



# Supporting the regional impact of higher education

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**European Commission**

**Where are we with the Stairway to Excellence?**

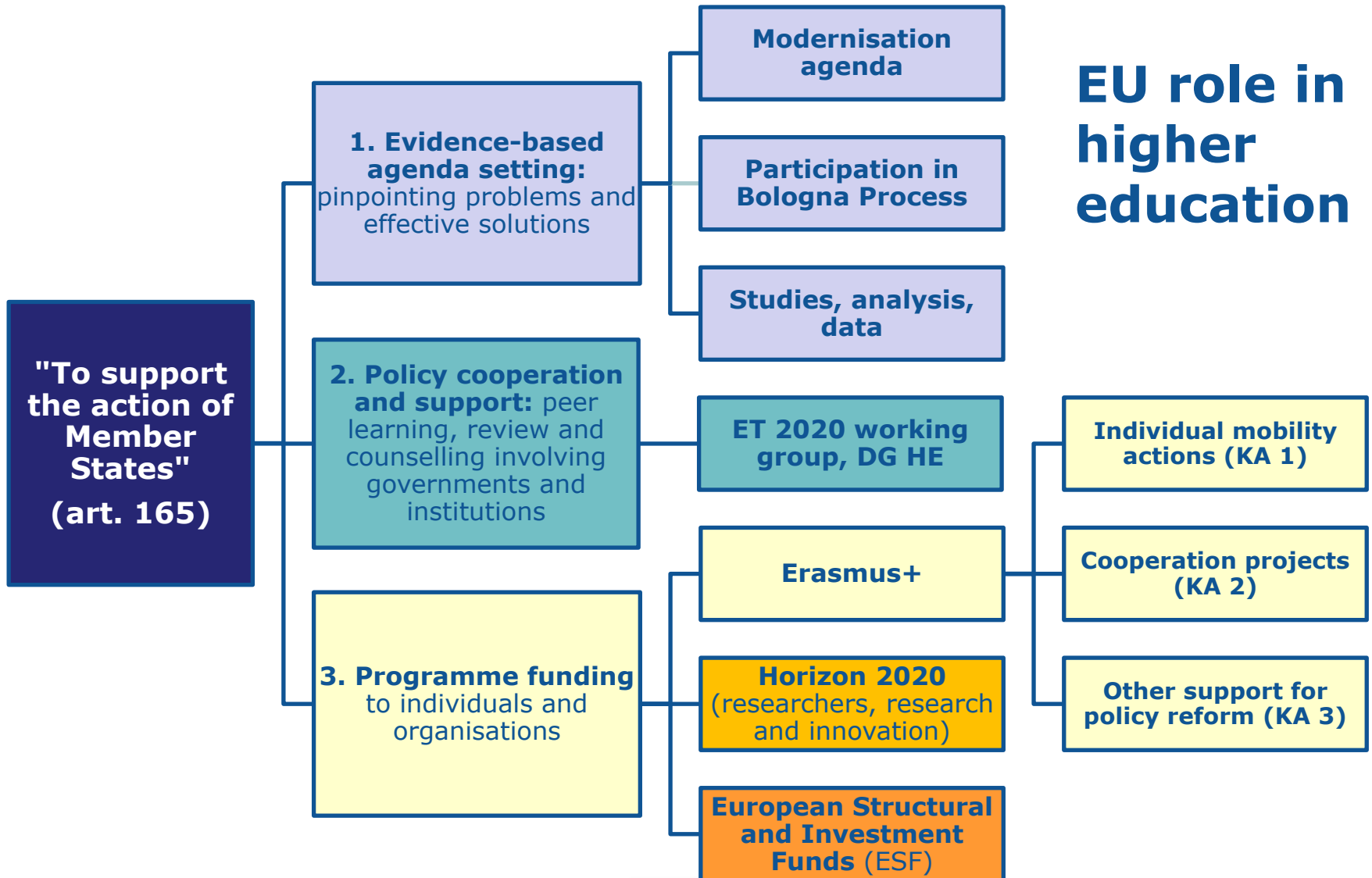
**Brussels, 26 June 2015**

# Outline

1. EU role in higher education
2. Regional impact in the modernisation agenda
3. Current programme support



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# EU role in higher education

# **Supporting Growth and Jobs: *an Agenda for the modernisation of Europe's higher education systems***

***COM(2011) 567 final***

***September 2011***



# Priorities

- 1. Graduate numbers:** widening access, routes in, reducing drop-out
- 2. Quality and relevance:**
  1. Effective programme design, teaching and teachers
  2. International cooperation + mobility
  3. Linking education, research + innovation (knowledge triangle)
- 3. Framework conditions:** ensuring adequate, efficient **funding** and tailoring **governance**

# Regional impact in the modernisation agenda

- 1. Graduate numbers:** widening access, routes in, reducing drop-out
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## Regional impact: a focus on cooperation

1. Cooperation (eg partnerships with local employment agencies and business) = increased **relevance of programmes + trained graduates** at regional level
2. Cooperation with businesses = better contribution to **regional innovation systems + competitiveness** of regional businesses
3. Cooperation **between institutions** at regional level = sharing expertise, increased excellence, greater efficiency

# EU funding support

- 1. ESIF:** Education and Innovation priorities
- 2. Erasmus+:** Knowledge Alliances and Strategic Partnerships
- 3. Horizon 2020:** widening participation among low research performing regions (Later presentation)



## ESIF 2014-2020

- Higher Education benefits through Education (mainly ESF) and Innovation (mainly ERDF) Thematic Objectives (1 and 10)
- Allocations under Education Thematic Objective:
  - Improving **quality, efficiency and access** to tertiary education: 19 MS and EUR 4 billion (TO 10, IP 3)
  - Tertiary **education infrastructure**: over EUR 1 billion

# Erasmus+: potential for regional impact

- **Knowledge Alliances:**
  - **HEIs + businesses (innovation and education focus)**
  - **Min 6 organisations / 3 countries (2 HEIs, 2 businesses)**
  - **EUR 700 000 – 1 million each (120 projects in 7 years)**
- **Strategic Partnerships:**
  - **HEIs + other stakeholders (develop, test and adapt innovative practices)**
  - **Min 3 organisations / 3 countries**
  - **Max EUR 450 000 per project (managed by NAs)**