

# A European University Policy?

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# Overview

- The EU policy scene
- EHEA, ERA and Innovation Agenda
- Policy models, policy instruments, policy effects



# The European Union

- Not a federal government but a Union of Member States
- Since 1950s: Founding Treaties (1951, 1957, 1957)
- Three 'pillars' (1992)
- Subsidiarity principle (1992)
- The 'Lisbon process' (2000, 2005)



# EU Higher Education Policy (1)

- 1985 – 1995: first EU programmes
- 1990s Treaties: conditions for EU education policy
- 2001 Treaty: complementary role for EU
- Socrates programmes, ECTS, Erasmus Mundus
- Lifelong Learning Programme (2007-2013)



# The European Higher Education Area

- Sorbonne (1998) and Bologna (1999) declarations
- Interministerial co-operation
- Prague (2001) declaration: stakeholders approach
- Berlin (2003), Bergen (2005) and London (2007) declarations
- Hesitant linking of 'Bologna' and 'Lisbon'



# EU Higher Education Policy (2)

- EC: debate on role of universities (2003)
- European universities are not internationally competitive
- European universities need to modernise
- Member States accept challenges and targets
- EC: Member States need to act in 'Lisbon context' (2006)



# EU Research Policy (1)

- Competence from the early days on (1957)
- Seven Framework Programmes (FPs) (since 1984)
- FPs: medium-term financial planning instrument; growing budgets
- But only 5% of total European research investments
- Increasing alignment with Structural Funds



# EU Research Policy (2)

- Since FP5 (1998-2002): focus on priorities in social-economic context
- European Research Area (2002): ambitious European research policy in 'Lisbon context'
- EC: too much fragmentation and duplication in Member States' policies
- FP6 (2002-2006): integration; critical mass; European 'added value'
- Investment target: 3% GDP (2002)





# EU Research Policy (3)

- Mid-term Lisbon review (2005): ‘missed objectives and failed promises’
- ‘Re-launch’: new Lisbon Partnership for Growth and Jobs (2005)
- A ‘Pact for Research and Innovation’ (2006)
- European Technology Platforms: bottom-up research agendas
- FP7 (2007-2013): to realise ‘re-launch’
- Stronger alignment with national policies



# EU Research Policy (4)

## Seventh Framework Programme (FP7):

- Joint Technology Initiatives
- European Research Council (ERC)
- Regions of Knowledge
- Risk-Sharing Finance Facility



# EU Innovation Policy (1)

- Action Plan for Innovation (1997)
- FP5 (1998-2002) and FP6 (2002-2006)
- ‘Re-launch’ (2005): knowledge and innovation for growth
- Action Plan ‘More Research and Innovation’ (2005)
- A European innovation agenda

