

**Standing Committee for the Social Sciences (SCSS)  
Self-Evaluation Report**



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## 1. Introduction

The Standing Committee for Social Sciences (SCSS) exists to cover the social science part of ESF's operation. It has the mission to help the collaboration of the Member Organisations and the research teams of ESF member countries, to provide a forum for the discussions on strategic and science management issues among the Member Organisations through their representatives, and also to contribute to the policy- and decision- making of ESF as a whole.

During the evaluation period 2003 to 2008, the SCSS addressed all the above with up to 32 full members and 7 observers. The full committee met twice a year, once in April and once in October; meetings were held on ESF premises (either Strasbourg or Brussels) at regular intervals but meetings are increasingly hosted by Member Organisations to allow for an exchange between the two bodies.

Some matters were delegated to the Core Group (CG). Until 2006, the Core Group was composed of 9 members, after which the Core Group increased to 10 members and adopted a rota to ensure a regular representation of countries, which were divided into five groups. Besides the Chair, each of the four major countries (Germany, United Kingdom, France and Italy) had one 'ex officio' member, and 5 other 'elected' members to represent each of the five groupings of European countries. The Core Group met physically once a year, late January or early February and it had at least one telephone conference in early September.

Overall, the attendance at Core Group and plenary meetings was just under 70%. The Core Group mainly convened in one day, whilst plenary meetings took place over two days; together with ESF staff and invited speakers, the number of participants has reached 40 and above. Not surprisingly, full Committee meetings were more formal, and discussions with important issues did not take place as easily as it would have been desired, hence the introduction of parallel break-out groups to better discuss, and solicit advice on, certain important issues.

During the six years from 2003 to 2008, the Standing Committee had three Chairs: Professor Chris Whelan (2002-2005), Gün Semin (2005-2007) and Sir Roderick Floud (2007-to date).

According to the ESF Statutes, each Standing Committee must be regularly evaluated. This document is intended to help the International Review Panel in its work. Since the last review took place in 2002/03, this self-evaluation covers the period from 2003 to 2008.

The sections of this document are organised according to the eight issues defined by ESF management for the International Review Panel and also for the SCSS. The issues are the following:

1. The directions, strategy and priorities taken by the committee since the last Review, the rationale for this, and where it may wish to go in the foreseeable future;
2. ESF's strategic priorities in relation to the work and strategy of the committee;
3. The balance of ESF Instruments and their suitability for the work of the committee;
4. Special success stories and achievements;
5. The disciplinary remit of the committee, issues of disciplinary balance and interdisciplinarity, and whether different structures or ways of working might be considered;
6. Working with other ESF scientific committees, including COST, and with ESF Governance;
7. Communication to and connectivity with ESF Member Organisations;
8. Issues of concern, whether arising in the work of the committee, the office, or in the broader ESF context.

## **2. The Directions, Strategy and Priorities taken by the Committee since the last Review, the Rationale for this, and where it may wish to go in the Foreseeable Future**

In the 2003/2008 period, the activity of the Standing Committee for Social Sciences was determined by the following factors:

- **The needs of the social science community in Europe as perceived by the Committee.**
- **The interests of the European Science Foundation as mediated by ESF management – to be covered under item 3 below.**
- **The recommendations of the Review Panel from the previous statutory review.**

### *The needs of the social sciences community*

SCSS exists to contribute to the improvement and promotion of the social sciences in Europe and in the world, particularly by developing international cooperation among scientists. The Standing Committee measures the needs of the social science community in various ways:

- The topics of applications submitted to ESF are an important indication of the present and future directions and interests of social scientists in Europe. ESF in general and, because of European Collaborative Research Projects (ECRP), SCSS in particular offers diverse support schemes to social scientists, whereby they can obtain funds for new research, establish networks, explore the horizon for challenging new topics or organise conferences to exchange ideas on promising issues. This enables SCSS to have an overview of current and emerging questions of the social science area.
- All the relevant social science funding agencies, academies and research councils are directly or indirectly represented in the SCSS and therefore have the opportunity to convey input from national developments to the work of the Committee.
- The Standing Committee has good relations with organisations such as the European Commission, National Science Foundation (USA), Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, International Social Science Council, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada), through which the Committee gets information on scientific initiatives from all around the world, from basic science as well as from applied and policy driven research.
- Finally, the members of the Standing Committee are scientists involved in research, higher education, international projects, doctoral schools, and science policy making; that is, SCSS members live the life of European social science and, being eminent scholars in their respective countries, do so on a very high level.

All these factors led SCSS to decisions that demonstrated attention to recurrent topics and issues in the 2003/2008 period:

- Summaries on the European situation of social sciences. Three times in the six years, SCSS completed or launched projects of writing comprehensive summaries on the conditions and tendencies in social sciences.
- Remarkable thematic continuities can be defined in the decisions of the Committee regarding new projects. At least four broad topics ran through the period: quantitative methodology in social sciences, questions of urban studies, the situation of children and the different aspects of ageing.
- The issues of the research infrastructure needs of social sciences, the increasing ICT needs in social sciences, the improvement of evaluation of performance by the creation of a better citation index/bibliometric tool for the area, the visibility and thereby the demonstration of policy relevance of social sciences, and support for the career possibilities of young scientists were the further recurrent issues during the 2003-2008 years.

*The recommendations of the Review Panel from the previous statutory review*

The Statutory Review of 2002/2003 made 33 recommendations regarding the activity of the Standing Committee for Social Sciences and SCSS did its best to implement almost all of them which were within its competence. First, we give a summary of the recommendations that SCSS implemented, then we outline the reasons why some recommendations proved to be impossible to realize. A couple of recommendations targeted not SCSS but ESF in general or the Member Organisations; they are mentioned accordingly.

N°	Recommendation	Response
1	<p><i>SC members must be provided with a clearly defined outline of what the job of being a SC member involves. This outline should clarify the domain of activities, for which the SCs (as opposed to MOs and the Secretariats) carry overall responsibility for, and should specify the series of tasks SC members are formally expected to perform. It should also include objective criteria (related, for example, to the attendance of meetings) that could be used to assess the performance of SC members. If a member of the SC is not functioning adequately, (s)he should be persuaded to withdraw.</i></p>	<p>As it is obvious from the respective points under the last item of this self-evaluation, there are still a couple of aspects of the status of SC members to be improved, SCSS considers the measures that have been taken meet the recommendation.</p> <p>SCSS introduced and regularly updated the list and guide of the ESF instruments. A welcome package with the ESF guide and also with information on the requirements which an SCSS member is expected to meet is sent to all incoming members and they attend an induction session at their first meeting.</p> <p>The objective criteria that could be used to assess the performance of SC members have not been defined for two reasons:</p> <p>Since this is an overarching issue at ESF, SCSS alone was not in the position to set such criteria.</p> <p>The activities are so diverse and so much dependent on the expertise of the SC members, that it is practically impossible to define the general requirements. This is particularly because the composition of the Standing Committee is determined by individual decisions of the Member Organisations, sometimes totally independent of the disciplinary needs of SCSS.</p>

N°	Recommendation	Response
2	<i>MOs should be required to provide the ESF with a list of three nominees for SC membership representing different disciplines within social sciences and humanities, and to include in this list at least one woman. Responsibility for the selection of SC members and, by implication, for an adequate gender and discipline balance within the SCs, must then be assumed by the ESF.</i>	The recommendation targeted the Member Organisations and ESF as a whole. In practice, Member Organisations have not always carried out this recommendation and this has led to imbalances within the membership of SCSS, although the current position is more satisfactory than in the past. The recommendation targeted the Member Organisations and ESF as a whole. In practice, Member Organisations have not always carried out this recommendation and this has led to imbalances within the membership of SCSS, although the current position is more satisfactory than in the past.
3	<i>A significant part of each plenary meeting should be set aside for the discussion of strategic science policy matters. To enable this, the SC's Core Groups should be asked to assume greater responsibility for dealing with routine matters currently being handled during SC plenary meetings.</i>	Since the review, each Standing Committee Plenary meeting has allocated sufficient time for discussion of strategic science policy matters. Every Plenary begins with strategic items and science policy issues and, at least at every second Plenary, break-out groups are established to discuss such questions.
4	<i>The Secretariats should spend more time on preparing SC meetings. More specifically, they should prepare concise summaries or reading guidelines to accompany the material made available prior to such meetings.</i>	This recommendation targets the secretariat and not the Standing Committee; however, the Secretariat provides SCSS members with concise summaries and reading guidelines to the documents and decision making.
5	<i>In providing SC members with an outline of what their role entails and what tasks they are expected to perform, their responsibility for maintaining effective linkages with their MOs should be strongly emphasised. At the same time, the ESF should stress the responsibility of MOs for ensuring that appropriate channels of communication between themselves and SC members are made functional. In this regard, the MOs should formally require SC members to regularly consult with them and report back on matters related to the SCs' activities.</i>	This recommendation mainly concerns the Member Organisations and ESF as a whole. The welcome guide, mentioned above, strongly emphasises the linkage role of the Committee members.
6	<i>With regard to the nomination of SC members, the ESF should persuade MOs to emphasize the existence of close relations (which may or may not extend to formal institutional linkages) between a SC member and relevant MOs as a formal nomination criterion.</i>	The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.
7	<i>In asking MOs to provide a list of three nominees for SC membership, the ESF should not require MOs to rank nominees in order of preference. (Should the ESF, in its efforts to ensure an adequate gender balance within the SCs' composition, for example, not select a MO's first choice of nominee, this could serve to undermine the MO's trust in the SC).</i>	The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.
8	<i>The Secretariats must pay more attention to supporting and coordinating communications between the SCs and MOs. More specifically, they must improve the provision of an efficient, effective and regular flow of information about SC activities to MOs. This includes making succinct minutes of meetings, as well as required action or decision lists, available to MOs as soon as possible after SC meetings.</i>	This recommendation targets the secretariat and not the Standing Committee; however, the Secretariat sees to it that all documents that are sent to SCSS members are sent to the Member Organisations as well. This became automatic after the Review.

