

THE EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREAS AND THE ROLE OF RESEARCH-INTENSIVE UNIVERSITIES

SUMMARY

- *The creation of European Higher Education and European Research Areas must be coordinated.*
- *Basic research is vital to both. It creates the new knowledge that is the ultimate source of most innovation in the economy, society and culture; and provides a framework for an education through which the skepticism, creativity and high level capability that society needs are embodied in people.*
- *Research-intensive universities that couple world class research and education provide the most efficient means of providing this combination of basic research and research-based education..*
- *Research universities uniquely have the disciplinary breadth perennially to re-configure their research efforts to address research needs and opportunities. Basic research should flourish alongside strategic and applied research and professional practice.*
- *The deterioration of the capacities of research universities in Europe compared with us and other competitors has severe implications for the economy and society, its capacity to make a distinctive European contribution to global development and to the avoidance of a global monoculture dominated by the USA.*
- *The EU must:*
 - *invest more in basic research*
 - *support the vital interaction between basic research and education in research universities*
 - *develop competitive funding processes that would permit between 50 and 100 powerful research universities to emerge with resources analogous to those of their us counterparts.*