133]
>
> **Steven Maijoor, ESMA Chair**

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the internal market
By realising its three intertwined strategic objectives – i.e. investor protection, orderly markets and financial stability –, ESMA contributes to economic growth. Four core activities help ESMA achieve its mission and objectives and so contribute to an efficient functioning of the internal market.

130. ESMA Strategic Orientation 2016-2020, p. 6.
131. Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 8 July 2016.
132. Capital Markets Union – Unlocking funding for Europe's growth, http://ec.europa.eu/finance/capital-markets-union/index_en.htm
133. ESMA Annual Report 2015, p. 3.

Risk monitoring and analysis

By assessing risks to investors, markets and financial stability, ESMA identifies emerging trends, risks and vulnerabilities allowing them to be tackled in a timely manner. The purpose is to monitor financial innovation and identify market developments that could threaten market stability, investor protection and orderly financial markets. The information is made publicly available to investors through registries and databases, and periodic warnings. This activity supports the realisation of the three other activities and builds on, as well as complements, the analyses carried out by other stakeholders (see section on cooperation).

Supervisory convergence

The objective of promoting supervisory convergence is to guarantee a level playing field of high quality, effective and consistent regulation and supervision, preventing regulatory arbitrage and strengthening international supervisory coordination. This implies the sharing of best practices and efficiency gains for national authorities and the financial industry.

Single rulebook

The completion of a single rulebook for financial markets enhances Europe's internal market, creating a level playing field for investors across Europe. This consists of the development of regulatory technical standards and the provision of advice to the EU Institutions on a broad range of areas regarding the EU securities markets, their infrastructure and orderly functioning, as well as key financial market participants.

Direct supervision

ESMA is the direct supervisor of
- Credit Rating Agencies (CRA), in order to ensure the quality of ratings and protect investors;
- Trade Repositories (TR), to ensure data quality and improve transparency on EU derivatives markets.

Contribution to a deeper Economic and Monetary Union that will reinforce competitiveness

ESMA's objectives of enhancing investor protection and promoting stable and orderly financial markets are in line with the CMU's goals. ESMA encourages alternative financing sources, by working, amongst other initiatives, towards the strengthening and harmonisation of supervision, the increase of the efficiency of EU capital markets and their attractiveness for EU and non-EU investors. Through its four core activities, ESMA already plays an important role towards certain components

of the CMU and will further contribute to it throughout its development[134].

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

ESMA operates within the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) that has the purpose of ensuring consistent and coherent micro- and macro-prudential financial supervision[135] in the EU. Micro-prudential supervision is carried out by the three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) – i.e. **ESMA, EBA and EIOPA** –, the Joint Committee of the ESAs and the National Competent Authorities (NCAs). Macro-prudential oversight is conducted at the EU level by the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) which comprises the European Central Bank (ECB), the national central banks, the ESAs and the European Commission.

The ESFS works towards an efficient functioning of the single market thanks to a regulatory and supervisory framework that is applied equally across Europe. While the day-to-day supervision of the financial institutions mainly remains at national level, the three ESAs bring EU-wide uniform rules and harmonise supervisory approaches across the EU. The ESFS also cooperates with other supervisory authorities such as the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM).

Sources

- ESMA Strategic Orientation 2016-2020
- ESMA Annual Work Programme 2016
- ESMA Annual Report 2015
- Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 8 July 2016.
- Capital Markets Union – Unlocking funding for Europe's growth, http://ec.europa.eu/finance/capital-markets-union/index_en.htm, consulted on 8 July 2016.
- ESMA response to the Commission Green Paper on Building a Capital Markets Union, 13 May 2015, https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/library/2015/11/esma-2015-856_esma_response_to_ec_green_paper_on_cmu.pdf, consulted on 8 July 2016

Contribution to the Capital Market Union

ESMA has been contributing to the Capital Market Union project with its response to the Commission Green Paper, where a number of suggestions were included on further integration of EU financial markets, eliminating regulatory obstacles and duplications, enhancing investor protection and strengthening financial stability. In particular, preparatory work under the new Securitisation and Prospectus Regulations has been launched. The initiatives aim at amending the applicable regulatory framework in order to relaunch the securitisation market, by promoting simple, transparent and standardised securitisation as well as to deepen capital markets through eliminating some of the barriers for companies seeking non-bank funding. Next steps include ESMA's involvement in the revision of the regulatory framework applicable to managers of investment funds and venture capital which contributes to broadening the scope of potential investors in various EU projects as well as maintaining high-levels of investor protection.

Furthermore, with an aim to integrate European capital markets more, ESMA has intensified its supervisory convergence activities as outlined in a dedicated work programme. This contributes to making application of EU legislation by national supervisory authorities more coherent, which in turn helps ensuring the level-playing-field in the financial sector as well as cross-border investments. In addition, it also helps to clarify through guidelines and other tools key issues related to implementation and compliance for market participants.

---

134. ESMA response to the Commission Green Paper on Building a Capital Markets Union, 13 May 2015, https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/library/2015/11/esma-2015-856_esma_response_to_ec_green_paper_on_cmu.pdf, consulted on 8 July 2016.
135. The micro-prudential supervision is the supervision of individual institutions, while the macro-prudential supervision focuses on system-wide risks to financial stability.

ETF
European Training Foundation

The ETF contributes to developing partner countries' human capital in the Union neighbourhood, learning from EU internal and Member States' policies and experience. For that purpose, the Foundation focuses on modernising vocational education and training (VET) systems in a lifelong learning perspective in order to improve labour markets and economic and social cohesion.
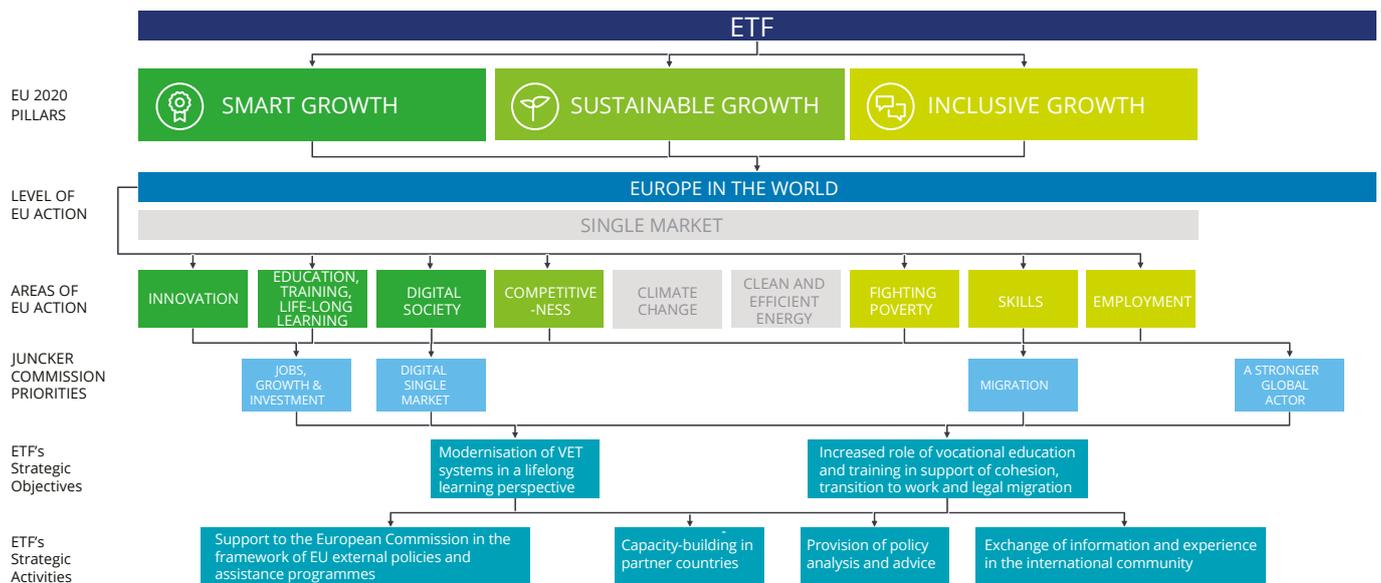
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1994
- **Location:** Turin, Italy
- **Staff:** 130 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **The ETF's mission is to "support its partner countries to harness the potential of their human capital through the reform of education, training and labour market systems in the context of the EU's external relations policies. It cooperates with partner countries engaged in the EU's enlargement and neighbourhood policies, as well as in Central Asia[136]."**

Background
Many of the Union's Eastern and Southern neighbours are economically and politically unstable. Armed conflicts in these regions fuel increasing migration towards the Union. In this context, the EU enlargement and neighbourhood policies aim at extending peace and prosperity beyond the Union's borders[137]. Developing human capital

in ETF's partner countries constitutes a significant wing of the Union's efforts at projecting its internal policies beyond its borders, which benefits both neighbours and EU citizens. These are fundamental objectives of the Union, as formulated in the Lisbon Treaty[138]. The ETF is active in fostering human capital development throughout the Union neighbourhood, which comprises South Eastern Europe and Turkey, Eastern Partnership countries and Russia, Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries and Central Asia. Its policy field of action covers primarily vocational education and training and skills development for competitiveness and territorial and social cohesion.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment and a connected Digital Single Market
The ETF's contribution to the external dimension of the Commission's jobs, growth and investment policy priority centres on the concept of entrepreneurial continuum. It entails the development of effective policies on vocational education and training (VET) in neighbouring

countries at all levels, from sustainable and well-governed institutions to citizens' participation and empowerment. The Foundation supports the Commission and partner countries in building and improving VET systems in order to reinforce their skills and competitiveness, carry out efficient labour market reforms and reinforce social and territorial cohesion.

The ETF also contributes actively to developing the skills dimension of specific policy fields with a strong potential for growth and job creation, namely digital technologies, climate change and energy.

Contribution to a new policy on migration
The ETF also takes part in efforts to better manage legal migration and in particular its skills dimension.

For that purpose, the Foundation provides information on migrant support measures from the employment and skills perspective (MISMES project). This work consists in an inventory of support measures for potential and returning migrants, implemented

136. ETF Work Programme 2016, p.13, see also ETF recast regulation No 1339/2008.
137. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.5.
138. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.

in sending countries to facilitate labour mobility and increase the developmental effect of migration. It also informs EU responses to neighbourhood challenges, most of which generate spikes of migration towards the Union.

"Improving human capital is fundamental for the competitiveness and cohesion of the EU's neighbours. Given the increasing interdependence among countries, economies and societies in a globalised world, we contribute to stability and prosperity in the EU neighbourhood."[139]

Madlen Serban, Director

The Foundation also facilitates labour mobility within the neighbourhood through the development of mutual trust and recognition of qualifications. With employer involvement, qualifications will also become more relevant to the needs of the labour market. The Foundation's activities contribute to ensuring that migrants' skills are better used within the Union and upon return within the partner countries.

Contribution to supporting the Union as a strong global actor

By projecting the Union's internal human capital development policies outside its borders, the ETF actively contributes to the Union's presence on the world stage. The Foundation helps 29 neighbouring countries implement democratic and economic reforms, thus reinforcing the rule of law, economic governance and competitiveness, institutional capacities

and transparency in policy-making. An important element is the engagement of social partners and NGOs in the policy development and implementation in the partner counties. It also helps EU Institutions and delegations carry out projects and establishing policy dialogues with partner countries.

At the regional scale, the ETF supports the neighbourhood policy and enlargement negotiations priorities by contributing to the implementation and monitoring of their main instruments, namely the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), for the improvement of VET and employment, labour market reforms, private sector development, competitiveness and youth support.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The ETF and **Cedefop** share information, expertise and best practices to support the development of VET systems in the EU and its neighbourhood.

The work of the ETF is also complementary with that **Eurofound and EU-OSHA** on youth employment. The agencies exchange relevant information and occasionally organise common events to inform policy-makers and stakeholders.

Sources
- Treaty on European Union
- ETF Regulation (EC) N° 1339/2008
- ETF Mid-term Perspective 2014-2017
- ETF annual activity report 2015
- ETF work programme 2016
- The ETF contribution to the Implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Agenda
- European Commission Communication "Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy"
- ETF website: http://www.etf.europa.eu/

Bringing young people into the labour market in Tunisia

The ETF set up a regional pilot training and apprenticeship initiative in Tunisia. The project consisted in analysing the qualifications of a target group of job-seekers, then setting up trainings in the specific skills needed in the local labour market.

The combination of labour market analysis with tailored training and the cooperation of employers and job-seekers within this initiative allowed the insertion of over 100 young people in the local labour market. This partnership model, which is detailed in an ETF factsheet, is successfully being replicated in other regions and sectors.
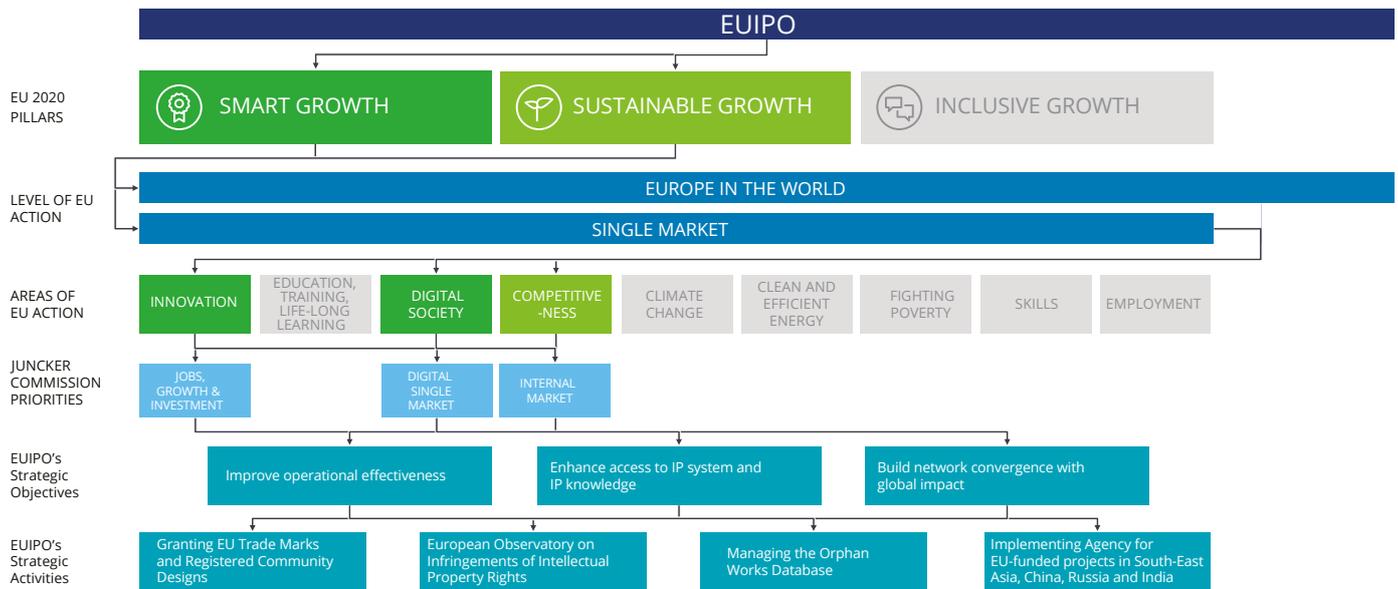
---

[139]. ETF Work Programme 2016, p.5.

EUIPO
European Union Intellectual Property Office

EUIPO contributes to developing a knowledge-based economy and innovation by ensuring the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR). By working on boosting the competitiveness of EU companies through an efficient IPR protection regime across Europe and with trading partners, the Office participates in the achievement of Smart and Sustainable Growth in the Union.

EUIPO		
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH / SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD / SINGLE MARKET	
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION, EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING, DIGITAL SOCIETY, COMPETITIVE-NESS, CLIMATE CHANGE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY, FIGHTING POVERTY, SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT	
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT, DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET, INTERNAL MARKET	
EUIPO's Strategic Objectives	Improve operational effectiveness, Enhance access to IP system and IP knowledge, Build network convergence with global impact	
EUIPO's Strategic Activities	Granting EU Trade Marks and Registered Community Designs, European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, Managing the Orphan Works Database, Implementing Agency for EU-funded projects in South-East Asia, China, Russia and India	

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1994
- **Location:** Alicante, Spain
- **Staff:** 913 FTEs (AWP 2016)

The EUIPO's mission is to manage the EU Trade Mark (EUTM)[140] and the Registered Community Design (RDC)[141]. It also collaborates with the intellectual property (IP) offices of EU Member States and international partners on the convergence of registration procedures for trademarks and designs across Europe and the world.

