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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. Cion doc.:	6868/26
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION on a European Union framework for science diplomacy - Presidency compromise text

Delegations will find attached a Presidency compromise text on the Proposal for a Council Recommendation on a European Union framework for science diplomacy with a view to the Research (Atomic Questions) Working Party meeting on 25 March 2026.

Changes in comparison to the Commission proposal (doc. 6868/26) are marked in **bold underline** for addition and in ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions.

ANNEX

2026/0060 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

on a European Union framework for science diplomacy

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 292, in conjunction with Article 182, paragraph 5, thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) Science is a global public good, expanding the frontiers of knowledge and developing solutions for the benefit of humankind through fundamental and applied research, ~~both in~~ **across** the public and private sector**s**.

(2) The universal language of science has the ability to connect and inspire people and nations.

(3) Science has always been a driver of European integration and contributes to shaping European identity based on shared principles and values.

(4) Science**, research and innovation** ~~is~~ **are** ~~a~~ core element**s** of the Union's soft power and contribute~~s~~ to enhancing the Union's relations with **third countries** ~~other nations~~, ~~even when~~ **including in situations when** diplomatic relations are difficult.

(5) ~~It is necessary to keep~~ **There is a need to ensure that** the international ~~science~~ **research and innovation** system **is** both open and secure**, in conformity with the Council recommendation on enhancing research security[1].**

(6) Research and innovation ~~is~~ **are** at the heart of the Union's competitiveness**, resilience, prosperity and societal wellbeing**.

(7) Horizon Europe is the world's largest multilateral research and innovation programme, being open for participation **of third countries, including** through association **to the programme** by trusted partner countries in the Union's neighbourhood and beyond**,** as well as for the participation of researchers worldwide.

(8) The 'Choose Europe for Science' initiative[2] is enhancing the attractiveness of the Union for researchers from all over the world, in particular through the grants of the European Research Council (ERC)[3]**,** ~~and~~ the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)[4] **and instruments provided by Member States**.

(9) *(merged with 10)* **Global competition is increasing due to the development and deployment of groundbreaking technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) which have profound impacts on people's lives.** The use of ~~artificial intelligence (~~AI~~)~~ in science as a transformative force creates unprecedented opportunities as well as **challenges** ~~risks~~, for example related to data governance, **scientific publishing**, model sharing, access to **knowledge and** computing**, and** scientific **ethics and** integrity.

~~(10)~~ *(merged with 9)*~~There is increased global competition due to the development and deployment of groundbreaking technologies such as AI which have profound impacts on people's lives.~~

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1 **Council recommendation of 23 May 2024 on enhancing research security, OJ C 3510, 30.5.2024.**

2 https://commission.europa.eu/topics/research-and-innovation/choose-europe_en

3 https://erc.europa.eu/homepage

4 https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/

(**10**~~11~~) The Union ~~is~~ face**s**~~d with~~ a **volatile** geopolitical environment characterised by increasing **pressure on** ~~hostility towards~~ international cooperation, **democracy**, multilateralism, the rule of law and science itself.

(**11**~~12~~) State and non-state actors exercise increasing pressure on global goods and commons, including on spaces beyond national jurisdiction.

(**12**~~13~~) Progress has **not** been **satisfactory** ~~slow, or even negative,~~ in achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[5] and the Sustainable Development Goals**,** and the resolution of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, requiring joint efforts between **countries** ~~nations~~ informed by scientific evidence.

(**13**~~14~~) The Union and its Member States are **among** the main enablers of global intergovernmental science-policy bodies such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)[6] **and** the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)[7] ~~the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP)[8] and the proposed International Panel for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS)[9]~~.

(**14**~~15~~) Research ~~and innovation~~ provides the evidence needed to underpin international agreements and support policy **decisions** ~~choices~~ across a wide range of sectoral diplomacies**,** where relevant.

(**15**~~16~~) Foreign and security policy, including the **C**~~c~~ommon **F**~~f~~oreign and **S**~~s~~ecurity **P**~~p~~olicy (CFSP), impact**s** research and innovation policies, both directly, e.g. by imposing restrictions on engagement with certain international partners and competitors, and indirectly, e.g. by facilitating international cooperation ~~in research and innovation~~ and creating a level playing field.

