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MEETING DOCUMENT

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: Danish EU Presidency
Horizon Europe negotiation process
- 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 4 December 2025.

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Danish EU Presidency Horizon Europe negotiation process

Today's agenda

Presentation of the final PCY text before hand over to CY PCY

1. Framework Programme

- Presentation of last changes to the 6 blocks
- Interventions

2. Specific Programme

- Presentation of last changes to the 6 blocks
- Interventions

Framework
Programme



Recitals

- Recital 2: Corrected the use of the term sovereignty to be technological and adapted the sentence
- Recital 2a: added **retain** talents
- Recital 6: rules for participation **and evaluation process** shall be designed to further simplify access, enhance openness, and maximize the impact of Union funding.
- Recital 13: added **and retaining** the worlds brightest minds
- Recital 16a: simplified text as best possible
- Recital 15: reference **to other Union programmes** beyond ECF added with regards to missions and NEB support and the **roll-out component** referred to for NEB
- Recital 15a: editorial change and example deleted
- **Recital 15b and 16: bold italics as to be further discussed in coordination with ECF subgroup**
- Recital 19: reference to a coherent portfolio of RI and TI and complementarity to MS infrastructures
- Recital 21: reference to **ECF Art 50**
- Recital 25: editorial change to talk about global societal challenges
- **Recital 26: made lump sum and personnel unit costs optional instead of per default**

General provisions

- Article 2:
 - §6: added a **reference to MS** in the definition of partnerships
 - §23 and 24: added **research** to innovation and technology development
- Article 3:
 - §2: added reference to the **ERA PACT** in second indent and a reference to **European and global societal challenges** in the fifth indent, changed contribute and increase to **enhance** in last indent.
- Article 4:
 - Updated the text on the societal part to match what is used in Article 15, changed the ERA title to match the one of the related article.
- Article 5
 - (a): linguistic, (ba): shortened to make it concise
 - (–ca): adapted to the language on research security used in Council recommendations
 - (ce): added **synergies with national programmes**
- Article 10
 - §4: made lump sum and personnel unit costs an option

Pillar 1: Excellence

- No new changes only in recital 13.



Pillar 2: Competitiveness and Society

▪ Article 11:

- restructured the text to better distinguish the two forms of partnerships, MoU based or institutionalised
- §1: added wording to reflect points raised in the discussion about critical mass and MS involvement
- new § 1a: describes the two forms of partnerships
- §2: outlines what a MoU or Establishing Act shall set out and highlights the importance of the SRIA
- new § 3a: differentiates the contributions for each of the two type of partnerships and reaffirms voting rights
- new § 3b: simply the old 6
- §5: **agreed** with MS instead of selected with – note this para will most likely need clean up

▪ Article 15:

- §2: reference to **TRL deleted** as it is in recital and can be left more open here, sentence simplified to state a simple complementarity between the R&I chain and ECF activities.
- §6: **shall** introduced with regards to the support of R&I activities if missions and NEB as well as the need for synergies with other programmes (while in our view this could be both competitiveness or society component)

Pillar 3: Innovation



- Article 17: create **and strengthen** innovation ecosystems, open to all stakeholders moved to end of sentence for clearer syntax
- Article 34.3 and 34.7 and 34.10 left in bold italics for further discussion due to interface with ECF (work of division)

Pillar 4: European Research Area

- Article 18:
 - alignment used instead of articulation between policies
 - policy facility integrated in this article
- Article 18a:
 - Sentence about synergies edited and ECF added, critical changed to important and a reference to public and private investments added as well as to a coherent portfolio.

Rules for Participation

- Worked on consistency with first para of Article 23 stating that '*The content of the calls for proposals for all actions shall be included in the work programme*' by deleting references to calls (as all content of a call shall be included in the WP!) – still minor corrections left in Art 31.4 and Art 32.1
- Consistent use of associated **third** country
- Article 21 §4: research and technology infrastructures deleted as the exception for these being mono-beneficiaries can be covered under § 3 (this has been confirmed by the Commisison)
- Article 21 §11: the different provisions for termination have been simplified as all can be covered by referring to not achieving objectives in given timeline
- Article 32 §1 g), Article 33 §4(a): **royalty** free

Specific
Programme



General provisions

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- Article 1
 - §2a: used the word **implement** with regards to collaborative research and innovation activities under the ECF policy windows – checked and agreed with GSC LS
- Article 2
 - §2a : shortened to keep focus on excellent research and institutions
 - §2d: foster and strengthen collaboration and multidisciplinary
- Article 4:
 - adopted the work programme structure to follow the programme structure
- Article 18:
 - adopted the committee structure to follow the programme structure

Pillar 1: Excellence

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- Article 9
 - §2: **in duly justified** and if specific needs there can be thematic priorities for MSCA
 - §3.b: deleted as synergies with other programme components and programmes is an horizontal principle
- Article 10:
 - the JRC activities shall **contribute** to synergies with other EU investments

Pillar 2: Competitiveness and Society

▪ Article 5

- §1: text restructured to have reference to MS in a self-standing sentence at end and not disrupt list of the life-cycle phases
- §1a: quantifiable criteria and portfolio approach added, (fa), (g) and (ga) moved from criteria to implementing actions (openness & transparency, data strategy and SME integration).
- §1b: the previous indent about openness and transparency has been integrated partially in an existing indent, partially as a new indent – the previous para 1d on phasing out has been added in this list as an indent
- Renumbering of the final paras

▪ Article 11

- para 1(b)(i): **climate** added, geopolitical **shifts** referred to as well as territorial management (which is a scientific area) instead of well managed territories
- para 1(b)(ib): **sectors** added
- para 1b may be changed to **shall** for R&I parts of missions and NEB

Pillar 3: Innovation

- No last changes

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Pillar 4: European Research Area

- Article 16 :
 - para 1: **facilitate** pan-European access
 - para 2(a): **important** instead of critical
 - para 2(b): **going beyond primary research** users
 - para 2(da) reference to **innovation ecosystems** added
- Article 17 :
 - para 1: **facilitate** pan-European access
 - para 2(a): **important** instead of critical
 - para 2(d): reference to **innovation ecosystems** added
- Article 17a no longer in bold italics
 - para 1: In coordination with national programmes added
 - para 2: reference the complementary and different nature of RI and TI
 - para 2(a) important instead of critical
 - para 2(a)(i): the need for joint EU and MS investments for scale and scope and to leverage private investments is added
 - para 2(a)(iii): **clearly** identified gaps and **complementarity** to other infrastructures
 - para 2(a)(iv): access policy and services provided singled out as criterium

**„Unsere Zukunft ist Europa
– eine andere haben wir
nicht“**

Quote by Hans-Dietrich Genscher

