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ERA Country Report 2024

Kosovo*

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UN-SCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Independent
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ERA Country Report 2024: Kosovo

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as part of the project 'Implementation of the ERA Monitoring Mechanism' for the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (RTD/2023/OP/0017)

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Key takeaways

- The National Science Programme 2023-2028 represents a key milestone in aligning Kosovo's Research & Innovation (R&I) priorities with the European Research Area (ERA). Its implementation is delayed, however, and the merging of laws on higher education, research, and financing, the establishment of implementing bodies, and the development of dedicated funding structures are still pending.
- Kosovo is still at early stages of promoting Open Access in research and innovation. The country is not listed in SCImago, OpenAIRE, or the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), and research from Kosovan institutions is often classified under Serbia. High publishing costs for researchers, and low visibility in European research networks hinder Kosovo's transition toward Open Science and knowledge sharing.
- Digital transformation is advancing slowly. In June 2024, Kosovo joined the Digital Europe Programme (DEP), supporting its digital integration into the EU ecosystem, and adopted the e-Government Strategy for 2023–2027 as cornerstone of the Digital Agenda of Kosovo 2030.
- Kosovo has progressed in research ethics. Through the ResearchCult project, national guidelines have been developed, and universities have established research ethics committees and guidelines.
- Kosovo's participation in Horizon Europe remains modest, despite efforts to boost involvement in the programme.

1. National context

The country was not categorised in the latest 2024 European Innovation Scoreboard¹ and information in the ERA Dashboard is limited. Kosovo is among the smallest associated countries.

Table 1 Structural Key Indicators

Indicator	EU27	Kosovo		
	2023	2023	Average 2018-2020	Average 2021-2023
GDP in current prices, euro per capita	35 790.00	/	/	/
Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a share of GDP	2.27	/	/	/
Size of the population (million)	448.80	1.80	1.79	/
Researchers (in FTE) per million inhabitants	4 681.34	/	/	/

Source: Annex 1

The **National Science Programme (NSP) 2023-2028**² is Kosovo's national strategy for scientific research and innovation sectors and is a milestone in Kosovo's alignment with ERA priorities. The NSP was officially approved on July 26, 2023³ and functions as the strategic framework to align Kosovo's research objectives with ERA priorities. The NRP harmonises the previous separate laws on higher education, research, and financing and identifies the following **priority areas**: Health, Society, Energy & Environment, and Agriculture, with cross-cutting themes of the Green Deal and Digitalisation.

Implementation of the NSP 2023-2028 has been delayed, with approximately one year behind due to a delay in parliamentary approval. The merging of the laws on research and innovation and the creation of implementing and monitoring bodies, are therefore still pending. Most implementation schemes are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), which currently awaits the establishment of a dedicated agency to operationalise the NSP 2023-2028.⁴

The national R&I system faces capacity challenges as the national fund dedicated to science and research was fragmented, under-resourced and understaffed. Kosovo has public universities and public research institutes, which are constrained by a lack of sufficient funding and a lack of human capital development. The 2024–2026 Economic Reform Programme includes R&I-related measures, such as the development of a Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) and an Innovation Fund, but financial commitments remain low.

¹ European Commission (2024). European Innovation Scoreboard 2024. <https://projects.research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/en/statistics/performance-indicators/european-innovation-scoreboard/eis-2024>

² Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of the Republic of Kosovo (2023). Programi Kombëtar i Shkencës 2023–2028 [National Science Program 2023–2028]. <https://masht.rks-gov.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Drafti-Shqip-PKSH-Final.pdf>

³ Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo (2023, July 27). The 153rd meeting of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo. <https://kryeministri.rks-gov.net/en/blog/the-153rd-meeting-of-the-government-of-the-republic-of-kosovo/>

⁴ Based on interview with a representative of the National Science Council.

In 2024, less than 0.7 percent of the GDP was dedicated to research and innovation, with a total of EUR 15 million, amounting to 0.1 percent approximately.⁵ The NSP 2023-2028 calls for an increase of the budget allocation to research and innovation up to 1 percent.⁶ Important to note, is that research funding is not independently structured, as it falls under the general budget for higher education institutions (HEIs), which complicates strategic allocation and monitoring of investments.

2. Status of the Implementation of the ERA Policy Agenda

Chapter 2 briefly summarises **new developments in Kosovo since the publication of the ERA Country Report 2023**. Kosovo is an Associated Country and has not indicated commitments to actions identified in the ERA Policy Agenda 2022-2024. Despite this, this chapter briefly presents developments in Kosovo towards the overarching ERA Priorities. The findings are based on qualitative desk research and interviews.

