

Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Turkey

Unofficial Translation

INTRODUCTION

The "Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Greece and Turkey" is included in the "Competitiveness" Programme of the NSRF 2021-2027, in Priority 1 "Strengthening Research and Innovation" of the "Competitiveness" Programme 2021 - 2027 and in particular in Specific Objective 1.1. Developing and strengthening research and innovation capacities and exploiting advanced technologies and in the Action 1.1.4 Supporting/promoting international cooperation, and aims to strengthen the extroversion and competitiveness of the research and innovation system through the development of cooperation between research organisations and enterprises from other countries.

The Action is based, inter alia, on the Joint Declaration between the Ministry of Development of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, signed in Athens on 7 December 2023.

The Directorate for International Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation of the Ministry of Development has been designated as the Intermediate Body for the management of the Action.

Summary of action items

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| Budget for action | €3.000.000 |
| Maximum project budget to be taken into account for the calculation of the Aid | €200,000 per project per country |
| Basic Categories of eligible expenditure | Staff costs: This category includes fees for staff (researchers and technicians) employed in the implementation of the project. Uniform Coefficient for calculating eligible project costs: A uniform rate of 40% of the eligible direct personnel costs shall be used to cover the remaining project costs in accordance with the provisions of Article 56 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 and Article 34 of Decision No. 114947/01.12.2022 (B 6132). The 40% shall include the remaining categories of costs arising from the research activity in the eligible research and development categories of Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 and Article 34 of Decision No. 114947/01.12.2022 (B 6132). (EU) 651/2014. |
| Aid scheme | Regulation (EU) 651/2014 (GDPR), as amended by Regulation 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 and in force. |
| Maximum Duration of completion of physical and financial Objects | Twenty-four (24) months from the date of electronic notification of the final approval of the funding application or the result of the evaluation of the appeal, with the possibility of an extension of six (6) months, following submission of documentation by the beneficiaries and approval by the GGEI |
| Evaluation procedure | Benchmarking in two phases. In the first phase, evaluation of proposals submitted to Greece and Turkey based on the procedures of each country. Subsequently, mutual sending of the evaluation sheets of the proposals and, in the second phase, convening of a Joint Committee with the partner country in order to make the final selection of proposals for funding. The final selection is the result of a co-decision process which necessarily takes into account the national priorities of each country, as well as the regional distribution of public expenditure. |
| Beneficiaries of the Action | Enterprises and Research Organisations, as well as Other Entities treated either as Research Organisations or as enterprises, which meet the conditions set out in Chapter 4. 'Beneficiaries - Terms and conditions and Conditions of Participation' |
| Institution Action Management Agency | Address International Scientific and Technological Cooperation/General Secretariat for Research and Innovation |

1. LEGISLATIVE - REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

The legal basis of the action is:

1. Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 5617 final of 29.7.2021 approving the Partnership Agreement with the Hellenic Republic (NSRF 2021-2027).
2. Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund+, the Cohesion Fund, the European Fund for Fair Transition and the European Maritime Fund, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and financial rules applicable to those Funds and to the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.
3. Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund.
4. Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ OJ L 187/1 of 26.6.2014), as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 and in force (OJ OJ L 167/1 of 30.6.2023) and in particular Article 25 thereof.
5. The European Commission's Executive Decision C(2022) 3826 final/15.06.2022 of 15.06.2022 approving the Competitiveness Programme for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund+ under Objective "Investing in jobs and growth" for Greece (CCI 2021EL16FFPR001).
6. N. 4914/2022 (A' 61) "Management, control and implementation of development interventions for the Programming Period 2021-2027, establishment of the Joint Stock Company "National Registry of Start-up Enterprises S.A.".
7. N. 4488/2017 "Public pension arrangements and other social security provisions, strengthening the protection of workers, rights of persons with disabilities and other provisions" (A' 137), and in particular Articles 39 & 40.
8. N. 4557/2018 "Prevention and suppression of money laundering and terrorist financing and other provisions" (A' 139), and in particular article 20 "Central Register of Beneficiaries".
9. N. 4310/2014 "Research, Technological Development and Innovation and other provisions" (A' 258) as in force.
10. N. 2896/2001 "Ratification of the Agreement between the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Turkey on scientific and technological cooperation" (A' 68).
11. N. 3988/2011 "Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Turkey regarding the cooperation between the General Secretariat of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) (A' 157).
12. The Joint Declaration between the Ministry of Development of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, signed in Athens on 7 December 2023.
13. N. 4622/07.08.2019 (A' 133) "Executive State: organisation, operation and transparency of the Government, government bodies and central public administration".
14. Commission Communication C(2022)7388/19.10.2022 "Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation".
15. EYKE's document 49939/EYKE1942/13.05.2016 with the subject: "State aid and public funding of Research Organisations - Research Infrastructures".
16. The Decision of the Minister of Development and Investment (B' 3359) "Approval of the National Strategy for Smart Specialization 2021-2027" and the circular of the Secretary General of Public Investment and NSRF No. 46174/18.05.2023 on: "Clarifications on the implementation and results of the Business Discovery Process".
17. Decree 77/2023 "Establishment of the Ministry and renaming of Ministries - Establishment, abolition and renaming of General and Special Secretariats - Transfer of competences, service units, staff positions and supervised bodies" (A' 130).

