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## Success Stories: Impact of Social Sciences & Humanities

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## Success Stories: Impact of Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities

Research from Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (SSH) supports the achievement of policy targets and contributes to the benefit of society and economy in manifold ways.

SSH provides essential knowledge for understanding the world we live in in terms of politics, economy and culture. It helps to shape identities, to understand human diversity and to hold communities together. In many cases, SSH research results shape policy and legislation actions. However, the impact of SSH is often difficult to measure and not as visible as e.g. a technological innovation developed in a research project.

To increase the visibility of this impact, NET4SOCIETY has produced success stories on SSH projects funded under FP7 and FP6 that had a considerable impact – not only on research but also on policy, society or economy – these are:

|   |         |
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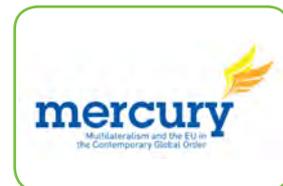
The Success Stories are online at: [www.net4society.eu/public/382.php](http://www.net4society.eu/public/382.php)

The projects are selected on the basis of the visibility of their impact. Another criterion is the active involvement of policy makers and other stakeholders. For identifying the projects, NET4SOCIETY makes use of its SSH NCP network members’ experience and knowledge of FP7 projects and of the EU Commission.



## MERCURY

### Helping the EU understand its past to better shape its future



The European Union aims to find common solutions to common problems by addressing such problems in concert with multiple other countries. How and where this works – and how it could work better – was investigated by the Mercury project.

The researchers working for Mercury (a consortium of nine academic partners from Europe, China and South Africa) investigated how successful the EU was at finding and promoting “multilateral” solutions over the last 10 years. In its minimal definition, multilateralism requires a minimum of three countries working together to find solutions to common issues, such as trade, national security or environmental policies.

Without a multilateral approach, solutions in these areas are hard to find. The researchers of Mercury investigated concrete cases to show where the EU was successful in its multilateral efforts, where it failed, and why.



The MERCURY consortium © MERCURY

#### IMPACT

*Multilateralism helps to meet global societal challenges which cannot be solved at national level. Therefore, Mercury’s research on the application, practicability and optimization of multilateralism makes a significant contribution to the quest for solutions to such societal challenges.*

*The president of the European Union, José Manuel Barroso met with members of Mercury to discuss its results. The Commission noted that Mercury “is likely to have an impact on EU external relations”. Other high-ranking policy makers participated in a joint conference involving Mercury and two other projects on multilateralism (EU-GRASP and EU4Seas) in Brussels as well as in the final Mercury conference in South Africa.*

*Together with EU-GRASP and EU4Seas, Mercury has proposed a joint set of policy recommendations to European policy makers on where and how to better apply the concept of multilateralism. Many other publications, reports and policy briefs are available on the Mercury website ([www.mercury-fp7.net](http://www.mercury-fp7.net)). Many of them are translated into languages other than English (Mandarin and Portuguese, for example) in order to maximize the outreach to policy makers.*



MERCURY closing conference in Pretoria © MERCURY

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Project Name             | Mercury - Multilateralism and the EU in the Contemporary Global Order                    |
| Website                  | <a href="http://www.mercury-fp7.net">www.mercury-fp7.net</a>                             |
| Research Area            | SSH-2007-4.3-02:<br>Multilateralism and the new external relations of the European Union |
| Coordinating Institution | The University of Edinburgh  |
| Number of Partners       | 9  |
| Start Date - End Date    | 01.02.2009 - 30.04.2012  |
| Duration                 | 39 months  |
| Project Cost             | 1.975.910 €  |
| Project Funding          | 1.500.000 €  |
| Contract Type            | Small or medium-scale focused research project   |

### Policy makers show interest

The work of Mercury resulted in recommendations to the European Union on how to become better at finding multilateral solutions.

The results and the recommendations of Mercury have attracted the attention of high-ranking policy-makers, including the President of the European Union, José Manuel Barroso (see "Impact" box on the right).

### Mixed findings

Mercury's results show that although multilateralism is the objective of the EU in its relations with other regions and partners, in practice, partners are sometimes approached bilaterally or even unilaterally. According to Mercury, the success of multilateralism also varies with policy issues.

