**Agricultural and Food Supply Chain — Unfair Business Practices in Business Relations**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Directive (EU) 2019/633 on unfair business practices in business-to-business relations within the agricultural and food supply chain](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019L0633)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DIRECTIVE?**

* It establishes a minimum list of **unfair business practices prohibited** in the relationship between buyers and suppliers in the agricultural and food supply chain, and sets out minimum rules for the application of these prohibitions.
* It aims to prevent large companies from exploiting small and medium-sized suppliers because of their lower bargaining power, and to prevent the cost of these practices from falling on primary producers.

**KEY POINTS**

These rules protect small and medium-sized suppliers as well as larger suppliers with annual sales of no more than 350 million euros. The protection is based on the relative size of the supplier and buyer in terms of annual turnover. These suppliers are divided into 5 subcategory of turnover:

* up to 2 million euros;
* between 2 and 10 million euros;
* between 10 and 50 million euros;
* between 50 and 150 million euros; and
* between 150 and 350 million euros.

**Prohibition of unfair business practices**

The directive **prohibits** the following unfair business practices in all circumstances:

* [Payment](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:mi0074) beyond 30 days for perishable agricultural and food products;
* Payment beyond 60 days for other agricultural and food products;
* short-term cancellations for perishable agricultural and food products;
* unilateral changes to the terms of a buyer's supply agreement;
* Payments required by the buyer that are not related to the sale of agricultural and food products;
* payments required by the buyer for the deterioration or loss of agricultural and food products where this deterioration or loss is not the result of the supplier's negligence or fault;
* The buyer's refusal to confirm in writing a supply agreement, despite the supplier's request;
* the buyer's illicit use of the supplier's trade secrets;
* commercial retaliatory actions by the buyer against the supplier if the supplier exercises its contractual or legal rights;
* compensation for the cost of reviewing customer complaints related to the sale of supplier products despite the absence of negligence or fault on the part of the supplier.

The Directive prohibits the following **unfair business practices,** unless they have been previously **agreed** by the supplier and the buyer in clear and unambiguous terms:

* the purchaser's return of unsold agricultural and food products to the supplier without paying for them unsold or without paying for the disposal of these products, or both;
* the obligation for the supplier to make a payment for its agricultural and food products to be stored, exposed, referenced or made available on the market;
* The buyer's request to the supplier to bear the costs associated with any discounts on agricultural and food products that are sold by the buyer as part of promotional actions;
* The buyer's request to the supplier he pays for the buyer's advertising or marketing of agricultural and food products;
* billing to the supplier by the purchaser of the staff responsible for arreuring the premises used for the sale of the supplier's products.

**Complaints and confidentiality**

European Union (EU) countries designate **national enforcement authorities.** Suppliers may complain to the enforcement authority of their own country or the country of the buyer suspected of engaging in an illegal business practice.

Following a request, the enforcement authority must take the necessary steps to ensure adequate protection of the complainant's identity and any other information whose disclosure would be detrimental to the interests of the complainant or suppliers.

**Power of enforcement authorities**

Enforcement authorities must have sufficient powers and expertise to:

* Open and investigate;
* Demand information from buyers and suppliers
* conduct unannounced on-site inspections
* order, if necessary, that a prohibited practice cease;
* impose such effective fines and other penalties and take interim measures against the offender;
* publish decisions.

EU countries can promote voluntary use of effective and independent mechanisms for out-of-court dispute resolution.

EU countries ensure that enforcement authorities cooperate effectively with each other and with the Commission and provide mutual assistance in cross-border investigations.

The [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) is assisted by the Committee of the Common Organisation of Agricultural [Markets](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/committees/cmo_fr) established by Regulation (EU)No. 1308/2013 (see summary The Common Organisation of Agricultural Markets in the [EU).](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:0302_1)

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DIRECTIVE APPLY?**

It must be incorporated into the national law of EU countries by 1 May 2021. EU countries must implement the measures from 1 November 2021.

**context**

See also:

* [The Directive on Unfair Trade Practices in the Agricultural and Food Supply Chain](http://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/key_policies/documents/brochure-utp-directive_en.pdf) (European*Commission).*

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

European Parliament and Council directive (EU) [2019/633](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019L0633) on unfair business practices in business-to-business relations within the agricultural and food supply chain (OJ L 111 of 25.4.2019, p. 59-72)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

European Parliament and Council directive (EU) [2016/943](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32016L0943) on the protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (business secrets) against unlawful obtaining, use and disclosure (OJ L157 of 15.6.2016, p. 1-18)

Regulation (EU) No.  [1308/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1308) of the European Parliament and the Council of 17 December 2013 providing joint organisation of agricultural markets and repealing regulations (EEC)No. 922/72, (EEC) 234/79, (EC) 1037/2001 and (EC) 1234/2007 Council (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 671-854)

Successive amendments to the Regulation (EU)No. 1308/2013 were incorporated into the original document. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R1308-20190101) has only documentary value.

[2011/7/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32011L0007) Directive from the European Parliament and the Council of 16 February 2011 on the fight against late payment in commercial transactions (OJ L 48 of 23.2.2011, p. 1-10)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02011L0007-20110315)

latest change 29.08.2019

**Audiovisual Media Services (SMA) Directive**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[2010/13/EU Directive on Audiovisual Media Services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32010L0013)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DIRECTIVE?**

It aims to create a single market for audiovisual media services in the European Union (EU) and to ensure its proper functioning, while contributing to the promotion of cultural diversity and ensuring an adequate level of protection for consumers and children.

**KEY POINTS**

The European Audiovisual Media Services Directive (SMA Directive) governs the EU-wide coordination of national legislation covering all audiovisual media, from traditional television programmes to[on-demand](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:am0005&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0002)audiovisual mediaservices.

The [2018/1808](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32018L1808) Directive (EU) amends and updates the SMA Directive, as part of the Digital Single Market Strategy, to:

* Extend certain audiovisual rules to video-sharing platforms as well as to shared audiovisual content on certain social media services;
* easing restrictions on television;
* Strengthen the promotion of European content;
* Protecting children and combating hate speech more effectively
* strengthen the independence of national regulators.

EU countries must guarantee **freedom of reception** and are obliged not to impede transmissions of audiovisual media from other EU countries. Stricter rules than those set out in this directive may be applied by countries in certain circumstances and according to specific procedures. National authorities must encourage co-regulation and self-regulation through **national codes of conduct.**

**advertising**

Audiovisual advertising should be easily recognisable as such and should not:

* Use subliminal techniques
* undermine human dignity
* to discriminate or to promote discrimination;
* Encourage behaviour that is harmful to health or safety
* encourage behaviour that is seriously harmful to environmental protection.

Audiovisual advertisements are prohibited:

* promoting cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as e-cigarettes and refill bottles;
* promoting alcoholic beverages and specifically aiming at minors, or encouraging the excessive consumption of these beverages, among a series of restrictions;
* Promoting prescription drugs or medical treatments;
* exploiting the inexperience of minors, their credulity, or the special confidence they have in adults, or presenting unpredicted minors in dangerous situations.

Sponsorship and product placement are also covered by additional requirements. In addition, television broadcasters have greater flexibility in advertising time, with a new 20% limit for the period between 6 and 6 p.m. and between 6 and 24 hours.

**Protecting children**

EU countries must take appropriate measures to ensure that programmes that can 'harm the physical, mental or moral development of minors' are only made available under conditions such that minors cannot normally hear or see them, including through the choice of time of broadcast, the use of age-check tools or other technical measures commensurated with the harm that the programme might cause. The most harmful content, such as pornography and gratuitous violence, are subject to the strictest measures.

Minors also benefit from a higher level of online protection, so video-sharing platforms must put in place measures to protect them from harmful content.

Product placement is also prohibited in children's programming. With regard to advertising to children promoting, inappropriately, foods and drinks high in fat, salt and sugar, EU countries must, through codes of conduct, encourage the use of self-regulation and co-regulation.

**Hate speech**

Audiovisual media services must not contain incitement to violence or hatred against a group of persons or a member of a group and on the basis of discrimination on grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic characteristics, language, religion or beliefs, political opinions or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, wealth, birth, disability, age, sexual orientation or nationality, in accordance with[Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental](http://fra.europa.eu/fr/charterpedia/article/21-non-discrimination)Rights.

Any public provocation to commit a [terrorist offence](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4322328) is also prohibited.

**accessibility**

Providers must work to continuously and gradually improve the accessibility of their services for people with disabilities, and are encouraged to develop action plans to achieve this.

EU countries must designate an online contact point to provide information and receive complaints about accessibility issues. Emergency information made available to the public through audiovisual media services, particularly in the case of natural disasters, must be provided in a way that is accessible to people with disabilities.

**Sharing videos**

Video-sharing platform service providers must put in place appropriate measures to protect minors from content that may affect their physical, mental or moral development, and the general public from incitement to violence or hatred, or public provocation to commit a terrorist offence.

These measures include, among other things:

* Mechanisms for users to report non-compliant content and effective procedures for processing user complaints;
* effective media education measures and tools, and user awareness of these measures and tools.

With regard to restrictions on advertising and other types of content, video-sharing platform service providers have the same obligations as audiovisual service providers, due to the limited control they may have over advertising on their platforms, for which they are not responsible for the promotion, sale or organization.

**Promotion of European and independent works**

On-demand audiovisual media service providers must ensure that their catalogues contain a minimum share of 30% of European works and that they are sufficiently highlighted.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DIRECTIVE APPLY?**

The original ADM Directive has been in effect since 5 May 2010. The amendments introduced by the 2018/1808 Directive (EU) have been in force since 18 December 2018 and must have the force of law in EU countries by 19 September 2020.

**context**

For more information, see:

* [Audiovisual Media Services](http://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/audiovisual-media-services-directive-avmsd) (SMA)Directive*(European*Commission)
* [Digital Single Market](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/digital-single-market_fr) (European*Commission).*

**KEY TERMS**

**Audiovisual media** service: a service that provides programmes to the general public, under the editorial responsibility of a media service provider, to inform, entertain or educate, through electronic communications networks, either on demand or by broadcast.

**On-demand audiovisual media** service: an audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider for viewing programmes at the time chosen by the user and on individual request on the basis of a catalogue of programmes selected by the media service provider.

**Video sharing platform service:** a service offering programmes or videos to the general public, or both, created by the user, which are not the editorial responsibility of the video sharing platform provider, for the purpose of informing, entertaining or educating, through electronic communication networks and whose organization is determined by the video sharing platform provider, using automatic means or algorithms, in particular display, mark-up and sequence.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

[2010/13/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32010L0013) Directive of the European Parliament and the Council of 10 March 2010 aimed at the coordination of certain legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions of Member States relating to the provision of audiovisual media services (Directive 'Audiovisual Media Services') (OJ L 95 of 15.4.2010, p. 1-24)

Successive amendments to the 2010/13/EC Directive have been incorporated into the original document. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02010L0013-20181218) has only documentary value.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

European Parliament and Council Directive (EU) [2017/541](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32017L0541) of 15 March 2017 on counter-terrorism, replacing the Council's 2002/475/JAI framework decision and amending the Council's decision 2005/671/JAI (OJ L 88 of 31.3.2017, p. 6-21)

Commission communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions entitled 'Strategy for a Digital Single Market in Europe'[(COM(2015) 192 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0192)of 6.5.2015)

[Charter of Fundamental Rights](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12012P/TXT) of the European Union (OJ C 326 of 26.10.2012, p. 391-407)

European Parliament and Council Directive [2002/21/EC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32002L0021) of 7 March 2002 on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (framework directive) (OJ L 108 of 24.4.2002, p. 33-50)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02002L0021-20091219)

latest amendmentaio**EU countries' contributions to the EU budget**

The European Union (EU) has adopted rules on how and how EU countries should contribute to the EU [budget,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/budget.html) which are the EU's [own resources.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/community_own_resources.html)

**act**

Regulation (EU, Euratom)No.  [609/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0609) Of the Council of 26 May 2014 on the modalities and procedures for the provision of traditional own resources, the own resource based on VAT and the own resource based on GNI and measures to meet cash requirements

**synthesis**

The European Union (EU) has adopted rules on how and how EU countries should contribute to the EU [budget,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/budget.html) which are the EU's [own resources.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/community_own_resources.html)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| — | It sets out the rules setting out the modalities and procedures that EU countries follow to make the EU's own resources available to the European Commission. Own resources account for **the main share of revenues that finance the EU budget and include:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | — | tariffs on imports from third countries and taxes on sugar production within the EU; |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | — | Value [Added Tax](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:l31057) (VAT) revenues collected by EU countries; |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | — | gross national income (GNI) income from each EU country. | |

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| — | It also defines measures to meet, if any, cash requirements (i.e. cash flow requirements). |

**KEY POINTS**

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| — | Own resources must be made available to the European Commission so that it can make the necessary payments, as agreed in the budget. |

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| — | EU countries must keep books and documentation relating to their own resources and be able to present them to the Commission at any time. |

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| — | Each EU country must register the resources specific to the credit of the account opened for this purpose on behalf of the Commission with its treasury or the body it has designated. |

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| — | EU countries must keep separate accounts for unheded-out rights. They must provide information on this accounting and submit quarterly statements to the Commission. In doing so, the Commission is in a good ability to monitor the actions of EU countries in terms of recovering these own resources, including those implicated by fraud and irregularities. |

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| — | In order to guarantee funding for the EU budget in all cases, EU countries will make their own resources in the budget available to the EU in the form of a constant twelfth monthly. They will be able to regularize the sums made available according to the actual basis of the own VAT-based resource and the relevant changes to the GNI as soon as they are fully known. |

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| — | It should be noted that changes to GNI data after the end of each fiscal year have on the financing of gross reductions (reductions in certain GNI-based contributions from EU countries). |

**WHEN DOES THIS REGULATION APPLY?**

Since January1, 2014.