Also vital in the EUIPO's work is the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights. The Observatory aims to raise public awareness, deliver training, develop systems and provide evidence-based data on IP protection and enforcement. It runs the Enforcement Database and ACIST, two tools for tackling counterfeit goods, and is also responsible for managing the EU database on orphan works, established by the 2012 Orphan Works Directive.

Background
The importance of IP as a driver of competitiveness and growth is increasing in the knowledge-based global economy. For companies, this means that their brand is becoming their major economic asset. For developed economies, this means that competitiveness derives from innovation and IP on top of costs and prices[142].

Protecting IP and raising awareness on its importance is paramount to creating an environment conducive to innovation, which is a fundamental objective of the Union[143] and a cornerstone of the EU Agenda reflected in the Innovation Union initiative.

The Union has set up an extensive IPR protection system which the EUIPO is in charge of managing. Moreover, in a globalised context where European companies increasingly seek to enter third countries markets, the convergence of IPR protection regimes is necessary to ensure their competitiveness and enforce their IP rights outside the Union.

For that purpose, the EUIPO works towards developing a user-driven European intellectual Property network with users and national offices[144].

Contribution to a new boost for jobs, growth and investment
Sectors using IP rights intensively account for 39% of the EU GDP and 35% of EU jobs. Moreover, companies that own registered IP rights perform better than those who do not, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)[145]. The EUIPO is in charge of examining applications and granting these IP rights, in cooperation with Member States national and regional IP offices, and therefore directly contributes to nurturing their growth by protecting their main economic asset.

The Office also works on the continuous improvement of the IP system and IP knowledge in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, i.e. lawyers, examiners, users

140. Regulation (EC) 40/94
141. Regulation (EC) 6/2002
142. EUIPO Strategic Plan 2020, p.29.
143. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
144. EUIPO Strategic Plan 2020.

and the public. It is attentive to ensuring the accessibility of the system for all users, in particular SMEs, by identifying and tackling real and perceived barriers to IP protection, for instance in the application process for trademarks and designs.

"We register around 120 000 EU trade marks and close to 85 000 designs annually, offering intellectual property protection to companies and individuals in a market of more than 500 million consumers."[146]

Raising awareness among citizens and decision-makers on the importance of IP rights further reinforces the efficiency of the system by underlining necessary legislative adjustments and providing the tools to fight counterfeiting. The European Observatory on Infringements of IPR therefore provides knowledge while IT tools are made available for public authorities and rights owners to enforce their IP rights. The Observatory has published studies on the scale of IP infringement and attitudes towards counterfeiting, as well as several sector-specific studies, covering: spirits and wine; recorded music; geographical indications; jewellery and watches; handbags and luggage; toys and games; sport goods; and clothing, footwear and accessories.

Contribution to Europe's global footprint in IPR protection

As European companies are increasingly seeking to enter third countries markets, the EUIPO assists them in boosting their competitiveness on the global market and enforcing their IP rights abroad. For that purpose, the European Trade Mark and Design Network (ETMDN) works towards the convergence of practices inside and outside Europe by connecting national and regional IP Offices, user associations and other IP organisations.

The EUIPO provides infrastructure and resources to support the implementation of the Network's projects.

The Office further promotes the convergence of IPR protection systems towards European standards across the world by acting as an Implementing Agency for EU-funded programmes in South-East Asia, China, Russia and India. It thus contributes to bringing more consistency and predictability to European companies willing to invest in emerging markets, while facilitating the application of their intellectual property outside the EU.

Contribution to a digital single market and a deeper and fairer internal market

The Office works towards reinforcing the internal market by protecting and thus encouraging innovation, which allows European companies to develop new products and services which meet consumers' needs. EUIPO fosters the proper and harmonised functioning of the internal market by granting IP rights valid across all the Member States, thereby complementing the fragmented system of national IP rights.

Furthermore, by participating in the creation of new European IP rights, such as non-agricultural Geographical Indications currently being considered, the EUIPO contributes to the establishment of a dynamic single market which reflects fast-paced digital changes and consumer behaviour. It also ensures the accessibility of Europe's cultural heritage on the Orphan Works Database, which provides information on works whose right holders are not known or located to enable their digitisation and dissemination.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The EUIPO collaborates with other agencies within an inter-agency Coordination Group on Infringements of IP Rights which includes **Europol, Eurojust** and **Cepol**, and exchanges knowledge on the protection of IP rights with the **CPVO.**

Generating savings through tools and databases convergence

The EUIPO has developed tools and databases which have significantly increased the efficiency of the European IP Offices implementing them and of the users benefitting from a better service, resulting in time and costs savings.
It is estimated that these tools have delivered an economic benefit of €18.6 million to end users and €29.8 million to National and Regional Offices in 2015, with €21 million expected to be generated recurrently every year.

In particular, the TMview and DesignView search tools allow users to check for similar trademarks and designs among over 40 million records before submitting an application.

As of November 2015, these databases – the first free alternatives available – are estimated to have enabled cost savings of €8.7 million. TMview had served over 17.1 million searches from 151 countries and DesignView, over 1.5 million searches from 141 countries. Usage figures show a rapidly growing interest in these tools.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) 40/94 on the Community Trade Mark
- Regulation (EC) 6/2002 on Community designs
- Regulation (EU) 2015/2424
- Treaty on European Union
- EUIPO Strategic Plan 2020
- EUIPO Annual Report 2015
- OHIM's Benefits-Impact Framework and Assessment for 2011-2015
- EUIPO website

145. EUIPO Strategic Plan 2020, p.29.
146. EUIPO website. See: https://euipo.europa.eu/ohimportal/en/the-office, consulted on 2 August 2016.

EUISS
The European Union Institute for Security Studies

Through its different publications and events, the EUISS contributes to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor in the world by fostering a common security culture, supporting the elaboration and projection of EU foreign policy and enriching the strategic debate inside and outside Europe.

EUISS								
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH			SUSTAINABLE GROWTH			INCLUSIVE GROWTH	

LEVEL OF EU ACTION

EUROPE IN THE WORLD

SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION	EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING	DIGITAL SOCIETY	COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS	EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES — A STRONGER GLOBAL ACTOR

EUISS's Strategic Objectives: Foster a common security culture for the EU · Support the elaboration and projection of EU foreign policy · Enrich the strategic debate inside and outside Europe

EUISS's Strategic Activities: Publications · Networks and Dialogues · Task Forces · Seminars and Conferences · Briefings and Visits

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Agency under the CSDP
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location:** Paris, France (with a Liaison Office in Brussels, Belgium)
- **Staff:** 20 FTEs in 2016

The EUISS has the mission to "contribute to the development of EU strategic thinking in the field of the Union's common foreign and security policy (CFSP) and common security and defence policy (CSDP), including conflict prevention and peace-building, as well as in the field of other external action of the Union, with a view to strengthening the EU's analysis, foresight and networking capacity in external action." [147]

The EUISS is governed by a Board, chaired by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR), which lays down its budgetary and administrative rules and approves its work programme. The Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises political supervision - without prejudice to the intellectual independence and operational autonomy of the EUISS.

Contribution to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor in the world
The EUISS is contributing to the strengthening of the EU's position as a global actor in the world by conducting and providing analyses and organising events and fora of discussion that are used for the formulation of EU external policy. Through those activities, the EUISS is the interface between experts and decision-makers on a large panel of topics, including

core subjects such as the neighbouring regions, CSDP and external action, strategic partners, transnational challenges, global governance, or other subjects such as cybersecurity, migrations or outer space.

The EUISS organises different types of events that "bring together EU officials, national experts, academics, decision-makers, media and civil society representatives from the EU Member States, as well as from the rest of the world[148]":

- Conferences, i.e. large public events,
- Seminars, i.e. events on a specific
- topic (region or policy),
- Task Forces, i.e. group that meets on a regular basis to monitor events in a specific region or the development of a particular policy.

147. Council Decision 2014/75/CFSP of 10 February 2014 on the European Union Institute for Security Studies, Article 2 §1.
148. The EUISS's website, About Us, http://www.iss.europa.eu/about-us/, consulted on 18 July 2016..

Moreover, the EUISS publishes Chaillot Papers, an annual Yearbook of European Security, reports, books, leaflets, newsletters, alerts and briefs.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The EUISS increasingly provides expertise, research, analytical studies, education and networking activities within a collaborative institutional framework, including EU executive and legislative authorities as well as Non-Governmental Organisations.

Such partners include the European External Action Service and the European Security and Defence College, the European Commission (DG DEVCO) and Parliament, other EU Agencies **(EDA, SatCen)** as well as the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and several tasks force

involving third countries.
The Institute carries out specific studies for or together with **EDA** and SatCen. For example, in 2015 the **EUISS** delivered some research material on 'hybrid' threats to **EDA**[149].

It also provides lectures of high importance towards policy elaboration and decision framing (notably in the framework of the EEAS/ESCD education prerogatives).

Last but not least, the Institute's growing footprint is materialised by its involvement in boards (notably after the nomination of its Director as interim Chair of the ESDC Executive Academic Board[150]) or its lead role of EU membership representative (as in the CSCAP)[151].

Sources
- The EUISS's website, www.iss.europa.eu
- The EUISS Annual Report 2015
- Council Decision 2014/75/CFSP of 10 February 2014 on the European Union Institute for Security Studies

---

149. The EUISS Annual Report 2015, p. 7.
150. Idem.
151. The EUISS Annual Report 2015, p. 53.

eu-LISA
European Union Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice

eu-LISA contributes to Inclusive Growth and to the area of freedom, security and justice within the Single Market by providing ICT technology support in the fields of asylum, law enforcement and border management, hence increasing the level of security in Europe.

eu - LISA		

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD
	SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION	EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING	DIGITAL SOCIETY	COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS	EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JUSTICE & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS	MIGRATION

LISA's strategic goals	Continue to grow as a contributor to and facilitator of freedom, security and justice policies in Europe	Become an acknowledged ICT centre of excellence and service provider	Grow as the principle EU ICT technology centre and hub of expertise

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2012
- **Location:** Tallinn, Estonia
- **Staff:** 140 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **eu-LISA's mission is "to continuously add value to Member States, supporting through technology their efforts for a safer Europe"[152].**

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights and towards a new policy on migration

eu-LISA implements EU policies policies in the area of freedom, security and justice. It contributes to the strengthening of the internal security of the Schengen Area and to the facilitation of free movement of people, one of the core freedoms of the European Union. With the help of technology eu-LISA increases the security of the people residing and travelling in Europe and supports Member States in their efforts towards a safer Europe. Through ICT solutions the Agency facilitates information exchange among national police, border control, migration, asylum, customs, and judicial authorities. eu LISA enables EU law enforcement authorities to provider through technological means integrated responses to the threats to EU's internal security.

Concretely, eu-LISA provides effective, comprehensive and highly adaptable IT systems and solutions in the fields of law enforcement cooperation, border management and asylum. It contributes, among others, to the fight against serious and organised crime in the EU and its external borders. In this respect, eu-LISA's mandate includes 24/7, efficient and effective operational management of the three European IT systems, as well as the of the secure communication network supporting those systems. eu-LISA is responsible for the operational management of the following large scale IT systems:

- The **Schengen Information System**, Europe's largest information system for security and law enforcement cooperation in Europe and one of the main compensatory measures following the abolition of internal border checks in the Schengen Area, aiming at guaranteeing internal security;

- The **Visa Information System**, allowing Schengen Area Member States to exchange data on third country nationals regarding applications for short stay, visit or transit visas to the Schengen Area, thus supporting the implementation of the EU's common visa policy and facilitating border checks;

- **Eurodac,** a European database that stores and processes the digitalised fingerprints of asylum seekers and irregular migrants who have entered a European country. This helps determine the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application. The system helps compare new asylum applications against those already in the

database and against data of people apprehended irregularly crossing an external border. This information is one of the criteria that helps determine the country responsible for taking care of the asylum applicant.

While performing its duties, eu-LISA has to ensure that the data stored in the central systems of SIS II, VIS and Eurodac are available 24/7 and that data protection and information security requirements are applied in accordance with all principles and legislation in place – in order to guarantee that personal information is treated fairly, lawfully and correctly.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

Within the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' Network, eu-LISA cooperates on a regular basis with the partner Agencies **CEPOL, EASO, EIGE, EMCDDA, Eurojust, Europol, FRA and Frontex,** sharing expertise, lessons learned and best practice in relevant subject areas or large-scale projects. eu-LISA aims to create synergies and economies of scale through the provisioning of infrastructure and application services, shared application portfolios and other relevant services in the use of ICT technologies and resources.

eu-LISA strives to foster and extend cooperation with all relevant stakeholders. These include EU Member States and Associated Countries, EU Institutions (in particular the EU Council, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the EDPS), EU Agencies (in particular the Agencies operating in the area of freedom, security and justice), international organisations, academia and research institutions, non-governmental organisations and the media.

Sources
- The EUISS's website, www.iss.europa.eu
- The EUISS Annual Report 2015
- Council Decision 2014/75/CFSP of 10 February 2014 on the European Union Institute for Security Studies

Smart Borders: a unique and large-scale EU pilot as a predecessor for the EU Entry/Exit System

Border management is currently going through significant transformation. To address the need for the Schengen Area to move towards more modern and efficient border management by using state-of-the-art technologies, a proof-of-concept exercise aimed at identifying, assessing and testing technical options for implementing the Smart Borders package was initiated by the Commission in 2014, with the support of the European Parliament and the Member States, and carried out by eu-LISA in the course of 2015.

The testing phase aimed to contribute to defining the best technical solutions for faster and more secure border-control processes, respecting the highest principles on data protection and fundamental rights. Through the pilot a set of technical options against specific measurable criteria in operational environments were tested. The criteria were accuracy, effectiveness and impact on the duration of border-crossing. The findings of the pilot are reflected in the Smart Borders final report.

Subsequent to the pilot, in 2016 the Commission submitted a modified legal proposal for establishing the EU Entry/Exit System that would speed up, facilitate and reinforce border-check procedures for third-country nationals travelling into the Schengen Area. After the adoption of the legal proposal by the co-legislators eu-LISA would be responsible for the development of this large scale IT system. The intended time of the entry into operation of the Entry/Exit System is 2020.

153. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.

EU-OSHA
European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

EU-OSHA is the agency which works on the safety and well-being of EU workers through risk prevention and the promotion of safe and healthier working conditions. It contributes to Inclusive Growth in the European Union by helping improve job quality and working conditions for all, in line with the objectives of well-being and cohesion inscribed in the Lisbon Treaty[153]. It also supports Sustainable Growth by boosting competitiveness through increased productivity and sustainable healthcare systems.
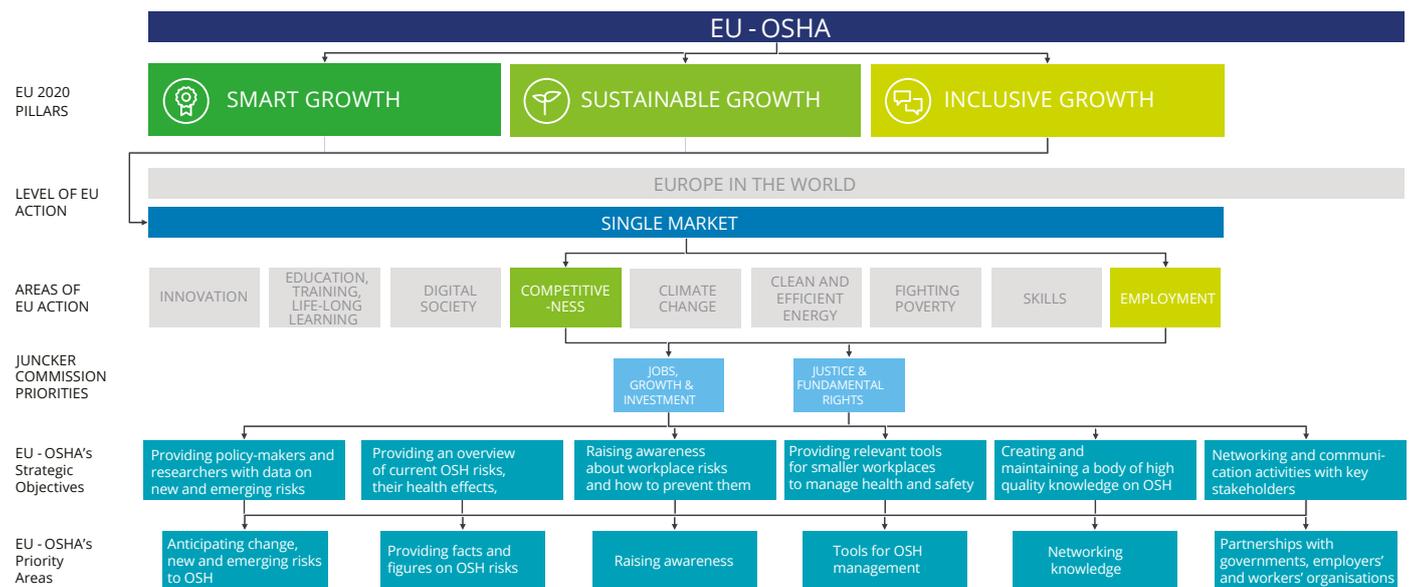
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1994
- **Location:** Bilbao, Spain
- **Staff:** 65 FTEs (AWP 2016)

EU-OSHA's mission is to "develop, gather and provide reliable and relevant information, analysis and tools to advance knowledge, raise awareness and exchange occupational safety and health (OSH) information and good practice which will serve the needs of those involved in OSH"[154]

Background
Europe's 217 million workers are entitled to fair and just working conditions that respect health and safety[155]. The Union is therefore committed to improving their working environment. It needs to constantly adapt its approach to occupational safety and health by introducing EU-level measures, providing stakeholders with adequate information and responding to requests addressed in that field.