ERA Priority 1: Deepening a truly functioning internal market for knowledge

In 2024, Kosovo remained in the early stages of advancing Open Science (OS), with notable challenges in visibility and integration within European research networks (**ERA Action 1**). Although Kosovo is not currently listed in SCImago, OpenAIRE, or the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), efforts are ongoing to build the foundations for open sharing of knowledge. Research from Kosovan institutions continues to be classified under Serbia in Scopus⁷, which briefly recognised Kosovo in 2022. Despite limited infrastructure, the MESTI provides some support for Open Access publishing, but researchers largely bear the costs themselves, creating financial barriers to participation in OS⁸.

Progress under **ERA Action 2** included legislative steps to align with European copyright and data protection frameworks. On October 27, 2023, Kosovo adopted a new Law on Copyright and Related Rights that aligns with the EU's Copyright in the Digital Single Market (CDSM) Directive⁹. However, practical implementation and broader reforms are still needed¹⁰. Kosovo's Law on Personal Data Protection (2019), modelled on the EU's GDPR¹¹, remains in force, with the Information and Privacy Agency (AIP) serving as the oversight body. Limited resources continue to challenge effective enforcement.

Notable advancements were made toward **ERA Action 3** with the implementation of the "Enhancing Research Culture in Higher Education in Kosovo" (ResearchCult) project. The project led to the development of national guidelines on research ethics, the establishment of

⁵ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report. https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/c790738e-4cf6-4a43-a8a9-43c1b6f01e10_en?filename=Kosovo+Report+2024.pdf

⁶ Based on interview with a representative of the National Science Council.

⁷ Ibrahim, M. (2023). "Recognition" of Kosovo by Scopus. KOHA.net. <https://www.koha.net/en/arberi/cnjohja-e-kosoves-nga-scopus>

⁸ Based on interview with a representative of the National Science Council.

⁹ RPHS Law (2023). Legal update: New law on copyright and related rights in Kosovo. <https://rphs.law/legal-update-new-law-on-copyright-and-related-rights-in-kosovo>

¹⁰ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report. https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/c790738e-4cf6-4a43-a8a9-43c1b6f01e10_en?filename=Kosovo+Report+2024.pdf

¹¹ DLA Piper. Data protection laws of the world: Kosovo. <https://www.dlapiperdataprotection.com/index.html?c=XK&t=law>

university ethics committees, and improved access to plagiarism detection tools¹². These developments mark a significant improvement from previous years, where institutional research assessment in the form of research ethics mechanisms were largely absent.¹³

Progress under **ERA Action 4** remained modest due to structural challenges in research career development. Academic contracts in Kosovo do not allocate dedicated time for research, and scientific funding remains embedded within the general higher education budget¹⁴. Kosovo is not yet part of EURAXESS¹⁵, which limits opportunities for international mobility and career development. However, Kosovo continued participation in Erasmus+¹⁶ through select actions, including International Credit Mobility (ICM), Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters¹⁷ - with 55 students from Kosovo selected between 2015 and 2023 - and a total of 105 capacity-building projects across education, youth, and vocational sectors.

In support of **ERA Action 5**, Kosovo has taken several steps toward promoting gender equality and inclusiveness. Overall, men make up the majority of the academic workforce.¹⁸ All public universities have adopted Gender Equality Plans, including the University of Prishtina, which published a detailed plan for 2023-2025¹⁹. Additionally, MESTI has provided over 4,600 scholarships of EUR 1,000 each since 2021 to support women pursuing STEM bachelor's degrees, with 1882 being awarded in the last year only²⁰. Despite this, the World Bank's 2024 Kosovo Gender Assessment revealed persistent gender disparities in labour force participation, particularly among women with higher education – 65.6 percent compared to 76.7 percent of highly educated men in 2021²¹.

Kosovo's legal framework guarantees academic freedom, and in 2024, the Academic Freedom Index ranked the country in the top 20-30 percent globally²² (**ERA Action 6**). Nevertheless, concerns persist about political influence in public university governance, as several decision-making bodies are appointed by MESTI²³.

¹² Western Balkans Info Hub (2023). [RRI Good Practice] Enhancing research culture in higher education in Kosovo. <https://wbc-rti.info/object/link/23730.html>

¹³ Based on interview with a representative of the National Science Council.

