

European Foresight Platform

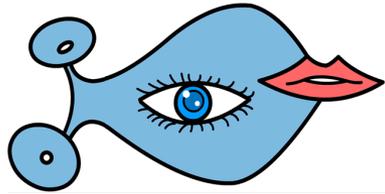
in cooperation with the Vienna French Cultural Institute



Key messages

To the foresight community

- A new generation of “strategic anticipation” needs to be established that emphasizes the ability to handle contingencies and reflects the diversification trends in our society
- A better integration of communities and their respective methodologies for dealing with future challenges is needed to configure foresight processes that are credible and support policy development and policy learning
 - Stronger emphasis on “sense-making” by means of novel forms of formal and conceptual modelling (e.g. gaming)
 - Improving the coherence and transparency of results, using better future “geographies” as well as quantitative modelling approaches
 - Combine visionary, participatory and modelling activities (implying also a need for novel training modules)
- To make Forward-looking activities both more effective and more democratic, participation of a broader range of actors (citizens, policy-makers, etc.) should be implemented as widely as possible



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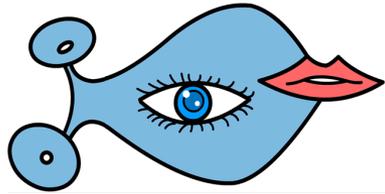
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Key messages

To the foresight community

- The foresight community should seek to have impact, and improve the understanding and evaluation of impacts
- Be honest about what forward-looking activities can deliver and what they can't deliver. Avoid false promises
- The findings and insights of forward-looking activities tend to be under-exploited. There is a need to better communicate results (e.g. using media) to make them more effective and to ensure a follow-up to initiatives suggested (“follow-up teams”)



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Key messages

To the policy community

- Against the background of a re-focusing of European research and innovation policy towards Grand Challenges, forward-looking activities have a crucial role to play for
 - Specifying medium-level targets for Grand Challenges
 - Helping to make policies targeting GC more coherent across areas
- The capacity to generate and to absorb forward-looking intelligence needs to be established at all decision levels
 - Forward-looking functions need to be established closer to the centres of strategic decision-making. In the EU, as in several Member States, such functions is still missing at higher levels, as, for instance, at the level of the European Council.
- There is a role of European level foresight activities associated to those Grand Challenges that need to be addressed at that level, while respecting the importance of drawing on national and regional results and findings.