



e-IRGSP5

Deliverable

D3.1 First Report on e-IRG Policy Activities

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About this document

This document is deliverable *D3.1 – First Report on e-IRG Policy Activities* of the project e-IRG Support Programme 5. It presents the document creation process: how policy documents of the e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG) are created and distributed. Furthermore, a short presentation on the e-IRG policy documents released during the first reporting period of the e-IRG Support Programme 5 (e-IRGSP5) and a section about the e-IRG workshop reports complete the deliverable.

Delivery slip

	Name	Partner	Date
From	Jan Wiebelitz, Fotis Karayannis	LUH, URNS	2017-11-15
Reviewed by	Ilse Koning	SURF	2017-11-27
	Esther Vleugel	NWO	2017-11-09
Final	Jan Wiebelitz	LUH	2017-12-11
Approved by	Jan Wiebelitz	LUH	2017-12-11

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1. Introduction

The e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG) creates documents, which provide recommendations and best practices towards an efficient use and development of e-Infrastructures in Europe. These e-IRG documents are prepared in an open process within working groups and task forces of e-IRG delegates and external experts, supported by the e-IRG support programme. Each working group or task force is led by an e-IRG delegate, who is appointed during a delegates meeting. All delegates are invited to participate in the working groups and task forces in an open and non-discriminatory way, although the delegates have to state conflicts of interest when these are relevant.

Some e-IRG documents are released periodically, like the e-IRG White Paper and the e-IRG Roadmap, which are usually published every second year. Other e-IRG documents are released more irregular when e-IRG delegates have identified a major topic to react on and consensus has been reached in the plenary discussions about the creation of such a document. Mid-term reflections on contemporary issues are published as an e-IRG Task Force Report. As a means for short-term reaction, e-IRG can produce policy related documents, which state e-IRG's position to a dedicated topic or document. Furthermore, e-IRG issues workshop reports and the e-IRG newsletter, which are released periodically, usually twice a year.

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2. e-IRG policy document creation process

The process used by e-IRG to create policy documents follows some steps, that are basically the same for each document:

1. Delegates identify a topic for a policy document
2. Create a working group of delegates and external experts, supported by members of the support programme
3. Draft versions of a document are discussed within the working groups and at the e-IRG delegates meeting
4. The final version is approved by the e-IRG delegates

Some e-IRG documents are open for public consultation. The received comments are discussed in the e-IRG delegates meeting and usually taken into account.

5. The final version is transferred into publication layout and eventually published

1. Topic for an e-IRG policy document

In case of a White Paper or a Roadmap, several topics are collected and the e-IRG's reflections are documented. Other documents are usually dedicated to a single topic.

If a certain topic is deemed relevant and related to developments in the area of e-infrastructures it is brought into the delegates meeting. The delegates

discuss the background of the issue, its rational and come to a consensus about the topic. During this initial phase of an e-IRG document it is already decided if the document will have a public consultation phase.

2. Composition of a Working Group

If the need for an e-IRG policy document on a certain topic is identified, a responsible editor or an editorial board for the document is set up by appointed delegates. These delegates decide upon the necessity to consult external experts and the need and amount of assistance by the support programme. Because the White Paper and the Roadmap naturally cover several topics, responsible delegates acting as leaders for each topic are appointed on a voluntary basis.

If an editorial board is composed for a document a chair is nominated, who also acts as rapporteur at the delegates meetings. A working group is supported by members of the support project.

1. Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference (ToR) document is used to commit to the key parameters for the policy document to be written, like e.g. objective, scope, timeline, reporting, chairmanship of the editorial board and support activities. Also it is noted if the document will go through a public consultation phase. Furthermore, the ToR also deals specifically with conflicts of interests of the participating members of a working group. Resulting from the specific request by the European Commission published in the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020¹, which indicates a need to

¹http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-infrastructures_en.pdf

“demonstrate independence and absence of conflict of interest in the membership of the e-IRG group receiving support”

e-IRG decided to specifically address possible conflicts of interest in a *General Terms of Reference* document, which then will be used as template for future e-IRG documents. This document is under preparation and its production is supported by e-IRGSP5.