In trade policies, for example, the EU is successful at finding multilateral solutions while it is less successful when it comes to questions of security. Exactly why this is so and what might be done to increase the effectiveness of multilateral policies is what Mercury identified through several publications, reports and policy briefs, many of them available on its project website ([www.mercury-fp7.net](http://www.mercury-fp7.net)).



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## ENACT

# Citizenship is – or should be – more than a legal status

What does it mean to be a European citizen? It is certainly not the same as being a citizen of the European Union, and it certainly is not only a question of legal status - according to ENACT.



Researchers working for the project ENACT are asking awkward questions on what it means to be a European citizen: Why do third country nationals or stateless persons residing in the EU not count as European citizens although they are well integrated in the social, economic and cultural space of the EU? If groups of Turkish citizens get involved in litigations at the European Court of Justice, make contacts with European officials and politicians, and address campaigns to European officials, politicians and public figures, are they not “acting” as European citizens – even though they are neither citizens nor residents of an EU member state?



Meeting with EU Officer Angela Liberatore © ENACT

## IMPACT

*The project ENACT has a strong focus on EU policy developments. The members of the project argue that European citizenship in its current narrow definition is a missed opportunity to further promote European integration. Many people who by their actions make valid claims to European citizenship are currently excluded instead of being integrated into the European project.*

*Before ENACT, any discussion of European citizenship was dominated by lawyers, who naturally stressed the legal aspect of citizenship. This has changed, thanks to the civil society organization “European Year of Citizens 2013 Alliance”, choosing as its slogan “European citizenship is more than rights!”. The European Commission is now explicitly seeking new research projects to investigate “how citizens claim and enact their rights”.*

*ENACT presented its findings to a number of policy-makers and experts, for example during a workshop in Nijmegen (2011), a workshop in Istanbul (2010) and a policy conference in Brussels (2010), where numerous policy makers and political actors participated. The Council of Europe and the European Commission may well take up the idea that European citizenship is more than “just” citizenship of the EU. This could be the main impact of the project.*



ENACT project members © ENACT

### Living European citizenship

If the project of European integration is to succeed, the researchers argue, the European Union has to accept that European citizenship is not only a question of legal status but of “acts of citizenship” as well: how people and institutions live, or “enact”, European citizenship is (at least) as important as their legal status. Those people who are active citizens in their claims of belonging to Europe should be incorporated into the political and social life of the European Union regardless of their legal citizenship status.

### Challenged notions of citizenship

The project ENACT has investigated groups who challenge traditional notions of European citizenship, for example Roma communities in Germany and Hungary, and Kurds in Turkey. By investigating how their acts succeed in making citizenly claims on the EU, the project shows that the concept of European citizenship should be extended to the wider economic, political and legal frameworks that have developed around the EU.

The members of the project have made their arguments heard at an impressive number of public debates, policy seminars and conferences (see ‘IMPACT’).

### FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Project Name             | ENACT - Enacting European citizenship   |
| Website                  | <a href="http://www.enacting-citizenship.eu">www.enacting-citizenship.eu</a>  |
| Research Area            | Reassessing European Union citizenship, Democratic ‘ownership’ and participation  |
| Coordinating Institution | The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK  |
| Number of Partners       | 6   |
| Start Date - End Date    | 1.1.2008 - 31.1.2011  |
| Duration                 | 36 months   |
| Project Funding          | 1.197.910 €   |
| Funding scheme           | Small or medium-scale focused research project  |
| Activity - FP7           | The citizen in the European Union - Activity 5  |
| Read more                | Policy brief:<br><a href="http://www.enacting-citizenship.eu/index.php/sections/deliverables_item/399/">www.enacting-citizenship.eu/index.php/sections/deliverables_item/399/</a><br>Project deliverables :<br><a href="http://www.enacting-citizenship.eu/index.php/sections/deliverables/cat/reports">www.enacting-citizenship.eu/index.php/sections/deliverables/cat/reports</a> |



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## ENRI-East

### Understanding identity formation of ethnic minorities

**Identities are complex: One can feel simultaneously as a European, a citizen of one's country, a member of a cross-national ethnic group, a citizen of a town etc. ENRI-East investigated how such complex identities are constructed by ethnic minorities in Central and Eastern Europe.**

How identities are constructed does matter especially if they are potentially in conflict: If you are, for example, a Lithuanian living in Russia you might love the region where you live but you may still have some reservations about your "host" country because of the troubled history between Lithuania and Russia. You may also experience discrimination because of your "ethnic origin".

