



ERA PROGRESS IN NORWAY HIGHLIGHTS

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of Norway's progress in implementing the European Research Area (ERA) over the past decade.



POLICY CONTEXT

Research and innovation (R&I) policies are developed and implemented through a combination of national and regional institutions in Norway. Key actors at the national level are the Ministry of Education and Research (KD, *Kunnskapsdepartementet*), The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries (NFD, *Nærings- og fiskeridepartementet*), The Norwegian Research Council (RCN, *Norges Forskningsråd*) and Innovation Norway (Innovasjon Norge). While most R&I policies are developed and implemented at the national level, some decisions related to regional development and funding allocation may involve regional authorities such as the county councils.

Norway has established a national support system that plays an important role in supporting actors in their participation in Horizon Europe. Besides spreading information, increasing knowledge, identifying relevant applicants, and providing financial incentive schemes, the support system also advises the ministries. The Research Council and Innovation Norway are the main actors in the support system, but the Directorate for Higher Education and Skills, the Norwegian Space Agency, Enova and Investinor also play a role in some areas.

Important strategy documents include first and foremost the Long-Term Plan for Research and Higher Education (2022-2032). The overall objectives are linked to competitiveness and innovation capacity, environmental, social, and economic sustainability and high quality and accessibility in research and higher

education. Several of the priorities align with ERA priorities, including open research and the value of data, academic freedom, and good Norwegian participation in EU knowledge initiatives for the green and digital transitions. A recurring point in the present long-term plan is that knowledge must be applied in society. The Long-Term Plan puts emphasis on participation in international research and education cooperation, not least related to societal challenges and crisis.

As a follow-up of an action point in the Long-Term Plan, a National Action Plan for the European Research Area 2022-2024 has been established. The plan contains national actions to follow up on the ERA actions and complements the strategy for Norway's participation in Horizon Europe and the ERA from 2021.

Other policy initiatives and measures that are relevant to the ERA priorities have been developed and implemented in the recent years. They include, but are not limited to, a National Strategy for Research Infrastructure (2019-2028), a National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (AI) (2020), One Digital Public Sector Strategy (2019-2025), the Research Council Policy for Open Science, and the Government's Bioeconomy Strategy.

Other government initiatives aligned with some of the ERA priority areas for joint action have been developed, notably in relation to the green transition and digital transformation. The initiatives include Norway's Climate Strategy for 2030, the Green Industrial Initiative and the National Strategy for a Green, Circular economy.



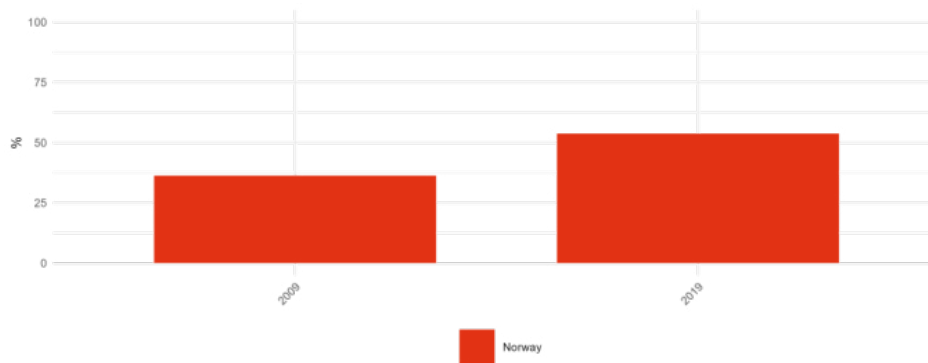
KEY TAKE-AWAYS NORWAY



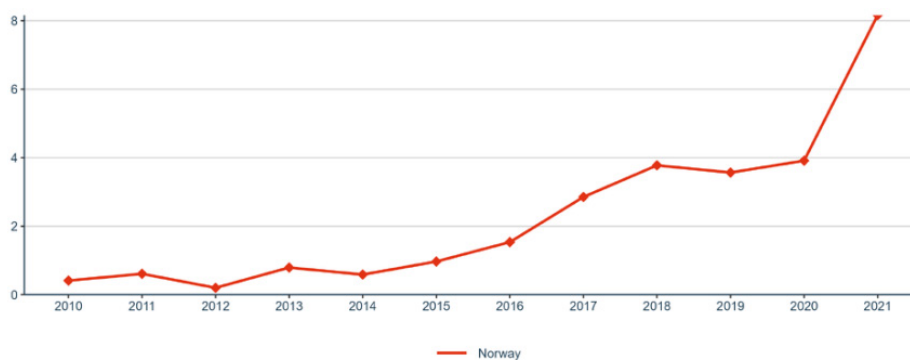
- 🇳🇴 Norway is on the path to strengthen research quality, increase international cooperation, and jointly address global challenges. Strengthening European collaboration is important for Norway to leverage the research efforts of the country.
- 🇳🇴 The main initiative towards the implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda in Norway is the National Action Plan for the European Research Area (ERA) 2022-2024.
- 🇳🇴 Norway has experienced general improvements in the efforts towards the implementation of ERA. More specifically, the country has registered positive trends in open science (1.1), research infrastructures (1.2), and social innovation (2.3), among others.
- 🇳🇴 Some of the challenges for Norway in relation to the ERA, are the number of new doctorates (1.5), the total investment on R&D (3.1) and the coordination investments (4.1).

CHARTING THE WAY FORWARD...

Sub-priority 1.1: Open Science – Share of publications available in open access



Sub-priority 2.4: An active citizen and societal engagement in R&I in all its dimensions – Research on social innovation (publications on 'social innovation' or 'social entrepreneurship') per million population



LEARN MORE

- [Download](#) the full ERA Monitoring Norway Report 2023
- [Read](#) the 'Communication on A new ERA for Research and Innovation'
- [Consult](#) the background on New ERA, the EU Pact for R&I, the EU Policy Agenda and more