For that purpose, EU-OSHA collects, analyses and provides EU bodies, Member States, social partners and all involved stakeholders with technical, scientific and economic information on occupational safety and health. This data is obtained through the ESENER enterprise survey and OSH overviews and made available via its website. In addition, the agency maintains an online encyclopaedia dedicated to OHS information. EU-OSHA also identifies emerging OSH risks in the context of demographic change, economic recovery and the emergence of new occupational risks.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
EU-OSHA's activities boost competitiveness by increasing productivity. Indeed, health and safety at work are key drivers of workers' productivity: poor working conditions drive many people out of the labour force before the official retirement age. This is an increasingly important issue given the ageing of the EU's workforce. EU-OSHA is working on creating a culture of risk prevention and the promotion of healthier and safer working conditions to ensure that workers' health allow them to work until retirement age.

This contributes to achieving the objective of having 75% of the 20-64 year-olds in employment, while reducing the number of people in poverty and social inclusion by maintaining them in the workforce. EU-OSHA's risk prevention

---

154. EU-OSHA Multi-Annual Strategic Programme, p.5.
155. Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, Article 31.

efforts aim at reducing the incidence of accidents and diseases at work, whose costs amount to around 3% of the GDP every year. Reducing their incidence through prevention by awareness-raising campaigns, for instance on Healthy Workplaces, reduces the burden on healthcare system, which reinforces their sustainability.

Implementing health and safety rules is particularly challenging for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which are the bedrock of EU's growth and employ a growing number of workers. EU-OSHA provides adapted tools for occupational health and safety management.

"High quality jobs that offer safe and healthy working conditions are essential for people to be able to work longer and so ensure that the employment targets are met."[156]

Dr. Christa Sedlatschek, Director

Contribution to the protection of justice and the fundamental rights of workers

Informing policy-makers and stakeholders is key to the introduction of measures which ensure the protection of workers' rights. EU-OSHA's actions also aim at reinforcing the economic and social cohesion within the Union by guaranteeing citizens the same level of protection wherever they work.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

EU-OSHA closely collaborates with other EU agencies and bodies on issues of common interest:

- **Eurofound:** the bodies work on health- and safety-related projects to encourage improvements in the working environment;

- **Cedefop:** cooperation includes joint campaigns, for instance on Healthy Workplaces for All Ages;

- **ETF: EU-OSHA's** input contributes to ETF's work on labour market reforms in third countries;

- **ECHA:** the Agencies share knowledge on the safe use of chemical substances at work;

- **FRA:** FRA collects evidence which helps EU-OSHA formulate operational responses and provides proposals for the mainstreaming of fundamental rights in OSH activities;

- **EIGE:** the bodies collaborate on the gender dimension of OSH issues.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) No 2062/94
- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union
- Treaty on European Union
- EU-OSHA Multi-Annual Strategic Programme 2014-2020
- EU Occupational Safety and Work Strategic Framework 2014-2020
- EU-OSHA Annual Report 2015
- EU-OSHA Management Plan 2016
- EU-OSHA website: https://osha.europa.eu/en

Helping SMEs improve safety and health in their workplaces

EU-OSHA has developed an Online Interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA) tool. OiRA is an online platform to create free and easy-to-use risk assessment tools for SMEs in any language. It is adaptable to all sectors, from hairdressing to construction.

This free tool supports SMEs in improving safety and health in their workplaces by putting into place a step-by-step risk-assessment process, from the evaluation of risks to the implementation and monitoring of measures. It thus helps SMEs overcome the lack of resources and know-how which often prevent them from effectively assessing risks in their workplaces.

---

156. EU-OSHA Management Plan 2016, p.3.

Eurofound
European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

Eurofound is dedicated to improving the living and working conditions of European citizens. It contributes to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth by providing EU and national policy-makers with data and analyses for the upward convergence towards better conditions across Member States.
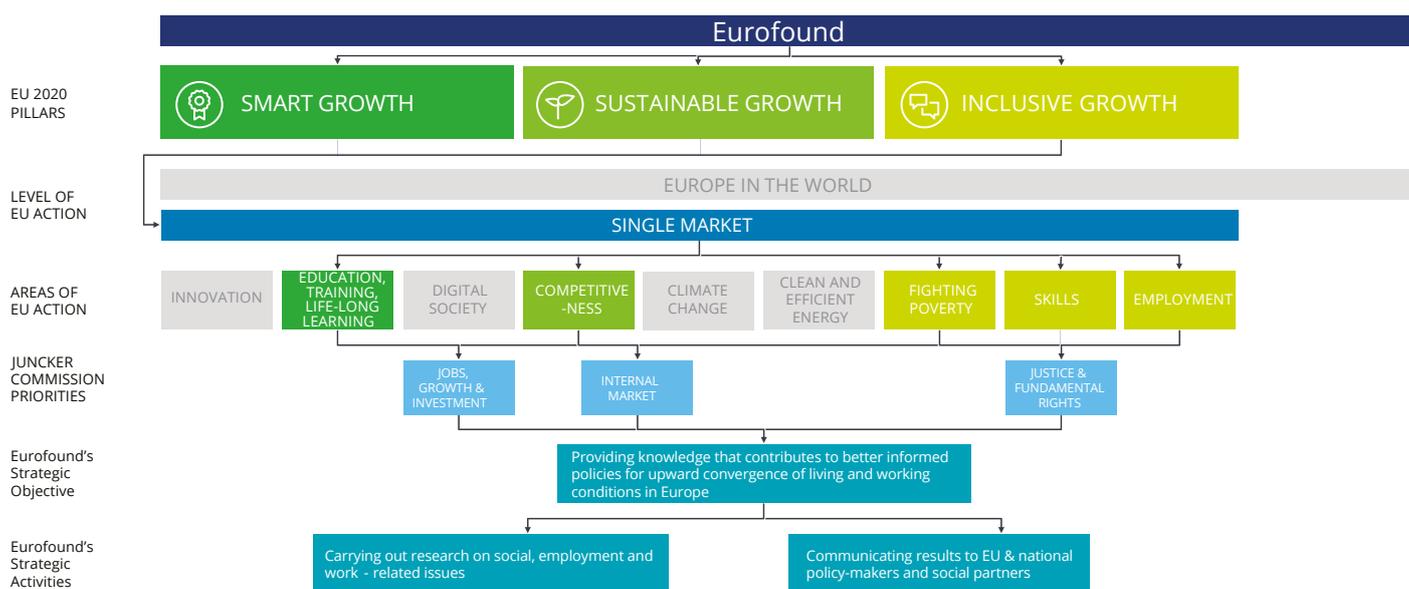
The agency at a glance
- **Type**: Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1975
- **Location:** Dublin, Ireland
- **Staff:** 94 FTEs (AWP 2016)

Eurofound's mission is to "contribute to the planning and the establishment of better living and working conditions through activities designed to increase and disseminate knowledge likely to assist this development. With this aim in view, the tasks of the Foundation shall be to develop and to pursue ideas on the medium and long-term improvement of living and working conditions in the light of practical experience and to identify factors leading to change"[157].

Background
EU citizens enjoy among some of the highest standards of living and working conditions in the world. The promotion of their well-being is a fundamental objective of the Union[158]. However, improvements are called for in order to address structural changes and inequalities across Member States.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
Eurofound provides EU and national policy-makers and social partners with data on the evolution of industrial relations, working and living conditions and quality of life in Europe in order to improve and harmonise related policies.

It contributes to facilitating the dialogue between social partners, in particular in the context of the European Semester, and also monitoring industrial relations through its online European Observatory of Working Life (EurWORK) and identifying areas for improvement.

Eurofound's European Monitoring Centre on Change (EMCC) gathers data across Member States on structural changes which affect labour markets. Eurofound's analysis of these data feeds into recommendations on how to further improve the functioning and inclusiveness of European labour markets, as well as to foster innovation and job creation. Adapting work and social policies to structural changes, for instance by encouraging the development of digital skills, is a prerequisite for economic recovery and Smart Growth: it stimulates competitiveness and the sustainability of the EU labour market while supporting workers in adapting to change.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base
Eurofound carries out pan-European

157. Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 of the Council of 26 May 1975, Article 2.
158. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.

surveys which provide a detailed overview of working conditions, job quality, quality of life and companies practices across Member States. This comparative information enables Eurofound to identify inequalities in working and living conditions within and between Member States and formulate ideas for upward convergence towards better and fairer conditions for all in the Union. Creating a level-playing field is a prerequisite to the better functioning of the borderless internal market. It encourages labour mobility, which is essential in order to address skills mismatch, while ensuring equal and fair working and living conditions for all Europeans over their life course. Eurofound also carries out anticipatory research on the future of manufacturing in Europe and its industrial and employment consequences.

Contribution to the protection of social and fundamental rights of citizens

Eurofound formulates policy recommendations aimed at protecting all citizens from exclusion, poverty and social inequalities. For instance, some of its research focuses on ways to increase the integration of women, youth and migrants in the labour market. Eurofound also contributes to safeguarding EU citizens' rights by monitoring developments in the area of quality of life and public services. These actions promote European citizens' well-being and cohesion throughout the Union, two fundamental EU objectives[159].

"Eurofound seeks both to document and understand change and to develop ideas for the ongoing improvement of the living and working conditions of European citizens."[160]

Juan Menéndez-Valdés,
Director of Eurofound

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

Eurofound closely collaborates with sister EU agencies and bodies on issues of common interest:

- **Cedefop:** the agencies collaborate on joint research and communication activities in the field of employability and skills;
- **EIGE:** Eurofound provides input for EIGE on the development of the gender equality index in Europe;
- **FRA:** The two agencies cooperate particularly on their surveys, such as the Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) and the new Fundamental Rights Survey, but also on specific themes such as migrants and asylum seekers.
- **EU-OSHA**: the agencies work on health and safety projects to encourage improvements in the work environment;
- **uropean Training Foundation:** the bodies carry out joint research and actions on youth employment.

From research to the Youth Guarantee

In 2013, Eurofound carried out an in-depth research on young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) across the Union. It estimated the economic loss arising from their disengagement from the labour market at about €162 billion, or 1.26% of the European GDP.

The results of this research have been used as a source for key EU policy documents aimed at tackling youth unemployment, in particular the European Commission's initiative on the Youth Guarantee. This consists of a €6 billion fund aimed at guaranteeing all people under 25 a good-quality job offer, an apprenticeship, traineeship or continued education within four months of leaving formal education or becoming unemployed.

This illustrates how Eurofound's data collection and analysis translate into concrete measures for bettering the living and working conditions of Europeans.

Sources
- Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 on the creation of a European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions
- Treaty on European Union
- Towards better living and working conditions
- Living and working in Europe 2015
- Eurofound Activity Report 2015
- Eurofound Work Programme 2016

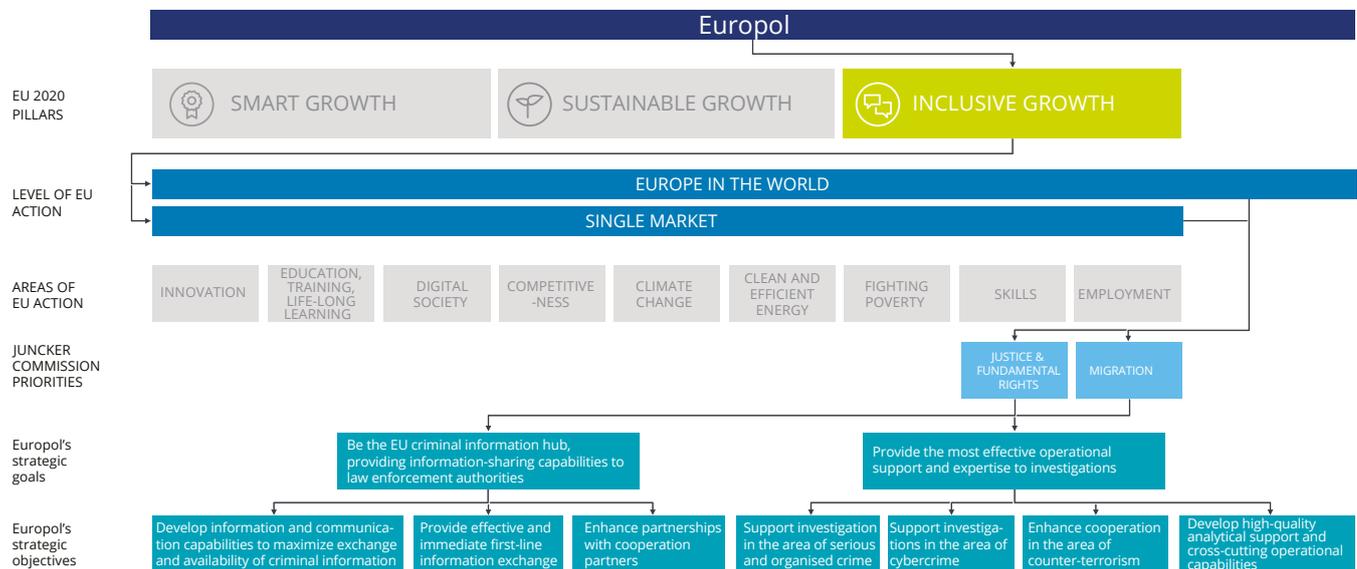159. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.
160. Toward better living and working conditions", p.3.

Europol
European Police Office

≋ EUROPOL

Europol contributes to Inclusive Growth and to the area of freedom, security and justice within the Single Market through its actions supporting Member States in order to combat serious cross-border crime and terrorism. Through its collaboration with third countries, Europol's work is also relevant for the Juncker Commission priority 'Europe in the world'.

	Europol		
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	**INCLUSIVE GROWTH**
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD		
	SINGLE MARKET		

Areas of EU action: INNOVATION · EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING · DIGITAL SOCIETY · COMPETITIVE-NESS · CLIMATE CHANGE · CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY · FIGHTING POVERTY · SKILLS · EMPLOYMENT

Juncker Commission priorities: JUSTICE & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS · MIGRATION

Europol's strategic goals: Be the EU criminal information hub, providing information-sharing capabilities to law enforcement authorities · Provide the most effective operational support and expertise to investigations

Europol's strategic objectives: Develop information and communication capabilities to maximize exchange and availability of criminal information · Provide effective and immediate first-line information exchange · Enhance partnerships with cooperation partners · Support investigation in the area of serious and organised crime · Support investigations in the area of cybercrime · Enhance cooperation in the area of counter-terrorism · Develop high-quality analytical support and cross-cutting operational capabilities

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 1999
- **Location:** The Hague, The Netherlands
- **Staff:** 710 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **Europol's mission is "to support its Member States in preventing and combating all forms of serious international and organized crime and terrorism"**[161]

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights and migration

Europol works in the area of freedom, security and justice. It works as a support centre for Member States' law enforcement authorities, and as a criminal information hub by exchanging and analysing criminal intelligence. Through different services, Europol provides operational support to Member States in various domains where EU citizens' security might be threatened.

- **Terrorism:** In response to the increasing terrorist threats in Europe, Europol has established the European Counter-Terrorism Centre (ECTC) to bring together Europol's existing capabilities in the area

with a view to enhancing the information exchange through secured, tailored solutions and building the infrastructure for better cooperation. The ECTC provides analytical and operational support to Member States' investigations including by the setting up of dedicated task-forces. Additionally, the newly established EU Internet Referral Unit (IRU) at Europol tackles online radicalisation.

- **Cybercrime:** As cybercrime is by definition borderless, Europol has created a European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) that combats child sexual exploitation, payment card fraud or other cybercrimes, pooling expertise and intelligence, supporting investigations and promoting EU-wide solutions.

