

Dimitri Corpakis bio



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Dr DIMITRI CORPAKIS IS an independent expert, advising on innovation, growth and technological change. An engineer and planner by training, he has more than 38 years' experience on the European integration process. Dimitri (who retired from the services of the European Commission in September 2016, following a career of over 26 years in Brussels) has worked in many policy areas including Education and Training, Information and Communication Technologies, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Regional Innovation Ecosystems with an emphasis on synergies between the Union's Research, Innovation and Cohesion Policies (European Structural and Investment Funds).

During his long career with the European Commission, he held several management posts focusing on policy design and delivery: for example he had full responsibility in launching from the ground-up the first European Research Advisory Board (EURAB and then ERAB in the early 2000's). In recent years, Dimitri led the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation Unit on the *Regional Dimension of Innovation* (later called '*Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation*') managing the legacy 7th EU R&D Framework Programme actions on "Regions of Knowledge" and "Research Potential", building links with the Union's Cohesion Policy, with a strong focus on developing Research and Innovation Strategies for [Smart Specialisation \(RIS3\)](#), ensuring the Commission's link with the Joint Programming Initiative on "[Urban Europe](#)" and launching the ground-breaking actions on closing the innovation divide (new Horizon 2020 Part IV on [Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation - Teaming, Twinning and ERA Chairs](#)). In 2018, he was appointed as an honorary member of the Graduate Faculty of the Agricultural and Mechanical University of Florida (FAMU), School of the Environment and as a Senior Research Fellow of the South East European Research Centre (Thessaloniki, Greece) (SEERC) a part of the International Faculty of the University of Sheffield (CITY College).

Dimitri (now 67) is actively engaged in public speaking at international level (recent events took place in Heidelberg, Kiel, Tallinn, Riga, Nice, Bucharest, Orlando, Tallahassee, Brussels, Manchester, Dubai, London and Thessaloniki). He is an active member and co-coordinator of the International Webinar Series of the [Triple Helix Association](#) (President: Prof. Henry Etzkowitz, University of Stanford), specialising in the relations between University, Industry and Government leading to social, technological and economic change. He also acts as project adviser to international consortia and partnerships. He is an active member of the [Regional Studies Association](#) (RSA, UK), of ERSA ([European Regional Science Association](#)) of the European Policy Centre (EPC), the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and the Club of Rome (EU Chapter). He is also a member of the European Advisory Board of the EuroNanoMed project (<http://www.euronanomed.net/> a platform for funding agencies and ministries that promote collaborative research and innovation able to convert research in nanotechnology into practical gains in medicine).

Dimitri serves also at [the Editorial Board](#) (Accelerated Innovation) of [The International Journal of EnergyWaterFoodNexus \(EWFN\)](#): this serves as a platform of advancing a new science Enterprise launched at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) through a global public-private partnership that seeks to provide sustainable and innovative solutions for energy, water and food security. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Human Resources Development and Management as well as a member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Information Technology and Management ((Editor-in-Chief: Dr. M. A. Dorgham, The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK)

He has published several articles and book chapters as invited contributor in numerous publications, and delivered dozens of keynote presentations and speeches in international meetings. In 2006 he was awarded the prestigious Belgian CHRISTIANE BOM Award (by the European Association of Development Agencies / EURADA) for his overall achievements in pushing forward the innovation policy agenda on regional development. In 2016, he was awarded the distinction of the Order of [ERRIN](#) (European Regions Research and Innovation Network) for his overall contribution

to advancing the regional innovation policy agenda). Dimitri Corpakis can be reached at d.corpakis@gmail.com (see also https://about.me/dimitri_corpakis). He is also active on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/in/dimitricorpakis) and on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/DimitriCorpakis>).

Featured publications:

