

The European Commission's science and knowledge service



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation



Joint Research Centre

“Reconnecting innovators! The Power of compatriots abroad for domestic innovation ecosystems”

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JRC B.3 Territorial Development

<https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



Smart Specialisation and Cohesion Policy

REGULATION (EU) 1303/2013

Applies to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

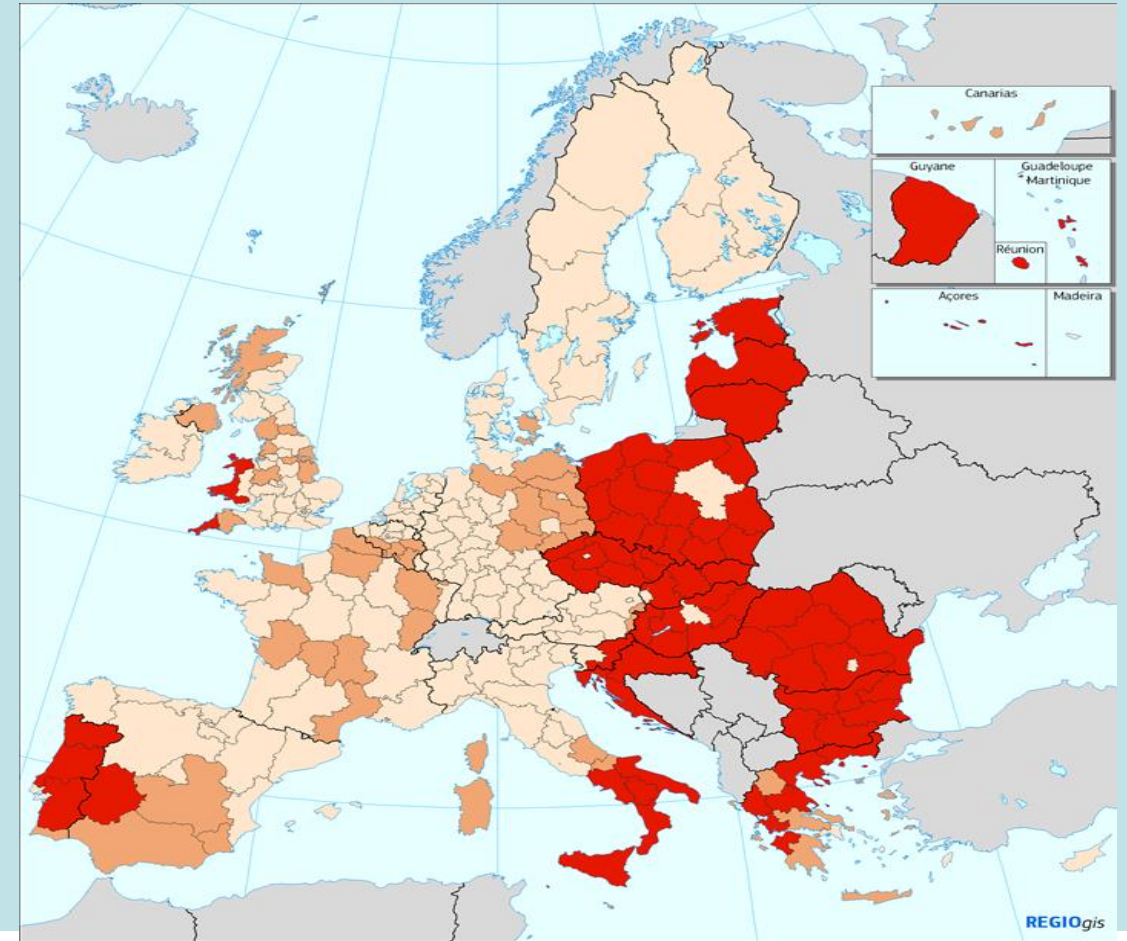
Ex-ante conditionality: RIS3 need to be in place before receiving the financial support of the European Regional Development Fund on research and innovation

