

# Recent developments in Science Advice and Science Diplomacy

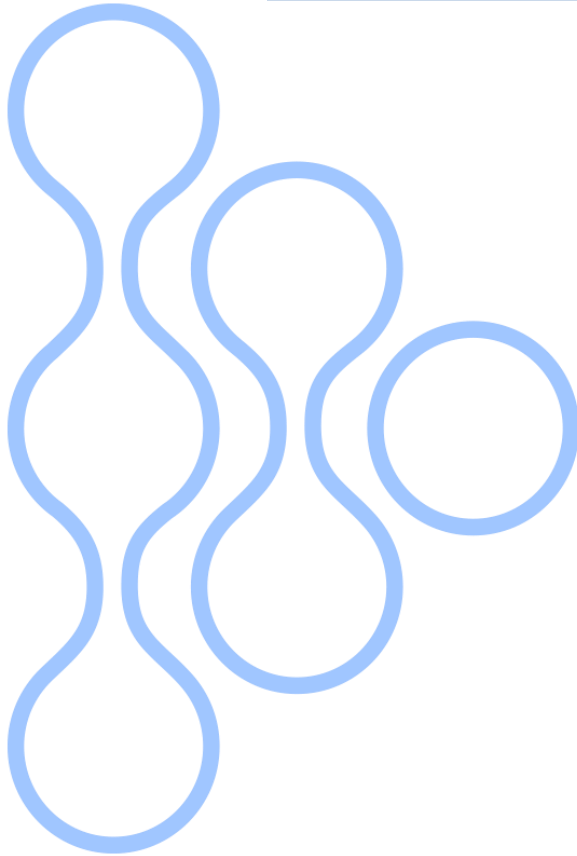
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Spanish Foundation for Science and  
Technology, FECYT

Ministry of Science and Innovation,  
Spain

**IGLO**

31<sup>st</sup> of May 2021



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**Why should science (R&D) be integrated in public policy (science advice)?**

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**What R&D frameworks (ecosystems) facilitate science advice (our job in FECYT!)**

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**Science advice initiatives in Spain: Office of Science and Technology in the Spanish Parliament and Science Diplomacy Network**

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**Ideas to boost science advice and science diplomacy in Europe: S4D4C H2020 and SFIC Task Force on Science Diplomacy**

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# Why should science (R&D) be integrated in public policy (science advice)?



✓ Science alone won't solve it

✓ Policy makers alone won't solve it

✓ Society alone won't solve it

✓ Only joint efforts will

## GLOBAL CHALLENGES REQUIRE JOINT, COORDINATED EFFORTS FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS

- ✓ BETTER INTEGRATION OF SOCIETAL NEEDS INTO R&D
- ✓ BETTER INTEGRATION OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE INTO PUBLIC POLICY (SCIENCE ADVICE)

# IMPACT

TRUST

INFORMED  
SOCIETIES

OPEN  
INNOVATION

EFFICIENT

SOCIAL AND  
POLICY  
IMPACT

VALUES

SOCIAL & POLITICAL

ECONOMIC

SCIENTIFIC

OPEN INFRAS

SKILLS

VALUES

FAIR  
INDICATORS  
&  
INCENTIVES

VERSATILE  
RESEARCH  
CAREERS

OPEN SCIENCE

NEWS SKILLS

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

ALTMETRICS

DEMOCRATIZATION  
OF  
KNOWLEDGE

SCIENCE  
ADVICE

CITIZEN SCIENCE  
& RRI

ACTIVE HEARING OF SOCIAL  
&  
POLICY NEEDS

MORE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

PARTICIPATION  
OF NOT EXPERTS

PUBLIC  
INTEREST

INTEGRATION  
OF SOCIAL  
NEEDS  
INTO  
RESEARCH

SCIENCE  
COMM

STRONG  
SOCIETIES

DIALOGUE

SOCIAL  
RELEVANCE

## SOME INITIATIVES FOSTERING SCIENCE ADVICE AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN SPAIN

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- ✓ Civil society movement asking for a science and technology office in the Spanish Parliament
- ✓ Extremely successful in social media
- ✓ Agreement with the Parliament to run a “Science in the Parliament” event in 2018
- ✓ 24 researchers were trained to be science advisors on a voluntary basis
- ✓ These volunteers presented scientific evidence of 12 themes to Spanish MPs: climate change, immigration, suicide, education, AI, etc.
- ✓ MPs acknowledged the importance of science advice and the Parliament created a S&T office, under construction by **FECYT** and the Congress!



# SOME INITIATIVES FOSTERING SCIENCE ADVICE AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN SPAIN



**Spanish culture & science in the UK**

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Cooperación Española

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Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte

Ministerio de Sanidad, Consumo y Bienestar Social

Ministerio de Trabajo, Economía Social e Igualdad

Ministerio de Justicia

Ministerio de Fomento

Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación

Ministerio de Industria, Comercio y Turismo

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**REPORT**

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF

**EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC DIASPORAS**

IN NORTH AMERICA

WASHINGTON DC, USA 19 NOVEMBER 2015  
SPAIN ARTS & CULTURE CENTER

**cross**

Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Unión Europea y Cooperación

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# IDEAS TO BOOST SCIENCE ADVICE AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN EUROPE

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USING SCIENCE FOR/IN DIPLOMACY  
FOR ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

## Project “Using Science for/in Diplomacy for Addressing Global Challenges”

Aiming to research and support EU and global Science Diplomacy approaches

### Partners from science and practice

Universities, international organizations, diplomatic training academy, SD implementation agencies

+ 6 associated partners



FACULTY  
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Charles University



diplomatische  
akademie wien  
European Academy of Diplomacy



DZHW.