The project ENRI-East investigated how 12 minority groups in Central and Eastern Europe constructed and experienced such "mixed" identities: Russians in Latvia and Lithuania; Belarusians and Ukrainians in Poland; Slovaks in Hungary; Hungarians in Slovakia and Ukraine; Poles in Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania; Belarusians in Lithuania; and Lithuanians in Russia. The project also included a case study in Germany, where the target groups were ethnic Germans and Jewish immigrants from the successor states of the Soviet Union.



ENRI-East meeting © ENRI-East



#### IMPACT

*ENRI-East generated extensive data on ethnic minorities in Europe: 6800 completed questionnaires, 144 biographical interviews, expert interviews with governmental and non-governmental representatives. Results of the ENRI-East project are published as recommendations to NGOs and governments, as summarizing reports on each minority and more detailed analyses.*

*These results and data enable policy makers and NGOs to better understand the lives, attitudes and outlooks of ethnic minorities and, as a consequence, make their efforts to strengthen social cohesion more effective and efficient.*

*A database containing all quantitative, qualitative and expert interviews is being exploited further by members of the project and, three years after the end date of the project, will be made available to third parties royalty-free or to fair and reasonable conditions.*

*Members of ENRI-East presented their results during a workshop in Brussels in September 2011 and February 2012 where European policy makers participated as well as researchers and representatives of European NGOs. During several local workshops the results were widely disseminated.*



ENRI-East Consortium Group © ENRI-East

### The younger people are, the less ethnicity counts

One of the main findings of the project is that younger generations of these ethnic minorities are less concerned about their ethnic origin than older generations. Generally, they feel more attached to their “host” country than to their “country of origin”. Accordingly, ENRI-East recommends to NGOs and European policy makers to concentrate on the young generation (under 30 years of age) in their efforts to promote integration and European values.

### Data for decision-makers

The website of ENRI-East contains a lot of information about the project’s results as well as recommendations to policy makers. These recommendations include:

- Increase targeted support for inter-ethnic initiatives,
- Promote ‘Europeanness’ more by governments, civil societies and the media,
- Invest in student mobility at high school and university level, and,
- Concentrate efforts for integration on the young generation.

This and other information have been actively distributed to both governmental and non-governmental actors, and a database is available for further analysis (see ‘IMPACT’).

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Project Name             | ENRI-East - Interplay of European, national and regional identities: nations between states along the new eastern borders of the European Union   |
| Website                  | <a href="http://www.enri-east.net">www.enri-east.net</a>  |
| Coordinating Institution | Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna  |
| Number of Partners       | 11  |
| Start Date - End Date    | 1.4.2008 - 30.9.2011  |
| Duration                 | 42 months   |
| Project Funding          | 1.500.000 €   |
| Funding scheme           | Collaborative project - small and medium-scale focused research project   |
| Activity - FP7           | The citizen in the European Union - Activity 5  |
| Read more                | Summarizing and generalizing reports, as well as contextual and empirical reports on ethnic minorities in Central and Eastern Europe at: <a href="http://www.enri-east.net/project-results/en">www.enri-east.net/project-results/en</a> |



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## FAMILYPLATFORM

### How to make the lives of Europe's families better

Family life in Europe is changing. However, how exactly is it changing? What difficulties do families encounter; what do they enjoy? How could policy makers help them? These are some of the questions that the project FAMILYPLATFORM addressed: The project collected answers and, even more important, identified where more research is needed.

The first task of FAMILYPLATFORM was to collect "all" current knowledge on family life and family policies in today's Europe: Research results and the knowledge of over 130 stakeholders, who were involved throughout the project. In close collaboration with these stakeholders, FAMILYPLATFORM identified knowledge gaps, anticipated future challenges for families in Europe and, finally, proposed a Research Agenda on Family Wellbeing for Europe.



