

Research alliances and the impact on the EU Research Agenda

The development of the European Platform of Universities Engaged in Energy (EUA-EPUE) within the SET Plan and the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA): State of Play

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- The WG 13 on Coordination of Education and Training Systems.
- Towards Horizon 2020: How EUA-EPUE as a pan-European Platform can contribute

Brief Historical Background

- European Commission Strategic Energy and Technology Plan Communication (SET Plan) – 2007 – announcing the creation of the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and the European Industrial Initiatives (EII) to take forward the SET Plan implementation.
- EUA signatory of the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) as an observer – October 2008 – following a decision of the EUA Council.
- EUA convened a first meeting with representatives designated by the National Rectors Conferences – March 2009: The **European Platform of Universities Engaged in Energy (EPUE)** was created and a small group of volunteers constituted the first Steering Group, chaired initially by Prof. Helena Nazaré (University of Aveiro, Portugal) and currently by Prof. Torbjørn Digernes, NTNU, Norway).

Characteristics of the EUA-EPUE (1)

- EPUE was conceived as an **open platform** for all members of EUA. Entry procedure: responding a detailed questionnaire on Masters, Doctorate and Research capacities
- It entails a large group – so far 170 have announced interest in the EPUE
- **Reaches out** into all corners of the EU27 states
- The survey of the enrolment process has identified over **1400 groups** constituting more than **20 000 persons**
- Within **each** of the SET Plan **thematic areas**, there are **20 to 100 active universities**
- There is a **multitude of educational programs**, at all three cycles of university education

Characteristics of the EPUE (2)

- Both research and education programs show extensive **cooperation with external partners**, industrial in particular
- The EPUE can be a platform on which to develop **cooperation between universities and all the other structures** of the European energy arena, as well as on international arenas
- The platform should seek to **work closely with existing university networks** to build on their capability
- At the Inaugural Event in TU Delft, EUA-EPUE **explored with universities potential role** in facilitating the European universities' contribution to make the **SET Plan** a success, and pointed the way forward to **how EPUE should be organised**