**context**

The Regulation (EU, Euratom)  [609/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0609) is one of the three legal acts that make up the package commonly referred to as 'own resources' associated with the [EU's multi-year financial framework](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/multiannual_financial_framework.html) - the EU budget for the period 2014-2020. The other two acts of this package are:

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| --- | --- |
| — | [2014/335/EU, Euratom](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:0601_3) Decision of 26 May 2014 on the EU's own resources system |

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| --- | --- |
| — | The Council [Regulation (EU, Euratom)No. 608/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:0601_4) of 26 May 2014 on measures to implement the European Union's own resources system. |

For more information, please visit the [European Commission's website on EU own resources.](http://ec.europa.eu/budget/mff/resources/index_fr.cfm)

**KEY TERMS**

**Gross National Income (GNI):** the sum of the income of residents of an economy over a period of time.

**references**

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| **act** | **Entry into force** | **Application date** | **Time to transpose to Member States** | **official journal** |
| Regulation (EU, Euratom)No.  [609/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0609) | With the [2014/335/EU decision, Euratom](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0335) council | 1.1.2014 | - | [JO L 168 of 7.6.2014, 39-52](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.168.01.0039.01.FRA) |

**RELATED ACTS**

[2014/335/EU, Euratom](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0335) Council decision of 26 May 2014 on the European Union's own resources system[(OJ L 168, 7.6.2014, p. 105-111](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.168.01.0105.01.FRA))

Regulation (EU, Euratom)No.  [608/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0608) Council of 26 May 2014 implementing measures for the implementation of the European Union's own resources system (OJL[168, 7.6.2014, p. 29-38](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.168.01.0029.01.FRA))

latest change 16.09.2015

17.05.2019

**Guidelines for the concept of trade allocation**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Guidelines on the concept of trade allocation in Articles 101 and 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52004XC0427%2806%29)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE GUIDELINES?**

* Article[101](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E101) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE) [formerly Article 81 of the Treaty establishing the European Community (TCE)] prohibits cartels[-](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:l26113&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0001) and practices that have the effect of preventing, restricting or distorting the competitive game (vertical and horizontal agreements)withcertain exceptions (specified in paragraph 3).
* Article[102](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E102) of the TFUE (formerly Article 82 of the TCE) prohibits abuse by companies in a dominant position.
* Both articles apply only when it can be established that agreements and practices can ***significantly***  **affect trade between European Union (EU) countries.**
* These [guidelines](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) from the European Commission aim to explain and establish the methodology for applying the concept of**allocating trade** between EU countries in competition cases, reflecting the case law of the European Court of [Justice.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_court_justice.html)

**KEY POINTS**

* With regard to**Article 101 of the TFUE,**while the agreement as a whole may affect trade between EU countries, EU law applies to the entire agreement, including its parties which, taken in isolation, do not affect trade between EU countries. Where contractual relations between the same parties cover several activities, these activities, in order to be part of the same agreement, must be directly linked and be integral parts of the same comprehensive trade agreement. If not, each activity is a separate agreement.
* In the case of**Article 102 of the TFUE,**it is the abuse that must affect trade between EUcountries. Behaviour that is part of a general strategy pursued by the dominant firm must be assessed in terms of its overall impact. When a dominant company adopts various practices in pursuit of the same objective (e.g. practices aimed at eliminating or ousting competitors), it is sufficient for Article 102 to be applicable to all practices that are part of this general strategy, at least one of them is likely to affect trade between EU countries.
* The guidelines cover three main aspects and aim to clarify:
  + the **concept of trade between EU countries,**which is not limited to traditionalcross-border trade in goods and services. It has a broader scope that covers any international economic activity, including theestablishment. The concept assumes that there must be an impact on cross-border economic activities involving at least (parts of) two EU countries;
  + the concept of **"likely to affect"** has the role of defining the nature of the impact required on trade between EU countries. According to the standard test developed by the Court of Justice, it must be possible to envisage with sufficient degree of **probability,**on the basis of a set of objective elements of law or fact, that the agreement or practice can exert a direct or indirect influence, current or potential, on the currents of trade between EU countries. Where the agreement or practice is likely to affect the structure of competition in the EU, the case falls under EU law;
  + the concept of **'sensitive character':**the trade allocation criterion incorporates a quantitative **element** that limits the applicability of EU law to agreements and practices that are likely to have far-reaching effects. The sensitivity can be assessed in particular in relation to the position and importance of the companies concerned in the market of the products in question. This assessment depends on the circumstances of each individual case, including the nature of the agreement or practice, the nature of the products concerned and the market position of the companies involved.
* The Commission considers that, in principle, agreements **cannot** significantly affect trade between EU countries when two conditions are met simultaneously:
  + the **total market share of** the parties in an EU market in question does not exceed 5%;
  + in the case of **horizontal agreements,**the average **annual turnover** achieved by companies with the products concerned does not exceed 40 million euros. In the case of **vertical agreements,**the total **turnover achieved by the supplier** with the products concerned does not exceed 40 million euros.
* The guidelines include an analysis of the various forms of agreements and practices on how the concept of trade allocation should be applied in practice.
* The trade allocation criterion is an autonomous criterion of EU law, of a jurisdictional nature. It is assessed separately in each case and separately from the assessment of the restriction of competition.

**SINCE WHEN DO THESE GUIDELINES APPLY?**

They have been in place since April 27, 2004.

**context**

See also:

* [Antitrust — Overview](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/antitrust/overview_en.html) (European*Commission).*

**KEY TERMS**

**Agreement:** a group of similar but independent companies that work together to set prices, limit production or share markets or customers.

**Vertical agreements:** agreements between companies operating at different levels of the supply chain, for example when a company supplies the second with production materials.

**Horizontal agreements:** agreements between competing companies.

**Establishment:** the freedom of companies (whether they are self-employed, professional or legal persons, such as corporations) that legally operate in an EU country to carry out economic activity in a stable and continuous framework in another EU country.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

[Commission Communication](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52004XC0427%2806%29) entitled "Trade Allocation Guidelines in Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty" (OJ C 101 of 27.4.2004, 81-96)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Three — INTERNAL EU Policies and Actions — Title VII — Common Competition Rules, Taxation and Reconciliation of Legislation — Chapter 1 — Competition Rules — Section 1 — Business Rules — [Article 101](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E101) (ex-Article 81 TCE) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, 88-89)

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Three — INTERNAL EU Policies and Actions — Title VII — Common Competition Rules, Taxation and Reconciliation of Legislation — Chapter 1 — Competition Rules — Section 1 — Business Rules — [Article 102](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E102) (ex-Article 82 TCE) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 89)

Council Regulation (EC)  [No. 1/2003](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:32003R0001) of 16 December 2002 on the implementation of competition rules under Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty (OJ L 1 of 4.1.2003, p. 1-25)

Successive amendments to the Regulation (EC)No. 1/2003 were incorporated into the original document. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02003R0001-20090701) has only documentary value.

latest change 29.05.2020

**Strengthening consumer rights and fostering confidence**

Consumer confidence is an essential part of a strong and competitive European economy.

**act**

Commission communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: A European Consumer Agenda - Promoting Confidence and Growth[[COM(2012) 225 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52012DC0225) of 22.5.2014].

**synthesis**

In 2012, the European Commission presented a communication on the adoption of a European consumer agenda to promote confidence and growth by placing consumers at the heart of the internal market.

Two years later, the Commission published a report on consumer policy conducted between January 2012 and December 2013 to assess initiatives taken since 2012 to build confidence, in particular to increase online and cross-border shopping.

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNICATION?**

In 2012, the Commission set out its strategic vision for consumer policy for years to come. It identifies 61 measures to ensure and strengthen consumer confidence in an ever-changing commercial sector. The measures focus on consumer safety, access to information, [recourse](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:090402_1) and[enforcement,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:l32047)and aim to ensure that consumers' rights align with the rapid evolution of technologies.

**WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?**

A Commission report published in 2014 concluded that 50 of the measures identified under the European Consumer Agenda were implemented as of December 2013. So 11 remains to be applied.

The 2014 report found that:

* on promoting **consumer safety,**the Commission has adopted several proposals on general product safety and market surveillance. Other more specific initiatives include tourist accommodation, medical devices, cosmetics and animal and plant health;
* regarding **the improvement of knowledge of consumer rights,**the Commission haspublished targeted information on consumer protection and has launched easy-to-use websites and databases. It has established a dialogue with key players in the sector, such as consumer associations, businesses and regulators, on the two major issues of environmental claims and how to make online comparisons;
* With regard to strengthening **the application of consumer protection rules,**importantproposals have been adopted on dispute resolution and alternative and [online](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:0904_2)class [actions;](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:0904_3)
* In terms **of taking into account the interests of consumers in key policy areas,**the Commission has given priority to financialservices, digital markets, energy, transport, food and sustainable consumption.

**context**

Consumer spending accounts for just over 50% of the EU's gross domestic product. This gives everyone a major collective influence on the health of the European economy. Ensuring consumer confidence and confidence is therefore a fundamental pillar of the EU's single market.

More information is available on the website of the European [Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers.](http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/eu_consumer_policy/our-strategy/index_en.htm)

**RELATED ACTS**

Working paper of the Commission's services: Consumer policy report (July 2010-December 2011), in support of the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: A European Consumer Agenda - Promoting Confidence and Growth [[SWD(2012) 132 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52012SC0132) of 22.5.2012].

[European Commission Consumer Policy Report](http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/strategy-programme/policy-strategy/documents/consumer_policy_report_2014_en.pdf) from January 2012 to December 2013.

latest change 05.01.2015

**International Cultural Relations — AN EU Strategy**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Joint Communication [JOIN (2016) 29 final] — Towards an EU strategy in the field of international cultural relations](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52016JC0029)

[Article 6 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E006)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNICATION AND ARTICLE 6 TFUE?**

* The communication proposes a strategy to build more effective international cultural relations (e.g. the exchange of ideas, views and opinions between different cultures) in order to address the [European Commission's](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) priority of making the European Union (EU) a stronger player on the world stage, a better international partner and an important contributor to sustainable growth.
* It presents a **model of cultural cooperation** between EU countries, national cultural organisations and public and private bodies using 'cultural diplomacy' to promote a world order based on peace, therule of[law,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/rule_of_law.html?locale=fr)freedom of expression, mutual understanding and respect for fundamental values.
* Although cultural policy is essentially a prerogative of EU countries, Article 6 TFUE stipulates that the EU can help support, coordinate and complement eu countries' activities in this area.

**KEY POINTS**

Culture is not limited to arts or literature. It covers a wide range of activities, from[intercultural](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:4298957&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0001) dialogue to tourism, from education and research to the creative sector, from heritage protection to the promotion of new technologies, and from crafts to development cooperation.

It also plays an important role in **EU foreign policy** where cultural cooperation undermines stereotypes and prejudices and where dialogue can prevent conflict and promote reconciliation. It helps us to respond to global challenges such as the integration of refugees, the fight against violent radicalization and the protection of the world's cultural heritage.

Culture can also be a tool for achieving**important economic and social benefits,** such as citizen participation and tourism revenues, both inside and outside the EU.

The strategy builds on previous communications on [EU culture and international relations](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:cu0002) and the role of culture in EU [development cooperation](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:11010202_3) by updating them, and focuses on strengthening cultural cooperation in three main **areas:**

* **Boosting sustainable social and economic development**by strengthening cultural and creative industries and supporting the role of local authorities. Here are some concrete examples:
  + The Asia-Europe Foundation's  [Creative Networks programme;](http://www.asef.org/projects/programmes/2955-asef-creative-networks)
  + EU support in the southern Mediterranean for a project to develop clusters in cultural and creative industries with[UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development](http://www.unido.org/)Organization);
  + a [European network of creative platforms,](http://creativehubs.eu/)whichengages all countries participating in the Creative Europe [programme](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1002_1) (including Georgia, Moldova, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine).
* Promote peaceful relations between communities and peoples with diverse religious beliefs. Dialogue can help promote equitable, peaceful, inclusive societies that respect human rights and take local sensitivities into account through measures tailored to particular cultural contexts and interests. They include:
  + programmes to develop culture within the framework of the [Eastern Partnership](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/neighbourhood/eastern-partnership_en) including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine;
  + support for the [Anna Lindh Foundation](http://www.annalindhfoundation.org/) and its network of organisations in forty-two countries of the Union for the [Mediterranean.](http://ufmsecretariat.org/)
* **Improve cooperation in the field of cultural heritage** by promoting research, combating the illicit trafficking of cultural property and participating in the protection of heritage sites. Restoration and promotion of cultural heritage attract tourists and stimulate economic growth. For example:
  + [Horizon 2020](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:2701_3) research to find new solutions for the conservation and management of cultural heritage threatened by climate change and in which non-EU countries can participate;
  + combating the trafficking of heritage elements, including support for the training of customs officers assigned to border controls to participate in the early detection of stolen goods;
  + working in collaboration with[UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)](http://fr.unesco.org/) to establish a rapid response **mechanism** for the protection of cultural heritage sites. The [EU Regional Fund in response to the Syrian crisis](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/neighbourhood/countries/syria/madad_en) will also contribute to the protection of cultural heritage and the promotion of cultural diversity.

European cooperation in the field of culture covers both the EU and developing countries, and can be strengthened:

* Pooling resources and working together in non-EU countries;
* Strengthening cooperation with national cultural institutes within the EU;
* increasing use of EU embassies in non-EU countries[(delegations);](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/about/eu-delegations_en)
* creating European cultural houses to provide services to the local population, to participate in joint projects and to offer scholarships and cultural and educational exchanges;
* Organising joint EU cultural events;
* Focusing on strategic international partners;
* exchanges of students, researchers and alumni between EU and non-EU countries.

This cultural strategy can be encouraged by using existing resources such as:

* [The Partnership Instrument](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:28_1) (European Outreach Tool);
* [The European instrument for democracy and human](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1302_1)rights;
* [the instrument that contributes to stability and](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:110102_3)peace;
* [The Creative Europe](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe_en) programme (promoting cultural heritage);
* [EU enlargement policy](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/enlargement.html) (including cultural policies);
* [European Neighbourhood Policy](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/neighbourhood_policy.html?locale=fr) (relationships with sixteen neighbouring countries);
* [The development cooperation](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:110102_1)instrument;
* [Cotonou Agreement](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:r12101) (cooperation between the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific states).

**context**

* [European Culture Agenda](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/policy/strategic-framework_fr)
* [Comprehensive strategy for the European Union](https://europa.eu/globalstrategy/fr)
* [European Year of Cultural Heritage in 2018](https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/20160830-commission-proposal-cultural-heritage-2018_en)

**KEY TERMS**

**Intercultural dialogue:** the exchange of ideas, views and opinions between different cultures.

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Joint communication to the European Parliament and council: Towards an EU strategy in the field of international cultural relations [[JOIN(2016) 29 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52016JC0029), 8.6.2016]

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part One: Principles — Title I: EU Categories and Areas of Jurisdiction — [Article 6](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E006) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, 52-53)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[Council conclusions](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2804%29) on culture in eu's external relations, particularly in the context of development cooperation (OJ C 417 of 15.12.2015, p. 41-43)

[Conclusions](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:42008X1221%2802%29) from the Council and representatives of member state governments, meeting in the Council, on promoting cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in the external relations of the Union and its Member States (OJ C 320 of 16.12.2008, p. 10-12)

latest change 17.07.2017

**Computer science in the field of customs**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[2009/917/JAI decision on the use of computer technology in the customs field](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32009D0917)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DECISION?**

* It replaces and updates the 1995 [Customs It Employment Agreement (SID).](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:41995A1127%2802%29) In addition, it guarantees compliance with Regulation (EC) [766/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0766), which amends Regulation (EC) 515/97 [see [Summary on the Customs Information System (SID)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/ALL/?uri=LEGISSUM:l11037)]relating to collaboration between European Union (EU) countries and the European [Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) to ensure the proper enforcement of customs and agricultural regulations.
* The AIM of the SID is to help prevent serious violations of national laws and to investigate and prosecute the issue by strengthening, through faster dissemination of information, the effectiveness of the cooperation and control procedures of customs administrations in EU countries.

**KEY POINTS**

The SID consists **of** a central database accessible from each of the EU countries. It contains exclusively the data, including personal data, necessary to achieve its objective in the following areas:

* Goods (products that can be sold or purchased)
* Transportation
* Businesses
* People
* Fraud trends
* Available skills
* withholdings, seizures or forfeitures of goods; and
* withholdings, seizures or forfeitures of cash.

**Data protection**

* The [2016/680](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32016L0680) Directive (EU) applies to data protection, unless otherwise stated in this decision.
* The SID contains the data (including personal data) necessary to achieve the system's objectives through activities such as observation and reporting, discrete monitoring, specific controls, and strategic and operational analysis.
* This decision respects fundamental rights and adheres to the principles recognised in the [Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/charter_fundamental_rights.html) It does not prevent EU countries from applying their constitutional rules on public access to official documents.
* Only EU countries that feed the SID database are allowed to edit, add or delete the information they have introduced.
* The data is kept only for the time it takes to achieve the goal that motivated their introduction. The need to keep them is examined, at least once a year, by the supplier country.