18. Decree 79/2023 (A' 131), "Appointment of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Deputy Ministers".
19. Decree 82/2023 "Renaming of the Ministry - Establishment and renaming of General Secretariats - Transfer of responsibilities, service units and staff positions - Amendment and completion of decree 77/2023 (A' 130) - Transitional provisions."
20. P.D. 142/2017 (A' 181) "Organization of the Ministry of Finance", as in force.
21. Decree 50/22.08.2024 (A' 138) "Establishment of General Secretariats, abolition of the General Secretariat and Special Secretariats", and in particular Article 2.
22. The Prime Minister's Decision No. Y12/07.07.2023 (B' 4403) "Delegation of powers to the Deputy Minister of Finance, Nikolaos Papathanasis".
23. Decision 106/19.05.2025 of the Prime Minister and the Minister of National Economy and Finance "Appointment of the Secretary General for the Management of Sectoral Programmes of the European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund and European Social Fund of the Ministry of National Economy and Finance" (Y.O.D.D. 578/19.05.2025).
24. The decision No. Y84833/I6/23.05.2018 of the Deputy Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs on the "Guide for the Financing and Management of the funds managed by the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE) of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology" (V' 1926).
25. The email of 29.06.2023 from EYTHYPS with the subject: "Management and Control System 2021- 2027".
26. The decision of the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments of the Ministry of Development and Investments (A.P. 110565/22.11.2022 (V' 5958)
"Procedure for the submission and evaluation of objections to the results of the evaluation of integration proposals in the NSRF Programmes 2021-2027 [objection of paragraph 7 of article 36 of Law 4914/2022 (A' 61)]", as amended by 8542/2.5.2024 "Modification of No. 110565/17.11.2022 ministerial decision 'Procedure for the submission and evaluation of objections to the results of the evaluation of integration proposals in the NSRF Programmes 2021-2027 [objection of paragraph 7 of Article 36 of Law 4914/2022 (A' 61)]' (V' 5958)' (V' 2855).
27. The document 92415/EYKE 6282/28.08.2017 of EYKE with the subject: "Instructions and Encouragement of Procedures for Entities involved in the granting of State Aid".
28. EYKE's document (ref. 42649/EYKE5351/10.04.2017) "Clarifications on issues related to the application of Regulation 651/2014, as regards the designation of a firm as problematic".
29. The A.I. 99801/EYKE-HE 1162/27.10.2023 "Instructions to bodies involved in the management of co-funded actions during the programming period 2021-2027 regarding state aid issues"
30. N. 4957/2022 (A' 141) "New Horizons in Higher Educational Institutions: Strengthening the quality, functionality and connection of higher education institutions with society and other provisions".
31. The decision of the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment "National rules on eligibility of expenditure for the NSRF 2021 - 2027 programmes", as in force.
32. N. 5000/2022 (A' 226) "Incorporation into Greek legislation of Directive (EU) 2019/2235 - Ratification of the Additional Act to the New Understanding between the Greek State and the Maritime Community and tax arrangements for shipping - Urgent tax and customs arrangements
- Institutional framework for the operation of the Central State Aid Unit and the State Aid Network - Salary regulations and other provisions of an economic and developmental nature".
33. The Joint Decision of the Ministers of Finance - Development and Investment (A.I. 5483/20.01.2023)
"Procedures for financial corrections and search for unduly or illegally paid amounts in the Sectoral and Regional Programmes of the NSRF 2021-2027" (V' 390).
34. The Decision of the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment of the Ministry of Development and Investment (A.P. 87051/12.09.2022 (B' 4855)
"Restructuring of the Special Management Agency for the Competitiveness Programme", which was renamed by par. 2 of Article 65 of Law No. 65. 4914/2022 and repeal of the ministerial decision 67743/EYΘY 615/24.6.2015 (B' 1248).
35. The Decision of the Deputy Minister of National Economy & Finance of the Republic of Greece, A.P. 7039/18.12.2023 (ΑΔΑ: 606ΜΗ-ΜΛΟ) Finance 'Designation of the GGEK of the Ministry of Development as Intermediate Body of the Programme
"Competitiveness" and conferring tasks of the Managing Authority of the Programme
"Competitiveness" for the management of operations under the Action "Transnational Partnerships in Research and Innovation".
36. The approval of the Special Secretary of the ERDF & ERDF Programmes Management with Α.Π. 1239/14.03.2024 TSI of the Specification Sheet of the Action "Transnational Partnerships in Research and Innovation" with code 1-1.1.1-03 of the Specific Objective 1i of the "COMPETITIVITY" Programme.

37. The letter dated 1918/29.04.2024 (ID: 9519H-O77) Decision of the Monitoring Committee of the Competitiveness Programme 2021-2027 for the approval, through the 7th Written Procedure, of the methodology and selection criteria for the selection of actions under the Call for Proposals "Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Cyprus" and its application to the other Calls for Proposals to be issued under the Action "Transnational Cooperation in Research and Innovation", code 1- 1.1-03 of the Specific Objective 1.1 of the "COMPETITIVITY" Programme.
38. The document with the reference number EYKE-HE 350/ 57974EΞ2025/02.04.2025 (reference number EYD 58223EI2025/03.04.2025) of the
of the Special Service for State Aid and Financial Instruments (EYKE-HE) on: "Opinion on the draft call for proposals entitled "Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Greece and Turkey" of the "Competitiveness" Programme 2021-2027 of the Programming Period 2021-2027.

The following are noted:

- The publicity requirements as set out in Articles 46-50 and Annex IX of the EC (EU) 1060/2021 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund+, the Cohesion Fund, the European Fund for Fair Transition and the European Maritime Fund must be respected, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and the financial rules applicable to those Funds and to the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy, as well as the publicity requirements of Regulation (EC) No 2021/2006. (EU) 651/2014 as reflected in Article 9 of this Regulation. The submission of applications by beneficiaries under this call for proposals implies their acceptance of the publicity requirements.
- Details of the Research Projects approved for funding, as provided for in Article 49, par. 2 of Reg. (EU) 1060/2021, Annex IX thereof and the applicable legal basis of Competition, will be made public.
- During the execution of the project, the applicable national and EU legislation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and in particular Law no. 4624/2019 (A'137) "Personal Data Protection Authority, measures implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and transposing into national law Directive (EU) 2016/680 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 and other provisions".
- Beneficiaries participating in the Action should take care to facilitate access to them for persons with disabilities, as provided for in Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 1060/2021 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021.
- Beneficiaries participating in the action will have to comply with legislation on health and safety of workers and prevention of occupational risks.
- Aid granted under this call shall be compatible with the internal market within the meaning of Article 107(2) or (3) of the Treaty and shall be exempt from the notification requirement of Article 108(3) of the Treaty if it fulfils all the conditions of Chapter I of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 and the corresponding articles of the specific part of the same Regulation.
- The limits and maximum aid intensities shall take into account the total amount of aid.
 - Where Union funding subject to centralised management by the institutions, bodies, agencies, joint undertakings or other bodies of the Union (not under the direct or indirect control of the Member State) is combined with State aid, in order to verify whether the notification thresholds and maximum aid intensities or maximum aid amounts are respected, only State aid shall be taken into account, provided that the total amount of public funding granted for the same eligible costs does not exceed

- the exempted aid may be cumulated with any other State aid if the costs are different identifiable costs
- exempted aid may not be cumulated with any other aid for the same eligible costs, which overlap in whole or in part, if the result exceeds the highest aid intensity/amount applicable to that aid

The aid under the Action constitutes grants and will be made available under Regulation (EU) 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (General Block Exemption Regulation) (O.J. OJ L 187/1 of 26.06.2014), as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 and in force (O.J. OJ L 167/1 of 30.6.2023), and in particular Article 25 thereof, and Article 2.1.1, point 20 of the Communication from the European Commission 'Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation' (2022/C 7388).