© FAMILYPLATFORM

#### IMPACT

*The main outcome of the project FAMILYPLATFORM is a research agenda that forms the basis for a call by the European Commission for a large-scale integrated project on "families in transition". The call says that proposers are "advised to take note of this preparatory work when drafting their proposals".*

*The project involved not only over 50 academic experts but over 130 other stakeholders. These stakeholders represented international and European level organizations (e.g. European Commission and Parliament, OECD, ILO, UNICEF), EU state ministries, 19 international and European-level civil society organizations, 30 national grassroots organizations, and researchers from 23 European Member States, plus Switzerland, Norway, the USA and Canada.*

*Through this involvement of stakeholders, by taking stock of existing knowledge on families and by formulating a research agenda on families and family wellbeing in Europe, the project has provided not only the basis for the above-mentioned large-scale research project, but also, as the project members hope, leverage to influence national research agendas.*



© FAMILYPLATFORM

### Easing the “rush-hours of life”

One among several important challenges that the project found will probably not come as a surprise to most families: Reconciliation of family life with other demands, such as care or work responsibilities. This can be particularly difficult in what the researchers call “the rush-hours of life”:

Young people stay in education for long periods, so that the time for starting a career and having children often coincide. This makes it difficult to manage the many demands that young families face, prompting some young people to have fewer children – or none at all. The researchers and the stakeholders involved argue that more information is needed on how to best help young people to manage such “rush hours of life”, so that they can freely choose to have the size of family they want.

### Where more research is needed

Having taken into account existing research and the concerns of the stakeholders involved, the researchers argue that more research is needed in the following areas in order to help policy makers to support families:

- Care, e.g. financial support for family or external care;
- Life course and transitions, e.g. how to make the transition to parenthood easier;
- Everyday family management and the empowerment of families, e.g. how to help men and women to equally participate in and cope with family life;
- Spatial mobility, e.g. how schooling, housing and employment can take into account increased work-related demands on mobility;
- Inequalities and insecurities, e.g. how to combat poverty in families;
- Family policies, e.g. assess the impact of all new policies on families.

This research agenda was the basis for the European Commission’s 2012 call for a large-scale collaborative research project on “Families in Transition” (see ‘IMPACT’).

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Project Name             | FAMILYPLATFORM - Social platform on research for families and family policies   |
| Website                  | www.familyplatform.eu<br>archived on: web.archive.org   |
| Coordinating Institution | Technische Universität Dortmund   |
| Number of Partners       | 12  |
| Start Date – End Date    | 1.10.2009 – 31.3.2011   |
| Duration                 | 18 months   |
| Project Funding          | 1.398.827 €   |
| Funding scheme           | Coordination and support action (Support action)  |
| Activity - FP7           | Major trends in society and their implications - Activity 3   |
| Read more                | Book “Wellbeing of Families in Future Europe – Challenges for Research and Policy” and “Research Agenda on Families and Family Wellbeing for Europe” and other publications: <a href="https://eldorado.tu-dortmund.de/handle/2003/27684">https://eldorado.tu-dortmund.de/handle/2003/27684</a><br>Policy brief “Family wellbeing – A challenge for policy and research” (2011): <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/familyplatform-policy-brief-june-2011_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/familyplatform-policy-brief-june-2011_en.pdf</a> |



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## INCLUD-ED

### Making the most of Europe's talents

How can schools reduce school failure and maximize school success – not only if their pupils belong to a privileged class but also if they belong to minority groups, non academic families or have disabilities? The project INCLUD-ED generated some answers.

INCLUD-ED identified educational actions that enhance social cohesion by making sure (as far as possible) that no one is “left behind” at school. This is important not only because inclusion is the key to stability and welfare, but also because every child who cannot fully realize their potential constitutes a wasted talent. Wasting such talents can be avoided, according to the project's findings, mainly through: “inclusion” in the classroom and family participation at school.



© INCLUD-ED



#### IMPACT

*INCLUD-ED has identified educational actions that promote school success, reduce the risk of school failure and increase social integration in schools. By doing so, they promote social cohesion and ultimately reduce poverty and strengthen the economy by making the most of Europe's talents. These actions can be transferred to all schools and do not need additional resources but “only” a re-organisation of already existing teaching and community resources.*

*The fact that INCLUD-ED has identified and published these actions has led to the development of policies that aim to have them implemented in schools (see 'FACTS & FIGURES'). The identified successful educational actions were also implemented in schools in disadvantaged and multicultural areas. In these areas, the proportion of pupils achieving basic reading skills rose from 15 to 85 %. The INCLUD-ED actions have been widely implemented throughout Spain.*



© INCLUD-ED

### Inclusion instead of separation

INCLUD-ED emphasizes that “tracking” and “streaming” increase school failure: “Tracking” means that pupils are separated into different schools depending on their ability – often involving a separation between academic and vocational tracks. “Streaming” is similar in that pupils are separated depending on their ability, i.e. at class level, with remedial groups and segregated support outside the classroom, an exclusionary individualised curriculum, and exclusionary choice. This time, this happens within the school. In many cases, this involves additional resources being spent on those pupils who are separated because they need special attention.

