



COSMOS2020 NEWSLETTER #23

05 January 2017

Switzerland is fully associated to Horizon 2020 as of 2017



Switzerland has a long tradition of cooperation in research and innovation with the European Union. As of 2017, Switzerland retrieves full association status in Horizon 2020.

Researchers in Switzerland have been participating in the EU Research Framework Programmes since 1988, either as associated or third country partners. As for the newest programme generation 'Horizon 2020', Switzerland was considered as a partially associated country until the end of 2016. National measures were applied to fund Swiss project participations in those areas of Horizon 2020 to which Switzerland was not associated during this time.

On 16 December 2016, the Swiss Parliament adopted the application law for Art.121a of the Constitution, respecting the Bilateral Agreements with the EU in all aspects. On the same day, the Swiss Federal Council ratified the protocol extending the free movement of persons to Croatia, thus fulfilling the necessary condition for Switzerland's full association to Horizon 2020 as of 2017. Following this ratification, Switzerland retrieves the full association to the entire Horizon 2020 programme from 01 January 2017 on. The European Commission (EC) has updated its factsheet regarding Switzerland's association status accordingly.

[Updated European Commission's factsheet](#)

[Swiss Participation in Horizon 2020](#)

[State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation Factsheet](#)



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9th Conference on European Space Policy 24 – 25 January 2016, Brussels

With the “Space Strategy for Europe” from the European Commission and the new ESA roadmap on the table, the European space stakeholders will have the great opportunity to debate and influence, at the highest level, the medium and long term development of European space programmes and of the spread of space services in many economic and societal activities as well as in a wide range of public fields, including security and defence.

To feed a dynamic, interactive and fruitful debate among the numerous participants – representatives of national and EU institutions, public authorities, industry, research centres, civil society – many high-level guest speakers have already been invited to take the floor.

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Net 4 Society Social Sciences and Humanities – an added value for your Space project

Social sciences and humanities SSH encompasses various disciplines – from sociology, psychology, communication and political science to economics, history , culture, law and ethics. It is evident that the knowledge for solving different societal challenges, including those related to the Space field.

SSH integration in Horizon 2020 projects can yield innovative solutions and products that are socially acceptable, directly applicable, marketable and cost-effective. In addition, SSH integration can substantially enhance the impact of the project and support effective dissemination of results and communication with the target group and the wider public.

Which topics in 2017 Work Programme for Space require SSH integration?

- [EO-1-2017 Downstream applications](#)
- [COMPET-7-2017 Technology transfer and business generators](#)

In order to see in detail which are the specific SSH aspects included in the above-mentioned topics, please see a document entitled '[Opportunities for Researchers from the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\) in Horizon 2020](#)'.

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High Level Group on maximising impact of EU Research and Innovation Programmes

The European Commission has set up a High Level Group of experts who will advise on how to maximise the impact of the EU's investment in research and innovation. The group will be chaired by Pascal Lamy, President Emeritus of the Jacques Delors Institute. It consists of 12 personalities appointed in a personal capacity. Over 350 candidates responded to an online call for expression of interest. The group will start its work in December 2016 and is expected to issue its report in June 2017.

The High Level Group will base its report, among others on:

- the available Horizon 2020 interim evaluation results and factual evidence
- the results of a European foresight exercise for future research and innovation policy
- an assessment of the economic rationale for public research and innovation investment and its expected impact on jobs and growth

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INNOspace Masters Competition 2017

Space 4.0 New ideas for the next space generation

Technology transfer goes both ways – from Earth into space and from space to Earth

The INNOspace Masters ideas competition is officially launched at the cross-industry INNOspace symposium in Augsburg on 6 October. Innovative ideas and solutions can be submitted for the next space generation.

The INNOspace Masters is organised by the German Aerospace Center (DLR) Space Administration, and embedded in the INNOspace® initiative. Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen (AZO), an experienced specialist in the organisation of competitions, conducts the INNOspace Masters on behalf of DLR, with support of first-class Partners.

Submission deadline: 13 February 2017

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Data.Space 2017 **1 – 2 February 2017, Glasgow**

With a focus on the exploration and exploitation of new data sets, Data.Space 2017 will pull together data and service providers with end users from across many sectors and markets to identify the opportunities that exist for businesses today and provide a unique networking opportunity for all those interested in data.

Satellites, and more specifically the data being collected from them, are becoming an increasingly important means of observation globally, not only offering solutions for the betterment of life on earth, but also a wealth of new business and science opportunities across many sectors including energy, sustainable cities, smart grid, agriculture, marine, life sciences and transport.

The packed agenda includes keynote addresses, presentations and panel discussions with world class speakers and visionaries from government, industry and the NewSpace sector who will provide clear insights into the latest innovative products and services that can be derived from space technologies and the potentially valuable benefits that the applications of these can bring.

[Read more](#)

Rosetta's last words: Science descending to a comet

ESA's Rosetta completed its incredible mission on 30 September, collecting unprecedented images and data right until the moment of contact with the comet's surface.

One of the final pieces of information received from Rosetta was sent by its navigation startrackers: a report of a 'large object' in the field of view – the comet horizon. Reconstruction of the final descent showed that the spacecraft gently struck the surface only 33 m from the target point.

Rosetta's last image



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