



# European Partnerships under Horizon Europe: State of Play

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# European Partnerships: Overview

New generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives

## Key features

- **More strategic and impact driven**
- **Simple architecture and toolbox**
- **Coherent life-cycle approach**
- **Rationalisation and reform of existing landscape**

### Co-programmed

Based on Memoranda of Understanding / contractual arrangements; implemented independently by the partners and by Horizon Europe

### Co-funded

Based on a joint programme agreed by partners; commitment of partners for financial and in-kind contributions & financial contribution by Horizon Europe

### Institutionalised

Based on long-term dimension and need for high integration; partnerships based on Articles 185 / 187 of TFEU and the EIT-Regulation supported by Horizon Europe

# European Partnerships: What is New?

- Deliver on global challenges (SDGs) and industrial modernization, through concerted R&I effort with the Member States, private sector, foundations, other stakeholders
- Only support partnerships if there is evidence that they are **more effectively** achieving policy objectives than traditional calls
- Common and coherent **framework** of criteria along the life cycle of partnerships, across all pillars, even across programmes and other regulations (e.g. EIT, DEP, space)
- Allow a **broader set of actors** to participate
- Unified **umbrella** branding to improve visibility
- **Time limited** with conditions for phasing-out the Programme funding
- Improve **coherence** between partnerships and the rest of Horizon Europe, also the missions, but also with other EU and national initiatives
- Contribute to higher **openness** of Europe's R&I ecosystems

# Outcome of Inter-Institutional Negotiations on Horizon Europe Proposal

- **Four Main Changes Compared to Commission Proposal:**
  - **Reduce the minimum participation of Member States in Article 185 Initiatives from 50% to 40%**
  - **Narrow down, for Article 185/187 Initiatives, the scope of financial contributions from partners, their use and the way they are managed**
  - **Ensure access to data on proposals, projects and evaluations for all partnerships, in a common IT tool**
  - **Introduce a capping of budgets for all partnerships in Pillar II of Horizon Europe (majority of budgets implemented with action outside partnerships)**
- **Areas for Institutionalised Partnerships (Article 185/187) defined in an Annex to the Framework Programme Regulation.**

# European Partnerships: Provisions

## Regulation

- Recitals 16 and 17
- Definition 3
- Article 8
  - typology
  - conditions
- Annex III: Partnerships, with criteria for
  - Selection
  - Implementation
  - Monitoring
  - Evaluation, phasing-out and renewal
- Annex Ia: areas for possible institutionalised European Partnerships (based on Article 187 and 185 TFEU)

## Specific Programme

- Article 4a: Identification of co-funded and co-programmed partnerships in the Strategic Plan
- Strategic coordinating process for European Partnerships

**Impact assessment: annex 8-5**

### Horizon Europe documents:

Common understanding on the Framework Programme

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

Corrigendum on Annex III :

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-COR-1/en/pdf>

PGA on the Specific Programme:

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-8550-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

# Proposals for Institutionalised Partnerships based on Article 185 / Article 187

Partnership area (Annex V a) of the Regulation)	Proposal
<b>Partnership Area 1:</b> Faster development and safer use of health innovations for European patients, and global health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU-Africa research partnership on health security to tackle infectious diseases</li> <li>▪ Innovative Health Initiative</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 2:</b> Advancing key digital and enabling technologies and their use, including but not limited to novel technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, photonics and quantum technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Key Digital Technologies</li> <li>▪ Smart Networks and Services</li> <li>▪ EuroHPC (no Impact Assessment)</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 3:</b> European leadership in Metrology including an integrated Metrology system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ European Metrology</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 4:</b> Accelerate competitiveness, safety and environmental performance of EU air traffic, aviation, transport and rail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transforming Europe's rail system</li> <li>▪ Integrated Air Traffic Management</li> <li>▪ Clean Aviation</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 5:</b> Sustainable, inclusive and circular bio-based solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Circular bio-based Europe: sustainable innovation for new local value from waste and biomass</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 6:</b> Hydrogen and sustainable energy storage technologies with lower environmental footprint and less energy-intensive production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clean Hydrogen</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 7:</b> Clean, connected, cooperative, autonomous and automated solutions for future mobility demands of people and goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safe and Automated Road Transport</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership Area 8:</b> Innovative and R&D intensive small and medium-sized enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Innovative SMEs</li> </ul>

# Milestones in Preparation, Adoption and Launch of Article 185/187 Initiatives

- Early and structured **Consultation of Member States** (*May/June 2019*)
- **Inception Impact Assessment (IIAs)**: drafting, validation and publication of drafts, 4-week consultation period, finalisation and publication (*draft IIAs published in late May 2019*)
- **Public Consultation** (*12 weeks, launch after end of 4 week consultation on draft IIAs*)
- **Impact Assessment Work**, supported by a single study covering all initiatives (*June – December 2019*)
- **Submission of draft Impact Assessments** to Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board (*December 2019*)
- **Adoption of Commission Proposals** (*Q1/2020*)
- **Negotiation** with and **Adoption** by Council, and where relevant European Parliament (*until end of 2020*)
- **Launch of the Initiatives** (*as of early 2021*)

# Implications for Potential Future Metrology Initiative

- **Metrology Specifically Identified as Partnership Area**
- **Partnerships will be Adopted as a Package: Further Changes in Partnership Areas Still Possible During Inter-Institutional Negotiations**
- **Convincing Case for Metrology Needed for Ex-Ante Impact Assessment**
  - Why an Article 185 Initiative and Not a Co-Funded Partnership?
  - Need to Demonstrate the Specific Value Added of Article 185 Initiative
- **Essential to Demonstrate Impact of Metrology for Wider European Economy and Society**
  - Develop a Solid Evidence Base
  - Concrete Case Studies/Examples
- **Need for Exit Strategy to be Credible under Scrutiny**
  - Networks are Important
  - Other Tangible Deliverables