A national or regional RIS3:

- is based on a SWOT or similar analysis to concentrate resources on a limited set of research and innovation priorities
- outlines measures to stimulate private RTD investment
- contains a monitoring mechanism

Eligibility map 2014-20

- Less developed region (GDP/head: less than 75%)
- Transition regions (GDP/head between 75% and 90%)
- More developed region (GDP/head: more than 90%)



Smart Specialisation Platform



Created in 2011 to provide **science-based advice** to EU national and regional policy-makers for the establishment and implementation of their **Research & Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3)**, **174 EU and 15 Non-EU regions registered**.

Making **better use of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)** and thus contribute to the Europe goals of a smarter, greener and more inclusive European economy.

Promote Transnational learning, Interregional collaboration & partnerships via:

Supporting tools: Regional priorities (Eye@RIS3), Regional Benchmarking, ICT Monitoring, Digital Innovation Hubs...

Guidance: RIS3 Guide, Implementation Handbook, Digital Agenda Toolbox, Good Practice Examples, FAQs...

Analysis: Conceptual and empirical developments, Policy Briefs, Peer Reviews, Working Papers...

2017 JRC Award for excellence

2017 European Public Sector Award (EPSA) best practice recognition



#S3Worldwide



Smart Specialisation **Worldwide**

Current EU contribution

- Latin America
 - Australia
 - Subsaharan Africa
- Tunisia
 - Serbia
 - Moldova
 - Ukraine

S3 beyond the EU



Countries/regions of interest

- United States
- Canada
- South Korea
- China
- Japan
- South Africa



#S3Worldwide

Science and Innovation Diasporas

Science and innovation actors with migration background and connected to a diaspora network

Relevant Actors
of the knowledge-based
economy

Place-based knowledge
host country / region of
origin

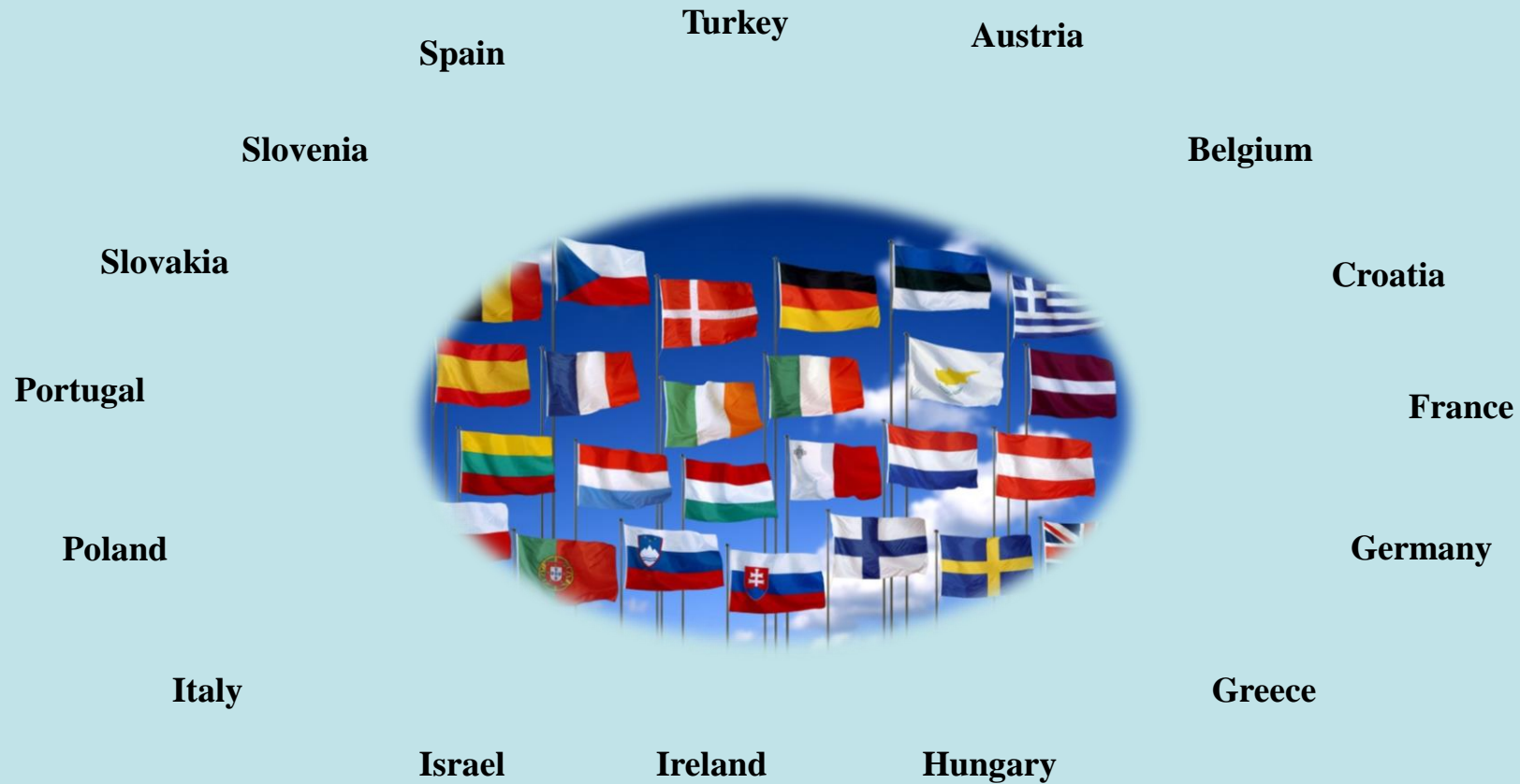
S&I Ambassadors
of their countries/regions