N°	Recommendation	Response
9	<p><i>The ESF should improve its (internal) information policy so as to ensure that important stakeholders (especially SC members and MO representatives) are clearly informed about how the ESF and its SCs work. More specifically, it should make available to such stakeholders clear information about what important procedures (such as the appointment of SC Chairs) entail. In this regard, the preparation of a 'welcoming package' for new SCSS and SCH members is to be strongly supported. The Secretariats should be encouraged to include in such a package information about not only both SC procedures, but also more centrally managed ESF procedures relevant to the SCs.</i></p>	<p>This recommendation targets not the Standing Committee but ESF as a whole and the Secretariat; however, a welcome package has been introduced on the different procedures of ESF.</p>
10	<p><i>The ESF should be aware of the existence of concern amongst some SC members and MOs about the undemocratic nature of SC procedures, and should seek to monitor the perceptions of its stakeholders about this issue.</i></p>	<p>SCSS has procedures that assure the democratic decision making process; no contrary complaints have been received by the Chair or the Secretariat. Otherwise the recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.</p>
11	<p><i>In order to ensure that valuable opportunities for inter-disciplinarity are not missed, and that practical problems associated with the future joint support of scientific activities are anticipated, the ESF should pay more attention to opportunities for collaboration between its five SCs and, consequently, to the importance of promoting effective coordination between them, for instance at the point of elaboration of exploratory workshops.</i></p>	<p>Interdisciplinary cooperation with the Standing Committees of ESF has improved considerably as is demonstrated by data and the points under item 4 below.</p>
	<p><i>The SCs should strongly promote the bottom-up support of small scale activities aimed at identifying new and innovative research ideas. In line with this, they should allocate a larger proportion of their budgets to Exploratory Workshops. However, this should be undertaken only on condition that the SCs pay careful attention to the question of what happens after an Exploratory Workshop has taken place. In this context, the SCs are urged to find appropriate mechanisms that promote and facilitate the further development of research topics, which have been the focus of Exploratory Workshops.</i></p>	
13	<p><i>The SCs should introduce a system whereby potential applicants are requested to submit an initial letter of intent for an Exploratory Workshop. A clearly structured format for the submission of letters of intent must be designed, and it should be made possible to complete this process electronically. In terms of processing letters of intent, the SCs' Core Groups should be given the authority to select from the proposals those researchers who should be invited to submit a full application. This process need not take place during Core Group meetings, but could be conducted via email communications.</i></p>	<p>The funding and management of Exploratory Workshops has changed considerably since the Review; some parts of the recommendations are not relevant now.</p> <p>As for the strategic input of the Workshops, at every Spring Plenary, SCSS has received a report on the projects of the previous year. It is true, however, that sometimes it is difficult to obtain valuable information from the EW convenors on the follow-up activities.</p>
14	<p><i>The SCs should not go any further than they already do in terms of setting thematic priorities for the activities they support. In terms of the possibility of increasing support for Exploratory Workshops, this means making additional resources available under the so-called 'open element' of annual calls for proposals for such Workshops.</i></p>	

N°	Recommendation	Response
15	<i>The ESF must improve its (external and internal) information policy by ensuring that clearer information about what each of its funding instruments entails, and how they differ, is provided in brochures, website material, as well as in the 'welcoming package' being prepared for newcomers to the SCs.</i>	A complete redesign of the ESF website took place in 2007. Several changes were also implemented in the brochures and other publications to provide better information about the instruments. SCSS made specific efforts to provide ECRP with due visibility.
16	<i>The ESF should take note of the issue of equal access to support by its SCs and treat this as an issue, which deserves to be looked into. In particular, measures should be taken to improve the access of scientists from wider Europe, which have hitherto demonstrated limited participation in SC supported activities.</i>	<p>Apart from the strategic activities and instruments (Exploratory Workshops, Forward Looks and Member Organisations Fora), the participation in ESF projects is highly dependent on the financial capacity of the Member Organisations, particularly on that of the funding agencies; this is obviously not the responsibility of the Standing Committee.</p> <p>Still, ESF in general and SCSS in particular made changes in communication in order to improve the access to SC support. As a part of this, the Secretariat paid visits to Member Organisations with the lowest activity in ESF projects to give information to MO heads and officers as well as to scientists in the respective countries. As a consequence, e.g., further central and eastern European Member Organisations joined the group of ECRP funding organisations, which will certainly lead to growing applications and, in turn, participation of scientists from the region in ECRP projects.</p> <p>The general issue of the situation of central and eastern Europe was considered so important at the Committee that first a Member Organisation Forum analysed it from 2006 to 2008 and, in 2008, after a strategic workshop, a Forward Look proposal was prepared on the future research questions of the region. Social scientists from central and eastern Europe were involved in both projects to a major extent.</p>
17	<i>The ESF must improve its external information policy by encouraging MOs to be more actively involved in bringing information about the ESF and its funding opportunities to the attention of the various national communities of scientists. The Secretariats should assist the MOs in undertaking this task by providing them with the necessary materials to be used.</i>	Whenever an MO asked for help, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat did its best to assist the partners in improving the visibility of ESF and SCSS.
18	<i>In order to reduce the overall number of applications to be refereed (and thus combat referee fatigue), the SCs are (again) urged to introduce a system whereby potential applicants submit letters of intent for Exploratory Workshop, and the SCs' Core Groups are tasked to select from these submissions those researchers who should be invited to submit an application.</i>	As mentioned above, the procedures are set on ESF level and not on the level of the Standing Committees.
19	<i>The Secretariat of the SCSS must be strongly encouraged and supported by the ESF in its current efforts to build a database of referees. Such a database must be systematically created and maintained (also in the case of the SCH's database) by means of regular consultation with SC members and MOs, as well as with international disciplinary and other professional organisations or associations. In using the databases to select referees, the Secretariats must actively consult with SC members.</i>	A general ESF database of referees has been built with reviewers also from social sciences. Moreover, SCSS carried out a special task of getting lists of social science referees from the MOs in Central and Eastern Europe.
20	<i>If it has not already been done, the Secretariats should implement a standard procedure for monitoring the refereeing process (e.g. sending out reminders if referees have not responded by a certain date), including feedback to the referees on the decision that has been made.</i>	The refereeing processes have improved considerably during the 2003/2008 period; the response rates were relatively high in the area of social sciences as it is demonstrated by the respective table on Exploratory Workshop refereeing. This is the more remarkable because SCSS usually gets the most EW proposals.
21	<i>If the measures that have been recommended here prove not to be effective, the ESF should consider offering referees a symbolic financial incentive in order to guarantee their commitment.</i>	The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole but one can mention that ESF organised a Member Organisation Forum project on peer reviewing and has been developing this activity as a new main profile of the organisation.

N°	Recommendation	Response
22	<i>The SCs should place the problem of peer review on their agendas as a critical science policy issue that needs to be addressed. They could also consider funding a workshop on this topic so as to draw other European science policy practitioners and researchers into the discussion.</i>	
23	<i>It is essential that the launching of à la carte programmes be based on only one round of refereeing instead of two and, hence, that MOs be convinced by the SCs not to repeat the process at the national level. To ensure that they are so convinced, the SCs must raise the standard of their refereeing procedures. In addition, they must further nurture the trust of MOs by, for example, involving those MOs actually funding an à la carte programme in the choice of referees.</i>	In most of the cases, the MOs trust ESF in evaluation; there are still some MOs, however, that insist on the repetition of assessments. Without doubt, this indicates that ESF has not managed to convince all the Member Organisations of the reliability of ESF peer reviewing.
24	<i>At least for Exploratory Workshops, Networks and Scientific Programmes, it is unnecessary to involve external or independent evaluators. Instead, ex post evaluation is to be undertaken by SC members themselves. As soon as the SC decides to support an activity, it should appoint one of its members to monitor and evaluate it until the final report is published. In this way the monitoring operation becomes a permanent evaluation and feedback system, and evaluation can become an effective learning tool.</i>	In almost every case, rapporteurs for the projects come from the Standing Committee.
25	<i>The structure and format of Final Reports must be clearly specified. Apart from an overview of events organised, participants invited, outputs produced, etc. such reports must, in all cases, include a narrative, which sets out the main scientific results produced.</i>	The procedures of final reporting are set out at ESF corporate level.
26	<i>As a way of making the obligation to submit a high quality Final Report explicit, the SCs should consider withholding a percentage (10%) of the funds allocated to an activity until Final Reports have been received.</i>	
27	<i>The ESF should produce a (regularly-updated) catalogue of publications resulting from the activities it supports. In addition, copies of these publications should be kept in an ESF library in the Strasbourg office.</i>	The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.
28	<i>The ESF should adopt a policy about the presentation of outputs, which makes ESF support of the latter clearly visible. It may even go so far as to impose an element of design on the covers of ESF supported publications.</i>	The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.
29	<i>The SCs should consider publishing the summaries of scientific results, (to be) included in the final reports.</i>	ESF introduced the series of Science Policy Briefings and Standing Committee Position Papers, which are the summaries of projects, particularly the strategic ones. They publish the recommendations of the projects separately from the Final Reports.
30	<i>More substantive state of the art reviews of the kind that are often produced in the early stages of projects should also be included in the website so as to increase its perceived value and thereby to raise the visibility of the ESF.</i>	Each project has webpages with information on achievements.
31	<i>The ESF must encourage the SCs to take seriously the role they have to play in contributing to the ESF's central policy function. The SCs must, in turn, recognise that this role should not be performed independently of the ESF's Central Office. Preferably, the discussions should result in clear proposals fit for practical decision making at the appropriate level.</i>	SCSS regularly invited the senior officers of ESF Central Office to discuss strategic issues.

N°	Recommendation	Response
32	<p><i>The SCs should seriously consider developing appropriate science policy initiatives on the following topics:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Peer review;</i></li> <li>• <i>Inter-disciplinarity;</i></li> <li>• <i>The role and position of the social sciences and humanities in the European Research Area and Research Council;</i></li> <li>• <i>The demography of the research community and the staffing needs of European universities.</i></li> </ul>	<p>As indicated above (recommendations 21 &amp; 22), ESF organised a project on peer review.</p> <p>The ESF Interdisciplinary New Initiative Fund supported several interdisciplinary initiatives; one of them was specifically on the methodology gaps between social sciences and humanities.</p> <p>SCSS has launched projects to produce overviews on the role and position of social sciences in Europe three times: 2004, 2005 and 2008; the first two summaries were published; the third is to be published in 2009.</p> <p>The fourth issue has not been scrutinized systematically yet.</p>
33	<p><i>With regard to the selection and appointment of Senior Scientific Secretaries, the ESF must give absolute priority to the criterion of excellence in organisational and research administrative skills and experience, in order to avoid the harmful confusion of roles of the Secretaries and SC members.</i></p>	<p>The recommendation targeted ESF as a whole.</p> <p>Regarding SCSS, there were no serious managerial problems during the period, particularly not as serious as those 2003.</p>

### 3. ESF's Strategic Priorities in relation to the Work and Strategy of the Committee

Social sciences are part of the sciences in general; in spite of considerable specificities, they have similar problems to other scientific areas. The tendencies and priorities relevant for international collaboration were mediated by ESF management to a great extent. With Member Organisations from almost everywhere in Europe and also from all the sciences, ESF management is a natural communication channel between social sciences and all the other disciplinary fields. ESF management was also important in defining and offering new directions in the long term and everyday operation of the Standing Committee. One should not ignore, however, the tensions and debates that were present in the relationship with ESF management, which originated from the fact that SCSS always had specific interests and approaches to the strategic options and day-to-day working of the Foundation as a whole.

The harmonization of the Committee's work with ESF's strategy was not always easy. The period of 2004 and 2005 was the main turning point because it was the time when ESF management reformed the profile of ESF from facilitator to strategic advisor. This shift was very sudden and, for a long while, hardly acceptable to the Committee because SCSS felt that the new profile would overshadow the so far successful activities and instruments like Exploratory Workshop, Networks and Programmes, and would favour instruments (Forward Look, Conferences and EUROCORES) that had not shown enough success or success at all to qualify for the role of flagship.

The Committee members explicitly criticized the new proposed profile, saying for example that funding should not go to Forward Looks but rather to the older instruments. As for Conferences, the SCSS argued that since there were several further schemes on the European landscape for conference organisation, it was hardly reasonable to keep this profile at ESF. A further point argued against the new profile was that Forward Looks would raise unfounded hopes in the scientific community regarding future funding.