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5 https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

6 https://www.ipcc.ch/

7 https://www.ipbes.net/

~~8 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP) (link).~~

~~9 International Panel for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS) (link).~~

(**16**~~17~~) As **knowledge**, research and innovation translate~~s~~ more than ever into power and geopolitical influence, a strong and independent Union would benefit from better **capitalising on** ~~mobilising~~ the Union's research and innovation assets.

(**17**~~18~~) **Given the increasing connection between science, technology and innovation, on the one hand, and foreign and security policy, on the other, as reflected in** ~~An increasing number~~ **numerous** ~~of~~ Union policy documents[10] and major recent reports[11]**,** ~~refer implicitly or explicitly to the role of science, technology and innovation in foreign and security policy~~ **there is a need for a European Union framework for science diplomacy.**

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[10] **Inter alia,** Commission communication on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation, COM(2021) 252 final of 18.5.2021 and the related Council conclusions, 12301/21 of 28.9.2021; Joint communication on strengthening the EU's contribution to rules-based multilateralism, JOIN(2021) 3 final of 17.2.2021; Commission communication on a European strategy for universities, COM(2022) 16 final of 18.1.2022; Council conclusions on principles and values for international cooperation in research and innovation, 10125/22 of 10.6.2022; Council conclusions on strengthening the role and impact of research and innovation in the policymaking process in the Union, 16450/23 of 8.12.2023; Joint communication on an International Digital Strategy for the European Union, JOIN(2025) 140 final of 5.6.2025 and the related Council conclusions **on Advancing the International Digital Strategy for the European Union,** 15315/1/25 of 20.11.2025; Commission communication on a European strategy on research and technology infrastructures, COM(2025) 497 final/2 of 30.9.2025; Joint communication on strengthening EU economic security, JOIN(2025) 977 final of 3.12.2025; **Council recommendation of 23 May 2024 on enhancing research security (OJ C, C/2024/3510, 30.5.2024).**

[11] Enrico Letta, Much more than a market – Speed, Security, Solidarity. Empowering the Single Market to deliver a sustainable future and prosperity for all EU Citizens, 2024; European Commission: The future of European competitiveness. Part A, A competitiveness strategy for Europe, Publications Office of the European Union, 2025; European Commission: Align, act, accelerate – Research, technology and innovation to boost European competitiveness, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024; European Commission: A European framework for science diplomacy – Recommendations of the EU Science Diplomacy Working Groups, Publications Office of the European Union, 2025.

(**18**~~19~~) **By strengthening the dialogue between science and diplomacy, s**~~S~~cience diplomacy can play a vital role in

a) **safeguarding and promoting** ~~defending~~ the Union's democratic values, strategic interests and technological and data sovereignty;

b) strengthening the Union's ~~competitive~~ position as one of the leading global science and technology actors;

ba) enhancing trust in science and promoting evidence-informed decision making, public engagement and international scientific cooperation;

c) maximising the **impact** ~~deployment~~ of the Union's research and innovation potential for the pursuit of peace**, multilateralism** and a rule~~s~~-based international order; and

d) reinforcing the Union's commitment to managing global public goods and commons sustainably, fighting the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and contributing to the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

(**19**~~20~~) The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) **and other multilateral organisations foster global and regional dialogues** on ~~is developing a global~~ science diplomacy ~~framework~~ to which the Union should contribute.

(**20**~~21~~) To pursue its interests **and involving state and non-state actors**, the Union should act strategically and in a coordinated manner in terms of science diplomacy vis-à-vis its global partners and competitors, which are investing in their own science diplomacy capacities.

(**21**~~22~~) **Several** ~~An increasing number of~~ Member States have been developing and adopting national science diplomacy strategies and strengthening the scientific-technological capacities in their diplomatic services at home and abroad.

(**22**~~23~~) Given the multitude of ongoing activities, it is necessary to foster coherence and optimise **the use of** resources in science diplomacy, both at Union and Member States' level**s. To this end, the Union should facilitate coordination, where appropriate, and** ~~as well as to~~ provide ~~Union coordination~~ **tailor made** guidance to Member States ~~and relevant stakeholders~~, taking their specific situations into account.