2. IDENTITY OF THE ACTION

2.1. SUMMARY OF ACTION

The Transnational Partnerships in Research and Innovation are part of Action 1.1.4 Supporting/promoting international cooperation and aim to strengthen the extroversion and competitiveness of the research and innovation system through the development of collaborations between research organisations and enterprises of other countries and the implementation of joint research projects in selected thematic areas defined and reflecting the common interests and priorities of both parties.

In particular, the Call "Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Turkey" aims to promote and support cooperation between research organisations and companies from Greece and Turkey that employ highly qualified scientific staff. The competent body on the Turkish side is the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK).

The targeting of the Action is in line with the policy objectives of the European Regional Development Fund set out in Article 5(1a) of Reg. EU 2021/1060 for a more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity.

The Action is a **grant for** Research and Development projects.

In order to implement their projects, potential beneficiaries can plan their research project using a wide range of supported expenditure from the traditional research and development activities: **industrial research, experimental development**. Basic research is not an eligible research and development activity under this Action.

The Action focuses on specific Priority Sectors of the National Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 (ESEE), which was approved by the Decision of the Minister of Development and Investment (B' 3359), No.66021/29.06.2022.

The eligibility rules for expenditure relating to co-financed operations under this Call for Proposals are set out in document No. The eligibility rules for expenditure for the NSRF 2021-2027 programmes (YA 114947/29.11.2022) (B'6132), in conjunction with the applicable institutional framework of each beneficiary.

The Output and Result Indicators of the Action are:

Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Turkey

| Indicator code | Output indicator | Unit |
|----------------|--|------------------------|
| RCO01 | Supported enterprises (of which: micro, small, small, medium, large) | businesses |
| | RCO01a (very small) | |
| | RCO01b (small) | |
| | RCO01c (medium) | |
| RCO02 | RCO01d (large) | businesses |
| | Enterprises supported by grants | |
| RCO02 | RCR02a : Private investment complementing public support (of which: grants, financial instruments), of which: grants | businesses |
| | | |
| RCO05 | New businesses supported (<3 years old) | businesses |
| PSO920 | Researchers working on supported research projects (existing researcher posts (not technical staff)) | IPA |
| RCO07 | Research organisations participating in joint research projects | research organisations |
| RCO08 | Nominal value of research and innovation equipment | euro |
| RCO10 | Enterprises cooperating with research organisations | businesses |

| Code | Result indicator | Unit |
|--------|--|---------------------|
| PSR920 | Research posts created in the supported research projects (new researcher posts created) | IPA |
| RCR02 | Private investment that complements public support (for private participation in the project) | euro |
| RCR06 | Patent applications submitted | Patent applications |
| RCR08 | Publications from supported projects | publications |
| PSR016 | Companies participating in calls resulting from a business discovery process | businesses |

For each project, the indicators relevant to it are selected by entering a target value per relevant category of region. The indicator achievement values are finalised with the final verification-certification of the projects (see 10.1).

2.2. REGIONS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

According to the NSRF 2021-2027, as eligible geographic areas of the Programme "Competitiveness" is defined as all regions of the country, which are categorised as follows:

Regions in Transition: attica, South Aegean

Less Developed: North Aegean, Eastern Macedonia - Thrace, Central Macedonia, Epirus, Thessaly, Western Greece, Crete, Western Macedonia, Ionian Islands, Central Greece, Sterea Greece, Peloponnese

2.3. OVERALL BUDGET AND BREAKDOWN

The budget of this Action amounts to the total amount of € 3.000.000.000 (Public Expenditure) and is distributed to the regions of the country as follows:

| REGIONS | PUBLIC EXPENDITURE (in €) |
|--|------------------------------|
| Less Developed Regions (11) North Aegean, Eastern Macedonia - Thrace, Central Macedonia, Epirus, Thessaly, Western Greece, Crete, Western Macedonia, Ionian Islands, Central Greece, Sterea Greece, Peloponnese | 2.340.000 |
| Regions in Transition (2) Attica and South Aegean | 660.000 |
| TOTAL | 3.000.000 |

The Public Expenditure is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union and by National Participation. The ERDF contributes to reducing disparities between the levels of development of the various regions within the Union and to reducing the backwardness of the less developed regions by contributing to the structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind and to the conversion of declining industrial regions, including sustainable development and addressing environmental challenges (Article 2 of EC Regulation 1058/2021).

3. BODIES MANAGING THE ACTION

This Action will be implemented by the Special Management Service of the Competitiveness Programme (SSA) with the Directorate for International Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation as Intermediate Body, in accordance with the Decision of the Deputy Minister of National Economy & Finance (Α.Π. 7039/18-12-2023). Finance "Designation of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Development as Intermediate Body of the Operational Programme "Competitiveness" and delegation of tasks of the Managing Authority of the Programme "Competitiveness" for the management of operations of the Action "Transnational Cooperation in Research and Innovation".

4. BENEFICIARIES - TERMS & CONDITIONS CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

4.1. OWNERS

The Action aims to strengthen scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Turkey, as well as to meet the needs of businesses and other entities active in the research and innovation ecosystem, covering the widest possible range of potential beneficiaries. The momentum created through the cooperation promotes the creation of networks of researchers and the strengthening of existing cooperation and is expected to enhance access to other sources of funding for international science and technology programmes.

The beneficiaries of the Action are businesses and research organisations.

"Beneficiaries" are the Greek project partners (Research Organisation, Enterprise or other entity) participating in one or more projects. Beneficiary bodies-partners of the project retain responsibility vis-à-vis the Directorate-General for Research and Development for the scientific, financial and administrative support of the individual part of the project they have committed to implement. Regardless of the number of Greek partners in a project, the DG ECFIN issues one Decision approving the Evaluation Results, and each Greek partner participating is a co-beneficiary with a separate sub-project.