- **Irregular migration:** Europol coordinates operational activities, supports international investigations, provides forensic or other technical expertise, as well as criminal intelligence to combat irregular migration. In 2016 and in response to the migratory crisis which led to the loss of numerous lives in the Mediterranean Sea, Europol established the European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) to specifically target the criminal networks which are involved in migrant

smuggling. Among others, the EMSC provides analytical and investigation support at the migration hotspots. Upon request, Europol also deploys guest officers from Member States to perform secondary security checks.

- **Trafficking in human beings:** in order to disrupt the activities of criminal networks active in trafficking of human beings, Europol provides support to investigations and on-the-spot operations, giving access to databases and analytical tools.

- **Illicit drugs:** in order to protect citizens' health and security, Europol supports national authorities to dismantle criminal organisations that produce and traffic drugs (heroin, cocaine, cannabis, synthetics) as well as synthetic drugs laboratories.

- **Cigarette smuggling:** Europol supports customs and other authorities to identify illicit cargo and criminal networks involved in cigarette smuggling. Illegal tobacco may not have passed health and quality controls and may contain harmful chemicals.

- **Mobile organised crime groups:** Europol works closely with authorities

161. Europol Strategy 2016-2020, p. 5.

within and outside Europe to dismantle criminal networks active in mobile organised crime.

- **Intellectual property crime:** Europol supports investigation to protect consumers, since counterfeit products may present less quality, no ethics in their production, be unsafe or even lethal. Furthermore, intellectual property crimes may also endanger legitimate business, investment, innovation and jobs.

- **VAT fraud:** Europol supports Member States' investigations, coordinating operations or providing intelligence related to VAT fraud.

- **Money laundering:** Europol supports worldwide investigations in tracing money laundering.

Through its support to law enforcement authorities and its coordination of cross-border investigations in the various domains presented above, Europol contributes to the European Commission's priority "justice and fundamental rights" that includes the fight against cross-border crime and terrorism. Through its actions in the field of illegal immigration and human trafficking and smuggling, Europol also contributes to the 'migration' priority.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

Europol is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network. It collaborates with most of the agencies of the network on different topics.

- **EASO**. Europol, together with Frontex, Eurojust and EASO, collaborates on the "Hotspot" approach, providing on-the-spot staff and equipment to face exceptional migration pressures. They support the investigation on smuggling and trafficking of human beings and assist national authorities regarding identification, registering and fingerprinting of migrants.

- **Frontex.** The purpose of the cooperation is to combat cross-border criminal activities through the exchange of information or joint operational activities.

- **Eurojust.** Europol mainly organises trainings on cybercrime and drugs together with Eurojust. They also support Joint Investigation Teams

- **CEPOL.** Europol contributes to CEPOL's courses and seminars.

- **EMCDDA.** Europol collaborates with

EUR 10 million gain for an international gang dealing with migrant smuggling

December 2015, a large-scale joint operation carried out by law enforcement and judicial authorities from Austria, Greece, Sweden and the United Kingdom, supported by Europol.

- Target: an organised crime group suspected of smuggling people into the European Union. The identified smugglers were mainly from Syria and Greece, but also Palestine and possibly Tunisia. The organised crime group is believed to have smuggled irregular migrants from Turkey (mainly individuals originating from Syria), then facilitating their journeys from Greece to other EU Member States via the Balkan route (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, Germany and further northwards).

- Results: 23 suspects arrested in Austria, Greece, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The members of the criminal network had set up their headquarters in Greece, where migrants – either located in Turkey or on their way to Greece – would contact them for further assistance with their journeys to Northern Europe. All forms of assistance could be provided ranging from transport and supplying forged travel documents, to housing. The migrants paid the facilitators via money-transfer services or simply with cash. This organised crime group is believed to have smuggled around 100 migrants per day and active since 2013. According to intelligence gathered so far, the total estimated earnings of the group were nearly EUR 10 million. During the action day, the organised crime group's leader was arrested by officers from the UK's National Crime Agency in Liverpool.

Europol supported the investigation from its early stages, by facilitating the exchange of intelligence between the involved Member States, performing cross-checks and real-time analysis of data, providing tailored analytical support to the investigators, and by financing and hosting operational meetings. Europol specialists and senior officers from participating law enforcement authorities coordinated actions from Europol headquarters in The Hague.

Source: Europol Review 2015

EMCDDA on illegal drugs matters, in order to publish early warnings or emerging threats reports. The two agencies produce an annual joint report.

- Europol also collaborates with **eu-LISA** and **FRA** in areas of common interest.

Beyond the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network, Europol also collaborates with the EU Institutions, other European bodies (e.g. the European External Action Service) and other EU agencies such as:

- **EUIPO.** Europol collaborates with EUIPO on the topic of intellectual property infringements through the newly set up Intellectual Property Crime Coordinated Coalition (IPC3) at Europol;

- **EMSA.** EMSA provides Europol with information on maritime traffic;

- **ENISA.** Europol and ENISA work together on cybercrime.

Moreover, Europol signed cooperation agreements with third countries (e.g. Balkan countries, Turkey, Ukraine, or Russia) to combat international crime. It also collaborates with international organisations such as the World Bank or INTERPOL.

Sources
- Europol Strategy 2016-2020
- Europol's website
- Europol Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015
- Europol Review 2015 – General report on Europol activities

Eurojust
European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit

As an agency within the contribution theme "Ensuring an area of freedom, security and justice", Eurojust contributes to Inclusive Growth and to the justice and home affairs prerogatives within the Single Market through its actions aiming at strengthening judicial and legal (operational) cooperation and coordination in order to fight serious cross-border crime and terrorism.
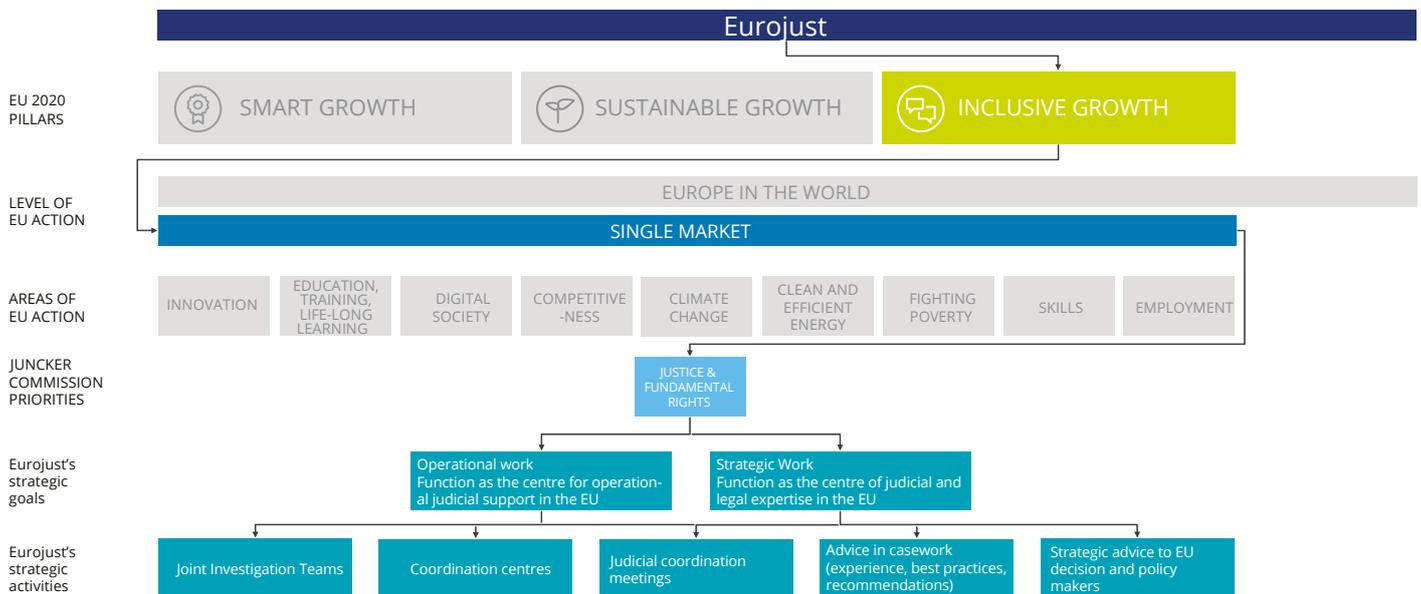
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location:** The Hague, The Netherlands
- **Staff:** 261 FTEs in 2016

> **Eurojust's mission is to "[stimulate] and [improve] the coordination of investigations and prosecutions between the competent authorities in the Member States and [improve] the cooperation between the competent authorities of the Member States, in particular by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance and the implementation of extradition requests."[162].**

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights
Eurojust operates in the area of freedom, security and justice, which is a core component of the Single Market. It supports Member States in the fight against serious cross-border crime and terrorism, for the benefit of EU citizens. Eurojust supports the competent authorities of the Member States to render their investigations and prosecutions more effective when dealing with cross-border crime.

In order to achieve this mission, Eurojust performs operational and strategic work. It works as a centre for operational judicial support with the aim of fostering coordination and cooperation between Member States. It offers operational and legal expertise to national authorities through facilitating the application of EU legal instruments such as the Mutual Legal Assistance, the European Arrest Warrant, the European Investigation Order, or joint investigation teams. Moreover, Eurojust works as a centre of judicial and legal expertise and provides advice to stakeholders, such as EU policy and decision makers, based on operational experience. It also shares best practices and recommendations e.g. on the functioning of joint investigation teams.

Eurojust supports Member States' competent national authorities by coordinating cross-border investigations, prosecutions and the gathering of evidence. It also assists them in the prevention and resolution of conflicts of jurisdictions. Eurojust facilitates cooperation to bring criminals to justice and treats casework in a large number of areas: terrorism, trafficking in human beings, illegal immigrant smuggling, cybercrime, online child abuse, drug trafficking, money laundering, organised crime groups, environmental crime, fraud and corruption, counterfeiting, crime against property or public goods and criminal offences affecting the EU's financial interests.

Beyond providing financial and operational support as well as expertise to joint investigation teams, Eurojust also organises

- judicial coordination meetings to bring together judicial and law enforcement authorities, i.e. prosecutors, judges and police officers, to resolve legal and practical difficulties to operations (e.g. conflict of jurisdiction), exchange information, coordinate ongoing investigations and prosecutions, etc.;

---

162. Eurojust Mission & Tasks, www.eurojust.europa.eu, consulted on 22 September 2016.

- coordination centres to enable real-time diffusion among national authorities of information related to serious cross-border crime, with a view to facilitating the gathering of evidence through coordinated and simultaneous execution of arrest warrants, searches and seizures in different Member States.

"Eurojust's casework continues to grow each year. Member States requested Eurojust's assistance in 2 214 cases, representing an increase of 23 per cent compared to 2014."[163]

Michèle CONINSX, President of Eurojust

Furthermore, Eurojust has established a database, the Case Management System, to support its activities and enable Member States to consult case-related data through secure network connections.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
Eurojust is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network. In particular, it collaborates with Europol, EMCDDA, FRA, eu-LISA, CEPOL, EASO and Frontex in order to establish synergies and maximise their operational added value in combatting serious crimes. They exchange data and knowledge on topics such as drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration.

Eurojust collaborates with **EASO, Frontex** and **Europol** on the 'Hotspot' approach, providing on-the-spot support helping to face exceptional migration pressures. They facilitate the investigation and prosecution of smuggling and trafficking of human beings, as well as assist national authorities in identifying, registering and fingerprinting the migrants.

Eurojust and Europol regularly exchange information on their mutual operations. Moreover, Europol participates in a large number of coordination meetings and

Eurojust's action against illegal immigrant smuggling

Strong judicial cooperation at EU level, as well as with third States of origin and transit and other partners, is vital for disrupting the activities of smugglers and bringing them to justice. In the past years, the number of illegal immigrant smuggling cases referred to Eurojust for assistance has sharply increased. Eurojust provides valuable support to the national judicial authorities dealing with this crime type through its tools (e.g. coordination meetings and coordination centres) and its legal and financial support to joint investigation teams. Eurojust signed a Letter of Understanding with EUNAVOR MED to foster closer cooperation via the exchange of strategic information and best practice. Eurojust also supports the Hotspot approach and appointed dedicated Eurojust Contact Points in the Hotspot locations in Italy and Greece.

Following up to the discussions in the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General and Director of Public Prosecution Services in 2014 and in line with the EU Action Plan on Migration, Eurojust set up a Thematic Group on Migrant Smuggling with the objective to strengthen cooperation between prosecutors and enhance judicial cooperation in illegal immigrant smuggling cases, including with third States. First results are the Eurojust tactical meeting on judicial challenges in illegal immigrant smuggling, the leaflet on legal possibilities for setting up JITs between EU and non-EU States in illegal immigrant smuggling cases, jointly prepared with the JITs Network Secretariat, as well as analyses of lessons learned from jurisprudence in illegal immigrant smuggling cases for the use of practitioners.

coordination centres. Eurojust also provides judicial expertise to Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3).

Eurojust closely cooperates with national authorities and the EU Institutions, as well as other partners such as the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), INTERPOL or the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Eurojust also signed cooperation agreements with some third countries in order to combat cross-border serious crime, such as Switzerland, the USA, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro and Ukraine.

Sources
- Eurojust Multi-Annual Strategy 2016-2018
- Eurojust Annual Report 2015
- Eurojust Annual Work Programme 2016
- Eurojust's website, www.eurojust.europa.eu, consulted on 22 September 2016

---

163. Eurojust Annual Report 2015, p. 7. , consulted on 22 September 2016.

F4E
Fusion for Energy

F4E is the organisation dedicated to managing Europe's contribution to the international ITER project and to the development of fusion energy. By developing a potentially limitless and environmentally sound source of energy, F4E contributes to the generation of new knowledge which in turn stimulates growth and innovation and creates jobs. Fusion energy will significantly reduce environmental problems and climate change as it would provide clean and efficient energy for all. F4E therefore fosters Smart and Sustainable Growth in Europe.

	F4E		
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD		
	SINGLE MARKET		

| AREAS OF EU ACTION | INNOVATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING | DIGITAL SOCIETY | COMPETITIVE-NESS | CLIMATE CHANGE | CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY | FIGHTING POVERTY | SKILLS | EMPLOYMENT |

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT	ENERGY UNION & CLIMATE CHANGE

F4E's Strategic Objectives	Provide Euratom's contribution to the ITER International Fusion Energy Organisation	Provide Euratom's contribution to broader approach activities with Japan for the rapid realisation of fusion energy	Prepare and coordinate a programme of activities in preparation for the construction of a demonstration fusion reactor and related facilities

F4E's Strategic Activities	Overseeing the preparation of the ITER site	Providing the EU's financial contribution and staff to the research projects	Developing and manufacturing high technology components for ITER and the Broader Approach	Preparing for the first demonstration fusion reactors and materials test facilities

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Euratom body
- **Foundation year:** 2007
- **Location:** Barcelona, Spain
- **Staff:** 463 FTEs (AWP 2016)

F4E is responsible for providing Europe's contribution to ITER, the world's largest scientific partnership that aims to demonstrate fusion as a viable and sustainable source of energy. ITER brings together seven parties that represent half of the world's population – the European Union, Russia, Japan, China, India, South Korea and the United States.

F4E also supports fusion research and development initiatives through the Broader Approach Agreement, signed with Japan – a fusion energy partnership which will last for 10 years.

Ultimately, F4E will contribute towards the construction of demonstration fusion reactors. It was set up for 35 years.

Background
The increased global demand for energy, coupled with the economic, political and environmental risks associated with fossil fuels, has prompted Europe and its international partners to advance fusion energy research towards the construction of the first demonstration commercial reactor. Energy produced by fusion could in this respect contribute to the diversity, sustainability and security of the European energy supply system in the second half of the twenty-first century. For that purpose, Europe has entered two international agreements regarding:

- **the Establishment of the ITER International Fusion Energy Organisation (ITER IO) for the Joint Implementation of the ITER Project** with China, India, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the USA: ITER is the world's largest research and engineering project on the viability and sustainability of fusion as an energy source;

- **the Joint Implementation of the Broad Approach Activities in the Field of Fusion Energy Research** with Japan, which aims at accelerating the development of fusion energy by cooperating on projects of mutual interest, including preparations for new materials testing facilities, as a complement to ITER.

- F4E is in charge of providing the Union's contribution to these projects, as well as preparing the construction of a demonstration fusion reactor and related materials.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
To provide Euratom's contribution to ITER and the Broader Approach and enhance fusion technologies, F4E finances research projects through grants and awards numerous procurement contracts to manufacture ITER components to European industry, SMEs and fusion laboratories. F4E has developed an industrial policy which

aims at the full deployment of the industrial and research potential and capabilities of its members. By involving European industry actors, it also contributes to broadening the EU industrial base of fusion technology to ensure its competitiveness in the future fusion market.