(22a) The Union's science diplomacy should be conducted in full coherence with the Union's external action and relevant programmes, in particular Horizon Europe.

(**23**~~24~~) Science diplomacy ~~has the potential to contribute to a 'fifth' freedom of free movement of research, innovation, knowledge and education[12] and to~~ **is a driver towards** advancing and achieving the European Research Area (ERA)**.**~~, both internally and externally, with particular emphasis on the enlargement dimension of the Union~~**. Therefore, the establishment of a European Union framework for science diplomacy has been included in the ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027 which contributes to working on the concept of a "fifth freedom" – the Single Market for research and innovation[13],[14].**

~~(25) While the concept of science diplomacy is fairly recent, the Union builds on a strong legacy of initiatives that could be considered science diplomacy, including European research infrastructures like the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)[15] or the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC)[16] as well as global research infrastructures located in the Union and supported by individual Member States like the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)[17] or the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)[18].~~

~~12~~ ~~See Enrico Letta, Much more than a market, 2024.~~

13 **Council recommendation of 24 June 2025 on the European Research Area Policy Agenda 2025-2027, OJ C 3593, 30.6.2025.**

14 ~~See~~ Enrico Letta, **idem**.~~Much more than a market, 2024~~.

~~15 European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) (link).~~

~~16 European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) (link).~~

~~17 Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) (link).~~

~~18 International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) (link).~~

(**24**~~26~~) **The Union builds on a strong legacy of initiatives that could be considered science diplomacy, with the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN)[19] being the most prominent example**. A vibrant European community of science diplomacy scholars and practitioners has emerged in recent years, leading, for example, to the creation of the EU Science Diplomacy Alliance[20] and the EU Ministries of Foreign Affairs Science Diplomacy and Advice Network.

(**25**~~27~~) Therefore, the Union **and its Member States** should establish **themselves** ~~itself~~ as ~~the~~ global leader**s** in science diplomacy, ~~both~~ **in order** to defend ~~its~~ **their** own interests, **promote European values,** and serve the global public good**.**

~~HAS ADOPTED THIS RECOMMENDATION:~~

~~**DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE**~~

(26) ~~1.~~ For the purposes of this ~~R~~**r**ecommendation:

(1) 'science' **refers to** ~~means~~ the systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and social world through observation, experimentation, **interpretation** and the testing of theories against the **empirical** evidence obtained. ~~and is understood here~~ **It** ~~as~~ encompass**es**~~ing~~ natural sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine as well as social sciences and humanities, and cover**s**~~ing~~ both fundamental and applied research in the public and private sector**s**;

(2) 'diplomacy' **refers to** ~~means~~ the profession, activity, or skill of conducting international relations by state and non-state actors through peaceful means such as dialogue and negotiation, including through representatives abroad;

(3) 'science diplomacy' **refers to** ~~means~~ the direct or indirect use of science, scientific evidence and scientific cooperation to support diplomatic objectives at different levels as well as the deployment of diplomacy to support scientific progress.

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[19] https://home.cern/

[20] https://www.science-diplomacy.eu/

(27) ~~2.~~ This recommendation does **neither** impinge on the competence of Member States **in any policy area, including** foreign and security policy**, n**or the autonomy and independence of scientific institutions.

~~**PRINCIPLES AND VALUES OF UNION SCIENCE DIPLOMACY**~~

(28) Union science diplomacy should be rooted in the values on which the Union is founded, as set out in Article 2 of the **Treaty on European Union** ~~TEU~~, and based in particular on the principles and values underpinning international cooperation in research and innovation **-** ~~,~~ as outlined in the Global Approach to Research and Innovation[21], **the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe**[22], ~~and~~ the Marseille Declaration **on international cooperation in research and innovation**[23] **and the Brussels Statement "Multilateral dialogue on principles and values for international cooperation in research & innovation", -** most notably academic freedom and freedom of scientific research, scientific excellence, research ethics and integrity, research security, gender equality, diversity and inclusion, open science and open data[24], and evidence-informed policymaking.

