

MANIFESTO FOR THE INCLUSION OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES IN THE SPANISH R+D+I PLAN



Global challenges such as **poverty**, **inequality**, **climate change**, **gender discrimination**, **global governance**, among others, require serious and rigorous research to generate expertise that contributes to finding global, regional, national and local solutions.

The multidisciplinary knowledge area of Development Studies carries out this type of research with a clear applied purpose. However, in Spain this research field lacks public support and recognition in the scientific system, in stark contrast with the reality of the European Union and many of its Member States.

¿How Development Studies are supported by the European Union?

The European Commission states in its communication *Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: A strategic approach* that global challenges need research, and that the European Union needs to strengthen its dialogues with international partners to build a critical mass for tackling these challenges.

Additionally, the *Horizon 2020* program reflects the commitment of the European Union with the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 development agenda, the Earth Summit's and other multilateral development agreements.

The result of this commitment are several lines of research that support Development Studies in the *Horizon 2020* Program. For example, in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities there are two specific lines that include central challenges of international development: one focused on policy coherence and another on the European contribution to a global order based on values. There are also other research priorities related to climate change, sustainable development and water supply and sanitation.

Reedes proposals for integrating Development Studies in the Spanish R+D+i Plan

In order to enhance Development Studies in Spain and to contribute to the generation of useful knowledge for the global challenges of sustainable human development, REEDES advocates for:

- Including in the Spanish R+D+i Plan specific research lines on topics related to global challenges of sustainable human development.
- Promote the **participation of researchers from developing countries** in research projects funded by Spain, and enhance research capacity building and knowledge transfer to these countries.
- Promote **networking and partnerships** aimed at the promotion of Development Studies.
- Launch **coordinated research calls** between Spain and third countries.
- Promote a **policy of grants and contracts for R+D+i** for researchers in the field of Development Studies.

This Manifesto was adopted by the 4th Ordinary General Assembly of REEDES, held on April 27th, 2015 in Bilbao.

If you agree with this Manifesto:

- Download it on the REEDES website: http://reedes.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Manifesto-for-Development-Studies_ENGLISH.pdf
- Share it on your website and social networks
- Tweet it using the hashtag #manifiestoED

REEDES advocates for research and teaching as powerful instruments for encouraging the necessary global changes for sustainable human development.

Spanish Network of Development Studies (REEDES)

www.reedes.org