FECYT  
Federación Española de Centros de Investigación Tecnológica

twas



Université  
de Lille



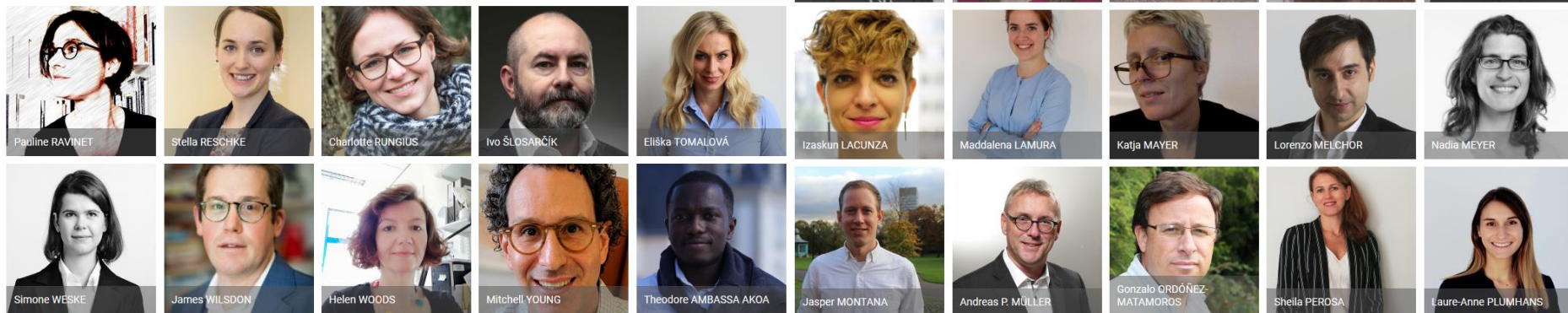
The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

UNIVERSITY  
OF TWENTE.



# 1

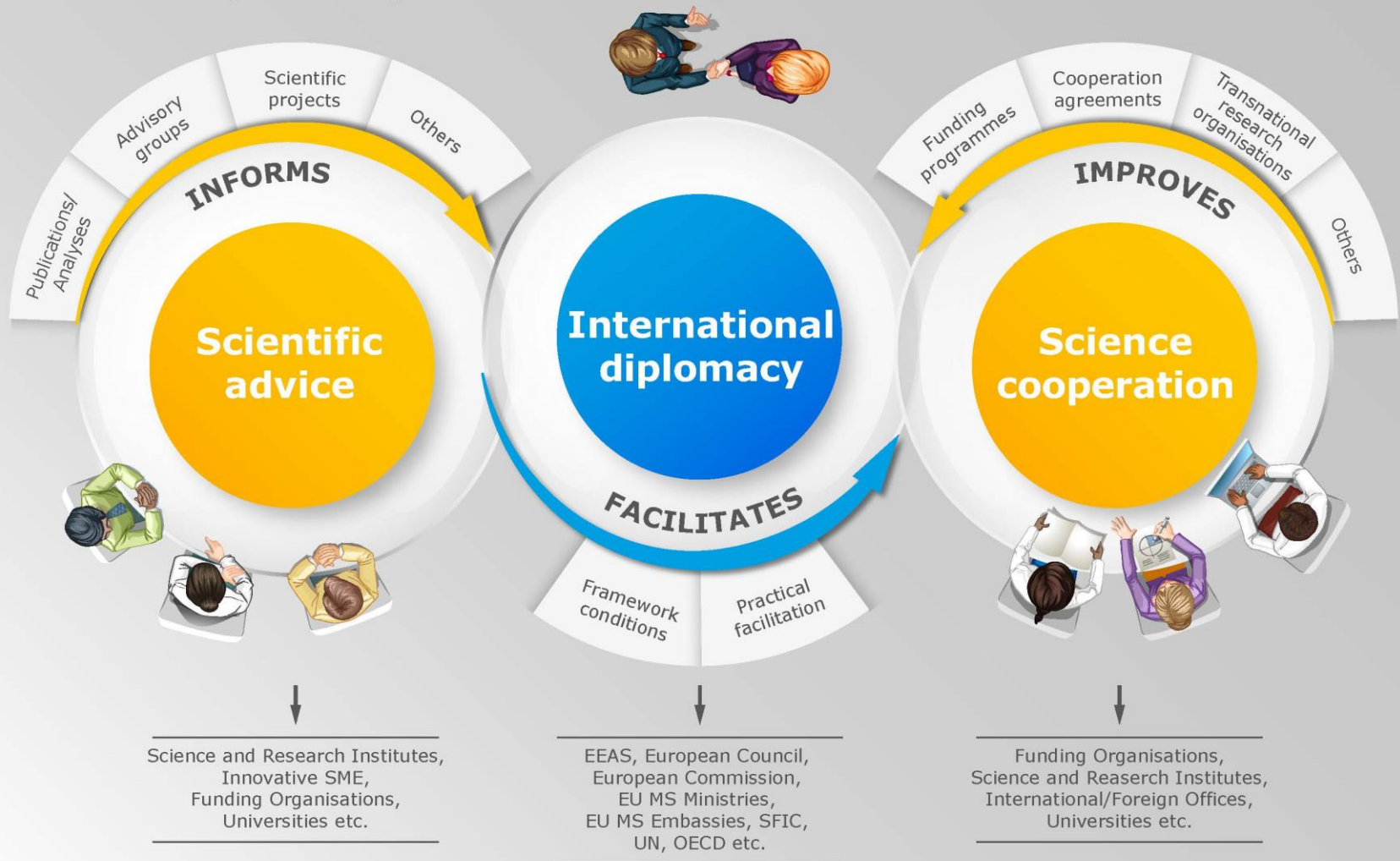
## SUPER Team



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 770342.