¹⁴ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

¹⁵ European Commission EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion. <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

¹⁶ European Commission. Erasmus+ Programme Guide: Eligible countries. <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/part-a/eligible-countries>

¹⁷ Kosovo Erasmus+ Office. Statistics. <https://www.erasmuspluskosovo.org/statistics>

¹⁸ See <https://www.heraskosovo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Gender-Equality-in-Higher-Education-Institutions-in-Kosovo.pdf>

¹⁹ University of Prishtina. Action Plan for Gender Equality 2023–2025. <https://uni-pr.edu/desk/inc/me-dia/24C56EAD-D760-48CE-A21C-FB649B822F77.pdf>

²⁰ UN Women (2024). Breaking barriers: How STEM scholarships are empowering Kosovo's young women. <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/stories/news/2024/08/breaking-barriers-how-stem-scholarships-are-empowering-kosovos-young-women>

²¹ World Bank (2024). Country gender assessment: Kosovo. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099062524152056507/pdf/P17703513e91790df181ef12147364b2570.pdf>

²² Kinzelbach, K., Lindberg, S. I., & Lott, L. (2024). Academic Freedom Index – 2024 Update. Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. <https://doi.org/10.25593/open-fau-405>

²³ Qorraj, G., Krasniqi, B., & Jusufi, G. (2022). Academic freedom and higher education governance in the Western Balkans: The case of Kosovo. *Issues in Educational Research* 32(3):1092. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/364640075_Academic_freedom_and_higher_education_governance_in_the_Western_Balkans_The_case_of_Kosovo

Kosovo has made limited progress in knowledge valorisation (**ERA Action 7**). While the NSP 2023–2028 outlines ambitions to build research capacity, innovation funding mechanisms remain underdeveloped, and institutional support for valorisation is minimal²⁴.

In line with **ERA Action 8**, Kosovo developed its first Research Infrastructure Roadmap in 2022 with support from the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)²⁵. The Kosovo Research Information System (KRIS), intended to serve as a national platform for monitoring R&I indicators, remains in development²⁶. Staffing and module expansion are foreseen in the NSP 2023–2028²⁷, with the goal of creating a fully functional monitoring system. However, the absence of an ISSN number for Kosovo continues to hamper the indexing of local research outputs and publications.

Under **ERA Action 9**, Kosovo signalled growing international engagement by becoming a non-voting member of the Open Government Partnership in December 2023.²⁸ As part of the 2023–2025 Action Plan, Kosovo committed to thirteen commitments, including enhancing digital services, open data access, public participation, and anti-corruption measures. These steps reflect a broader effort to build trust-based international research cooperation, though full integration into ERA-level partnerships remains a long-term objective.

ERA Priority 2: Taking up together the green transition and digital transformation and other challenges with impact on society and increasing society's participation in the ERA

In 2024, Kosovo continued its integration into European R&I initiatives through Horizon Europe (**ERA Action 10**). Since becoming associated with Horizon Europe in 2021, Kosovo has maintained modest participation. In 2023, a total of 35 Horizon project proposals were submitted, of which six received funding, amounting to approximately EUR 0.7 million²⁹. On 3 October 2024, MESTI hosted the second EU-Kosovo Joint Research and Innovation Committee meeting. The agenda included discussions on increasing Kosovo's participation in Horizon Europe, reforming national R&I systems, and enhancing cooperation with the Joint Research Centre. Kosovo's positioning in the European Innovation Scoreboard was also reviewed³⁰.

Progress under **ERA Action 11** remains limited. According to the World Bank's 2024 Country Climate and Development Report, Kosovo needs to invest an estimated USD 2.8 billion in climate resilience and renewable energy to meet its green transition targets. These investments are crucial to mitigating climate risks and fostering sustainable economic development.

²⁴ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

²⁵ Regional Cooperation Council (2022). Research Infrastructure Roadmap for Kosovo. Western Balkans Info Hub. https://westernbalkans-infohub.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/RCC-2022_RI-Roadmap-KOS.pdf

²⁶ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

²⁷ <https://kris.rks-gov.net>

²⁸ Open Government Partnership (2024). Kosovo Action Plan Review 2023–2025. <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/kosovo-action-plan-review-2023-2025/>

²⁹ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

³⁰ European Commission (2024). 2nd EU-Kosovo Joint Research and Innovation Committee. https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/2nd-eu-kosovo-joint-research-and-innovation-committee-2024-10-08_en

However, no major new initiatives were launched in 2024 that directly advance Kosovo's alignment with ERA goals for the green transition³¹.

