

# From theory to practice to policy

## – Unlocking the potential of multidisciplinary in European research

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**Invitation to seminar 11 January 2012, 10:30-13:00**  
**At the European Parliament, Brussels**

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**Members of the European Parliament Britta Thomsen & Maria Da Graça Carvalho** and **creoDK** kindly invite you to participate at a lunch seminar in the European Parliament.

The seminar brings together key stakeholders to discuss the structural barriers that limit successful multidisciplinary research. Distinguished speakers from around Europe will offer their insights and advice on the issue, reflecting the increasing demand from both public and private research funding agencies for multidisciplinary research.

Speakers include:

- **Philip Campbell**, Editor-in-Chief, Nature publishing group
- Professor **Paul Boyle**, Science Europe
- **Maja Horst**, Head of Department, University of Copenhagen
- **Marion Dewar**, member of cabinet Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner of Research and Innovation
- Professor **Mariano Gago**, Technical University of Lisbon

Multidisciplinary research is widely regarded to be a key component in unlocking the full potential of European research and innovation to tackle our societal challenges and ensure future economic and social sustainability. However, multidisciplinary research faces a number of structural challenges. This includes the well-known challenge of bridging different scientific cultures, but also issues of evaluating and publishing research projects, developing multidisciplinary curricula and building successful research careers through multidisciplinary research. In continuation, some of the questions that need to be dealt with are: What are the barriers? And what can be done to tackle them, or minimize their negative impact on the research and the researchers?

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### Programme

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10:30	<i>Registration</i>
11:00	Welcome & opening remarks By, MEP <b>Maria Da Graça Carvalho</b>
11:05	Message from the commissioner By <b>Marion Dewar</b> , member of cabinet Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner of Research and Innovation
11.20	National Experiences, Key-note address By Head of department <b>Maja Horst</b> , University of Copenhagen
11:35	Raising the questions, Key note address By Professor <b>Mariano Gago</b> , Technical University of Lisbon
11:45	Multidisciplinarity in practice Case presentation of the project FINE from University of Copenhagen by Associate Professors <b>Bente Stallknecht</b> and <b>Astrid Jespersen</b>
12:00	The European Perspective I By Professor <b>Paul Boyle</b> , Science Europe
12:15	The European Perspective II By <b>Robert Burmanjer</b> , Head of Unit, DG research, the European Commission
12:30	Multidisciplinarity from the editor's desk By <b>Philip Campbell</b> , PhD, Editor-in-Chief, Nature Publishing Group
12:45	Q & A session
12:55	Closing remarks and prospects for the future By MEP <b>Britta Thomsen</b>
13:00	<i>End of seminar</i>