Relevant Actors
of Science Diplomacy

Transregional,
-national and –continental
actors

Interest in their
countries/regions of
origin

16 European countries have formed diasporas



The Netherlands

Country	Scientific Diasporas	Membership
AUSTRIA	Austrian scientists and scholars in the USA, Canada and Mexico (ASCINA)	1302
	Research and Innovation Network Austria (RINA)	3035
BELGIUM	Belgian American Network (BAN)	96
	Belgian Business Network North America (BBNNA)	226
CROATIA	Association of Croatian American Professionals (ACAP)	600
FRANCE	France at NIH (fr@nih)	105
	Networking Event in Science and Technology (NEST)	350
GERMANY	German Academic International Network (GAIN)	6000
GREECE	Hellenic Bioscientific Association in the USA (HBA-USA)	500
HUNGARY	New York Hungarian Scientific Society (NYHSS)	480
	Neumann Society	333

Country	Scientific Diasporas	Membership
IRELAND	Wild Geese Network of Irish Scientists (WGNIS)	644
ISRAEL	ScienceAbroad, the organization of Israeli scientists abroad	1400
ITALY	Italian Scientists and Scholars of North America (ISSNAF)	3893
POLAND	Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (PIASA)	910
PORTUGAL	Portuguese-American Postgraduate Society (PAPS)	2000
SLOVAKIA	Virtual Slovak Incubator (VISIoN)	167
SLOVENIA	American Slovenian Education Foundation (ASEF)	1269
	Association of Slovenes Educated Abroad (ASEA)	35
SPAIN	Spanish Scientists in the USA (ECUSA)	900
TURKEY	Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA)	4900

16 countries = 20 networks

TOTAL: approx. 30,000 European scientists

- ✓ **Structure:** 12 Non-profit organizations
- ✓ **Presence:** 10 North America, 12 (also) Europe
- ✓ **Mentoring program:** 5 (ASCINA, HBA-USA, ISSNAF, PAPS & ECUSA)

National Science Foundation (NSF):
approximately 100,000 European-born researchers in the USA.

