



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 7 September 2022  
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**'A' ITEM NOTE**

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From: Permanent Representatives Committee

To: Council

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand for an Agreement on the general principles for the participation of New Zealand in Union programmes and on the association of New Zealand to Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027)

- Adoption

= Commission statement

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Delegations will find attached above-mentioned statement.

  
  

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**COUNCIL DECISION AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN  
AGREEMENT WITH NEW ZELAND ON ITS PARTICIPATION IN UNION  
PROGRAMMES AND ITS ASSOCIATION TO HORIZON EUROPE**

**Commission statement**

The Commission recalls its right of initiative when it comes to the initial proposal of an international agreement. These decisions are taken on a case-by-case basis considering the merits of the bilateral relations in question and in line with the procedures set out in the relevant provisions of the Treaty (Article 218 TFEU). In so doing, the Commission is respecting the prerogatives of all institutions involved in the procedure of negotiating and concluding international agreements between the Union and third countries and is acting fully in line with the principle of sincere cooperation and transparency between the institutions.

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