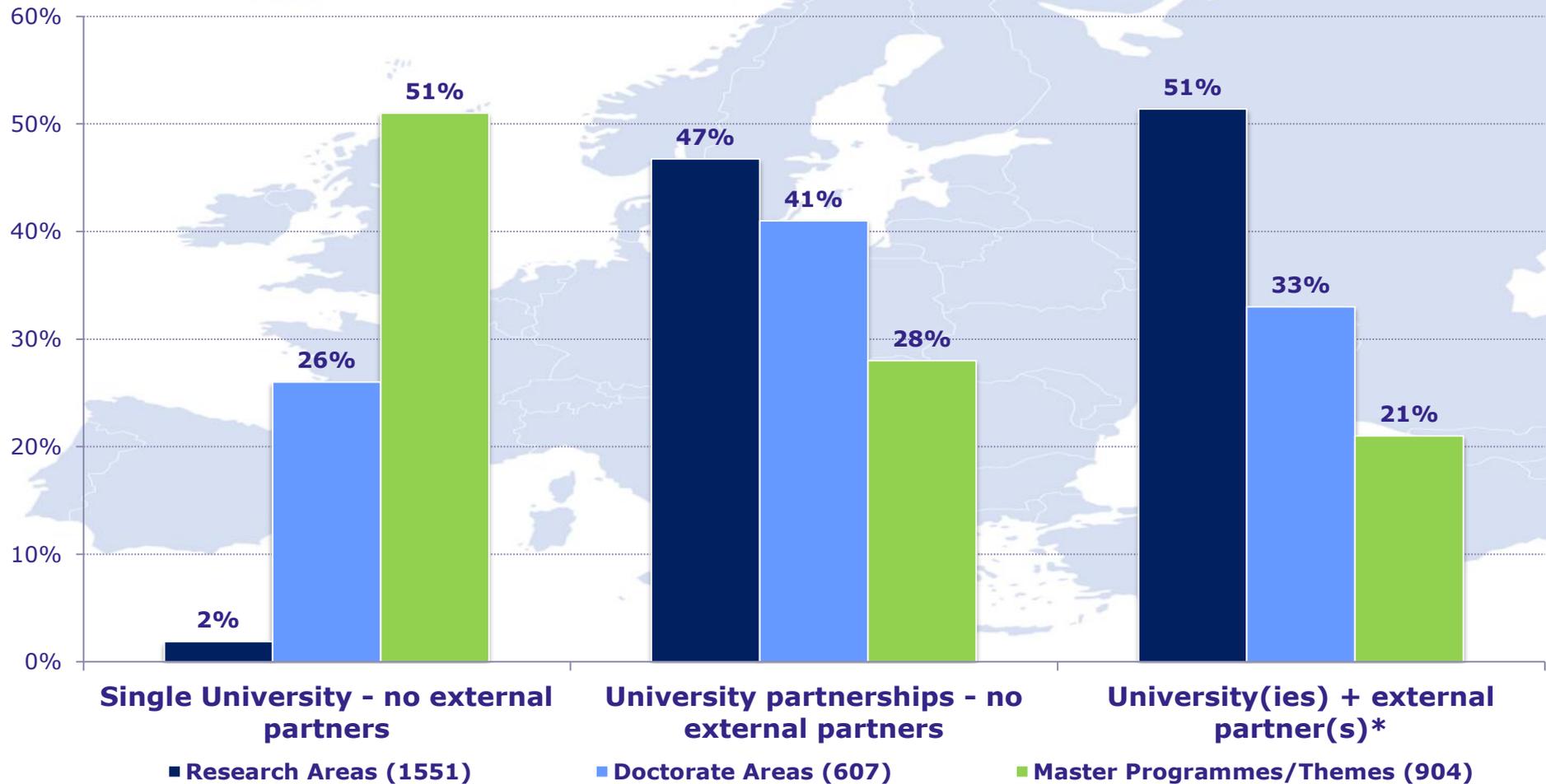
Status of the EPUE respondents as of January 2013

	Country	Number of institutions by country
EU 27 and Associated Countries	Austria	4
	Belgium	7
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1
	Czech Republic	4
	Denmark	5
	Estonia	1
	Finland	6
	France	7
	Germany	17
	Greece	1
	Hungary	2
	Iceland	1
	Ireland	3
	Italy	20
	Lithuania	1
	Netherlands	5
	Norway	5
	Poland	18
	Portugal	4
	Slovakia	3
	Slovenia	2
	Spain	22
	Sweden	3
	Turkey	4
UK	20	
Others	Azerbaijan	1
	Georgia	1
	Russia	1
	Ukraine	1
	Total	170