**Identification file for customs investigation files**

* A special database called the Customs Investigation Files Identification File has been set up to allow national authorities to determine whether individuals or companies involved in their own investigations are also, or have been investigated in other EU countries. For the purposes of this file, EU countries share among themselves, and with [Europol](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:23040102_1) and [Eurojust](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4369105), a list of serious violations of national laws, namely those punishable by a custodial sentence of at least twelve months or a fine of at least 15,000 euros.
* An EU country is not obliged to share information with this special file when such registration risks harming public order or other essential interests.
* The data is kept for three years if no violations have been found and are deleted 12 months after the last investigation. This period extends to six years for an offence that did not result in a conviction or to ten years if convicted.

**Control and administration**

* Each EU country appoints one or more national supervisors responsible for the protection of personal data so that they independently control the data covered in this decision. A common supervisory authority, which includes two representatives of the respective national supervisory authority of each EU country, has also been set up.
* The [European Data Protection Supervisor](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:0102_11) oversees the Commission's ACTIVITIes on THE SID.
* A committee, made up of representatives of the customs administrations of EU countries, with the participation of the Commission, is responsible for the implementation and proper implementation of the decision (unanimously), as well as the proper functioning, from a technical and operational point of view, of the SID (decisions by a two-thirds majority).

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DECISION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since May 27, 2011.

**context**

For more information, see:

* [Customs Information System](http://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/supervision-coordination/customs-information-systems_en) (European*Data Protection Supervisor)*

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

[2009/917/JAI](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32009D0917) Decision of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the use of computer technology in the customs field (OJ L 323 of 10.12.2009, p. 20-30)

Successive amendments to the 2009/917/JAI decision have been incorporated into the basic text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02009D0917-20091230) has only documentary value.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Directive (EU) [2016/680](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32016L0680) of the European Parliament and the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the competent authorities for the purpose of preventing and detecting criminal offences, investigations and prosecutions of criminal sanctions, and the free movement of criminal sanctions, and repealing the 2008/977/JAI Framework Decision of the Council (OJ L 119 of 4.5.2016, p. 89-131)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02016L0680-20160504)

Council Regulation (EC) [515/97](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31997R0515) of 13 March 1997 on mutual assistance between Member States' administrative authorities and cooperation between them and the Commission to ensure the proper implementation of customs and agricultural regulations (OJ L 82 of 22.3.1997, p. 1-16)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:01997R0515-20160901)

latest change 08.11.2019

**EU development policy**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Article 4 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E004)

[Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E208)

[Article 21, paragraph 2, point d) of the Treaty on European Union (TUE)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016M021)

**EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN EU TREATIES**

Article[4 of the EUF](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E004) gives the European Union (EU) the competence to carry out activities and a common policy in the area of development [cooperation.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/development_aid.html) EU countries can also exercise their own [expertise](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/competences.html) in this area.

The main objective of the EU's development policy, as set out in[Article 208 of the EUF,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E208)ispoverty reduction and, in the long term, its eradication. Article 208 also requires the EU and its member countries to respect commitments made under the [United Nations](https://www.un.org/fr/) (UN) and other relevant international organisations.

The EU's development policy also pursues the objectives of the EU's external action, in particular those set out in[Article 21, paragraph 2, point (d)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016M021), of the Treaty on European Union (TUE), namely to promote the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of developing countries, with the primary aim of eradicating poverty.

In line with the objectives set out in Article 21, paragraph 2 of the TUE, development policy also contributes, among other things, to supporting democracy, the rule of law and human rights, preserving peace and preventing conflict, improving the quality of the environment and the sustainable management of the world's natural resources, helping people, countries and regions facing natural or man-made disasters, and promoting an international system based on a enhanced multilateral cooperation and good global governance.

**KEY POINTS**

**International commitments**

*A stronger Europe on the international stage*

The EU strives to bring together all the means it and its member countries have to work for a more peaceful and prosperous world. Full implementation of the EU's Comprehensive [Foreign and Security Policy](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/foreign_security_policy.html) [Strategy (SGUE)](http://eeas.europa.eu/topics/eu-global-strategy_fr) began in 2017. This strategy defines the EU's fundamental interests and principles of engagement and offers a vision of a more credible, accountable and responsive EU in the world. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will also be cross-cutting elements in the implementation of the SGUE

Together, the EU and its member countries are the largest donor of official development assistance (ODA). The **[European Development Fund (EDF)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1103_1)** is the EU's main development aid instrument to support 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific states (ACP countries) and [overseas countries and territories](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1105_1) under the[Cotonou Agreement.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=LEGISSUM:r12101)

The EU's[Development Cooperation Instrument](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:110102_1) aims to reduce poverty in developing countries and promotes sustainable economic, social and environmental development, democracy, the rule of law, human rights and good governance.

*The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the European Consensus for Development*

The [2030 Agenda](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld) for Sustainable Development (or 2030 Programme) and its 17 [SDGs,](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/)adopted by the 193 UN member states in 2015, are the new global framework for eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable global development by 2030.

In accordance with the SGUE, the EU sets out in its [new European Consensus for Development](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:42017Y0630%2801%29) 2017 the principles that must guide its institutions and member countries in their cooperation with developing countries to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 programme and the Addis [Ababa programme of action,](http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf)adopted by the United Nations in 2015, and theParis agreement on climate[change.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:20010104_1)

The consensus aligns the EU's development action on the SDGs and revolves around the 5 P that define the 2030 agenda (population, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership).

*Funding sustainable development*

The EU is a party to the Addis Ababa action programme, an agreement reached by a 193-member UN partnership at the **third UN international conference on development finance.** This agreement is an integral part of the 2030 agenda and establishes a new paradigm of implementation through the effective use of financial and non-financial resources and prioritizing national actions and sound policies. Its areas of focus include:

* domestic public resources;
* private enterprise and domestic and international finance;
* International development cooperation;
* International trade, the engine of development;
* Debt and debt sustainability;
* Solving systemic problems
* science, technology, innovation and capacity building.

*External investment plan*

In order to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and to mobilise public and private investment, the EU created the [European Fund for Sustainable Development (EDF)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4314965) and the EDF guarantee in 2017. These measures are part of the [EU's External Investment Plan (IEP),](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/eu-external-investment-plan_fr) which aims to address the challenges of sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa and ensure transition through reforms in the [EU's neighbourhood.](http://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/neighbourhood/overview_en)

*Post-Cotonou agreement*

[Negotiations](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3930_fr.htm) are under way to redefine the EU's future relations with ACP countries. Currently, they are defined by the Cotonou Agreement, which expires in 2020. This agreement has helped to reduce poverty, increase stability and integrate ACP countries into the global economy.

*Development efficiency and joint programming: better working with EU countries*

The EU is committed to ensuring that development aid is spent as efficiently as possible to achieve the SDGs. In this regard, it supports several international agreements, including:

* the [2005 Paris Declaration and the 2008 Accra Action Programme;](http://www.oecd.org/fr/cad/efficacite/34579826.pdf)
* [Busan's final document of 2011;](http://effectivecooperation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/OUTCOME_DOCUMENT_-_FINAL_FR.pdf)
* [Nairobi's final document of 2016.](http://effectivecooperation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/OutcomeDocumentFRfinal.pdf)

The key principles**of development efficiency,**redefined at the 2016 Nairobi High Level Meeting, are:

* appropriation of development priorities by developing countries;
* Transparency and mutual accountability
* results-oriented development cooperation; and
* involving all stakeholders in partnerships that are open to all.

These principles are put into practice through programmes and projects, as well as through **[joint programming:](https://ec.europa.eu/info/aid-development-cooperation-fundamental-rights/ensuring-aid-effectiveness/joint-programming-development-cooperation_en)** the various EU development partners (i.e. the EU and EU countries) work together in a partner country to plan development cooperation.

*Policy coherence for development*

Through the [coherence of development policies (CPD),](http://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/international-cooperation-and-development_en)the EUintends to minimise the negative impact of its policies on developing countries. Its purpose is to:

* promote synergies between the EU's various policies for partner countries and support the SDGs;
* increase the effectiveness of development cooperation.

To ensure that it remains relevant in the pursuit of the SDGs, the EU has integrated the CPD into the Commission's overall work on the implementation of the 2030 programme. EU countries have also put in place their own mechanisms to guarantee the CPD in their national policies. The [EU's 2019 report on policy coherence for development](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/swd-2019-20-pcdreport_en.pdf) examines the progress made by EU institutions and countries on CPD over the period 2015-2018.

**Populations**

*Poverty and reducing inequality*

[SDGs 1](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/poverty/) (eliminating poverty) and [10](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/inequality/) (tackling inequality and discrimination) are at the heart of EU development policy.

Preliminary results from the Commission's 2017 Inequality Analysis Study reveal that:

* In developing countries, the level of income inequality is high and, on average, higher than 30 years ago;
* income inequality appears to have decreased in some Latin American countries (Brazil, Peru, Mexico), while it has increased in some Asian countries (China and Vietnam); and
* Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa are the regions of the world most marked by inequality.

Inequality at the national level remains a significant obstacle to rapid growth and poverty reduction. Although extreme poverty continues to decline worldwide, it is still widespread in Africa, particularly in the sub-Saharan region.

*Human development*

Priorities of the EU's development policy include the eradication of[poverty (SDG 1),](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/poverty/)the fight against inequality and discrimination (SDG[10)](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg10)and the elimination of marginalisation (i.e., leave no one behind). Human [development](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/human-rights_en) is about people, their opportunities and their choices. The EU is helping the societies and economies of partner countries to become more inclusive and sustainable, so that everyone benefits from development and no one is left behind.

*Gender equality and women's empowerment*

Equality between women and men is a fundamental value of the EU (Article 2 of the TUE) and is a political objective enshrined in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Article 19 of the EUFS). By promoting[gender equality and women's empowerment, the](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/sdg/gender-equality_en)EU iscontributing to the achievement of SDG[5](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/gender-equality/) and the 2030 programme as a whole, as also underlined by the European Consensus for Development in 2017.

Gender equality is an essential prerequisite for equitable and inclusive sustainable development, as women and girls make up half of the world's population. The EU aims to ensure that women and girls can participate fully and on an equal footing in social, economic, political and civil life. More specifically, the EU supports the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence and barriers to gender equality, such as discriminatory laws or unequal access to services and justice, education and health, employment and economic empowerment, or political participation, including by challenging social norms and gender stereotypes and supporting women's movements and civil society.

The EU Action Plan on Gender Equality (2016-2020) sets the framework for achieving these priority goals worldwide, through the EU's external relations policies. The [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) has published its first [report](http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2017/EN/SWD-2017-288-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF) on the implementation of the [2016-2020 action plan](http://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/62f7aa16-c438-11e7-9b01-01aa75ed71a1) in 2017.

One of the EU's flagship initiatives is the[Spotlight Initiative](http://spotlightinitiative.org/) (EUR 500 million), a unique partnership with the United Nations to eliminate violence against women and girls. This initiative brings together governments and civil partner societies from Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

*Migration, forced displacement and asylum*

While the themes of migration and mobility are not new, the number of international migrants has increased in recent years to 258 million in 2017 (compared to 220 million in 2010 and 173 million in 2000). Most international migrants are citizens of developing countries, who themselves receive more than 85% of the world's forcibly displaced people.

Migration challenges continue to be at the top of the European agenda. In 2017, the European Commission continued to proactively address the link between development and migration, in line with the 2030 agenda and the development consensus. EU development cooperation has played a crucial role in contributing to the EU's overall efforts to deal with migration, in the context of the[European migration agenda,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0240)the [Valletta Declaration,](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/21840/12-political-declaration-fr.pdf) the Migration Partnership Framework and [the](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52016DC0385) new European approach to forced [displacement,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52016DC0234)in full compliance with developmentobjectives and principles.

Through a range of development instruments, such as the [Africa Emergency Trust Fund](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa_en) and the EU Regional Trust Fund [for Syria,](http://ec.europa.eu/trustfund-syria-region/content/home_en)as well as through regular geographical instruments, the European Commission has implemented actions in partner countries to address the challenges and take advantage of short- and long-term opportunities arising from migration.

The actions focused on three aspects in particular:

* 1)

Address the determinants and root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement;

* 2)

Strengthen partner capacity to improve migration and refugee management;

* 3)

maximise the impact of migration on development.

Through this comprehensive approach, support in 2017 has helped strengthen dialogue and partnership with partner countries on migration and achieve tangible results by improving migration management, ensuring the protection of vulnerable migrants and refugees, and maximizing the positive impact of migration on development.

Among the other targets achieved in 2017, the EU has:

* committed 3 billion euros to the [refugee facility in Turkey;](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4300997)
* set up a [EUR 90 million programme](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017JC0004) to provide protection and assistance to those in need in Libya and to support the stabilization of host communities, with a refocusing on the Central Mediterranean route;
* approved 143 projects worth a total of EUR 2,388 billion under the EU Africa Trust Fund as of 31 December 2017;
* adopted, in September 2017, for Asia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Iraq, a special measure of EUR 196 million through the Commission to address the challenges posed by prolonged forced displacement and migration to Asia and the Middle East.

*Culture, education and health*

The EU recognises the role of [culture](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/culture_en) in economic growth, considering that it is a key element and a facilitation instrument in favour of:

* Social inclusion
* freedom of expression
* Identity building
* Strengthening civil society;
* conflict prevention.

In 2017, the EU adopted:

* conclusions on a [strategic EU approach to international cultural relations;](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017XG0615%2803%29)
* a number of programs, such as [Investing in Culture and Creativity,](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/commission-implementing-decision-c2017-8725-annex-2_en.pdf)which aimsto:
  + Improving cultural governance in partner countries;
  + Boost job creation and
  + strengthen cultural heritage.

The goal of[SDG 4](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/education) is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030. Education is a fundamental human right and a public good. It also plays an important role in achieving other SDGs through learning, skills and awareness.

In 2017, the EU in:

* supported more than 45 countries in their efforts to strengthen their education systems;
* collaborated with the [Global Partnership for Education,](http://www.globalpartnership.org/fr)which supports basic education by focusing on the poorest or fragile countries;
* adopted a EUR 21 million programme to address education needs in the event of a prolonged crisis, with a focus on improving the quality of education in safe learning environments and building a global database to guide future support decisions.

To achieve[SDG 3](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/health/) on health and well-being, the EU continued its [health](http://ec.europa.eu/health/international_cooperation/global_health_en) efforts by supporting the Global [Fund](http://www.theglobalfund.org/fr/) and [GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance,](http://www.gavi.org/fr/)as well as conducting research on the fight against **neglected and poverty-related infectious diseases.** It has also supported regional initiatives, such as the [second European and developing countries' partnership programme on clinical trials,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:270301_1)as well as other multinational initiatives.

In collaboration with the [UN Population Fund, the](http://www.unfpa.org/fr)EU is supporting efforts to increase the availability of quality reproductive and **maternal** **health** services.

*Food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture*

With one in nine people suffering from[food and nutrition insecurity,](http://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/global-food-nutrition-security_en)[SDG 2](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/hunger/) aims to eliminate hunger, ensure food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030.

Sustainable agriculture, like sustainable fishing or aquaculture, is essential to eliminate hunger and ensure food security. They remain a key driver for the eradication of poverty and sustainable development. Agriculture and food security are key factors in achieving good nutritional outcomes.