After the critical debates between SCSS and the ESF management, the Standing Committee began an efficient and successful effort to play the strategic advisor role by defining strategic topics for Forward Look projects. The Standing Committee also played a strategic advisory role when initiated, launched and managed the Member Organisation Forum project on the central and eastern European Member Organisations; this project was exceptional in terms of running exclusively within the framework of a Standing Committee instead of being managed on the CEO level of ESF.

According to the data, among the five Standing Committees, SCSS spent the most on strategic activities once it had a separate strategic budget, that is, in 2006, 2007 and 2008. It was also the Social Sciences Standing Committee that was involved in the most Forward Looks, and no Standing Committee had leadership in more FL projects than SCSS. It is also true, however, that the Committee showed relatively low interest in the preparation of Science Policy Briefings.

One can claim, therefore, that SCSS did its best to participate in the strategic activities of ESF. Still, after five years of the life of Forward Look, the Committee is not sure of the success of the scheme. The main problem is that the target of the strategic advice is not well defined. Thus, the process of definition of topics is less transparent and smooth than necessary; and there are doubts regarding the impact of the results of Forward Looks.

A second less explicit conflict emerged around the termination of the Networks scheme, which, again, had been considered successful by the Committee. There, however, the SCSS more or less accepted the argument that the link with COST and the presence of COST Actions in the offer of ESF made Networks superfluous. Then, when the Programmes scheme was reborn in the form of Research Networking Programmes, the SCSS was glad to greet this development.

By the last years of the 2003-2008 periods, the peer review service started to appear an important future profile of ESF. SCSS always paid special attention to peer reviewing in its activity even though cross border assessment has particular difficulties in social sciences, which are more embedded in the national culture and language contexts than are natural sciences or engineering.

#### 4. The Balance of ESF Instruments and their Suitability for the Work of the Committee

In general, the spectrum of the ESF instruments is favourable for SCSS even though there are more and less popular schemes among them. The differences go back to the nature of social sciences, which are different from the natural sciences and engineering sciences.

Social science research, just like scientific activities in humanities, is more diverse, sometimes more fragmented, than in other areas. This implies that frequently social scientists need smaller schemes. That is the reason why Exploratory Workshops, ECRP and Research Networking Programmes were much more popular in the social sciences than Conferences and EUROCORES.

This fact does not exclude, however, larger projects: several new topics required broader projects with more participants, e.g., the higher education studies or research on political values and institutions, which led to the two EUROCORES programmes: EuroHESC and HumVIB respectively. Another factor that seems to push social sciences in this direction is that Europe is a natural laboratory for social sciences because the different countries offer very diverse social arrangements. The social sciences, therefore, naturally tend towards international comparisons, and, in this way, towards broad international collaborations; the best example is European Social Survey.

The summary below gives information about each scheme - even the one, Networks, that does not exist anymore. Special attention is paid to ECRP because the scheme was available only in the social sciences.

##### Overview of Number of Running Activities (within ESF instruments)

Activity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Research Conferences	5	2	1	3	5	3
EUROCORES Programmes	-	-	-	1	3	4
European Collaborative Research Projects (social sciences only) *	3	4	5	5	5	5
Exploratory Workshops	12	14	15	20	20	20
Forward Looks	2	1	1	2	3	4
Interdisciplinary Initiatives (INIF)	-	-	-	1	4	4
Networks	8	9	5	2	1	0
Research Networking Programmes	4	3	2	6	7	9

*Activities spanning several years are counted once each year they are active*

*All trans-committee activities involving the social sciences are included*

*\* Non-thematic EUROCORES from 2005 onwards. Numbers refer to annual competitions (e.g. ECRP I, ECRP II) not individual projects*

## Exploratory Workshops (EW)

The most popular instrument in social sciences is the Exploratory Workshop; SCSS was involved in 101 workshops in the 2003/2008 period, which is 29 percent of the 354 funded across ESF, that is, in the remits of the five Standing Committees. Most of the time, SCSS received the most proposals for EW and the Committee was involved in a large number of further proposals which belonged to more than one Committee's remit. The share of SCSS in the single committee proposals was always above 25 per cent, sometimes above one third. The share of social sciences in the trans-committee applications was even higher: except in 2008, it was always above 50 per cent; it reached more than 76 per cent in 2005.

### Statistics on Exploratory Workshops (ESF-Wide Annual Call)

		2003		SCSS	2004		SCSS	2005		SCSS
N° Applications	Single committee	228	180	51	308	267	72	329	273	84
	Trans-Committee*		48	28		41	29		56	43
N° of awards	Single committee	52	44	10	60 (62**)	56 (54**)	12 (10***)	64	59	19
	Trans-Committee*		8	4		6	5		5	1
				14			17 (15***)			20

  

		2006		SCSS	2007		SCSS	2008		SCSS
N° Applications	Single committee	224	149	51	172	119	40	337	205	93
	Trans-Committee*		75	47		53	27		132	53
N° of awards	Single committee	65 (64***)	53 (52***)	15	54	39	10	59 (58***)	44 (43***)	13 (12***)
	Trans-Committee*		12	5		15	10		15	6
				20			20			19 (18***)

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

\*\* 2 awards not taken up/withdrawn in the course of the year

\*\*\* 1 award not taken up/ withdrawn in the course of the year

Exploratory Workshops were considered important not just because of their popularity in the social science community but also because the proposals indicated new promising topics and directions in the area. For example, successful proposals on online crime reporting or on relationship between technology and religion underlined the necessity to deal with the ICT aspects of social processes and the social aspects of technology.

Another important argument for the scheme was that there was practically no alternative funding for the same activity in Europe whereas it is inherent in ESF's mission to help individual European scientists find each other and start communication.

The Standing Committee for Social Sciences, therefore, felt obliged to pay special attention to EW scheme. When, in 2008, the possibility of terminating the scheme was discussed at ESF, SCSS was in favour of keeping it even though the reviewing process was always considered to be too time- and energy consuming.

SCSS discussed reports on the Exploratory Workshops every year. Sometimes the Committee focussed on the procedures of the scheme, namely how to improve the evaluation process; sometimes on the possible strategic use of the different workshops held in the previous years. As for the latter, the general results were favourable: some of them did turn to broader projects (ECRP and NORFACE proposal, FP7 initiatives etc.) or resulted in other outputs, e.g., publications, stable networks.

SCSS assessed the scheme as largely successful even if not flawless. A couple of workshops did not meet the requirements of the objectives of the scheme: some were used for funding regular meetings of long standing networks, some were actually about research results and not about exploration of the horizons, and, in one or two cases, even the scientific quality seemed questionable. Since, however, SCSS had one hundred Exploratory Workshops for the six years; it was almost inevitable that some of them were below expectations.

### European Collaborative Research (EUROCORES)

EUROCORES belongs to the group of large schemes which proved not to be very popular in the social sciences during the six year period. Ever since the first call in 2005, the share of the social science theme proposals was very low and, in 2008, no social science theme proposal was evaluated favourably enough to be recommended for outline stage and for funding. It is not surprising then that only 4 EUROCORES had social science involvement between 2005 and 2008, and only two from among them were led by SCSS.

#### Statistics on Eurocores Themes (ESF-wide Call since 2005)

		2005		SCSS	2006		SCSS	2007		SCSS	2008		SCSS
N° Applications	Single committee	52	43	3	47	37	8	35	23 (+2**)	1	38	30	2
	Trans-Committee*		9	4		10	7		10	7		8	2
N° of Approved Proposals	Single committee	5	3	0	7	6	1	6	6	1	6	5	0
	Trans-Committee*		2	2		1	1		0	0		1	0
N° launched	Single committee	4	3	0	6	5	1	3	3	1	6	5	0
	Trans-Committee*		1	1		1	1		0	0		1	0
				1			2			1			0

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

\*\*Ineligible programmes

2008 Call: no activities yet, to be updated

### Forward Looks (FL)

SCSS initially had the most doubts in connection with Forward Looks. By the second half of the period, however, the Committee had developed ways of defining and developing FL topics and initiatives: the plenary meetings of the Committee regularly established break-out groups for brainstorming that was to result in initiatives, which were discussed at strategic workshops and developed into FL proposals afterwards.

The scheme itself changed considerably since its beginnings, and one can speak about a slow growth in numbers from 1 per year in 2004 and 2005 to 4 current FLs in 2008. These projects were mostly trans-committee endeavours but SCSS was the leader in 4 from among the 8 FLs with social science involvement. The Forward Look on higher education was followed up by a EUROCORES, which was the realization of the expectation that Forward Looks should set the science agenda for scientists as well as for funders in Europe.

There remain some concerns about how best to focus and organise the Forward Look procedures, including both how to avoid subject capture by those with strong commitment to particular niche areas, and also about how to engage world leading researchers in the process which is not always currently the position.

## ESF Research Conferences

This scheme aims at organising large conferences with the participation of hundreds of scientists. Such size was rarely attractive in social sciences. Since 2005, the share of social sciences in applications hardly ever went above 11 per cent. SCSS was involved in 16 conferences during the six years: from 5 in 2003 to 0 in 2005 and 2 in 2008. The Committee had partnerships with Linköping University and with Kiel University.

### Statistics on Research Conferences

Between 50-80% of all ESF Research Conferences are generated 'bottom-up' through the Call for Proposals. Others are generated 'top down' through appointments of chairs by the Science Units in collaboration with external funding partners

#### A) Call for Proposals

Single common annual Call for Proposals since 2005 with increasing N° of awards due to increase in external co-funding

		2005		SCSS	2006		SCSS	2007		SCSS	2008		SCSS
N° Applications	Single committee	52	0	0	52	6	6	47	5	5	83	9	9
	Trans-Committee*		52	7		46	11		42	7		74	21
N° of Awards granted	Single committee	13	0	0	14	2	2	13	2	2	17**	3	3**
	Trans-Committee*		13	2		12	2		11	0		14	1**
				2			4			2			4**

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

\*\* Estimated final N°: ca. 23 (final outcome to be known 28/03/09)

#### B) Top-Down generated events

		Total	SCSS
2006	Single committee	5	4
	Trans-Committee*		1
2007	Single committee	7	3
	Trans-Committee*		4
2008	Single committee	9	7
	Trans-Committee*		2

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

## Networks

ESF Scientific Networks do not exist anymore; thus the number of running projects declined during the period: from 8 in 2003 to 1 in 2007 when the last Network ended. The last call in 2003 was received with interest in the social science community: one third of the single committee applications and half of the trans-committee ones aimed at SCSS. The same year, 4 awards were distributed, one in the area of social sciences.

**Statistics on Networks** (2 ESF-wide annual calls; no further calls after May 2003)

		2003		SCSS
N° Applications	Single committee	25	16	5
	Trans-Committee*		9	5
N° of awards	Single committee	4	3	1
	Trans-Committee*		1	0

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

## Research Networking Programmes (RNP)

The interest of the funders as well as of the scientists in RNP changed in the period. After the first open call in 2005, the number of single committee applications from the social sciences decreased from 13 in 2005 to 9 in 2008 with a peak of 20 in 2006 when the total number of applications submitted to ESF was the highest so far. The number of trans-committee applications with social science content also changed from 21 (2005) to 26 (2008) with a trough of 10 in 2007. This indicates that social scientists participated in trans-committee applications more frequently than in single committee ones.

