

# Basic Research and ERA

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## Why listen to me ?

- CEO UK Research Council: 7 yrs
- EURAB: 6 years : Universities
- President ESF : 3 years
- CERN Council: 7 years.
- Japanese Govt: WPI
- Board: Fermilab, Chicago

# Coordination of Research?

## What does it mean?

- Actual researchers work?
- Funding decisions?
- Peer review?
- Policy: Forward looks?
- Budgets?

To what end?

# To what end?

- Improve European science.
- Increase competition?
- Prevent duplication?
- Improve facilities
- Gain scale effects?
- Increasing Private Investment?
- Improve Universities.
- Increase Societal benefit from research.

# Increase competition?

- Between scientists.
  - Between universities.
  - Between national systems.
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- Joint peer review: open budgets.
  - Joint review: cf UK RAE
  - ERC effect.

# Prevent duplication?

- Is this good or necessary?
- Shared peer review.
- Facilities: Efficiency

This is a political necessity.

# Improve facilities

- ESFRI as wish list?
- Decisions more difficult.
- Need agreed strategy documents.
- Science changes.
- Necessary debate: Small vs Large

Competitive edge

# Gain scale effects?

- Big facilities easier: politics.
- Higher level of competition for all.
- Higher level of peer review.

Absolutely crucial: US  
secret weapon.?

# Increasing Private Investment?

- Will only flow to globally competitive areas
- Scale matters.
- Systems and people must accept both blue sky and application philosophy
- Obama and DOE: Find solutions..

# Improve Universities.

- Competition?
- Autonomy & Finance
- Fragmented science systems.
- UK can afford three world level Universities? Scotland?
- What is the best model for the scientists?

# Increase Societal benefit from Research

- Needs agreement and planning
- Joint programming
- Scale of Resource
- USA: Europe: Japan : China : India
- Competition vs Collaboration

# Do we believe?

- Can we jump from National to European?
- Do we have the institutions?
- Could we build push from scientists?
- Expand Commission/ERC or merge national institutions?
- Do we have the nerve?