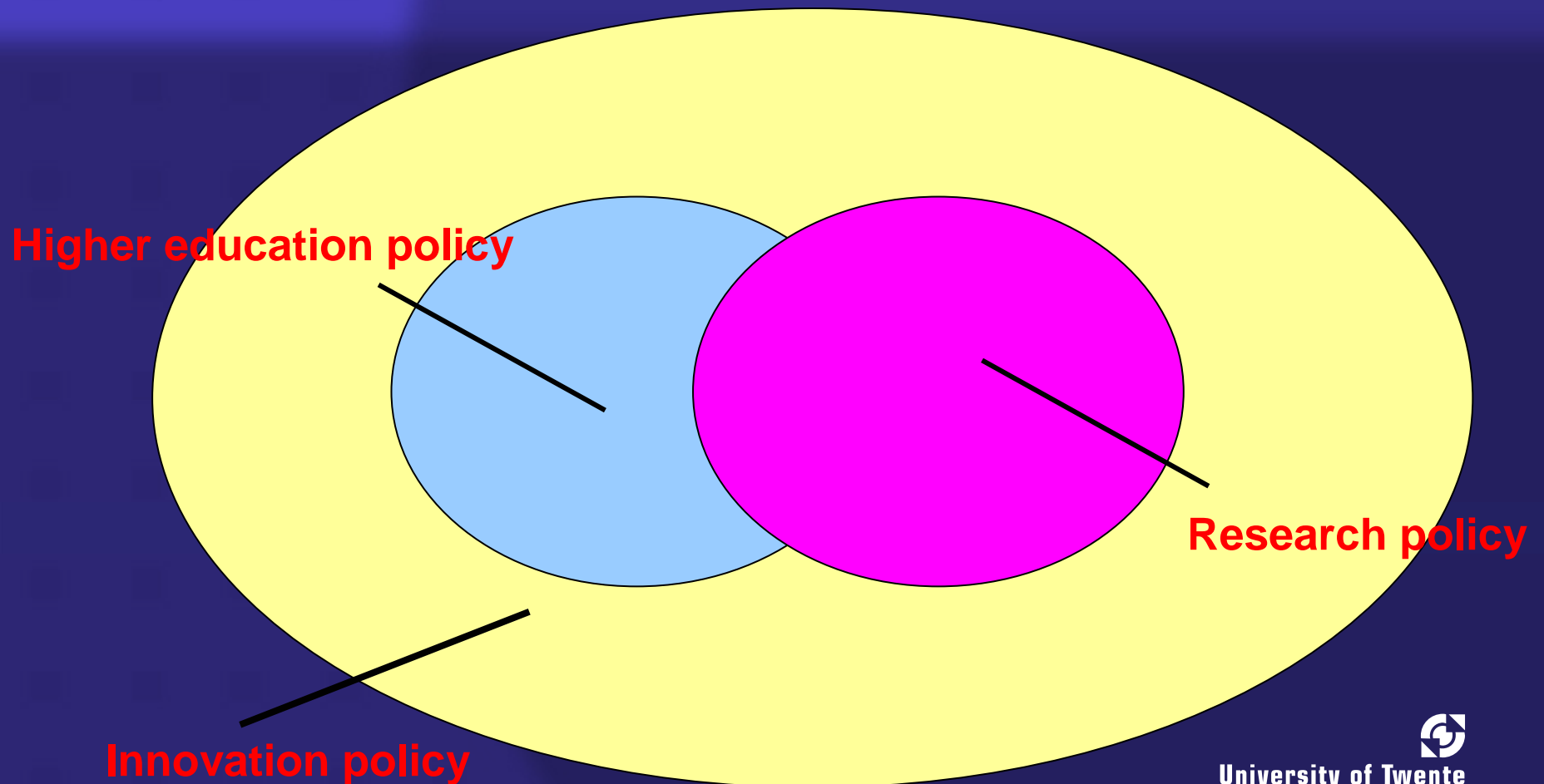


# EU Innovation Policy (2)

- FP7 (2007-2013)
- Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (2007-2013)
- European Institute of Technology (EIT)
- National Reform Programmes: investment targets for research and higher education
- Innovation Strategy (2006): universities crucial actors

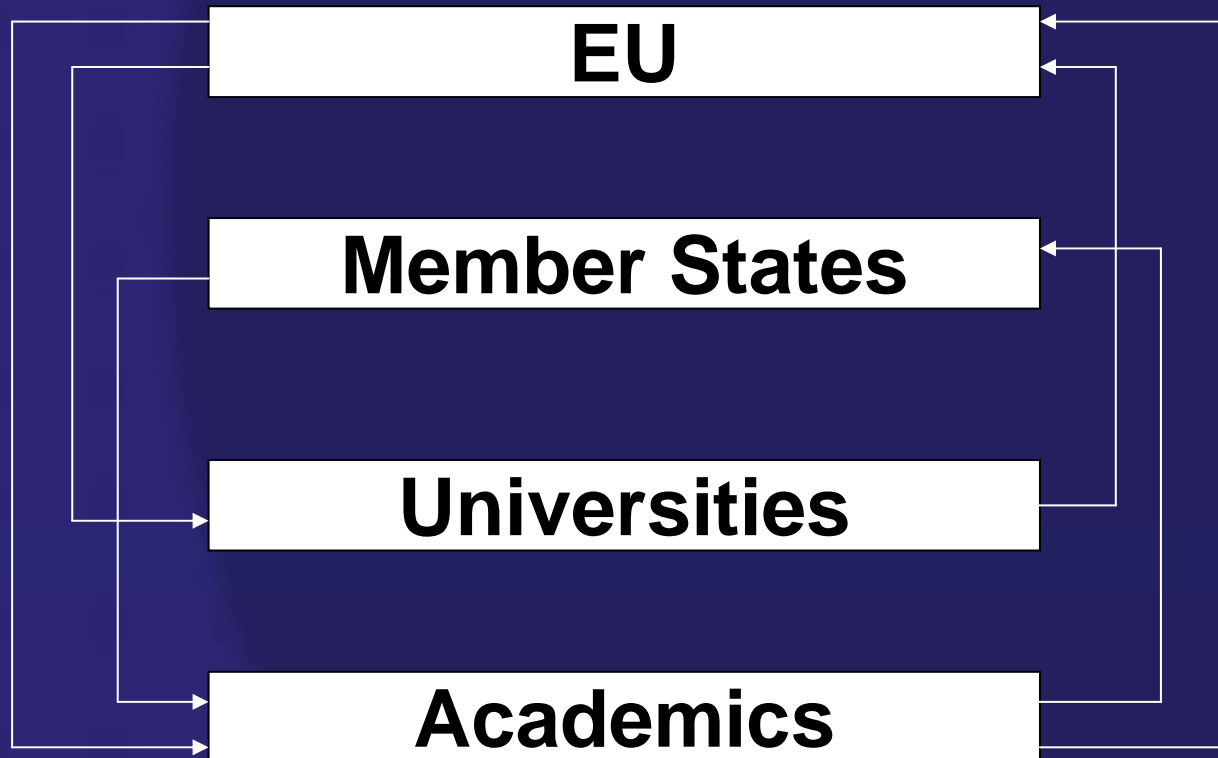


# Integrated Policy Domains



**Innovation policy**

# Multi-echelon Policy System



# Multi-instrument Policy System (1)

## Legal instruments:

- primary legislation: Treaties
- secondary legislation: regulations, directives, decisions, recommendations
- tertiary legislation: European Courts



# Multi-instrument Policy System (2)

## Financial instruments:

- subsidies
- loans and warranties





# Multi-instrument Policy System (3)

Information and communication instruments:

- communications (agenda setting)
- Open Method of Co-ordination  
(intergovernmental policy analysis)



# Policy Trends

- Growing importance of supranational policy-echelon
- Increasing alignment of national and European policies ?
- Increasing importance of Doctoral Education
- Reinforcement of relationships universities-industry
- Rise of social networking as instrument for collective action
- Changing governance model (multi-stakeholder, multiple-funding, accountability, innovation oriented)



# Policy Effects (1)

- A supranational university policy?
- Universities addressed as providers of knowledge and knowledge workers
- ‘Fifth freedom’ not really materializing
- Innovation Scoreboards: academic performance still disappointing



# Policy Effects (2)

- Stratification effect
- Regional diversification effect
- Reputation race



# Discussion

- Increase mission diversity
- Transparency of diversity
- ‘Assigned’ institutional autonomy
- Diversification of academic career paths