The organisation's activities foster innovation and competitiveness in emerging technologies, thereby contributing to the EU Innovation Union initiative and stimulating job creation and growth in Europe.

Moreover, by thriving to develop an economically competitive source of energy in the coming decades, the organisation is contributing to the long-term competitiveness of European citizens and companies.

Contribution to building a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

F4E works towards developing fusion energy as "a potentially limitless, safe, sustainable, environmentally responsible source of energy"[164] It is therefore committed to ensuring the world's sustainable development in the long term by replacing polluting fossil fuels with a cleaner source of energy. This directly contributes to the Lisbon Treaty objective of improving the quality of the environment[165].

Furthermore, fusion could significantly reinforce the energy security of Europe and other importing regions as it is a potentially limitless source of energy directly available on anywhere. Its supply would therefore not be contingent upon economic,

political, geopolitical or environmental circumstances.

Contribution to Europe's footprint in international research on fusion energy

By taking part in international scientific collaboration projects, F4E is instrumental in strengthening international research cooperation. In addition, it encourages the association of third countries' nuclear fusion programmes with the Euratom programmes, reinforcing this way Europe's capacity and standing as a leading actor in the emerging field of fusion energy.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

F4E is sharing its information technology (IT) backup infrastructure with **EMSA** in order to increase its disaster recovery capacity. The organisation also works with other EU agencies on improving its communication towards stakeholders by organising workshops to share good practice and exchange know-how in the field of communication.

⚬⚬

Supporting European industry and research organisations

By 2015, during its 8 years of existence, F4E had already achieved an impressive record in supporting European industry and laboratories:
- 400 contracts awarded to industry and SMEs
- 150 grants awarded
- Total value over €3.57 billion
- Supporting over 400 European companies in 20 EU Member States and Switzerland
- Supporting over 65 R&D organisations.

Sources
- Council Decision 2007/198/Euratom
- Treaty on European Union
- What is Fusion for Energy?
- F4E Website: WWW.FUSIONFORENERGY. EUROPA.EU
- ITER website: HTTPS://WWW.ITER.ORG/
- F4E Annual Report 2014
- F4E Work Programme 2016

---

[164]. Council Decision 2007/198/Euratom, Recital 1.
[165]. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.

FCH JU
Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking

FCH JU works towards developing a strong, sustainable and globally competitive European fuel cells and hydrogen sector with technology applications for transport and energy systems. By sustaining innovation and the market entry of technology applications, it fosters Smart and Inclusive Growth in Europe. It promotes solutions to increase energy efficiency, energy security and lower environmental impact, therefore taking part in the transition towards Sustainable Growth.
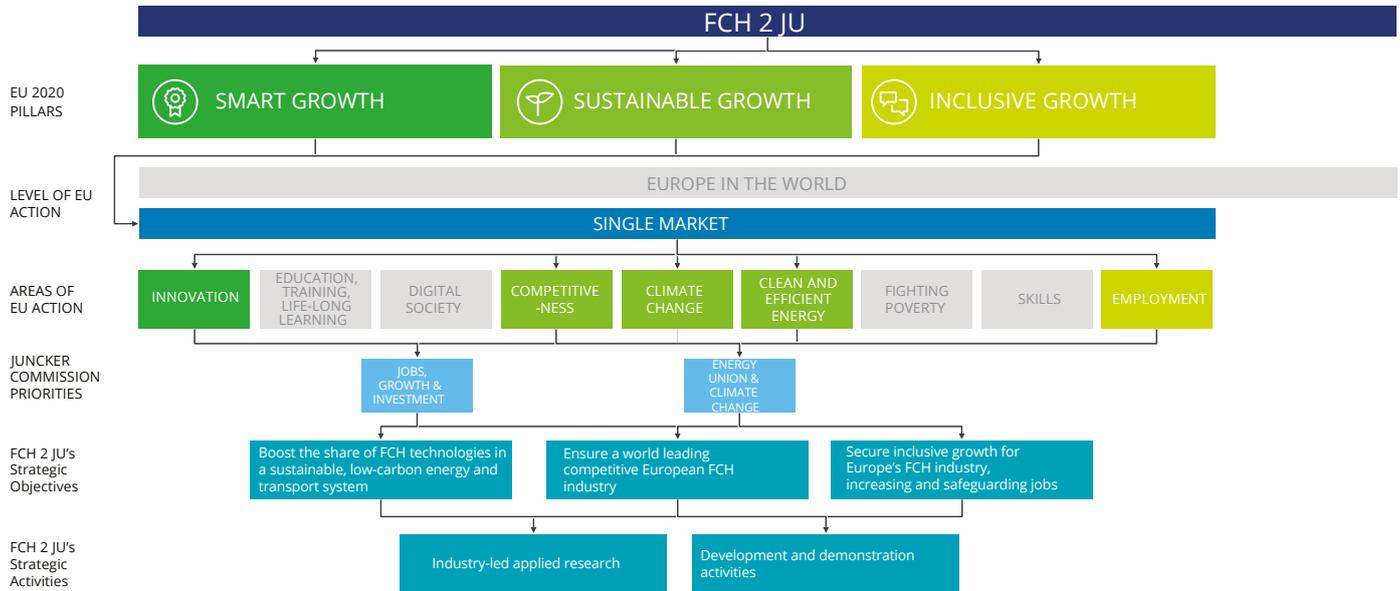
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking
- **Foundation year:** 2008
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 26 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> The FCH JU's mission is to "develop by 2020 to the point of market readiness, a portfolio of clean, efficient and affordable solutions that fully demonstrate the potential of hydrogen as an energy carrier and of fuel cells as energy converters, as part of a system that integrates sustainable and secure supply with low carbon stationary and transport technologies"[166].

Background
Fuel cells and hydrogen (FCH) technologies hold great potential for energy and transport applications for Europe's transition towards a low-carbon, competitive economy. Hydrogen as an energy carrier and fuel cells as energy converters offer the possibility to reduce emissions, enhance energy security and stimulate growth in Europe as they allow the integration of renewables in the European energy system. However, the current level of competitiveness and performance of FCH technologies and the lack of infrastructures and regulations deter investments for their large-scale deployment in Europe.

A public-private partnership, the first FCH JU, was set up in 2008 to encourage coordination between research and industry and leverage public and private funds to accelerate the commercialisation of FCH technologies. Its work continues with the new FCH 2 JU, which gathers the European Union, over 80 companies and 60 research institutions and universities under the EU Horizon 2020 research programme for 2014-2020. The FCH 2 JU offers a platform for industry-led applied research, development and demonstration activities to foster and demonstrate advancement of European technology applications in transport, energy and portable applications.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
The FCH 2 JU aims at boosting investment to increase the cost-competitiveness and performance of FCH technologies and thereby to encourage their large-scale commercialisation. By fostering the cooperation of all European industry actors, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with the research community, it seeks to let research on FCH be driven by industry needs and thus ensure that results feed directly into industrial, marketable outcomes. Its activities contribute to boosting the competitiveness of the European industry in a nascent sector with significant growth potential, thus laying the ground for sustainable, knowledge-based economic growth and jobs creation in the Union.

Moreover, FCH technologies have applications in transport and energy

systems, which constitute the two pillars of FCH 2 JU activities, as well as cross-cutting activities and overarching topics. By contributing to the advancement of efficient transport and energy systems including electric passenger vehicles and buses, hydrogen refuelling stations and Auxiliary Power Units for aviation, maritime, rail and the off-road sector, the FCH 2 JU can trigger beneficial impacts for other sectors by reducing energy and transport costs.

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

The FCH 2 JU is dedicated to fostering the development and commercialisation of FCH technology applications as a competitive alternative to conventional technologies with negative environmental impact. By boosting the share of renewables in the European energy mix through hydrogen as an energy carrier and the use of fuel cells for transport applications, it directly works towards increasing resource efficiency and climate change mitigation in Europe. This directly relates to the Lisbon Treaty objective of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment[167] and to the EU's commitment to achieve a low-carbon economy by 2050.

"Europe is a technology leader in certain FCH applications and very competitive in others. Notable technological progress has been made by European companies in all sectors, particularly road transport, due in part to consistent and long term public support for projects funded in by the countries, the European Research and Development Framework Programmes and the FCH 1 JU."[168]

Moreover, it contributes to enhancing energy security by promoting technologies which allow the storage and integration of renewable energy sources in the European energy system. The FCH 2 JU therefore plays a key role in the development of the Energy Union.

Cooperation with other bodies and agencies

The FCH 2 JU collaborates with other stakeholders involved in the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan towards reinforcing supply chains and building industrial capacity to improve resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and energy security in Europe.

The JU coordinates its activities with national and regional initiatives and research programmes in EU Member States and associated countries. It also promotes international cooperation on FCH research to facilitate the market introduction of FCH technologies at the global scale.

Sources
- Treaty on European Union
- Council Regulation (EU) 559/2014
- Strategic Energy Technology Plan
- 2nd Interim Evaluation of the FCH JU
- FCH 2 JU Multi-annual Work Plan
- FCH JU Annual Report 2014
- FCH 2 JU 2016 Work Programme
- Commission Communication "A Framework Strategy for a Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-Looking Climate Change Policy"

## Improving the competitiveness of the FCH sector in Europe

The FCH JU has already had a significant impact on the commercial and technical progress within the FCH sector. A survey of companies involved in the sector showed strong positive trends in investment, jobs and turnover, with estimations showing:
- 6% more jobs per year since 2007, amounting to around 4,000 FTEs;
- 16% more patents granted to European companies for FCH in the Union per year compared to the average annual growth for all EU industries of 1.5%;
- A 10% increase per annum in annual turnover;
- An 8% increase in R&D expenditures;
- A 6% increase in market deployment expenditures.
- Source: Trends in investments, jobs and turnover in the Fuel cells and Hydrogen sector. Brussels: Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking, FCH JU, 2013

167. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.
168. FCH JU Multi-Annual Work Plan 2014-2020, p.11.

FRA
European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

FRA contributes to Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive growth and to the area of freedom, security and justice within the Single Market by assisting EU institutions and Member States to formulate fundamental rights compliant policies in areas of EU competence. FRA provides evidence-based advice and legal analysis on fundamental rights, collects and analyses relevant data, and cooperates with stakeholders and partners to raise awareness on fundamental rights. Through its actions, FRA contributes to different aspects of the Single Market: digital society, education, competitiveness, fighting poverty, skills recognition and employment.
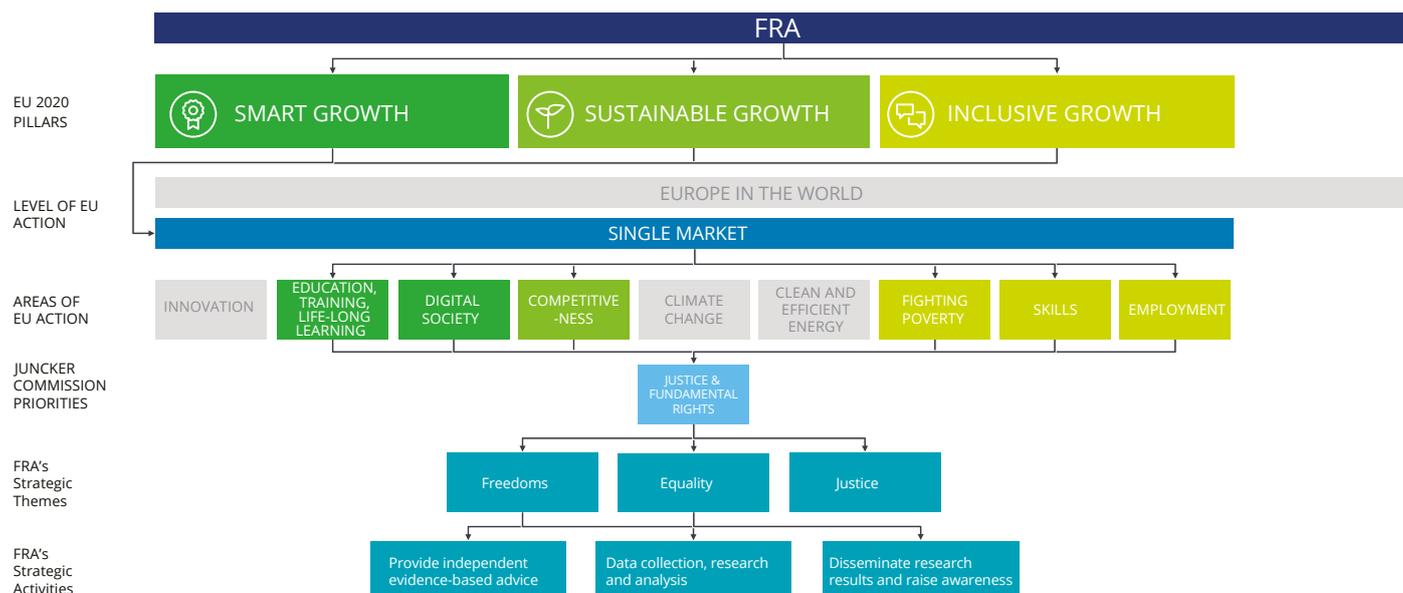
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2007
- **Location:** Vienna, Austria
- **Staff:** 116 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **FRA's mission is to "help [making] fundamental rights a reality for everyone in the European Union"[169].**

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights

FRA's objective is to support EU Institutions, Member States and other bodies when they take measures or formulate courses of action within their respective spheres of competence to fully respect fundamental rights. The Agency fulfils its objective by issuing reports and opinions, as well as by raising awareness on fundamental rights issues. The EU recognises rights, freedoms and principles set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which is legally binding on the EU institutions and on national governments when implementing EU law.

In order to realise its mission, FRA gathers data and carries out transnational research and comparative analysis to provide independent evidence-based expertise, conclusions and opinions to EU Institutions and Member States.

Furthermore, FRA is carrying out communication and awareness-raising activities in relation to fundamental rights issues in order to ensure the effective impact of its work on policy-making.

FRA carries out its tasks, missions and activities along three broad thematic areas, i.e. freedoms, equality and justice, that involve different work streams defined by the Council of the EU every five years, as the Agency's "multi-annual framework". The present framework (2012-2017) includes:

Freedoms
Under the 'freedoms' thematic area, FRA works towards the promotion and safeguarding of fundamental rights in the fields of:

- Immigration and integration of migrants, visa, border control and asylum;

- Information society and, in particular, respect for private life and protection of personal data.

Equality
FRA works on different streams within the equality thematic area to ensure equal treatment for everyone:

- Rights of the child;

- Roma integration;

- Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance;

- Discrimination based on sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any

169. FRA Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017, p.3.

other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.

Justice
In the justice thematic area, FRA provides expertise and assistance on fundamental rights of:

- Access to justice including judicial cooperation (except in criminal matters) at EU and Member State level, including for marginalised groups;

- -Victims of crime - by promoting their right to have access to justice, and by focusing on specific victims such as victims of gender-based violence and hate crime.

The contribution of fundamental rights to the internal market
The respect and promotion of fundamental rights underpin many aspects of the Single Market, and represent therefore an enabler to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. For example, the fundamental right to data protection lays at the basis of every development towards a digital society. Ensuring equal treatment for all and, in particular for vulnerable groups, such as Roma, persons with disabilities, etc. contributes to the elimination of poverty and social exclusion. FRA's work on indicators and monitoring the implementation, outcome and impact of policy measures contributes to evidence-based planning, implementation and evaluation of social inclusion and poverty reduction measures e.g. concerning minorities and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, reporting regularly on the situation of migrants, in housing, healthcare, education, employment and non-discriminatory recognition of qualifications and skills, also contributes to this end. Working on

social cohesion through all those different aspects contributes towards Europe's competitiveness.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
FRA is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network, and in 2016 chaired this network. It collaborates with the members thereof (i.e. CEPOL, EASO, EIGE, eu-LISA, EIGE, EMCDDA, Eurojust, Europol and Frontex) in order to help them respect fundamental rights in their respective area of work, e.g. by collaborating on joint initiatives, and by providing their staff with training. FRA also collaborates in a similar manner with Eurofound.
FRA collaborates with the EU Institutions, Member States, social partners and civil society organisations, and with international organisations such as the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the EEA and Norway Grants.