**Statistics on Research Networking Programmes** (ESF-wide annual Call for Proposals since 2005 and for à la carte Contributions)

		2005		SCSS	2006		SCSS	2007		SCSS	2008		SCSS	
N° Applications	Single committee	89	57	13	132	88	20	122	86	10	112	68	9	
	Trans-Committee*		32	21		44	21		36	10		44	26	
N° of recommended Proposals	Single committee	18	12	3	15	11	1	19	17	3	Data not available yet			
	Trans-Committee*		6	2		4	2		2	-				
N° of RNPs launched	Single committee	8	6	1	15	11	1	15**	13**	3	Data not available yet			
	Trans-Committee*		2	-		4	2		2	-				
				1					3					
										3				

\* Trans-committee proposals are counted several times in the subdivision by units.

\*\*Pending final confirmation and ratification

The willingness of the funders to support RNPs also varied but showed a positive tendency: in 2005, only one new RNP was launched, while in 2007, 3 exclusively social science ones were funded. All in all, the number of actually running projects grew from 2 in 2005 to 9 in 2008.

**European Collaborative Research Projects (ECRP).** ECRP was unique to SCSS and popular among MOs. Operating under the EUROCORES umbrella since 2005, it supports investigator-driven, multinational collaborative research in the social sciences. Its annual competition is open to applications in all fields of the social sciences.

ECRP was always favoured by the Standing Committee because of its lightness and openness. SCSS worked to save the scheme from termination in 2004. The survival of ECRP was dependent upon the regular evaluation of the scheme, which took place first in 2004 and then in 2007/8. The evaluations found the project type successful and made useful recommendations.

The development of the scheme led to growing interest on the part of the funding agencies, recently even from the central and eastern European region: the number of awards varied between 2 and 8, the average being above 5, which meant an average success rate of about 15 per cent. Other Standing Committees are now interested in implementing similar schemes in their areas. Continuing work is needed on the organisation and quality of peer and panel review, but in the last year 21 national agencies from 20 countries have agreed to support the ECRP scheme for a further period of three years, demonstrating its considerable importance and role at this time.

#### Statistics on ECRP Call

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>N° Applications</b>	23	60	49	26	21	27
<b>N° of Awards</b>	4	8	8	5	2	5 (tbc)
<b>Success rate (%)</b>	17 %	13 %	16 %	19 %	10 %	19 % (tbc)

## 5. Special Success Stories and Achievements

### ***European Social Survey (ESS)***

The greatest success of a project within the remit of the Standing Committee is certainly the European Social Survey. The project started as an initiative by the Standing Committee in 1997 and, by 2001, it became the science-driven biannual survey as it is known today. In 2005, ESS was the first social science project to win the Descartes prize.

SCSS has provided ESS with management services by funding and organizing the meetings of the Science Advisory Board and the Funders' Forum of the European Social Survey. It was always the task of SCSS to turn to the potential funders and ask for financial commitments for the next round or rounds of the Survey.

SCSS also managed the evaluation of ESS. In 2007, a five member Review Panel was established, which scrutinized the achievements and operation of the project. The Panel found ESS to be extremely valuable for social science research and also for the advancement of survey methodology worldwide. The positive assessment helped the project to obtain commitments from a considerable number of European countries and, eventually, to bridge the funding gap after the end of the European Commission contract that had supported the central costs. ESF CEO and SCSS did its best to help solve the funding problem and also to convince the EU Member States to put ESS on their national ESFRI Roadmaps; this has now been achieved

### ***Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS)***

In 2008, SCSS launched the second Research Networking Programme (RNP) on quantitative methods in the social sciences: QMSS II. It was a continuation of the highly successful first networking programme QMSS, which had run from 2003 to 2007. The aim for both activities was to counteract the evident lack of quantitatively competent social scientists by developing a new generation of quantitative researchers.

This capacity exercise was complemented by the attempt to develop new methods for illustrative analyses of data sets such as the European Social Survey. As SCSS has also been supporting a EUROCORES Programme (HumVIB), aimed at exploiting available ESS data, the continuation of QMSS demonstrates SCSS' ability to establish a strong linkage between infrastructure measures, critical mass research programmes and capacity building for the benefit of the social sciences around Europe.

### ***Member Organisation Fora on Central and Eastern Europe (MOCEE)***

The project ran from 2006 to 2008 and dealt with the conditions of the social sciences in the central and eastern European region. Many of the social sciences had been politically problematic under communist regimes and were therefore less developed than other sciences in those countries.

Three workshops of experts and representatives of Member Organisations discussed different aspects of the issue. A published report described the situation of higher education and research in all the twelve countries in the region.

As follow up activities, a volume on the different aspects of central and eastern European research will be published by Routledge (UK); a Forward Look proposal was prepared in the Standing Committee and, after approval within ESF, FL project "Central and Eastern European Countries beyond Transition: Convergence and Divergence in Europe" was launched in 2009; an SCSS Science Position Paper summed up the main results of the MOCEE project and made recommendations for the scientific community.

### ***European Social Cognition Network (ESCON)***

In 2002, the Research Networking Programme on social cognition sprang from the need to encourage a reduction in the current imbalance, where the United States was the main player and, consequently, resources and researchers were drawn away from Europe. The Programme, therefore, targeted the young scientists of the field and gave much emphasise to educational programmes, like summer schools apart from research.

The project became a great success. The American scientists were so impressed by the programme that they suggested the formation of an international structure, ISCON, that was clearly the extension of ESCON. This reflects the exceptional international attention that ESCON got. It stimulated many international exchanges, collaborations, and established its own journal.

The emergence of the powerful paradigm of 'social cognition' played important role in creating synergy effects. It brought together young scientists from European and non-European countries in conferences that were dedicated to training, promotion and networking for PhD students and to stimulate the development of novel syntheses that would lead to new, groundbreaking research.

Through ESCON, social cognition became an international research enterprise that is, in quite a number of topics, dominated by European scientists, whose work has been published not only in the best international journals of the field, but also in the most prestigious outlets of science as a whole.

An enormous number of young European scientists, who participated in ESCON, have achieved outstanding international visibility, assumed professorships in European countries and in North America; some became editors of the flagship journals of social psychology.

## **6. The Disciplinary Remit of the Committee, Issues of Disciplinary Balance and Interdisciplinarity, and whether Different Structures or Ways of Working might be Considered**

According to its mission, SCSS covers the following disciplines:

- **Business and Administrative Sciences**
- **Communication Sciences**
- **Demography**
- **Economics**
- **Environmental Sciences**
- **Geography**
- **International Relations**
- **Law**
- **Pedagogy and Education Research**
- **Political Sciences**
- **Psychology and Cognitive Sciences**
- **Social Anthropology**
- **Social Statistics and Informatics**
- **Sociology**
- **Women's Studies**

It should be recognised that different countries have different definitions of the scope of the social sciences. In some countries, for example, psychology is considered to be a discipline within the humanities, or even within the biological or natural sciences, rather than as a social science. Similar differences exist in such fields as education, anthropology and archaeology. These differences can in some cases give rise to problems of representation or to disputes about areas of responsibility, which require resolution by sensible discussion within and between the Standing Committees.

During the period of 2003-2008, not all of the disciplines listed above were covered by SCSS members and not all those covered were represented properly throughout the 2003/2008 period. Economics, Sociology, Political Sciences and Psychology had representatives in large numbers while no SC member ever identified him or herself as expert specifically in Social Statistics and Informatics. Furthermore, disciplines like Law, Demography, Geography and Social Anthropology had rather low representation in the Committee. While, during recent years, ESF asked the Member Organisations for multiple nominations according to the disciplinary needs of the Standing Committees, frequently the MOs preferred to send representatives from a high level decision making body rather than from the disciplines defined by SCSS.

Under-representation caused a number of problems in the peer reviewing activities of the Committee, which it tried to solve by leaning on external help. It is also true, however, that most of the proposals the Committee had to deal with came from the overrepresented disciplines (Economics, Sociology, Political Sciences and Psychology); still the considerable amount of tasks in Law and the importance of the European Social Survey without a social statistician in the SCSS led to less than favourable situations even though many Committee members have sufficient expertise in quantitative methods and social statistics to evaluate proposals.

The tensions of this kind were eased to a certain extent by the interdisciplinary character of the SCSS members: they were scientists with broad enough knowledge to cover, when necessary, multiple fields.

All in all, the disciplinary remit of the Standing Committee is reasonable, and the Committee can play all its different roles as expected.

In spite of the overlaps with the remit of the Standing Committee for Humanities, SCSS believes that there it would be harmful to unite the two Committees. The unification would certainly lead to a drastic shrinkage of the coverage of both social sciences and humanities, which would endanger the proper peer reviewing and strategic advisory activity of the body.

## 7. Working with other ESF Scientific Committees, including COST, and with ESF Governance

SCSS was open to and proactive in cooperation with other scientific bodies and organisations. It is partly the consequence of the fact that many scientific problems have social roots or consequences, and their solution is determined by social (economic, political, social etc.) interests and factors.

### ***Cooperation with other Standing Committees***

Apart from a couple of Exploratory Workshops and Forward Looks, the Interdisciplinary New Initiatives Fund (INIF) gave opportunities for trans-committee cooperation for more than two committees in one project. From among the 6 INIFs, which ran in the period of 2003/2008 with SCSS involvement, 4 covered at least 3 Committees, the rest were shared between SCH and SCSS.

One of the first Forward Looks, the one on urban science, started as a common project of all the Standing Committees but, after a while, SCSS was the only one behind it. The Forward Look on European food systems was led by LESC and had contribution from EMRC, SCH and SCSS and also from COST.

**Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH).** The cooperation with SCH was exceptionally fruitful although not without temporary tensions, which were resolved by discussion between the two Chairs.

The two Standing Committees initiated and managed several projects together. For the six years, SCSS had two Forward looks, 17 Exploratory Workshops, one RNP, two EUROCORES programmes, two Networks and two INIF projects together with SCH.

The temporary tensions sprang from the overlaps between the two Committees' disciplinary remits mainly in the area of psychology. In order to profit from the overlaps, the two Committees collaborated in an INIF project, which aimed precisely at the clarification of methodological gaps. The two Core Groups had one common meeting. By the end of the period, the scientific remits of the Committees were defined precisely and with mutual consent.

**Life, Earth and Environmental Sciences Standing Committee (LESC).** A favourable development was the increasing cooperation with LESC. SCSS and LESC had nine EWs, one EUROCORES programme and one RNP together – apart from the FLs and INIFs mentioned above. In 2008, the two Committees worked together on a new Forward Look proposal, which was launched in 2009.

**Physical and Engineering Sciences Standing Committee (PESC) and European Medical Research Council (EMRC).** The cooperation with PESC and EMRC remained more or less on the same level: three common EWs with each, two RNPs with EMRC, one Network with PESC.

### ***Cooperation with COST***

COST was an important partner even if with declining cooperation. Until 2007, the social science parts of the two organisations managed a Dialogue Group, which met twice a year, but afterwards the cooperation was limited to the attendance of the observers and the secretariats at the Domain Committee and Standing Committee meetings.

### ***Cooperation with external organisations***

The following organisations regularly attended the plenary meetings of SCSS: European Commission, National Science Foundation (NSF - USA), European Strategic Forum of Research Infrastructures (ESFRI), International Social Science Forum (ISSC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, (Canada) and Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. From time to time, the observers from the guest partners gave presentations on their activities and plans.