Under **ERA Action 12**, Kosovo took significant steps toward the green and digital transition of industrial ecosystems. A key development in 2024 was the upcoming construction of a large-scale photovoltaic plant near Pristina, projected to generate up to 100 MW of renewable energy. The project is supported by a EUR 33 million loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and a EUR 29 million loan from the German development bank KfW, under the Mutual Resilience Initiative. The photovoltaic plant aims to reduce Kosovo's dependence on coal and lower carbon emissions³².

In terms of digital transformation, Kosovo signed an Association Agreement with the European Commission in June 2024 to join the Digital Europe Programme (DEP). This initiative supports digital infrastructure and innovation, and marks an important step toward Kosovo's deeper integration into the EU digital ecosystem³³. Additionally, Kosovo adopted a new e-Government Strategy for 2023-2027 in October 2023. Aligned with the Digital Agenda of Kosovo (DAK) 2030, the strategy outlines goals for public sector digitalisation, interoperability, and improved digital services for citizens^{34 35}.

Progress toward empowering higher education institutions under **ERA Action 13** remained limited in 2024. Kosovo's Education Strategy 2022–2026 serves as the principal roadmap for reform in the higher education sector. While the strategy outlines steps for aligning higher education institutions with ERA and European Education Area (EEA) priorities, implementation is still in its early stages and institutional transformation remains gradual³⁶.

Similarly, in relation to **ERA Action 14**, efforts to engage the public in science and research were modest. However, a notable step in promoting scientific literacy and public interest in research occurred in June 2024 with the opening of the National Observatory and Planetarium of Kosovo. This initiative aims to foster greater interest in astronomy and science education among the general public and young learners³⁷.

ERA Priority 4: Advancing concerted research and innovation investments and reforms

In 2024, Kosovo made limited progress in the context of **ERA Action 19**, which aims to establish an efficient and effective ERA monitoring mechanism at EU-level. The KRIS, launched in 2023 as a national platform to collect and manage data on R&I, researchers, institutions, publications, and funding, remains in its development phase. While its establishment represents a step toward more systematic monitoring, the platform is not yet fully operational. Key

³¹ World Bank Group. (2024). Kosovo Country Climate and Development Report. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099100324121037634/pdf/P17920519a54a30bb1abe41c87eaa27d582.pdf>

³² European Investment Bank (2024). Kosovo: EIB accelerates green transition with €33 million for new solar power plant. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-113-kosovo-eib-accelerates-green-transition-with-eur33-million-for-new-solar-power-plant>

³³ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

³⁴ Bloch, C., Moszoro, M., Wang, M., van Brunschot, F., & Hürkan, Y. (2025). Using digitalization to enhance public finance in Kosovo: Republic of Kosovo (IMF Selected Issues Paper No. 2025/006). International Monetary Fund. <https://doi.org/10.5089/9798400299735.018>

³⁵ eKosova <https://ekosova.rks-gov.net>

³⁶ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

³⁷ Peña, M. (2024). PhD student leads effort to open Kosovo's first observatory. UC Santa Cruz News Center. <https://news.ucsc.edu/2024/06/kosovo-observatory.html>

challenges persist in data collection, coordination across institutions, and the alignment of national indicators with the broader ERA monitoring framework

