

# Berlin University Alliance



## Which role for society in Europe's research future?

### *Open science in research evaluation and assessment*

A public conference by  
the **Berlin University Alliance**  
June 30, 2022 | Brussels

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Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the state of Berlin under the Excellence Strategy of the Federal Government and the Länder



# CONTEXT

The future of open science, research assessment and evaluation is currently under intense debate in Brussels, Berlin and other capitals – not least given its potential impact on scientific careers and projects across Europe and at the international level. In recent months, the European Commission has included open science as a criterion in the “excellence” part of its evaluation criteria for Horizon Europe funding, while the current French presidency of the EU emphasised this topic inter alia at its Open Science European Conference (OSEC) in February.

Nonetheless, there is a sense that many of these forward-looking discussions often overlook a key component of open science (as defined by UNESCO), beyond open access and open data – namely, the rationale and processes for stakeholder inclusion throughout the research value chain. Against this backdrop, the Berlin University Alliance is convening a high-level public conference in Brussels on June 30 to explore when, where and why it is truly beneficial to involve stakeholders in European science – and by extension how that should be recognised and rewarded going forward. Among the topics to be addressed around this central theme:

- Are policy makers, researchers and research organisations on the same page?
- Should stakeholder inclusion matter in basic research?
- Is a more open approach to research evaluation the key to mainstreaming SSH?
- Could transdisciplinary research point the way forward for applied sciences or for Horizon's ‘moonshot’ missions?
- Does medical translational science offer a template for solving global challenges with society?
- What are the future implications for the European Research Area, research assessment framework, scientific career development and more?
- How can those questions best be addressed and the benefits for science, societal actors and society be maximised?

# AGENDA

- 11:00 Welcome**
- 11:05 Opening keynotes**
- **Peter Frensch**, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
  - **Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
  - **Ulrike Gote**, Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health, Long-Term Care and Gender Equality, City-State of Berlin
- 11:15 Stakeholder inclusion - are the European Commission and Universities on the same page?**
- **Christopher Baum**, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
  - **Peter Frensch**, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
  - **Maria Leptin**, European Research Council
  - **Anna Panagopoulou**, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission
- 11:55 Open forum I: Fundamental principles: Should stakeholder inclusion matter to the European Research Council?**
- **Begüm Demir**, Technische Universität Berlin
  - **Vinciane Gaillard**, European University Association
  - **Maria Leptin**, European Research Council
  - **Martin Rolfs**, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
- 12:30 Lunch break**
- 13:30 Open forum II: Translational medicine: A research blueprint for solving global challenges?**
- **Christopher Baum**, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
  - **Anne-Charlotte Fauvel**, EATRIS ERIC
  - **Barbara Hendriks**, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
- 14:05 Open forum III: Full integration: Is evaluation the key to mainstreaming Social Sciences and Humanities throughout European Research?**
- **Nadja-Raphaela Baer**, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
  - **Klaus Jacob**, Freie Universität Berlin
  - **Gabi Lombardo**, European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities
  - **Mafalda Quintas**, COST Association
- 14:40 Coffee break**
- 15:10 Open forum IV: Mission critical: Is Horizon Europe ready to accommodate transdisciplinary science?**
- **Sophia Becker**, Technische Universität Berlin
  - **Neville Reeve**, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
  - **Mandy Singer-Brodowski**, Freie Universität Berlin
- 15:45 Untapped potential: Can society transform Europe's research future?**
- **Sophia Becker**, Technische Universität Berlin
  - **Christian Ehler**, European Parliament
  - **Matthias Will**, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
  - **Günter M. Ziegler**, Freie Universität Berlin
- 16:30 End of conference proceedings & networking reception**



## **Ms. Mariya Gabriel**

*European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth*

Mariya Gabriel is the current European Commissioner for innovation, research, education, culture and youth, having also served as commissioner for digital economy and society from 2017-2019. She was a member of the European Parliament from 2009-2017, vice-president of the European People's Party (EPP) group from 2014-2017 and vice-president of EPP Women from 2012. Prior to this, she was parliamentary secretary to MEPs from the GERB political party within the EPP Group.

Commissioner Gabriel is part of project teams, such as digital single market, energy union, better regulation and interinstitutional affairs, budget and human resources, and jobs, growth, investment and competitiveness. In this context, her responsibilities include launching ambitious proposals for the completion of a connected digital single market, supporting the development of creative industries and of a successful European media and content industry, as well as other activities turning digital research into innovation success stories.