HEREBY RECOMMENDS THAT MEMBER STATES, with full regard to subsidiarity, proportionality, institutional autonomy and academic freedom, and in accordance with Member States' national specificities, different starting points, and their competence regarding foreign policy, and

~~**ACTION TO SUPPORT UNION SCIENCE DIPLOMACY**~~

~~T~~**t**aking into account the need for optimising resources, both at Union and Member State level, ~~it is recommended that Member States~~ take the following **strategic, operational and enabling** actions:

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21 Commission communication on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation, COM(2021)252 final of 18.5.2021.

22 **COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2021/2122 of 26 November 2021 on a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe, OJ L 431, 2.12.2021.**

23 https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2022-03/d-claration-de-marseille--17072.pdf

24 ~~With due respect to the protection of personal data.~~

Strategic actions

1~~3~~. acknowledge the importance of science diplomacy as a component of their foreign and security policy ~~and~~ **as well as** its contribution to the **C**~~c~~ommon ~~f~~**F**oreign and ~~s~~**S**ecurity ~~p~~**P**olicy and **the** ~~c~~**C**ommon ~~s~~**S**ecurity and ~~d~~**D**efence ~~p~~**P**olicy by recognising its potential **with**in **the** relevant foreign and security policy strategies;

24. **acknowledge the potential of science diplomacy for fostering international cooperation activities in science, research and innovation, and** use science diplomacy action**s** ~~and targeted messaging~~ to position the Union as a global **leader** ~~champion~~ of academic freedom, freedom of scientific research, **open science** and international cooperation in research, **technology** and innovation, including through the 'Choose Europe for Science' initiative **on the basis of a Team Europe approach, and through the association of third countries to the Horizon Europe and Euratom Programmes;**

3~~5~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, harness science diplomacy for pursuing the interest of the Union's competitiveness, for example to better position the opportunities offered by partnerships with the Union, including via the Global Gateway strategy[25], to promote European technologies, to leverage the influence of the Union's research and innovation and regulatory capacity for the setting of technical standards, and to support the Union's technology and data sovereignty~~, including by infrastructure initiatives like GÉANT[26] and independent access to climate, biodiversity, pollution and Earth observation data, where Copernicus can play a significant science diplomacy role[27]~~;

[25] https://commission.europa.eu/topics/international-partnerships/global-gateway_en

~~[26] GÉANT (link).~~

~~[27] Copernicus: Europe's eyes on Earth (link).~~

4~~6~~. **in cooperation with the Commission,** foster inter- and transdisciplinary dialogues at Union, national and subnational level**s** between the various science diplomacy actors on ~~how to best~~ balanc**ing**~~e~~ scientific goals with foreign and security policy interests, considering in particular the need to **(a)** assess the impacts of restrictions on international scientific cooperation, ~~to~~**(b) identify and** mitigate economic and research security risks, and ~~to consider~~ **(c) explore and exploit** the potential of science diplomacy to prepare the ground for foreign and security policy action;

~~7~~ *(moved to 11).* ~~consider drawing up national roadmaps for interest-driven science diplomacy action, to be updated in regular intervals, based on the identification of thematic and geographic priorities and interests at Union, national and subnational level agreed between the relevant science diplomacy stakeholders and an assessment of mutual interest and opportunities for cooperation between the Union and non-EU countries in specific areas;~~

5~~8~~. with due consideration of security concerns related to dual use technologies and other sensitive technologies ~~in areas such as space and defense~~, identify specific areas in which science diplomacy can be used **by foreign and security policy** as a trust-building **tool** ~~force~~ for maintaining **and promoting** dialogue with countries which do not share the Union's values or with which formal dialogue is strained or interrupted, or where scientific support for diplomacy or diplomatic support for science can help foster peace and mutual understanding~~, including in the area of non-proliferation and the mitigation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear~~ risks ~~(CBRN), and building on successful examples like the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)~~[28] ~~or the Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME)~~[29];

~~[28] International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) (link).~~

