



TIGRE Stakeholder Forum Meeting

Policy context Horizon research on trust

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Why focus on 'trust'?



Trust in democracy & democratic systems



impact on governance, electoral turnout, adherence to policies, vision of citizenship etc...



Trust in experts



evidence-informed policymaking, adherence to rules (COVID)...

Some questions we would like answered



- What can the Commission do to foster trust in European policies ?
- How can trust be enhanced? Are participatory practices effective? (COFE, citizens assemblies...)
- What factors induce distrust? How does it spread?
- When does distrust become a game changer ?
- What are possible criteria, indicators and early warning mechanisms for detecting weak signals of decreasing trust?

Policy context – EDAP (2020)



Media Freedom Act: foster trust in the media

Adopted 16 September 2022

Novel set of rules to protect media pluralism and independence in the EU

Includes (among others):

- safeguards against **political interference** in editorial decisions and against **surveillance**
- focus on **independence and stable funding** of public service media
- focus on **transparency** of media ownership and of the allocation of state advertising.
- measures to protect **independence** of editors and disclose conflicts of interest
- addresses the issue of **media concentrations**
- creates new independent **European Board for Media Services**, comprised of national media authorities



Defense of Democracy Package



“We should not lose sight of the way foreign autocrats are targeting our own countries.

Foreign entities are funding institutes that undermine our values.

Their disinformation is spreading from the internet to the halls of our universities. (...)

We need to better shield ourselves from malign interference.

This is why we will present a Defence of Democracy package.

It will bring covert foreign influence and shady funding to light.

We will not allow any autocracy's Trojan horses to attack our democracies from within.”

- SOTEU 2022

Science4Policy

Aim = to build capacity for evidence-informed policymaking in governance and public administration

- Ensure that decision-makers have **access** to the best available science **when they need it, in a format they can use**, and which is trusted by citizens
- make **connections and reinforce trust** between scientists, policymakers, stakeholders, and the general public
- **Trust in policies comes with trust in governments**, and for that, both need to **demonstrate their trustworthiness** to citizens by producing well-informed, effective and coherent policies.

See [Commission Staff Working Document \(SWD\)](#) on “Supporting and connecting policymaking in the Member States with scientific research” (10/2022) – to which you contributed! 😊

Supporting and connecting
policymaking in the Member States
with **scientific research**

#Science4Policy

European Commission

What we expect



- **Actionable** recommendations
- **Concise** and **actionable** policy briefs
- Thresholds, criteria, indicators, early warning mechanisms for detecting **weaks signals of decreasing trust**
- Scenarios on consequences of (further) decreasing trust



Thank you

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