

# Meeting minutes: IGLO Innovation Working Group on the topic of developments under the ERA structural policy on Knowledge Valorisation

Date:	04.03.2026
Place of the event:	NorCore/SwissCore premises
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## Introduction

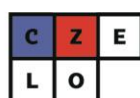
- Under the current ERA Policy Agenda 2025–2027 the topic of knowledge valorisation is addressed as a structural policy. It builds on the previous ERA Policy Agenda 2022–2024, especially Action 7:
- *Upgrade EU guidance for a better knowledge valorisation.* This Action aimed to build a shared European approach by developing the EU Guiding Principles for Knowledge Valorisation, along with a set of Codes of Practice on intellectual assets:
  - EU Guiding Principles for Knowledge Valorisation → [Council Recommendation to strengthen knowledge uptake across Europe](#) (2022)
  - Codes of Practice: [Intellectual Assets Management](#) (2023), [Standardisation](#) (2023), [Industry-Academia Co-creation](#) (2024) and [Citizen Engagement for Knowledge Valorisation](#) (2024)
- Last year, [a survey](#) was carried out on the Codes of practice to assess awareness and their use. The results showed that three quarters of respondents find them helpful, and more than 60 % are already using them or plan to use them in the future. There is also strong interest among those who are new to them. A second phase is now ongoing in the form of a deeper survey to collect practical experience. The results are expected in spring and will be shared later this year.

## Current structural policy focusing on upscaling knowledge valorisation capacities and activities

- The policy is structured around five pillars:

### 1. Building the capacity of intermediaries

- First objective is to strengthen the role of knowledge valorisation intermediaries, such as incubators, innovation hubs, clusters and TTOs, and to help them gain the skills needed to support research and innovation actors.
- The focus is not only on supporting intermediaries as separate actors, but also on strengthening their role as “connectors” across the wider innovation ecosystem.
- This is being developed in close cooperation with another competence framework for academic staff in higher education under the [Union of Skills](#) and the [EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy](#).
- Launch of pilot projects supporting capacity building (2025):  
[HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01](#): Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda:
  - Area 4: Establish a European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries.
  - Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations.→ results will be announced soon.
- There is also call in WIDERA on piloting innovative approaches to support academic start-ups and spin-offs ([HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-04](#)).



- There are two calls in Cluster 4 HE currently open:
  - [HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-48](#) Proof of market to improve valorisation and commercialisation of Horizon generated R&I results (deadline date 21 April 2026).
  - [HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-41](#) Enhancing industry-academia knowledge exchange in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) (deadline date 21 April 2026).

## 2. Improving access to and safeguarding of intellectual assets

- The objective is to create a European scheme that supports responsible intellectual assets management, with a focus on societal and ethical objectives through the responsible licensing and shared data governance. → The aim is to improve access where appropriate while also safeguarding assets in a way that reflects public value, ethics and long-term usability.
- Expected outcomes include a European scheme for responsible licensing principles and shared data governance (Q4 2026).
- A study on research security and intellectual assets management is expected to be launched in Q2-Q3 2026.
- Publication and possible integration into the Blueprint on licensing and spin-off creation under the EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy is planned for Q1 2027, ideally as part of the same package.

## 3. Strengthening valorisation capacities and skills

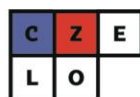
- The objective is to develop pilot learning labs for value creation.
- A [survey](#) on knowledge valorisation training was carried out in October and November 2025. → The results showed a need for further training, especially in collaborative and interactive formats.
- In November 2025, [a workshop](#) was held to present the survey results to around 60 participants.
- The workshop also showed [best practice examples](#) of existing learning labs from several countries, including Belgium, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Germany and Poland.
- The next step is a call under the [WIDERA Work Programme 2026](#) on Learning Labs.
- In practice, this could become one of the more visible implementation tools, because it turns the broader policy discussion into concrete peer-learning formats that institutions can test and adapt.

## 4. Increasing the uptake of results from multidisciplinary research

- The aim is to build bridges between STEM and SSH research and to develop guidelines that make cooperation easier.
- An ongoing study is analysing good valorisation practices in projects funded by Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe and is developing practical guidance.
- [Workshop](#) on the valorisation of multidisciplinary and social science and humanities research took place in February 2026.
- The next step is to develop policy guidance based on the study results and with support from a dedicated community. → A workshop with the ERA Forum is also planned.
- Later on, there will be an expression of interest to bring together a Community of practice, likely in spring or summer 2026.

## 5. Improving the measurement framework

- This was presented as one of the most advanced and most important strands of work.
- A study on metrics and indicators for knowledge valorisation is expected to be published soon (March 2026):
  - The study makes recommendations for pilot testing, methodological improvement and better data alignment.



- It includes 41 indicators covering different valorisation channels.
- These indicators are intended to complement the existing monitoring framework, including the ERA Monitoring Scoreboard and Dashboard.
- They may also provide a basis for bringing some elements into other measurement frameworks, potentially including the ERA Monitoring System.
- Examples of the indicators mentioned include citizen science, industry-academia co-publications, industry-academia co-patenting, research to policy activities and intellectual property rights.

## Supporting activities

- [Inspiring ERA Event](#) - 11 March 2026.
- [Knowledge Valorisation Platform](#) - a repository of best practices, including talks and newsletters.

## Discussion

**Q:** Which stakeholders are involved in this structural policy?

**A:** The aim was to involve a wide range of stakeholders, including companies, citizens, public authorities, researchers and others. So far, the most active group has been Technology transfer offices (TTOs), and funding agencies have also been very involved. Many of these initiatives started in the ERA Forum subgroup during the previous political cycle. There are also efforts to involve SSH researchers more. However, industry has been more difficult to engage with and this remains an important challenge.

**Q:** Could you elaborate on what type of industry is being targeted? The situation is different for start-ups and scale-ups: they are closer to TTOs and are already more familiar with knowledge valorisation. Industry tends to have a strong economic understanding but not necessarily the social dimension, so they may not relate to the terminology. The language itself may make it harder to reach some actors, and industry may not feel like the target group. In the Startup and Scaleup Strategy, there was no mention of knowledge valorisation, which makes it look like a separate issue.

**A:** The mobilisation of Member States is progressing well. In the ERA Forum, many Member States are involved in this structural policy and are active in the discussions. In the FP10 proposal, knowledge valorisation is included and this is seen as an improvement. I also agree that the wording may be part of the challenge and would note that valorisation is not new. It has always been there, even if it was not always called by the same name.

**Q:** One of the biggest challenges seems to be licensing, which will also be linked to the 28th regime. Is DG RTD developing this directly, or is this being done together with the EUIPO?

**A:** There is a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation, and the EUIPO may play a bigger role in the future. The cooperation is already taking place. There is also a clear difference between knowledge valorisation and technology transfer. Valorisation involves more co-creation between those who develop knowledge and the end-users. This is clearly shown in the Code of practice on cooperation between industry and academia. "Traditional" technology transfer, by contrast, is more focused on bringing technology to the market and hoping that it will be taken up.

**Q:** Regarding the Study on metrics and indicators, could this be linked in some way to the European Innovation Act, and could it eventually feed into recommendations to Member States?

**A:** The aim of the Study is to identify what already exists and fill the gaps. It is meant to cover the full range of value creation under knowledge valorisation and can serve mainly as inspiration for users. Some new indicators are being introduced. There is still further work needed to refine the methodology, and for some indicators it is not yet clear how standardised data collection is. I do not expect formal recommendations to Member States at this stage. The exercise is more explanatory, although some indicators may eventually be included in ERA Monitoring.