The practice of “inclusion”, on the other hand, increases school success: several adults (teachers and volunteers) attend all the pupils together, no matter their ability level. This means that the resources previously used for separate streams and tracks are reallocated to this new classroom organization.

### Involvement of families is beneficial

INCLUD-ED reveals that involving families and communities in a particular way in schools – i.e. attending family education, entering the classroom, deciding on core issues, evaluating the students or the school progress – increases the pupils’ performance. This appears to be especially beneficial for minority groups and pupils with learning disabilities.

The actions identified by INCLUD-ED have been put into practice, for example, in Catalunya where they have been so successful that they are now being applied throughout Spain (see ‘IMPACT’).

INCLUD-ED published its conclusions based upon a review of studies on successful educational practices and a comparison of school systems and school reforms in 26 EU member states with their educational outcomes.

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Project Name             | INCLUD-ED - Strategies for inclusion and social cohesion in Europe from education  |
| Website                  | <a href="http://creaub.info/included">http://creaub.info/included</a>  |
| Coordinating Institution | Universitat de Barcelona   |
| Number of Partners       | 16   |
| Start Date – End Date    | 1.11.2006 – 31.12.2011   |
| Duration                 | 62 months  |
| Project Funding          | 3.361.503 €  |
| Funding scheme           | Integrated project   |
| Activity - FP6           | Options and choices for the development of a knowledge-based society - Research Area 2, Priority 7   |
| Read more                | Policy brief: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/includ-ed-policy-brief_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/includ-ed-policy-brief_en.pdf</a><br>The “Collection of Monographs” contains a collation of the most effective educational practices - each publication corresponds to a different educational level:<br><a href="http://www.ub.edu/includ-ed/results.htm">http://www.ub.edu/includ-ed/results.htm</a><br>INCLUD-ED video (in Catalan/French):<br><a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrvvYZcyJ5w">www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrvvYZcyJ5w</a> |



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## INNODRIVE

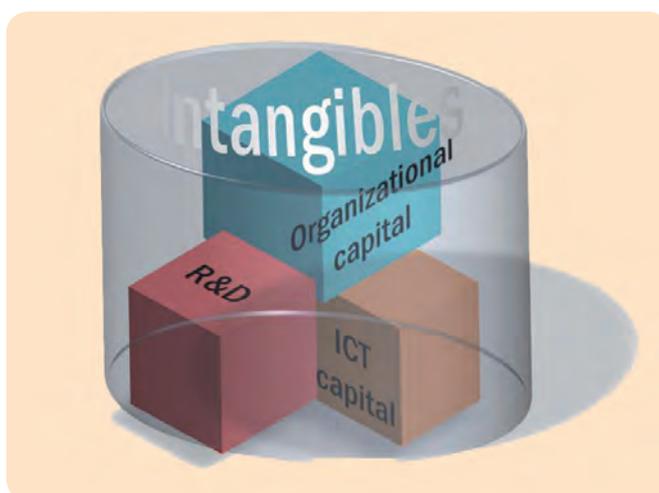
### Revealing underestimated drivers for innovation and well-being

A well-known brand can ask its consumers to pay higher prices “just” because the brand has high brand affinity. However, such “intangible” parts of the value of an enterprise and of the economy of a whole country are not considered in usual calculations of economic growth. The project INNODRIVE shows why this is wrong.



Values like managerial competencies that increase productivity, a highly trained and competitive workforce, a well-established brand or the ability to develop innovative products is not part of the standard measurement of economic growth. Partly this is because these values are hard to measure – this is why they are called “intangibles”.

However, according to INNODRIVE’s results, such intangibles play an important role as a source of sustainable growth and better living standards. Where intangible capital is accumulated, labour productivity (a measure of living standards) also increases.