It is noted that the Beneficiaries of the Action must be registered in the Register of Beneficiaries of Article 20 of Law No. 4557/2018 (A' 139), as in force, before the date of submission of the funding application, if they are included in the persons obliged to register in the Register

The beneficiaries eligible for public funding under this action are the following bodies, which will have successfully participated in the evaluation procedure of the Call for Proposals:

α. Enterprise: any entity, which has legal personality, that carries out an economic activity.

The Action is addressed to existing enterprises, irrespective of their date of establishment, which intend to implement a research and development project, the scope of which falls within the selected fields of activity of this Call (point 4.4.) in the framework of the National Strategy for Smart Specialisation 2021-2027 (ESEE).

Enterprises must be legally established and must have a legal establishment or branch in Greece as a legal entity, irrespective of their type, and must be active or have been active until the time of payment of the aid.

Large enterprises can participate in the Action, provided they cooperate with at least one small and medium-sized enterprise (SME).

The size of the business is checked, according to the definition in Annex I of Regulation (EU) 651/2014 in order to determine the aid intensity (ANNEX V to this Decision).

Entities engaged in economic activity, i.e. offering products and services in a given market and not falling under the rules of commercial law, are potential beneficiaries of this Action, and will be declared as "Other entities treated as enterprises" when submitting the application for funding.

It is noted that the company - potential beneficiary must, at the time of payment of the aid, have an establishment or branch, which must be legally operating in the Greek region where the aid is located according to the Funding Application.

Offshore companies are not eligible to apply for funding, as well as:

- Companies against which a previous recovery decision of the European Commission or the competent national authorities for unduly or illegally paid state aid is pending.
- Firms in difficulty as defined in Article 2, point 18 of Regulation (EU) 651/2014 (Annex VI hereto).
- Enterprises that are bankrupt, being wound up or in receivership.
- Firms that have received rescue or restructuring aid. However, firms that have received rescue aid but have repaid the loan and the guarantee agreement has been terminated, as well as firms that have received restructuring aid that has been completed, are potential beneficiaries.

β. Research Organisation: an entity (such as universities or research centres-institutes, technology transfer organisations, innovation intermediaries, research collaborators with physical and/or virtual

irrespective of its legal status (public or private) or the way in which it is financed, whose primary objective is the independent execution of basic research, industrial research or experimental development or the wide dissemination of the results of these activities through teaching, publication or transfer of knowledge. Where this body also carries out economic activities, the funding, expenditure and income from these economic activities must be declared separately. Undertakings which can exert a decisive influence on such a body, such as through membership or shareholding, shall not have privileged access to the research results it produces.

According to Article 2.1.1, point 20 of the European Commission Communication 'Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation' (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022), the European Commission considers that the following activities are generally non-economic in nature:

i) the main activities of research organisations and research infrastructures, in particular:

- training activities to ensure more and better qualified human resources,
- independent R&D for more knowledge and better understanding, including collaborative R&D where the research organisation or research infrastructure is involved in a real collaboration
- wide dissemination of research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, for example through teaching, databases, publications or open access software,

ii) knowledge transfer activities, where these are carried out either by a department or by the research organisation or research infrastructure (including its departments or subsidiaries), or jointly with or on behalf of other such entities, and where all the profits from these activities are reinvested in the core activities of the research organisation or research infrastructure.

For the above activities, it can be considered that the funding of the Research Agency is not subject to State aid rules and the funding can be considered as non-State aid on the basis of point 20 of the European Commission's Communication on the Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022), and receive 100% funding.

In the case where the Research Organisation carries out activities of an economic and non-economic nature, in order for the public funding of non-economic activities not to be considered as State aid, the two types of activities, as well as their expenditure, funding and revenue from the provision of services or sale of goods, must be clearly separated and accounted for, in order to avoid the subsidy of the economic activity being effectively covered by the subsidy of the non-economic activity (cross-subsidy).

Under this Action, each research organisation participates **as a single entity**, at the level of the TIN. In case different Faculty Departments of the same University (Universities) or different Institutes of the same Research Centre or different Sections of the same University or different Laboratories of the same University or Institute participate in a project, the respective University or Research Centre with a single budget, calculated at the level of the research organisation (the TIN of the Research Centre or the institution in case of a public body) will be declared as a partner research organisation in the IPSCE.

The following entities:

a) Public services belonging to the Central Administration within the meaning of par. 1f of Article 14 of Law No. 4270/2014 (A' 143),

b) Legal persons governed by public law,

c) Legal entities under private law, established by Law or Decree and subsidized by the State; and

d) Public Benefit Institutions governed by the law. 4182/2013, although they do not fall under the above definition of a research organisation, are potential beneficiaries of this Action, provided that they meet the following conditions:

1. The Entity falls into one of the above categories and its main activities are not economic, in accordance with the Commission Notice on the concept of State aid as referred to in Article 107(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (2016/C 262/01).

2. Is there a provision in the statutes of the body for research activity.

3. The participation of the Institution in the research project concerns a non-financial activity of the Institution and:

a) the results of the research will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, for example through teaching, databases, publications or open access software; and

(b) any profits generated by the project will be reinvested in the non-financial activities of the Entity.

When applying for funding, these organisations will be identified as 'Other organisations treated as research organisations'.

For Research Organisations and Other Bodies treated as Research Organisations:

Separate accounting records will be kept for this project, as well as separate accounting records for the non-financial and (if any) financial activities of the Entity.

No indirect State aid will be granted to undertakings participating in a cooperative scheme because of favourable terms of cooperation.

Entities that do not meet all of the above conditions are declared in the OPSKE as "Other entities treated as undertakings" and must meet all of the conditions set by the State Aid Regulations for undertakings. When submitting the application for funding to the CSFDE, these entities will be declared as 'Other entities treated as undertakings'.

In the event that an organisation submits a Funding Application as a Research Organisation or Other Entity treated as a Research Organisation without fulfilling all the conditions, then the Application will be rejected without any ex officio investigation of the possibility of the Application being assigned to a different category of beneficiaries with a lower aid intensity.