The EU was one of the main instigators of the publication of the [Global Report on Food Crisis](http://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/global-food-nutrition-security/global-report-food-crises_en)in 2017. Revealing that nearly 108 million people were in a food or emergency crisis, it identified the need:

* analyze the main factors of food insecurity; and
* continue efforts to address these challenges.

The EU has implemented several initiatives aimed at reducing the number of stunted children under the age of 5 by at least 7 million by 2025, with an allocation of EUR 3.5 billion over the period 2014-2020.

Sustainable agriculture, from an economic, social and environmental point of view, is a central theme of the EU's development cooperation programme with its partner countries. In this area, the Eu is focusing its work on:

* Investment in small-scale farms;
* Supporting government initiatives and programs that promote sustainability and innovation in the agricultural sector;
* promoting agricultural practices and technologies that increase rural income while being sustainable in terms of water, soil, ecosystems and biodiversity;
* Improving farmers' access to means of production, such as land, capital, etc., by encouraging local cooperation and partnerships between farmers;
* Increased private investment in the agricultural sector;
* women's empowerment in agriculture.

**planet**

*climate change*

The EU is committed to contributing to the global fight against [climate change,](http://europa.eu/capacity4dev/topics/climate-change-disaster-risk-reduction-desertification)in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement and[SDG 13.](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/climate-change/) Implementation of nationally determined contributions lies at the heart of the political dialogue between the EU and partner countries to integrate climate change into its policies, strategies, investment plans and projects to make a full contribution to the Paris Agreement and SDG 13. The EU's efforts on climate change and the 2030 agenda must go hand in hand.

The EU has redoubled its efforts to manage risks and build resilience and adaptability to change, in line with [Sendai's framework for disaster risk](http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework)reduction. The EU also supports the transition to a low-emission, climate-resilient green economy, in line with[SDG 8](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/economic-growth/) on growth and[SDG 12](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/sustainable-consumption-production/) on sustainable consumption and production. Climate change is linked to the vast majority of the SDGs.

During the period 2014-2018, the EU invested 8.2 billion euros to support climate action. Most of the EU's climate funding was spent on adaptation measures (41%), followed by synergy measures on both adaptation and mitigation (31%) mitigation measures (28%). Its objective is to promote actions that contribute to both adaptation and mitigation.

*Environment and sustainable management of natural resources*

The environment and natural resources, such as land, water resources, forests, [fish stocks](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/magazine/fr/places/making-difference-how-fisheries-contribute-sustainable-development-around-globe) and biodiversity, are essential to the economies of developing countries and the livelihoods of their citizens. Protecting and managing them sustainably is crucial to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (including SDGs [6,](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/water-and-sanitation/) [12,](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/sustainable-consumption-production/) [14](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/oceans/) and [15),](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/biodiversity/)eradicating poverty and hunger and ensuring health, well-being, access to clean water and sanitation and sustainable growth, while preserving ecosystems and combating climate change. The EU is helping partner countries improve environmental and natural resource governance, sustainably manage land, water, forests and other natural resources, protect biodiversity, combat pollution and promote inclusive green economies.

*Sustainable energy*

Access to modern and sustainable energy services is one of the main objectives of EU development aid. In 2017, the Commission has published a [document](http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15866-2017-INIT/en/pdf) showing that cooperation on sustainable energy contributes to the implementation of the European consensus for development.

As part of the 2014-2020 financial outlook, EUR 3.7 billion has been allocated to sustainable energy development cooperation to help achieve the EU's three 2020 goals: to provide energy access to around 40 million people, to increase renewable energy production by approximately 6.5 gigawatts and to contribute to the fight against climate change, saving around 15 million tonnes of CO2 per year.

For example, the EU aims to contribute to the renewable[energy initiative's targets in Africa](http://www.arei.org/) and achieve 5 GW of renewable energy generation capacity by 2020 while enabling 30 million people in Africa to access sustainable energy and save 11 million tonnes of CO2 per year.

**prosperity**

*Co-operating with the private sector*

With considerable investment needs in partner countries, and insufficient funding from governments and international organisations to meet them, the EU resorts to **mixing,**where EU grants are combined with loans or equity from public and private financiers, thus contributing to[SDG 17](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/globalpartnerships/) (strengthening implementation and partnerships to achieve the goals). The EU's mixing framework includes the following regional mixing mechanisms:

* [Investment facility for Latin](https://www.eulaif.eu/)America;
* [Investment facility for](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/asia/asian-investment-facility-aif_en)Asia;
* [Investment facility for Central](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/central-asia/investment-facility-central-asia-ifca_en)Asia;
* [Investment facility for the](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/latin-america/caribbean-investment-facility_en)Caribbean;
* [Pacific Investment](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/pacific/investment-facility-pacific-ifp_en)Facility;
* [EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-africa-infrastructure-trust-fund-eu-aitf_en)Fund;
* The [Investment Platform for Africa](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa-investment-facility_en) and the Neighbourhood Investment Platform (managed by [the](http://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/neighbourhood/neighbourhood-wide/neighbourhood-investment-platform_en) [Neighbourhood Directorate-General and Enlargement Negotiations, or NEAR),](http://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/about/directorate-general_en)both of which are integrated into the EDF under the first pillar of theIEP (see "External Investment Plan" section above).

A major innovation, the FEDD guarantee uses limited public funds to mobilize, in particular, private investment. These support viable projects that, under other conditions, would struggle to grow or develop, while focusing on sustainable development goals in partner countries. The IEP as a whole aims to remove barriers to sustainable private investment and support priority reforms through enhanced dialogue with the private sector and relevant stakeholders. Boosting sustainable investment and job creation (SDG 8) is also one of the main objectives of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs launched in September 2018.

The EU also adopted a new aid for trade strategy in November 2017, which aims to [achieve prosperity through trade and investment,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0667)in conjunction with EU countries. This initiative aims to encourage better mobilization ofEU aid for trade to help developing countries take full advantage of[the](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:dv0006) EU's various political instruments, including trade agreements and preferential regimes (including economic [partnership agreements](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/development/economic-partnerships/) and the [generalised preference system),](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:cx0003)ina sustainable and inclusive way.

*Agricultural growth*

Two-thirds of the world's poor depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, and many developing countries remain highly dependent on trade in only a few commodities.

The EU believes that greater levels of responsible public and private investment, national and international, are needed for agriculture and agribusiness in order to create the momentum needed for sustainable growth and resilience in rural areas in developing countries. In September 2018, President Jean-Claude Juncker announced the creation of the new Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.

Private sector investment must be stimulated by the creation of a well-regulated and well-maintained business environment. The public sector has a key role to play in this regard. However, high levels of risk, related to production, financing and market risks, remain major obstacles to increased private sector investment. The EU is helping to reduce these risks through the European External Investment Plan. It thus supports land governance actions in some 40 countries, with a total budget of nearly 240 million euros. In Peru and Honduras, EU-funded actions protect the land rights of indigenous peoples and guarantee them basic assets (contribution to SDG 2).

*Infrastructure, cities and digitisation*

To make progress towards the 2030 programme, it is necessary to:

* Building resilient infrastructure
* Promote sustainable industrialization that benefits all; and
* [(SDG 9).](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/infrastructure/)

The **current digital transformation** opens up new opportunities to increase job creation and accelerate access to quality basic services, as well as to improve government transparency and accountability and strengthen democracy. To support the achievement of SDG 9, there is a prerequisite: good connectivity and appropriate regulation.

The EU helps coordinate the [joint Africa-EU infrastructure strategy](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/documents/agenda_jaes_rgi_2018.pdf) and participates in the board of directors of the Africa Transport Policy Programme, which supports the policy and strategy of African governments and regional economic communities.

Rapid**urbanization,**particularly in Asia and Africa, poses major development problems. The year 2017 has seen the development of the International Urban Cooperation [Programme,](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/cooperate/international/pdf/iuc_leaflet_en.pdf)which shares best urbanpractices between EU cities and cities in strategic partner countries, such as India and China. During this year, there was also the inclusion in the IEP of a specific investment window for "sustainable cities"[(SDG 11).](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/cities/)

**peace**

*Democracy, human rights, good governance*

The EU is based on the fundamental values of respect for democracy, the rule of law and human rights[(Article 2](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016M002) of the TUE). The promotion of these values is a key priority of external relations (Article[21](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016M021) of the TUE), which has been translated into the EU's Comprehensive Strategy (SGUE). Through its development assistance programmes, the EU is helping partner countries implement SDG[16](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/peace-justice/) on [democracy,](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/democracy_en)access to justice, the fight against corruption, human [rights](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/human-rights_en) and good governance. Activities carried out in partnership with third-country governments include electoral assistance and support for democracy, justice and anti-corruption reforms, as well as the promotion of media independence and fundamental freedoms.

In addition, the EU plays a leading role at the global level through its [European instrument for democracy and human rights,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1302_1)whosepriorities are based on the EU's action plan for human rights and democracy (2014-2019). This instrument focuses on strengthening international human rights bodies and tribunals and is aimed primarily at civil society and independent monitoring bodies to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights and democracy.

For example, the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights authorizes emergency measures and confidential projects to protect human rights organisations and defenders operating in the most difficult contexts.

Targeted support is provided to EU delegations to **build capacity to promote human rights.** For **freedom of expression,**forexample, support is provided through two programmes:

* Supporting Democracy; et
* [Media4Democracy](http://epd.eu/media4democracy/).

*Fragility and resilience*

In 2017, the EU adopted a [commitment on resilience that applies to several sectors.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017JC0021) A pilot process has been launched in six countries (Iraq, Myanmar/Burma, Nigeria, Uganda, Sudan and Chad) to test a broader approach to the link between humanitarian, development and peace in fragile contexts.

During 2017, work on resilience and the fight against frailties also progressed in the following four areas.

* Strengthen the resilience framework, including through the adoption of the joint communication 'A Strategic Approach to Resilience in EU External Action'.
* Develop and implement an [integrated approach to external conflicts and crises,](http://europa.eu/globalstrategy/en/integrated-approach-conflicts)which brings together relevant EU institutions and instruments as well as EU countries for more coordinated and coherent external action. Its main objective is to strengthen the EU's impact by helping to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts and crises.
* Strengthen the importance of resilience in conflicts and crises, including through state reform and contracts that help build resilience in our budget support operations.
* Support the [international dialogue on peace-building and state-building,](http://www.pbsbdialogue.org/fr/)led by governments in fragile countries and civil society organizations (CSOs).

*security*

The[Instrument Contributing to the Stability and Peace Regulation (IcSP)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:110102_3) is the Commission's main financial instrument aimed at improving stability, peace and resilience in partner countries. Its international scope and emphasis on security make it a complementary instrument to other financial tools, particularly when certain geographical or thematic instruments dependent on official development assistance criteria cannot be used. It also addresss issues of a trans-regional or global nature. As part of the programmable part of the IcSP managed by the [Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/about-us_en) (DEVCO), there are more than 260 projects underway, benefiting 70 countries. These projects are carried out jointly between agencies from partner countries and EU countries.

They cover a wide range of issues, for example: the fight against violent extremism; technical assistance to law enforcement agencies to combat terrorism, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats, organized crime, drug trafficking or money laundering; capacity building to improve judicial systems or protecting critical infrastructure. Support tools can include training trainers, on-site assistance, simulated or real cross-border field exercises, and the development of national action plans based on needs and risks assessment. Since January 2018, the EU has been able to support capacity building in support of security and development (RCSD). Training and equipment can thus be provided to the armies of partner countries to carry out activities that support development goals in exceptional circumstances.

Through its multi-dimensional approach covering both intentional (terrorism, crime), accidental (Seveso, Fukushima) and environmental (Ebola) risks, the IcSP contributes to several UN SDGs as well as key principles of the European consensus for development, including major priority actions in the EU's neighbourhood.

*nuclear safety*

The European Commission does not promote nuclear energy, which is the sole responsibility of a state government, but it encourages nuclear safety. Any nuclear accident has an overall effect on societies. Cooperation on nuclear safety is therefore of the utmost importance for the safety of European citizens and the environment.

With its multi-dimensional approach covering nuclear safety, health, the environment and other related issues,[the Nuclear Safety Cooperation Instrument](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/funding-instruments-programming/funding-instruments/instrument-nuclear-safety-cooperation_en) contributes to many key areas of the European consensus for development, including major priority actions in the EU's neighbourhood, Central Asia and Iran.

The EU's neighbourhood presents some challenges, mainly for countries that decide to use nuclear energy, such as Belarus and Turkey, those that extend the life of reactors, such as Armenia and Ukraine, and those that decommission and manage radioactive waste.

**Partnerships**

[SDG 17](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/globalpartnerships/) refers to the partnership for development and highlights the importance of multi-party and inclusive platforms as a means of effectively implementing the 2030 agenda. The EU is committed to achieving SDG 17, both through its own external actions and resources and by participating in its implementation through other means. The EU continues to be involved in UN development processes, particularly the [Global Partnership for Effective Cooperation in Development (GPEDC),](http://effectivecooperation.org/)which is currently monitoring development effectiveness at national level.

*Cooperation with civil society*

With the adoption of the [2012 communication,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52012DC0492)the European Commission recognises civil society organisations (CSOs) as actors in governance, not just as service providers. To implement the SDGs, the EU is also taking an inclusive and comprehensive approach that affects society as a whole by broadening its commitment to unconventional CSOs, such as foundations, the diaspora, trade unions, professional associations, etc. Foundations, in particular, play a growing and influential role in this regard.

The European Commission has encouraged dialogue and consultation on the SDGs, including through the Development Policy Forum, which provides a multi-party exchange space on development policies. It has signed 25 framework partnership agreements with international and regional civil society networks to help CSOs contribute to regional and global policy-making, particularly with regard to the successful implementation of the SDGs.

At the national level, the EU has drawn up 107 roadmaps on its engagement with civil society. These roadmaps form a country's comprehensive strategic framework, encompassing all EU aid (including that of eu delegations and countries) to civil society. Designed as a joint initiative of the European Union and its member countries, the roadmaps have been introduced to strengthen Europe's engagement with civil society.

For the period 2014-2020, the EU has allocated EUR 1.4 billion to support CSOs at the global and national levels through the CSO local authority programme. It focuses on participation, partnership and multi-party dialogues to reflect the core values of the 2030 agenda.

The [2017 report on the EU's engagement with civil society](http://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-governance-civilsociety/documents/report-eu-engagement-civil-society) includes the many forms in which support and examples are available. The report also discusses the means put in place to strengthen this commitment.

*Cooperation with donor countries*

The European Union, together with its member countries, is the [world's largest donor of official development assistance,](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2075_en.htm)with support accounting for nearly 57% of the total aid provided by donors to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The EU is also working on common and national policies to deploy common approaches, including [joint programming.](https://ec.europa.eu/info/aid-development-cooperation-fundamental-rights/ensuring-aid-effectiveness/joint-programming-development-cooperation_en)

In addition, in line with the partnership for the implementation of the 2030 programme and the Addis Ababa action programme, as well as to strengthen multilateralism, the European Commission engages in **a regular development dialogue with non-European partners,**such asAustralia, Canada, Korea, the United States and Japan. Its circle of partners continues to grow thanks to its commitment to new donors, or emerging donors, such as those in the Arab world.

