



Brussels, 17.3.2021
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 17.3.2021

on the financing of the European Innovation Council component of the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) and on the adoption of the work programme for 2021

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to the [Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe – The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation], and in particular Article 11(2)c thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the actions under the European Innovation Council component pursuant to the [Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe – The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation], it is necessary to adopt a financing decision which constitutes the annual work programme for 2021 (the ‘work programme’). Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (‘the Financial Regulation’) establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (3) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (4) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (5) The work programme was subject to the advice of the European Innovation Council pilot Advisory Board.
- (6) The work programme was submitted to an ad hoc expert group consisting of representatives of the Member States for informal consultation.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the actions under the European Innovation Council component in the framework of the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe for the year 2021, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the actions under the European Innovation Council component in the framework of the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe for 2021 is set at EUR 1 550 752 431 and shall be financed from appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union for 2021:

- (a) budget line 01.020301: EUR 1 120 601 631 – European Innovation Council (MFF)
- (b) budget line 01.020301: EUR 431 077 418 – European Innovation Council (NGEU)

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 4

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annex and selected in accordance with its Annex 6.

Article 5

The implementation of this Decision is subject to:

- (a) the final adoption of the [Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe – The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation] and the Regulation establishing Horizon Europe - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down the rules for the participation and dissemination by the legislative authority without significant modifications;
- (b) a positive opinion of the committee established in the Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe; and
- (c) in relation to appropriations attributed as external assigned revenue under Article 3(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094², to the entry into force of Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053³ and the availability of the corresponding external assigned revenues.⁴

Done at Brussels, 17.3.2021

For the Commission
Mariya GABRIEL
Member of the Commission

² Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, OJ L 433I , 22.12.2020.

³ Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053 of 14 December 2020 on the system of own resources of the European Union and repealing Decision 2014/335/EU, Euratom, OJ L 424, 15.12.2020.

⁴ In line with article 13 of Horizon Europe legal act, the distribution of the NGEU amounts of EUR 5.4 billion in current prices shall be the following: *d) 25% to the EIC.*