

Science Europe Press Release: *for immediate release*

### **The Science Europe Roadmap: A Vision for the Future of European Research**

(Brussels, 9 December 2013) Today a significant group of European public research organisations present their vision of the road ahead for European research policy.

The ‘Science Europe Roadmap’ is the result of extensive discussion and consultation on a wide range of research policy areas between more than 50 research funders and performers from across Europe. *“I am proud that so many organisations, operating in very different environments, were able to come together to spell out their shared strategic vision”*, said Amanda Crowfoot, Director of the Science Europe Office.

The Roadmap identifies nine key areas where Science Europe Member Organisations intend to engage directly, to ensure collective progress towards a stronger European research system. These areas for action contribute to four strategic objectives that Member Organisations wish to pursue by collaborating: supporting ‘borderless science’, improving the scientific environment, facilitating science, and communicating science.

The Science Europe Roadmap embodies Science Europe’s vision of the European Research Area (ERA) as an evolving and adaptive eco-system, where progress is achieved through mutual learning and trust-building between a diverse range of stakeholders. The Roadmap sets out shared objectives, which will serve as a basis for the work to be undertaken by expert groups of the Member Organisations’ staff. This work will be informed by the research community through the six Science Europe Scientific Committees.

*“Science Europe members have been part of the backbone of the European research landscape for decades”*, said Ms Crowfoot. *“They already interact and collaborate in the interest of scientific progress and competitiveness, in order to exchange knowledge and to bring this knowledge into European research policy debate”*.

In order to face the challenges of an increasingly competitive global research environment, these organisations are now committing to further increasing their efforts towards an even stronger and more efficient research system in Europe; this should be one where diversity is preserved as a strength, but where the conditions under which the research is conducted are adapted so that potential obstacles or unnecessary boundaries are removed.

The Science Europe Roadmap comes at a key time for European research policy. Over the coming years the ERA will remain high on the agenda of the EU institutions and Member States. The Science Europe Roadmap will contribute to shaping the European research landscape, as well as providing a platform for concrete collaboration on areas that matter to research organisations and scientists: access to research data and to research publications, cross-border collaboration, gender and diversity issues, research careers, research infrastructures, research integrity, policy and programme evaluation, and science in society.

The Roadmap is available for download at: [www.scienceeurope.org/downloads](http://www.scienceeurope.org/downloads)

*Science Europe is the association of 53 Research Funding and Research Performing Organisations from 27 countries, representing a combined research budget of approximately €30 billion per year. It was founded in October 2011 as a platform for collaboration between Member Organisations, both policy and activity level.*

**For any further information, please contact Elena Torta, [elena.torta@scienceeurope.org](mailto:elena.torta@scienceeurope.org); Tel: +32 (0)475 84 01 12**