List of German Universities in EPUE, January 2013

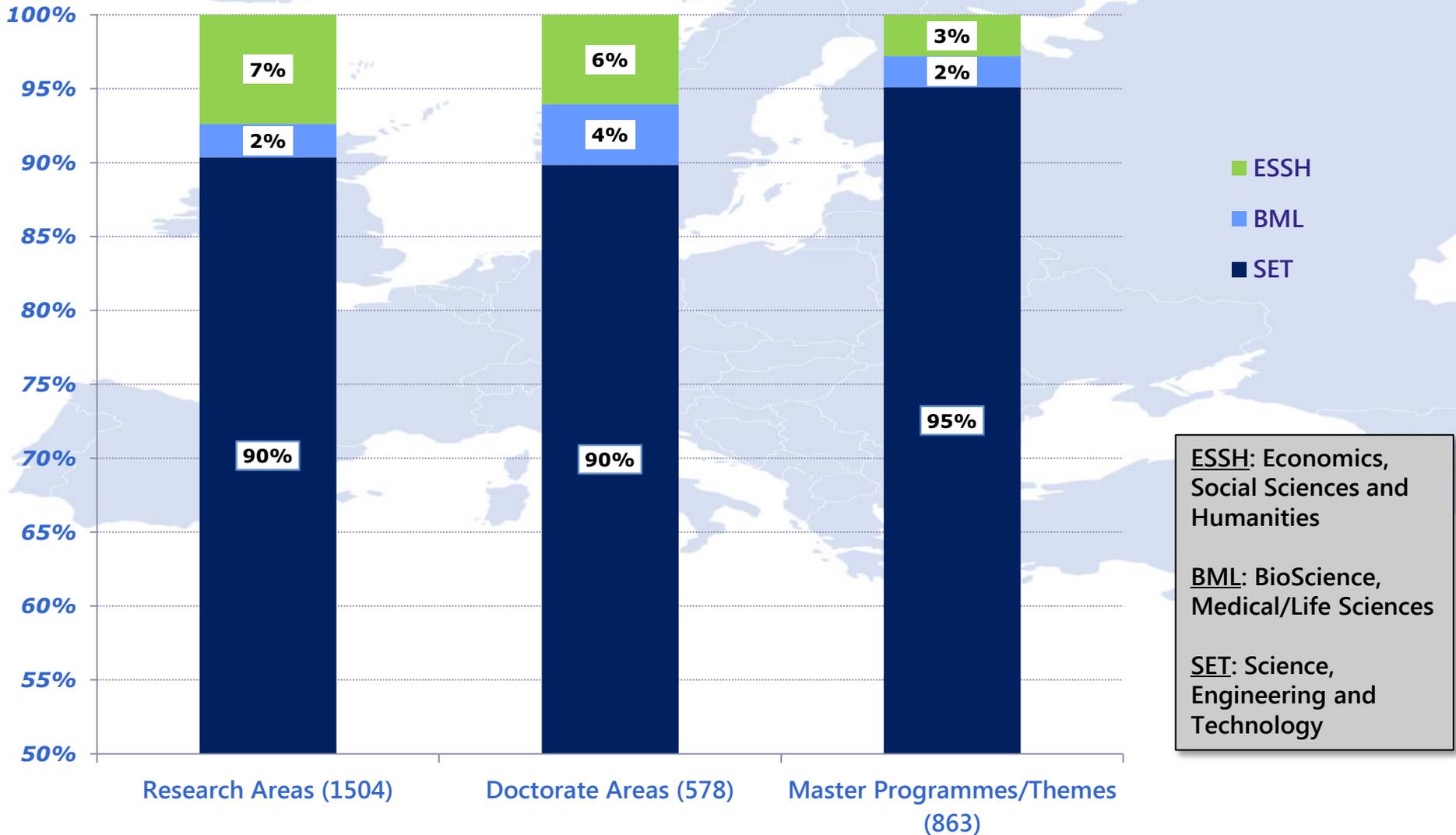
- University of Freiburg
- Coburg University of Applied Sciences
- Cologne University of Applied Sciences
- University of Erlangen Nuremberg
- Mannheim University of Applied Sciences
- Illmenau University of Technology
- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- University of Hannover
- Leuphana University of Lueneburg
- Münster University of Applied Sciences
- RWTH Aachen University
- Hamburg University of Technology
- Technical University Munich
- Trier University of Applied Sciences
- University of Osnabrück
- University of Paderborn
- University of Rostock

EPUE - Partnerships in Research and Doctoral Areas, and Master Programmes



* **External partner:** Industry/Enterprise partners, non-university research institution partners, governments (national, regional), Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) etc.

EPUE - Knowledge Areas in Research, Doctorate and Master Programmes



Current Activities (1)

Developing EPUE

- Planning the future activities of the platform in the framework of the outcomes of the EPUE Inaugural Event, particularly in reference to:
 - ✓ Mapping of energy-related research and education in Europe
 - ✓ Coordinating and facilitating information among universities and other stakeholders of the SETPlan
 - ✓ Provide platforms for exchange of practices and development of clusters of excellence in the knowledge triangle of education-research-innovation, particularly interdisciplinary
 - ✓ Articulating links with EERA and other innovation actors of particular relevance to the SET Plan

Current Activities (2)

Participation in EC Energy-Related Policy Consultation Processes

- SET Plan Energy Education and Training Initiative (13 Working Groups were set by the European Commission)
- Materials Roadmap implementation initiative Working Group (Chaired by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Harald Bolt, FZ-Jülich)
- ESFRI Energy Strategy Working Group (ESWG) (Chaired ad interim by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Harald Bolt)

The WG 13 on Coordination of Education and Training Systems

EUA-EPUE proposed the Commission to create an additional group: the horizontal group on “Coordination of Education and Training Systems” (Co-chaired by Prof. Peter Lund, Aalto University, Finland, and Prof. Torsten Fransson, KTH, Sweden).

