



The abstract

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Gender equality is a fundamental principle of the European Union. In all its activities the Union shall aim to eliminate inequalities, and to promote equality between men and women. It applies to the Research and Innovation (R&I) policy where gender equality is addressed as a component of Responsible R&I.

There are still wide gaps and missed opportunities in terms of gender equality in R&I. They are addressed in two ways, within the European Framework Programme for research and innovation, the funding instrument, and in context of the European Research Area (ERA). The aim is threefold, with a focus on structural change in research institutions:

- improve the recruitment and careers of female researchers
- ensure gender-balance in decision-making
- integrate the gender dimension in research content and programmes

In the next Framework Programme, Horizon 2020, which will start on 1 January 2014 gender equality and the gender dimension are strengthened throughout the research cycle: from work programmes, through proposal submissions and evaluation, to reporting and monitoring. Furthermore the Science with and for Society work programme will continue supporting structural change in research institutions.