~~[29] Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME) (link).~~

6~~9~~. wherever it can add value to **existing** ~~established~~ policy processes, ~~make~~ use ~~of~~ science diplomacy to advance the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals ~~(in particular SDG17: Partnerships for the Goals)~~, to support the development and implementation of international agreements, to address global sustainability challenges**, including in fragile and geopolitically contested environments such as the Arctic region,** and to sustainably manage global goods and commons in a fragmented geopolitical environment, including spaces beyond national jurisdiction such as the high seas and deep sea, Antarctica, the **Low** Earth **O**~~o~~rbit, the moon and other celestial objects, as well as common goods like the radiospectrum and a dark and quiet sky;

7~~10~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, promote Union leadership in global science diplomacy by **(a)** engaging in the global science diplomacy discourse ~~and playing a leading role in the development of a global framework for science diplomacy~~ as promoted by UNESCO **and other international fora**, and by **(b)** strengthening ties ~~or~~ **and** building alliances with trusted partners worldwide ~~to promote science diplomacy,~~ guided by the common Union's and Member States' interests~~,~~ **and** based on **common** principles and values in research and innovation, ~~a responsible and ethical use of science, technology and innovation, and an open and secure research environment~~;

8 new. **use science diplomacy to facilitate the establishment and development of international research infrastructures, thereby promotinge the Union's ambition and convening power;**

9~~11~~**.** position European research and technology infrastructures as strategic assets of the Union's soft power in science diplomacy[30] and **as** key drivers of the Union's **scientific excellence**, competitiveness, **resilience** and technological sovereignty, capitalising on their ~~ability to promote the Union's ambition and convening power, their~~ potential to attract the best talent, **on** their contribution to innovation, **breakthourgh research, knowledge generation,** standard-setting and ~~the~~ sharing of **findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR)** data, and **on** their role in advancing bilateral and multilateral relations;

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30 Commission communication on a European strategy on research and technology infrastructures, COM(2025) 497 final/2 of 30.9.2025 ~~(link)~~.https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2025:497:REV1

Operational actions

10~~12~~. where not already in place, consider establishing adequate **support** structures for the coordination of science diplomacy across government and with key stakeholders at different levels, including by the appointment of a national science diplomacy coordinator**, if appropriate,** and by exploring synergies with other sectoral diplomacies, such as climate, green, water, ocean, polar, space, energy and health diplomacy, with particular emphasis on the cross-linkages with tech and digital diplomacy as well as cultural diplomacy;

11 *(ex 7)*. consider drawing up national roadmaps for interest- **and value-**driven science diplomacy action**s**, to be updated in regular intervals, based on**: (a)** the identification of **strategic** thematic and geographic priorities and interests at Union, national and subnational level**s** agreed between the relevant science diplomacy stakeholders**,** and **(b)** an assessment of mutual interest and opportunities for cooperation between the Union and non-EU countries in specific areas;

12~~13~~. review **and reinforce** the scientific advice and foresight mechanisms of ministries of foreign affairs **and other relevant ministries** ~~including the role of think tanks~~**, with a view** to identify**ing** capacity gaps and develop**ing** recommendations for the improvement of these science-for-policy mechanisms, **including by the placement of researchers as scientific advisors in diplomatic services** ~~building on lessons learned from existing science advice mechanisms at global, Union, national and subnational level,~~ thereby supporting wider efforts for promoting the use of scientific evidence in public policymaking[31], including through the ERA Action on Advancing European Science for Policy;

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31 In line with the Council conclusions on strengthening the role and impact of research and innovation in the policymaking process in the Union, 16450/23 of 8.12.2023 (~~link~~).

13~~14~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, strengthen the monitoring of groundbreaking developments in research, **technology** and innovation, such as the increased use of **AI** ~~artificial intelligence~~ in science within the framework of the overall Union policy on AI[32], by assessing their implications for scientific collaboration, research integrity, **ethics,** and the Union's competitiveness **and resilience**, **value creation and technological sovereignty,** integrating these insights into **relevant** national ~~science diplomacy~~ strategies, and promoting a human-centric, responsible, transparent, **equitable** and secure use of these technologies at global level;

14~~15~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, ~~S~~**s**tep up the Union's engagement in and, where possible, support to science-based international organisations in a coordinated manner, including global intergovernmental science-policy platforms ~~such as the IPCC, IPBES and ISP-CWP,~~ and strengthen the cooperation with non-governmental international organisations active in the field of science diplomacy such as the International Science Council (ISC)[33] and the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA)[34] as well as organisations working on technical standards and conventions ~~such as the European Committees for Standardization and Electrotechnical Standardization (CEN-CENELEC)[35] and the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)[36]~~;