Examples: Spain, Italy & Ireland



Members: 900

Gender: 51% Female,
49% Male

Country of residence:
89% US, 10% Spain

Career stage: 42%
postdocs, 16% associate
prof, 4% full prof, 37%
other

Research field: 42%
biology/natural sciences,
21% medicine, 12%
engineering, 8% ICT



Members: 3,893

Gender: 63% Male, 37%
Female

Country of residence:
USA, Canada, Europe

Career stage: 8% MA, 6%
PhD Candidates, 51%
PhD, 28% prof

Research field: 47%
medicine/biology, 15%
humanities, 13%
engineering & ICT, 11%
physics/chemistry/math



Members: 644

Country of residence:
55% US, 40% Ireland, 2%
Canada, 3% Other

Career stage: 40%
postdocs/graduate students,
35% mid-career, 25%
senior

Research field: 40% life
sciences/health, 20%
environmental sciences,
20% physics/chemistry

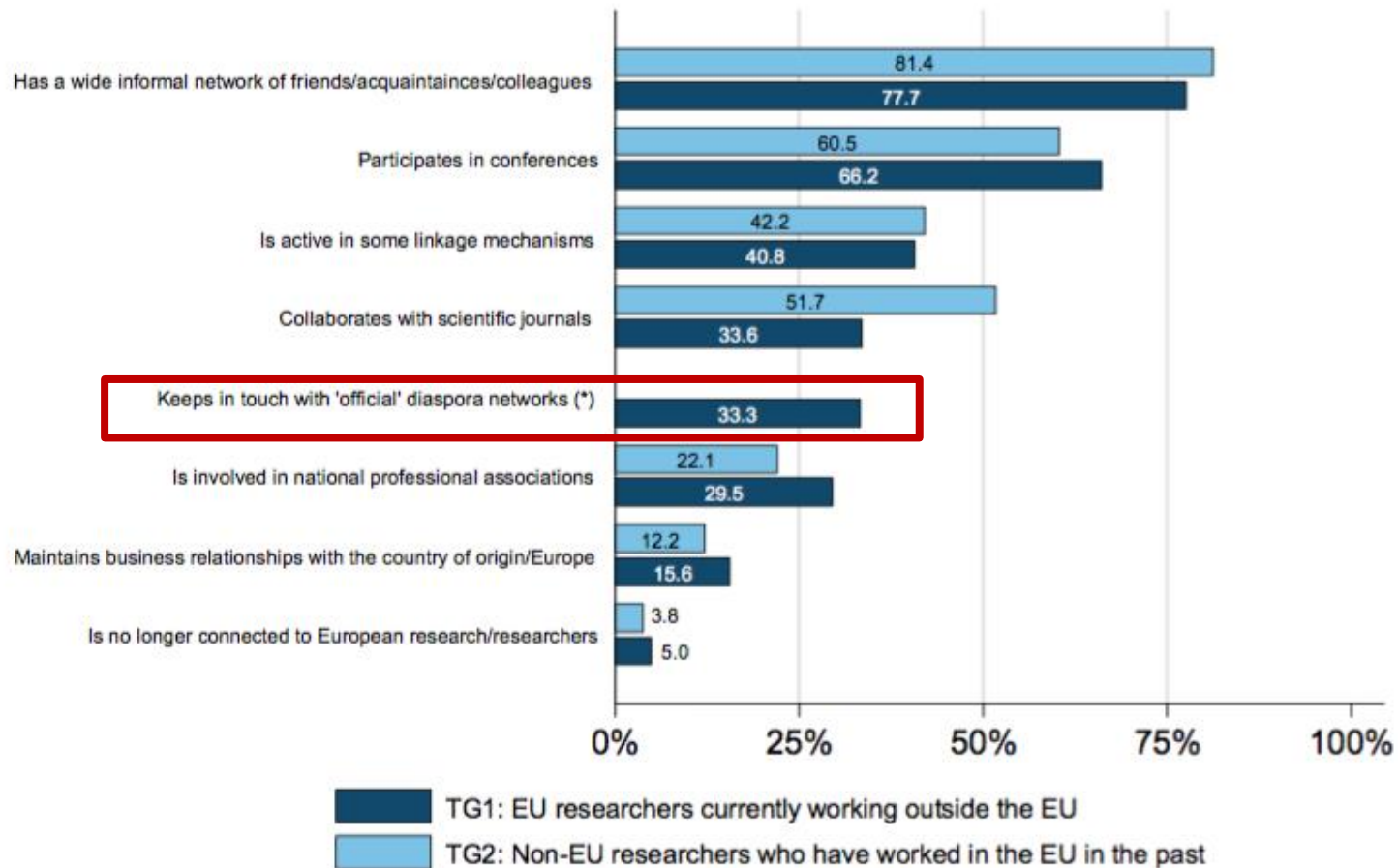


Staying connected to Europe



European Commission – MORE3 Fourth Interim Report
Global survey results

Figure 55: Network with Europe



Opportunities for strategic networking in Research, Technology and Innovation between Austria and North America

OSTA Exploratory Study



- Office of Science and Technology Austria (**OSTA**) is Austria's main public instrument for **Science Diplomacy**
- Research and Innovation Network Austria (**RINA**) and Austrian Scientists and Scholars in North America (**ASCINA**) association, the largest Austrian science and innovation diaspora network beyond Europe.
- The research, technology and innovation (RTI) strategy of the federal government “**Becoming an Innovation Leader**” core document for **Smart Specialisation** in Austria
- Complementary document “**Beyond Europe**”: Internationalisation
- Increasing demand has been identified within the **RINA to (re-)connect** the **Austrian** research and innovation **diaspora** with **Austria** and **Europe**
- OSTA launched a study to **explore this demand** on both sides of the Atlantic and to study possible activities