SCSS took active part in discussions about several initiatives of the European Commission. It gave advice in the preparation and starting period of European Research Council; ESFRI actually began as a forum at ESF and the ideas and visions of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programmes were also discussed in SCSS.

SCSS followed the transformation of ISSC with much attention and was happy to cooperate with the Council in the preparation of a comparative study of the situation of social sciences in and outside Europe. SCSS played a substantial role at the first International Social Science Forum, held in Bergen, Norway, in May 2009.

The American and Canadian observers played important parts in involving their organisations and also American and Canadian scientists in ESF research programmes. ESF representatives took part in meetings of the relevant organisations.

## **8. Communication to and Connectivity with ESF Member Organisations**

The 2002 recommendations suggested the reorganisation and restructuring of SCSS activities. They recommended the introduction of sub-committees, advisory groups and break-out groups into the meetings and also into the decision making processes of the Committee. These recommendations were implemented and had important consequences for the communication with the Member Organisations.

The MO representatives have been involved in the different activities through these smaller bodies, but in addition, in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2008, general Core Group + MOs meetings also took place. In early 2006, the Standing Committee took the decision that, in view of the declining attendance, it was not sensible to insist on the yearly CG+MO meetings; they foresaw rather meetings according to real needs. In 2008, the future of EUROCORES and the funding gap of ESS made it reasonable to organise such a meeting, which was successful.

MOs were invited to various projects, workshops, conferences, etc. Several of these were automatic, that is, prescribed by the Statute or by the procedures and guidelines of the different instruments. SCSS also communicated with the MOs through visits of its Chair or of the members of the Unit.

In spite of the development, the communication to the Member Organisations remained a difficulty. With the high diversity of the membership in ESF in general, and in SCSS in particular, the interests and needs of the different MOs inevitably diverge. This situation makes it extremely important to take into account all the relevant views; this cannot be done without regular and broad communication, where SCSS members as well as MO contact points, ESF and MO social science staff have their roles.

## 9. Issues of Concern, whether arising in the Work of the Committee, the Office, or in the broader ESF Context

Relationships and effective communication with the Member Organisations are crucial. It is, therefore, inevitable to reconsider the statutory obligation of holding Core Group + MO meetings every year since, with the growth of ESF membership, more than sixty people would potentially participate in such meetings, making efficient discussion practically impossible. In the case of SCSS, this has led in practice to seriously declining participation in the meetings and the general impression that the communication with MOs should take more flexible forms.

There is a real conflict between the role of members as representatives of their member organisations (MOs) and their responsibilities within ESF. The distinction between these cannot easily be reconciled. We believe it is critical that when members are appointed, their roles and responsibilities to their MOs should be clear. These should include that:

- They remain in close contact with the MOs and are able to feed strategic priorities of MOs into ESF.
- They are alert to the budgetary constraints of the MOs and can communicate what activities the MOs may or may not be able to fund in addition to their formal contributions.
- They are aware of the key policies of the MOs and can feed these into Standing Committee approaches to issues which may be affected by them.

As Standing Committee members in roles beyond those representing their MOs they have key roles in:

- Being able to assist with peer review within ESF schemes, and apply appropriate standards: however increasingly it may be that panels for peer review should be drawn from a wider community than just Standing Committee members, as the two roles are not necessarily coincidental.
- Being able to advise on longer-term strategy for the health of the social sciences in Europe: however this role may be important for Core Group members, and might be stressed as such, rather than a primary role for all Standing Committee members.

Regarding the nomination of the members, while there is a need for an academically representative membership of the Standing Committee, there is a real conflict here between the role of members as academic experts and as MO representatives. The recommendation that members should not be selected by their MOs may mean that they cannot act as the necessary communication channel between ESF and MOs. This can cause serious problems, with an increasing distancing of MOs from the ESF which would not act in its primary role as a representative organisation. While there might be some discussion between ESF and MOs about the research background of individual nominees, the proposal that their nomination should be taken out of the hands of MOs and placed with ESF centrally may need to be radically re-considered if fissures between ESF and MOs are to be avoided.

Some further consideration and review of this recommendation may be required in the promotion of ESF schemes. The continuous promotion and expansion of ESF schemes when Member Organisations are struggling to fund them may not be the best role for MO representatives to fill. While widening access is of course most desirable, this has to be related to the likelihood of funding success. Ever promoted growth in demand, which does not lead to success in funding, can have a very disillusioning impact on the research community. Promotion of schemes must therefore be in relation to the likelihood of funding, and this needs to be carefully balanced in the way in which both ESF and MOs operate.

The diversity of the activities in the organisation was the general and longstanding concern of the SCSS. A consequence of the diversity was that even the Committee members, let alone outsiders, found it difficult to understand the specificities and differences between the instruments and their use for possible initiatives among scientists. SCSS members also suggested that ESF should do less but better; that is to say, it should use fewer instruments, start and manage fewer activities but use and manage them better.

It would be useful, therefore, to reduce the number of instruments. This reduction should be based on qualitative and quantitative indicators of the added value and short and long term impacts of the different instruments. The introduction of such indicators, by which the cost effectiveness of the instruments and activities could be mapped, is a necessary step under any conditions towards further professionalization of the operation of ESF.

A further complaint underlined the big burden ESF sometimes put on the shoulder of the Standing Committee members, who did not get any remuneration for their efforts. The complaints were most emphatic in cases where the procedures required much work for projects of just a couple of thousand Euros. As a first step towards a solution, a portfolio holder table was created to monitor the distribution of workload among the SCSS members.

## 10. Summary

The data and the overview of the activity demonstrate that the Standing Committee for Social Sciences fulfilled its roles during the period from 2003 to 2008. The Committee

- Served the needs of the social science community of Europe regarding international cooperation in basic research.
- Gave orientation to the scientific community about the present conditions and future tendencies of the social sciences.
- Offered funding to scientists to organise high risk, exploratory meetings, which could lead to broader and promising networks and projects.
- Facilitated the international collaboration of the Member Organisations in funding excellent cross border research projects.
- Gave strategic advice to the Member Organisations and other international and national scientific organisations within and outside Europe.
- Established a forum for the ESF Member Organisations to discuss common issues, and exchange experiences and practices.
- Promoted new research investments as well as networking activities among research teams all around Europe.
- Fostered research infrastructures and drew the attention of the potential and actual funders to the pertinent and increasing research infrastructure needs of social sciences.

The Standing Committee also faced problems in its operation: the ones mapped by the review in 2002, and the ones that stayed or became present day challenges during the period. The Committee

- Took very seriously all the recommendations put forward in the previous review and implemented practically all that were specifically addressed to the Standing Committee.
- Defined a number of challenges, which concern:
  - the communication to the Member Organisations
  - the handling of the Standing Committee membership
  - the increase of the visibility of ESF and social sciences in Europe
  - the creation of interfaces between science and other societal publics
  - the priority and assessment of the ESF instruments
  - the targeting of the strategic advisory activities.

In spite of all the problems and challenges, the Standing Committee is definitely the broadest and most overarching international body of social sciences in Europe. While, in 2002, SCSS connected to the scientific community mainly through the ESF Member Organisations, by 2008, as an organic part of ESF, it had established several direct links and interfaces. The continuously growing interest of social scientists in the various projects and grants provided or promoted by SCSS demonstrates that the Committee has been on the path to become a generally known and authoritative European actor in social sciences, a central point of the network of scientific life.

The Standing Committee for Social Sciences looks forward to the assessment and recommendations of the Review Panel.

# Appendices

## Standing Committee Membership list

### SCSS Core Group and Standing Committee Members

Name	Country	Gender	Position	Years of mandate
Erik Albaek	DK	M	Member	2002 - 2006
Ahmet Alkan	TR	M	Member	2003 - 2003
Ahmet Alkan	TR	M	Core Group	2003 - 2006
Viera Bacová	SK	F	Member	2004 - 2004
Jozsef Bayer	HU	M	Member	1998 - 2004
Tommy Bengtsson	SE	M	Member	2007 -
Gérald Berthoud	CH	M	Member	2002 - 2005
Jaak Billiet	BE	M	Member	2001 - 2004
Nenad Cambi	HR	M	Member	2003 - 2004
Giovanni Cannata	IT	M	Core Group	2000 - 2005
Maria Rosaria Carli	IT	F	Core Group	2008 -
John Coakley	IE	M	Member	2002 - 2008
Glyn Davies	UK	M	Core Group	2007 -
Jakob de Haan	NL	M	Member	2002 - 2007
Andreas Demetriou	CY	M	Member	2002 - 2003
Ian Diamond	UK	M	Core Group	2003 -
Henryk Domanski	PL	M	Member	2001 - 2004
Dalina Dumitrescu	RO	F	Member	2003 - 2006
Dalina Dumitrescu	RO	F	Core Group	2006 - 2009
Thorgerdur Einarsdottir	IS	F	Member	2000 - 2003
Javier Esparcia Pérez	ES	M	Member	2007 -
Roderick Floud	UK	M	Chair	2007 -
Patrice Fontaine	FR	M	Core Group	2002 - 2006
Emmanuël Gerard	BE	M	Member	2004 -
Galin Gornev	BG	M	Member	2005 -

Name	Country	Gender	Position	Years of mandate
Herbert Gottweis	AT	M	Member	2002 - 2003
Herbert Gottweis	AT	M	Core Group	2003 - 2006
Antoine Haag	LU	M	Member	2002 - 2004
Pieter Hooimeijer	NL	M	Member	2008 -
Michal Illner	CZ	M	Core Group	2001 - 2004
Marja Järvelä	FI	F	Core Group	2002 - 2004
Thorlakur Karlsson	IS	M	Member	2007 -
Rainer Kattel	EE	M	Member	2007 -
Lisbeth B. Knudsen	DK	F	Member	2008 -
Anne Kovalainen	FI	F	Member	2007 -
Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt	LU	F	Member	2008 -
Algis Krupavicius	LT	M	Member	2008 -
Marián Kuna	SK	F	Member	2004 - 2004
Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard	DK	M	Member	2006 -
Dagmar Kutsar	EE	F	Member	2001 - 2004
Dagmar Kutsar	EE	F	Core Group	2004 - 2007
Volkmar Lauber	AT	M	Member	2006 -
Luisa Lima	PT	F	Member	2007 -
Christos Lyrintzis	GR	M	Member	2004 - 2005
Bogdan Mach	PL	M	Member	2004 - 2006
Bogdan Mach	PL	M	Core Group	2006 -
Inés Macho-Stadler	ES	F	Member	2005 - 2006
Zdenka Mansfeldová	CZ	F	Member	2004 -
Miroslav Marcelli	SK	M	Member	2001 - 2004
Silvia Miháliková	SK	F	Member	2005 -
Amélie Mummendey	DE	F	Core Group	1999 - 2005
Firouzeh Nahavandi	BE	F	Member	2008 -
Patrick Navatte	FR	M	Core Group	2007 - 2008
Ilona Pálné Kovács	HU	F	Member	2004 -
Elisabeth Panayotatos	GR	F	Core Group	2002 - 2003
Vygandas Paulikas	LT	M	Member	2005 - 2008

