COST

European Cooperation in Science and Technology

Rossella Magli – Brussels – 9th February 2017

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme
of the European Union

What is COST?

- Set up in 1971, COST (CO-operation in Science and Technology) is the oldest pan-European intergovernmental framework dedicated to networking activities for European researchers across all scientific disciplines, fostering trans-European coordination of nationally funded research activities.

- COST has been supporting networking of research activities across the 37 COST Countries and beyond (from initially 19 COST countries in 1971)

- Funded by H2020 (Challenge 6 “Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies and “Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation”)

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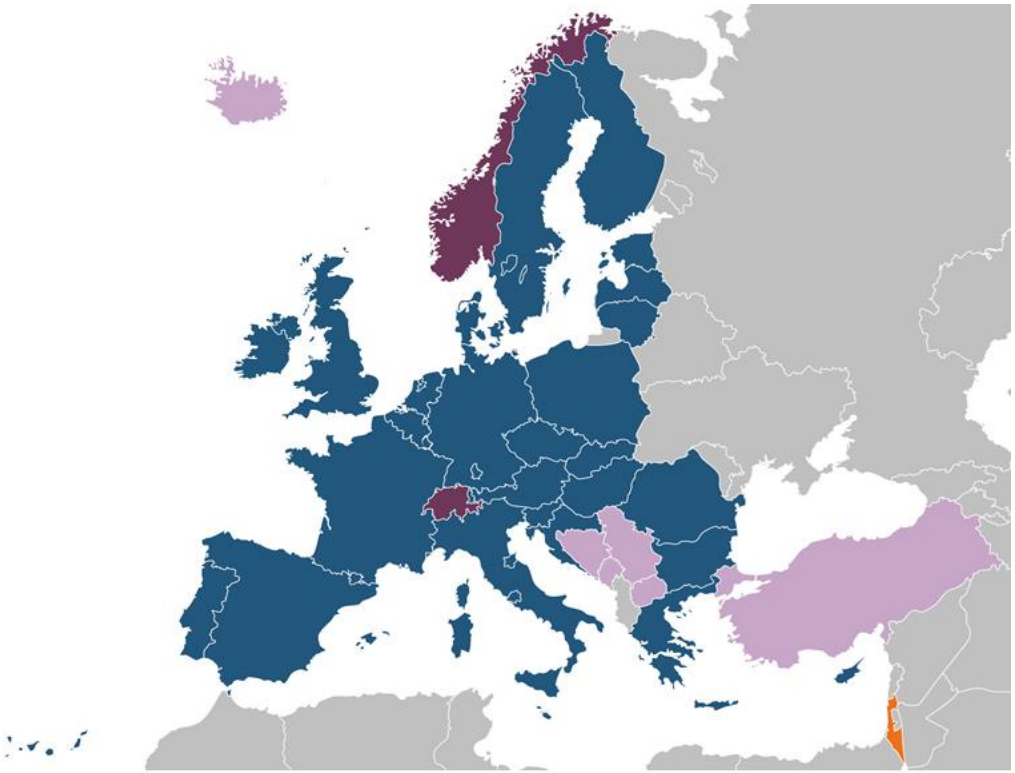
37 COST countries

EU 28

EU Candidates and EU Potential Candidates:
Bosnia and Herzegovina
fYR Macedonia
Montenegro
Serbia
Turkey

Other Countries:
Norway
Switzerland

COST Cooperating State:
Israel



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COST mission and strategy

*"**COST enables break-through scientific developments** leading to new concepts and products, and thereby contribute to strengthen Europe's research and innovation capacities."* CSO COST 4106/12 (2012)

Key principles: supporting excellence, being open, being inclusive and bottom-up

By networking researchers and research activities, COST contributes to:

- Identify and achieve complementarities **avoiding duplication** of efforts
- Spread Excellence, reduce isolation, build critical mass for **joint research efforts** and develop common S&T programmes addressing societal challenges
- Enhance communication and **sharing knowledge and ideas** within the ERA, **paving the path to innovation and increasing research impact**

COST DOES NOT FUND RESEARCH!

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COST Actions

The main COST instrument to support the networking of researchers are **COST Actions.**

These are S&T networks open to:

- All fields of S&T (highlight on trans-, multi-, interdisciplinary, new and emergent fields)
- All partners (academia, public organisations, SME, industry, NGO, International Organisations)
- All career stages (young and experienced researchers)
  - Capacity building, Early Career Investigators
- All countries
  - COST Countries (COST Member Countries + Cooperating State (Israel)
  - Global cooperation on the basis of mutual interest (NNC, IPC)
  - Geographical balance (Inclusiveness Target Countries)

Evaluated, selected and approved through the COST Open Call
Next Collection Date: 7 September 2017

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COST Action tools

- MC Meetings: Decision making, coordination and strategy development
- Core Group Meetings: Coordination work, discussing and preparing decisions for MC
- WG Meetings: Carry out tasks needed for the completion of the WG/Action objectives; coordinate the research work; prepare reports to the MC; suggest new members, new activities etc.
- Workshops and Conferences: Serve the scientific Action objectives; establishment of a wider community around the topic of the Action; acts as a showcase for the activities of the Action.
- Dissemination Meetings: To showcase an Action at relevant conference in the field; oral presentation about the Action; preference for European Conferences.
- Training Schools: Provide intensive training on a subject that contributes to the aim of the Action; if applicable, offer familiarization with unique equipment or know-how in one of the laboratories of the Action. Key target group: ECIs.
- Short Term Scientific Missions: Fostering collaboration, learn a new technique or take measurements using instruments not available in their own institution; excellent mean to produce joint research. Key target group: ECIs.
- Dissemination: Website, publications, etc.

COST in key figures (2016)

- ✓ 326 Running Actions
- ✓ +/- 45.000 European researchers involved in COST Actions' activities
- ✓ 18.000 participations in COST activities involving Early-Career Investigators (<PhD 8 years)
- ✓ 2700 Short-Term Scientific Missions
- ✓ 4500 Trainees involved in training schools

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