15~~16~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, create networks and synergies between ~~existing~~ science and technology attachés in diplomatic representations of the Union and the Member States worldwide ~~and revisit their roles and required competencies, for example in innovation-related areas~~, in order to maximise their impact and make better use of existing resources, **while keeping the focus on coordination rather than creating new structures, and avoiding unnecessary administrative burden**;

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32 https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-office

33 https://council.science/

34 https://www.gesda.global/

~~35 European Committee for Standardization / European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CEN-CENELEC) (link)~~

~~36 Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM) (link).~~

16~~17~~. **in cooperation with the Commission**, support the Union's science diplomacy outreach by taking a **structured** ~~strategic~~ approach towards the scientific diaspora of Member States, assisting in the creation of relevant networks in cooperation with academic exchange services, by making better use of **national and Union** alumni networks ~~of Union~~ **of programmes and** mobility schemes such as the Marie Curie Alumni Association[37] and Erasmus Mundus Association[38]**,** and by capitalising on well-established events that promote science-based people-to-people engagement across geopolitical divides ~~such as the Lindau Nobel Laureate meetings[39] or the European Forum Alpbach[40];~~

17~~18~~. develop a **strategic** ~~coherent~~ approach towards refugee scholars and researchers at risk with the aim of facilitating their continued contribution to research and innovation, based on the principles and values the Union stands for;

18~~19~~. **work towards** build**ing** equitable science diplomacy partnerships with low- and middle-income countries that will foster the contribution of local **knowledge and** expertise to shared global challenges**,** and provide opportunities for capacity-building ~~and open markets for investment~~, thereby tackling also asymmetries in research and innovation capacities;

Enabling actions

19new. **encourage, in full respect of national competences in education, the integration of elements related to science diplomacy, the role of science in international cooperation and evidence-informed policymaking into education and training programmes, in order to raise awareness among younger generations of the links between science, policy and global challenges, including by fostering science diplomacy youth ambassadors;**

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37 https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/

38 https://www.em-a.eu/

~~39 Lindau Nobel Laureate meetings (link).~~

~~40 European Forum Alpbach (link).~~

20. foster linkages between, **on the one hand**, Member States' diplomatic services**,** and, **on the other hand**, universities and other higher education institutions, **including the European Universities alliances,** research-performing organisations, research funders as well as civil society **and** ~~on the other, including with~~ non-state actors, whose expertise, international networks~~,~~ and innovative capacity can unlock new avenues for innovation and strengthen global partnerships beyond traditional channels between government and academia,

21. **in cooperation with the Commission,** support the development of positive science diplomacy narratives**,** underpinned by multi- and interdisciplinary research, **systematically** including social sciences and humanities, and the spreading of these findings through scientific publications, ~~and~~ communication **and engagement** with the public, with the aim of enhancing trust in science, strengthening the integrity of the information space, **combatting disinformation,** and shielding democracy**, freedom** and multilateralism;

22. promote multilingualism in science diplomacy and linguistic diversity in science in line with the G20 Recommendations on Science Engagement[41];

23. **in cooperation with the Commission**, provide science diplomacy training to scientists and diplomats as well as **to** professionals working at the interface between science and diplomacy**,** in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including by integrating science diplomacy modules in the curricula **and study programmes** of diplomatic academies and the training programmes of diplomats **prior to their posting** ~~before being posted~~ abroad**, with academic institutions playing a key role in the training of scientists and diplomats in the field of science diplomacy**.