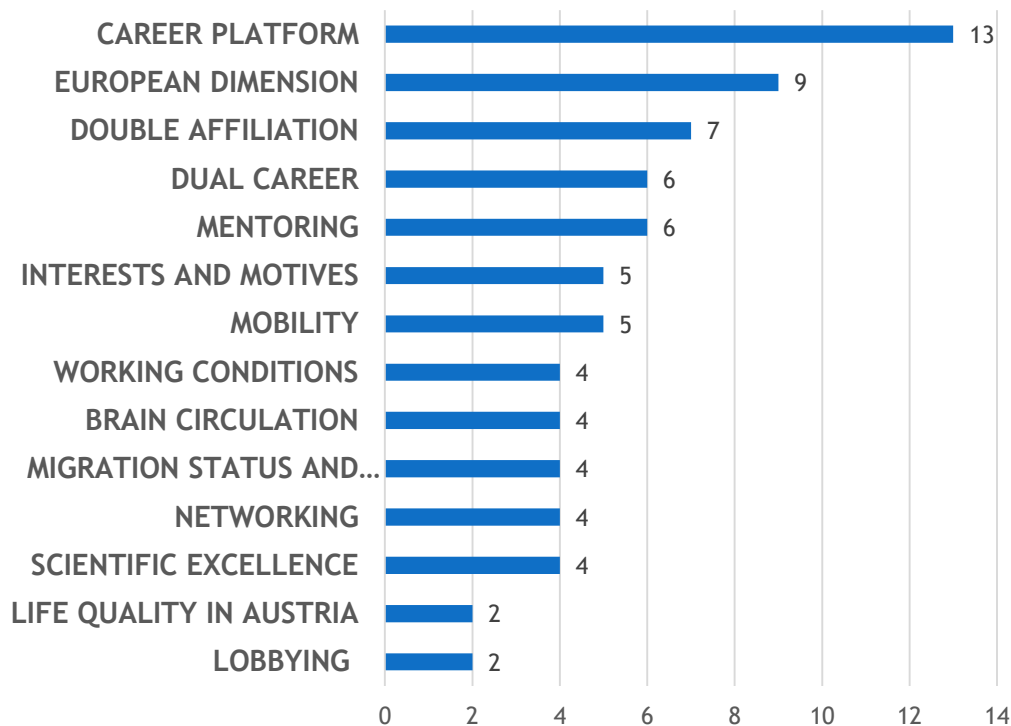
Methodology

- **Exploratory character** of the study, since there was **no specific data available** on the target population
- To achieve a **systematisation** of the contents, **semi-structured interviews** were carried out with **27 top leading, Europe- and US-based experts** with origins from Austria, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain and Turkey, as well as EU representatives in North America.