The ToR also comprised a note that the created document will be published under Creative Commons License.

3. Creation of an e-IRG Policy Document

The third step of the document creation process is to determine the structure of the document and enrich its content. Experts from the different countries and backgrounds provide content to the various types of documents. Face-to-face meetings of working groups or task forces have also been introduced. This has a catalysing effect, resulting in quicker convergence in the scope, structure, and content. During the editorial phase, draft versions and summary reports are provided to the delegates before and during the regular delegates meetings. Support Programme members are actively involved in the editing of different sections, acting as both experts and secretariat. Several rounds of reflections and discussions enhance the maturity and relevance of the text, resulting in a version that is agreed on by the delegates and can be shared outside the e-IRG for comments.

In its Kick-Off meeting, e-IRGSP5 has identified the need for a more structured approach to create e-IRG policy documents to finalise a document within a certain timeframe. The goal of the structured approach is to reduce the duration of the policy document creation process. A main

point is to start the work on the document with a physical meeting to discuss the content, structure of the document and the distribution of the work.

At the delegates meeting	Between two delegates meetings
	proposal for a document (either by a delegate or EB) draft of content and scope
1st meeting decision to prepare a policy document and lead person and working group established comments on the draft content and scope	
	formal approval of the delegates of the document scope face-to-face meeting within one month structure scope and detailed content roles in the document (responsibility for chapter) first draft version send out to the

	delegates for comments
2nd meeting first draft presented and comments presented	
	second draft
3rd meeting second draft version approved	
	public consultation WG includes the comments
4th meeting final version approved by delegates	
	layout and publication dissemination activities

I. Open Consultation Phase

For major documents, such as the White Paper or the Roadmap, a public consultation phase can be included. This is intended to disseminate the document and essentially gather comments from a wide base of e-Infrastructure providers, users and policy makers. The main editor and the editorial team are responsible for providing answers to the comments and the Support Programme facilitates the consultation phase (communications, gathering and summarising the feedback received) and helps the editors in this answering process.

4. Final Approval of an e-IRG Policy Document

During the process for the creation of an e-IRG policy document the chair of the editorial board is regularly reporting at e-IRG delegates meetings about the status and progress of the development of the document. The final version of a document is eventually approved by the delegates. The document is sent out ex ante of a delegates meeting by the support programme, so that each delegate can take note and raise concerns about the final version of the document.

If the document creation process foresees a public consultation phase, the document is published on the e-IRG web presence and stakeholders are invited to provide comments on the document, either by email or through a web form. After the public consultation phase the comments are discussed by the editorial board and it is decided if the comments will be taken into account. At the next delegates meeting the comments and the final version of the document are presented to the delegates and finally approved.

5. Publication and Dissemination

After a final endorsement at a delegates meeting, the e-IRG delegates and WP5 of the Support Programme project prepare the document with the appropriate e-IRG layout and disseminate the document. In more detail, the document is published in the appropriate document library, describing it on the appropriate web page and then it is announced on the News blog, LinkedIn and Twitter. For important documents a media announcement is prepared and is distributed amongst appropriate media and stakeholders. In any detailed planning these items should be addressed and planned

separately. Printed copies may also be prepared, which can be requested from the secretariat service of the Support Programme.

During the 36th e-IRG delegates meeting in Athens in April 2014 the e-IRG delegates decided to license the documents produced by e-IRG under the Creative Commons License BY 4.0, which allows everybody to

- Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format.
- Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.

According to the chosen license e-IRG cannot revoke these freedoms as long as licensees follow the license terms:

- Attribution — The licensee must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. The licensee may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses him or his use.
- No additional restrictions — The licensee may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

To be able to put the e-IRG documents under Creative Commons License no author must state any objection. e-IRGSP5 each time asks every author of the e-IRG documents for permission. No author raised an objection up to now.