- *Why we need a digital highway to the circular economy. International Journal of Energy Water Food Nexus, I(1), 26-28.* Retrieved from <http://www.ijewfn.org/index.php/ijewfn/article/view/9>
- *Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe: The 'Catching Up' -- A Myth or a Strategy?* Edited by Ilona Pálné Kovács, Dagmar Kutsar. Read more on this book at: <http://www.taylorandfrancis.com/books/details/9780415548236>
- *Intellectual Capital for Communities: Nations, Regions, and Cities*, By Prof. Ahmed Bounfour, University of Paris 11, France, Prof. Leif Edvinsson, Professor of Intellectual Capital, University of Lund, Sweden. Read more on this book at: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/bookaudience.cws_home/704134/description
- Countless presentations on the issue of *catching-up in science, technology and innovation* as well as on *Smart Specialisation and the intelligent use of the European Structural and Investment Funds for an innovation-led place-based growth* (see on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dimitricorpakis/>) A recent example is a presentation of a paper in a Special Session of the recent ERSA Lyon Congress (**59th ERSA Congress** *Cities, regions and digital transformations: opportunities, risks and challenges* /27-30 August 2019) on the topic of *Mainstreaming Smart Specialisation in the EU R&I Framework Programme: challenges and opportunities. A view from a policy maker's perspective* of which he was also the Convener and Moderator.
- Co-author "*Mobilizing Regional Foresight Actors to Strengthen the Strategic Basis of the European Research Area*" (Günter Clar, Dimitri Corpakis and Mikel Landabaso) in the IPTS Report, Special Issue: Foresight and Regional Development (Vol. 59, Nov.2001). Issue: The recent rise of national and regional Foresight is adding value to traditional research and innovation planning activities. European initiatives complementing and networking such Foresight exercises can help to ensure that all governance levels (European, national, sub-national) in an enlarged EU can benefit optimally from this rise. A coherent supportive framework at European level, with instruments and programmes that mobilize and support a networked European Foresight landscape is called for. This will enable social and economic actors to anticipate and adapt in a pro-active fashion to accelerated technological change and globalization. Available on the Web at <http://www.jrc.es/pages/iptsreport/vol59/english>
- Main author of the Commission's Communication "*The Regional Dimension of the European Research Area*" (COM (2001)549 final of 03.10.01). Available on the Web at: <http://www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/era-developments/regions.htm>
- "*Le Commerce électronique en Europe: risques, opportunités et tendances*", in "*Revue d'Économie Financière*, Caisse des Dépôts, Paris, Monchrétien France, N° 53 (La monnaie électronique). Association d'Économie Financière. *Preface by Benoît Coeuré Conseiller économique auprès du directeur du Trésor et actuellement VP de la BCE* (Banque Centrale Européenne, European Central Bank), Paris <http://www.aef.asso.fr/REF/REFN53.HTM>
- "*Open questions with some answers on the impact of electronic publishing on the academic community*". Contribution to the workshop on the same theme held in April 1997 in Stockholm (Wener Gren Center), organised by the Academia Europaea. Published in the proceedings of the workshop (publisher Portland Press) and on a Web site. An online version can be found on the Internet at the URL: <http://www.portlandpress.co.uk/books/online/tiepac/contents.htm>
- Contribution to the Second European Report on Science and Technology Indicators (REIST2) on the topic: "*The emerging global research village: Using Electronic Networks for Research and Development.*"
- Special report within the working group on the development of Research and Technology policy in Greece (*The Centre of Economic Programming and Research / KEPE / New Five Year Development Plan of Greece (1988-92)*): "*The Development of Human Resources as a factor for the development of Research and Technology in Greece.*"(GR)
- In May 1988, he contributed to a large symposium on Technological Training, organised by the Association of the TEI (Greek Post-Secondary Technological Training Institutes) Professors (EDIKTI) and the German Association FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG (Nafplion, Greece, 05-07.05.88) on the topic: "*The regional and the sectoral approach of the University-Industry Co-operation: the case of the COMETT Programme*". Published in the symposium Papers and Proceedings. (GR)
- Article entitled "*University and Industry: In search of Contact Points*". In OIKONOMIKOS TACHYDROMOS / OT 27.1626.4/7/85), Greece's most serious and influential business weekly review.(GR)

Forthcoming publications:

- "*Smart places facing the transition to a new machine age*", in a forthcoming book entitled "***Harnessing the 4th Industrial Revolution: Challenges and Opportunities***", to be published by IPAG, [The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance](http://www.ipag.org/) (<http://www.ipag.org/>)
- "*Powering Synergies between Innovation Policy and Regional Development frameworks: the case of smart specialisation*" in a forthcoming book on the Proceedings of 2nd International Triple Helix Summit 2018 (Dubai, November 2018), Springer publishing

Moving forward the Triple Helix Association

- The Triple Helix Association is an organisation with a strong unfulfilled potential. Born out of a brilliant academic concept, it has not yet delivered its full power to society. The concept itself has become a well-accepted and ubiquitous factor of socio-economic development, especially in the context of Western societies, while gathering increasing traction in developing countries. Yet, most will agree that the Association itself has not yet won the place it deserves in the academic and policy-making circles that influence decision-making. Membership is rather low and diffusion of key messages has difficulties to take-off.
- Other similar organisations display a healthier performance (e.g. Innovation Excellence, Peter Drucker Forum, World Economic Forum, INGSA etc.). We need to have a thorough review of the THA, its structures, profile, branding, activities, presentation, delivery of services and key messages. We need to review our potential and put forward our key selling points. This will allow the THA to find a new path to a better performance. I think that I could contribute to such an effort.

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Brussels, 28/10/19