- Based on the results of these interviews an **online survey** was developed and pre-tested with **30 RINA members** in North America, as part of the target population.
- Currently the **online survey** is applied in the whole RINA Network
- The survey was designed to get personal and professional background information and to explore **specific interests** related to the **career development** of the target population.

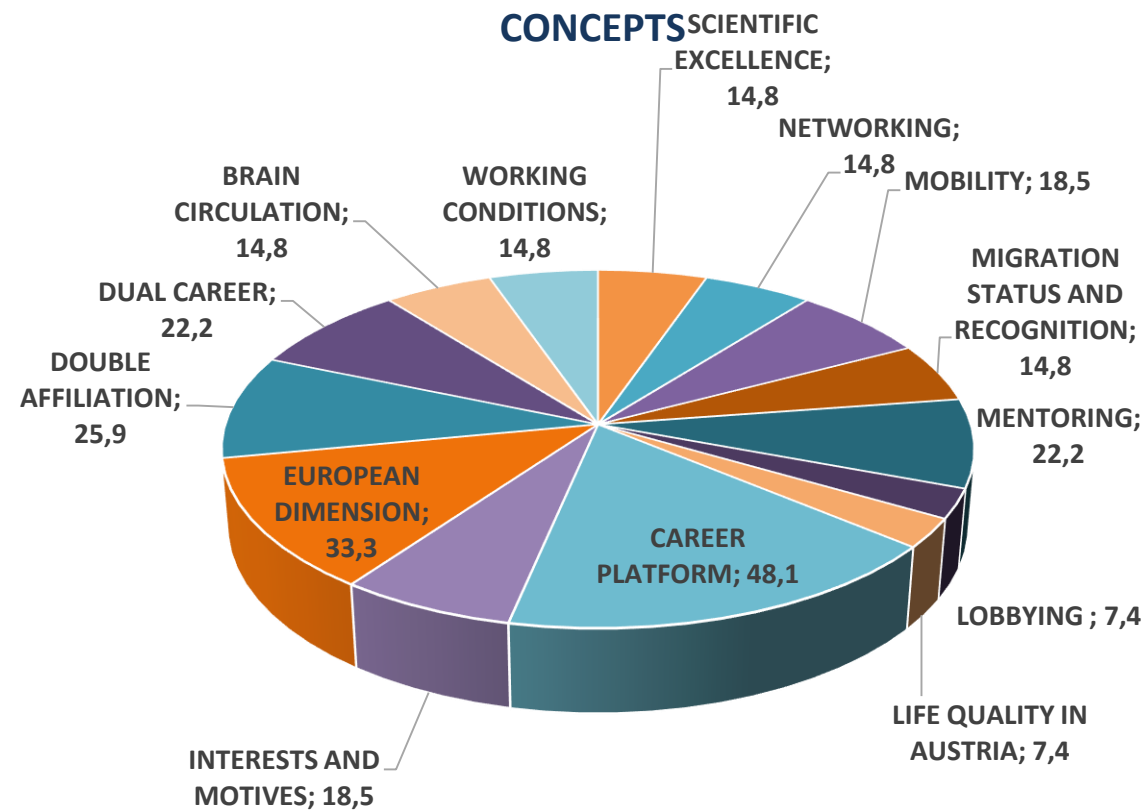
STI Experts in Europe	15
STI Experts in North America	12
TOTAL	27