*Cooperation with international organisations*

The EU is also strategically engaged with the United Nations and other international financial organisations and institutions. In addition to substantial assistance provided through these organizations and institutions, regular high-level strategic dialogues are organized. The EU is particularly involved in:

* **development-related** processes, including the high-level policy forum and the development finance forum. It also shows its support for the United Nations through the [renewed EU-UN Development Partnership](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/guyana_en/51265/EU-UN%20renewed%20partnership%20in%20development) (2018);
* discussions and deliberations of the[Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development](http://www.oecd.org/fr/developpement/) through its participation in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC);
* the **G20** and the **G7**, underscore its commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs;
* strengthening its **partnerships with international financial institutions,**such as the World Bank Group (GBM) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as well as with European financial **institutions and regional development banks.**

**Global reach**

[List of countries eligible for EU development aid](http://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/where-we-work_en)

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part One — Principles — Title I — EU Categories and Areas of Jurisdiction — [Article 4](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E004) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, 51-52)

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Five — EU External Action — Title III — Cooperation with Third Countries and Humanitarian Aid — Chapter 1 — Development Cooperation — [Article 208](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E208) (ex-Article 177 TCE) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 141)

Consolidated version of the Treaty on european Union — Title V — General Provisions on EU External Action and Specific Provisions for Common Foreign and Security Policy — Chapter 1 — General Provisions for EU External Action — [Article 21, paragraph 2, point d)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016M021) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 28-29)

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**Strengthening Economic and Monetary Union**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Communication [COM(2015) 600 final] on measures to complement economic and monetary union](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0600)

[Article 119 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E119)

[Article 120 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E120)

[Article 121 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E121)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION AND THE ARTICLES OF THE TREATY ON MONETARY AND ECONOMIC POLICY?**

The communication sets out the necessary measures to complete the first stage of the[Economic and Monetary Union (EMU)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/economic_monetary_union.html)by the beginning of2017, which was set up on 1 July 2015. Since then, the European Commission has increased it with a [discussion paper on deepening economic and monetary](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0291)union.

Articles 119, 120 and 121 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union address the economic and monetary policy of the European Union (EU). According to these articles, EU countries agree:

* Coordinating their economic policies;
* Working towards a convergence of their economic performance; and
* to act in accordance with the principles of an open market economy.

**KEY POINTS**

The communication argues for:

* [a](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_semester.html) **revamped** European Semester in:
  + better integrates national and [euro area](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eurozone.html)considerations,
  + paying greater attention to performance in the social and employment sectors,
  + encouraging economic convergence through the setting of criteria and the application of good practices,
  + supporting reforms through [the European Structural and Investment Funds](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/structural_cohesion_fund.html) and technical assistance;
* **Improved** economic governance by:
  + reducing complexity and increasing the transparency of budget rules,
  + strengthening procedures to combat [macroeconomic imbalances,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/mip.html)
  + creating a system of national competitiveness authorities to provide independent expertise,
  + establishing an advisory [European budget committee](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/graphs/2016-10-20_european_fiscal_board_en.htm) to improve fiscal supervision of the euro area;
* **increased external representation of the euro** by encouraging euro area countries to speak with one voice on the international stage, particularly within the International Monetary [Fund;](http://www.imf.org/external/french/index.htm)
* **a willingness to move towards a genuine financial**union, including:
  + setting up a [banking union,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/europe_banking_union.html)
  + approving a [European deposit guarantee system,](http://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/banking-and-finance/banking-union/european-deposit-insurance-scheme_fr)
  + establishing a [capital markets union;](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:2405_5)
* more effective **democratic legitimacy** by strengthening parliamentary control over EMU developments and developing closer participation of national parliaments.

In May 2017, the Commission published a discussion paper on EMU based on the 2015 communication. It promotes **four principles** to strengthen the single currency and to jointly address issues of common interest that cross national borders. These are:

* employment, **growth,** **social**justice, **economic convergence** and financial **stability,**the main objectives of EMU;
* **Solidarity** and **responsibility,** **risk reduction** and **risk sharing,**which are closely linked;
* **EMU**membership, which is open to all EU countries (except the UK (1 ) andDenmark, [having](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:1402_4&from=EN" \l "BREXIT) [chosen not to join).](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/opting_out.html) The single market is essential for an effective single currency, and its integrity must be preserved;
* **decision-making method,**which must become more transparent and democratic.

The document highlighted the need for progress in **three areas:**

* establishing a genuine **financial union,**particularly by making the banking sector more resilient;
* achieving a **more integrated economic and fiscal union** by improving macroeconomic stabilization in the euro area;
* strengthening the EMU architecture by **better sharing national powers and decisions** around the euro area, within a common legal framework.

**context**

In June 2015, the Presidents of the Commission, the [European Parliament,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_parliament.html)the European [Central Bank,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_central_bank.html)the Eurozone Summit and the[Eurogroup](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eurogroup.html) presented their report (the ["Five Presidents" report)](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/5-presidents-report_fr.pdf)on the completion of EMU. The communication provides more details on the first stage of the action plan contained in their report.

The Commission's discussion paper on EMU is part of a series launched in March 2017 by the publication of the White Paper on the Future of Europe, which includes:

* a discussion paper on the [social dimension of Europe](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0206)
* a discussion paper on [the future of eu's finances.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0358)

For more information, see:

* ["Complementing the European Economic and Monetary Union: The Commission is taking concrete steps to strengthen EMU"](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5874_fr.htm) — press release (European*Commission).*

**KEY TERMS**

**European semester:** provides a framework for the coordination of national economic and budgetary policies in the EU.

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Three — Union Internal Policies and Actions — Title VIII — Economic and Monetary Policy — [Article 119](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E119) (ex-Article 4 TCE) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 96-97)

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Three — Union Internal Policies and Actions — Title VIII — Economic and Monetary Policy — Chapter 1 — Economic Policy — [Article 120](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E120) (ex-Article 98 TCE) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 97)

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Part Three — Union Internal Policies and Actions — Title VIII — Economic and Monetary Policy — Chapter 1 — Economic Policy — [Article 121](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:12016E121) (ex-Article 99 CET) (OJ C 202 of 7.6.2016, p. 97-98)

Commission communication to the European Parliament, Council and European Central Bank on measures to complement Economic and Monetary Union[[COM(2015) 600 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0600) of 21.10.2015]

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Discussion paper on deepening Economic and Monetary Union[[COM (2017) 291 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0291) of 31.5.2017]

["Complete the European Economic and Monetary Union"](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/5-presidents-report_fr.pdf), report prepared by Jean-Claude Juncker in close cooperation with Donald Tusk, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, Mario Draghi and Martin Schulz, 22.6.2015

latest change 01.12.2017

([1](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:1402_4&from=EN" \l "src.BREXIT)) The United Kingdom withdraws from the European Union and becomes a third country (non-EU country) from 1 February 2020.

**Statistics on lifelong learning**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Regulation (EC)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)  [452/2008 — production and development of statistics on lifelong learning](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)

[Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households and amending the Regulation (EC)No.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

The regulations establish a common framework for statistical standards for the production of harmonized data in the field of education and lifelong learning.

**KEY POINTS**

The regulations cover the following areas:

* 1.

Education and training systems;

* 2.

other statistics on lifelong learning (such as statistics on human capital and the social and economic benefits of education).

The production of statistics at European Union (EU) level is achieved through the implementation of individual statistical actions such as:

* for the first area, the regular and periodic transmission of statistics by EU countries;
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The [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) takes into account the capacity of EU countries with regard to the above actions. For the data collected, regional and gender dimensions are also taken into account, if any.

The Commission[(Eurostat)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4301897)is working with theUnited[Nations Institute for Education, Science and Culture (Unesco), the](http://uis.unesco.org/fr)Organisation for[Economic Co-operation and Development](http://www.oecd.org/fr/) (OECD) and other international organisations to ensure data comparability and avoid duplication internationally.

**Education Systems (UOE)**

From the 2012/2013 school year: Commission Regulations of 23 September 2013 on statistics on education and training systems.

**Adult Education Survey**

Adult Education Survey 2016: Commission Regulation 30 October 2014 on statistics on adult participation in lifelong learning regulations (EU) No. 1175/2014.

**SINCE WHEN DO THESE REGULATIONS APPLY?**

Regulation (EC)No. 452/2008 has been in effect since 24 June 2008.

The Amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 applies from 1 January 2021.

**context**

* In order to develop lifelong learning and training strategies and to monitor the implementation of these strategies, the production of comparable statistical data is of the utmost importance.
* The [strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training](http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/european-policy-cooperation/et2020-framework_fr) adopted in May 2009 sets out several targets to be achieved by 2020. Progress is being assessed in EU countries through annual country reports, and the EU is also making recommendations.
* Based on the information provided, the [2015 Joint Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) on European Cooperation in Education [and Training](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:150102_2) identifies key priority areas and concrete issues to be addressed at European level. This joint report was adopted in November 2015.
* For more information, see:
  + [Education and training](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/fr/web/education-and-training/overview) *(Eurostat).*

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Regulation (EC)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452) of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 April 2008 on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning (OJ L 145 of 4.6.2008, p. 227-233)

Regulation (EU) [2019/1700](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700) of the European Parliament and the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households based on data at the individual level collected from samples, Amendments (EC) 808/2004, (EC) 452/2008 and (EC)No. 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council, and repealing the Regulation (EC)No. 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council and regulation (EC) 577/98 of the Council (OJ L 261I of 14.10.2019, p. 1-32)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[Joint Report 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) by the Council and Commission on the implementation of the Strategic Framework for European Cooperation in Education and Training ("Education and Training 2020") — New priorities for European cooperation in education and training (OJ C 417 of 15.12.2015, p. 25-35)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 1175/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R1175) of the 30 October 2014 EuropeanParliament and Council on the Production and Development of Statistics on Lifelong Learning (EC) No. 452/2008, with regard to statistics on adult participation in lifelong learning, and repealing the Commission's Regulation (EU) No. 823/2010 (OJ L 316 of 4.11.2014, p. 4-43)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 912/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0912) of 23 September 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) 452/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning, statistics on education and training systems (OJ L 252 of 24.9.2013, p. 5-10)

latest change 09.01.2020

**European Fund for Strategic Investments**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 - The European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Investment Advisory Hub and the European Investment Projects Portal](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R1017)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS REGULATION?**

* This Regulation establishes:
  + a European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI);
  + an EU Guarantee Fund;
  + a European investment advisory platform; and
  + a European investment project portal.
* The relevant operational conditions will also be laid down.

**IMPORTANT KEY POINTS**

EfsI supports investment and better access to finance for companies with up to 3,000 employees by providing risk-taking capacity to the [European Investment Bank (EIB)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_investment_bank.html) through its EU guarantee. Particular emphasis is placed on small and **[medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/sme.html)** and small enterprises with medium market **capitalisation**[\*](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:1701_3&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0001).

The governance structure of the EFSI consists of:

* a Steering Board;
* a managing director;
* a deputy managing director; and
* an investment committee.

The management of the EFSI is based on an agreement between the [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) and the EIB.

In principle, the projects supported by the EFSI involve a higher risk than those normally supported by the EIB. The aim of these projects is to create jobs and sustainable economic growth.

**In order for** EFSI funding, projects must be

* economically viable and technically feasible;
* maximise the mobilisation of private sector capital;
* compatible with EU policy; and
* **Additionality**[\*](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:1701_3&from=EN#keyterm_E0002)  by helping to compensate for market failures or sub-optimal investment conditions.

**EU Guarantee and EU Guarantee Fund**

The warranty can be used to support, for example, the following objectives:

* research, development and innovation, for example through
  + Projects in line with [Horizon 2020](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/horizon_2020.html)
  + Forschungsinfrastruktur
  + transfer of knowledge and technology;
* development of the energy sector (e.B. energy efficiency, renewable energy), transport infrastructure and equipment, and environmental protection and resource efficiency;
* development and use of information and communication technologies;
* human capital (education), cultural and creative industries and health (more effective medicines);
* financial support for companies with up to 3 000 employees (e.g. working capital and risk financing).

The EU guarantee can be used to cover EIB loans or other forms of financing or credit, including for the benefit of national [promotional banks](http://www.eib.org/about/partners/npbis/index.htm) or institutions, investment platforms or funds. The provision of EIB funding or guarantees to the European Investment Fund [(EIF)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:o10007) is also eligible for guarantee coverage.

The amount of the EU guarantee must not exceed **EUR 16 billion.**

The EU Guarantee Fund is financed from [the EU's general budget](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/budget.html) and other sources of revenue, such as .B income from investments made.

**European Investment Advisory Platform**

* The [Platform](http://www.eib.org/eiah/index.htm) provides support in the form of advice on the identification, preparation and development of investment projects.
* It serves as a **one-stop shop** for technical assistance in the areas relevant to the EFSI, in particular energy efficiency and transport infrastructure.
* The EU will contribute up to a maximum of €20 million per year to cover costs by the end of 2020.

**European Investment Project Portal**

This is a publicly accessible, user-friendly [database](http://ec.europa.eu/eipp/desktop/de/index.html)providing information on current and future projects in the EU.

**Agreement between the [European Parliament (EP)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_parliament.html)**  **and the European Investment Bank (EIB)**

In spring 2017, the EP and the EIB signed an [agreement](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:22017A0519%2801%29) under Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 (Article 17). The agreement concerns the details of the arrangements for the exchange of information between the EP and the EIB, including the selection procedure for the Managing Director and the Deputy Managing Director of the EFSI.

At the request of the EP, the Chair of the Steering Board and the Executive Director of the EFSI shall report to the EP on the performance of the EFSI. This may include attending hearings before the EP, submitting reports and answering questions.

**Extension of EFSI**

Due to the fact that the EFSI was created for a three-year initial phase, Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 was amended in December 2017 by Regulation (EU) [2017/2396,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:32017R2396) which:

* extend the duration of the EFSI until the end of the current [Multiannual Financial Framework](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/multiannual_financial_framework.html) to allow at least **EUR 500 billion** in private and public investment until 2020;
* increased the amount of the **EU guarantee** to **EUR 26 billion;**
* increased **the EIB contribution** to **EUR 7.5 billion** for the entire investment period;
* adjusts the **target rate of the EU Guarantee Fund to 35%** of the EU's overall guarantee commitments in order to ensure an adequate level of protection;
* allows the transfer from the allocation to the Europe Connecting [Europe Facility (CEF) link](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:3207_2) under Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013, as well as from the proceeds and repayments under the [CEF loan instrument](http://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/growth-and-investment/financing-investment/connecting-europe-facility-cef-financial-instruments_de) and the [2020 European Energy, Climate Change and Infrastructure Fund (Marguerite Fund)](http://www.marguerite.com/about-us/background/) to partially finance the contribution from the overall EU budget to the EU Guarantee Fund for additional investments.

**WHEN DOES THE REGULATION ENTER INTO FORCE?**

It entered into force on 4 July 2015.

**background**

For more information:

* [Investment Plan for Europe](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/jobs-growth-and-investment/investment-plan_de) (*European Commission*)
* [European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)](http://www.eib.org/efsi/index.htm) (*European Investment Bank*).

**Keywords**

**Medium market capitalisation:** although there is no uniform EU definition, these companies with medium market capitalisation generally employ between 250 and 3 000 people.

**Additionality:** in this context, EFSI lending must not replace national expenditure of an EU country, EU programmes or regular EIB financing.

