



CENTRE FOR
FERTILITY AND HEALTH

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EVALMEDHELSE

Comments to the national report

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Norwegian
Centre of
Excellence



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN



Norwegian Institute of Public Health

Health research in the institute sector

National research institutes in the EVALMEDHELSE evaluation:

- NIPH (Norwegian Institute of Public Health)
- STAMI (The National Institute of Occupational Health in Norway)
- NORCE (Norwegian Research Centre AS)



EVALMEDHELSE Evaluation - Quality

The quality of research and publications, as evaluated by the 18 expert panels, was on average high...

... with the highest scores in the institute sector, closely followed by the health trusts and the higher education institutions.

The institute sector

- Research in close connection with
 - Surveillance
 - Emerging disease trends
 - Prevention
 - Preparedness
 - Public health

“This requires them to be updated, monitor, analyse and report on all the areas under their umbrella.”

Health research in the institute sector

- Same overall aims as other research institutions
 - Important research for the public good
 - Finding causes
 - Prevent diseases
 - Improve treatment
 - Improve public health
 - Disseminate results
 - Participate in the scientific community
 - Foster careers
 - Attract and keep competent researchers
- Compete for funding

National report - findings

- *...only a few administrative units collaborate in EU projects, and even fewer are leading EU projects.*
- *For a majority of admin units, the amount of international funding including EU funding is low.*
- *Norwegian researchers should also have the ambition to lead more of these international projects.*

Recommendations from the evaluation committee

...there are opportunities to reach top level across a broader part of the system and for increasing societal impact.

Aim: High quality, competitive research

- Excellent data
 - Excellent researchers
 - International engagement
 - Collaborations - mobility
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- Novel ideas, novel use of data

ERC at a glance



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

The ERC, set up by the European Union in 2007, is the premier European funding organisation for excellent frontier research.

It funds creative researchers of any nationality and age, to run projects based across Europe

Our mission

The ERC's mission is to encourage the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding and to **support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields**, based on scientific excellence.

Maria Leptin



Maria Leptin

ERC President

The Importance of Frontier Research

24 October 2022

ERC President Professor Maria Leptin's speech at European Academy of Sciences ceremony

Maria Leptin



Maria Leptin

ERC President

The ERC provides substantial, long-term funding ...

The only conditions are that ERC funded researchers must be based in Europe and **willing to be adventurous and to take risks in their research.**

We do not ask our researchers to tell us what societal problem they are going to solve or what impact it will have.

Our belief is that, without understanding there can be no real solution to problems.

So we are absolutely not saying we don't care if the work that we fund has any impact. **We are saying that giving freedom to researchers is the best way to get the most impact.**



Maria Leptin

ERC President

Recommendations - comments

This report refutes the view that you have to tell researchers what to do because otherwise they'll never get down to practical matters and urgent problems.

Nothing is further from the truth!

So my message to all research policy makers is:

trust researchers and give them the means to pursue their best ideas!

That's the best investment in our future.

Increase the competitiveness of Norwegian medical and health research by focusing research on goal-oriented programmes across administrative units and organisations and connecting these to international state of the art.

Reward research groups/researchers that participate in international programmes,
e.g. award national bonuses for successful applications in Horizon and/or develop a mechanism for compensation for highly ranked (but not funded) ERC applications.

Obtain more competitive international funding.

Be more ambitious, make resources available for application support for Horizon and ERC, also as a consortium leader..

FORSKNINGSMIDLER

Norsk braksuksess i ERC-tildeling, disse får millioner

Forskere ved Universitetet i Oslo, NTNU, UiT - Norges arktiske universitet og Norce får millioner i «tidenes norske ERC-resultat».

Comment

- Support ambitious researchers
- Support mobility
- Support ERC applications and initiatives
- Support research infrastructure, use and sharing of data
- Support open access

Thank you