# EU Science Diplomacy



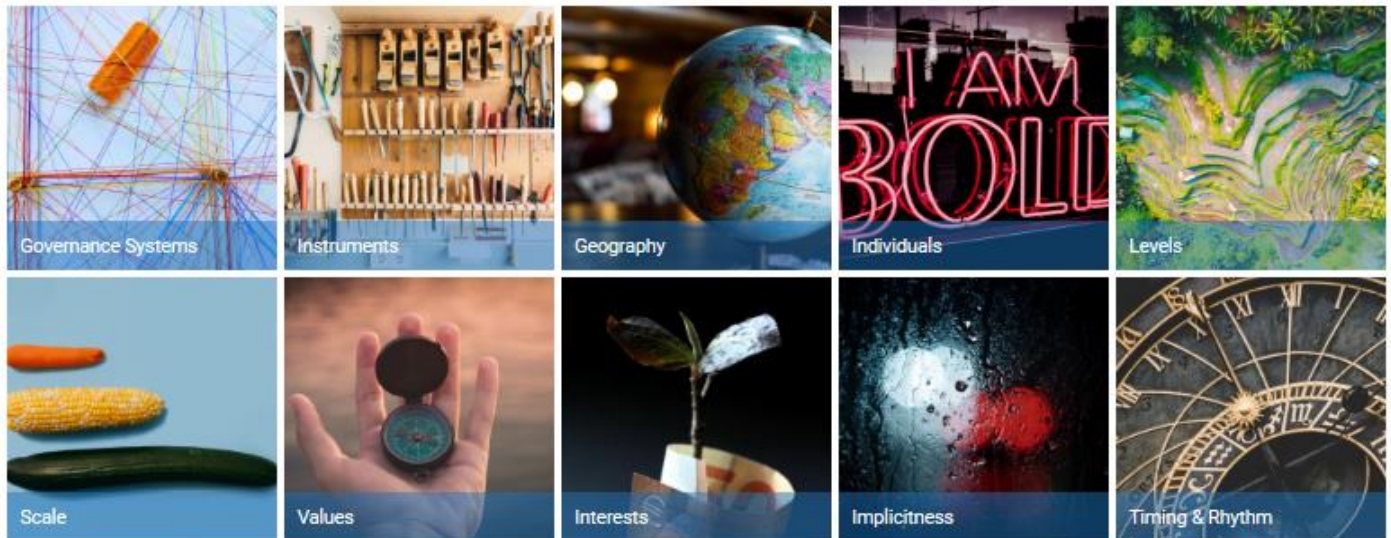
When we think of Science Diplomacy, we tend to create an idea of communication between distinct groups of actors that have clearly demarcated professional identities and corresponding agendas ("scientists", "diplomats", "science managers" etc.). However, the activities and agendas of Science Diplomacy actors do not always conform with their apparent professional identity. This blending of agendas, activities and identities contributes both to the huge potential and to the complexity of Science Diplomacy.



## 9 Case studies

Infectious diseases; Food security cooperation; Cyber security; Water diplomacy; Research infrastructures (SESAME); Joint programming; Flagships; Open science diplomacy; Science advice mechanisms (fisheries)

## 10 “Matters”



Resulting from our transversal analysis:

Governance Systems, Instruments, Geography, Individuals, Levels, Scale, Values, Interests, Implicitness, Timing & Rhythm

# 14 Key conceptual and policy papers (to date)

Developing A New Protocol for Science Diplomacy  
Calling for critical assessment and evaluation of SD actions

Contributing to the definition of what is a science diplomats and necessary skills



## 37 Key training outputs

- 1 massive **open online course**
- 2 in-person trainings (Vienna and Trieste), 1 open doors programme
- 6 webinars
- 1 toolkit for trainers
- 24 separate training materials
- 1 platform for knowledge resources, 1 commented bibliography



# 6000 + Trainees and interested users

Registered users for our online training course – and 1000 participants at the webinars



## 100 + Countries

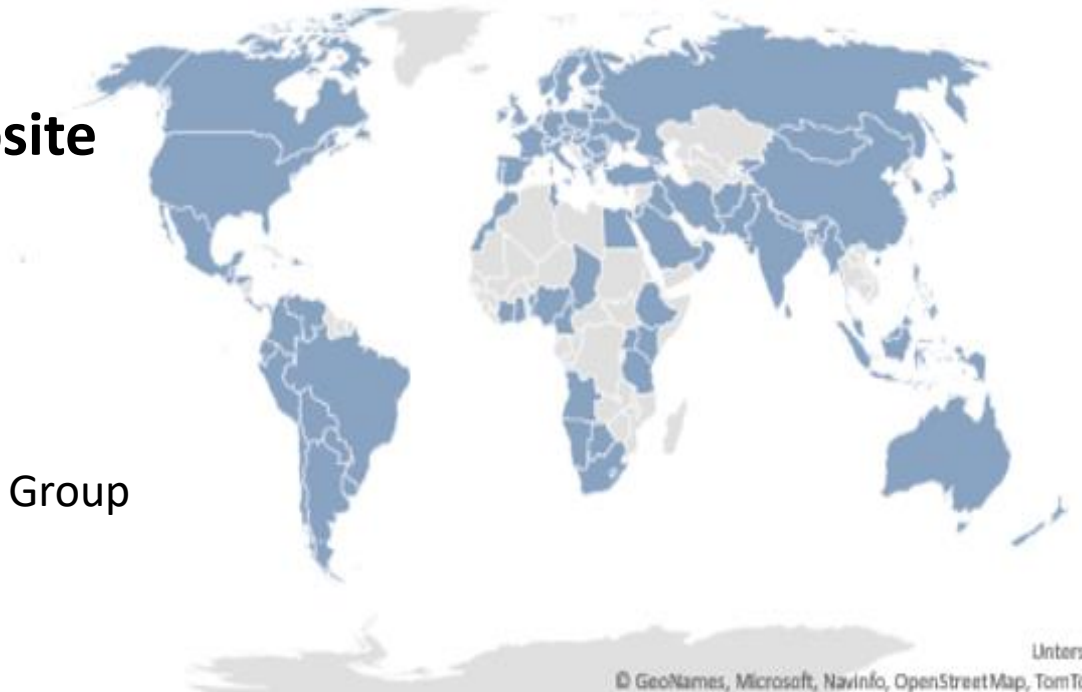
Registered users for our networking meetings, online training courses and the webinars from all over the world

