

Kirk Leech
Executive Director
European Animal Research Association (EARA)

EARA is a communications and advocacy organisation whose mission is to uphold the interests of biomedical research and healthcare development across Europe. EARA was created by academic institutions, associations and industry to provide a European platform for the public and other external stakeholders to be informed and learn about animal research, its benefits and limitations.

Previously Kirk worked in government affairs for the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry. Prior to that Kirk worked for Understanding Animal Research, the UK's leading advocacy group on the use of animals in medical research.

Before UAR Kirk acted as a consultant for the White House Writers Group a strategic communications consultancy based in Washington, DC, founded by a group of former US Presidential speechwriters. Kirk was engaged to advise on improving public opinion on the environmental, economic and cultural impact of a new goldmine in Transylvania, Romania.

Prior to this Kirk advised Action Research in Community Health and Development, a tribal rights organisation working in the eastern tribal areas of Gujarat India on influencing public opinion on the economic benefits of the Narmada dam and in opposing the imposition of wildlife sanctuaries on tribal land.

Kirk is a regular writer and presenter in UK and European media with over 400 articles and appearances on television and radio.