

Comment to the Targeted review of the General Block Exemption Regulation

**We would like to propose to specifically include the additional exemption regarding the co-financing of the research and innovation partnerships in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe.**

Horizon Europe regulation includes the proposal to use the ESIF as the national contribution to the research and innovations partnerships implemented within the programme (article 8 of the regulation) which was strongly supported by both member states and EC throughout the negotiations as well as Strategic plan consultation.

We believe that this will be fully in line with ambition to promote the synergies between EU framework programmes and ESIF. Allowing the countries with limited national resources to use the ESIF funds as national a membership contribution will significantly increase the participation of their subjects in future research and innovation partnerships.