



# ERA PROGRESS IN POLAND HIGHLIGHTS

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



## POLICY CONTEXT

The key institutions responsible for developing and implementing R&I policies in Poland are two ministries. Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy distributes funding for regional development and businesses. It is responsible for the European Funds for a Modern Economy, introduced in 2021. These funds include support for research, development and innovation projects aimed at increasing the competitiveness of the Polish economy. Additionally, most sectoral ministries are also undertaking R&I activities, with main institutions including: the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Moreover, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, established in December 2023, is responsible for the legal framework, supervising research in the higher education sector and funding R&I in Poland.

The two most important institutions providing funds for researchers are the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR) and the National Science Centre (NCN). The main institutions distributing funds for various private (including enterprises) and public entities are the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management, the Medical Research Agency and the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development. There are also non-public institutions supporting science and innovation, and the biggest non-profit organisation of this type is the Foundation for Polish Science, both supporting scholar and research teams and innovative enterprises.

In Poland, there are 91 research institutes represented by the Main Council of Research Institutes, including Łukasiewicz Research Network, which is currently the most important subset of the research institutes, both in terms of impact and budget. The framework for Polish science and higher education has been established by the new Law on Higher Education and Science, where article 2 defines one of the missions as “development of the economy based on innovation”. The most important strategy to define R&I priorities in Poland is the State Scientific Policy adopted in 2022. The Productivity Strategy 2030, supported by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, includes a strand dedicated to increasing the application of technology and knowledge in the economy by stimulating private investment in R&I, improving the organisation of higher education and research centres, further defining national technology policies, promoting social innovation, and supporting the cooperation between research and business.

Other policies relevant to Poland's R&I sector include: i) the Polish Hydrogen Strategy 2021-2030, introduced in 2021 and supported by the Ministry of Climate and Environment, which defines goals and actions for the development of national competencies and technologies for a low-emission economy; and ii) the Policy of Artificial Intelligence Development in Poland, introduced in 2020 and supported by the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, which defines actions and objectives for the development of artificial intelligence in Poland.



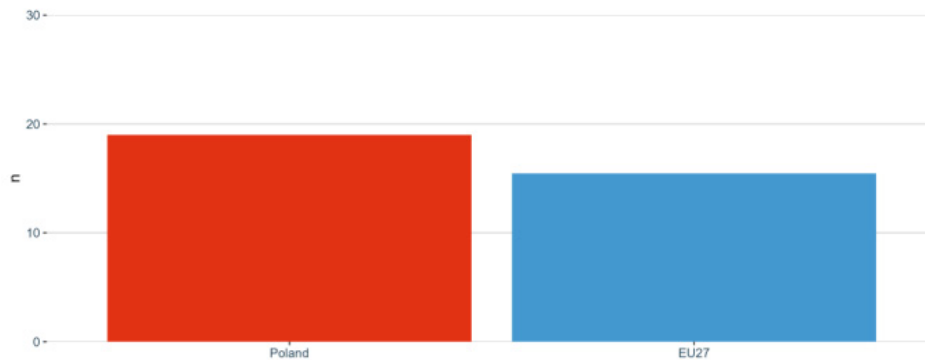
## KEY TAKE-AWAYS POLAND



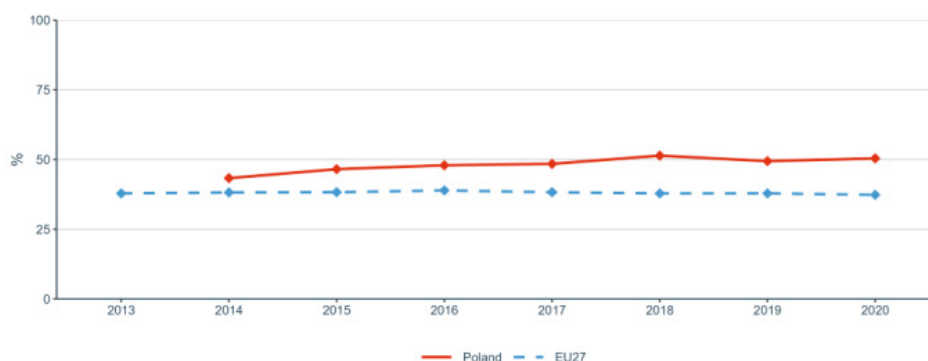
- Poland is currently committed to 11 ERA Actions under the ERA Policy Agenda. Poland is an Emerging Innovator according to European Innovation Scoreboard 2023.
- Poland's greatest progress towards ERA priorities has been observed in open science, research infrastructures, and knowledge valorisation, whereas challenges remain in public expenditure on research, the number of STEM graduates, and academic freedom.
- The country has developed national initiatives on specific areas of the ERA Policy Agenda. Under ERA Priority 1, Poland has focused on the promotion of open access, the implementation of HEI assessments and on building strong research infrastructures. In relation to ERA Priority 2, the country aims to enhance sectoral activities related to the green and digital transition. Lastly, one of the main objectives of Poland is to support research excellence by funding and participation in initiatives, promoted by ERA Priority 3.

## CHARTING THE WAY FORWARD...

Sub-priority 1.2: Research infrastructures – Number of European research infrastructures in which a Member State or an Associated Country participated (financially contributes to operations) in 2021



Sub-priority 1.3: Gender equality, equal opportunities for all and inclusiveness – Proportion (%) of women among doctoral graduates by narrow fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)



### LEARN MORE

- [Download](#) the full ERA Monitoring Poland 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