Following a report structure given by the European Commission, common to all Working Groups, the WG 13 Report:

- Discussed the challenge of coordinating Education and Training Systems in Europe
- Discussed the identification of needs and gaps, in particular main barriers or bottlenecks for the different industrial sectors and their markets
- Provided recommendations for the European Commission to develop the SET Plan Energy Education and Training Roadmap which included the development of pilot projects for cooperation in Graduate, Master and Doctorate education.

Towards Horizon 2020: How EUA-EPUE as a pan-European Platform can contribute

Based on the outcomes of TU Delft Inaugural Event, 22-23 February 2012:

Internally - among universities

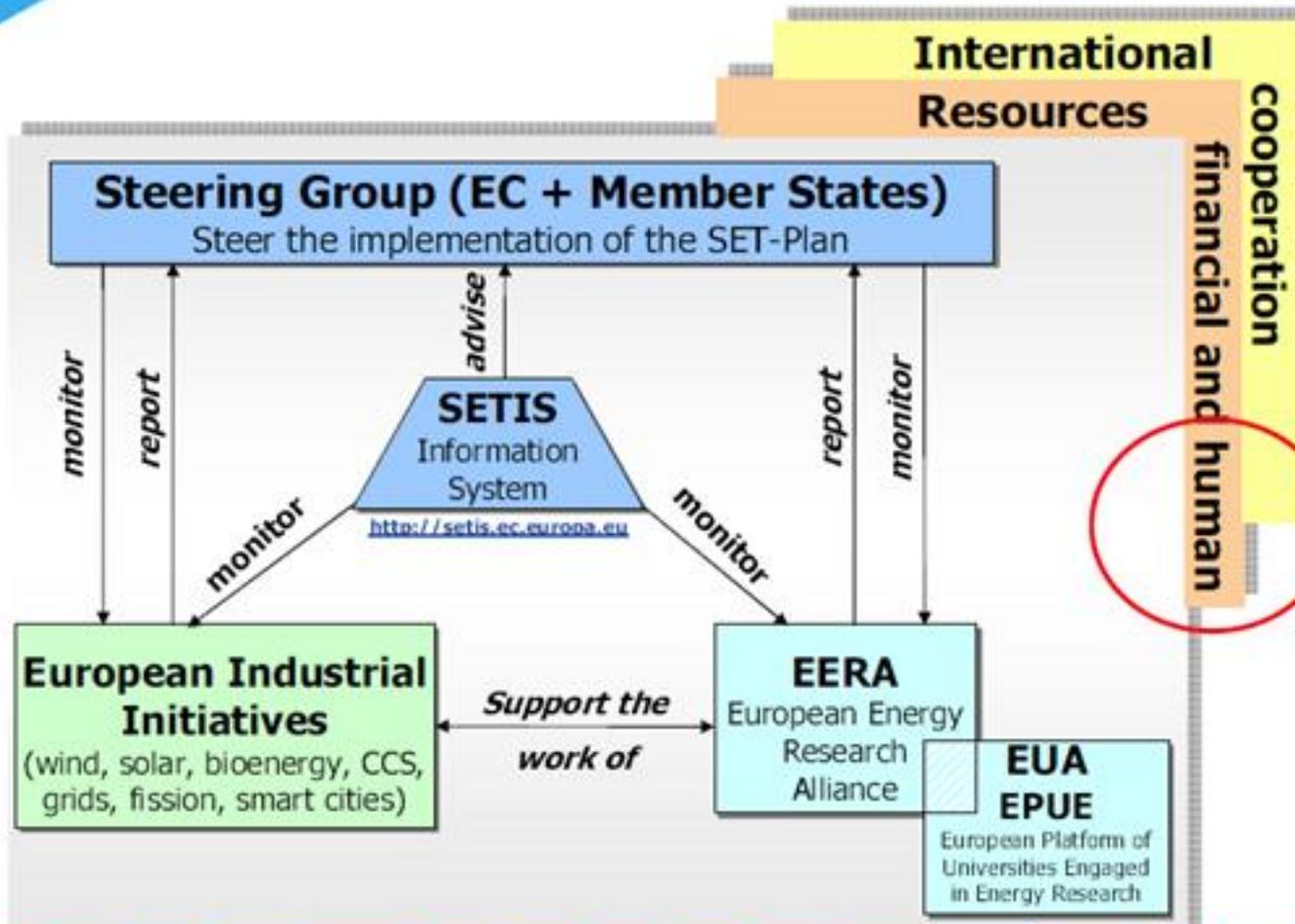
- Cooperation between basic research groups
- Cooperation in applied research and innovation
- Cooperation in education
- Coordination of input for policy development and external dialogues