**HAUPTDOKUMENT**

Regulation (EU) [2015/1017](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R1017) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 June 2015 on the European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Platform for Investment Advice and the European Investment Project Portal, as well as amendments to Regulations (EU) No 1291/2013 and (EU) No 1316/2013 — the European Fund for Strategic Investments (OJ No). L 169 of 1.7.2015, p. 1-38)

The retrospective amendments to Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 have been incorporated into the original text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:02015R1017-20171230) is documentary in its exclusive capacity.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council - Together for Jobs and Growth: The role of national promotional banks in the investment plan for Europe ([COM(2015) 361 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0361) of 22.7.2015)

[Agreement](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:22017A0519%2801%29) under Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 June 2015 on the European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Platform for Investment Advice and the European Investment Project Portal, as well as on the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1291/2013 and (EU) No 1316/2013 – the European Fund for Strategic Investments (OJ L 128 of 19.5.2017, p. 1-8)

Last updated: 25.03.2019

**Statistics on lifelong learning**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Regulation (EC)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)  [452/2008 — production and development of statistics on lifelong learning](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)

[Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households and amending the Regulation (EC)No.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

The regulations establish a common framework for statistical standards for the production of harmonized data in the field of education and lifelong learning.

**KEY POINTS**

The regulations cover the following areas:

* 1.

Education and training systems;

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other statistics on lifelong learning (such as statistics on human capital and the social and economic benefits of education).

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The Commission[(Eurostat)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4301897)is working with theUnited[Nations Institute for Education, Science and Culture (Unesco), the](http://uis.unesco.org/fr)Organisation for[Economic Co-operation and Development](http://www.oecd.org/fr/) (OECD) and other international organisations to ensure data comparability and avoid duplication internationally.

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**context**

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* For more information, see:
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* Based on the information provided, the [2015 Joint Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) on European Cooperation in Education [and Training](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:150102_2) identifies key priority areas and concrete issues to be addressed at European level. This joint report was adopted in November 2015.
* For more information, see:
  + [Education and training](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/fr/web/education-and-training/overview) *(Eurostat).*

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Regulation (EC)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452) of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 April 2008 on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning (OJ L 145 of 4.6.2008, p. 227-233)

Regulation (EU) [2019/1700](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700) of the European Parliament and the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households based on data at the individual level collected from samples, Amendments (EC) 808/2004, (EC) 452/2008 and (EC)No. 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council, and repealing the Regulation (EC)No. 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council and regulation (EC) 577/98 of the Council (OJ L 261I of 14.10.2019, p. 1-32)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[Joint Report 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) by the Council and Commission on the implementation of the Strategic Framework for European Cooperation in Education and Training ("Education and Training 2020") — New priorities for European cooperation in education and training (OJ C 417 of 15.12.2015, p. 25-35)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 1175/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R1175) of the 30 October 2014 EuropeanParliament and Council on the Production and Development of Statistics on Lifelong Learning (EC) No. 452/2008, with regard to statistics on adult participation in lifelong learning, and repealing the Commission's Regulation (EU) No. 823/2010 (OJ L 316 of 4.11.2014, p. 4-43)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 912/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0912) of 23 September 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) 452/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning, statistics on education and training systems (OJ L 252 of 24.9.2013, p. 5-10)

latest change 09.01.2020

**Statistics on lifelong learning**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Regulation (EC)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)  [452/2008 — production and development of statistics on lifelong learning](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452)

[Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households and amending the Regulation (EC)No.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

The regulations establish a common framework for statistical standards for the production of harmonized data in the field of education and lifelong learning.

**KEY POINTS**

The regulations cover the following areas:

* 1.

Education and training systems;

* 2.

other statistics on lifelong learning (such as statistics on human capital and the social and economic benefits of education).

The production of statistics at European Union (EU) level is achieved through the implementation of individual statistical actions such as:

* for the first area, the regular and periodic transmission of statistics by EU countries;
* in the second area, the provision of additional variables and indicators through other surveys and statistical information systems;
* developing, improving and updating standards and manuals that define statistical frameworks, concepts and methods;
* in the context of the quality framework, improving the quality of the data.

The [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) takes into account the capacity of EU countries with regard to the above actions. For the data collected, regional and gender dimensions are also taken into account, if any.

The Commission[(Eurostat)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4301897)is working with theUnited[Nations Institute for Education, Science and Culture (Unesco), the](http://uis.unesco.org/fr)Organisation for[Economic Co-operation and Development](http://www.oecd.org/fr/) (OECD) and other international organisations to ensure data comparability and avoid duplication internationally.

**Education Systems (UOE)**

From the 2012/2013 school year: Commission Regulations of 23 September 2013 on statistics on education and training systems.

**Adult Education Survey**

Adult Education Survey 2016: Commission Regulation 30 October 2014 on statistics on adult participation in lifelong learning regulations (EU) No. 1175/2014.

**SINCE WHEN DO THESE REGULATIONS APPLY?**

Regulation (EC)No. 452/2008 has been in effect since 24 June 2008.

The Amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 applies from 1 January 2021.

**context**

* In order to develop lifelong learning and training strategies and to monitor the implementation of these strategies, the production of comparable statistical data is of the utmost importance.
* The [strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training](http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/european-policy-cooperation/et2020-framework_fr) adopted in May 2009 sets out several targets to be achieved by 2020. Progress is being assessed in EU countries through annual country reports, and the EU is also making recommendations.
* Based on the information provided, the [2015 Joint Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) on European Cooperation in Education [and Training](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:150102_2) identifies key priority areas and concrete issues to be addressed at European level. This joint report was adopted in November 2015.
* For more information, see:
  + [Education and training](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/fr/web/education-and-training/overview) *(Eurostat).*

**MAIN DOCUMENTS**

Regulation (EC)  [452/2008](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32008R0452) of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 April 2008 on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning (OJ L 145 of 4.6.2008, p. 227-233)

Regulation (EU) [2019/1700](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R1700) of the European Parliament and the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics on people and households based on data at the individual level collected from samples, Amendments (EC) 808/2004, (EC) 452/2008 and (EC)No. 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council, and repealing the Regulation (EC)No. 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council and regulation (EC) 577/98 of the Council (OJ L 261I of 14.10.2019, p. 1-32)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[Joint Report 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015XG1215%2802%29) by the Council and Commission on the implementation of the Strategic Framework for European Cooperation in Education and Training ("Education and Training 2020") — New priorities for European cooperation in education and training (OJ C 417 of 15.12.2015, p. 25-35)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 1175/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R1175) of the 30 October 2014 EuropeanParliament and Council on the Production and Development of Statistics on Lifelong Learning (EC) No. 452/2008, with regard to statistics on adult participation in lifelong learning, and repealing the Commission's Regulation (EU) No. 823/2010 (OJ L 316 of 4.11.2014, p. 4-43)

Commission Regulation (EU)  [No. 912/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0912) of 23 September 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) 452/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council on the production and development of statistics on lifelong learning, statistics on education and training systems (OJ L 252 of 24.9.2013, p. 5-10)

latest change 09.01.2020

**High-performance, low-carbon, low-carbon and sustainable energy**

The EU's energy technology and innovation strategy is an essential part of the EU's energy policy. The aim is to develop energy technologies and innovative solutions in the energy sector.

**legislative act**

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Technologies and innovations in the field of energy ([COM(2013) 253 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=celex:52013DC0253) of 2.5.2013)

**summary**

The EU's energy technology and innovation strategy is an essential part of the EU's energy policy. The aim is to develop energy technologies and innovative solutions in the energy sector.

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION?**

The Communication sets out a strategy to complement existing legislation to ensure that the EU remains a leader in technology and innovation in order to meet the energy challenges by 2020 and beyond.

The aim is to bring [high-performance, low-cost, low-carbon and sustainable energy technologies](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:180101_2) to the market in order to achieve the objectives of the Europe [2020](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:em0028) strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

**IMPORTANT KEY POINTS**

The Communication summarises the following principles:

* consideration of the entire energy system in setting priorities (i.e. considering the impact of a single technology on the entire energy system);
* Strengthening the link between innovation and energy policy;
* pooling financial resources for research and innovation; as well as
* Focus on technologies for the post-2020 period.

The European Commission, together with stakeholders in the [EU Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:en0019)\*(led by the SET Plan Steering Group), aims to ensure the development of an integrated roadmap to:

* 1.

consolidates the technology plans of the SET plan;

* 2.

covers the entire research and innovation chain (from basic research to market launch); and

* 3.

clear roles and tasks for the various actors such as the [European Energy Research Alliance](http://www.eera-set.eu/) (EERA) and the European Institute of Innovation and [Technology](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:2702_1) (EIT).

An action plan for joint and individual investment in support of the integrated roadmap should also be drawn up.

The Commission, together with EU countries, will develop the system for reporting and monitoring the [Integrated Roadmap and Action Plan,](https://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-process/integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan) based on the European Energy Technology [Information System](https://setis.ec.europa.eu/about-setis) (SETIS) and the SET Plan.

The Commission is to establish a coordination structure (within the framework of the SET Plan Steering Group) to support investment in research and innovation in the field of energy efficiency.

The Communication calls on the European Parliament and the European Council to:

* reaffirm their support for the SET Plan;
* endorse the key principles and developments for energy technologies and innovation across the EU; and
* to support the use of EU funds and national and private resources in line with this strategy.

**background**

Low-carbon technologies (i.e. solar, wind power or carbon capture and storage) have great potential in [terms of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/AUTO/?uri=uriserv:2001_10) emissions, promoting sustainable energy, creating jobs and economic growth, and reducing the Union's dependence on external energy suppliers. However, innovation in this area is usually costly, risky and slow. This explains the need for a strategy for energy technologies and innovation.

More information is available on the European [Commission's websites](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/technology-and-innovation) on technology and innovation and on the Strategic Energy Technology [Plan.](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/technology-and-innovation/strategic-energy-technology-plan)

**Keywords**

\* The **SET Plan** aims to accelerate the development and deployment of low-carbon technologies. It aims to promote research and innovation and cooperation across Europe, while improving technologies and reducing the costs associated with these technologies.

Last updated: 08/26/2015

**The 2015 enlargement strategy**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Communication [COM(2015) 611 final] - EU enlargement strategy](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0611)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION?**

Each year, the [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) adopts its 'Enlargement Package' consisting of documents explaining its EU [enlargement](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/enlargement.html) policy.

The package includes the [enlargement strategy document](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0611) which sets out the way forward and outlines the progress made by each candidate [country](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/applicant_countries.html) and potential candidate country. The strategy document is accompanied by detailed reports on each country.

**KEY POINTS**

In addition to the overall strategy, the package includes the following reports, outlining the progress made by each candidate and potential candidate country over the past year and setting out the guidelines for reform priorities:

* [2015 Report on Montenegro](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0210)
* [2015 Report on the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0212)
* [2015 Albania Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0213)
* [Serbia Report 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0211)
* [Turkey 2015 Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0216)
* [2015 Report on Bosnia and Herzegovina](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0214)
* [Kosovo 2015 Report](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0215)

This designation is without prejudice to the positions on the status and is in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution [1244 (1999)](http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=S/RES/1244%20(1999)&Lang=E&Area=UNDOC) and[the ICJ's opinion on](http://www.icj-cij.org/en/case/141) Kosovo'sdeclaration ofindependence.

**context**

* For more information, please visit the ["Check Current Status"](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/check-current-status/index_en.htm) page on the European Commission website.

**act**

Commission communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - THE EU Enlargement Strategy[[COM(2015) 611 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015DC0611) of 10.11.2015]

**RELATED ACTS**

Working paper of the Commission's services - 2015 report on Montenegro, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - THE EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 210 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0210) of 10.11.2015]

Working paper of the Commission's services - 2015 report on Serbia, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - THE EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 211 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0211) of 10.11.2015]

Commission Services Working Paper - 2015 Report on the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 212 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0212) 10.11.2015]

Working paper of the Commission's services - 2015 report on Albania, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - The EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 213 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0213) of 10.11.2015]

Working paper of the Commission's services - 2015 report on Bosnia and Herzegovina, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - THE EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 214 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0214) 10.11.2015]

Working paper of the Commission's services - Kosovo Report 2015 - accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - The EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 215 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0215) 10.11.2015]

Working paper of the Commission's services - 2015 report on Turkey, accompanying the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - THE EU Enlargement Strategy[[SWD(2015) 216 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52015SC0216) of 10.11.2015]

latest change 19.07.2016

**Implementation decision on the Small and Medium-sized Business Support Initiative**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Implementation decision 2014/660/EU on the model of funding agreement for the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to an uncapped joint guarantee instrument and a securitisation financial instrument for small and medium-sized enterprises](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0660)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DECISION?**

It aims to ensure:

* whereas European Union (EU) financial instruments that support [small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/sme.html) can provide a rapid response by creating a model financing agreement to ensure uniform conditions and equal treatment for, and between, participating EU countries using available resources;
* coherent rules for the contribution of these resources to any individual financing agreements concluded by participating EU countries and the [European Investment Bank (EIB)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_investment_bank.html) or the European Investment Fund [(EIF)](http://www.eif.org/) as well as for the conditions contained in the delegation agreements on other sources under the [COSME](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1901_3) (competitiveness of businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises) and Horizon [2020.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/horizon_2020.html)

**KEY POINTS**

**Scope**

This decision sets out the model of a funding agreement for the financial contribution:

* [European Regional Development Fund and (ERDF)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:2602_3) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural [Development (Feader);](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:0301_1)
* **uncapped collateral** and **securitisation** instruments for SMEs;
* concluded between the EIB and the EIF and each participating EU country.

**menstruation**

The rules governing the funding agreement model are set out in the schedule of the decision. They cover a number of elements, including:

* eligibility criteria and exclusion from the new method of[financing](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:4340536&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0003)byborrowing;
* general principles for the implementation and management of the two financial instruments;
* territorial coverage;
* minimal leverage, intermediate values and sanctions;
* EIF's duties and obligations
* selection of financial intermediaries and operational agreements;
* Governance;
* contributions.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DECISION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since September 13, 2014.

**context**

For more information, see:

* [Rural development 2014-2020](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020_fr) (European*Commission)*
* [European Regional Development Fund](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/fr/funding/erdf/) (European*Commission)*
* [Fund management system in the European Union — FEDER](http://ec.europa.eu/sfc/en/2014/fund/erdf) (European*Commission)*

**KEY TERMS**

**Uncapped guarantee:** provides guarantees for uncapped portfolios and partial relief from capital requirements to banks forming new loan portfolios. In return, initiating financial institutions transfer the benefits of these instruments to SMEs in the form of acceptance of higher customer risk, reduced warranty requirements and/or reduced costs.

**Titrisation:** transactions backed by an existing loan portfolio. In return, the initiating financial institutions explicitly agree to offer new European financing to SMEs in regions that meet the eligibility criteria for EU funds paid into the structure.

**New method of financing by**borrowing: new loans, leases or guarantees for the final beneficiaries created by the financial intermediary no later than Sunday, December 31, 2023, in accordance with the conditions set out in the operational agreements.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

Implementation decision [2014/660/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0660) of 11 September 2014 on the model funding agreement for the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to a joint uncapped guarantee instrument and a financial securitisation instrument for small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 271, 12.9.2014, 58-92)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Regulation (EU)  [No. 1301/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1301) of the European Parliament and the Council of 17 December 2013 relating to the European Regional Development Fund and the specific provisions relating to the 'Investment for Growth and Employment' target, and repealing regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 (OJ L347 of 20.12.2013, 289-302)

Successive amendments to the Regulation (EU)No. 1301/2013 were incorporated into the original document. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R1301-20180802) has only documentary value.