3. Policy Support through e-IRGSP5

e-IRGSP5's Work Package 3, Policy Support, supports the creation of all policy documents of e-IRG (White Papers, Roadmaps, Recommendations, Task Force reports and Guidelines Documents). Besides providing the support for production and dissemination, WP3 will gather relevant information on national, European and global e-Infrastructures' programmes, on activities in major fields of science with e-infrastructural requirements and also on required legal and financial issues related to e-Infrastructures and to education and training requirements. WP3 will also keep track of relevant technological developments. The aim of these information-collecting activities is to provide the delegates and the editors with background and reference information to produce contemporary policy documents.

The objectives of the work package are:

- support e-IRG in the identification and creation of policy documents;
- identify potential topics;
- assist e-IRG in planning and monitoring the process for the preparation of policy documents;
- assist the editor-in-chief in the formation of an editorial team (may include external experts);
- providing background material with special focus on technical and socio-economic developments;
- supporting the editorial team in the content writing process;

- collect and process comments on the documents through public consultation phases.

1. e-IRG Policy Documents

During the first reporting period of e-IRGSP5 two major e-IRG policy documents have been published, and an update of the e-IRG Guidelines Document *Guide to e-Infrastructure requirements for European Research Infrastructures* for the proposers of the ESFRI Roadmap 2018 is under development.

1. e-IRG Roadmap

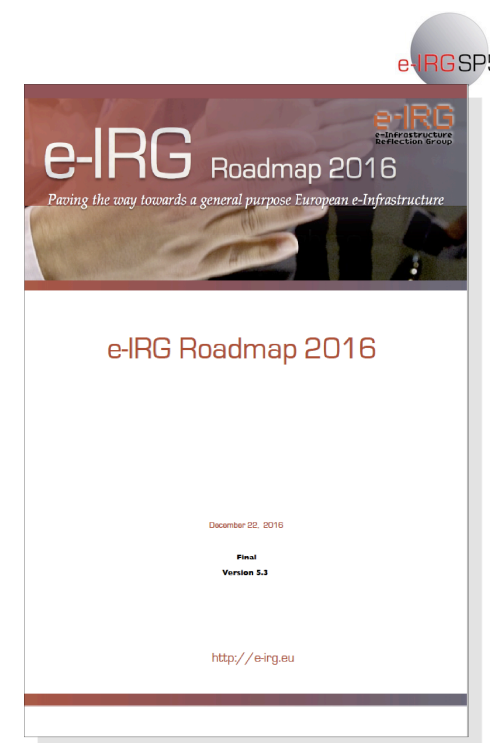
The e-IRG Roadmap is a major publication for e-IRG. Following the e-IRG 2012 Roadmap, in the first semester of 2014 it was agreed to update the Roadmap as a living document. The document was then gradually updated and a next version was presented in the Riga February 2015 meeting. Although the document was received with minor comments, the next version that was presented in June 2015 received considerable and major comments. Given the updated role of e-IRG, and the discussion for the updated vision and mission, including its bylaws, at the Riga June 2015 meeting, it was decided to restart the work and to create a Roadmap WG composed of several delegates, supported by several e-IRGSP4 members. A document gathering all the major comments was prepared during the summer of 2015 and presented in August 2015 to the delegates. The discussion continued during the Luxembourg presidency, where a dedicated session with parallel groups was organised during the e-IRG workshop in November to provide input to the document. The input was summarised in a separate document, which also fed into the main document. Several versions of the document were prepared, presented and discussed during the Dutch EU presidency. The document was then endorsed for its

consultation phase in Bratislava in September 2016, during the Slovak EU presidency. The consultation phase closed in November and overall positive feedback has been received. The feedback has been summarised at the second Bratislava meeting, and decisions have been taken about the comments integration. A final version was prepared and published in January 2017.

