Pushing the frontiers of innovative research
What is LERU? (I)

• An association of European research-intensive universities;
• Committed to the values of high quality teaching;
• Within an environment of internationally competitive research.
What is LERU? (II)

• Non-profit organisation
• Founded in 2002
• 21 members
Members (I)

- Based in 10 European countries
- Membership only upon invitation
- Research-Intensive, Comprehensive
Members (II)

LERU members:
University of Amsterdam
Universitat de Barcelona
University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh
University of Freiburg
Université de Genève
Universität Heidelberg
University of Helsinki
Universiteit Leiden
KU Leuven
Imperial College London
University College London
Lund University
University of Milan
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
University of Oxford
Pierre & Marie Curie University
Université Paris-Sud
University of Strasbourg
Utrecht University
University of Zurich
# Members (III)

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<tr>
<th>Belgium</th>
<th>KU Leuven</th>
<th>Spain</th>
<th>Universitat de Barcelona</th>
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<td>Finland</td>
<td>University of Helsinki</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Lund University</td>
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| France        | Pierre & Marie Curie University (UPMC)  
                Université Paris-Sud  
                University of Strasbourg | Switzerland            | Université de Genève  
                University of Zurich |
| Germany       | University of Freiburg  
                Universität Heidelberg  
                LMU München            | United Kingdom         | University of Cambridge  
                University of Edinburgh  
                Imperial College London  
                University College London  
                University of Oxford |
| Italy         | University of Milan                |                        |                          |
| Netherlands   | University of Amsterdam  
                Leiden University  
                Utrecht University |                        |                          |
Commitment

- **Encourage education** through an awareness of the frontiers of human understanding;
- **Foster the creation of new knowledge** through basic research as the ultimate source of innovation in society;
- **Promote research across a broad front**, which creates a unique capacity to respond to new opportunities and problems.
Purpose

- **Influence policy at European Union (EU) and Member State (MS) level**
  - EU (EC, EP, ECo, ERC, EIT, JRC, ERAC, ERIAB, etc.)
  - MS (prime ministers, ministers of research, ministers of finance)

- **Develop best practices**
  - Between 21 members
  - Institutional reflection, exchange of experience, collaborative actions

- **Relevance for all Research-Intensive Universities**
  - EU
  - Global
EU Lobby (I)

HORIZON 2020

ERA

European Research Area
EU Lobby (II)

ERASMUS Plus

RETHINKING EDUCATION
OPENING UP EDUCATION
Tools

- Proactive policy development and articulation through the publication of papers, meetings in Brussels and other activities
Papers

- Position papers
- Advice papers
- Briefing papers
- Notes
- Statements
Facts and Figures

- 550,000 students
- 50,000 PhD students
- 55,000 academic staff
- 55,000 non-academic staff
- 12,000 PhD degrees / year
- €300 M EU projects / year
- €5 BN total research budget
- 20% of ERC grants
- 55,000 MA degrees / year
- + 230 Nobel Prizes & Field Medals
Organisation

Rectors’ Assembly

Board of Directors

LERU Office

Policy Committee

Communities

Working Groups

Expert Groups
Rectors’ Assembly

- **Highest decision-making** body of the League
- Each member represented by its head of institution
- Meets **twice a year**
  - May 2014 at the University of Helsinki
  - November 2014 at the University of Milan
  - May 2015 at the Université de Genève
  - November 2015 at Imperial College London
Board of Directors

• Implements decisions of the Rectors’ Assembly
• Monitors the budget
• Composition
  - Bernd Huber (Chair), President of LMU München
  - Andrew Hamilton, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University
  - Alain Beretz, President of the University of Strasbourg
Policy Committee

• Consists of rectors, vice-rectors and senior academic managers from LERU universities.
• Develops LERU policy positions along a broad range of topics
• Chaired by Professor David Price (UCL)
Communities (I)

- Representatives of all member universities
- Work on LERU policy or collaborative issues
- Operate on a continuous basis
- Led by a steering group with the support of a LERU Office member
Communities (II)

- Vice-Rectors for Research
- Vice-Rectors for Learning & Teaching
- Doctoral Studies Community
- Research Careers Community
- Senior Officers Network
- EU Research Projects Managers
- Directors of Communication
- Chief Information Officers
- Social Sciences and Humanities
- Enterprise and Innovation
Working Groups (I)

- Address a specific topic
- Duration is limited in function of their remit
- Activities are led by a steering group, with the support of a LERU Office member
Working Groups (II)

- Alumni
- Charitable Funding
- Deans of Theology & Religious Studies
- Ethics
- E-Learning
- Gender
- Law Deans
Expert Groups

• Established with a limited task and for a limited time
• Provide expertise to an existing LERU representative body
• 5/10 individuals from LERU universities
• Exceptionally non-LERU experts may be involved
• A chair is appointed and a LERU policy officer supports their activities.

• LERU Expert Groups
  - Legal Expert Group
  - Ranking
  - Research Integrity
Other activities

- LERU Doctoral Summer School
- LERU Bright Conference
- LERU Spring Reception
- LERU Autumn Reception
- LERU SSH Voice Events
- LERU Launch events
Collaboration with other SHOs and institutions

- ERA Platform
  - EUA, Science Europe, EARTO, Nordforsk, CESAER (& IDEA League and EuroTech Universities Alliance)

- ESF, Vitae, SwissCore, CTWS, etc.
International collaboration (I)

- Formation of a network of organisations of research-intensive universities:
  - Association of American Universities (AAU)
  - Consortium of China 9 Research Universities (C9)
  - Group of Eight Australia (Go8)
  - League of European Research Universities (LERU)

=> Hefei Statement on Characteristics of Research Universities
International collaboration (II)

- Other similar organisations
  - Association of East Asian Research Universities (AEARU)
  - Russell Group (RG)
  - U15 Canada
  - U15 Germany
  - RU 11 Japan
  - Hong Kong 3
International collaboration (III)

- **Aim**: Global Council of Research-Intensive Universities, comparable and complimentary to the Global Research Council
LERU Office (I)
LERU Office (II)

Prof. Kurt Deketelaere
Secretary-General

- Daily management of LERU
- Representation of LERU
- Head of the LERU Office
LERU Office (III)

- Dr. Katrien Maes, Chief Policy Officer
- Laura Keustermans, Policy Officer
- Alea López de San Román, Policy Officer
- Bart Valkenaers, Press and Communications Officer
- Veerle Van Kerckhove, Administrative Coordinator and PA
Contact

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