Externally - towards other stakeholders

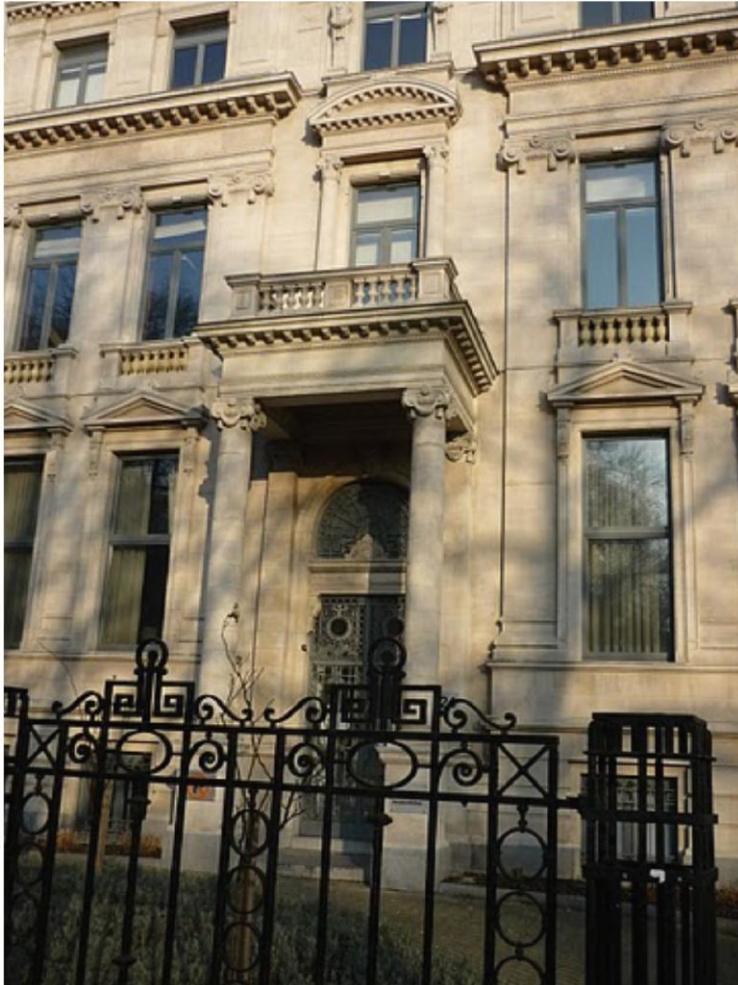
- Advocacy and dialogue with the European Commission and other European policy stakeholders
- Cooperation with the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA)
- Strengthen cooperation with industrial partners
- Dialogue with other research and educational bodies and structures
- Assisting development of international (outside-EU) cooperation



SET-Plan structure



Thank you for your attention!



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Further information:

www.eua.be