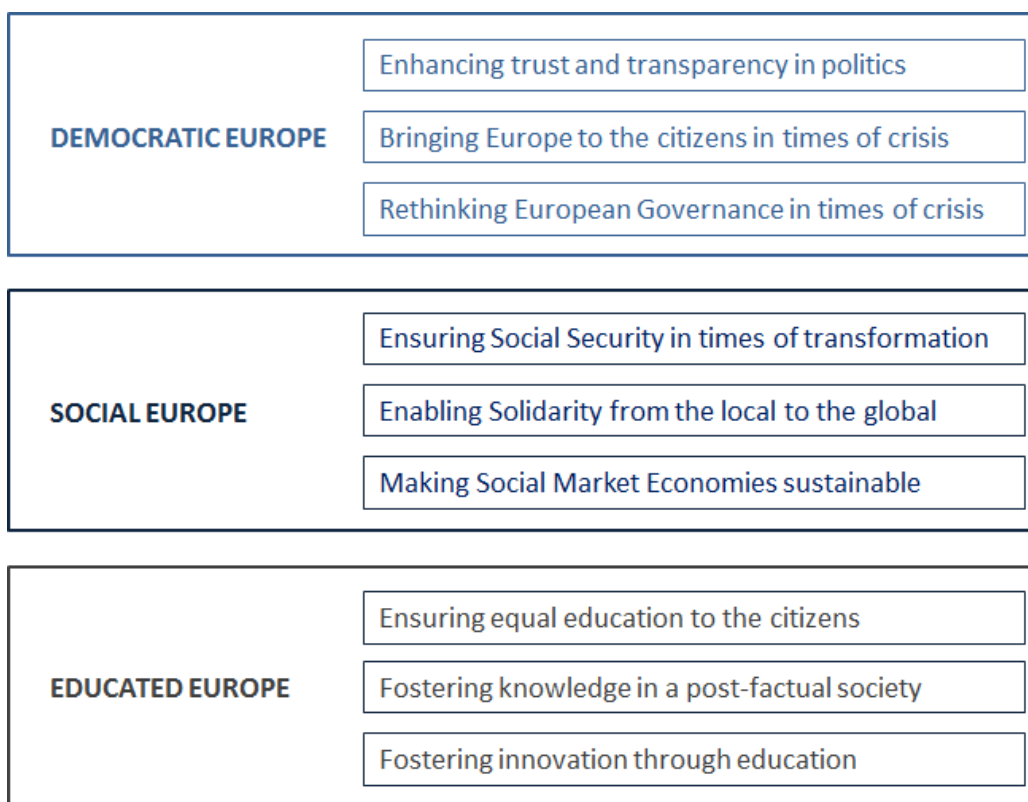


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The present recommendation contributes to the debate on the creation of the new Framework Programme FP9. It points to the importance of a proper role of research on European societies within the next Framework Programme taking into account the challenges Europe, European societies and their citizens face in a globalized, digitalized and innovation-driven world. These research fields must be seen as corner stones for cultivating Europe. The social, cultural, economic and human dimensions of the ongoing manifold, multifaceted and complex transformations must be scrutinized to build a comprehensive evidence base for policymaking towards a democratic, social, inclusive and competitive Europe.

Therefore, **we recommend the following research CHALLENGES and MISSIONS to be the core of the next European Research Framework Programme in a growing digital and global Europe.**

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We argue that the future European Framework Programme FP9 shall define new Societal Challenges and Missions for European collaborative research including small and medium size projects, in part with bottom-up approaches. These Missions shall promote research that

- produces scientific analyses on how EU member states, its regions and citizens have been affected by and react to the present and future socio-political and socio-economic challenges.
- identifies best-practices on how those challenges have been successfully addressed and develops new models for future developments.
- provides decision-makers with scenarios on the effects that different decisions may produce.