Regulation (EU)No.  [1291/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1291) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the framework programme for research and innovation "Horizon 2020" (2 repealing DecisionNo. 1982/2006/CE (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 104-173)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R1291-20150704).

Regulation (EU)  [No 1287/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1287) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a programme for the competitiveness of businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2 repealing DecisionNo. 1639/2006/CE (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33-49)

[2013/36/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013L0036) Directive from the European Parliament and the Council of 26 June 2013 on access to the activity of credit institutions and prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms, amending Directive 2002/87/EC and repealing directives 2006/48/EC and 2006/49/EC (OJ L 176 of 27.6.2013, p. 338-436)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013L0036-20180709).

Regulation (EU)  [575/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0575) of the European Parliament and the Council of 26 June 2013 concerning prudential requirements for credit institutions and investment firms and amending the regulation (EU)No. 648/2012 (OJ L 176 of 27.6.2013, p. 1-337)

Please [see the consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R0575-20190101)

Regulation (EU, Euratom)  [No. 966/2012](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32012R0966) of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general EU budget and repealing the regulation (EC, Euratom) No. 1605/2002 of the Council (OJ L 298 of 26.10.2012, p. 1-96)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02012R0966-20170101).

latest change 01.02.2019

**Implementation decision on the Small and Medium-sized Business Support Initiative**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Implementation decision 2014/660/EU on the model of funding agreement for the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to an uncapped joint guarantee instrument and a securitisation financial instrument for small and medium-sized enterprises](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0660)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DECISION?**

It aims to ensure:

* whereas European Union (EU) financial instruments that support [small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/sme.html) can provide a rapid response by creating a model financing agreement to ensure uniform conditions and equal treatment for, and between, participating EU countries using available resources;
* coherent rules for the contribution of these resources to any individual financing agreements concluded by participating EU countries and the [European Investment Bank (EIB)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_investment_bank.html) or the European Investment Fund [(EIF)](http://www.eif.org/) as well as for the conditions contained in the delegation agreements on other sources under the [COSME](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1901_3) (competitiveness of businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises) and Horizon [2020.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/horizon_2020.html)

**KEY POINTS**

**Scope**

This decision sets out the model of a funding agreement for the financial contribution:

* [European Regional Development Fund and (ERDF)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:2602_3) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural [Development (Feader);](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=legissum:0301_1)
* **uncapped collateral** and **securitisation** instruments for SMEs;
* concluded between the EIB and the EIF and each participating EU country.

**menstruation**

The rules governing the funding agreement model are set out in the schedule of the decision. They cover a number of elements, including:

* eligibility criteria and exclusion from the new method of[financing](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:4340536&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0003)byborrowing;
* general principles for the implementation and management of the two financial instruments;
* territorial coverage;
* minimal leverage, intermediate values and sanctions;
* EIF's duties and obligations
* selection of financial intermediaries and operational agreements;
* Governance;
* contributions.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DECISION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since September 13, 2014.

**context**

For more information, see:

* [Rural development 2014-2020](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020_fr) (European*Commission)*
* [European Regional Development Fund](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/fr/funding/erdf/) (European*Commission)*
* [Fund management system in the European Union — FEDER](http://ec.europa.eu/sfc/en/2014/fund/erdf) (European*Commission)*

**KEY TERMS**

**Uncapped guarantee:** provides guarantees for uncapped portfolios and partial relief from capital requirements to banks forming new loan portfolios. In return, initiating financial institutions transfer the benefits of these instruments to SMEs in the form of acceptance of higher customer risk, reduced warranty requirements and/or reduced costs.

**Titrisation:** transactions backed by an existing loan portfolio. In return, the initiating financial institutions explicitly agree to offer new European financing to SMEs in regions that meet the eligibility criteria for EU funds paid into the structure.

**New method of financing by**borrowing: new loans, leases or guarantees for the final beneficiaries created by the financial intermediary no later than Sunday, December 31, 2023, in accordance with the conditions set out in the operational agreements.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

Implementation decision [2014/660/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014D0660) of 11 September 2014 on the model funding agreement for the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to a joint uncapped guarantee instrument and a financial securitisation instrument for small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 271, 12.9.2014, 58-92)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Regulation (EU)  [No. 1301/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1301) of the European Parliament and the Council of 17 December 2013 relating to the European Regional Development Fund and the specific provisions relating to the 'Investment for Growth and Employment' target, and repealing regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 (OJ L347 of 20.12.2013, 289-302)

Successive amendments to the Regulation (EU)No. 1301/2013 were incorporated into the original document. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R1301-20180802) has only documentary value.

Regulation (EU)No.  [1291/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1291) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the framework programme for research and innovation "Horizon 2020" (2 repealing DecisionNo. 1982/2006/CE (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 104-173)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R1291-20150704).

Regulation (EU)  [No 1287/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R1287) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a programme for the competitiveness of businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2 repealing DecisionNo. 1639/2006/CE (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33-49)

[2013/36/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013L0036) Directive from the European Parliament and the Council of 26 June 2013 on access to the activity of credit institutions and prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms, amending Directive 2002/87/EC and repealing directives 2006/48/EC and 2006/49/EC (OJ L 176 of 27.6.2013, p. 338-436)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013L0036-20180709).

Regulation (EU)  [575/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0575) of the European Parliament and the Council of 26 June 2013 concerning prudential requirements for credit institutions and investment firms and amending the regulation (EU)No. 648/2012 (OJ L 176 of 27.6.2013, p. 1-337)

Please [see the consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R0575-20190101)

Regulation (EU, Euratom)  [No. 966/2012](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32012R0966) of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general EU budget and repealing the regulation (EC, Euratom) No. 1605/2002 of the Council (OJ L 298 of 26.10.2012, p. 1-96)

See the [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02012R0966-20170101).

latest change 01.02.2019

**Mechanism for monitoring greenhouse gases**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT**

[Regulation (EU)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0525)  [525/2013 — Mechanism for monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and other information related to climate change](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0525)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

* The Monitoring Mechanism (RMS) Regulation significantly expands and strengthens the previous mechanism for monitoring greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the European Union (EU).
* It aims to improve GHG monitoring and reporting procedures and rules.
* By integrating the new monitoring and reporting requirements from the [EU's Climate and Energy 2020](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2020_fr) package and the latest decisions adopted by the Un Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), it replaces the old monitoring mechanism put in place by Decision  [280/2004/EC.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32004D0280)

**KEY POINTS**

The regulation:

* encourages procedures and rules for **monitoring, reporting and review,**enabling national and international commitments to be implemented;
* establishes a European**greenhouse gas inventory**system[,](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:2001_11&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0001) which aims to improve transparency and completeness between GHG inventories in EU countries;
* includes information from EU countries on **their planning and adaptation strategies for climate change,**covering aspects such asfloods, droughts and extreme temperatures;
* improves the EU and EU countries' declaration of **financial and technological support** to developing countries;
* guarantees **current events, transparency, accuracy, comparability and completeness of data** reported by the EU and EU countries.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS REGULATION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since July 8, 2013.

**context**

* As a result of the various international climate negotiations and the new requirements of the UNFCCC, and taking into account the evolution of European legislation, Decision 280/2004/EC, which included less stringent measures to monitor EU GHG emissions and implement the [Kyoto Protocol,](http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php)needed to be significantly improved.
* In 2013, the EU adopted its Regulation on the Supervisory Mechanism which repealed DecisionNo. 280/2004/EC. It thus had a strong reporting mechanism on EU projections, policies and measures on greenhouse gas emissions.
* Every year, the [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) publishes its report on the state of climate action. In addition, it regularly reports to the United Nations.
* For more information, please see:
  + [the "Monitoring and Reporting of Emissions"](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/progress/monitoring_fr) page on the European Commission's website;
  + ['Climate change'](http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate) page on the European Environment Agency's website.

**KEY TERMS**

**Greenhouse Gas Inventory:** This is an emissions inventory that monitors seven different greenhouse gases from all sectors, including

* Energy,
* Industrial processes,
* Waste,
* agriculture,
* land use, land use change and forestry (UTCATF).

The EU's greenhouse gas inventory is drawn up annually by the European Commission, with the help of the European Environment Agency.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

Regulation (EU)No.  [525/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0525) of the European Parliament and the Council of 21 May 2013 relating to a mechanism for monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and for the declaration, at national and EU level, further information on climate change and repealing DecisionNo. 280/2004/CE (OJ L 165 of 18.6.2013, p. 13-40)

Successive amendments to the Regulation (EU)No. 525/2013 have been incorporated into the basic text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R0525-20140717) has only documentary value.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Commission Delegate Regulation (EU) [No. 666/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0666) of 12 March 2014 setting out the substantive requirements for an EU inventory system and taking into account changes in global warming potentials and guidelines for mutually agreed inventories at international level, European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) 525/2013 (OJ L 179 of 19.6.2014, p. 26-30)

Implementation Regulations (EU)No.  [749/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32014R0749) of the 30 June 2014 Structure Commission, presentation, reporting and review of information provided by Member States under the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) 525/2013 (OJ L 203 of 11.7.2014, p. 23-90)

Commission report to the European Parliament and Council entitled 'Progress in achieving the Kyoto Protocol targets and the EU's 2020 targets' [under Article 21 of the Regulation (EU)No. 20 525/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 21 May 2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for the declaration, at national and EU level, other information relating to climate change and repealing DecisionNo. 280/2004/CE] [[COM(2014) 689 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52014DC0689) of October 28, 2014]

latest change 28.11.2016

**Pan-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[2013/94/EU decision on the regional convention on pan-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013D0094)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DECISION?**

* It finalizes the regional convention on preferential rules of origin[-](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:rx0014&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0001) pan-European-Mediterranean.
* This convention allows countries in the pan-European Mediterranean area (listed in the key points below) to benefit from common rules and preferential treatment in terms of tariffs.
* It aims to promote deeper economic integration and build stronger trade links in the area.

**KEY POINTS**

A regional convention on the origin of goods traded in the pan-European Mediterranean area was signed on behalf of the European Union in April 2011. This convention brings together in **one legal instrument** all the rules concerning the origin of goods traded under some sixty bilateral free trade agreements between countries in the pan-Mediterranean region, including participants in the [EU's stabilization and association process (PSA).](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/policy/glossary/terms/sap_en)

**Contracting parties**

In addition to the Union, the contracting parties to this agreement are:

* [European Free Trade Association](http://www.efta.int/)states: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland;
* signatories to the [Barcelona Declaration:](http://www.eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/euromed/docs/bd_en.pdf)Algeria, the Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey;
* The Faroes;
* PSA participants: Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as Kosovo(1);
* Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

**Original products**

For preferential tariffs to apply, the origin of goods must be established. The goods are considered to be products originating from the pan-Mediterranean accumulation zone if they are:

* fully obtained (e.g. extracted, harvested or, in the case of live, born and raised animals) on the territory of a contracting party to the convention;
* consisting of materials originating from countries not signatories to the convention (non-original materials) but which have been sufficiently crafted or processed on the territory of a contracting party to the Convention (Annex II of Appendix I);
* imported from the[European Economic Area](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:em0024) and exported to another contracting party to the Convention.

**Paneuro-Mediterranean cumulative zone**

The agreement is based on a **cumulative system** whereby the contracting parties to the agreement may use the products originating from the other parties as if they had been produced on their territory. In accordance with the pan-European system of accumulation of origin, a system of [diagonal accumulation](http://www.wcoomd.org/fr/topics/origin/instrument-and-tools/comparative-study-on-preferential-rules-of-origin/specific-topics/study-annex/cum-dia.aspx) applies between the Union and many of the countries in question.

**Proof of origin**

* The customs authorities of the exporting country issue [EUR.1](https://www.chamber-international.com/exporting-chamber-international/documentation-for-export-and-import/eur-1-certificates/) or EUR-MED **goods circulation** **certificates** attesting to their origin. Importers of other contracting parties to the agreement can thus benefit from preferential tariffs.
* Licensed exporters can also issue a **declaration of origin** or a EUR-MED declaration of origin.

**Provisions for administrative cooperation**

The customs authorities of the parties will cooperate with each other (for example, by exchanging specimens of the stamps used to issue EUR.1 and EUR-MED circulation certificates, or by verifying the evidence of origin).

**Management and implementation**

A joint committee made up of representatives from all contracting parties is responsible for the management and implementation of the agreement.

(1) This designation is without prejudice to the positions on the status and is in accordance with the [UN Security Council Resolution 1244](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/172/89/PDF/N9917289.pdf?OpenElement) and the[opinion of the International Court of Justice](http://www.icj-cij.org/files/case-related/141/16013.pdf) on Kosovo's declaration of independence.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DECISION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since March 26, 2012.

**context**

For more information, see:

* [The pan-European cumulative system and the pan-European-Mediterranean convention](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/rules-origin/general-aspects-preferential-origin/arrangements-list/paneuromediterranean-cumulation-pem-convention_fr) (European*Commission).*

**KEY TERMS**

**Rules of origin:** the actual "economic" nationality of traded goods that must be determined in order to decide how they should be treated in terms of customs duties. Preferential origin is conferred on goods from particular countries that meet certain criteria such as work or processing higher than those required to obtain a non-preferential origin.

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

[2013/94/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013D0094) Decision of the Council of 26 March 2012 on the conclusion of the regional convention on pan-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin (JO L 54 of 26.2.2013, p. 3-158)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[2013/93/EU](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013D0093) Decision of the Council of 14 April 2011 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the regional convention on pan-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin (JO L 54 of 26.2.2013, p. 1-2)

latest change 09.02.2018

**Common European export regime**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:**

[Regulation (EU) 2015/479 relating to the common export regime](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R0479)

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?**

The regulation sets out the fundamental principle that exports from European Union (EU) countries to other countries are not subject to quantitative restrictions. It also sets out the rules for procedures for the adoption of safeguard measures.

**KEY POINTS**

The regulation covers all products, both industrial and agricultural.

**Safeguards**

* In order to prevent a critical situation due to a shortage of essential products, the [European Commission](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html) can subordinate the export of a product to the presentation of an export authorization. These measures may be limited to certain destinations or exports from certain regions of the EU. On the other hand, they do not affect products being transported to the EU border.
* For example, in the context of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Implementation Regulation (EU) [2020/402](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32020R0402) required, for a limited period, whether or not certain personal protective equipment , whether or not it comes from the EU , is authorised by the competent authorities of EU countries to be exported outside the EU, except to the countries of theEuropean Free Trade[Association,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_free_trade_association.html)territories dependent on EU supply chains (e.g. Andorra) and certain [overseas territories.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:1105_1) This measure was intended to ensure the availability of personal protective equipment in EU countries to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The[enforcement act](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/implementing_acts.html) established the procedure for applying for authorization, and Appendix I includes products requiring authorization (protective glasses and visors, gloves, protective clothing, oral-nasal protective equipment and face shields).
* The Commission must adopt the safeguards required by the EU's interests in accordance with existing international obligations (resulting from the EU's accession to the[World Trade Organisation,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:r11010)for example).

**Information and consultation**

* When an EU country believes that safeguards may be needed because of exceptional market developments, it must inform the Commission, which warns other EU countries.
* The Commission can ask EU countries to provide statistical data on market trends for a particular product in order to assess its economic and trade situation.

**Implementation**

The safeguard committee, which includes representatives from EU countries, established under the [2015/478](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R0478) Regulation (EU) on the common [import regime,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:070202_3)ishelping the Commission implement the regulation.