## **Ms. Ulrike Gote**

*Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health, Long-Term Care and Gender Equality, City-State of Berlin*

Ulrike Gote was appointed senator for higher education and research, health, long-term care and gender equality of the City-State of Berlin in 2021. She holds a master's degree in geocology, studied environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia, UK, as well as hydrology and environmental economics at the University of Bayreuth.

Senator Gote started her career in 1998 as a member of the Bavarian state parliament in Munich, where she became parliamentary chairwoman of BÜNDNIS 90 / DIE GRÜNEN in 2008. In 2013 she was elected vice-president of the Bavarian state parliament, a post she held until 2018. She was also a member of the city council of Bayreuth (2002-2009), and from 2019 to her appointment in Berlin, she served as the city councillor for youth, health, education and equal opportunities in the city of Kassel.



### **Dr. Nadja-Raphaela Baer**

*Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Medical Sociology and Rehabilitation Science, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin*

Nadja-Raphaela Baer is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Medical Sociology and Rehabilitation Sciences at Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, where she received her Ph.D. in 2021. Previously, she studied social sciences in the Netherlands (Maastricht, Amsterdam) and in Australia (Sydney) with a focus on psychology and (medical) sociology. Her research focuses on exploring medical and health-related phenomena and behavioral patterns through a sociological lens. Baer has been involved in interdisciplinary and translational research projects, particularly in the area of public health nutrition and nutritional sciences. In addition to her teaching and research activities, she has gained experiences in transdisciplinary research collaborations in the course of applying for research grants. Among others, she is an active member of the network for qualitative research at the Charité and regularly coordinates cross-institutional workshops on qualitative research.



### **Prof. Dr. Christopher Baum**

*Chief Translational Research Officer, Charite - Universitätsmedizin Berlin & Chief Executive Officer, Berlin Institute of Health*

Since October 2020 Christopher Baum has been chief executive officer of the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH). He studied philosophy for two semesters in Mainz, and medicine in Essen, Freiburg and Hamburg. He obtained his doctorate in 1991, and was appointed professor of molecular medicine at the University of Hamburg in 1999. In 2000, he joined the Hannover Medical School (MHH) as professor of stem cell biology, and was also appointed associate professor of pediatrics at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital in the US from 2002. He led MHH's institute of experimental hematology from 2006, served as both ombudsperson for good scientific practice and dean of research, and was elected president in 2013. At the beginning of 2019, Baum moved to the University of Lübeck as its first full-time vice president for medicine and member of the board of directors of UKSH, Germany's second largest university hospital after Charité.



### **Prof. Dr. Sophia Becker**

*Vice President & Head of Department, Sustainable Mobility and Transdisciplinary Research Methods, Technische Universität Berlin*

Sophia Becker is vice president for sustainability, internal communication, transfer, and transdisciplinarity at the Technische Universität Berlin (TU Berlin) since April 2022, and professor for sustainable mobility and transdisciplinary research methods. She is also research group leader for methods of transformative policy advice at the Institute for Transformative Sustainability Research (IASS) in Potsdam. Becker is active in science communication and policy advice at municipal, state, and federal level. Her research interests include socio-technical transformation processes, sustainable mobility, individual behaviour change, mobility innovations and transdisciplinary research methods, with a particular focus on examining and supporting the mobility transition in Berlin and Brandenburg. She studied psychology in Münster and Paris and earned her Ph.D. from the University of Stuttgart. She has also worked as a visiting researcher at the University of California - Berkeley's Transportation Sustainability Research Center on the topic of car sharing and individual quality of life.



### **Prof. Dr. Begüm Demir**

*Professor and Head of the Remote Sensing Image Analysis Group, Technische Universität Berlin*

Begüm Demir is a professor and founding head of the remote sensing image analysis group at TU Berlin's faculty of electrical engineering and computer science, as well as head of the big data analytics for earth observation group at the Berlin Institute for the Foundations of Learning and Data. She performs research in the field of processing and analysis of large-scale earth observation data acquired by airborne and satellite-borne systems. She was awarded the prestigious '2018 Early Career Award' by the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for her work in machine learning for information retrieval in remote sensing. In 2018, she received a Starting Grant from the European Research Council for her project "BigEarth: Accurate and Scalable Processing of Big Data in Earth Observation". She is an IEEE senior member and fellow of the European Lab for Learning and Intelligent Systems.



