

Joint Statement of Research-Intensive University Groups in Europe: The Future of Horizon Europe and restriction of access to quantum & space programmes

Date: April 23, 2021

- *The commitment and friendship between European research-intensive universities is as strong as ever. Our history of mutual collaboration and shared success provides the foundations for continued strong partnership and close collaboration.*
- *The UK's association to the Horizon Europe programme is a promising outcome, welcomed across Europe. As an associated country, the UK will participate in the programme on the same basis as EU Member States from the first calls, as confirmed by the European Commission [here](#). This is a clear signal of the strength of that partnership and the enormous benefits it provides to research. We hope that the same positive signal can soon be given with regard to Switzerland's association to Horizon Europe.*
- *However, we are concerned about proposals to restrict the UK, Switzerland and potentially other countries' access to certain parts of the programme, including quantum and space projects, after an agreement was reached in good faith. We urge the European Commission to reconsider its stance.*
- *The role of scientists and researchers in the fight back against the pandemic underlines the benefits of cross-border collaboration, and Horizon Europe will provide the framework for many more successful collaborations. Researchers based in all our universities are now ready to seize these opportunities, work together, and submit bids with confidence.*
- *Similarly, universities across the UK and Europe are committed to working together to maintain student exchanges and enrich the student experience. We will continue exploring options with our respective Governments to support and smooth the vital flow of students and researchers between our countries.*

Signatory parties: [German U15](#), [Russell Group](#), [UDICE](#), [LERU](#), [The Guild](#)

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