4.2. NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES PER PROJECT

The Transnational S&T Partnerships are addressed to the private and public sectors of the two partner countries. Therefore, partnerships of Private Entities (enterprises of all sizes), Public Entities (Research & Development Institutions, Research & Development Centres) and Public Sector Partnerships (Research & Development Institutions) are eligible to submit a proposal to this Call for Proposals. Research and Technology bodies,

Universities, Research Centres, Institutes and Laboratories thereof) and Other Entities as defined above, from both States.

Proposals will include at least two collaborating organisations (including the Coordinator) from the Greek side, i.e. one (1) research organisation and one (1) SME.

The collaborating entities are required to submit a Cooperation Agreement, the purpose of which is to organise the work between the collaborating entities, organise the management of the project, define the rights and obligations of the participating entities, as well as manage issues related to Access Rights and Intellectual Property Rights. (ANNEX VII "Model Cooperation Agreement").

Proposals that do not have an intergovernmental partner from Turkey will not be accepted.

Each party shall designate a natural person as the Scientific Project Manager (SP), who shall be responsible for the coordination and scientific, technical and financial supervision of the project at national level and who may be the Project Coordinator.

The proposed projects must bring obvious benefits to the two countries, to the participants in the partnerships, and to the economy and society at large.

The necessity and adequacy of the partners will be assessed during the evaluation of the proposals and proposers must clearly justify the reasons for the cooperation between them, the selection of the partners and their adequacy for the implementation of the project.

The composition of the partnership should fully ensure that the objectives and the smooth implementation of the project are met, that it fulfils the programme evaluation criteria and that it highlights the benefits to be gained and the added value of the cooperation between them.

It should be noted that the cooperation network, which will be composed of Greek and Turkish entities, should be made up of legal entities, independent of each other, neither of which is under the direct or indirect control of the other, nor under the same direct or indirect control.

4.3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF FUNDING APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Each independent enterprise or entity treated as an enterprise (at the level of VAT) may participate as a potential beneficiary in up to two (2) Applications for Funding cumulatively, throughout the duration of the Action. It is checked during the evaluation of the Funding Application.

Please note that there is no limit to the number of proposals in which a research organisation or body treated as a research organisation may participate.

4.4. ELIGIBLE FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

4.4.1. LIFE SCIENCES - HEALTH - PHARMACEUTICALS

AREA OF ACTION: Development of sub-branded products, high value added pharmaceuticals (added value medicines - chemical molecules, biosimilars, radiopharmaceuticals, pharmaceuticals of natural origin) and optimisation of existing products.

- New drugs (small molecules and peptides, of synthetic, plant or biotechnological - microbial origin, biosimilars), use of experimental/computational approaches for rapid screening against a specific macromolecular target, and identification of structure-function relationships
- Advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs) based on mRNA, genes, tissues or cells

4.4.2. AGRI-FOOD CHAIN

AREA OF ACTION: Improvement of primary production products

- Innovative technologies (ensuring hygiene/quality, improvement of processing and processing, precision systems, remote sensing technologies, advanced material technologies, soft handling systems for plant products, pest and disease diagnosis and control, integrated production and husbandry management systems, decision support systems)

AREA OF ACTION: Rational management of natural resources

- Protection of the natural resource soil (measures to combat erosion and chemical pollution, measures to improve the biological and physical characteristics of agricultural soils)

4.4.3 TOURISM - CULTURE - CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

AREA OF INTERVENTION: CULTURE: Research and development of innovative products, services, tools, applications, value chains for the promotion, protection and promotion of cultural heritage and/or for the enhancement and promotion of Greek culture with possible synergies with the sub-sectors of Tourism and/or Creative Industries

- Development of innovative methods, products, services and prototype devices for the assessment and management of natural, technological and human activity hazards that threaten cultural heritage and for the protection of cultural heritage in general (from damage, destruction, deterioration, alteration, theft, illicit export, identification, etc.)

4.4.4 ENVIRONMENT - CIRCULAR ECONOMY

AREA OF ACTION: Climate change mitigation and adaptation and natural disaster response

- Actions to address the impacts of natural/man-made disasters on the environment and socio-technical systems with a focus on social resilience.

4.4.5 MATERIALS - CONSTRUCTION AND INDUSTRY

FIELD OF ACTION: Processes, equipment & systems for the transition to climate-neutral industrial production

- Advanced and/or innovative composites for high performance industrial applications with low environmental impact
- Development of innovative digital methods for the optimisation of industrial production and/or manufacturing processes, with a focus on improving energy efficiency, productivity and/or product quality

FIELD OF ACTION: Materials and processes for sustainability in industrial and building construction, infrastructure and cultural heritage

- Advanced materials, methods ή and systems for structural projects
specialists specifications, including transport infrastructure, energy, civil protection, civil engineering and

- Pilot applications in real scale buildings and/or infrastructures involving synergies for the integration of materials, methods and/or systems of the above priorities

AREA OF ACTION: Reconfigurable production systems & value chains

- Applications of Digital Twins in industrial production and/or manufacturing processes
- Flexible and collaborative industrial production and/or manufacturing systems
- New high productivity and reliability technologies for manufacturing and/or processing applications

AREA OF INTERVENTION: Raw materials, industrial materials, packaging materials, consumer products - Production processes

- Design, development and production processes for new alloys for use in transport, construction, energy, packaging or specialised applications
- Design, development and production processes for polymers, biopolymers, bioplastics, biodegradable, specialty polymers for industrial and consumer products and specialized applications
- Design, development and production processes for composite, nanocomposite materials and systems with enhanced properties

FIELD OF ACTION: Materials, processes and devices for energy production, transport and storage

- Materials and devices for the use and conversion of solar energy

FIELD OF ACTION: Processes, equipment & systems for the transition to climate-neutral industrial production

- Advanced and/or innovative composites for high performance industrial applications with low environmental impact

FIELD OF ACTION: Raw materials, industrial materials, packaging materials, consumer products - Production processes

- Design, development and production processes for polymers, biopolymers, bioplastics, biodegradable, specialty polymers for industrial and consumer products and specialized applications
- Design, development and production processes for composite, nanocomposite materials and systems with enhanced properties

4.4.6. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

AREA OF ACTION: Energy efficiency and energy saving

- Technologies, systems, processes for energy efficiency and energy saving in buildings

AREA OF ACTION: Fossil Fuels - Impact Reduction

- Technologies and systems for the capture, utilization, storage and transport of carbon dioxide - CO₂ (capture, utilization, storage)
- Materials and devices for the use and conversion of solar energy

AREA OF ACTION: Other cross-sectoral interventions

- New materials and production methods, THES components for cost reduction and integration into integrated systems

5. FORMAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Submitted Grant Applications are checked for completeness and formal eligibility requirements. For certain requirements, this check is carried out automatically by the ERDF, during the registration process of the application in the ERDF, on the basis of the information declared by the potential beneficiary.