### **Dr. Christian Ehler**

*Member, European Parliament*

Christian Ehler has been a member of the European Parliament for Brandenburg since 2004 and belongs to the European People's Party group (EPP/CDU). He has served on the Parliament's committee on industry, research and energy (ITRE) for over ten years, becoming the EPP coordinator in 2019. As rapporteur for Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, Ehler is considered one of the leading figures in the design and implementation of the EU's framework programmes for research and innovation (R&I). He is the initiator of the ITRE working group on the implementation of the framework programmes, which ensures close parliamentary scrutiny of Europe's R&I funding. Furthermore, he is vice-chair of the Parliament's think tank on science and technology options assessment (STOA).



### **Ms. Anne-Charlotte Fauvel**

*Head of European Affairs, EATRIS ERIC*

Anne-Charlotte Fauvel is a European funding and advocacy expert, who is currently head of EU affairs at EATRIS, the European research infrastructure for translational medicine. A French native and Belgian resident, she graduated cum laude with a double master's degree in EU affairs and international relations from Aston University (UK) and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (France). Over the years, Anne-Charlotte has helped expand public investment and governmental support in EATRIS and has also specialised in advocacy work towards European policymakers and other strategic stakeholders. Recently, she has been leading the development of EATRIS' impact assessment framework, strengthening its in-house capacity to measure and communicate its long-term impact to a larger audience, while actively engaging the R&I community on matters surrounding responsible research, such as gender equality and patient and public involvement.



### **Prof. Dr. Peter Frensch**

*President ad interim, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin*

Peter Frensch has been acting president at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU Berlin) since January 2022, where he previously served as vice president for research from 2011 to 2021. He studied electrical engineering and psychology in Darmstadt, Trier and Yale, where he obtained a Ph.D. in psychology in 1989. He was appointed assistant professor at the department of psychology at the University of Missouri-Columbia from 1989 to 1994. For the next five years, he worked as a senior research scientist at the Max-Planck-Institute for Research in Education, during which time he started his career at HU Berlin. He has held the University's chair of general psychology since 1998. Among his fields of expertise are the development of awareness for regularly occurring events in one's surroundings, implicit learning and memory, cognitive skill acquisition and the role of language in regulating behavior.



### **Dr. Vinciane Gaillard**

*Deputy Director for Research and Innovation, European University Association*

Vinciane Gaillard is deputy director for research and innovation at the European University Association (EUA), where she is in charge of EUA's comprehensive approach to the transition to Open Science. Her main areas of interest also include the future of the European Research Area and the strategic planning and implementation of Horizon Europe. She works in close collaboration with the Head of the Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) on doctoral education and research training for early-career researchers. Other areas of transversal collaboration with EUA colleagues include university funding and partnerships and the role of universities in innovation ecosystems.



### **Dr. Barbara Hendriks**

*Postdoctoral Fellow, Robert K. Merton Center for Science Studies, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin*

Barbara Hendriks is a social scientist and postdoctoral research fellow at the Robert K. Merton Center for Science Studies (RMZ) at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU Berlin) and the German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW). Through her empirical research in the field of (bio)medicine, she gained large expertise in translational science and medicine, and in collaboration with various stakeholders now explores how to improve science policy measures for translation. From 2019 to 2021 she performed the scientific evaluation of the prestigious BIH Charité (Junior) clinician scientist programme, which has taken on a pioneering role for the evaluation of other equivalents in Germany. In 2020 she received a grant from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for her project "New Paths in University Medicine: Career Development and Translation between Autonomy and Cooperation (KeTAK) - Subject: Clinician Scientist Programs".



### **Dr. Klaus Jacob**

*Research Director of the policy assessment group, Freie Universität Berlin*

Klaus Jacob is a political scientist and head of the policy assessment research group at Freie Universität Berlin (FU Berlin). He analyses and assesses governance approaches for environmental and sustainability policies in comparative and multilevel perspective. Based on his research, he provides policy advice to national, European and international institutions. He is a member of the European Environment Agency's management board, chairman of The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS), and was coordinating lead author for the United Nations Environment Programme's sixth global environmental outlook report (GEO-6), published in late 2021.