## 230.000 Visits on our website

28.222 downloads of our materials

3.100+ twitter followers

1.500+ group members of LinkedIn Group

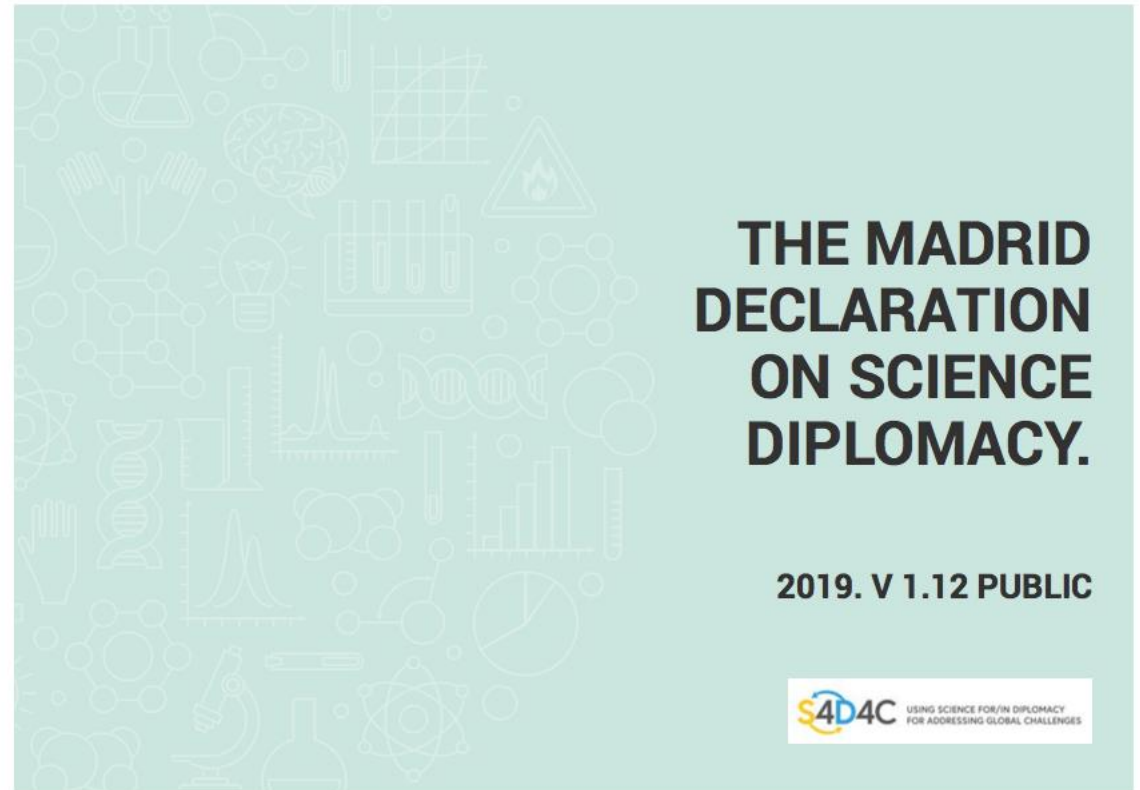




# 3 Networking events

1<sup>st</sup> in **Madrid** 2018 ->  
resulting in the **Madrid Declaration** signed by more than 200 experts on science advice and diplomacy.

## The Madrid Declaration on Science Diplomacy



## 2<sup>nd</sup> in Berlin 2019 -> resulting in the Policy Report “Calling for a Systemic Change”



USING SCIENCE FOR/IN DIPLOMACY  
FOR ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

### STOPPERS, WARNINGS, AND DRIVERS FOR ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

#### SCIENCE

- Scientific and research misconduct
- Insufficient European research workforce
- Lack of structured policy engagement in scientific institutions
- The Ivory Tower culture

#### DIPLOMACY

- Nationalisms, protectionisms and populisms
- Socio-political fractures in the EU
- Political decisions outweigh scientific evidence
- The tragedy of the commons

#### SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

- Growing mistrust in democracy, institutions and experts
- Discoordination between government departments
- Limited or no funding schemes
- Need for strengthening institutions

- Specialised and fragmented scientific knowledge
- Bureaucracy and resistance to recognise interface professionals
- Science advice mechanisms are complex
- Lack of diplomatic training in the research community

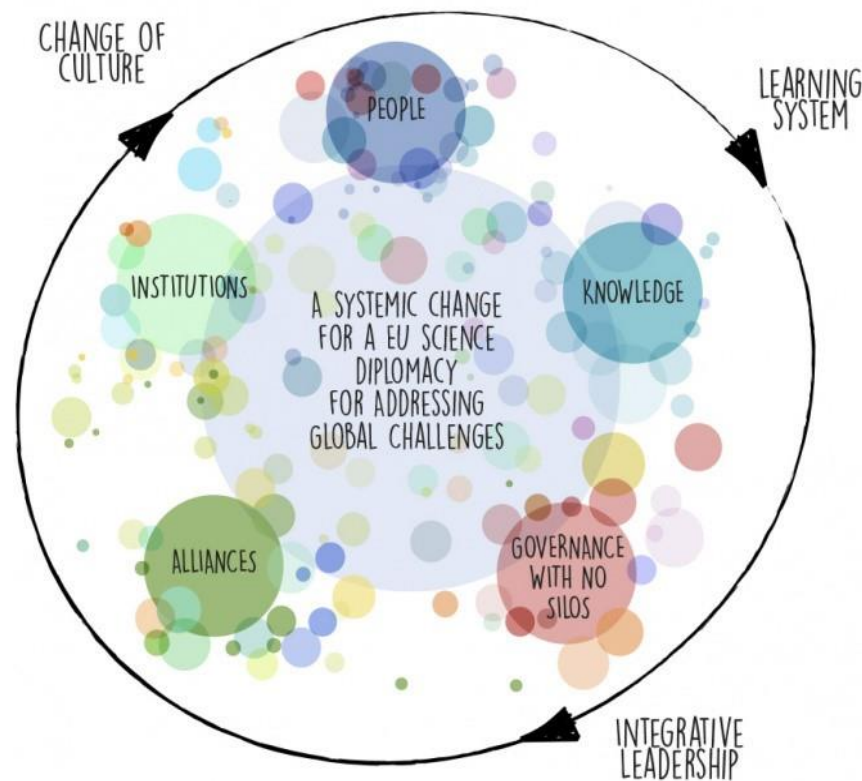
- Globalisation, new actors and cooperation goals
- Adaptation to digitalisation and information technologies
- Common Foreign and Security Policy, a work in progress
- Lack of scientific training in the diplomatic community

- Different understandings about science diplomacy
- Different mind sets, cultures, and rules to bridge
- Competitive versus collaborative approach
- Weak political leadership for science diplomacy

- Science and collaboration as core European values
- Good examples of science advice mechanisms
- The public value of science
- Wider policy impact of research and innovation

- The EU: global leader in multilateralism and science
- Good examples of development cooperation frameworks
- Knowledge-based economic diplomacy
- Science as a driver for diplomacy

- The EU shows leadership in SDGs and climate emergency
- Global and regional charters for win-win actions
- Demand for training from both communities
- Trust, empathy, political will, and timeframes



The systemic change towards a EU science diplomacy for addressing global challenges.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Final S4D4C online 2021 hosted by FECYT

-> together with our smaller focus groups and co-creation events: 1200+ registered



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## EU Science Diplomacy Alliance

The EU Science Diplomacy Alliance is a collaborative initiative launched by the Horizon 2020 science diplomacy projects S4D4C, InsSciDE and EL-CSID to sustain and grow the networks, impact and momentum consolidated by the three projects.