It is noted that all applications must meet all the requirements of Reg. (EU) 651/2014, as applicable, or the Commission Communication (2022/C 7388) "Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation" depending on the category of beneficiary.

In particular, the following formal conditions for participation/exclusion are checked:

I. For each enterprise or entity treated as a potential beneficiary:

- If a previous Commission decision to recover unduly or unlawfully paid state aid is pending.
- If the applicant undertaking is in difficulty at the time of its accession or the single economic unit (group) to which it may belong is in difficulty within the meaning of point 18 of Article 2 of Reg. EU 651/2014.
- If the company is in bankruptcy, liquidation or administration.
- If the company has received rescue or restructuring aid. (It should be clarified that firms that have received rescue aid but have repaid the loan and the guarantee agreement has been terminated and firms that have received restructuring aid that has been completed are potential beneficiaries).
- If the company is an SME as defined in Annex I of EU 651/2014, as applicable.
- If the company is large that it cooperates with at least one SME according to the definition in Annex I of EU 651/2014.
- If the total budget of the proposed project exceeds the upper limit.
- Whether the limit of the maximum number of funding applications per enterprise (at the level of the VAT number) is respected.
- If the standard online application form has been used, with all mandatory fields completed and the supporting documents for inclusion attached in accordance with the relevant Annex to the Call.
- If the Beneficiaries carry out the research project at their premises located within the geographical limits of the Greek territory.
- If the project has not been submitted for inclusion and will not be submitted to another programme financed by national or EU funds before the adoption of the decision to include/reject the application for funding. The restriction does not cover cases of projects that have been submitted to another programme but a) have been rejected (a rejection decision has been issued and no objection procedure is pending) or b) while initially approved, their non-funding has been finalised and documented (e.g. a waiver has been submitted and the waiver has been accepted by amending the relevant inclusion decision).

- If the businesses are legally established and operating with a registered office in Greece or in another Member State
 - Member State of the European Union as legal persons, irrespective of their type.
- If there are grounds for exclusion under Articles 39, par. 1-4 and 40 of Law No. 4488/2017 (A'137/), according to which an enterprise is excluded from inclusion in a programme or inclusion in aid schemes financed from EU or national resources, if they have been imposed on it, within a period of two (2) years prior to the deadline for submission of applications, fines which have become final and binding for infringements of labour law and in particular for (a) 'high' or 'very high' seriousness (3 fines/ 3 checks) or undeclared work (2 fines/ 2 checks).
- Whether they comply with legislation on the health and safety of workers and the prevention of occupational risks.
- Whether the aid has the character of an incentive for the company.
- If all the conditions of Chapter I of and the specific Section relating to the invitation of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 as in force.

II. For each research organisation - potential beneficiary:

- If the primary purpose of the organisation is teaching and training, the independent conduct of basic research, industrial research or experimental development to increase knowledge and understanding, including collaborative R&D where the research organisation is involved in actual collaboration.
- If the results of these activities are to be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis through teaching, databases, publications or open access software.
- If all profits from knowledge transfer activities, when carried out either by a division or by the research organisation (including its divisions or subsidiaries) or jointly with or on behalf of other such entities, are reinvested in the core activities of the research organisation.
- If a previous Commission decision to recover unduly or unlawfully paid state aid is pending.
- If all the conditions of the Commission Communication (2022/C 7388) 'Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation' are met.

III. For each of the "Other entities treated as research organisations - potential beneficiary":

- If it belongs to one of the following entities:
 - a) Public services belonging to the Central Administration within the meaning of par. 1f of Article 14 of Law No. 4270/2014 (A' 143),
 - b) Legal persons governed by public law,
 - c) Legal entities under private law, established by Law or Decree and subsidized by the State; and
 - d) Public Benefit Institutions governed by the law. 4182/2013
- If they meet the following cumulative conditions:
 1. The entity falls into one of the above categories and its main activities are not economic, as defined by Community law.
 2. Is there a provision in the statutes of the body for research activity.

3. The participation of the Institution in the research project concerns a non-financial activity of the Institution and:

- α) the results of the research will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, for example through teaching, databases, publications or open access software; and
 - (b) any profits generated by the project will be reinvested in the non-financial activities of the Entity.
- In the case where the same entity carries out activities of an economic and non-economic nature, if the two types of activities, as well as their expenditure, financing and income from the provision of services or sale of goods, are clearly separated and monitored in accounting.
 - If no indirect State aid is granted to the undertakings participating in a cooperative scheme due to favourable conditions of cooperation.
 - If a previous Commission decision to recover unduly or unlawfully paid state aid is pending.
 - If all the conditions of the Commission Communication (2022/C 7388) 'Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation' are met.

IV. For the proposed research project as a whole:

- If the total budget of the project exceeds the upper limit.
- If the limitation of the minimum number of enterprises participating in the project is respected and at least one of the enterprises is an SME according to the definition in Annex I of Reg. (EU) 651/2014.
- The partnership may include, in addition to the research organisation, one (or more) entity(ies) belonging to the 'Other entities treated as Research Organisations'.
- If the standard online application form has been used, with all mandatory fields completed and the supporting documents for inclusion attached in accordance with the relevant Annex to the Call.
- If a Cooperation Agreement between the bodies involved in the project has been submitted, in accordance with the attached model (ANNEX VII).
- If the Beneficiaries carry out the research project at their premises located within the geographical limits of the Greek territory.
- If the project has not been submitted for inclusion and will not be submitted to another programme financed by national or Community funds before the adoption of the decision to include/reject the application for funding. The restriction does not cover cases of projects that have been submitted to another programme but: a) have been rejected (a rejection decision has been issued and no objection procedure is pending) or b) while initially approved, their non-funding has been finalised and documented (e.g. a waiver has been submitted and the waiver has been accepted by amending the relevant inclusion decision).