1. Content

The document contained four main parts:

- The first part sets the e-IRG vision and the way to implement it, being the e-Infrastructure Commons framework and its main components, namely the resources, the community and the governance.
- The second part provides an updated landscape analysis in the three above-identified components (resources, community and governance). In the area of resources, it deals with the different e-Infrastructure areas, namely networking, computing, data and e-Science services. The community provides the user-context for e-Infrastructures, while the governance presents the different initiatives and groups for e-Infrastructure coordination.



- The third part deals with the key challenges that hinder implementation of different aspects of the e-Infrastructures Commons but also offer remarkable opportunities to progress towards a desirable outcome. It covers the challenges in common policies at EU level, governance for integration, financing policies, legal and technological aspects.
- The fourth part presents the proposed way forward in order to realise the e-Infrastructure Commons and a set of recommended actions for each stakeholder group. The way forward includes the emphatic co-operation among all main stakeholders, along with a formal coordination platform among them, keeping the right balance between operation of services and development of innovative ones. It encourages working further on sustainability of the services, and finally develop a marketplace with all e-Infrastructure services as a one-stop-shop for users combined with a common or interoperable identity scheme.

1. Creation process and e-IRGSP5 Role

The e-IRG Roadmap 2016 was mostly created during the course of the predecessor project of e-IRGSP5, e-IRGSP4, so that eventually just the final editorial and the publication was done by e-IRGSP5. The experience gained through the long creation process of the e-IRG Roadmap 2016 was reflected and used to create the more structured approach for the document creation process. Summarizing the support activities provided by both e-IRGSP projects:

- Initial ToR creation
- Editorial contributions and integration in the main document
- Minutes of meetings and calls

- Summaries of comments and integration
- Updated ToR after the document revamp
- Co-chairing, note taking and summarizing of the parallel sessions at the e-IRG workshop in Luxembourg
- Second round of editorial support and contributions after Luxembourg and during the Dutch presidency
- Minutes of the Roadmap WG meetings/calls
- Integration of comments and reviews
- Consultation process and publication of the document (web pages, LinkedIn announcement and message board, e-mails, summaries of comments)
- Creation of concise version with the Executive Summary and the Recommendations for the e-IRG November 2016 workshop in Bratislava for the feedback via the real-time poll (slido.com).
- Presentations of the input received during the consultation phase for Bratislava e-IRG meeting and summary of main external comments
- Minute taking at the e-IRG meetings and summaries of e-IRG delegates comments

2. Evaluation of e-Infrastructures and the development of related KPIs

This document is related to the role of e-IRG to act as an evaluator for e-Infrastructures in terms of impact and costs, which are stated in the Commission's Work Programme 2016-2017:

“The collected information will enable the e-IRG with the support of independent expert panels to provide strategic advice on the

evolution of the European e-infrastructures landscape and associated costs.”

For e-IRG to undertake such role, a framework for the evaluation of e-Infrastructures was deemed necessary, a task that was undertaken by an e-IRG Working Group. The work includes a set of categories of KPIs relevant to the e-IRG support programme and the eInfraCentral projects². Thus, the e-IRG KPI Working Group has set the framework including a method to come up with the KPIs and a set of categories, and this framework has been taken up by the two projects, the first in the area of policies and the second in the area of operational and technical KPIs. The Working Group was formed with e-IRG delegates and support members and its ToR has been distributed in August 2015. The document was developed mainly during the Dutch EU presidency and then updated and discussed during the Slovak EU presidency. A consultation with major e-Infrastructure providers took place at the September 2016 Bratislava meeting and the document was at its final stage of editing, taking into account the external and the internal comments that were discussed at the November 2016 Bratislava e-IRG meeting. The document was finalised and published in the beginning of 2017.