Name	Country	Gender	Position	Years of mandate
Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello	CH	F	Member	2006 - 2007
Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello	CH	F	Core Group	2007 -
Manfred Prenzel	DE	M	Core Group	2005 -
Raija-Leena Punamäki	FI	F	Member	2004 - 2007
Hrafnhildur Ragnarsdóttir	IS	F	Member	2004 - 2007
Fernando Reinares	ES	M	Member	2002 - 2005
Asbjørn Rødseth	NO	M	Member	2003 - 2007
Asbjørn Rødseth	NO	M	Core Group	2007 - 2009
Davorin Rudolf	HR	M	Member	2006 - 2009
Veljko Rus	SI	M	Member	2001 - 2004
Kerstin Sahlin	SE	F	Member	2001 - 2004
Kerstin Sahlin	SE	F	Core Group	2004 - 2007
Franjo Šanjek	HR	M	Member	2003 - 2003
Savvas Savvides	CY	M	Member	2004 - 2007
Savvas Savvides	CY	M	Core Group	2007 -
Gün R. Semin	NL	M	Chair	2005 - 2007
Maja Seršić	HR	F	Member	2004 - 2006
Murat R. Sertel	TR	M	Member	1997 - 2003
Slavko Splichal	SI	M	Member	2004 -
Georges Steffgen	LU	M	Member	2005 - 2008
Adelino Torres	PT	M	Member	2003 - 2007
Insan Tunali	TR	M	Member	2006 - 2008
Patrick Paul Walsh	IE	M	Member	2008 -
Christopher Whelan	IE	M	Chair	2002 - 2005
Luc Wilkin	BE	M	Member	2001 - 2007
John Yfantopoulos	GR	M	Member	2005 -

## SCSS Observers

Name	Organisation	Gender	Years of mandate
<b>Laura Alipranti</b>	COST Domain Committee "Individuals, Societies, Culture and Health"	F	2007 -
<b>Norman M. Bradburn</b>	National Science Foundation, USA	M	2001 - 2004
<b>Craig Calhoun</b>	Social Science Research Council, USA	M	- 2003
<b>Dimitri Corpakis</b>	European Commission	M	2007 -
<b>Shmuel Noah Eisenstadt</b>	Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities	M	- 2004
<b>Heide Hackmann</b>	International Social Science Council, France	F	2007 -
<b>Martina Hartl</b>	COST Domain Committee "Individuals, Societies, Culture and Health"	F	2005 - 2007
<b>Bjørn Henrichsen</b>	Norwegian Social Science Data Services	M	2000 -
<b>Ali Kazancigil</b>	International Social Science Council, France	M	2004 - 2007
<b>Asher Koriat</b>	Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities	M	2004 -
<b>David Lightfoot</b>	National Science Foundation, USA	M	2004 -
<b>Gretty M. Mirdal</b>	ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities	F	2001 - 2003
<b>Sylvie Paquette</b>	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada	F	2008 -
<b>Pierre Perrolle</b>	National Science Foundation, USA	M	2004 - 2006
<b>Andrew Sors</b>	European Commission	M	- 2005
<b>Christian Sylvain</b>	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada	M	2005 - 2008
<b>Bogdan Van Doninck</b>	COST Technical Committee "Social Sciences and Humanities"	M	2001 - 2005

## Attendance Statistics for SCSS Meetings

### Plenary Meeting Attendance

Meeting date	Country	Total Participants	Attendee	Chair	ESF Staff	Guest	Observer	Total SC members	Absent	% Meeting attendance
24/04/2003	Estonia	21	15	1	2	1	2	30	14	53 %
16/10/2003	France (ESF)	27	19	1	4	1	2	30	10	67 %
26/04/2004	Ireland	28	14	1	3	6	4	30	15	50 %
21/10/2004	Czech Republic	40	27	1	4	2	6	30	2	93 %
25/04/2005	Germany	41	21	1	6	8	5	31	9	71 %
20/10/2005	France (ESF)	28	18	1	5		4	31	12	61 %
25/04/2006	Turkey	26	17	1	3	1	4	31	13	58 %
19/10/2006	Poland	36	21	1	6	4	4	31	9	71 %
18/10/2007	Romania	40	21	1	11	5	2	31	9	71 %
19/04/2007	France (ESF)	33	19	2	5	2	4	31	10	68 %
17/04/2008	Cyprus	35	21	1	5	4	4	32	10	69 %
16/10/2008	Belgium (COST)	35	22	1	4	3	5	32	9	72 %

## Core Group Meeting Attendance

Meeting date	Country	Total Participants	Attendee	Chair	ESF Staff	Guest	Observer	Total SC members	Absent	% Meeting attendance
14/02/2003	France	12	8	1	2	1		9	0	100%
16/10/2003	France (ESF)	7	5	1	1			9	3	67%
13/02/2004	Austria	12	7	1	2	2		9	1	89%
11/02/2005	United Kingdom	10	6	1	2	1		9	2	78%
31/08/2005	Belgium (COST)	5	3	1	1			9	5	44%
20/10/2005	France (ESF)	7	3	1	3			9	5	44%
27/01/2006	Sweden	8	5	1	2			9	3	67%
14/08/2006	Germany	4	1	1	2			10	8	20%
09/02/2007	Netherlands	13	5	1	4	3		10	4	60%
31/08/2007	France	13	8	1	3	1		10	1	90%
07/02/2008	Norway	15	8	1	3	3		10	1	90%
17/04/2008	Cyprus	10	5	1	3	1		10	4	60%
16/10/2008	Belgium (COST)	12	6	1	5			10	3	70%
14/02/2003	France	12	8	1	2	1		9	0	100%

## Attendance at Joint meetings between the Core Group and Member Organisation Representatives

Meeting date	Country	Total Participants	Attendee	Chair	ESF Staff	Guest	Observer	CG members	SC members
16/06/2003	Finland	31	13	1	3	6		8	
14/06/2004	France (ESF)	32	16	1	7	1	2	5	
13/06/2005	Portugal	21	14	1	3			5	1
05/06/2008	Germany	24	12	1	5			6	

*No meetings in 2007 and 2007*

## Lists of SCSS Activities for 2003-2008

### SCSS Strategic Activities and Publications

Title	Duration
Pre-planning of 2009 events: Strategic Workshop "Gender and Education", Sponsorship "Perfect Body" conference and ESF parallel session at World Social Science Forum "Social Scientists in Corridors of Power"	2008
Strategic Workshop "Beyond Transition"	28/05/2008
Work on SCSS Position Paper (incl. Editorial Board Meeting): publication for 2009	All year
Review of EUROCORES-ECRP Scheme: Report (published 01/2009)	Oct-Dec 2008
Member Organisations in Central and Eastern Europe (MOCEE), Final Conference	02/12/2008
"The Technical Aspects of Peer Reviewer Databases" Workshop	01/12/2008
Review of EUROCORES-ECRP Scheme: Working Group meeting	15-16/09/2008
Report: Status and Developments of Social Science Research in Central and Eastern Europe	Published 06/2008
Review of European Social Survey: Evaluation report	Published 05/2008
Workshop: Developing a Research Agenda for Interdisciplinary Urban Studies (with SCH)	17-18/04/2008
Meeting on European Network on Affective Sciences (with SCH)	21/01/2008
Member Organisations in Central and Eastern Europe (MOCEE), Expert meeting	17-18/04/2007
Review of EUROCORES-ECRP Scheme (commissioned paper)	06/2007
Review of European Social Survey (incl. Review Panel meeting and survey)	06-12/2007
Report 'Social Sciences in Europe" (2nd Edition)	Published 03/2007
Member Organisations in Central and Eastern Europe (MOCEE), Brainstorming meeting and workshop	11-12/12/2006
Strategic Workshop "Honesty in Science"	24-25/11/2006
Fourth meeting of the Dialogue Group for Social Sciences and Humanities	02/09/2005
Travel Grants ESSP Conference Global Environmental Change	09-12/11/2006
Third meeting of the Dialogue Group for Social Sciences and Humanities	04/02/2005
Report 'Social Sciences in Europe"	Published 02/2005

Title	Duration
SCSS Working Group on Instruments	24/01/2005
SCSS Working Group on Science	21/01/2005
SCSS Working Group on Organisation	11/01/2005
Second meeting of the Dialogue Group for Social Sciences and Humanities	10/09/2004
Evaluation of the ECRP Scheme	Over 2004
Working group "Long-term funding arrangements for the European Social Survey"	08/11/2004
Working Group ERC and the Social Sciences, Second meeting	28/01/2004
Global Change "Carbon and Energy" Workshop (with LESC)	23-24/08/2004
Global Change "Carbon and Energy" Steering Committee meeting (with LESC)	24-25/03/2004
Cultural Diversity Task Force meeting	11/03/2004
First meeting of the Dialogue Group for Social Sciences and Humanities	04/03/2004
Project Design Workshop on Qualitative Methods	28-29/11/2003
Working Group ERC and the Social Sciences, First meeting	01/10/2003
Project Design Workshop on Global Change (joint with LESC)	22/05/2003
Creation of Welcome Guide for new members	Over the year (published April 2004)

## ESF Research Conferences

Title	Duration
08-264: The Right to the City	11-15/10/2008
08-258: Imaging War: Intergenerational Perspectives	03-07/09/2008
08-256: The Transfer of Resources across Generations	9-13/06/2008
07-247: The Global Organisation of Biomedical Innovation	04-08/10/2007
07-237: The International Regulation of New Medical Technology	07-10/05/2007
07-236: Electronic Democracy	21-25/11/2007
07-229: Higher Education and Social Change at the Beginning of the Twenty-First Century	15-19/09/2007
07-242: Research Integrity: Fostering Responsible Research	16-19/09/2007
06-219: The International Regulation of New Medical Technology	4-9/10/2006
06-217: Cities and Media	25-29/10/2006
06-216: Intersectionality, Identity and Power	11-15/10/2006
05-175: Biomedicine Within The Limits Of Human Existence: Biomedical Technology And Practice Reconsidered	8-13/04/2005
Vertical Markets and Cooperative Hierarchies: The Role of Cooperatives in the International Agri-Food Industry	3-7/09/2004
European Society or European Societies?	18-/09/2004
Vertical Markets and Cooperative Hierarchies: The Role of Cooperatives in the International Agri-Food Industry	12 – 16/06/2003
The Second Demographic Transition in Europe	19 – 24/06/2003
Socio-Economic Research and Geographic Information Systems	9 – 14/05/2003
European Society or European Societies?	20 – 24/09/2003
European Integration	21 – 26/06/2003

## EUROCORES

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Higher Education and Social Change (HESC)	2008 -	<b>SCSS</b>
Logical Modelling in Interaction, Communication, Cognition and Computation (LogICCC)	2007 -	<b>SCH</b> - SCSS
Cross-national and Multi-level Analysis of Human Values, Institutions and Behaviour (HumVIB)	2007 -	<b>SCSS</b>
The evolution of cooperation and trading: from microbes to man (TECT)	2006 -	LESC - <b>SCH</b> - SCSS

