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Trans-Atlantic Platform

For the Social Sciences and Humanities

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ERA-CAN+, Rome, Italy

Outline

1. The Trans-Atlantic Platform in a few words
 1. Partners
 2. Objectives
2. The type of activities TAP has enabled
3. Next steps

A Global First in Trans-Atlantic Research Funding Co-operation

- Formed in October 2013, the Trans-Atlantic Platform is a collaboration between key humanities and social science funders in South America, North America and Europe. The European Commission funds and acts as an observer of the Platform.
- Never before have research funders in the Americas and Europe embarked on a collaboration of this scale.

Partners - Americas

Country	Name	Acronym	Membership Type
Canada	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council	SSHRC	Lead, Americas Full partner
	Fonds de recherche du Québec (Société et culture)	FRQSC	Associate member
Argentina	Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation	MINCYT	Associate member
Brazil	Foundation for Research Support of the State of Sao Paulo	FAPESP	Full partner
Mexico	National Council of Science and Technology	CONACYT	Full partner
Chile	National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research	CONICYT	Associate member
U.S.	National Endowment for the Humanities	NEH	Associate member
	National Science Foundation	NSF	Associate member

Partners - Europe

Country	Name	Acronym	Membership Type
Netherlands	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research	NWO	Lead, Europe Full partner
Finland	Academy of Finland	AKA	Full partner
France	French National Research Agency	ANR	Full partner
Germany	German Aerospace Centre	DLR	Full partner
	German Research Foundation	DFG	Associate member
Portugal	Foundation for Science and Technology	FCT	Full partner
U.K.	Arts and Humanities Research Council	AHRC	Full partner
	Economic and Social Research Council	ESRC	Full partner
N/A	International Social Science Council	ISSC	Full partner

Objectives

- Strengthen the pillars that support international research cooperation and remove barriers that block it;
- Establish processes to identify and promote common thematic issues with societal importance;
- Increase international cooperation in the social sciences and humanities by broadening the network over time;
- Heighten understanding of the contribution of the social sciences and humanities in a global context.

Activities

Interagency Learning

Analysis of T-AP Member Organisations

- determine barriers to collaboration, and identify gaps in transatlantic cooperation.
- examine the features and best practices of T-AP partners
- develop new, flexible frameworks for international collaboration.

Activities

Workshops

- In September 2016, T-AP is organizing a workshop entitled *Towards a New Transatlantic Dialogue in the Social Sciences and Humanities* (September 27-28, Brussels). It aims:
 - To conclude the first phase of the Platform.
 - To bring together partners and stakeholders from across the research funding ecosystem to discuss best practices and challenges in research funding collaboration
 - To provide a vision for greater collaboration among funders' networks and other stakeholders.

Activities

Digging into Data

Joint call in the area of digital scholarship

- In March 2016, T-AP launched the Digging into Data Challenge as a joint call. 16 funders, 11 countries are participating.
- The aim is to support research projects that use “big data” to address questions in the social sciences and humanities. Competition closes in June 2016.
 - 109 applications
 - Every proposal has at least three countries participating



Activities

Thematic Scoping

- T-AP has identified three additional priority research areas for potential collaboration.
- The Platform has brought together funders, researchers and other stakeholders to explore research directions and needs in these thematic areas.
- These discussions will inform the development of possible future funding programs.

Activities

Thematic Areas

Diversity, Inequality and Differences

- Explores the dynamics of social and cultural diversity, inequality and differences and how communities value, respond and interact, as well as how communities can enhance solidarity and inclusion to achieve cultural, economic and social well-being.

Transformative Research on the Environment

- Focuses on bringing together researchers from the social sciences and humanities and environmental science to explore new ways of conducting research on the environment.

Resilient and Innovative Societies

- Explores how societies respond to modern challenges, including the rapid changes caused by conflict, economic crisis, climate change, and environmental degradation, and aims to promote research on processes of social transformation needed to secure solutions to some of the world's most urgent problems.

Next steps

- After its first years of existence, T-AP is currently:
 - Assessing 3 years of productive activities
 - Reviewing its own challenges (governance, determining themes for joint calls, communication, sustained funding)
 - Considering the next steps to enter a new phase of development and cooperation

Questions/Comments?

We encourage you to follow our progress and share your ideas



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