The Coordinators of S4D4C, InsSciDE and EL-CSID together launched the Alliance at the Final Networking Conference of S4D4C on 19 March 2021, with the support of several [founding members](#). The Alliance is grounded in the results and networks fostered by the three projects and aims at sustaining the dialogue on EU science diplomacy and cultivating new opportunities to progress theory and practice of science diplomacy in Europe.

The Alliance emerged as a result of the S4D4C policy brief: [Nurturing the EU Science Diplomacy Community: The Launch of an EU Science Diplomacy Alliance for Addressing Global Challenges](#). It will facilitate interactions and dialogue, training, institutional capacity building and coordination of grant-seeking or use of joint funding, if available. The Alliance serves as a hub for cooperative activities and voluntary coordination, and relies upon the participating membership community and networks to highlight and select different areas and innovative activities to be pursued. It is hoped that a great variety of societal challenges may be addressed over time.





# SFIC in a nutshell



## ADVISORY BODY

on international research and innovation cooperation



## SUPPORT

Council of the EU and the European Commission



## CURRENT FOCUS AREAS

Africa, China, Science Diplomacy



## FURTHER INFORMATION

[erac-sfic@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:erac-sfic@consilium.europa.eu)

<https://era.gv.at/directory/35>

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/european-research-area-innovation-committee/>

<https://ec.europa.eu/Research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=sfic-general>

**SFIC  
SCIENCE  
DIPLOMACY TASK  
FORCE**

***Science  
Diplomacy  
“Input and HE  
Papers”***

***Science  
Diplomacy  
Stakeholders  
and Networks***

***Science  
Diplomacy  
Survey for  
MS/AC***

# ***Science Diplomacy “Survey for MS/AC”***

**Aim is to assess the current status of Science Diplomacy related strategies and activities in MS/AC – also related to foster the integration of Science Diplomacy aspects in national STI strategies**

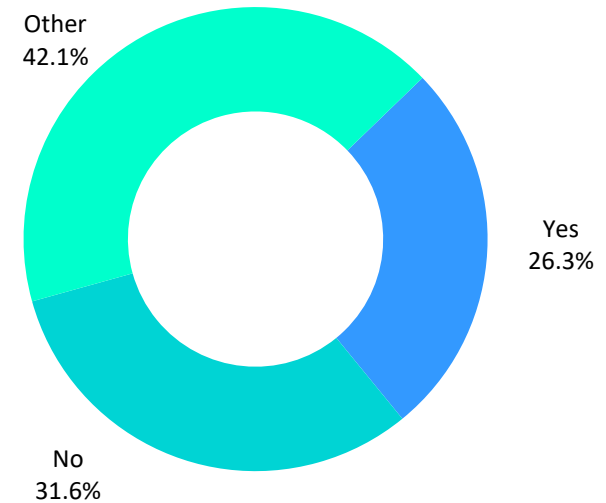
**Assess the potential for EU-wide cooperation and coordination in this field – also related to development of an overall Science Diplomacy Roadmap including EU Commission, the EEAS and the Member States**

**The survey include a question of the ERA National Action Plans on priority 6 detecting the current integration of SD issues.**