3. Contribution of ERA Actions to national performance in reaching ERA objectives

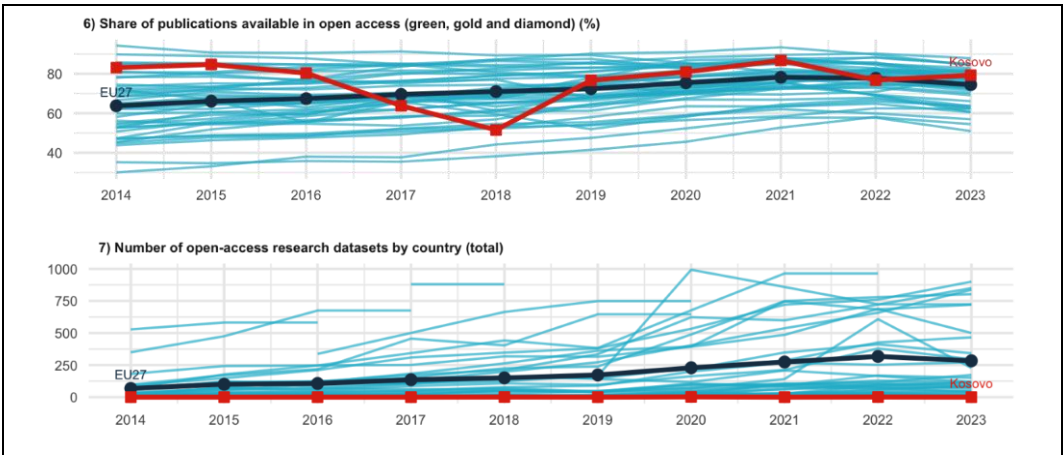
This chapter provides a qualitative assessment of how the joint ERA Actions contributed to Kosovo's performance in achieving the ERA objectives as defined in the Pact for R&I during the period 2022-2024.

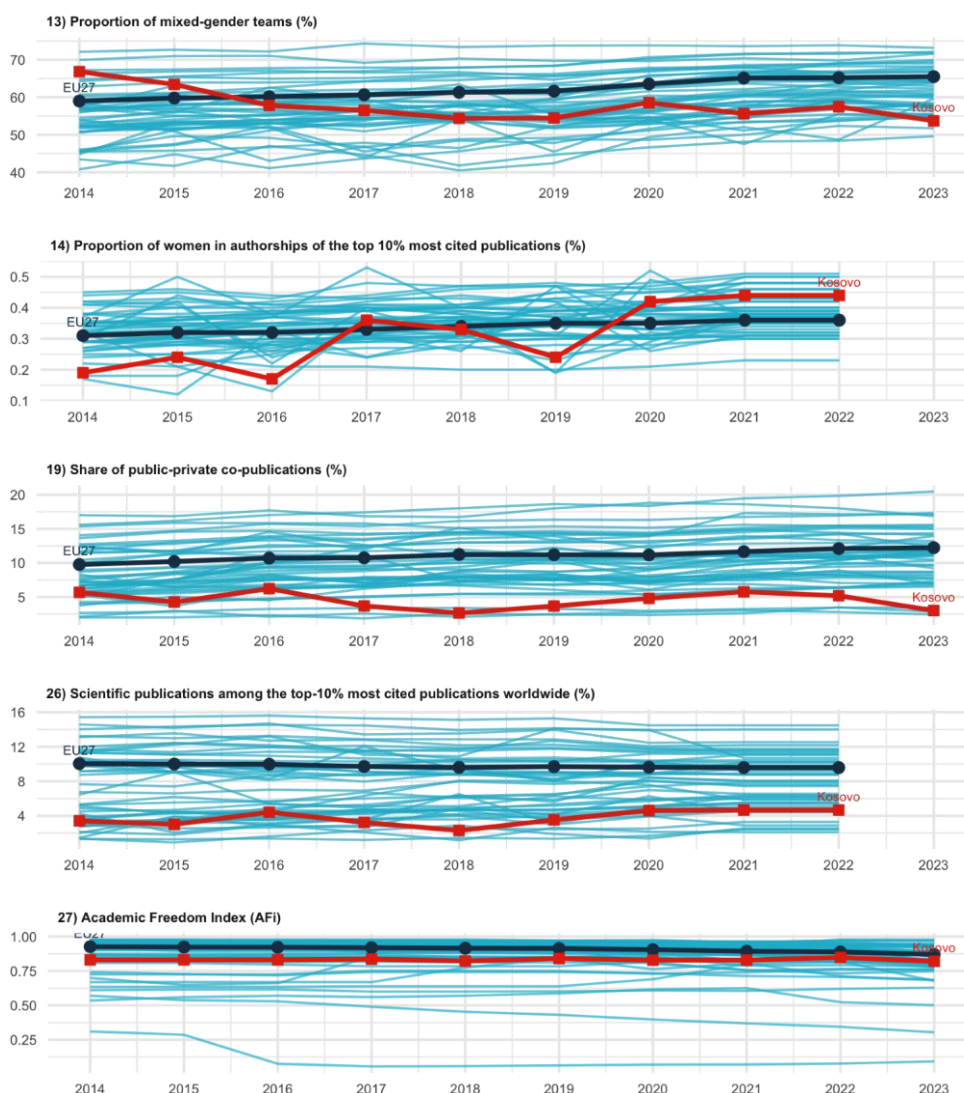
ERA Priority 1 is addressed through initiatives on **ERA Actions 3 and 5** where Kosovo has introduced research ethics frameworks and implemented gender equality measures. ERA Dashboard Indicators 13 and 14 reflect a declining portion of mixed-gender teams, but an increasing number of female authors of publications.