# SPEAKERS



## **Prof. Dr. Maria Leptin**

*President, European Research Council*

In November 2021 Maria Leptin became president of the European Research Council, having previously served since 2010 as director of the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO). After earning her Ph.D. in Basel, Switzerland, she conducted post-doctoral research in Cambridge in the UK, and led a research group at the Max-Planck-Institute in Tübingen. She later became professor at the institute of genetics in Cologne, and spent research visits at the University of California - San Francisco, the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, and the Sanger Institute in the UK. Leptin is an elected member of EMBO, the Academia Europaea, and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. She is an honorary fellow of the UK's Academy of Medical Sciences, and holds an honorary doctorate from EPFL, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology based in Lausanne.



## **Dr. Gabi Lombardo**

*Director, European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities (EASSH)*

Gabi Lombardo is director of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities (EASSH), Europe's largest advocacy and science policy organisation for social sciences and humanities (SSH). Holding a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, she is an expert in both higher education and global research policy. She has extensive experience operating at the interface of strategy, science policy, research support and funding, and in strategic and 'foresight' planning in elite higher education institutions, international research funders and associations. As director of EASSH, Gabi advocates for a strong evidence-based approach to policy-making, and the inclusion of researchers in science policy development for strategic and broad-based research funding. She is an expert evaluator for SSH disciplines and research ethics for the European Commission, World Bank, WISE and COST, and is a member of the EU's stakeholder group for the European Research Area and the Higher Education Transformation Agenda. In November 2018, Gabi received the Young Academy of Europe Annual Prize.



## **Ms. Anna Panagopoulou**

*Director, ERA and Innovation, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission*

Anna Panagopoulou is director of European Research Area & Innovation in the European Commission's research and innovation (R&I) directorate. Together with her teams, she is responsible for the co-creation of policies with member states and stakeholders to shape a globally competitive European R&I system that is open, performant, cohesive and conducive to transformative innovation for a sustainable future. She has been working in the Commission in various policy and management roles for 24 years. She holds a master's degree in electrical engineering from the National Technical University of Athens and has extensive professional experience in both the private and public sectors.



## **Dr. Mafalda Quintas**

*Science Officer, COST Association*

As science officer at COST, the European Cooperation in Science and Technology, Mafalda Quintas supports projects (COST Actions) in transdisciplinary and emerging topics. She focuses on helping the different scientific communities to create the right conditions for open and inclusive networks to deliver true innovative results and to assure that impacts are maximised. She was part of the core team developing the current COST evaluation procedure with a special focus on interdisciplinary research. Prior to joining COST, Quintas was a post-doctoral research fellow in food materials science at the University of Minho in Portugal. She obtained her Ph.D. in 2007 from the Portuguese Catholic University, and her diploma work focused on the use of statistical/mathematical models to understand the physical and chemical phenomena in food systems.





## **Mr. Neville Reeve**

*Head of Sector, Common Policy Centre, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission*

Neville Reeve is head of sector in the European Commission's research directorate, responsible for policy, strategy, framework conditions and coordination for the forthcoming missions within Horizon Europe (HE). Previously, he drafted the Specific Programme of the Commission's proposal for HE, and conducted strategic programming exercises in Horizon 2020. For many years, Reeve led the strategy and design process to evaluate EU R&I framework programmes (FP), such as the FP6 ex-post evaluation and FP7 interim evaluation. He also worked on widening engagement with evaluation activities and on international networking activities with evaluation experts in the US, Japan, China, Korea and beyond. Neville holds a Ph.D. in innovation and technical change from the University of Manchester (PREST research institute), where he specialised in the diffusion of mobile communication technology. He also worked on the evaluation of research and technology programmes, innovation in services, IT technology policy, technology foresight and more. Reeve was chief economic advisor at the New Zealand Ministry of Research Science and Technology from 1996 to 1999.



## **Prof. Dr. Martin Rolfs**

*Professor, Department of Psychology, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin*

Martin Rolfs is Heisenberg Professor for Active Perception and Cognition at the Department of Psychology at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU). He studied psychology at the University of Potsdam where, in 2007, he completed his doctorate on microscopic eye movements with highest distinction (summa cum laude). For his dissertation, he received the Heinz Heckhausen Award of the German Psychological Society. Subsequently, he was a postdoc at Université Paris Descartes and a Marie Curie fellow at New York University and Aix-Marseille Université. In 2012, he established a DFG-funded Emmy Noether research group, working on attention in active vision at the Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin. In 2018, he was appointed a professorship at HU and became a core PI at Berlin's Cluster of Excellence Science of Intelligence. In 2019, he was awarded an ERC Consolidator Grant for his project "VIS-À-VIS: How visual action shapes active vision".



