

## List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe

### Third countries associated to Horizon Europe

Association to Horizon Europe is governed by the Horizon Europe Regulation 2021/695<sup>1</sup>. Legal entities from associated countries can participate under equivalent conditions as legal entities from the EU Member States, unless specific limitations or conditions are laid down in the work programme and/or call/topic text. Such measures could include the limitation of participation in certain actions to legal entities established in the EU alone, or in the EU and specified non-EU countries, in order to safeguard the EU's strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security. Limitations or conditions may also be attached to the participation of legal entities established in an eligible country but which are controlled directly or indirectly by an ineligible country<sup>2</sup>. The eligibility will be clearly defined in the work programme. There could also be criteria on the place of establishment of the legal entity to take into account specific policy requirements or the nature and objectives of the action<sup>3</sup>.

All sixteen non-EU countries associated to the previous programme, Horizon 2020, have also expressed interest to become associated to Horizon Europe. Other third countries have also expressed an interest in association.

The association agreements with the following countries have now started to produce legal effects (either through provisional application or their entry into force) (*listed in alphabetical order*):

1. Albania
2. Armenia
3. Bosnia and Herzegovina
4. Canada (associated to Pillar II 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness', including for the institutionalised European partnerships, and for award procedures implementing Union budget for the year 2024 and onwards)
5. Faroe Islands
6. Georgia
7. Iceland
8. Israel
9. Kosovo<sup>4</sup>
10. Moldova
11. Montenegro
12. New Zealand (associated to Pillar II 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness' as from the Work Programmes 2023 onwards, including for the institutionalised European partnerships)
13. North Macedonia

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) [2021/695](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ 12.5.2021 L 170/1).

<sup>2</sup> Based on Horizon Europe Regulation article 22(5).

<sup>3</sup> Based on Horizon Europe Regulation article 22(6).

<sup>4</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

14. Norway
15. Republic of Korea (associated to Pillar II 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness', including for the institutionalised European partnerships, for award procedures implementing Union budget for the year 2025 and onwards)
16. Serbia
17. Tunisia
18. Türkiye
19. Ukraine
20. United Kingdom (associated to the entire Programme, with the only exception of the EIC fund<sup>5</sup>, for award procedures implementing Union budget for the year 2024 and onwards<sup>6</sup>)

Until association agreements start producing legal effects either through provisional application or their entry into force, transitional arrangements may apply if provided for in the particular Horizon Europe Work Programme. The transitional arrangements apply with regard to the following countries and legal entities established in these countries, with which association negotiations are being processed or where association is imminent (*listed in the alphabetical order*):

1. Egypt (applicable to the entire Programme for award procedures implementing Union budget for the year 2025 and onwards)
2. Morocco (applicable for the entire Programme)
3. Switzerland (applicable to calls under the ERC Work Programme 2024 with opening date after 18 March 2024 and applicable to the entire Programme for award procedures implementing Union budget for the year 2025 and onwards)

Liechtenstein does not intend to associate to Horizon Europe.

This list will be updated to reflect the status of the negotiations for association.

### **Third countries associated to Euratom Research and Training Programme**

For the Euratom Research and Training Programme (Council Regulation (Euratom) 2021/765), the association agreement with Ukraine has now started to produce legal effects.

Switzerland is expected to become associated. Until the association agreement starts producing legal effects, transitional arrangements apply for Switzerland (applicable to the entire Programme for award procedures implementing budgetary commitments for the year 2025 and onwards).

### **Other third countries**

Most Horizon Europe calls are also open to participants from non-associated countries and international organisations, unless specific limitations or conditions are laid down in

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<sup>5</sup> The UK will participate in all parts of the Horizon Europe programme with the only exception of the EIC Fund (which is part of the EIC Accelerator of Horizon Europe that provides investment through equity or other repayable form).

<sup>6</sup> The transitional arrangements continue to apply to grant award procedures implementing Union budgets 2021 to 2023. However, no Horizon Europe grants will be signed with entities established in the UK for the budgetary appropriations for years 2023 or earlier (even if the grant agreement is signed in 2024 or later), save for exceptional circumstances clearly defined by the work programmes and rules of the Programme (e.g. based on being essential for implementing the action).

the work programme and/or the call/topic text, such as those highlighted for associated countries above.

Moreover, some Horizon Europe calls are particularly relevant for international cooperation, encouraging or even requiring the participation of legal entities from non-associated non-EU countries in the funded actions.

Participants from non-associated non-EU countries can take part in Horizon Europe actions — but not always with funding.

Participants from the following low- to middle-income countries are **automatically eligible** for funding<sup>7</sup>:

- Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi
- Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo (Democratic Republic), Congo (Republic), Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba
- Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic
- Ecuador, Egypt (Arab Republic), El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana
- Haiti, Honduras
- Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic), Iraq
- Jamaica, Jordan
- Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Korea (Democratic People's Republic), Kyrgyz Republic
- Lao (People's Democratic Republic), Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya
- Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar
- Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria
- Pakistan, Palestine<sup>8</sup>, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines
- Rwanda
- Samoa, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic
- Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, , Turkmenistan, Tuvalu
- Uganda, , Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic), Vietnam
- Yemen Republic
- Zambia, Zimbabwe.

