

What is Global Systems Science?

Presentation at DIKU APL Group Lunch Meeting

June 14, 2013

Martin Elsman
Associate Professor, PhD
HIPERFIT Research Center Manager
Department of Computer Science
University of Copenhagen



GSS Features

- studies global systems like the internet, the global city system, and more
- develops evidence, concepts, and doubts concerning such systems
- helps practitioners dealing with them to reflect on the experiences and to assess possible consequences of their actions
- combines advanced computing technologies with conversations bridging the gap between science and society



GSS Examples

- The energy, water, and supply systems
- The global financial system
- The global city system
- Agents, resources, and mechanisms involved in climate policy
- The web of military forces and relations
- Globally spreading diseases (pandemics)
- The scientific community
- ...



GSS Examples

- The energy, water, and supply systems
- The global financial system
- The global city system
- Agents, resources, and mechanisms involved in climate policy
- The web of military forces and relations
- Globally spreading diseases (pandemics)
- The scientific community
- ...



Policy Challenges Driving GSS

- The energy nexus – the increase in per capita energy..
- Global health – individual health, population health, ecosystem health
- Financial markets – sustainable finance
- Climate change
- Urban development - dynamics



Enabling Knowledge Technologies

- HPC – scalable models (simulations), scalable tools, visualisation (validity, reliability, relevance)
- Big Data
- Programs, Tests, Proofs
 - “Global systems, if they fail, may fail big!”



EU Funding and Global Systems Science

Horizon 2020 – supports research from 2014-2020.
See <http://blog.global-systems-science.eu/>.



Horizon 2020 has a €80 billion budget!

Provides € 31 748 million to help address major concerns shared by all Europeans such as climate change, developing sustainable transport and mobility, making renewable energy more affordable, ensuring food safety and security, or coping with the challenge of an ageing population.

A time line for Horizon 2020

From Dec 2013: Parliament and Council negotiations on the basis of the Commission proposals

Ongoing: Parliament and Council negotiations on EU budget 2014-20 (including overall budget for Horizon 2020)

Mid 2012: Final calls under 7th Framework Programme for Research to bridge gap towards Horizon 2020

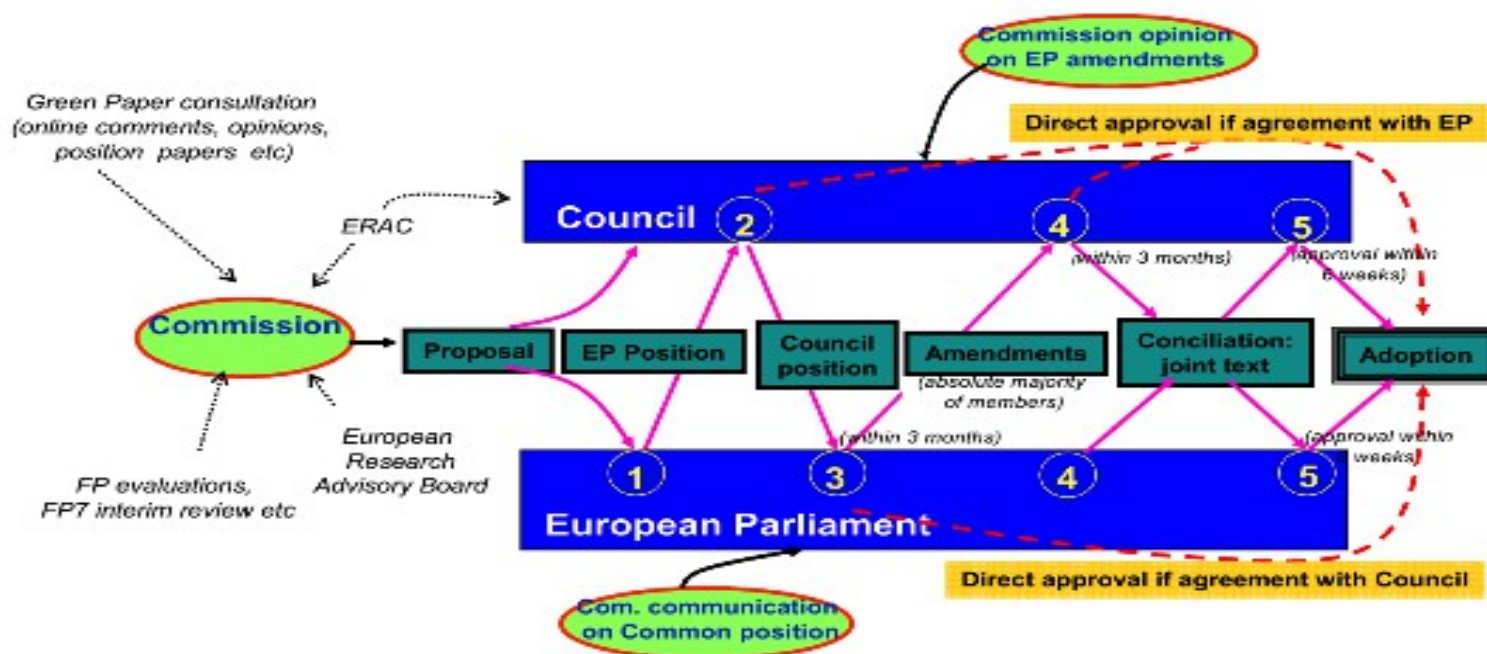
By end 2013: Adoption of legislative acts by Parliament and Council on Horizon 2020

1/1/2014: Horizon 2020 starts; launch of first calls



Horizon 2020 Adoption

The “Ordinary legislative procedure” (ex “co-decision”)



HIPERFIT and Global Systems Science

The Past

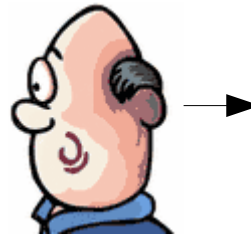
Big data
Data grows!

Learn from history:
- model calibration
- analytics



walking backwards through time

sight



You/Society
Decision Making



The Future

Predict consequences
Big simulations
Increasing complexity
Complex modeling

ICT challenges

"The free lunch is over":
Halt in CPU clock cycles
Moore's Law still holds some
years to come → more
transistors

To the rescue:

Parallel computing
Functional and **declarative**
programming
Exploit **domain knowledge**