The above conditions must be met in their entirety. Failure to meet one or more of them constitutes a condition for the exclusion of the investment project and therefore a reason for not submitting and/or rejecting the application.

In the submitted Grant Applications the potential beneficiary shall:

- It states that the company can implement the project at its headquarters or at its branches and indicates in the application for funding the relevant Region. It shall indicate as the place for the implementation of the project under this action only one place.

- You undertake that the expenditure included in this application for funding has not been funded, included and will not be submitted for funding approval under any other programme financed by national or Union funds.
- Declares that it has or commits itself by a solemn declaration of the Legal Representative that until the completion of the research project it will provide appropriate infrastructure and services to minimise barriers and facilitate access to them, where necessary and appropriate, for persons with disabilities, in accordance with the provisions of Article 73 of Regulation (EU) No 1060/2021 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Regional Development Fund, the European Investment Fund and the European Regional Development Fund. Infrastructure means both the building infrastructure and the electronic applications addressed to the clientele (e.g. websites and other electronic applications, such as electronic information and/or service points, etc.) in accordance with the guidelines of the ESAMA.

6. ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE - BUDGET FOR ACTIONS - DURATION OF IMPLEMENTATION

6.1. ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

The aid must be **incentive in nature** and therefore no work on the project must have started before the submission of the application for funding, as defined in paragraph (a). 2 of Article 6 of the Regulation. (EU) 651/2014, as in force. **Otherwise the whole project becomes ineligible for funding.**

Eligible costs under the Action are those referred to in Article 25(3) of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 for research and development projects and relate to a specific category of research and development and are as follows:

- **Personnel costs** (Article 25 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014)
(Code. IPSCE 01.08. Researchers and technicians to the extent that they are directly employed on the project)

This category includes the remuneration of staff (researchers and technicians) to the extent that they are employed on the project. This concerns expenditure relating to (a) the beneficiary's regular staff employed in the research establishment during the year of the start of the project and linked to the beneficiary by a dependent employment relationship (full-time or part-time employment contract of indefinite duration, fixed-term contract), (b) regular staff from the public sector employed in the project by decision of the competent body of the beneficiary, (c) temporary staff employed in the project in new posts created as a direct consequence of the project, (d) temporary staff employed in the project in new posts created as a direct consequence of the project.

The eligibility of expenditure for each member of the project team depends on the degree of his/her employment in the specific project and is governed by the provisions of Article 15 of the TEN-T. It should be noted that natural persons participating in the implementation of the project as subcontractors (service contracts) are not considered to be staff of the Beneficiary (Article 15(5) of the TEN-T).

It is noted that the maximum subsidized (certified) gross cost per researcher is 4.000€ per month for the whole Action "Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Greece and Turkey". The corresponding limit for technical staff is 2.000€ per month. The above limits are not checked during the submission of the funding application, but during the implementation of the projects and the certification of the expenditure.

- **Uniform Rate of Calculation of Eligible Project Costs**

[(Code. IPSCE 10.01 Uniform Rate of Calculation of Eligible Project Costs (40%)]

A flat rate of **40% of the eligible personnel costs** is used to cover the remaining project costs, in accordance with the provisions of Article 56 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 and Article 34 of the CPR.

40% covers the remaining costs arising from the research activity. Expenditure calculated on the basis of the flat rate of 40% is eligible without the submission of the corresponding supporting documents. Failure to provide supporting documents does not remove the obligation of the Beneficiaries to comply with the National Legislation and the EU Regulatory Framework (e.g. compliance with the public procurement rules by those who are considered Contracting Authorities within the meaning of Law No. 4412/2016).

The eligible costs covered by the use of the flat rate of 40% are the following:

(a) depreciation costs for instruments and equipment to the extent and for as long as they are used for the project; (b)

depreciation costs for buildings and land to the extent and for as long as they are used for the project;

(c) expenditure on contract research, knowledge and patents purchased or licensed from outside sources, in compliance with the principle of equivalence.

(d) additional overheads and other operating costs that are a direct result of the project (indirect costs).

The costs of carrying out the feasibility study provided for in Article 25(4) of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 are not eligible.

Costs for the acquisition, validation and protection of patents resulting from the research project are not eligible.

Beneficiaries commit with their application that they will use 40% for necessary expenditure of an assisted research and development project, which falls within the eligible categories of research and development of the Action under Article 25 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 and in accordance with the eligibility rules of the ERF and this Call.

The Action is implemented at all stages (submission, evaluation, objections, inclusion, control, certification, modification, payment, etc.) through the Integrated State Aid Information System (ISIS), in which potential beneficiaries are required to submit all applications to the GGEK

6.2. WORKS BUDGET

The maximum total budget of the submitted project proposals must not exceed a maximum of 200.000 €.

6.3. DURATION OF IMPLEMENTATION

The duration of the implementation of the submitted project proposals is **twenty-four (24) months**, from the date of electronic notification of the final approval of the funding application or the result of the evaluation of the objection, with the possibility of extension by six (6) months, subject to justified documentation by the beneficiaries and its approval by the GGEK.

6.4. PRIVATE PARTICIPATION OF UNDERTAKINGS

To cover the private contribution, the beneficiary undertaking may use its own resources (own contribution) and/or a loan. The loan to be used may be supported by the financial instruments of the NSRF provided that this cumulation does not lead to an overrun of the highest aid intensity or the highest aid amount applicable to aid under the relevant Article of Reg. (EU) 651/2014.

Please note that the sum of all forms of support from the Funds should not exceed the total cost of the research project. The public funding of the research project and the part of the co-financed loan supported by the ERDF (i.e. the amount of the loan granted by the ERDF in the case of a risk-sharing loan or the total amount of the loan in the case of a loan guaranteed by the ERDF), taken together, should not exceed the total cost of the research project.

It should be noted that where the financial instrument involves aid, the Gross Grant Equivalent (GGE) of the financial instrument is cumulated with the grant when calculating the threshold set by the Regulations for the granting of aid.

The private participation of the beneficiary of the aid (undertaking) is demonstrated by the payment of the project costs and/or the use of simplified cost options, as specified in this Decision.