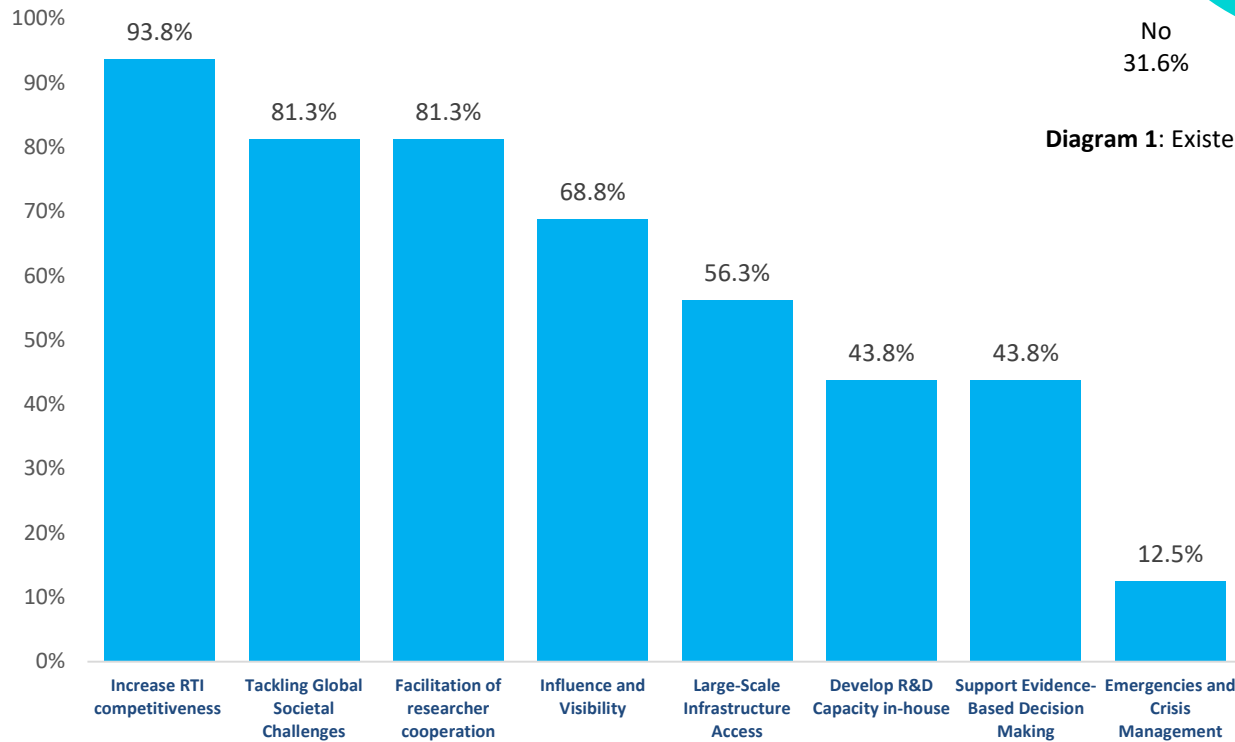




# Formal policy strategies for Science Diplomacy are often missing



**Diagram 1:** Existence of Science Diplomacy Strategies N=19

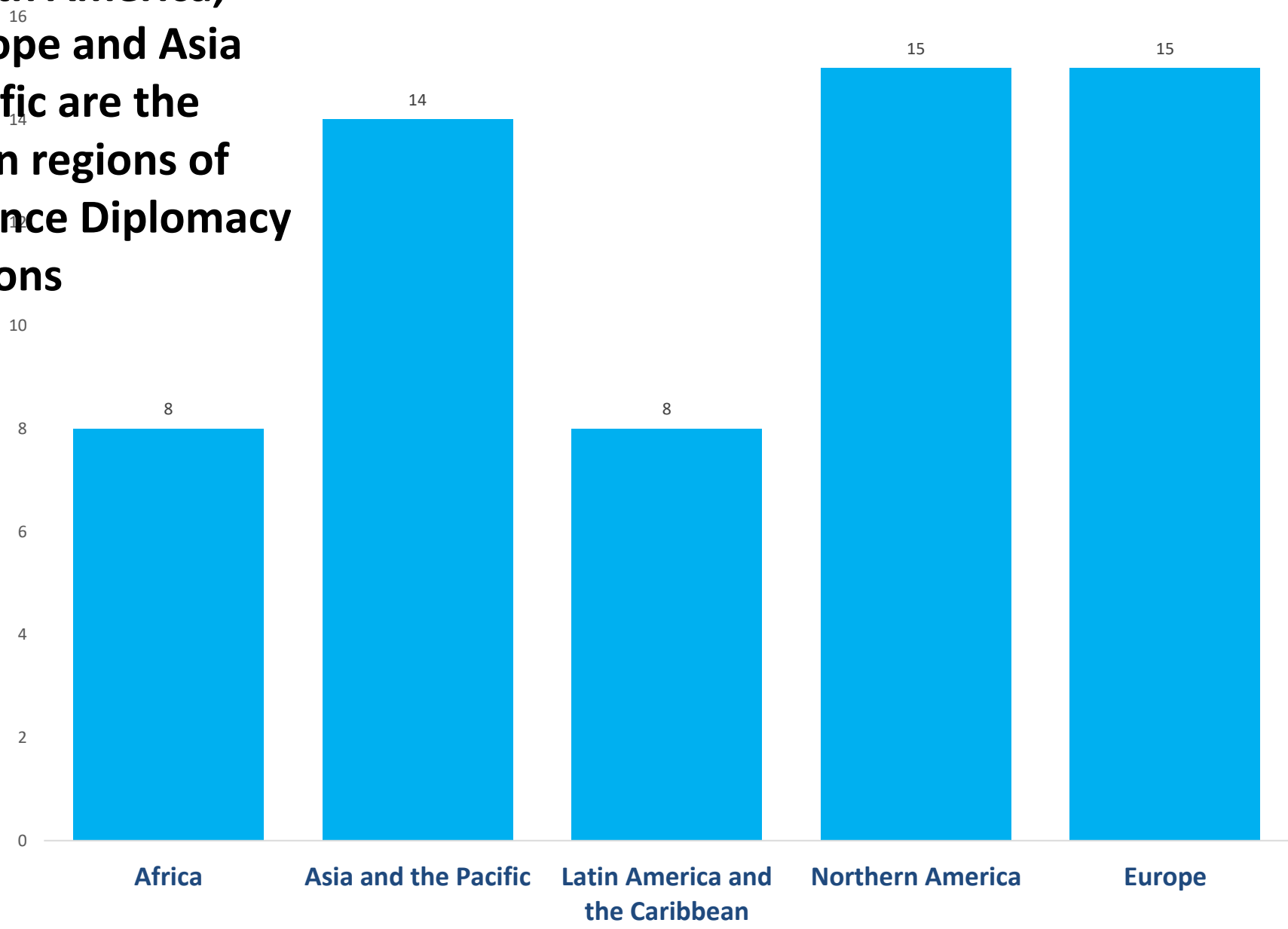


**Diagram 2:** Core objectives of Science Diplomacy strategies N=16

**Main goals are increasing national capacities and tackling global challenges**

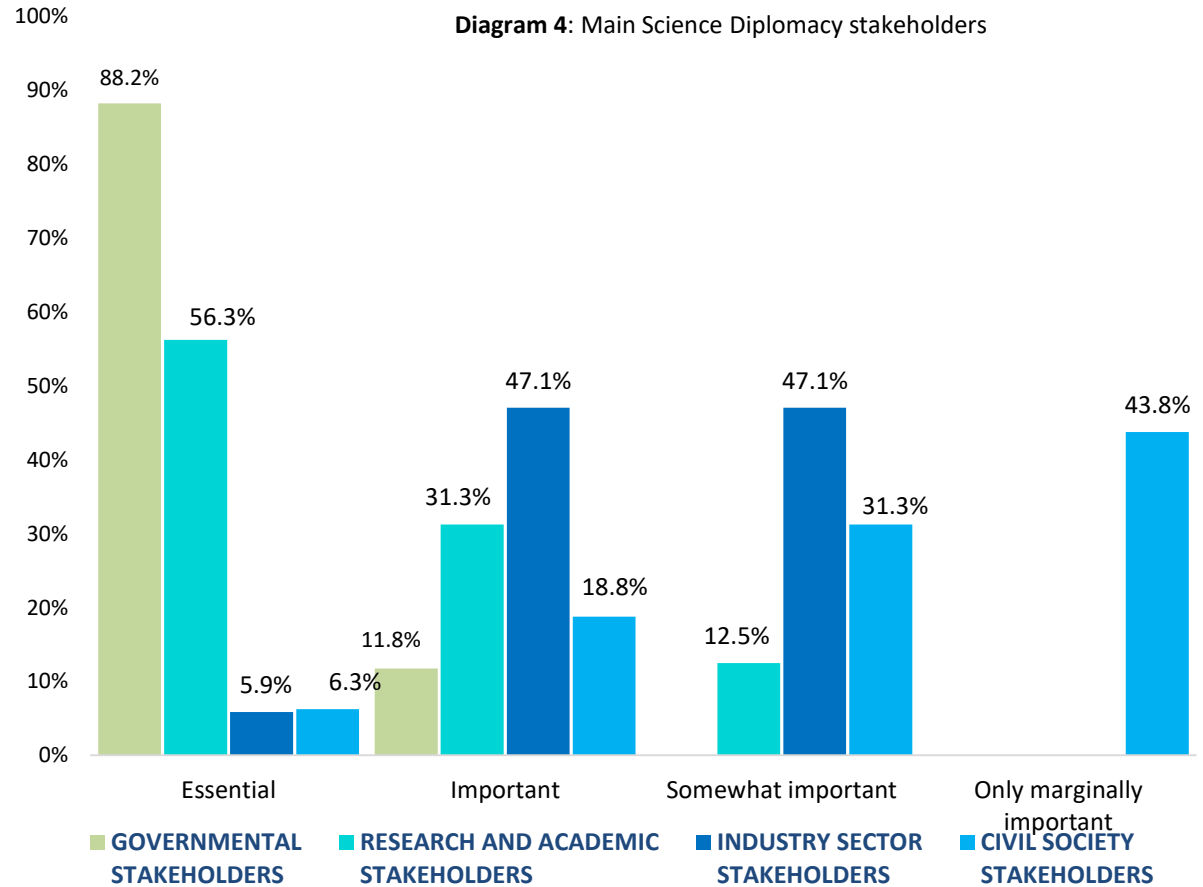
**Science advice for foreign affairs policies still in the making**