*leading unit shown in bold*

## European Collaborative Research Projects in the Social Sciences (ECRP)

Title	Duration	Affiliation
The Politics of Attention: West European Politics in Times of Change	2008-2011	<b>SCSS</b>
Citizenship after the Nation-State	2008-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Migration and Networks of Care in Europe: a comparative European Research Project	2007-2010	
Disaggregating Civil Wars	2007-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Citizens of the Future: the Concerns and Actions of young People around current European and global Issues	2007-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
The Short and Long Range Dynamics of Attention	2007-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Constructing Regional Advantage: Towards State-of-the-Art Regional Innovation System Policies in Europe?	2007-2009	<b>SCSS</b>
Political Communication Culture in Western Europe – A Comparative Study	2007-2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Eye-Movement Control in reading: basic and applied Issues of Fixation and Saccade Generation	2006-2009	<b>SCSS</b>
The Integration of the European Second Generation (TIES). A Research Project in fifteen Cities in eight Countries.	2006-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Trafficking for forced Labour in Industries other than the Sex Industry across Europe	2007-2011	<b>SCSS</b>
Fabricating quality in European education	2006-2009	<b>SCSS</b>
Decision Making: “exploiting” Bounded Rationality	2006-2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Dynamics of Actors and Networks across Levels: Individuals, Groups, Organizations, and Social Settings	2006-2011	<b>SCSS</b>

Title	Duration	Affiliation
New Migrations Dynamics : regular and irregular Work on the European Labour Market	2006-2008	SCSS
Migrants' Transnational Practices in Western Europe	2005-2007	SCSS
Science and Technology Research in a Knowledge-Based Economy	2005-2009	SCSS
The Integration of the European Second-Generation (TIES)	2005-2010	SCSS
Scaffolding, Structuring and Regulating Collaborative Learning for Knowledge Construction and Sharing	2005-2008	SCSS
Serial Action: a Multilevel Approach	2005-2009	SCSS
Building the EU's Social Constituency	2005-2007	SCSS
Emotions and Social Identity: Toward an Integrated View of Intergroup Conflict	2005-2009	SCSS
European Wages and Employment under Low Inflation	2005-2007	SCSS
Variable Pay, Industrial Relations and Collective Bargaining	2004-2006	SCSS
Home Ownership, Commuting and Labour Mobility	2004-2006	SCSS
Poverty Dynamics and Fertility in Developing Countries	2004-2006	SCSS
Technology, Talent and Tolerance in European Cities: A comparative analysis	2004-2007	SCSS
The Consumer's Adaptation to Currency Change	2003-2006	SCSS
Immigration, Racism and Acculturation: A Three-Nation Study	2003-2006	SCSS
Language and Social Action: A Comparative Study of Affiliation and Disaffiliation Across National Communities and Institutional Contexts	2003-2006	SCSS
Social Justice and Risks: New Approaches	2003-2006	SCSS
Human Capital Effects of the Welfare: Institutional Resources, Work Histories and Social Inequality	2003-2006	SCSS
Behavioural Models in Economics and Finance	2002-2004	SCSS
Official Interventions on Foreign Exchange Markets	2002-2004	SCSS
Third Sector European Policy (TSEP)	2002-2004	SCSS
Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Migrants: Types, Origins and Dynamics in a Comparative and Interdisciplinary Perspective	2002-2004	SCSS
Reading Acquisition and Disability in European Orthographies	2002-2004	SCSS
National Systems of Innovation in a Globalising, Knowledge-Based Economy: A Comparative Study of Small Developed Countries in Europe and Asia	2002-2004	SCSS
Children in Tort Law: Children as Tortfeasers and Victims	2002-2005	SCSS

## Exploratory Workshops

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Eugenics And Restorative Justice	04/07/2008 - 06/07/2008	SCH <b>SCSS</b>
Individual And Team Decisions In Economics	04/12/2008 - 06/12/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Europe's Green Backbone - Post-Socialist Land Use Change In The Carpathian Region	09/10/2008 - 10/10/2008	<b>LESC SCSS</b>
Where Migration Policies Meet The Migrants: Comparing European And North American Experiences	02/10/2008 - 04/10/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Transnational Human Rights Obligations In The Field Of Economic, Social And Cultural Rights	23/01/2008 - 26/01/2008	SCH <b>SCSS</b>
Children's Participation In Decision-Making: Exploring Theory, Policy And Practice Across Europe	16/06/2008 - 18/06/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Surveying Immigrant Population In Studies Of Social And Political Participation: Methodological And Technical Challenges	16/10/2008 - 18/10/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Particularities Of Childbearing Determinants In East-European Countries After The Political Turnover	24/09/2008 - 28/09/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Developing Criteria For An Ecological And Ethical Valuation Of Environmental Impacts Of GM Crops	04/06/2008 - 06/06/2008	<b>LESC SCH SCSS</b>
The Reuse Of Contaminated Sites For Local Sustainable Development Strategies	26/05/2008 - 28/05/2008	<b>LESC SCSS</b>
The Labour Market For Scientists And Engineers	29/05/2008 - 31/05/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Science And Technology Of Agreement	18/06/2008 - 21/06/2008	PESC <b>SCSS</b>
The E-Mediation Of Criminal Justice: Internet Crime Reporting	27/03/2008 - 30/03/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
The Relevance Of Mathematics Education	07/01/2008 - 10/01/2008	PESC <b>SCSS</b>
Advance Directives: Towards A Coordinated European Perspective?	18/06/2008 - 22/06/2008	<b>EMRC SCH SCSS</b>
The Emergence Of Southern Multinationals And Their Impact On Europe	02/10/2008 - 04/10/2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Mirror Neurons And Social Cognition	23/09/2008 - 26/09/2008	SCH <b>SCSS</b>
Anthropology Of International Institutions	27/03/2008 - 30/03/2008	<b>SCSS</b>

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Access To Communication And Democratic Media Infrastructures In The Digital Environment: The Impact Of Convergence Digitalisation On Community Media Policy And Practice	12/05/2008 - 15/05/2008	SCSS
Youth Radicalisation And The Role Of Secular And Religious Ideologies In Legitimising Politically Motivated Violence	25/06/2008 - 27/06/2008	SCH SCSS
Gene-Environment Developmental Models Of Emotional Disorders: Bridging Human And Animal Research	11/05/2007 - 13/05/2007	EMRC LESC SCSS
Rethinking Added Value In The Creative Industries: Combining Theory And Empirical Data	29/05/2007 - 31/05/2007	SCSS
Gift-Giving And Reciprocity In Modern Societies. New Directions In Theoretical Reflection And Empirical Analysis	24/05/2007 - 26/05/2007	SCH SCSS
Technology In Counselling And Psychotherapy: Mental Health Education And Service Delivery At University	22/05/2007 - 25/05/2007	SCH SCSS
How To Measure Access: Definition, Measurement And Consequences Of A Changed Set Of Objectives In Transportation Designed To Meet The Needs Of People	26/09/2007 - 28/09/2007	SCSS
Changing housing And Leisure-Time Cultures: A Threat To Sustainable Development? Challenges For European Practices And Policies.	21/03/2007 - 23/03/2007	SCSS
The Future Of Representative Democracy	13/12/2007 - 15/12/2007	SCSS
Elite Formation, Modernization And Nation Building	03/05/2007 - 06/05/2007	SCSS
Multilingualism from an Interdisciplinary Perspective	07/10/2007 - 10/10/2007	SCSS
Models of Language Evolution, Acquisition and Processing	25/11/2007 - 28/11/2007	SCH SCSS
Feminisms and Activism: Transversal Politics in Contemporary Europe and across the Globe	12/09/2007 - 16/09/2007	SCH SCSS
Sustainable Development and Transboundary Co-Operation in Mountain Regions	20/09/2007 - 22/09/2007	SCSS
Exploring Symbolic Value Creation In Organizations	06/09/2007 - 09/09/2007	SCSS
Cross-National And Multi-Level Analysis Of Attitudes To Immigrants And Immigration In Contemporary Europe	05/12/2007 - 08/12/2007	SCSS
Foggy Social Structures in European Welfare States: Irregular Migration and the Informal Economy	13/07/2007 - 15/07/2007	SCSS
Historical Trajectories And Nested Identities: Content And Process In The Representation Of History And Its dynamic Relationships With National, Supranational, And Ethnic Identities	15/03/2007 - 18/03/2007	SCSS

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Transdisciplinary Review Of A Proposed Agenda For Social Science Research Related To Long-Term Energy Options	01/02/2007 - 02/02/2007	SCSS
Education and the Capability Approach – Towards an European Perspective for Welfare Service Research	03/05/2007 - 05/05/2007	SCSS
Improving The Quality Of Qualitative Research	25/06/2007 - 28/06/2007	SCSS
The Muslim World Through The Lens Of European Textbooks	11/09/2007 - 14/09/2007	SCSS
Evolutionary Economic Geography	03/04/2006 - 05/04/2006	SCSS
Identity Formation And Recognition Struggles Of Europe's Racialised Minorities In The Light Of Inequalities In Education	26/10/2006 - 29/10/2006	SCSS
Making Sense In The City	17/12/2006 - 20/12/2006	SCSS
Threat, Rights And Redress: Re-Imagining Terrorism And Security In Europe	15/09/2006 - 17/09/2006	SCH SCSS
Sharing And Building Knowledge Through The Design And Development Of A Collaboratory For Library And Information Science Research And Education	30/01/2006 - 01/02/2006	SCSS
Religion And Society. Cross-Disciplinary European Perspectives	18/05/2006 - 20/05/2006	SCSS
Mathematical models for electricity markets	12/07/2006 - 14/07/2006	SCSS
Towards “real” comparative social cognition: Integrating theories, terminology and methods across a wide range of human and non-human animal species	04/10/2006 - 08/10/2006	LESC SCSS
Collaborative Case Studies For A European Cultural Psychology	07/09/2006 - 10/09/2006	SCSS
Effectiveness and gaps in the European legislation concerning subterranean fauna protection and the importance of setting up a European network of protected caves	09/07/2006 - 10/07/2006	LESC SCSS
Eastern European Women As Immigrants In Western European Transregions. Gender Perspectives On Everyday Life, Citizenship And Social Justice	31/05/2006 - 03/06/2006	SCSS
Health Consumer Groups And Policy Making In Europe: A Comparative And Pan-European Perspective	16/02/2006 - 18/02/2006	SCSS
Designing Partnerships Between Government And The Private Sector: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives	23/06/2006 - 24/06/2006	SCSS
Religious Ngos, Civil Society And The Aid System	08/11/2006 - 10/11/2006	SCSS
Outsourcing, Migration, And The European Economy: Competing Perspectives And Policy Implications	15/09/2006 - 17/09/2006	SCSS

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Local Food In Europe	13/06/2006 - 17/06/2006	SCSS
Developing The EU Social Scientific Evidence Base On Integrated Approaches To Prevent And Address Homelessness	27/03/2006 - 28/03/2006	SCSS
Public Participation In Multi-Platform Media	01/09/2006 - 03/09/2006	SCSS
The Third Sector In A Changing Europe: Key Trends And Challenges	06/12/2006 - 08/12/2006	SCSS
High Frequency Econometrics And The Analysis Of Foreign Exchange Markets	25/06/2006 - 28/06/2006	SCSS
Revisiting the concepts of Contract and Status under changing Employment, Welfare and Gender Relations	06/10/2005 - 08/10/2005	SCSS
Farming for Health	16/03/2005 - 19/03/2005	LESC SCSS
Music and Health	18/09/2005 - 20/09/2005	SCSS
Citizens, non-citizens and voting rights in Europe	02/06/2005 - 05/06/2005	SCSS
The contribution of animal research to the study of human cognition	06/12/2005 - 09/12/2005	EMRC SCH SCSS
Person perception during infancy: Integrating Developmental and Comparative Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychology of Language and Communication	26/06/2005 - 30/06/2005	SCH SCSS
Environmental history: problems and potential in the integration of the sciences and humanities	03/11/2005 - 04/11/2005	LESC SCH SCSS
Managing crises in the European Union: A first assessment	24/06/2005 - 27/06/2005	SCSS
Specification Testing	16/12/2005 - 18/12/2005	SCSS
Internet survey methodology: Toward concerted European research efforts	26/09/2005 - 28/09/2005	SCSS
The Long Run Growth and Development of the World Economy: Measurement and Theory	28/04/2005 - 01/05/2005	SCSS
The Effectiveness of Competition Policy: Issues and Methods	17/11/2005 - 18/11/2005	SCSS
The Governance of Networks as a Determinant of Local Economic Development	16/11/2005 - 18/11/2005	SCSS