**SINCE WHEN DOES THIS REGULATION APPLY?**

It has been in effect since April 16, 2015. It repeals Regulation (EC)No.  [1061/2009](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32009R1061) with immediate effect.

**context**

This regulation [codifies](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/codification.html) Regulation (EC)No. 1061/2009, which has been amended several times and substantially. It is part of the EU's common trade policy, which is based on uniform principles for all EU countries.

For more information, please see:

* [Exports from the EU](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/export-from-eu/) (European*Commission).*

**DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL**

Regulation (EU) [2015/479](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R0479) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 March 2015 on the common export regime (codified text) (OJ L 83 of 27.3.2015, p. 34-40)

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Commission Implementation Regulations (EU) [2020/402](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32020R0402) of 14 March 2020 subjecting the export of certain products to the submission of an export authorization (OJ L 77 I of 15.3.2020, p. 1-7)

Successive amendments to the 2020/402 implementation regulation (EU) have been incorporated into the original text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02020R0402-20200321) has only documentary value.

Regulation (EU) [2015/478](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32015R0478) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 March 2015 relating to the common import regime (OJ L 83 of 27.3.2015, p. 16-33)

latest change 08.04.2020

# European Anti-Fraud Office — rules of investigative procedure

## SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:

[Regulation (EU, Euratom)No.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0883)  [883/2013 relating to investigations carried out by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0883)

[Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 amending the regulation (EU, Euratom)No.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32020R2223)  [883/2013 with regard to cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the effectiveness of investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32020R2223)

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS?

Regulation (EU, Euratom)No. 883/2013 to:

* increase the independence of the [European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF),](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:l34008)established by decision [1999/352/EC, ECSC, Euratom](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31999D0352), to combat fraud, corruption and any illicit activity that could harm the financial [interests of](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_union.html) the European Union (EU);
* Make the Agency's investigations more effective
* Improve cooperation between the different institutions and the various bodies involved;
* strengthen the rights of those covered by the investigations.

The Amendment Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 aims to:

* adapt the functioning of OLAF for the creation of the [European Public Prosecutor's Office and the effectiveness of the European Office's (EPPO) investigations,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_prosecutor.html)as defined in the Regulation (EU) [2017/1939](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32017R1939) (see [summary of documents)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4319113)to ensure optimalcomplementarity;
* strengthen the effectiveness of OLAF's investigative function on specific issues, including:
  + new rules for on-the-spot checks and checks
  + Access to bank account information
  + Setting up a procedural safeguard controller
  + access to the final report by the person concerned
  + strengthening the role of anti-fraud coordination services within EU member states and
  + new laws to improve the monitoring of investigations.

## KEY POINTS

**TheAgency:**

* Conducts internal and external investigations
* assists the European Public Prosecutor's Office in the context of close cooperation, information exchange, complementarity and prevention against duplication;
* helps EU member states to organise close cooperation between their anti-fraud authorities;
* develops anti-fraud policies, as a [service of the European Commission;](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html)
* contributes to the design and development of anti-fraud and anti-corruption strategies to protect the financial interests of the European Union;
* promotes and coordinates the exchange of operational experiences and best procedural practices;
* joins the joint investigation [teams, if necessary;](http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/judicial-cooperation/eurojust-role-facilitating-judicial-cooperation-instruments/joint-investigation-teams)
* supports joint national anti-fraud actions.

**Internal** investigations

**TheAgency:**

* conducts administrative investigations within EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, and with economic operators; [\*](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:4401811&from=EN" \l "keyterm_E0002);
* Has immediate and immediate access to any relevant information relating to the item under investigation;
* may ask public servants, other officers and agency leaders for oral and written information;
* informs the [relevant institutions,](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_institutions.html)bodies, offices and [agencies](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_agencies.html) when an investigation involves one of their employees and consults them, if necessary, when preventive administrative measures must be taken to protect the financial interests of the European Union.

The Amendment Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 empowers OLAF, in the course of its investigations, to have access to private equipment used for professional purposes, if the latter has good reason to suspect that their contents might be relevant to the investigation. Access would be based on internal regulations that each institution, body, body or agency concerned will have to adopt with respect to its staff and members.

**External investigations**

**TheAgency:**

* conducts on-site checks and audits as well as other investigative activities in EU countries, third countries and with international organisations and economic operators, in accordance with the rules established in the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No.  [2185/96](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31996R2185), and the provisions of cooperation and mutual assistanceagreements;
* may provide the relevant national authorities of the European Union with information on fraud, corruption or any other illicit activity that harms financial interests, so that they can take appropriate measures.

must, in accordance with the rules established in the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 with regard to external investigations, access to private devices used for professional purposes; access will be done under conditions and to a greater extent identical to what the national authorities of the country concerned can do to investigate private devices.

**Conducting investigations**

**The Director General of the Office:**

* decides, where there are sufficient suspicions, to open an external or internal investigation, either on its own initiative or following a request from an institution, body, body or agency, or an EU country;
* may pass on any relevant information to the institution, body or agency, or relevant EU country if it decides not to open an investigation;
* conducts investigations on the basis, if any, of written instructions;
* submits a report to the [oversight committee](http://europa.eu/supervisory-committee-olaf/) if an investigation cannot be completed at the end of the 12-month period and then every 6 months;
* transmits to national judicial authorities any information obtained during an internal investigation within their jurisdiction;

**OLAF:**

* conducts investigations objectively and impartially, respecting procedural guarantees and the principle of the presumption of innocence;
* investigation by charge and discharge;
* may hear, with appropriate notice, a person concerned or a witness at any time of the investigation — the person has the right not to incriminate himself or to be assisted by a person of his or her choice;
* Makes an account of the interview and gives a copy to the person concerned;
* offers the person concerned the opportunity to speak out on the allegations against him;
* processes all information disclosed or obtained through external and internal investigations with respect for confidentiality;
* cooperates with the European Public Prosecutor'sOffice, [Eurojust](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eurojust.html), [Europol](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/europol.html) and the relevant authorities of the European Union countries, third countries of the European Union and international organisations.

**Access to bank account information**

In accordance with the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223, OLAF's investigative powers are strengthened. OLAF may request information on bank accounts, and where strictly necessary, on operations, with the cooperation of national authorities. This, under the same conditions as those applicable to the competent national authorities, and subject to a written request justifying the appropriateness and proportionateity of this request;

**The Procedure Guarantees Controller**

The independent position of procedural guarantee controller is created under regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223. Administratively attached to the oversight committee, the comptroller's mission is to manage the complaints of the individuals concerned and could make recommendations to OLAF on how to resolve the problem raised in the complaint.

**Close collaboration between OLAF the European Public Prosecutor's Office**

OLAF and the European Public Prosecutor's Office have **complementary roles** in protecting the financial interests of the European Union and will work closely together. Under the Amendment Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223, OLAF remains an administrative body that carries out **administrative investigations** that can lead to recommendations, administrative, disciplinary and judicial. The mandate of the European Public Prosecutor's Office, which covers 22 of the 27 countries of the European Union, is based on **criminal investigations** to establish the criminal responsibility of those involved in fraud, corruption, or any other criminal offence that harms the financial interests of the European Union within its jurisdiction.

As a service of the European Public Prosecutor's Office, and with a view to protecting the admissibility of evidence, as well as [fundamental freedoms](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/fundamental_rights.html) and procedural guarantees, it must cooperate closely with the EPPO to ensure that the procedural safeguards of the 2017/1939 Regulation (EU) are respected.

**The final report**

It is established under the authority of the Director General, following the investigation, and

* plans:
  + the legal basis of the investigation
  + procedural phases that have been followed and safeguards respected
  + the facts found and their preliminary legal qualification
  + estimated financial impact
  + The findings of the survey
* it is accompanied, if necessary, by the Director General's recommendations on what to do with the investigation, whether or not to take disciplinary, administrative, financial or judicial measures, and the estimated amount of recoveries;
* it is transmitted to the relevant country or institution, body, body or agency.

**The countries of the European Union:**

* Establish an anti-fraud coordination service[(AFCOS)](http://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/investigations/afcos_fr)to ensure effective cooperation and exchange of information with OLAF;
* provide or coordinate the assistance IT needs to carry out its tasks effectively.

**EU institutions, bodies and bodies:**

* adopt rules requiring staff members to cooperate with and inform the Agency;
* Ensure the confidentiality of internal investigations
* may not open a parallel investigation into the same facts if the Director General of OLAF has opened an investigation, or is considering doing so;
* immediately provide OLAF with any information relating to possible cases of fraud, corruption, or any other illegal financial activity.

**abrogation**

Regulation (EU, Euratom)No. 883/2013 repealing Regulation (EC) [1073/1999](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:31999R1073) and Regulation (Euratom) [1074/1999](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:31999R1074).

## SINCE WHEN DO THESE REGULATIONS APPLY?

* The regulation (EU, Euratom)No. 883/2013 has been in effect since 1 October 2013.
* The Amendment Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 came into force on 17 January 2021.

## context

For more information, please consult:

* [European Anti-Fraud Office](http://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/home_fr) (European*Commission).*

## KEY TERMS

**Financial** interests: the revenues, expenditures and assets covered by the European Union budget.

**Economic operator:** companies or other organizations, such as suppliers and contractors, providing goods, work or services.

## MAIN DOCUMENTS

Regulation (EU, Euratom)No.  [883/2013](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32013R0883) of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 September 2013 relating to investigations carried out by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing the Regulation (EC) no 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and the Council and the Regulation (Euratom)No. 1074/1999 of the Council (OJ L 248 of 18.9.2013, 1-22)

Successive amendments to the regulation (EU, Euratom)No. 883/2013 were incorporated into the original text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02013R0883-20210117) has only documentary value.

Regulation (EU, Euratom) [2020/2223](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32020R2223) of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 December 2020 amending the regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 with regard to cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the effectiveness of investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (JO L 437, 28.12.2020, p. 49-73)

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Regulation (EU) [2017/1939](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32017R1939) of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the creation of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ("EPPO") (JO L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1-71)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02017R1939-20210110)

European Parliament and Council Directive (EU) [2017/1371](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32017L1371) on combating fraud against EU financial interests through criminal law (OJ L 198 of 28.7.2017, p. 29-41)

Commission report to the European Parliament and the Council — Assessment of the application of the regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 September 2013 relating to investigations carried out by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing regulation (EC)No. 107 3/1999 of the European Parliament and the Council and the Regulation (Euratom) No. 1074/1999 of the Council (COM(2017)[589 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017DC0589) of 2.10.2017)

Working paper from the Commission's services — Assessment of the application of the regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 September 2013 relating to investigations carried out by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing the Regulation (EC)No. 1073/199 9 of the European Parliament and the Council and the Regulation (Euratom)No. 1074/1999 of the Council accompanying the Commission's report to the European Parliament and the Council (SWD(2017)[332 final](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:52017SC0332) of 2.10.2017)

Decision [1999/352/EC, ECSC, Euratom](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31999D0352), Commission, 28 April 1999, establishing the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) (OJ L 136 of 31.5.1999, p. 20-22)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:01999D0352-20160101)

Regulation (Euratom, EC)No.  [2185/96](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31996R2185) of the Council of 11 November 1996 relating to on-the-spot checks and audits carried out by the Commission for the Protection of the Financial Interests of the European Communities against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292 of 15.11.1996, p. 2-5)

Regulation (EC, Euratom)No.  [2988/95](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31995R2988) Council of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the financial interests of the European Communities (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1-4)

Commission Decision [94/140/EC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:31994D0140) of 23 February 1994 establishing an advisory committee for coordination in the field of anti-fraud (OJ L 61 of 4.3.1994, p. 27-28)

Please see the [consolidated version.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:01994D0140-20050317)

latest change 02.02.2021

# EU rules on the authorisation, import and production of veterinary medicines

## SUMMARY OF THE DOCUMENT:

[Directive 2001/82/EC establishing an EU code for veterinary medicines](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32001L0082)

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DIRECTIVE?

It establishes the rules of the European Union (EU) on the authorisation, manufacture, monitoring, sale, distribution and useof veterinarymedicines.

It will be repealed and replaced by the [2019/6](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4381220) Regulation (EU) from 28 January 2022.

## KEY POINTS

* **National**  **authorities** must:
  + Authorize veterinary drugs before they can be sold and used;
  + Implement a simplified registration procedure for **veterinary homeopathic medicines;**
  + Ensure that veterinary drug manufacturers and distributors under their jurisdiction have the necessary authorization; Manufacturers must also hire a qualified expert.
  + Take appropriate measures to encourage notification of possible **adverse reactions** to veterinary drugs;
  + conduct **regular inspections** and tests to ensure manufacturers comply with the legislation;
  + issue a **certificate of good manufacturing practices** if inspectors consider the standards to be met; these certificates are entered into a European database and must be issued within 90 days;
  + suspend, revoke or withdraw marketing authorization for a product considered to be dangerous or without therapeutic benefit.
* National authorities may, in the event of a**serious epidemic,**authorize the use of medicines that have not received their authorisation. They must first inform the European [Commission.](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/european_commission.html)
* **Marketing**authorization:
  + is only granted to applicants based in the EU;
  + has an initial five-year validity period;
  + may be renewed for an extra five years, or for an indefinite period.
* The process for adopting an authorization decision must be completed within 210 days of receiving the authorization holder's application.
* The applicant must provide all the administrative information and scientific documents necessary to demonstrate the **quality,** **safety** and**effectiveness** of the product.
* The holder of the marketing authorization must take into account the scientific and technical progress made after receiving its authorization and make the necessary modifications to its manufacturing and control systems.
* A coordinating group is reviewing the application if it is submitted in at least two EU countries.
* The packaging of veterinary medicines must include **certain detailed information,**such as the manufacturer's name and address, the power of the product and its expiry date.
* **Imports** and **exports** of veterinary medicines also require authorization.
* The legislation does not apply to certain items such as drugs used in **research and development trials** or prepared by a pharmacist for a specific animal or a small group of animals.
* National authorities may exempt certain medicines from marketing authorization for small domestic animals such as fish, birds, pigeons, terrarium animals (such as lizards or locusts), small rodents, ferrets and rabbits.

**abrogation**

The 2001/82/EEC Directive will be repealed and replaced by Regulation (EU) [2019/6](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R0006) from 28 January 2022.

## SINCE WHEN DOES THIS DIRECTIVE APPLY?

It has been in effect since December 18, 2001.

## context

For more information, see:

* [Veterinary medicines and medicinal foods](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/veterinary-medicines-and-medicated-feed_en) (European*Commission*).

## KEY TERMS

**Veterinary drugs:** Any substance or composition with curative or preventive properties against animal diseases.

## DOCUMENT PRINCIPAL

European Parliament and Council Directive [2001/82/EC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32001L0082) of 6 November 2001 establishing an EU code for veterinary medicines (OJ L 311 of 28.11.2001, p. 1-66)

Successive amendments to the 2001/82/EC Directive have been incorporated into the original text. This [consolidated version](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:02001L0082-20090807) has only documentary value.

## RELATED DOCUMENT

Regulation (EU) [2019/6](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/AUTO/?uri=celex:32019R0006) of the European Parliament and council of 11 December 2018 relating to veterinary medicines and repealing directive 2001/82/EC (OJ L 4 of 7.1.2019, p. 43-167)

latest change 17.01.2019

**The European Union's international agreements and external powers**

**SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS:**

[Article 3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E003)

[Article 4 of the TFUE](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E004)

[Article 207 of the TFUE](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E207)

[Article 216 of the TFUE](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex:12016E216)