## **Dr. Mandy Singer-Brodowski**

*Principal advisor, Institut Futur, Freie Universität Berlin*

Mandy Singer-Brodowski studied educational science at the University of Erfurt and was a founding member of the nationwide network for student initiatives in sustainability in Germany (netzwerk n). She was also a member of the German national committee for the implementation of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. She worked at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy from 2012 until 2015, when she completed her Ph.D. at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg. In 2016, she was appointed as scientific coordinator of the Center for Transformation Research and Sustainability at the University of Wuppertal. Currently, she is a guest professor for sustainability within the international network UNA Europa and project coordinator of the 'Monitoring of Education for Sustainable Development'. Her main research interests are the development of student competency in sustainability projects and transformative learning.

# SPEAKERS



## **Mr. Matthias Will**

*Director, Common Implementation Centre, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission*

Matthias Will is director for the common implementation centre (CIC) in the European Commission's research and innovation (R&I) directorate, where simplification, alignment, synergies and digitalisation are at the heart of its activities. He oversees the provision of programme lifecycle services to a host of Commission directorates and executive agencies, ranging from legal, coordination and audit, to business process design, digital and data.. Matthias has worked in several policy areas and was involved in major organisational reforms within the Commission. He previously served as director for organisational development in DG HR, the department responsible for human resources and security.



## **Prof. Dr. Günter M. Ziegler**

*President, Freie Universität Berlin*

Günter M. Ziegler is president of Freie Universität Berlin (FU Berlin). Born in Munich in 1963, as a school pupil he won several mathematics prizes, including a gold medal at the International Mathematics Olympiad in 1981. He went on to study mathematics and physics at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, where he also took courses in German literature, history, philosophy, and law. After completing a Ph.D. in mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he moved to Augsburg, to Stockholm, and finally in 1992 to Berlin. He was appointed professor of mathematics first at Technische Universität Berlin, then at FU Berlin, before becoming the university's president in 2018. In 2022 he was re-elected for his second term in office. Ziegler has won numerous awards for his research, for his writing, as well as for his science communication activities.

# MODERATORS



## **Mr. Simon Pickard**

*Network Director, Science|Business*

Simon leads on network engagement and development for Science|Business in line with the company's growth strategy. He previously held directorial positions with the Academy of Business in Society (ABIS), an international network of multinational companies and business schools, and IDAS Global, a technology solutions provider to the global cash industry. Within these roles, he designed and coordinated a wide range of international projects focused on sustainability-driven innovation, both in research and education. Simon holds master's degrees in modern languages from the University of Oxford and in international business administration from HEC Paris School of Management.



## **Mr. Florin Zubaşcu**

*Executive Editor, Science|Business*

Florin Zubaşcu is executive editor at Science|Business, leading the company's news coverage on research and innovation policy in Europe. His editorial portfolio covers EU research and innovation (R&I) policy, the Horizon Europe programme, Europe's innovation divide and R&I policy reforms in central and eastern Europe. He has managed the Science|Business newsletters since 2014 and, in 2017, helped implement a complete redesign of its website. Previously, Florin worked as a political science researcher and web producer for various organisations and think-tanks in Romania and Hungary. He holds degrees in political science from Central European University in Budapest and Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca.



## **Dr. Silke Köster-Riemann**

*Head of Unit EU Office, Technische Universität Berlin*

Dr. Silke Köster-Riemann has led TU Berlin's EU office since 2016, and has overall responsibility for the BUA's liaison office in Brussels. She holds a master's degree in political science and Japanology and received her Ph.D. in comparative politics from Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf. Her research management skills have evolved through previous roles at the Max-Planck-Society, Universität der Bundeswehr München and a decade of work in different positions within TU Berlin's research and technology transfer department.



## **Dr. Angelika Wilhelm-Rechmann**

*EU Liaison Officer, Berlin University Alliance*

Dr. Angelika Wilhelm-Rechmann represents the Berlin University Alliance (BUA) in Brussels since September 2020. A veterinarian by training, she worked briefly in the European Parliament and for several years at the European Commission, then moved to South Africa and completed a Ph.D. on the use of social marketing to implement biodiversity priorities at local government level. She returned to Berlin to work for the Institute for Futures Studies and Technology Assessment (IZT), before joining TU Berlin to establish the BUA Brussels office.

# ORGANISERS



# Berlin University Alliance



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