# North America, Europe and Asia Pacific are the main regions of Science Diplomacy actions



**Diagram 3:** Focus of Science Diplomacy activities in the different world regions  
**N=16**

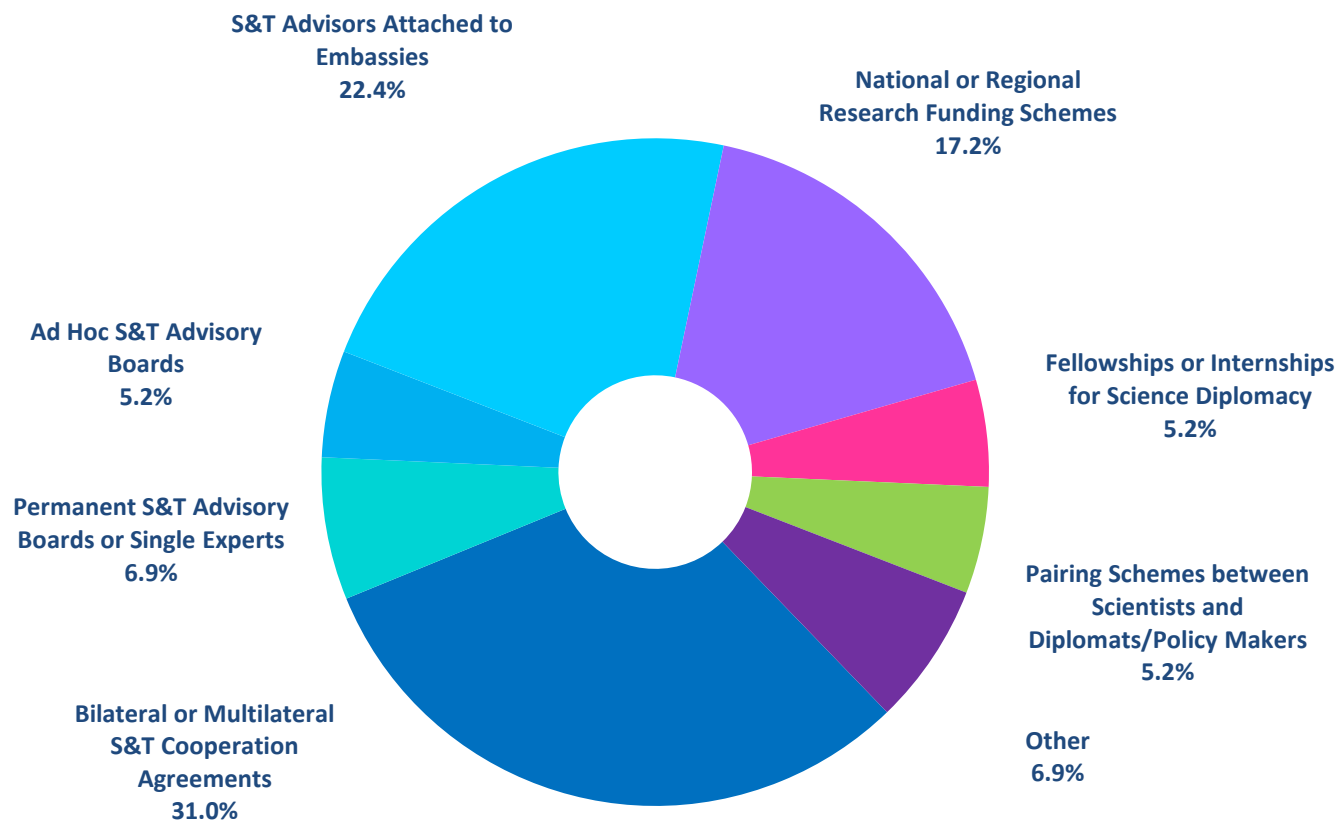
# Governmental stakeholders leading Science Diplomacy approaches



