



Supporting RESAVER as a Structural Instrument to Strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) through the ERA Act

RESAVER is a **pan-European occupational pension fund designed to support** the cross-border mobility of researchers and research-related staff across the European Economic Area. It aims to address existing pension coverage gaps by ensuring that **employees of organisations with research activities** have **access to a supplementary occupational pension** that complements, rather than replaces, existing national or institutional pension schemes.

By allowing employees to remain within a single supplementary pension fund when moving between countries and institutions, RESAVER helps reduce pension fragmentation and administrative barriers to mobility, contributing to more attractive and sustainable research careers. In this sense, it directly supports the objectives of the ERA, which seek to create a unified and borderless market for R&I not just as social policy, but as a structural condition for competitiveness.

RESAVER plays a crucial role addressing a persistent challenge faced by researchers in Europe: career precarity. Research careers are often characterised by short-term contracts and/or fellowships with no access to employee rights, fragmented career structures and high mobility across countries which makes it difficult to build continuous and adequate pension entitlements. Portable pension solutions like RESAVER contribute to the realization of the “5th Freedom” as highlighted in the 2024 Letta Report, which promotes the free movement of knowledge, research, innovation and education across the European Union.

RESAVER currently has Research Performing Organizations members in 9 EU countries and it is backed by a wide group of stakeholders committed to raising awareness of the pension scheme and promoting its uptake across Europe.

The relevance of RESAVER has been recognised in the **Council Recommendation of December 2023 on a European framework to attract and retain research, innovation and entrepreneurial talents in Europe**, which recommends that Member States promote the solutions provided by the RESAVER pension scheme, notably as it guarantees the absence of vesting periods and asset transfer fees.

The Signatory supports the further development and wider uptake of RESAVER and encourage its consideration in the implementation of the forthcoming **European Research Area Act**, as a structural instrument to strengthen pension portability and enhance the attractiveness and retention of research talent in Europe.

Organization _____

Signed _____

Represented by _____

Date _____