Sources
- FRA Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017
- Presentation of Fundamental Rights Report 2016 by Chairperson of Management Board, http://fra.europa.eu/en/speech/2016/presentation-fundamental-rights-report-2016-chairperson-management-board, consulted on 28 June 2016
- FRA Annual work programme 2016, http://fra.europa.eu/en/about-fra/what-we-do/annual-work-programme, consulted on 28 June 2016

FRA and the asylum crisis

FRA has responded to the asylum crisis with the provision of weekly and, more recently, monthly overviews of the crisis as it relates to the situation on the ground in nine EU Member States. The Agency's reporting on the impact of the asylum crisis, which has systematically addressed issues ranging from reception conditions through to manifestations of hate crime against asylum seekers, has furnished key actors with a unique overview of on-going fundamental rights concerns and how the authorities are responding to them.

In addition, since the first half of 2016, the Agency has had a small presence of staff in the Greek hotspots who have provided fundamental rights expertise to key actors on the ground, ranging from the Commission and other Agencies, through to local actors. With the provision of timely evidence concerning nine Member States, and with dedicated input in Greece – which is resulting in practical initiatives, such as training – the Agency has served to ensure that fundamental rights remain visible with respect to asylum.

Frontex
European Border and Coast Guard Agency

FRONTEX
EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY

Frontex contributes to inclusive growth within the EU's Single Market through its work regarding the Juncker Plan priorities 'migration policy' and 'justice and fundamental rights', by increasing operational cooperation in border control. Through its activities and relationships with third countries, Frontex' work is also relevant for the priority "Europe in the world".

Frontex										
EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH		SUSTAINABLE GROWTH		INCLUSIVE GROWTH					
LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD									
	SINGLE MARKET									
AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION	EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING	DIGITAL SOCIETY	COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS	EMPLOYMENT	
JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES								JUSTICE & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS	MIGRATION	
Frontex's strategic objectives	Support the MS to achieve an efficient, high and uniform level of border control		Coordinate operational and EU measures to jointly respond to exceptional situations at the external borders		Develop capacities at MS and EU level as combined instruments to tackle challenges focusing on migration flows, but also contributing to fight cross border crime and terrorism at the external borders					
Frontex's Strategic Activities	Joint operations and Pilot projects	Risk Analysis	Situational monitoring	Management of pooled resources	Eurosur	Training	Research & Innovation	External relations		

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2004 (2016[170])
- **Location:** Warsaw, Poland
- **Staff:** 417 FTEs (AWP 2016)

The key role of Frontex is to establish a technical and operational strategy for implementation of integrated border management at Union level, and to oversee the effective functioning of border control at the EU external borders.

The agency provides technical and operational assistance to Member States through joint operations and rapid border interventions, and ensures the practical execution of measures in a situation requiring urgent action at the external borders.

Moreover, Frontex provides technical and operational assistance in the support of search-and-rescue operations for persons in distress at sea, as well as organises, coordinates and conducts return operations.

Contribution to the area of Justice and Fundamental Rights

At the core of the EU's Single Market, lies the free movement of goods, capital, services and people. Border controls not only hamper the free movement of persons, they also come with significant economic cost. In order to promote the free movement of people, most of the EU Members States and associate countries[171] created between them a free-travel area without internal borders - the Schengen Area. However, the external borders of this area are still controlled by several national authorities.

In this context, Frontex works towards the maintenance of the free movement area. The agency facilitates the operational cooperation between EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries in order to establish common rules, standards and procedures for external border control. In order to fulfil this mission, Frontex carries out different types of activities mentioned below.

Situation Monitoring and Risk Analysis

Frontex collects, analyses and distributes information related to the situation at the external borders in order to identify potential threats, risks and vulnerabilities (e.g. cross-border crime or irregular migration) and forecast future trends in migration and cross-border crime. The agency publishes daily reports, bulletins and alerts on the current situation, which are useful in emergency situations or during joint operations of EU border guard teams. Frontex also created "Eurosur", an information exchange platform allowing the dissemination of information to Member States and other partners in a more efficient way. As of 2017 Frontex will also conduct stress tests of Member States' border management capabilities to face pressure at the external borders. If it is determined that help is needed Frontex will propose assistance packages to the Member States concerned.

Joint Return Operations

In case a third country national has exhausted all legal possibilities of staying in the EU, s/he can be repatriated to his/

---

170. Regulation (EU) 2016/1624 created the European Border and Coast Guard Agency
171. Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

her country of origin on the basis of a just decision. If a migrant who receives a legal decision to leave the EU territory does not do so voluntarily, s/he might be forcibly returned by means of a return flight. Most flights are nowadays organised by national authorities. Frontex is coordinating such initiatives at the European level in order to reduce costs and increase efficiency: joint return flights are organised to repatriate migrants from different Member States to a specific country.

Training
Frontex develops training programmes and organises training sessions for European border guards to enhance harmonisation of border control goals, methods, standards and terminology. Although countries have different training needs since the nature of their borders differs (land or sea), training is important to improve partnership and effective cooperation between countries, especially during joint operations. Moreover, Frontex has developed training courses to develop specific skills such as countering trafficking in human beings, detection of stolen vehicles or falsified documents, etc.

Research & Innovation
Technology plays an important role in border checks and surveillance, both as an opportunity and a challenge. On one hand, it makes border control more efficient, easier and safer; on the other hand, it increases criminal techniques to forge or falsify documents. Frontex hence works as interface between the border control profession and the relevant specialised technology industry, research organisations and scientists, transmitting the challenges faced by the former to the latter. Similarly, Frontex monitors new R&D developments to keep border guard authorities updated.

Contribution towards a new policy on migration
Joint Operations (JOs) at the external borders
When a Member State encounters exceptional migratory pressure at its external (sea, air or land) border, Frontex deploys technical equipment and border guards from other Member States to patrol and carry out border checks. These guest officers work together with the officers from the country hosting the operation. Frontex may also deploy screening officers to help in identifying, registering, fingerprinting and checking the status of all migrants against relevant databases. Debriefing officers that collect voluntarily provided information on people smuggling networks could also be working in JOs. In case of emergencies Frontex can also dispatch rapid response teams.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
Frontex is part of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' network. It collaborates with

- **EASO** on topics related to asylum;

- **Europol** and **CEPOL** on topics such as trafficking in human beings and drug smuggling;

- **FRA** to promote fundamental rights in the various aspects of border management;

- **eu-LISA** on e.g. the fingerprint database.

Moreover, Frontex collaborates with **EASO, Europol and Eurojust** on the 'Hotspot' approach, providing on-the-spot staff and equipment to face exceptional migration pressures. They assist national authorities to identify, register and fingerprint the migrants, as well as support the investigation on smuggling and trafficking of human beings. Frontex has also an agreement with **SatCen** to be provided with satellite imagery (e.g. of ports or other coastal areas) for the purpose of border surveillance.

The agency collaborates closely with **EMSA** and **EFCA** on maritime surveillance matters.

Additionally Frontex works with international organisations and bodies such as the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Interpol, or the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

European coast-guard function

In 2015 alone, vessels and airplanes taking part in Frontex-coordinated operations rescued 254 693 persons, which was almost 700 persons per day, on average.

In the same year during the maritime joint operations different types of cross-border crime were detected:
- some 106 tonnes of hashish worth more than EUR 160m., 10.3 kg of cocaine, 11.3 kg of heroin and 5.4 kg marijuana worth EUR 1.3 were seized.
- there were 336 million contraband cigarettes worth EUR 38 m. seized and a dozen cases of possible illegal fishing and sea pollution were detected and reported.

As of October 2016, Frontex's mandate covers a coastguard function in areas where border control and coast guard tasks overlap.

The agency will use this opportunity to strengthen cooperation with national and European coast guard authorities, including the EU sister-agencies: the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).

Sources
- Frontex General Report 2015
- Frontex at a glance
- Frontex' Single Programming Document 2016-2019

GSA
European Global Navigation
Satellite Systems Agency

European
Global Navigation
Satellite Systems
Agency

GSA is the regulatory agency supporting the European Union's satellite navigation programmes, Galileo and EGNOS.
By contributing to develop GNSS-related technology applications and services adapted to user needs, it fosters Smart,
Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe.
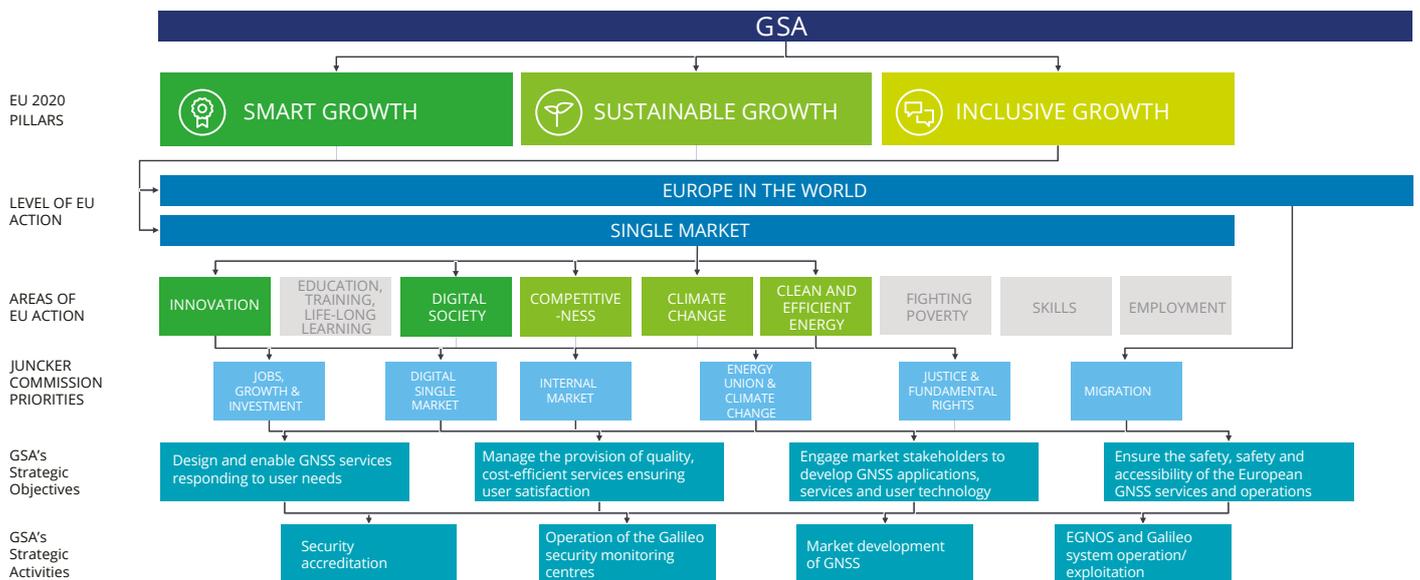
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2004
- **Location:** Prague, Czech Republic
- **Staff:** 145 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **GSA'S mission is to "support the European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on European GNSS investment, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness."[172]**

Background
Many sectors of the European economy rely on the availability of global navigation satellite services for applications in transport, logistics, energy and other professional fields.

Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) is "a constellation of satellites providing signals from space that transmit positioning and timing data to GNSS receivers. The receivers use this data to determine location"[173]. The European Union has set up two satellite navigation programmes:

- The **Galileo programme** is Europe's GNSS, dedicated to providing a highly accurate global positioning service. Galileo aims to achieve Europe's independence in satellite navigation under civilian control while also being interoperable with other global satellite navigation systems, the US' GSP and Russia's GLONASS[174].

- The **European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS)** is a regional satellite-based system which aims to improve the accuracy and reliability of GPS and after 2020 also Galileo information by correcting signal measurement errors and providing information on the integrity of signals.

The ultimate goal of these programmes is to translate space technology into services for European citizens and companies.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
GSA contributes to the market development of the European GNSS by supporting private and public research and development efforts, raising awareness of GNSS performance among the public and the industry and promoting GNSS applications and services. These generate technological benefits based on satellite signals in numerous sectors across the European economy.

GSA thereby reinforces Europe's presence in the growing satellite navigation services market. This sector holds strong potential for industry development, job creation and economic growth through new business opportunities and increased competitiveness. The EU's GNSS programmes already support over 50 000 jobs and Galileo and EGNOS are expected to deliver almost €50 billion to the economy until 2027. GSA thus contributes to Smart Growth in Europe.

Contribution to a connected Digital Single Market
The space programmes supported by GSA are instrumental in the creation of a connected Digital Single Market. They are key enablers for new digital trends such as Big Data, autonomous vehicles and the Internet of Things, which increase connectivity in Europe. GNSS-derived time constitutes the

172. GSA website. See: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/about-gsa, consulted on 29 August 2016.
173. GSA website, "What is GNSS?". See: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/european-gnss/what-gnss.
174. Galileo programme webpage. See: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/space/galileo_en.

reference for telecom networks and financial transactions, while GNSS location services facilitate the development of e-commerce. GSA is therefore a major stakeholder in the implementation of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

"Space is the new technological revolution and it is changing the way we live, work and play. GSA's core mission is to ensure that European citizens get the most out of Europe's satellite navigation programmes."[175]

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

GSA works towards the development and market entry of the EU space programmes, which provide beneficial solutions used by other sectors for the implementation of Europe's sustainable energy and environment strategies. For instance, outlining fuel-efficient flight paths and landing or enabling precision farming allow reducing the negative environmental impact of many sectors and reinforcing resource efficiency in Europe.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base

GSA ensures the security of the European GNSS by providing security accreditations for Galileo satellite launches and monitoring the programme's activities. The Agency is in charge of EGNOS, which works towards improving the accuracy and reliability of GPS and soon Galileo information, thus the trust of localisation services users.

It also strengthens the EU industrial base through considerable efficiency gains: it is estimated that EGNOS and Galileo have contributed to over 800 million hours' worth of efficiency gains in the manufacturing sector.

Moreover, it is key in translating the advances deriving from the EU's satellite navigation programmes into facilitators for the functioning of the internal market across all economic sectors. By allowing these to benefit all European citizens, GSA is contributing to Inclusive Growth.

Contribution to an area of justice and fundamental rights and a new policy on migration

The European GNSS operated by GSA will, if the relevant legislation is approved, ensure the precise location of 112 emergency calls, thus contributing to saving thousands of lives in Europe every year.

The EU's space programmes and their applications also help authorities to fight human trafficking and terrorism. Their monitoring capacities are paramount to the efficiency of patrolling, search and rescue initiatives.

For these purposes, GSA actively contributes to the development and safe use of the Galileo Public Regulated Services (PRS). These are encrypted navigation services for Member States government authorised users (e.g. emergency services and the police) and sensitive applications requiring high continuity.

Contribution to making Europe a stronger global actor

Through its contribution to the development of the only GNSS programme under civilian control in the world, Galileo, GSA also guarantees Europe's autonomy. Finally, its technology applications enable it to play a larger role in global disaster relief and development projects[176].

Moreover, through the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre, GSA plays an instrumental role in averting threats to the security of the Union and Member States and mitigating serious harm arising from the deployment, operation or use of the European GNSS. GSA also includes an autonomous body, the Security Accreditation Board, which takes accreditation decisions for Galileo and EGNOS. Finally, GSA plays a key role in

ensuring the security and coordination of public regulated services. These are used in Member States for sensitive applications requiring effective access control and a high level of service continuity, even in crisis situations.

Space technologies helping save lives

The eCall regulation requires that, as of April 2018, all new models of passenger cars and vans that will be commercialised in Europe be equipped with the automated emergency-Call.
The European eCall system, which provides an accurate GNSS location of an accident by using EGNOS and Galileo, will significantly improve the response time of emergency services. It contributes to the market development of services derived from space programmes advances.
These foster further democratic involvement from European citizens. It empowers them by offering services such as real-time voting via smartphones or crowd-sourced petitioning.

