NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE

Comparative, European and International Perspectives

Jan Wouters
Katrien Meuwissen
(eds.)

Cambridge – Antwerp – Portland
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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COST: EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COST – the acronym for European Cooperation in Science and Technology – is the oldest and widest European intergovernmental network for cooperation in research. Established by the Ministerial Conference in November 1971, COST is presently used by the scientific communities of 36 European countries to cooperate in common research projects supported by national funds. The funds provided by COST – less than 1% of the total value of the projects – support the COST cooperation networks (COST Actions) through which, with EUR 30 million per year, more than 30,000 European scientists are involved in research having a total value which exceeds EUR 2 billion per year. This is the financial worth of the European added value which COST achieves.

A “bottom up approach” (the initiative of launching a COST Action comes from the European scientists themselves), “à la carte participation” (only countries interested in the Action participate), “equality of access” (participation is open also to the scientific communities of countries not belonging to the European Union) and “flexible structure” (easy implementation and light management of the research initiatives) are the main characteristics of COST.

As precursor of advanced multidisciplinary research COST has a very important role for the realisation of the European Research Area (ERA) anticipating and complementing the activities of the Framework Programmes, constituting a “bridge” towards the scientific of emerging countries, increasing the mobility of researchers across Europe and fostering the establishment of “Networks of Excellence” in many key scientific domains such as: Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences; Food and Agriculture; Forests, their Products and Services; Materials, Physical and Nanosciences; Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies; Earth System Science and Environmental Management; Information and Communication Technologies; Transport and Urban Development; Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health. It covers basic and more applied research and also addresses issues of pre-normative nature or of societal importance.

Web: http://www.cost.eu
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<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>African, Caribbean and Pacific countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>APF</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>APT</td>
<td>Association for the Prevention against Torture</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAT</td>
<td>Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDDH</td>
<td>Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>CERD</td>
<td>Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEOOR</td>
<td>Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism (Belgium)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>United Nations Commission on Human Rights</td>
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<td>COSP</td>
<td>Conference of State Parties</td>
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<td>COST</td>
<td>European Cooperation in Science and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPT</td>
<td>European Committee on the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
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<td>CRE</td>
<td>Commission for Racial Equality (United Kingdom)</td>
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<td>CRPD</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<td>CSOs</td>
<td>Civil society organisations</td>
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<td>CSP</td>
<td>Country strategy paper</td>
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<td>CSW</td>
<td>Commission on the Status of Women</td>
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<td>DIHR</td>
<td>Danish Institute for Human Rights</td>
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<td>DRC</td>
<td>Disability Rights Commission (United Kingdom)</td>
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<td>DROI</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Human Rights of the European Parliament</td>
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<td>DPA</td>
<td>Data Protection Authority</td>
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<td>EaP</td>
<td>Eastern Partnership</td>
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<td>ECOSOC</td>
<td>United Nations Economic and Social Council</td>
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<td>ECHR</td>
<td>European Convention on Human Rights</td>
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<td>ECtHR</td>
<td>European Court of Human Rights</td>
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<td>ECJ</td>
<td>European Court of Justice</td>
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<td>ECRI</td>
<td>European Commission against Racism and Intolerance</td>
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<td>EDF</td>
<td>European Development Fund</td>
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<td>EDPS</td>
<td>European Data Protection Supervisor</td>
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<td>EEOC</td>
<td>Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (United States of America)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EHRC</td>
<td>Equality and Human Rights Commission (United Kingdom)</td>
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<td>EIDHR</td>
<td>European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights</td>
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<td>EIGE</td>
<td>European Institute for Gender Equality</td>
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<td>ENOC</td>
<td>European Network of Ombudsperson for Children</td>
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<td>EOC</td>
<td>Equal Opportunities Commission (United Kingdom)</td>
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<td>EQUINET</td>
<td>European Network for Equality Bodies</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>FRA</td>
<td>European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights</td>
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<td>HRC</td>
<td>United Nations Human Rights Council</td>
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<td>HCHR</td>
<td>United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
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<td>IA</td>
<td>Impact Assessment</td>
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<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions</td>
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<td>ICC SCA</td>
<td>International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions Sub-Committee on Accreditation</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICCPR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
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<td>ICED</td>
<td>International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance</td>
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<td>International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination</td>
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<td>ICESCR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
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<td>ICM</td>
<td>Inter-Committee Meeting of United Nations treaty body representatives</td>
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<td>ICMW</td>
<td>International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families</td>
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<td>IHRC</td>
<td>Irish Human Rights Commission</td>
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<td>IOI</td>
<td>International Ombudsman Institute</td>
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<td>LGBT</td>
<td>lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender</td>
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<td>NEB</td>
<td>national equality body</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>non-governmental organisation</td>
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<td>NHRI</td>
<td>national human rights institution</td>
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<td>NHRS</td>
<td>national human rights structure</td>
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<td>NIHR</td>
<td>Netherlands Institute for Human Rights</td>
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<td>NIRMS</td>
<td>National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
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<td>NJCM</td>
<td>Nederlands Juristen Comité voor Mensenrechten [Section of the International Commission of Jurists in the Netherlands]</td>
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<td>NPM</td>
<td>national preventive mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</td>
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<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights</td>
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<td>OPCAT</td>
<td>Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</td>
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<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe</td>
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<td>OSCE ODIHR</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights</td>
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<td>RCT</td>
<td>Research Centre for Torture Victims (Denmark)</td>
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<td>TAIEX</td>
<td>Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (European Commission)</td>
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<td>United Nations Commission on Human Rights</td>
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<td>UN HRC</td>
<td>United Nations Human Rights Council</td>
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<td>UPR</td>
<td>universal periodic review</td>
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