<sup>7</sup> Subject to the respect of EU restrictive measures (*see disclaimer below*).

<sup>8</sup> This designation is not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue

Participants from other countries (i.e. countries that are neither EU Member States nor countries associated to Horizon Europe, nor countries listed above) are not automatically eligible for funding and therefore usually have to participate at their own cost. They can however receive **exceptional funding**, if:

- their country is explicitly identified in the work programme and call for proposals as being eligible for funding
- the granting authority considers that their participation as a beneficiary is essential for implementing the project, for example in view of their:
  - outstanding competence/expertise
  - access to particular research infrastructures
  - access to particular geographical environments
  - access to particular data).

In addition, a number of non-EU/non-associated countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for national financing mechanisms for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. For more information, see [Horizon Europe Complementary funding mechanisms in third countries](#).

 Please note that entities subject to [EU restrictive measures](#) under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)<sup>9</sup> and entities covered by Commission Guidelines No [2013/C 205/05](#)<sup>10</sup> are NOT eligible to participate in any capacity (including as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties, if any).

| HISTORY OF CHANGES |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| VERSION            | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1.0                | 17.06.2021       | Initial version (new MFF).                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1.1                | 19.07.2021       | Updated section 'Other third countries':<br>Added of Mauritius and Panama to list of low to middle income countries.                                                                      |
| 1.2                | 04.10.2021       | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Iceland and Norway to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects. |
| 1.3                | 22.11.2021       | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Moldova and Turkey to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal          |

<sup>9</sup> Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the [EU Sanctions Map](#).

<sup>10</sup> Commission guidelines No [2013/C 205/05](#) on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards (OJEU C 205 of 19.07.2013, pp. 9-11).

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|     |            | effects.<br>Specified that list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects is in alphabetical order.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1.4 | 17.12.2021 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Georgia, Israel, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1.5 | 01.02.2022 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Bosnia and Herzegovina to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.<br>Updated section 'Other third countries':<br>Added Morocco, Tunisia and Ukraine to list of low to middle income countries.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2.0 | 15.04.2022 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Armenia and Kosovo to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.<br>Added reference to Guidance document Complementary funding mechanisms in third countries.<br>Created section 'Third countries associated to Euratom Research and Training Programme'                                                                                                                           |
| 2.1 | 01.06.2022 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Faroe Islands to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2.2 | 01.07.2022 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Albania, Tunisia and Ukraine to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.<br>Updated section 'Third countries associated to Euratom Research and Training Programme':<br>Specified that association agreement with Ukraine has started to produce legal effects.                                                                                                                  |
| 2.3 | 09.09.2022 | Updated section 'Other third countries':<br>Removed Panama from list of low- to middle-income countries                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2.4 | 15.01.2023 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Removed reference to the General Annexes of Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021/2022 regarding the transitional arrangement.<br>Specified that transitional arrangements may apply if provided for in the particular Horizon Europe Work Programme.<br>Added scope of application of transitional arrangements to Morocco and the United Kingdom.<br>Added New-Zealand to list of countries to which transitional arrangements may apply. |

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| 2.5 | 01.04.2023 | Updated section 'Other third countries':<br>Added footnote related to the respect of EU restrictive measures<br>Removed Ukraine from the list of low-to middle-income countries automatically eligible for funding                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2.6 | 01.08.2023 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved New Zealand to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.<br>Changed name for Turkey, replaced by Türkiye.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2.7 | 15.09.2023 | Removed Tunisia from the list of low-to middle-income countries automatically eligible for funding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2.8 | 05.12.2023 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved United Kingdom to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.<br>Added Canada to list of countries to which transitionnal arrangements may apply.<br>Updated section 'Third countries associated to Euratom Research and Training Programme':<br>Removed reference that the United Kingdom is expected to become associated and that the transitional arrangement may apply. (The United Kingdom did not associate to the Euratom Programme). |
| 2.9 | 21.03.2024 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Added Switzerland to list of countries to which transitionnal arrangements may apply. The transitional arrangement will apply only to ERC 2024 calls opening after 18 March 2024 and not to the other parts of Horizon Europe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3.0 | 08.07.2024 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Extended scope of transitional arrangements. The transitional arrangement will also apply to Starting, Synergy and Consolidator Grant calls under the ERC Work Programme 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3.1 | 11.07.2024 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Canada to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 3.2 | 12.11.2024 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Extended scope of transitional arrangements. The transitional arrangement will also apply to Proof of Concept Grant call under the ERC Work Programme 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3.3 | 20.12.2024 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Extended scope of transitional arrangements for Switzerland under HE and Euratom.<br>Added Republic of Korea to list of countries to which                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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|     |            | transitional arrangements may apply.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3.4 | 10.04.2025 | Added Egypt to the list of countries to which transitional arrangements may apply.                                                                                                       |
| 3.5 | 20.08.2025 | Updated section 'Third countries associated to Horizon Europe':<br>Moved Republic of Korea to list of countries with which association agreements have started to produce legal effects. |
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