Sources
- Regulation (EU) 912/2010
- Decision No 1104/2011/EU
- Regulation (EU) 512/2014
- Council Decision 2014/496/CFSP
- GSA website: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/
- Galileo webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/space/galileo_en

---

175. GSA website. See: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/about-gsa.
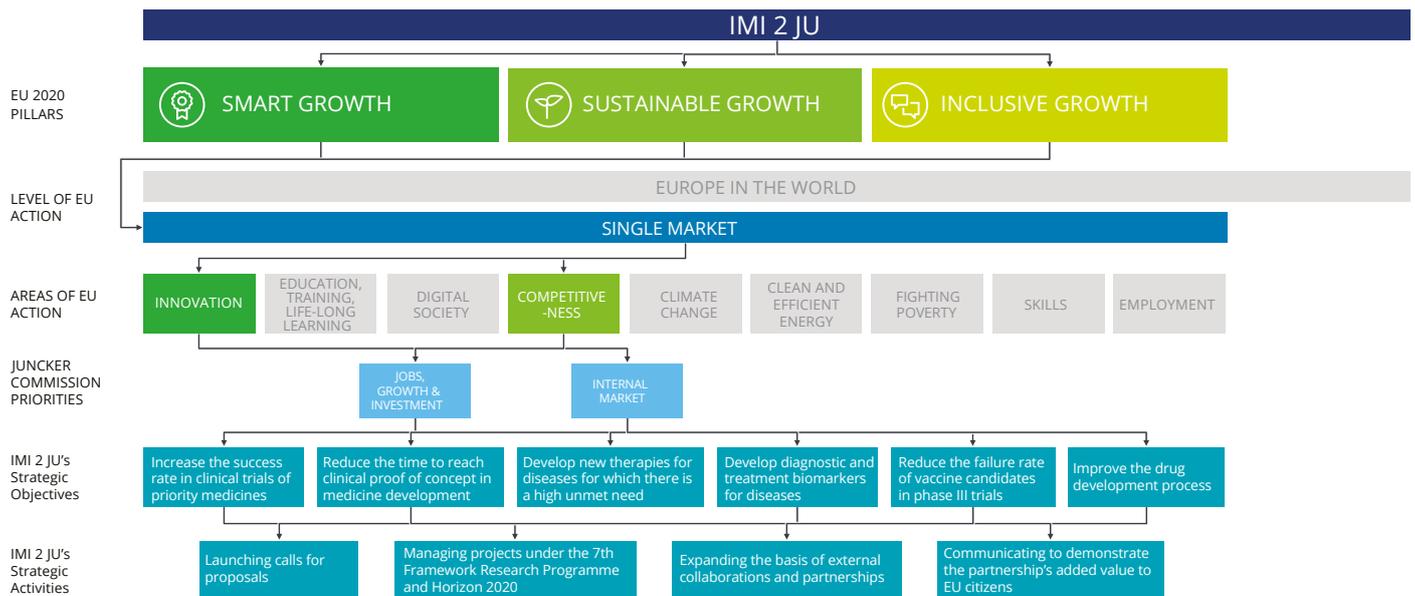176. GSA website. See: https://www.gsa.europa.eu/about/about-gsa/space-european-priority.

IMI 2 JU
Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking

IMI 2 JU is dedicated to improving the drug development process in order to produce safer and more effective medicines in the long-term. By committing to tackle challenges in medicines development and address the health needs of citizens IMI 2 JU contributes to Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Europe. Its commitment to encourage innovation in drug development and strengthen the European pharmaceutical sector promotes Smart Growth.

Diagram:

IMI 2 JU

EU 2020 PILLARS: SMART GROWTH | SUSTAINABLE GROWTH | INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION: EUROPE IN THE WORLD | SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION: INNOVATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING | DIGITAL SOCIETY | COMPETITIVE-NESS | CLIMATE CHANGE | CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY | FIGHTING POVERTY | SKILLS | EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES: JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT | INTERNAL MARKET

IMI 2 JU's Strategic Objectives: Increase the success rate in clinical trials of priority medicines | Reduce the time to reach clinical proof of concept in medicine development | Develop new therapies for diseases for which there is a high unmet need | Develop diagnostic and treatment biomarkers for diseases | Reduce the failure rate of vaccine candidates in phase III trials | Improve the drug development process

IMI 2 JU's Strategic Activities: Launching calls for proposals | Managing projects under the 7th Framework Research Programme and Horizon 2020 | Expanding the basis of external collaborations and partnerships | Communicating to demonstrate the partnership's added value to EU citizens

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking (JU)
- **Foundation year:** 2008
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 41 FTEs (AWP 2016)

IMI's mission is to "support [...] the development and implementation of pre-competitive research and of innovation activities of strategic importance to the Union's competitiveness and industrial leadership or to address specific societal challenges [...], and in particular the challenge to improve European citizens' health and well-being" and "to contribute to the objectives of the Joint Technology Initiative on Innovative Medicines"[177].

Background
Drug development is a long, expensive and complicated process with numerous bottlenecks. As a result, there are still many diseases and conditions for which there is no cure or little in the way of treatments.

IMI 2 JU projects cover the full spectrum of drug discovery and development, from understanding the underlying causes of disease and identifying potential drugs and drug targets, through testing potential drugs for safety and efficacy, to clinical trial design, and monitoring the benefits and risks of medicines and vaccines once they are in use.

IMI 2 JU was set up in 2008 as a joint undertaking between the EU (represented by the European Commission) and the European pharmaceutical industry (represented by EFPIA, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations).

In its first phase ('IMI1': 2008-2013), IMI 2 JU had a total budget of €2 billion, making it the largest life sciences public-private partnership in the world. Half of the budget came from the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7). The other half of the budget came as 'in-kind contributions' from EFPIA companies, who pay for their own participation in IMI 2 JU projects.

IMI1 launched over 50 projects, covering areas as diverse as dementia, antimicrobial resistance, diabetes, medicines safety, and education and training.

"With IMI2, we have the opportunity to build on accomplishments of IMI1 and further align medical research programmes and public health priorities. This gains in importance day-by-day as society faces increasing challenges in difficult areas, such as age-related illnesses and chronic diseases."[178]

**Dr Ruxandra Draghia-Akli
Deputy Director-General, DG Research and Innovation**

---

177. Council Regulation (EU) 557/2014, Article 2.
178. Strategic Research Agenda for IMI2, p.3.

In 2014, IMI's second phase ("IMI2") was launched, with more ambitious goals and a €3.3 billion budget coming jointly from Horizon 2020 and the industry.

Collaboration is key to IMI's success. IMI's projects represent a community of over 9 000 researchers from academia, pharmaceutical companies, other sectoral companies, SMEs, patient groups and regulators from across Europe. Through IMI, they are working together to tackle some of the biggest challenges in health research – challenges of direct concern to the health of European citizens that are simply too big for any single company, university or even country to take on alone. IMI 2 JU facilitates these collaborations by acting as a neutral third party, providing support to all partners during the whole project cycle.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment

By creating long-lasting collaborative networks and leveraging additional industry funding, IMI 2 JU is reinforcing Europe's scientific leadership in medical sciences and boosting the competitiveness of European companies involved in the pharmaceutical sector, especially SMEs. By fostering the sharing of knowledge, resources and expertise among all stakeholders, IMI 2 JU delivers new knowledge and will help to speed up medicines development and allow commercial opportunities based on new products and processes to emerge. IMI 2 JU therefore contributes to the establishment of smart economic growth models based on innovation.

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base

IMI's research agenda focuses on areas of public health interest and unmet medical need. Involving citizens and patients at the very first stages of the research and development process is instrumental in better understanding their needs and delivering tailored integrated treatment programmes with maximised effectiveness and minimised risks for patients.

In the long run, the IMI's results should contribute to speeding up patient access to innovative medicines. This would reinforce the ability of the internal market to contribute to all citizens' well-being, a fundamental objective of the Union[179] and a pillar of the European health policy, Health 2020.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

As many IMI 2 JU projects have consequences on decision making by medicines regulators, IMI 2 JU works closely with the **EMA** and other regulatory bodies. IMI 2 JU also encourages its consortia to engage in early dialogue with regulators. **ECDC** is involved in some IMI 2 JU projects. IMI 2 JU works closely with other Joint Undertakings to share best practices and resources, as well as with **EMCDDA** on the sharing of software.

Sources
- Treaty on European Union
- Council Regulation (EU) 557/2014
- Strategic Research Agenda for IMI2
- IMI JU 2014 Annual Activity Report
- Report on the outcome of IMI 2 JU project participants' questionnaire
- IMI Highlights 2015
- IMI 2 JU 2016 Annual Work Plan

Tackling unmet needs – collaborating for cures

Taking on the scourge of antimicrobial resistance
The TRANSLOCATION project has worked out the structure of proteins involved in transporting substances (including, potentially antibiotics) into and out of bacterial cells. This knowledge will aid in the development of new antibiotics.

Better clinical trials for Alzheimer's disease
The EPAD project is pioneering a novel, more flexible approach to clinical trials of drugs designed to prevent Alzheimer's dementia. The 'adaptive' trial design should deliver better results faster and at lower cost.

New tools to study diabetes
In a world first, the IMIDIA project developed the world's first functional line of human pancreatic beta cells (the cells which go wrong in diabetes). These make it easier for scientists to study diabetes in the lab – a key step in the development of new treatments.

---

179. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.1.
180. Third States are non-EU NATO members and candidates for accession to the EU.

SatCen
European Union Satellite Centre

SatCen contributes to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor in the world by supporting the decision making of the EU in the field of Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and in particular Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) through its actions in geospatial intelligence, training and capability development. Via its activities fostering innovation and research, it also contributes to job creation, growth and investment in the internal market, and as a result to Smart Growth.

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Agency under the CSDP
- **Foundation year:** 2002
- **Location**: Madrid, Spain
- **Staff:** 121 FTEs in 2016

> **SatCen's mission is to support "the decision making of the European Union, Member States, Third States[180] and international organisations by providing products and services resulting from the exploitation of space assets and collateral data"[181].**

Contribution to strengthening the EU's position as a global actor in the world
As a Council Agency, SatCen supports EU political, diplomatic and operational actions in the field of Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and in particular Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), within the framework of the Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy. It provides decision makers with early warning of potential crises in order to enable

them to take diplomatic, economic and humanitarian decisions in a timely manner. To facilitate cooperative decision-making, emergency response and intervention planning, SatCen offers three main services.

1. Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) & Imagery Intelligence (IMINT)
IMINT addresses the analysis of satellite and aerial data to turn it into intelligence. GEOINT comprises "the analysis of geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on Earth"[182].

Depending on the tasks received from its users (e.g. the European External Action Service, Member States, Frontex, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the UN), SatCen produces reports that can be brief descriptions in case a fast response is needed (e.g. crisis management), or comprehensive studies on complex areas. SatCen's satellite imagery analyses cover:

- **critical infrastructure**, i.e. physical or virtual systems and assets that would have impacts on security, health or safety if destroyed (e.g. dams, water treatment facilities, oil fields, pipelines, pumping stations, airports, highway, governmental buildings, etc.);

- **military capabilitie**s (military camps, airfields, naval bases, etc.) to assess military activity, deployed forces or battle damage;

- **weapons of mass destruction** in the context of non-proliferation missions, including nuclear fuel cycle, non-conventional weapons and chemical weapons;

- **humanitarian aid** and disaster relief missions, including the analysis of refugee camps, state failure and insurgency and man-made and natural disasters;

- **contingency planning,** including analysis of vulnerable areas, disaster assessment, support to evacuation operations or rapid mapping (i.e. the

181. SatCen leaflet, Who we are, what we do and how we do it.
182. SatCen Annual Report 2015, p. 10.

production of rapid data with a minimal quantity of information to be increased over time);

- **General crime and security surveillance**, including border control, terrorism, piracy, drugs, illegal cropping and cross-border state disputes.

2. Training

SatCen provides specific training for imagery specialists in the field of GEOINT, IMINT, Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), imagery analysis of the nuclear fuel cycle and nuclear weapons related facilities and imagery analysis of industrial installations. The organisation of training also aims to exchange experience and knowledge and create cohesion in GEOINT by instilling a common culture and methods between stakeholders.

3. Capability development

In order to carry out its mission, SatCen participates in programmes to develop new (or strengthen existing) capabilities. SatCen has actively participated in the development of security applications of Copernicus, the EU's Earth Observation Programme, including services in Support of EU External Action (to provide rapid geospatial information for crisis prevention, preparedness or response), services for border surveillance (cross-border crime, illegal immigration) and maritime surveillance services (illegal fishing activities, traffic at sea and borders). SatCen participates in the implementation of the Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) Support Framework (SF), a partnership between the Union and its Member States (MS), to improve the protection of EU space infrastructures from man-made space objects. SatCen is the front-desk of the SST SF in direct contact with SST Users, interfacing with MS as service providers. SST is part of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) which "refers to the knowledge of location and function of space objects and

space environment, including operational satellites, space debris, near Earth objects and space weather. The development of a European SST capability underpins the exploitation of space assets, a key capability contributing to autonomous access to and sustainability of space for the EU and its Member States"[183].

∞

SatCen support is key for handling the migration crisis

One of the EU Operations supported by SatCen is Mediterranean Operation Sophia, the EU's operation to identify, capture and dispose of vessels and assets used by migrant smugglers or traffickers. With the analysis of satellite imagery, SatCen can identify and monitor departure points and routes that might be used by human smuggling and trafficking networks.
SatCen is also supporting the EU Agency Frontex in monitoring coast activity and external border activity related to the migration crisis. The analysis of satellite imagery is used to identify routes, means of transport, patterns of the launch and landing operations and border-crossing activities.

Contribution to jobs, growth & investment
Research, Technology, Development and Innovation.
In the context of Horizon 2020, SatCen is participating in the BigDataEurope project, and in particular in the Big Data in Secure Societies programme, that aims

at assessing tools that could enhance the operational capacity to manage extremely large and complex datasets in a timely and efficient manner.

Job creation. Copernicus is also a tool to create new applications, new opportunities, new markets and new jobs. Independent studies indicate that by 2030 nearly 48.000 jobs could be created by the application of Copernicus. Knowing that each Euro invested in satellite technology represents a high return on investment, the number of business opportunities is likely to increase in the coming years.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
Among the agencies working on the contribution theme related to Security & Defence, SatCen collaborates with **EDA** on different activities, among which the participation in Space Situational Awareness, and especially its defence components, as well as for maritime surveillance, geospatial information projects or joint studies.

In 2015, SatCen collaborated with the **EUISS** for a study on space and security.

Moreover, SatCen concluded a Service Level Agreement with Frontex on the provision of operational support to monitor coast and external border activity through satellite imagery in the context of the migration crisis.

SatCen also collaborates with the European Space Agency (ESA) on different activities such as the Copernicus programme or the BigDataEurope project.

Sources
- SatCen's website
- SatCen Annual Report 2015
- SatCen: Who we are, what we do and how we do it

---

183. SatCen Annual Report 2015, p. 24.

SESAR JU
Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research Joint Undertaking

The SESAR JU is dedicated to delivering globally interoperable and exportable SESAR solutions to modernise air traffic management (ATM) in order to enable high-performing aviation in Europe and worldwide. By seeking to boost innovation and improve the efficiency of the ATM sector, it contributes to Smart Growth, while its research and operational validations on how to reduce the environmental impact of flights is instrumental for Sustainable Growth. It participates to enhancing the mobility of all European citizens, which is conducive to Inclusive Growth.

	SESAR JU	

EU 2020 PILLARS	SMART GROWTH	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	INCLUSIVE GROWTH

LEVEL OF EU ACTION	EUROPE IN THE WORLD
	SINGLE MARKET

AREAS OF EU ACTION	INNOVATION	EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE-LONG LEARNING	DIGITAL SOCIETY	COMPETITIVE-NESS	CLIMATE CHANGE	CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY	FIGHTING POVERTY	SKILLS	EMPLOYMENT

JUNCKER COMMISSION PRIORITIES	JOBS, GROWTH & INVESTMENT	INTERNAL MARKET	ENERGY UNION & CLIMATE CHANGE

SESAR JU's Strategic Objectives	High levels of security	Up to 40% reduction in air navigation services costs per flight	Up to 30% reduction in departure delays, up to 10% additional flights landing at congested airports, a system capable of handling up to 100% more traffic	Up to 10% reduction in CO2 emissions, improved noise and air quality	Up to 6% reduction in flight time, up to 10% reduction in fuel burn	Safety improved by a factor of up to 4

SESAR JU's Strategic Activities	SESAR 1 Work Packages	Demonstration	Remote Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)	Cybersecurity	Datalink	Surveillance Performance and Interoperability (SPI)	European ATM Master Plan implementation

The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking
- **Foundation year:** 2007
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 41 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> **The SESAR JU's mission is "to ensure the modernisation of the European air traffic management system by coordinating and concentrating all relevant research and development efforts"[184] in the European Union. It is responsible for the execution of the air traffic management Master Plan.**

Background
Fragmentation and reliance on ageing technology leads the European ATM systems to inefficiencies of €4 billion annually[185]. The 2004 Single European Sky (SES) Initiative aims to increase the sustainability and performance of European aviation through safety improvement, capacity increase, reduction of environmental impact and aviation services cost reduction.

The SESAR project, set up in the same year, is in charge of the technological element of this initiative. It is to define, develop and deploy innovative solutions to modernise and harmonise ATM systems throughout the Union. The SESAR JU was then established in 2007 as a public-private partnership gathering the EU and Eurocontrol, industry members, companies involved in ATM, universities, research centres and aviation and ATM experts to coordinate research and innovation efforts in the EU with a budget of €2.1 billion (2008-2016). Its research and innovation activities continue under the new SESAR 2020 programme, with a budget of €1.6 billion (2016-2024), out of which €585 million come from the European Commission's Horizon 2020 research programme.