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41 https://g7g20-documents.org/fileadmin/G7G20_documents/2025/G20/South%20Africa/Sherpa-Track/Research%20and%20Innovation%20Ministers/1%20Ministers'%20Language/Research%20and%20Innovation_Recommendations%20on%20Science%20Engagement_23.09.2025.pdf

~~**SUPPORTING ACTIONS AT UNION LEVEL**~~

~~24. To support the implementation of points 3 to 23 of this Recommendation, it is recommended that~~

RECOMMENDS THE ~~European~~ **COMMISSION** to take~~s~~ the following actions in particular **to support the implementation of points 1 to 23 of this recommendation:**

24. ~~a)~~ support a mapping of Union science diplomacy actors, strategies and training offers**,** and of science diplomacy efforts by the Union's partners and competitors with a view to getting an overview of the existing national frameworks and currently available science diplomacy resources **and best practices,** as well as of the global science diplomacy environment in which the Union and its Member States operate;

25. ~~b)~~ enable a regular exchange between scientists and diplomats, **and with experts working at the interface of the two,** through the establishment of a virtual European Science Diplomacy Platform based on a Team Europe approach, which can serve to identify topics for joint science diplomacy action vis-à-vis relevant countries and regions of interest to the Union;

26. ~~c)~~ establish a**n** ~~coordination mechanism using~~ **ad hoc contact group within** the existing ERA framework (**e.g. the standing ERA Policy Forum Subgroup on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation)** which can be activated ~~ad hoc~~ when a common Union ~~position~~ **response** in the field of research and innovation is needed in **reaction** ~~response~~ to geopolitical developments, such as threats to the Union's economic security, military aggressions or democratic backsliding, **including by supporting coordinated risk assessment and contingency planning for international research cooperation**;

27. ~~d)~~ integrate the European Union framework for science diplomacy in the ~~current and future~~ framework programme for research and innovation and other Union programmes, **including the Euratom research and training programme**, by fostering instruments such as the 'Choose Europe for Science' initiative, association to and international participation in Horizon Europe, science ~~&~~ **and** technology agreements, Global Gateway projects, the European Open Science Cloud[42], **European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs)[43] and the Eureka Network[44]**, ~~and~~ **as well as** initiatives targeted at specific geographical regions and topics such as the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) **2021-2027**[45], the AU-EU Innovation Agenda[46], the Global Health European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) **2021-2027**[47], Mission Innovation[48]**,** and the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA)[49].

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42 https://eosc.eu/
43 https://www.eric-forum.eu/
44 https://www.eurekanetwork.org/
45 https://prima-med.org/
46 https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/ec_rtd_au-eu-innovation-agenda-final-version.pdf
47 https://www.edctp.org/
48 https://mission-innovation.net/
49 https://allatlanticocean.org/

28. ~~e)~~ facilitate the establishment of a Mediterranean Science Diplomacy Centre as announced in the Pact for the Mediterranean[50] and strengthen science diplomacy dialogues with key multilateral and international partners such as the African Union (AU), the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Central Asia, **as well as with EU candidate countries**;

29. ~~f)~~ strengthen the provision of scientific advice to foreign and security policy**,** in particular through the activities of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC)[51] and Scientific Advice Mechanism[52] as well as the Union's decentralised agencies[53], including by supporting international dialogues in cooperation with international science advice bodies ~~such as the United Nations Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board[54], the International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA)[55] and the Foreign Ministries Science & Technology Advice Network (FMSTAN)[56].~~

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50 Joint communication on the Pact for the Mediterranean, JOIN(2025) 26 final of 16.10.2025

51 https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/index_en

52 https://scientificadvice.eu/

53 https://www.euda.europa.eu/publications/brochures/eu-ansa_en

~~54 United Nations Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board (link).~~

~~55 International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA) (link).~~

~~56 Foreign Ministries Science & Technology Advice Network (FMSTAN) (link).~~

IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING

It is recommended that Member States implement points **1** ~~3~~ to 23 of this ~~R~~**r**ecommendation **according to their specific situations,** as soon as practicable.

It is recommended that the Commission monitors the implementation progress of this ~~R~~**r**ecommendation using existing ERA governance structures, in particular the ERA Forum Subgroup on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation, in cooperation with the European External Action Service, **using the ERA Platform and relevant monitoring tools,** and reports to the Council on the progress in the implementation of this ~~R~~**r**ecommendation every two years, as part of its biennial reporting on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation. **Therefore, no new structures need to be created**.

In this context, Member States are invited to share with the Commission information on their national approaches and initiatives as input for the aforementioned monitoring and reporting activities by the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President