In the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2016-2017 e-IRGSP5 is tasked that the activities should include:

“the collection and aggregation of relevant policy information with impact on the development of EC-funded e-infrastructures, including KPIs and cost-related information, in coordination with the funded e-infrastructure initiatives and made available in open formats for reuse.”

²<http://einfracentral.eu/>

This task is performed by Work Package 4, Policy Information Collection and Aggregation, of e-IRGSP5.

To promote the KPI framework e-IRGSP5 has organised a Birds of a Feather session at the RDA 9th plenary³, which took place 5-7 April 2017 in Barcelona. Furthermore, the KPI framework was presented at the e-IRG workshop under Maltese EU Presidency on 8-9 June 2017. e-IRGSP5 has also established a joint working group with the eInfraCentral project, which is used to work cooperatively on the KPI topic and to approach e-Infrastructures and e-Infrastructure projects jointly.

I. Content

The document *Evaluation of e-Infrastructures and the development of related KPIs* contained the following main parts:

- The first part presents the objectives and the approach needed. In order to match high-level goals and to be applicable on the different e-Infrastructures and metrics provided by them, a three-step approach is proposed: 1. the specification of high-level goals of the funding agencies, governing body, end users, and the general public 2. the classification of goals into categories and 3. the harmonisation of metrics.
- The second part expands on the methodology identified above, and summarises the high-level goals (including among others access to state-of-the-art services to enable excellent research, interlink national systems and open participation) along with a main

³<https://www.rd-alliance.org/data-infrastructure-assessment-rda-9th-plenary-bof-meeting>

classification in four main classes (namely political-, providers’-, user- and general public perspectives).

- The third part provides more information on the harmonisation of metrics and some more levels of sub-categories. E.g. for the users, it proposes user satisfaction, user training and skills development and support service requests. For the value to society and socio-economic impact, it proposes knowledge transfer and impact on industry. For the operational level, it proposes technical and operational indicators, while for scientific excellence it proposes innovation potential, scientific outcome and impact on research.

2. Creation Process and e-IRGSP5 Role

As explained in the beginning of this section, this document, like the Roadmap, also went through different phases and the process was rather lengthy. The document went through a consultation phase with major e-Infrastructure projects, and required a lot of support both in terms of secretariat and editorial. The support included:

- Initial ToR creation
- Editorial contributions and integration in the main document
- Minutes of physical meetings and calls
- Summaries of comments and integration
- Integration of comments and reviews
- Consultation process with e-Infrastructure projects in Bratislava (September 2016- in the framework of the ICT proposers’ day). This includes e-mails and summaries of comments.

- Presentations of the input received during the consultation phase for the second Bratislava e-IRG meeting and summary of main external comments
- Minute taking at the e-IRG meetings and summaries of e-IRG delegates comments
- Layout, publication and dissemination of the final document

4. Further Policy-related Documents and Activities

1. e-IRG Workshop Reports

e-IRG is organising a workshop under each Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The e-IRG workshops are organised to gather input on relevant topics within the e-Infrastructure area. The agenda of these workshops is composed by a Programme Committee of delegates supported by e-IRGSP5. In collaboration with local organisers from the hosting country e-IRGSP5 is then implementing the workshop.

In the first reporting period of e-IRGSP5 workshops have been organised under Maltese EU Presidency and Estonian EU Presidency. E-IRGSP5 is producing a public report from each workshop summarizing the presentations and panel discussions. These reports are published on the web page for each workshop and provide input into the delegates meetings for creation of new policy documents.

1. Slovakian e-IRG Workshop Report

The e-IRG workshop under Slovakian EU Presidency took place 15-16 November in Bratislava, which was before e-IRGSP5 had started. The report of the workshop was created during the course of e-IRGSP5.

The sessions of the workshop covered *Data aspects – View of the Group of European Data Experts, Collaborative Services for e-Infrastructure Commons* and a session dedicated to gather input on the e-IRG Roadmap 2016.