Initiatives have started on **ERA Actions 2, 6, and 8** but progress in 2024 has been limited due to limited resources and implementation capacity. Kosovo adopted a new Copyright Law in 2023 in line with EU standards, but challenges remain in enforcement. Academic freedom is legally guaranteed, and Kosovo ranks relatively high as reflected in ERA Dashboard Indicator 27, but further progress remains limited. The KRIS platform for R&I monitoring was launched in 2023 but is not yet fully operational, and the lack of an ISSN registration is a barrier to research visibility.

Slower progress is observed in **ERA Actions 1, 4, 7, and 9**, due to limited Open Science infrastructure, underdeveloped research careers, low innovation support, incomplete data systems, and limited international research cooperation. ERA Dashboard Indicator 6 shows a high share of open access publications; however, this reflects a low overall number of publications. ERA Dashboard Indicator 7 reports no open-access research datasets for Kosovo. Indicator 26 reflects a below EU-average performance on quality of publications as well as challenges in correct data collection on publications. ERA Dashboard Indicator 19 reflects a limited innovation ecosystem with a below EU-average of public-private collaborations in publications.

Figure 3-1 Indicators for ERA Priority 1





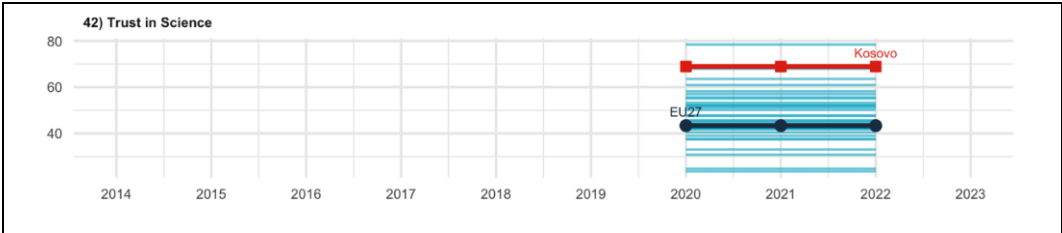
Source: see Annex 1

ERA Priority 2 is addressed through a range of national initiatives, with focus on **Action 10 and 12**. For **Action 10**, Kosovo is continuing its participation in Horizon Europe, although its performance decreased by 75 percent in 2023.³⁸ For **Action 12**, Kosovo is making efforts to accelerate its digital transition by joining the DEP through an association agreement and by adopting an e-government strategy for 2023-2027. Kosovo, however, has no official commitment to ERA priorities. ERA Dashboard Indicator 42 reflects a relatively high trust in science in Kosovo for the period between 2020-2022. There is no data available for the period from 2022-2024, and initiatives to bring science closer to citizens (**Action 14**), are limited for

³⁸ European Commission (2024). Communication on EU Enlargement Policy: Kosovo 2024 Report.

this period, with a singular public science initiative. **Action 11** is progressing slowly, with no notable developments and a clear need for investments.

Figure 3-2 Indicators for ERA Priority 2



Source: see Annex 1

ERA Priority 3 has seen limited progress in Kosovo in 2024. Kosovo's R&I sector continues to face challenges, including limited funding, infrastructure constraints, and limited international collaboration. There are currently no indicators for Kosovo for Priority 3 available in the ERA Dashboard 2024.

Era Priority 4 has seen limited progress in Kosovo in 2024. The KRIS monitoring system was launched in 2023 but is not fully operational, therefore effective R&I monitoring (**Action 19**) is limited. The NSP 2023–2028 and ERP 2022-2024 include measures to support R&I investments (**Action 20**) but this is not yet implemented. There are currently no indicators for Kosovo for Priority 4 available in the ERA Dashboard 2024.

4. Effects of ERA Action implementation on the national R&I system

This chapter presents a qualitative assessment of the ERA Action commitments of Kosovo and their effects on national R&I priorities, including the quantitative performance in the ERA Dashboard.

