

The role of social sciences and humanities in the European Research Area underscores its growing contribution on how to best respond to the challenges facing Europe.

For this reason the report, <u>Evaluation of the Impact of the Framework Programme on the Formation of the European Research Area (ERA) in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)</u>, has been released by the European Commission.

The report presents the results of a study aiming to evaluate the contribution of the SSH parts of the Framework Programme on the ERA. It also details the research carried out in the third call of the socio-economic Research Key Action of the Fifth Framework Programme as well as the 'Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-Based Society' part of the Sixth Framework Programme.

The study examined the impacts of these programmes in four domains:

- the research policies for SSH in Member States,
- the structuring effects of the new instruments,
- the importance of the support for research infrastructures in the context of the SSH programme,
 - the impact of the programme on the careers of participating researchers.