The public summary of the workshop was delivered as part of the e-IRGSP5 deliverable *D2.1 Minutes – Workshop and Delegates Meeting (Slovakian EU Presidency)* and is available online under: <http://e-irg.eu/documents/10920/316765/e-IRG+Bratislava+Workshop+report+15-16+November+2016+final.pdf>

2. Maltese e-IRG Workshop Report

The e-IRG workshop under Maltese EU Presidency took place 8-9 June 2017. The sessions of the workshop covered *Long-term sustainability: structure and financing/funding, procurement and financial schemes of digital services for research, evaluation of e-Infrastructures and related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and long-term sustainability: services and data*.

The public summary report was delivered as part of the restricted project deliverable *D2.3 Minutes – Workshop and Delegates Meeting (Maltese EU Presidency)* and is also publicly available online: <http://e-irg.eu/documents/10920/374468/e-IRG+Malta+Workshop+report+8-9+June+2017+final.pdf>

3. Estonian e-IRG Workshop Report

The e-IRG workshop under Estonia EU Presidency took place 3-4 October 2017 connected to the EOSCpilot Governance Development Forum meeting. The workshop covered the *EOSC status update from the Commission as well as from the Member States and Associated Countries perspective, EOSC services for users and data services and FAIR data*.

The public summary report will be delivered as project deliverable D2.5 in December 2017 and will also be available online.

2. Advancement of e-IRG

e-IRG regularly undergoes a self-assessment to ensure that it is dealing with relevant topics and recognises current developments in the area of e-Infrastructures nationally, European-wide and internationally. To support these developments the Support Programme has developed a questionnaire which was used as guiding path at a breakout session at the second delegates meeting under Estonian EU Presidency in November 2017.

1. Questionnaire on the Future Role of e-IRG

During the previous meeting, e-IRG decided that it should deal with both the short-term and long-term issues of e-Infrastructure policies:

- Short-term, with regards to the current developments around EOSC/EDI, including the connection to MS/AC and EC (both DG Connect and DG RTD) and whether e-IRG should be producing a new paper, i.e. positioning on these developments.
- Long-term, in terms of policy outlook for e-infrastructures for the next 5-10 years, including a long-term vision and a roadmap for the next Framework Programme.

1.1 What should be the priority?

1.2 Should the usual e-IRG process (WGs) be used?

2. EOSC and the role of e-IRG (governance, policies, funding, sustainability)

2.1 Should e-IRG act as intermediate between EOSC and their

countries to get views from the national stakeholders?

2.2 Should e-IRG synthesize the national views and report back towards the EU stakeholders?

2.3 Should e-IRG act as a clearing-house for collecting all EU papers around EOSC?

2.4 Should e-IRG act as an evaluator of EOSC (in general)?

2.5 Should e-IRG act as an evaluator of e-Infrastructures?

2a. EOSC Governance

The EC is proposing in the EOSC declaration the following Governance framework: The EOSC governance framework will be co-designed, stakeholder driven and composed of three main layers:

- institutional, including EU Member States and European Commission
- operational, including a governance board and relevant working committees (e.g. thematic and functional) and
- advisory, including a stakeholder forum.

2a1. Should e-IRG be involved directly in the EOSC Governance, representing the Member States (MS)+Associated Countries (AC)?

- In the institutional layer proposed by EC (direct role)?
- In the advisory layer proposed by EC (lighter direct role)?

- Other

2a2. Should there be an indirect role of e-IRG? E.g. a neutral role as a clearing house, reflection platform?

2a3. During the Tallinn October meeting, it was proposed that e-IRG can also act as an evaluator (evaluator role) of the initial EOSC Governance structure (if not directly involved), as this will be reviewed after a couple of years. Should e-IRG take this role?

2b. EOSC policies, funding, sustainability

How strongly should e-IRG deal with the following aspects (e.g. work on related policy documents and develop recommendations):

2b1 EOSC policies (access, resource allocation, performance evaluation, etc.)