Kosovo's progress on **ERA Priority 1** reflects an ambition to build a more open and ethically grounded research environment as the NSP 2023–2028 aligns with ERA priorities. The implementation of Action 3 on research assessment creates synergies with national priorities to strengthen institutional research quality and ethics. Kosovo's national strategies align with ERA Priority 1, but implementation and investment remain inconsistent and fragmented.

Kosovo's progress in **ERA Priority 2** reflects commitment to align the country's priorities with those of the ERA, for example in the areas of digital transformation and international cooperation. Kosovo participation in HE and association with DEP are in line with the digitalisation priorities of the ERA and the NSP 2023-2028. The e-Government Strategy 2023-2027 supports national goals under digital transition. Empowering of higher education institutions is limited, as Kosovo's Education Strategy 2022-2026 has not yet been implemented. Overall, Kosovo's national strategies align with ERA Priority 2, but implementation and investment remain inconsistent and fragmented.

Kosovo's progress under **ERA Priority 3**, specifically in Actions 16 and 17 has been limited, with no substantial progress in 2024.

Kosovo's progress in Action 19 as part of **ERA Priority 4** shows some progress through the development of the KRIS monitoring system and funding goals outlined in the NSP 2023-2028. This remains in early stages, however.

5. Conclusions

Kosovo's R&I landscape is evolving with the implementation of the NSP 2023-2028. The NSP 2023-2028 is the strategic framework and is aimed at aligning national research objectives with the ERA. The NSP identifies four priority areas: Health, Society, Energy & Environment, and Agriculture and the cross-cutting themes of digitalisation and the Green Deal. Implementation of the NSP 2023-2028 has been delayed, and reforms are still pending, including the merger of research and innovation laws and the creation of implementing and monitoring bodies. In 2024, R&I expenditure stood at 0.1 percent of GDP (EUR 15 million), below the 0.7 percent target set by the NSP 2023-2028.

Kosovo has made some progress under ERA Priority 1, for example in research ethics and monitoring, but at the same time Open Science and attractive research careers remain underdeveloped. Digitalisation efforts under Priority 2 are advancing, but progress on green transition, education reform, and public science is limited. Priorities 3 and 4 show minimal progress due to capacity and funding constraints, with key reforms and monitoring tools still in early stages.

Kosovo has not made formal commitments to ERA Actions, but policy reforms reflect an ambition to integrate with the ERA, though progress is hindered by resource limitations and institutional capacity.

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Annex 1 – List of ERA Dashboard Indicators

The indicators used in the report are taken from the ERA Dashboard 2024. The full ERA Dashboard Report and the supporting Data Replication Package can be downloaded at <https://european-research-area.ec.europa.eu/era-monitoring-reports>. The indicators used in the report are taken from the ERA Dashboard 2024. However, *GDP (in million €)*, *Size of the population (million)*, and *Share of female researchers, all sectors of performance (%)* were added to provide additional context and directly retrieved from the Eurostat website.

Additionally, EU and country averages are for 2023, except *Share of female researchers, all sectors of performance (%)* (2021).

Table 1 Structural Key Indicators:

Indicator number	Indicator	Source
/	GDP in euro per capita, current prices	Eurostat https://doi.org/10.2908/TEC00001
1	Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a share of GDP	Eurostat
2	Government Budget Allocations for R&D (GBARD) as share of GDP	Eurostat
4	Business Enterprise Expenditure on R&D (BERD) as a share of GDP	Eurostat
5.2	Expenditure on R&D procurement as a percentage of GDP	EC/European Innovation Procurement Observatory
/	Size of the population (million)	Eurostat, https://doi.org/10.2908/TPS00001
3	Researchers (in FTE) per million inhabitants	Eurostat
/	Share of female researchers, all sectors of performance (%)	Eurostat, https://doi.org/10.2908/TSC00005

Figure 3.1 Indicators for ERA Priority 1

Indicator number	Indicator	Source
6	Share of publications available in open access (green, gold, and diamond)	OpenAIRE
7	Number of open-access research datasets by country	OpenAIRE
8	Number of repositories by country	EOSC - Re3data
9	Country investments in EOSC and Open Science (in ranges of investment)	EOSC Observatory
10	Share of national public R&D expenditure committed to European research infrastructures	ESFRI
11	Number of European RIs in which a Member State or an Associated Country participates	ESFRI
12	Proportion of women of Grade A among academic staff/researchers	Women in Science - She Figures
13	(Corrected) Proportion of mixed-gender teams	EC_Scopus
14	(Corrected) Proportion of women in authorships of the top 10% most cited publications	EC_Scopus
15	Women in Digital index (0-100)	EC-Women in Digital Scoreboard

