

In relation to Article 25b dealing with the application of the General Block Exemption Regulation (State aid) for the European Teaming action please note the following:

- The exemption introduced in Article 25b for Teaming Centers of Excellence funded under the Horizon 2020 programme is positive and will help towards the success of Research and Innovation Center's of Excellence being developed in the EU.
- With several Centers of Excellence already underway across the EU, it would be beneficial for the specific consultation with representative Teaming centers to ensure that the revised exemption rules do not restrict further the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Teaming project. It is also important to discuss these at policy level with the relevant Commission DG, as well as implement specific national level consultations.
- This would help to fully assess the impact of the new exemptions rules on Teaming projects, ascertain national government perspectives and also help to secure a balanced outcome which takes account of the necessity to apply specific state regulations and in achieving the EU level interests with regards to the successful delivery of the EU Teaming projects. It is imperative to ensure that it will not potentially place further to the implementation of many Teaming projects in relation to the requirements for collaborations with industry and with infrastructure development. Detailed clarifications and careful investigations are necessary in order to ensure the Teaming project are able to deliver on the requirements of complementary national funding (which may also drive from non-structural funding).
- In particular, Paragraphs 4, 5 & 6 of Article 25 should be clarified as it relates only to cohesion funding ?