Expert-Interviews Results

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS MENTIONED BY EXPERTS

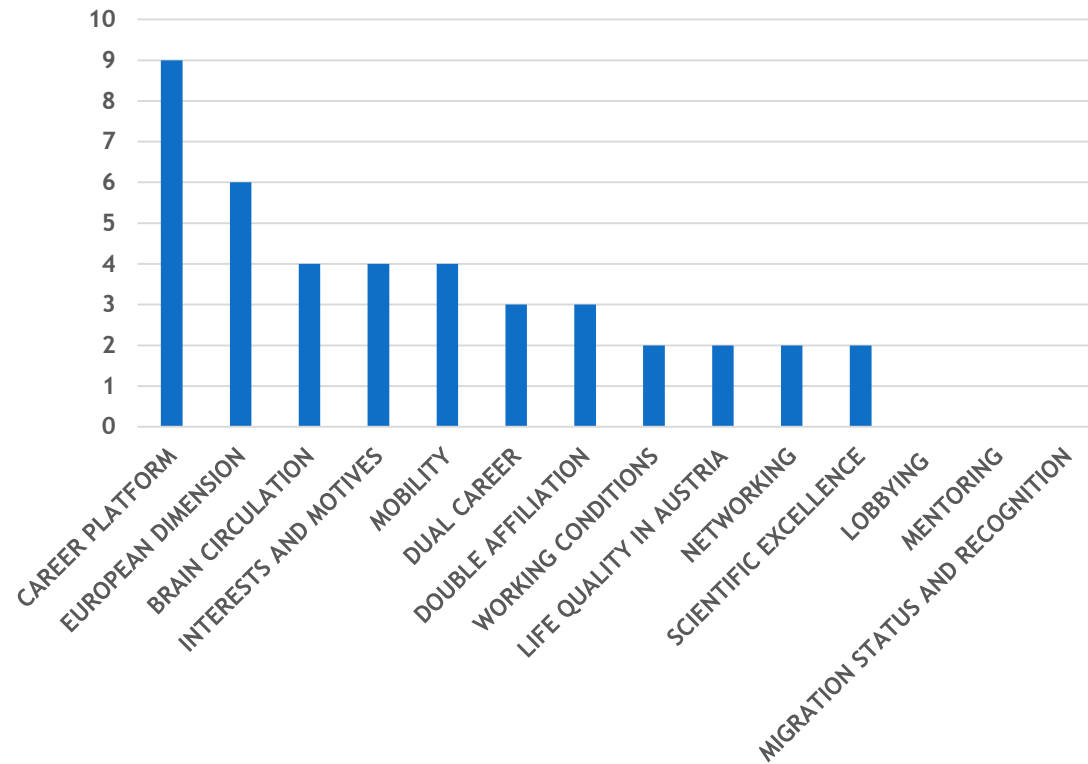


PERCENTAGE OF TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

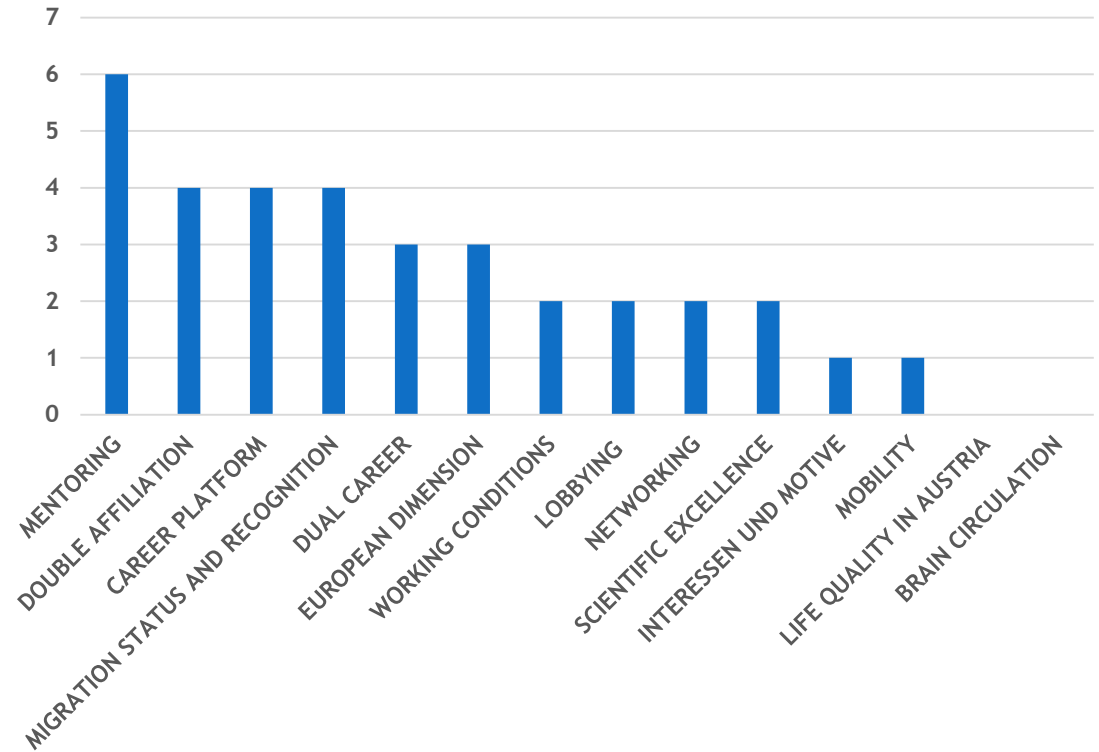


Expert-Interviews Results

STI Experts in Europe



STI Experts in North America



Selected results OSTA Online Survey

67% USA - 20% Canada - 13% Mexico

40% would like to develop (more) STI projects with Austrian actors

47% would like to be (better) re-connected with STI actors in Austria

53% would like to be (better) connected with Austrian STI actors in North America

80% Membership is important in networks, organisations and institutions - 93% Networking and personal contacts are important

Priority ranking of seven pre-selected career indicators: **moving back to Austria or Europe** had the **penultimate position**

Why the Diaspora is important for S3?



- **Human resources** in the system as a **key** for RIS3 success
- **Global/Worldwide** Dimension of Smart Specialisation
- **Internationalisation** of regions: **outward-looking** Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP)
- **Post 2020** perspective
- Regions and cities call for a new **Smart Specialisation 2.0** built on **interregional cooperation** (European Committee of the Regions CoR, 2018)
- **Mission-orientated approach in FP9**, the European Union should as much as possible build **upon the instruments** and platforms that are **already in place**, Smart Specialisation platform,.... (DG Research and Innovation report, 2018)

Why the Diaspora is important for S3?

- Connecting EU **enlargement** and **neighbourhood** countries to their S&I diaspora networks could be **beneficial** for developing smart specialisation strategies in these countries.
- **Involvement** of such **networks** in the **entrepreneurial discovery process** and "polishing" of **priority domains** would enable countries to strengthen the process by absorbing experiences and using knowledge from the "brain drain" in identified priority areas.
- **For example**, using knowledge from diaspora involved in **software engineering** in the USA to identify subsectors of software industry as a priority domain of a native country could raise the quality of the entrepreneurial discovery process for that domain.
- Countries with S3 strategy developed could **link up** with such networks **in already identified priority** domain areas in order to engage them in more focused activities of these areas.

Thank you!



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