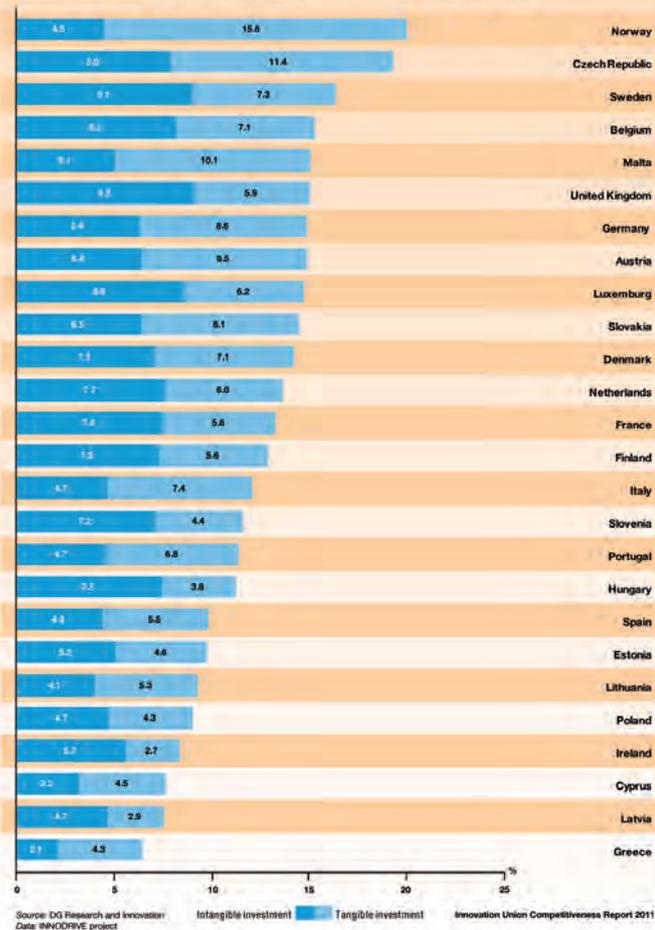
© INNODRIVE

#### IMPACT

INNODRIVE was one of the projects informing European policy-makers (during a seminar in 2010) about research results that were relevant for the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy. The research results were also included in the Innovation Union Competitiveness Report 2011. This report acknowledges that innovation is more than investment in research and development (R&D). It points out that some countries that are not particularly R&D-intensive rank very high on a broader measure of innovation intensity. For example, while investment in R&D accounts for only around 1 % of GDP in Belgium, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands, these countries reach much higher values on a broader measure of innovation intensity (Belgium 8.3 %; Czech Republic 8 %; Netherlands 7.7 %). By making visible such different innovation models across countries, the findings of INNODRIVE are arguably influencing the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy. Other projects, like the European research project COINVEST and the Conference Board in the US, collaborated with the INNODRIVE team to further measure the value of intangibles. By collecting comparable data on intangibles over the 27 EU member states between 1995 and 2005, INNODRIVE has also closed a gap in data that can be used by both policy-makers for research-based decisions and by future research projects.



FIGURE I.5.5 Intangible and tangible investment as % of GDP, 2005



© European Commission: Innovation Union Competitiveness report 2011, page 114

The figure shows the relative importance of intangibles in overall investment, which can be seen as an indication of the degree of transition towards a knowledge economy in 2005.

### Intangibles are significant

INNODRIVE estimated that the GDP of the EU27 countries would be 5.5 % higher if intangible investments were included. If intangibles form such an important part of the economy, the researchers argue, they should be included in the GDP calculation and be carefully managed and exploited by policy-makers.

### Important for European policies

In order to facilitate research-based policy-making, the INNODRIVE team collected indicators for intangibles for the 27 EU member states and Norway between 1995 and 2005 and made them publicly available on the project website. Research results have arguably influenced the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy and were further developed by other research projects (see "IMPACT").

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Project Name             | INNODRIVE - Intangible capital and innovations: drivers of growth and location in the EU  |
| Website                  | <a href="http://www.innodrive.org">www.innodrive.org</a>  |
| Research Area            | SSH-2007-1.1-02: Intangible investments and innovation in Europe  |
| Coordinating Institution | University of Vaasa, Finland  |
| Number of Partners       | 9   |
| Start Date - End Date    | 1.3.2008 - 28.2.2011  |
| Duration                 | 36 months   |
| Project Funding          | 1.496.523€  |
| Funding scheme           | Collaborative project (small and medium scale focused research project)   |
| Activity - FP7           | Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society - Activity 1  |
| Read more                | Policy Brief: <a href="http://www.innodrive.org/attachments/File/INNODRIVE_policy%20brief_february_2011_02_20_final.pdf">www.innodrive.org/ attachments/File /INNODRIVE_policy%20brief_february_2011_02_20_final.pdf</a><br>More publications: <a href="http://www.innodrive.org/publications.php">www.innodrive.org/publications.php</a> |
| Get data                 | INNODRIVE Intangibles Database, May 2011: <a href="http://www.innodrive.org">www.innodrive.org</a>  |



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## PRIV-WAR

### Regulations for private military and security companies

Military and security services are increasingly “outsourced”: Private corporations do what the military and the police used to do. However, are such services legal – and should they be? Who is monitoring such corporations and to whom are they accountable? The PRIV-WAR project investigated such questions and made policy recommendations to the European Commission.