16	Proportion of women among doctoral graduates by narrow fields of STEM	Eurostat
17	Share of foreign doctorate students as a percentage of all doctorate students	Eurostat
18	New doctorate graduates per 1,000 inhabitants aged 25-34	Eurostat
19	Share of public-private co-publications	EC_Scopus
20	(Cumulative number of) Best practice examples and methodologies for knowledge valorisation	Knowledge Valorisation Platform
21	Number of PCT patent applications divided by GDP in million Euros/Dollars	OECD, Eurostat & World Bank
22	Share of innovating firms collaborating with HEI/PRO out of all innovative firms	Eurostat CIS (own calculations)
23	Business enterprise researchers as % of total researchers	OECD
24	Business enterprise researchers in full-time equivalent per thousand employment in industry	OECD
25	Patents by universities and public research organisations	EPO PATSTAT - Fraunhofer ISI calculations
26	% of scientific publications among the top-10% most cited publications worldwide	EC_Scopus
27	Academic Freedom Index (AFi)	V-Dem Varieties of Democracy
28	Average ranking score of top 10 universities by country and year	QS World University Ranking
29	Sum of ERC grants received by country in a given year per 1,000 R&D personnel (in FTEs)	EC-ERC
30	International co-publications with non-EU partners per 1,000 researchers in the public sector	EC_ScienceMetrix and Eurostat/OECD
31	Share of patents with foreign co-inventors	OECD
32	European and international co-patenting in EPO applications at national and EU level	Eurostat
33	Government budget allocations for R&D (GBARD) according to NABS as % total GBARD	Eurostat

Figure 3.2 Indicators for ERA Priority 2

Indicator number	Indicator	Source
34	Note: The ERA Dashboard Indicator 34 was removed from the Dashboard in January 2025. As a consequence, the indicator has also been omitted from the Country Report, while, however, keeping the original numbering of the indicators.	
35	Environmentally related government R&D budget, as % of total government R&D	Eurostat
36	National public and private investments as suggested in the SET Plan progress report 2021 (EUR million)	SETIS R&I data
37	% Patents on environmental technology	OECD
38	Share of innovative firms cooperating with higher education institutions or public/private research institutions	Eurostat CIS
39	Enterprises that purchased or licensed-in patents or other IPRs from public research organisations, universities or higher education institutions	Eurostat CIS

40	Direct government support and indirect government support through R&D tax incentives as a % GDP	OECD
41	Green bond issuance as a percentage of total bond issuance	Eurostat - EEA
42	Trust in Science	Eurobarometer 95.2
43	Increase in total R&D expenditure in widening countries, expressed as a percentage of GDP	Eurostat, OECD, UNESCO

Figure 3.3 Indicators for ERA Priority 3

Indicator number	Indicator	Source
44	<i>Number of participations in Horizon Europe (of Widening countries) measured in terms of 1,000 R&D personnel (in FTEs)</i>	Cordis - Eurostat
45	<i>Sum of Horizon Europe grants (€) received by Widening countries in terms of 1,000 R&D personnel (in FTEs)</i>	Cordis - Eurostat
46	<i>Summary Innovation Index (Widening countries)</i>	EC_EIS
47	<i>Share of enterprises using public funds from different governance levels (local or regional, national, and EU) for R&I activities</i>	Eurostat CIS
48	<i>Number of Seal of Excellence projects on the InvestEU Portal per 1,000 R&D personnel (in FTEs)</i>	EC - Invest EU
49	<i>Number of collaboration networks of RPOs in Widening countries with other EU countries</i>	Cordis - Horizon Dashboard
50	<i>Average number of partners from non-widening countries per institution from a Widening country participating in the Horizon programme each year</i>	Cordis - Eurostat
51	<i>Share of patents registered by a Widening country together with partners from other EU countries</i>	OECD
52	<i>Share of innovative enterprises that cooperated with RPOs located in other countries</i>	Eurostat CIS
53	<i>Share of public R&D expenditures financed by the private sector</i>	Eurostat

Figure 3.4 Indicators for ERA Priority 4

Indicator number	Indicator	Source
54	<i>GBARD allocated to Europe-wide transnational, as well as bilateral or multilateral, public R&D programmes per FTE researcher</i>	Eurostat

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