

SANDERA has focused on the future relationship between two critical European policy domains: namely, the EU strategy since Lisbon to move towards the European Research Area and those EU policies focused on the security of the European citizen in the world.

The EU has developed a defence and security dimension. It comprises the externally-oriented Common Security and Defence Policy and the internally-oriented policies for countering terrorism and to protect among others the EU's borders, critical infrastructures or energy supplies. These developments have been complemented by a science and technology policy dimension most clearly expressed in the security research activities of the Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme and the defence research activities of the European Defence Agency.

The EU has also adopted policies to create a European Research Area. In particular this means to build more appropriate framework condition (e.g. mobility, free circulation of knowledge, world class research infrastructures); pursue a new way of overcoming fragmentation which has to be understood as a phenomenon not only of research performing, but also of research funding, and to move towards a challenge based approach for research, technology and development (RTD) funding in the EU. The overall ERA idea was to do away with a traditional multi-layer and fragmented governance of research in Europe, and to follow a more holistic ambition.

These two policy domains have developed more or less separately from one another. The ERA policy community and the European security and defence policy community represent distinct and separate communities with different interests and objectives. SANDERA began from the position that there was a need for greater dialogue between these communities as a means of developing a shared understanding of the opportunities and threats posed by policy actions and developments at the intersection of these two increasingly important European policy domains.

SANDERA has had four specific objectives:

- To identify drivers of change in the relationship between European security and defence policies and the ERA;
- To develop exploratory scenarios of alternative futures for the relationship between security and defence policies and the ERA;

- To analyse the policy implications of the scenarios and develop indicators of change;
- To stimulate dialogue and promote stronger networking between the security and defence policy and science and technology policy communities.

As a foresight project SANDERA has not sought to predict the future but has instead aimed to initiate debate and to provide useful inputs for policymakers and associated stakeholders recognising the existence of deep uncertainty, and allowing for structured thinking about the possible paths by which these relationships may evolve. While looking towards the year 2030 SANDERA has attempted to provide insights that inform policy making in the near future.

SANDERA has achieved its goals by

- preparing a number of Scoping Papers, a Background Paper and Synthesis Paper based on desk research and an extensive programme of about 100 interviews with stakeholders and experts;
- developing four scenarios of the future relationship between the ERA and defence research and innovation policies, which served as a basis to engage stakeholders at two workshops held in Brussels in November 2010 and May 2011 respectively.
- producing reports on policy recommendations, on indicators of change and creating a toolkit that provide policy makers with guidance for future decisions.

SANDERA has contributed to an improved understanding of the potential implications of developments in security policy for the move towards the ERA, as well as of the security policy implications of knowledge dynamics and developments in the ERA. Moreover, SANDERA has strengthened the European Commission's strategic policy intelligence capacity and has stimulated dialogue between stakeholders and facilitated new policy networks. It has also attracted more researchers to the field of forward looking studies.

If you are interested in the topics of the project please visit us at www.sandera.net or contact Project Director Andrew James at Andrew.James@mbs.ac.uk or telephone +44 161 275 5860 or Project Manager Thomas Teichler at Thomas.Teichler@mbs.ac.uk.