**Civil society not yet in the Science Diplomacy equation**

# National Science Diplomacy policy coordination and support mechanisms are widely used

**Diagram 6:** Mechanisms to advance Science Diplomacy  
**N=18**



**Call for additional EU level coordination**

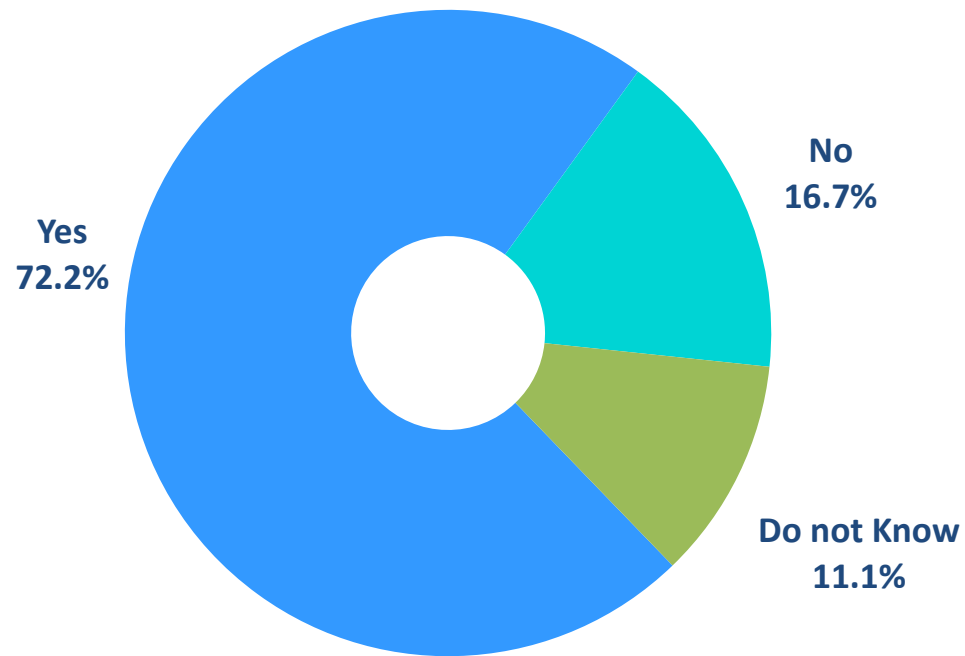
**International coordination in the making**

**More coordination should not mean more bureaucracy**



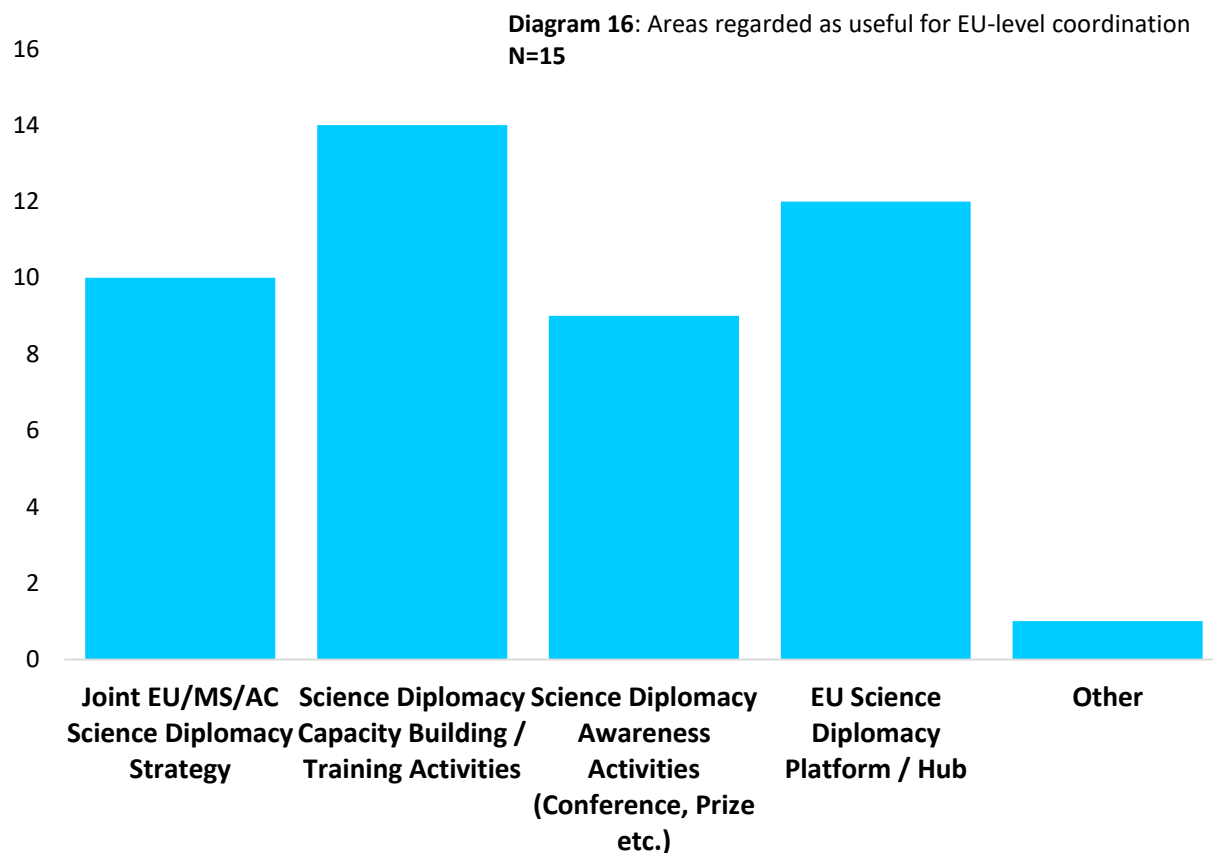
# Big potentiality of EU Science Diplomacy

**Diagram 9:** Usefulness of coordination at EU level  
**N=18**



**Lack of Science Diplomacy training mechanisms**

# ERA supporting Science Diplomacy efforts of Member States



**COVID 19 crisis: an opportunity for Science Diplomacy**

# IDEAS TO BOOST SCIENCE ADVICE AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN EUROPE

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- ✓ Raise awareness among stakeholders (policy makers, researchers, society)
- ✓ Curb expectations (i.e: science informed policies vs science based policies)
- ✓ Public engagement towards science advice and science diplomacy (as it strengthens trust of society in science and public policy)
- ✓ Develop new skills for researchers (trans-disciplinarity, knowledge transfer, etc.)
- ✓ Foster new professions at the interface of science and public policy (science advisors, scientific attachés)
- ✓ Foster mobility of researchers and embedding researchers into public bodies
- ✓ Build trust among researchers and policy making
- ✓ Acknowledge and rewarding public impact of research
- ✓ Foster the integration of policy makers and other stakeholders into the research process (so that scientific results are more fit for purpose)

# Thank you!

**Ana Elorza Moreno, MA, PhD**

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