2b2. EOSC sustainability

2b3. EOSC funding

2b4. ESOC legal issues

2b5. Other

3. Data world and RDA, Go-FAIR

Scientific research is changing from computer-supported to data-driven and will eventually lead to Open Science. The motto of Commissioner Moedas Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the

world is indicative for the direction taken. Data is also the main intersection between ESFRI RIs and e-Infrastructures. In parallel, RDA has been also acting as a platform to enable open data sharing across regions, disciplines and technologies and FAIR data. Go-FAIR has been also initiated as a bottom-up approach of Member states towards the Commission aiming at making data FAIR.

3.1 Should e-IRG be more active in the data world (policy-wise)? If yes, how should this involvement look like?

3.2 Should e-IRG position itself towards Go-FAIR?

3.3 Should e-IRG connect/liase more with RDA and its European or national structures? If yes, how?

4. Bridge between MS/AC and EC

In the recent e-IRG meetings it was decided to strengthen the connection with Member States and work on exchanging experiences and best practices among MS and ACs. Also work on EOSC national nodes can be recommended. The organisation of different meetings at national level was also suggested (see questions below).

4.1 Should e-IRG come up with a pitch statement for national funding agencies?

Example from Malta: “Do you want to spend your money to an uncoordinated national e-Infrastructure or listen to the e-IRG

coordinated approach?”

4.2 In which areas should e-IRG work more actively with the countries?

- a. EOSC and national nodes?
- b. EuroHPC and national/regional nodes?
- c. National roadmaps?
- d. User needs, including long tail of science?
- e. Industry and innovation?
- f. Other areas?

4.3 Should e-IRG organise meetings at national level to discuss national e-Infrastructure policy issues, where local decision makers (from Ministries, national providers, etc.) are invited, together with a few e-IRG representatives (e.g. local e-IRG delegates)?

4.4 Should e-IRG organise sessions with Ministerial and local decision makers during the e-IRG delegates meetings?

4.5 What could other activities in the MS/AC look like?

5. EuroHPC and HPC in general

The EC is proposing the involvement of e-IRG in the EuroHPC governance structure as part of the so-called “Strategic Advisory Board” providing “evaluation/advice”.

5.1 Should e-IRG take up this role?

5.2 Should e-IRG try to have a more direct involvement?

5.3 Should e-IRG aim for a less direct involvement (than the one proposed by the EC)?

5.4 Should e-IRG take any further role in the HPC area?

6. ESFRI

ESFRI has been given a mandate from the Competitiveness Council to work on the investment strategies in e-Infrastructures. The report from ESFRI was recognised by the Competitiveness Council. In addition, during its September meeting the ESFRI created a new Strategy Working Group on Data, Computing and Digital Research Infrastructures (SWG DIGIT), in order to evaluate an ESFRI Roadmap 2018 proposal in the area of e-Infrastructures. The e-IRG members of the other SWGs have been included in the new SWG. Still, e-IRG is responsible of preparing the landscape analysis for e-Infrastructures as part of the ESFRI Roadmaps and evaluating the e-Needs of ESFRI proposals. From the above, It is clear that ESFRI has expanded its mandate towards e-Infrastructures due to the ESFRI proposal SILECS which did not fit into one of the existing SWGs at strategic areas.

6.1 Is ESFRI's new mandate positive for e-IRG? Please explain your answer.

6.2 Should e-IRG work closer with ESFRI, also at the strategic areas? Please explain your answer.

6.3 What could be topics to be discussed in a joint e-IRG ESFRI meeting?

7. Towards the next FP and 2025

As part of the e-IRG WG on the new role of e-IRG, there was a suggestion to work on the long-term strategy of e-IRG, in terms of policy outlook for e-infrastructures for the next 5-10 years, including a long-term vision and a roadmap for the next Framework Programme. The document “White paper on the Future of Europe: Reflections and scenarios for the EU27 by 2025” has also been released and a scenario being favourite seems to be that of a Europe of multiple speeds (Scenario 3: Those who want more do more).

