

Irish Humanities Alliance Welcomes the ALLEA Position Paper, <u>Developing a Vision</u> for Framework Programme 9,

Professor Gerardine Meaney, Chair of the Irish Humanities Alliance (IHA), has today (4 August 2017), welcomed the All European Academies (ALLEA) Position Paper, Developing a Vision for Framework Programme 9, as an important document which foregrounds the need for the EU to capitalise on its research strengths in humanities and social sciences in order to produce research which allows European societies to 'imagine different futures'. Professor Meaney said that the emphasis on the need to understand the importance of social and cultural as well as technological and economic innovation is very timely. In the position paper, ALLEA makes the often overlooked point that Europe's fundamental research infrastructure is the network of relationships between its researchers and that this needs more attention and practical support. The proposal for a more graduated scale of projects – from small, short term to large, long term - in order to open up work programmes to early stage researchers and more diverse consortia and institutions is an exciting one which we welcome.