



# What are IPCEIs **not**?

## IPCEIs are **not** the only basis for State aid



IPCEI rules are part of the EU State aid rules, like there are other State aid rules, such as the Guidelines on State aid for Climate, Environmental protection and Energy, the Regional Aid Guidelines, the General Block Exemption Regulation and principles set out in the Chips Act Communication. In particular research projects with a smaller budget can be funded under the Block Exemption Regulation without prior notification to the Commission.

Please see the DG COMP website for an overview of State aid rules.

## IPCEIs are **not** a deviation or relaxation of State aid rules

Generally, State aid is prohibited in the EU to prevent distortion of competition and trade between Member States, to avoid subsidy races and to create a level playing field.

Nevertheless, under certain circumstances, State aid can be allowed if the aid has positive effects that outweigh the distortive effects of the aid, which should be minimized.

IPCEIs can be a justification of State aid. The role of the Commission is to ensure that the amount of State aid is necessary and proportionate to incentivize the company realize the project and that distortions of the level playing field of the internal market are minimized.

## IPCEIs do **not** support manufacturing of existing technologies



### An IPCEI project must:

- either conduct research, development, and innovation activities and/or first industrial deployment of products or services of a major innovative nature, going beyond the global state-of-the-art. It is not about producing already established products or deliver established services with already existing technologies.
- or construct key open infrastructure of great importance in the environmental, energy, transport, health or digital sectors, or which contributes significantly to the internal market.