7.1 Should e-IRG include in its role a long-term Roadmap for FP5 and 2025-2030?

7.2 Will the different speeds have an effect in research and e-Infrastructures? Please explain your answers

8. Vision/mission update - Other areas - Next e-IRG policy documents

Vision: e-IRG is a strategic body to facilitate integration in the area of European e-Infrastructures and connected services, within and between member states, at the European level and globally.

Mission: The mission of e-IRG is to support both coherent, innovative and strategic European e-Infrastructure policy-making and the

development of convergent and sustainable e-Infrastructure services.

8.1 Is there a need for changing the e-IRG Vision? If yes, please propose how?

8.2 Is there a need for changing the e-IRG Mission? If yes, please propose how?

8.3 Other areas - Next e-IRG policy documents:

Is there an area not covered above that e-IRG should be dealing with in the future?

What should the next e-IRG documents be about?

5. Documents in Preparation and Future Plans

Currently, the following e-IRG documents are in preparation, supported by e-IRGSP5:

- e-IRG Guidelines Document on the Long-Term Preservation of Research Data
- General Terms of Reference Template
- Member States and Associated Countries view on EOSC

1. e-IRG Guidelines Document on the Long-Term Preservation of Research Data

During the e-IRG delegates meeting under Slovakian EU Presidency in November 2016 a working group was re-established to create an e-IRG Guidelines Document on the Long-Term Preservation of Research Data in order to address a concern raised on the feasibility of long-term preservation of research data produced by ESFRI projects or other Research Infrastructures. This document is intended to act as an e-IRG guidelines document. During the e-IRG workshop under Maltese EU Presidency presentations were given to present the current status of the document but also to get further input.

This document is under preparation and its production is supported by e-IRGSP5.

2. e-IRG Document about Member States and Associated Countries View on EOSC

As a reaction on the EOSC Declaration published by the European Commission and the endorsement of several stakeholders including e-IRG, e-IRG has decided to create a document about Member States and Associated Countries view on EOSC.

This document is under preparation and its production is supported by e-IRGSP5.

6. Conclusions

e-IRG has published the *e-IRG Roadmap 2016* and the document on the *Evaluation of e-Infrastructures and created Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)*, two important policy documents, in the beginning of the reporting period. The e-IRG Support Programme has provided support during the preparation as well as the publication phase including dissemination activities of both documents. The document creation process has obtained some more structure, taking into account the lessons learned from the production of the e-IRG policy documents mentioned before. One important conclusion is that a face-to-face meeting can considerably boost the work of a Task Force or Working Group.

e-IRGSP5 will further continue to support the organisation of e-IRG Workshops as an important means to gather input for e-IRG policy documents as well as for inspiration on topics for these documents. e-IRGSP5 will also further support the delegates in the preparation of e-IRG policy documents and their dissemination.

Annex I – e-IRG Policy Document Links

The publications are available under <http://www.e-irg.eu/publications>. A full list of e-IRG documents is available under <http://e-irg.eu/downloads>. In some cases, printed copies will be also handed over during the review. Links have been included in the corresponding sections.

What are we talking about?

We try to use plain continental English. However, sometimes we need an abbreviation or acronym that is not widely known. A few of those are included here:

EC	European Commission
e-IRG	e-Infrastructure Reflection Group
e-IRGSP5	e-Infrastructure Reflection Group Support Programme 5
EOSC	European Open Science Cloud
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures

EU	European Union
EUDAT	European Collaborative Data Infrastructure
GEDE	Group of European Data Experts
H2020	Horizon 2020
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LUH	Leibniz Universität Hannover
NREN	National Research and Education Network
NWO	Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek
PRACE	Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe
RDA	Research Data Alliance
WP	Work Package