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Understanding the Dynamics of Knowledge: Integrating Models of Knowledge Change, Development and Evolution in Cognitive Science, Epistemology, Philosophy, Artificial Intelligence, Logic, and Developmental and Evolutionary Psychology	17/11/2005 - 19/11/2005	SCCH SCSS
15 Years On: Educational Transitions in Central and Eastern Europe. Directions for Educational Research and Policy in the Post-Communist EU Accession and Candidate Countries	08/07/2005 - 10/07/2005	SCSS
Towards a European Basic Income Experiment	18/09/2004 - 18/09/2004	SCSS
Sociology of the Idea of Europe. A Simmelian Frame Analysis	14/04/2004 - 17/04/2004	SCSS
Community Integrated Assessment Modelling of climate change policy (ESF CIAM-n)	24/03/2004 - 26/03/2004	LESC SCSS
Towards an Anthropology of Europe	01/09/2004 - 05/09/2004	SCCH SCSS
Social Communication and the Face	20/09/2004 - 23/09/2004	SCSS
Economic Geography and European Finance	16/09/2004 - 19/09/2004	SCSS
New directions in the social psychology of intergroup emotions	08/09/2004 - 11/09/2004	SCSS
Cohesive Neighbourhoods and Connected Citizens in European Societies	16/06/2004 - 18/06/2004	SCSS
Affective and Emotional Aspects of Human-Computer Interaction: Emphasis on Game-Based and Innovative Learning Approaches	23/09/2004 - 25/09/2004	SCSS
Innovative comparative methods for policy analysis. An interdisciplinary European endeavour for methodological advances and improved policy analysis/evaluation	25/09/2004 - 28/09/2004	SCSS
Dynamic Portfolio Choice, Asset Pricing and Mathematical Finance	24/09/2004 - 25/09/2004	PESC SCSS
Understanding Actions and Minds: Integrating recent advances from Philosophy of Mind, Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychology of Language and Communication, Developmental and Comparative Psychology, and Artificial Intelligence	04/07/2004 - 08/07/2004	SCCH SCSS
Positive approaches to development	05/11/2004 - 06/11/2004	SCSS
Living transformations in East-Central Europe and Russia	07/10/2004 - 10/10/2004	SCSS
Development Meets Transition: Understanding Institutional Change	12/12/2003 - 13/12/2003	SCSS

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Arbitrage and related topics	24/06/2003 - 26/06/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Assessing the role and significance of transnational political parties within the European Union	16/12/2003 - 18/12/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Income, Interactions and Subjective Well-Being	25/09/2003 - 26/06/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Intergenerational relationships, migration and ageing: policy and behaviour	18/07/2003 - 21/07/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
The Immigrant Tourist Industry: commodification of cultural resources in cosmopolitan cities	06/09/2003 - 09/09/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
The Impact of Institutions on Innovation: the Case of Biotechnology	19/09/2003 - 20/09/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Topics in Economic Geography: A Dialogue between Economists and Geographers	24/10/2003 - 26/10/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Transnationalism in the European Union	20/06/2003 - 22/06/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
Euro-Med and Middle East Political Economy: Assessing the State of the Field	22/05/2003 - 24/05/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
New Forms of Citizenship and Young Generations. The Civic Dimensions of Leisure and Consumption for Young Generations in Global Cities	02/10/2003 - 04/10/2003	<b>SCSS</b>
The Strategic Use of European Law and its Implications for Labour Market Relations in the EU and China ( <i>postponed from 2002</i> )	12/12/2003- 13/12/2003	<b>SCSS</b>

*leading unit shown in bold (only applicable after 2007)*

## Forward Looks

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Ageing, Health and Pensions in Europe	2008-2009	<b>SCSS</b> - EMRC
Security - Advancing a Framework for Enquiry (SAFE)	2007-2009	<b>SCH</b> - SCSS
European Food Systems in a Changing World	2006-2009	<b>LESC</b> - EMRC – SCH – SCSS - COST
Higher Education in Europe Beyond 2010: Resolving Conflicting Social and Economic Expectations	2006-2008	<b>SCSS</b> - SCH
Urban Science	2002-2005	<b>SCSS</b> - EMRC – LESG – PESC - SCH
Forward Look Workshop on Cultural Diversity, Collective Identity and Collective Action	2002-2003	<b>SCSS</b>

*leading unit shown in bold*

## Interdisciplinary New Initiatives Fund

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Changing Childhood in a Changing Europe	2008-2009	SCH - <b>SCSS</b>
Biosociality and the Future of Knowledge	2008-2009	<b>SCH</b> -SCSS-LESC- PESC-EMRC
Bridging Methodology Gaps: Building Institutional Bridges	2007-2008	<b>SCH</b> - SCSS
Scientific and Corporate Coordination for the International Polar Year	2007	<b>EPB</b> -LESC-SCH- SCSS-EMB-ESSC
Clean Solar Fuels: perspectives and impacts on society and the global energy market	2007- 2008	<b>LESC</b> -PESC-SCSS- CONF
Communicating Interests, Attitudes and Expectations at the Science / Policy Interface	2006- 2007	LESC- <b>SCSS</b> -COST

*leading unit shown in bold*

## Networks

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Identity and Socio-Political Participation (ISPP)	2004 - 2007	<b>SCSS</b>
Statistical Analysis of Complex Data with Robust and Related Statistical Methods (SACD)	2004 - 2006	<b>PESC</b> - SCSS
The politics and history of European democratisation (PHED)	2003- 2005	<b>SCH</b> - SCSS
Cities as International and Transnational Actors: history, current dynamics and future role (CITTA)	2003- 2005	SCH - <b>SCSS</b>
Market Integration, Market Performance and Welfare (MAIMAP)	2002- 2004	<b>SCSS</b>
Econometric Methods for the Modelling of Nonstationary Data, Policy Analysis and Forecasting (EMM)	2002- 2004	<b>SCSS</b>
Family Support for Older People: Determinants and Consequences (FAMSUP)	2002- 2004	SCSS
Research Network on Gender, Politics and the State (RNGS-Europe)	2002- 2005	<b>SCSS</b>
European Political Elites in Comparison: the long road to convergence (EURELITE)	2001- 2004	<b>SCSS</b>
International Migration in Europe: Welfare Policy and Practice Implications for Older People (PPIOP)	2001- 2003	<b>SCSS</b>

*leading unit shown in bold*

## Research Networking Programmes

Title	Duration	Affiliation
Evolution of Social Cognition: Comparisons and integration across a wide range of human and non-human animal species (CompCog)	2008 - 2013	<b>SCSS</b> - LESC
The European Children Cohorts Network (EUCCONET)	2008 - 2013	<b>EMRC</b> - SCSS
Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences 2 (QMSS 2)	2008 - 2012	<b>SCSS</b>
European Neuroscience and Society Network (ENSN)	2007 - 2012	<b>SCSS</b>
Qualitative Research in the Social Sciences in Europe (EUROQUAL)	2006 - 2010	<b>SCSS</b>
TransEurope Research Network (TRANSEUROPE) Transnationalisation and Changing Life Course Inequality in Europe	2006 - 2011	<b>SCSS</b>
Public Goods, Public Projects, Externalities (PGPPE)	2006 - 2010	<b>SCSS</b>
Globalizing Europe Economic History Network (GLOBALEURONET)	2006 - 2010	<b>SCSS</b>
European Social Cognition Network (ESCON)	2003 - 2008	<b>SCSS</b>
Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS)	2003 - 2007	<b>SCSS</b>
Changing Media - Changing Europe (MEDIA)	2000 - 2004	SCH - <b>SCSS</b>
Social Variations in Health Expectancy in Europe	1999 - 2003	EMRC - <b>SCSS</b>

*leading unit shown in bold*

**SCSS FINANCIAL DATA • 2003 to 2008\***

\* amounts do not include employment and infrastructure costs

kEUR						
STANDING COMMITTEE	508					
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Core Groups, Plenaries, MO Round Tables, Working Groups	21	18	21	14	22	26
Science Policy & Strategy Activities	10	16	13	68	70	89
SC Unit Staff Travel	9	9	18	27	29	29
	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>143</b>

kEUR				
FORWARD LOOKS	1 122			
	<u>Total Award</u>	<u>Kick-off date</u>	<u>End-date</u>	
Ageing, Health & Pensions in Europe	160	01 / 2008	12 / 2009	<b>Lead</b>
Religion and Belief Systems	160	01 / 2008	07 / 2009	affiliation
Security: Advancing a Framework for Enquiry	180	12 / 2006	06 / 2009	affiliation
Higher Education in Europe beyond 2010	150	05 / 2006	12 / 2008	<b>Lead</b>
European Food Systems in a Changing World	300	03 / 2006	12 / 2008	affiliation
Urban Science (#)	172	2002	2005	<b>Lead</b>
Earth System Science: Global Systems, Global Problems (#)	n/a	2001	2003	affiliation
Cultural Diversity, Collective Identity and Collective Action (#)	n/a	2 001	2 002	<b>Lead</b>

#) incomplete: analytical data unavailable for period 2001-2005

kEUR						
EXPLORATORY WORKSOPS	1 363					
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Awarded Exploratory Workshop Funds (excl. Rapporteur costs)	161	195	201	269	262	275

kEUR

**INTERDISCIPLINARY NEW INITIATIVES FUND (INIF)**

**252**

2003    2004    2005    2006    2007    2008

Changing Childhoods in a Changing Europe						31	<b>Lead</b>
The Future of Knowledge						35	affiliation
Bridging Methodology Gaps, building institutional Bridges.						61	<b>Lead</b>
Scientific and Corporate Coordination for the International Polar Year				40	20		affiliation
Clean Solar Fuels: perspectives and impacts on society and the global energy market				40			affiliation
Communicating Interests, Attitudes and Expectations at the Science / Policy Interface (CSPI)					25		<b>Lead</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>66</b>	

kEUR

**SYNERGY WITH COST**

**8**

2003    2004    2005    2006    2007    2008

ESF-COST Synergy: SC/DC Working Group interactions, Joint events		3	4			1	
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Control Total 2003-2005 archives

ok    ok    ok

kEUR

**à la carte RNPs**

**4 092**

2003    2004    2005    2006    2007    2008

Research Networking Programmes: <i>à la carte</i> Contributions	434	676	451	847	697	987	
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kEUR

**EUROCORES**

**15 190**

Total

Research Funding	15 000						
EC Networking Funding* (FP6 Specific Support Action)	190						

\* excludes employment & infrastructure



