



Working visit of Prof. dr. Maria Leptin, President of the European Research Council to the Netherlands (7- 8.07.2026)

 Wednesday 8 July 2026

 09:00- 15:00

 The Hague, International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam
(Kortenaerkade 12, 2518 AX The Hague)

Program

09:30-10:00 Welcome and Key-note speeches

- Welcome: Prof. dr. Annelien Bredenoord, President Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Keynote: Prof. dr. Rianne Letschert, Minister of Education, Culture and Science
- Keynote: Prof. dr. Maria Leptin, President of the European Research Council

10:00- 11:45 Stakeholders debate: *Mission FP10: Curiosity, Values, and Freedom at the Core of Europe's Future*

Opening: Prof. dr. Ruard Ganzevoort, Rector ISS

Panel discussion:

Moderator: Prof. dr. Annelien Bredenoord, President Erasmus University Rotterdam and Member of the Heitor Group on the future of Horizon Europe

Panelists:

- Prof. dr. Maria Leptin, President ERC
- Prof. dr. Marcel Levi, President of the Dutch Research Council, NWO
- Prof. dr. Ben Feringa ERC Laureate and Nobel Prize winner
- Tjerk Opmeer, Dep. Director-General for Business & Innovation, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate
- Susanne Caarls, Head of Unit-European and International research & science, talent and social safety of scientists, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

Open discussion with the audience

11:45- 13:00 Lunch break

13:00- 14:45 Frontier Science Session: *Empowering Human-Centred European Excellence*

Moderator: Prof. dr. Jantine Schuit, Rector Magnificus EUR

Opening speech: Prof. dr. Maria Leptin, President of the ERC

Inspirational stories:

- Prof. dr. Ben Feringa ERC Laureate and Nobel Prize winner
- Prof. dr. Karin Roelofs, Member of the ERC Scientific Council

- Prof. dr. Tom Emery, ERC Laureate and Executive Director of ODISSEI – the National Open Data Infrastructure for Social Science and Economic Innovations
- Prof. Aida Todri-Sanial, ERC Laureate (TU/Eindhoven)
- Prof. dr. Caroline Klaver, ERC Laureate (Erasmus Medical Center)
- Prof. Oane Visser, ERC Laureate (ISS)

Open discussion with the audience

14:45-15:00 Closing remarks and calls to action: Prof. dr. Ruard Ganzevoort, Rector ISS

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