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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Danish EU Presidency Horizon Europe negotiation process: Pillar II & Rules for participation - PowerPoint presentation

Delegations will find attached a PowerPoint presentation on the above-mentioned subject made by the Presidency at the Research Working Party Meeting held on 10 November 2025.

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Danish EU Presidency

Horizon Europe negotiation process: Pillar II & Rules for participation

Today's agenda

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- Pillar II: Competitiveness and Society
  - Partnerships
  - Competitiveness and Society

  → Deadline for new round of written comments 21 November

- Lunch

- Rules for Participation
  - Go through article by article

  → Reflections on-going in view of the further follow-up, as certain topics call for more in-depth discussions

Competitiveness and Society: articles and recitals

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Framework programme

- Art 11 (European partnerships)
  - Recital 9, [10, 34]
- Art 15 (Collaborative research)
  - Recital 11, 12

Specific Programme

- Art 5 (European partnerships)
- Art 11 (Collaborative research)

Partnerships – important to note

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- Two type of partnerships:
  1. Institutionalised (Art 185 or 187 TFEU) → separate legal process
  2. MoU based – COM-industry, COM-MS or tripartite (the latter, the preferred)
- Clear selection criteria and implementation obligations in regulation
- MoU based benefit of management of calls by COM → WP, evaluation and project management
- Co-funding % agreed in MoU based on partnership needs
- Challenge: virtual pot management ensuring each MS funds its own participants and a maximum number of projects are funded
- MS can be part of identification and selection for MoU based as prior to WP
- **PCY and COM happy to further explain MoU model**

Partnerships – main changes made in FP

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- Renumbering needed (to be done at final finetuning of the outcome of the negotiations)
- Art 11.1 – caping of budget suggested by several MS, preference is for clear prioritisation and strong MS involvement
- Art 11 – use of financial contribution instead of in cash. The term in-kind is not used in accordance with financial regulation but redefined in 11.6 specifically in context of partnerships being a well-known term – ideas for better term very welcomed!
- Art 11.3 - regrouping of text on institutionalised partnerships
- Art 11.3a - added a paragraph on SRIA, as each partnership shall develop one
- Art 11.4 - new wording of balanced contribution from Union and other partners in line with the ambitions of the partnership being more accurate
- Art 11.5 - partnerships can be identified and selected with MS as MoU based (to happen before WP process)
- Art 11.5fa - alignment with other Union funding instruments to avoid overlap and duplication

Partnerships – main changes made in SP Art 5

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- Renumbering needed (as previously)
- Para 1 – to note, selection with MS needs to be added (omission)
- Para 1.a.ii – criteria related to critical mass needs a benchmark, call size not considered adequate – any idea?
- Para 1.a.iii – 10 MS shall at least be involved, number extracted from input received (10 equals 40% of MS)
- Para aa x.iii.a – reporting on evaluation process to MS and Union bodies
- Para (ab) – timely information to MS in case of COM action due to non-performance

Collaborative research and innovation

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DK PCY in thinking mode based on all inputs received

1. Competitiveness part stable with reference to ECF Policy Windows
2. Society part needs to be both complementary and address additional research and innovation needs important for our society
3. No falling between the cracks, and no
4. Mission and Bauhaus might still have R&I parts to be covered by normal WP BUT would need anchor in ECF to ensure uptake and valorisation of several years of R&I investments.



Lunch break



Rules for Participation

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- Important to avoid repetition – we have the other regulations at hand.
- Need to trust that the Commission manages these administrative steps, while to set the right frame.

Rules for participation and dissemination – points for reflection

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- Security (incl. research security): overall addressed in Art 20 referring to Art 10 of ECF
  - Proposal to add a paragraph on research security in horizontal principles
  - Dual use is not referred to in the programme explicitly but it is no longer restricted to civilian use only. A balanced approach to safeguards is needed not to make it to complex and administrative burdensome.
- Evaluation process is set out in Financial Regulation (Art 150), in addition already underlined to be based on independent experts
- Details on implementation will be in Commission Decisions, the (corporate) model grant agreement, guidelines etc. not to be added in regulation as a principle of simplification
- PCY suggests a discussion on simplification to establish the real points of added value for beneficiaries (one size fits all is not necessarily the right approach in all cases)
- To note, DK PCY to come back to you on this block in view of the next steps. We will not today issue next round of written comments

Rules for participation and dissemination – changes made

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- Recital 22 research security added
- Art 21 new paragraph 1a has been simplified
- Art 21.10 – the list on interdictions has been tidied up and the para on heSC which refers to what is allowed has been separated out
- Art 23 seal of excellence and competitiveness seal are both in (to note, further revision in general provision to follow)
- Art 24 reference to coordinator added for clarity
- Art26.3 ‘mission led approach’ deleted and instead a reference to when an action has funding by several programmes added
- Art 30 percentage added for MIM with some margin of manoeuvre
- Art 30 revenues shall be reassigned to MIM
- Art 32 updated title (changed the order)
- Art 32.a security relevance added
- Art 33.3 the reference to 3 phases removed and simplified language used
- Art 33.4b sentence simplified

Rules for participation and dissemination: Articles and recitals minus parts in red

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Framework programme

- Art 20 (ECF rules)
  - Recital 22
- Art 21 (Eligibility)
- Art 22 (Ethics and research integrity)
- Art 23 (Calls for proposals)
- Art 24 (Financial capacity of applications)
- Art 25 (Award criteria and selection)
- Art 26 (Time-to-grant)
- Art 27 (Funding rates)
- Art 28 (Indirect costs)
- Art 29 (Eligible costs)
  - Recital 27
- Art 30 (Mutual insurance mechanism)
- Art 31 (Ownership of results)
- Art 32 (Valorisation and dissemination)
  - Recital 28
- Art 33 (Pre-commercial procurement and public procurement of innovative solutions)

Other recitals 6

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

quote by Helen Keller (American writer)

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