Researchers found that if private corporations provide defense and military services, this risks the violation of human rights and international humanitarian law. One of the best-known examples of this is the Nisour Square incident, where 17 civilians were killed by employees of the US security company “Blackwater” in Iraq in 2007. However, at the same time, the human rights and humanitarian laws need to protect the lives and security of the contractors.

This is one reason why the project PRIV-WAR urged European policy makers to regulate the activities of private military and security companies in a consistent way all over Europe. So far, legislation is diverse among member states.



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#### IMPACT

*On 11 May, the European Parliament adopted resolution 2010/2299 (INI) which says, among other things, that the European Parliament “considers that the adoption of EU regulatory measures, including a comprehensive normative system for the establishment, registration, licensing, monitoring and reporting on violations of applicable law by private military and security (PMS) companies [...] is necessary”. This resolution draws on the results of PRIV-WAR and its recommendations that were presented during the project’s final conference in Brussels in April 2011.*

*The researchers hope that European regulation will also have an impact on states outside of the EU, “particularly if the regulation of PMSCs [private military and security companies] is included in the political dialogue with third states”, as they write in their recommendations.*

*The PRIV-WAR Project has also contributed to the expansion of knowledge on the subject by the publication of several articles, Working Papers, and two books (see ‘FACTS & FIGURES’).*



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### “Laissez-faire” for questions of life and death?

When researchers investigated legislation regarding private military and security companies in EU member states, they found significant differences: While some states prohibit such companies, others have specific regulatory regimes while still others adopt a system of “laissez-faire”.

The current situation not only means that companies might move to a country with the most lenient legislation. It also means that the principle of free movement of services is violated because such companies cannot offer their services equitably across Europe. Furthermore, they may face conflicting requirements in relation to the pursuit of EU policies, such as the fight against piracy.

### Regulation needed at European level

The PRIV-WAR project is convinced that regulation at European level is necessary in order to ensure better compliance with human rights and international humanitarian law. The project proposed two options for the regulation of Private Military and Security (PMS) services and two for the export of PMS services abroad, to cover both legally binding and non-legally binding scenarios.

More specifically, PRIV-WAR concluded that the member states of the EU should not outsource tasks to private military and security companies if they amount to a direct participation in hostilities. Member states should prohibit the registration or licensing of companies that directly participate in hostilities.

The European Parliament has adopted a resolution that calls on the Council and the EU Commission to initiate regulatory measures in the field of private military and security companies. This regulation is based on the work of the project PRIV-WAR (see “IMPACT”).

## FACTS & FIGURES

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Project Name             | PRIV-WAR (Regulating privatisation of ‘war’: the role of the EU in assuring compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights)  |
| Website                  | <a href="http://www.priv-war.eu">www.priv-war.eu</a><br>(archived on <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20120322010043/http://priv-war.eu">web.archive.org/web/20120322010043/http://priv-war.eu</a> )   |
| Coordinating Institution | European University Institute, Italy  |
| Number of Partners       | 7   |
| Start Date – End Date    | 1.1.2008 – 30.6.2011  |
| Duration                 | 42 months   |
| Project Funding          | 1.138.682 €   |
| Activity - FP7           | Europe in the word - Activity 4   |
| Funding scheme           | Collaborative project   |
| Read more                | PRIV-WAR recommendations for EU regulatory Action<br><a href="http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/priv-war-recommendations_en.pdf">www.ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/priv-war-recommendations_en.pdf</a><br>F. Francioni & N. Ronzitti (eds), War by Contract: Human Rights, Humanitarian Law, and Private Contractors (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2011)<br>C. Bakker & M. Sossai (eds), Multilevel Regulation of Military and Security Contractors: The Interplay between International, European and Domestic Norms (Oxford, Hart, 2012) |



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# Deliverable



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