Contribution to jobs, growth and investment
The SESAR project pools experts and financial resources to overcome the cost inefficiencies of the European ATM system and thus tackle the looming problem of airports reaching their capacity limits. The SESAR solutions are paramount to avoid this upcoming challenge to hinder mobility, which is central to the European growth model, thereby contributing to Smart and Sustainable Growth in Europe.

Moreover, boosting the competitiveness of aviation and ATM allows the economic development and job creation in a sector that employs 2 million citizens across the Union.

184. Council Regulation (EU) 219/2007, Article 2.
185. SESAR Factsheet, p.1.

Contribution to a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

The environmental impact of aviation remains a salient issue as the number of flights is going to keep on increasing in the coming decades. The solutions developed by the SESAR JU are geared towards allowing up to 10% reduction in fuel burn and CO_2 emissions.

In that respect, the project contribute to the Union's commitment to ensure its transition towards a low-carbon society to protect and improve the quality of the environment[187].

"Aviation and ATM matter for the European economy, which is why the SESAR project is so important. There are 27,000 flights passing through Europe daily, representing 26 % of the world market. The sector directly employs 2 million European citizens and contributes EUR 110 billion to EU GDP. It ensures that remote areas of Europe can stay connected and benefit from industries such as tourism."[186]

**Violeta Bulc,
Commissioner for Transport**

Contribution to a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base

The SESAR JU delivers solutions which significantly increase the performance of the aviation and air traffic management system. For an average trip in Europe, this will soon result in improved safety by a factor of 4, 20 minutes shorter door-to-door travel time, 10kg in fuel savings per passenger and €15 in ticket savings. It thus considerably improves air travelling conditions for European consumers, facilitates their mobility and strengthens the internal market. Moreover, by offering performance-enhancing solutions to smaller airports, it contributes to territorial cohesion in the Union.

The SESAR JU also participates in the development of a Digital Society in Europe through its actions in the field of cybersecurity and data protection.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The SESAR JU works closely with other EU and European agencies and bodies:
- **EASA** provides advice on safety deliverables derived from SESAR concepts and is increasingly involved in the regulatory aspect of SESAR activities;
- **EDA** is involved in developing the military dimension of the SES's technological pillar, therefore collaborates closely with the SESAR JU;
- **ESA** cooperates with the SESAR JU on further facilitating the development of satellite-based
- communications for Europe's air transport system;
- The **Clean Sky 2** Research programme and the JU promote greener aviation through airborne flight management and trajectory and environmental modelling to demonstrate the improvements expected from the Clean Sky vehicle technology developments.

Sources
- Regulation (EC) No 549/2004
- Council Resolution (EU) 219/2007
- Treaty on European Union
- SESAR: From vision to reality
- SESAR Factsheet
- European ATM Master Plan 2015
- SESAR Annual Work Programme 2015
- SESAR 2020 Multi-Annual Work Programme
- Memorandum of cooperation between the European Space Agency and the Single European Sky ATM (SESAR) Joint Undertaking

Introducing remote tower services (RTS) to reinforce territorial cohesion in Europe

Small airports are crucial for local and regional economies as they generate mobility of people, services and goods. However, keeping them open with air traffic services is challenging given their management costs compared to the number of flights they manage. SESAR's RTS offer alternatives to places where conventional tower facilities and services are unavailable or too expensive to run. High-definition cameras and panoramic screens allow traffic controllers in remote workstations to provide air traffic and aeronautical flight information services in real time by providing a 360-degree view of a given airport. Sensors and controller tools enable them to ensure flights take off and land safely.
Validation exercises in Germany, Norway and Sweden have proven the safety and cost-effectiveness of RTS for smaller airports. In 2014, the world's first RTS in Sundsvall, Sweden, started serving the Örnsköldsvik airport over 150 km away. SESAR thus contributed to a major shift in air traffic control to reinforce territorial cohesion.


186. "SESAR: From Vision to Reality", p.2.
187. Treaty on European Union, Article 3.3.

S2R JU
Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking

Among the agencies supporting EU businesses and innovation, Shift2Rail contributes to Smart and Sustainable Growth through its actions to foster research and innovation in the railway sector. The purpose is to achieve a Single European Railway Area; to enhance the attractiveness and the competitiveness of the European railway system to ensure a modal shift from roads towards a more sustainable mode of transport such as rail; and to sustain the leadership of the European rail industry on the global market.
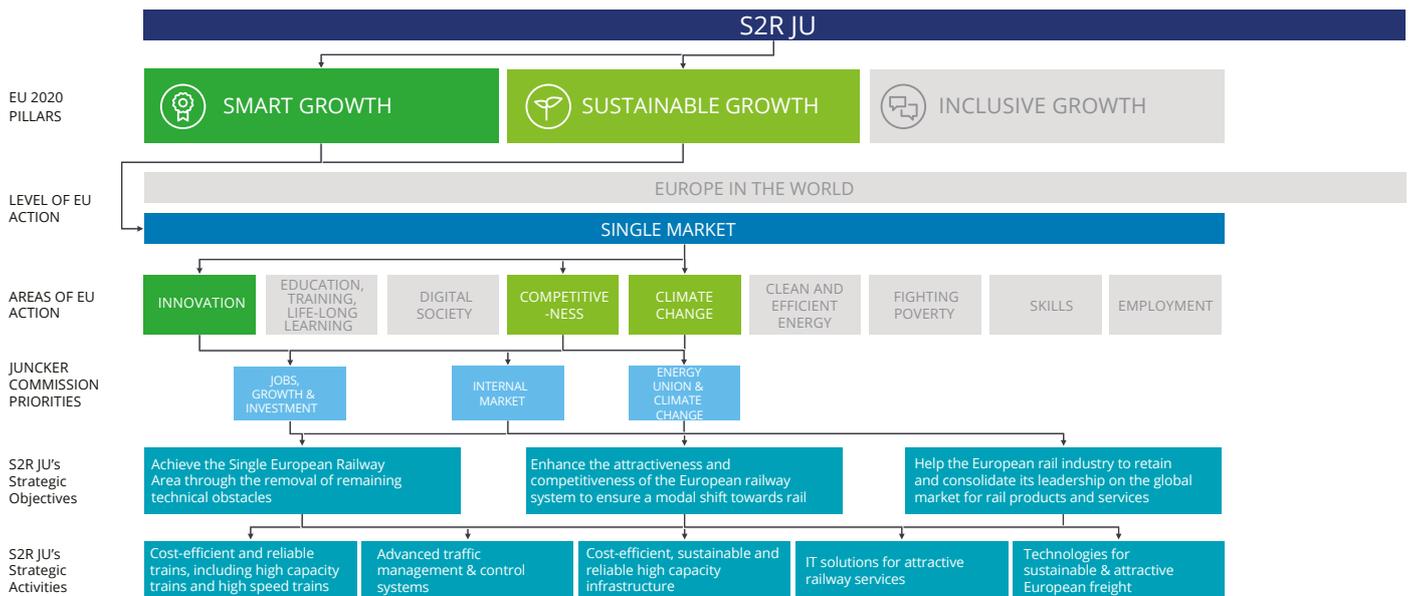
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Joint Undertaking
- **Foundation year:** 2014
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 17 FTEs in 2016

Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU) has the objective "to implement an ambitious programme of research and innovation activities in the railway sector in Europe"[188]

.
Background
In 2011, the European Commission published a White Paper entitled "Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area – Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system" that sets out key objectives for railway transport of passengers and freight. The purpose is to address the societal issues of "rising traffic demand, congestion, security of energy supply and climate change"[189] by achieving a modal shift from roads towards more

sustainable modes of transport such as rail. A crucial initiative within this policy is the creation of a Single European Railway Area that will complete the European single market for rail by removing the remaining administrative, technical and regulatory obstacles in terms of safety, market opening and interoperability.

Moreover, Horizon 2020 framework seeks to enhance the competitiveness and attractiveness of the railway sector, to create a single market for rail and to sustain the European rail industry's position on the global market. Those three objectives can only be achieved through investment in new innovative services, products and service models.

In this respect, the S2R JU was established in 2014 as a public-private partnership in order to increase the investment in research and innovation and defragment it. It functions as a platform bringing together different stakeholders from the railway sector (e.g. rail

equipment manufacturers, infrastructure managers, railway undertakings) for them to collaborate, coordinate innovation efforts and exchange expertise.

Contribution to smart and sustainable growth
The S2R's objectives of achieving a Single European Railway Area, enhancing the attractiveness and competitiveness of the European railway system to create a modal shift and consolidating the European rail industry global leadership are measured against the following key performance indicators:

- double railway capacity,
- increasing reliability and punctuality by as much as 50% and
- halving the life-cycle cost of railway.

To achieve this, the S2R JU set up five Innovation Programmes (IP) and a cross-cutting package providing the framework for the activities to be realised to bring

188. Shift2Rail JU Annual Work Plan 2016, p. 6.
189. Shift2Rail Strategic Master Plan, p. 5.

innovative solutions to the railway sector:
01. Cost-efficient and reliable trains, including high capacity and high speed trains;
02. Advanced traffic management & control systems;
03. Cost-efficient, sustainable and reliable high capacity infrastructure;
04. IT solutions for attractive railway services;
05. Technologies for sustainable and attractive European freight;
06. and cross-cutting themes, i.e. long-term needs and socio-economic research; smart materials and processes; system integration, safety and interoperability; energy and sustainability; and human capital.

Through these IPs, the S2R JU will contribute to achieve:

- Lighter, more energy and cost efficient, reliable Passenger Trains which will provide the passengers with a more comfortable, digitally connected and safe journey;

- Digital Infrastructure; i.e. Artificial Intelligence integrated into the infrastructure: preventing failures and reducing maintenance costs;

- Self-propelled/remotely operated driverless trains; added productivity and flexibility in the traffic while reducing costs;

- the ERTMS (European Railway Traffic Management System) Nextgen, preserving ERTMS core but taking advantage of new technologies, including satellite positioning technologies, high speed-high capacity communication systems to deliver improved capacity, energy efficiency and cost reductions;

- Intelligent freight trains using less capacity; reduced shunting, new power technologies, while improving braking, noise, running and average speed;

- Convoying new concepts; including disruptive innovations as virtual coupling, vehicle to vehicle communication and information, cohesive running and braking allowing for shorter distance between trains;

- Door to door smart personalised intermodal journeys coupled with reliable passenger information and intelligent re-routing capabilities ensuring a seamless passenger experience and responding to the European mobility needs.

- The S2R JU is co-funding Research and Innovation activities performed by its members and other parties through competitive calls, covering TRL (technology readiness level) from 0 up to 7, including strong emphasis on demonstration activities and the dissemination of relevant results for market uptake.

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies
The Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking mainly collaborates with **ERA** in realising its mission, but also **GSA,** INEA, REA, SESAR JU and others.

Sources
- Shift2Rail JU Annual Work Plan 2016
- Shift2Rail Strategic Master Plan
- Shift2Rail JU Multi-Annual Action Plan
- GSA Annual Report 2014
- GSA Annual Work Programme 2016

SRB
Single Resolution Board

The SRB contributes to Sustainable Growth via its actions towards an efficient functioning of the Single Market, by ensuring an orderly resolution of failing banks and, as a result, safeguarding financial stability. Its actions towards the completion of the Banking Union also contribute to a deeper Economic and Monetary Union which will enhance competitiveness in the euro area and participating Member States.
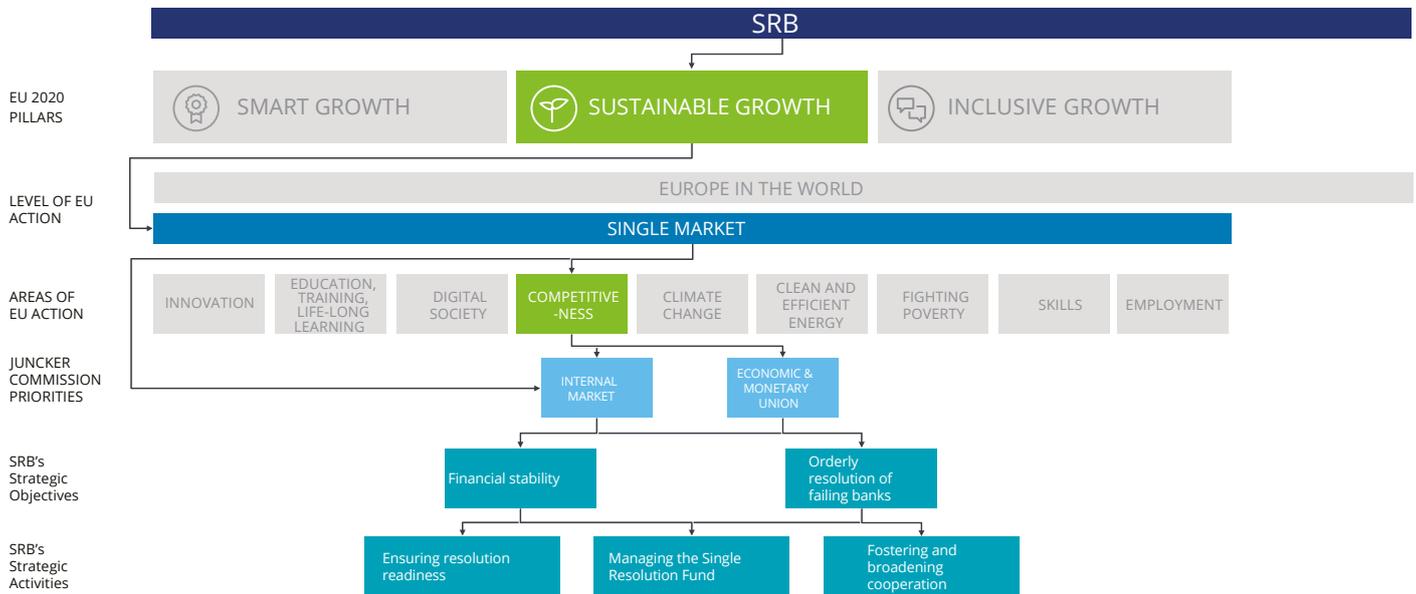
The agency at a glance
- **Type:** Decentralised EU Agency
- **Foundation year:** 2015
- **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Staff:** 245 FTEs (AWP 2016)

> The SRB's mission is "to ensure an orderly resolution of failing banks with minimum impact on the real economy and public finances of the participating Member States and beyond"[190].

Background
The so-called "Five Presidents' Report"[191] presents a two-stage roadmap towards the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in order to create a better and fairer life for citizens as well as increase competitiveness within the euro area. The first stage comprises among others the completion of the Financial Union, which encompasses the completion of the Banking Union (BU) and the settlement of a Capital Markets Union (CMU).

The BU comprises three pillars which are based on a single set of prudential rules: the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) and the European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS).

The SRB was created in 2015 as the decision body of the SRM in order to establish and enforce an effective resolution regime of failing banking institutions, and hence avoid future bank bailouts The Board is responsible for preparing resolution plans for around 140 of the most significant European banks.

Contribution to an efficient functioning of the internal market
SRB's activity of developing resolution planning is proactive and forward-looking. It aims at enhancing financial stability and therefore at a better functioning of the internal market: in case a BU - Bank is failing or likely to fail, the SRB, in close cooperation with its partners, would apply its resolution via a specific scheme.

Moreover, the SRB is managing the Single Resolution Fund (SRF), a fund which is financed by the banking sector and which would be used for the application of resolution tools as a last resort in case a credit institution is being restructured. The role of the SRF is to avoid that the costs of bank failures are borne by taxpayers, but are covered by the industry. The SRF thus helps addressing the issue of moral hazard in finance.

Contribution to the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union
As presented in the Five Presidents' Report, the completion of the Banking Union is a step towards the deepening of the EMU. The SRB, as the core body of the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM), i.e. the second pillar of the Banking Union, therefore contributes to the achievement of a deeper EMU. Moreover, the SRB will support the elaboration of the third pillar of the BU, i.e. the EDIS.

---

190. SRB Work Programme 2016, p. 6.
191. Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf, consulted on 13 June 2016.

"The Single Resolution Board (SRB) is, together with the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), one of the corner stones of the Banking Union (BU), tasked with writing and enlivening a new vocabulary in banking supervision and resolution within the euro area." [190]

Elke König, SRB Chair

Cooperation with other agencies and bodies

The SRB is the resolution authority of the Banking Union, at the centre of the SRM. It collaborates with the National Resolution Authorities of the euro area Member States, the European Commission, the European Central Bank and National Competent Authorities (NCAs). Furthermore, it has been collaborating with the EBA since its creation in order to leverage on its experience of resolution planning in the EU. The EBA has been participating to working groups and various committees.

Sources
- SRB Work Programme 2016
- Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, Jean-Claude Junker, Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/economic-monetary-union/docs/5-presidents-report_en.pdf.

Deloitte.