Bank borrowing is not compulsory. If the company has recourse to borrowing to cover part of the private participation, and in the case of an assignment of the public financing to a bank for the provision of the loan, the public financing is paid directly to the bank with which the assignment agreement for the corresponding part of the loan has been signed. In cases of assignment, the beneficiary is obliged to provide the loan agreement, any additional documents and the assignment agreement with the credit institution.

7. FINANCIAL SCHEME

The total public expenditure budget of the call is € 3.000.000.

7.1 AID SCHEME

For enterprises, the aid under the Action constitutes grants and will be made available under Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (General Block Exemption Regulation), as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 (OJ L 167 of 30.6.2023) and in force.

For research organisations, the aid under the Action constitutes grants under point 20 of the Communication from the European Commission "Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation" (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022).

The activities eligible for funding should fall under the categories of industrial research and experimental development, in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 651/2014, as amended.

"Aid for research and development projects".

7.2 INTENSITY OF THE AID

Projects proposed for funding will be eligible if they relate to **research and development** projects and the supported project falls into one or both of the following categories:

- (a) industrial research,)
- b) experimental development,

The aid intensity of a beneficiary's research and development project is determined by:

- the designation of the **research and development category** (industrial research, experimental development) of each work module of the project; and

- **the size of** the business (very small/small, medium, large).

The aid intensity of a beneficiary is equal for all categories of expenditure included in each different work module of the proposed project.

The aid intensity will be determined separately for each aid beneficiary.

ARTICLE 25 Aid for research and development projects

Aid in this category concerns industrial research and experimental development, provided that it results from the supported research project of a bilateral nature.

I. For Research Organisations the following applies:

According to Article 2.1.1, point 20 of the Communication from the European Commission "Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation" (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022), when a Research Organisation has as its main activities:

- training activities to ensure more and better qualified human resources,
- independent R&D for more knowledge and better understanding, including collaborative R&D where the research organisation is involved in a true partnership; and
- widely disseminate research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, and
- all profits from knowledge transfer activities shall be reinvested in the core activities of the research organisation,

then it can be considered that the funding of the Research Agency is not subject to state aid rules and the funding can be considered as non-state aid according to point 20 of the European Commission Communication "Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation" (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022) and receive 100% funding.

In the case where the same Research Organisation carries out activities of an economic and non-economic nature, in order for the public funding of non-economic activities not to be considered as State aid, the two types of activities, as well as their costs, funding and revenues, should be clearly separated and accounted for, in order to avoid the subsidy of the economic activity being effectively covered by the subsidy of the non-economic activity (cross-subsidy).

If the research organisation is used almost exclusively for a non-economic activity, its funding may not fall within the scope of the State aid rules at all if the economic activity is purely ancillary, i.e. directly linked to and necessary for the activity of the research organisation or is inherent to its main non-economic use, and is of limited scope. According to the Framework on State aid for research and development and innovation (2022/7388 final/19.10.2022), this is considered to be the case when the economic activities consume exactly the same resources (such as material, equipment, labour and fixed capital) as the non-economic activities

activities, and the capacity allocated each year to such economic activities shall not exceed 20 % of the total annual capacity of the entity.

In cases of cooperation, no indirect State aid should be granted (in addition to the aid provided for in the following sections) to the participating undertakings through the Research Organisations because of the favourable conditions of cooperation. In particular, the following conditions must be met:

- (a) the participating undertakings bear the cost of the entire project; or
- (b) the results of the cooperation which do not give rise to intellectual property rights can be disseminated widely and any intellectual property rights resulting from the activities of the project participants are fully allocated to those participants; or
- (c) any intellectual property rights arising from the project, including the related access rights, are allocated to the different cooperating partners in a manner that adequately reflects their respective work packages, interests and respective interests; or
- (d) Research Organisations shall receive compensation equivalent to the market price for intellectual property rights arising from their activities and assigned to the participating undertakings or for which access rights are granted to the participating undertakings. The absolute value of any contribution, whether financial or non-financial, of the participating undertakings to the costs of the activities of the research organisations or research infrastructures arising from the intellectual property rights concerned may be deducted from this compensation.

II. The following applies to businesses:

The intensity of aid or public funding by category of research and type of body and cooperation between bodies, and in particular for undertakings and for technological and other bodies treated as undertakings, is set out below.

The maximum aid intensity per category of research, depending on the size of the undertaking and the number and type of cooperating organisations, is shown in the following table. The aid in this category concerns industrial research and experimental development.

In any event, the aid intensity, in terms of present value at the time the aid is granted, will not exceed the percentages indicated below, in accordance with the provisions of Reg. E.U. 651/2014.

Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and Turkey

| CATEGORY OF ENERGY | FORUM | /CATEGORY | Aid intensity (Article 25) | | | |
|---|-------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | Large Enterprises, up to | Medium Enterprises, up to | Small Enterprises, up to | Medium Enterprises, up to |
| Industrial/Applied (Industrial/Applied Research) | | Research | 50% | 60% | 70% | |
| Industrial Research, provided that one of the two is covered the following conditions: Increase by 15% and up to 80% if one of the following conditions is met: i) the project provides for effective cooperation between an enterprise and one or more research and knowledge dissemination organisations, which bear at least 10% of the eligible costs and have the right to publish the results of their research; ii) the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publications, open access repositories or free software or open source software. | | | 65% | 75% | 80% | |
| Experimental Development (Experimental development) | | Development | 25% | 35% | 45% | |
| Experimental Development, increased by 15%, provided that the conditions i) and ii) of the increased level of aid for industrial research are met (see. above) | | | 40% | 50% | 60% | |

The aid intensity will be determined separately for each aid beneficiary and for each type of assisted activity. Where a project involves several activities, each of them will be assessed individually to determine whether it falls within one of the categories listed above or none of them. In this context, it is appropriate that each Task Module be assigned to a specific type of research (industrial research, experimental development). It should be noted that the amount of support requested by applicants for funding should correspond to the data in the previous table and that the correctness of the requests will be the subject of the evaluation of the proposals.

7.3 CUMULATION OF AID

For the possible cumulation of aid to a specific project, the provisions of Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 651/2014, as in force, apply.

Aid with identifiable eligible costs granted under Regulation (EU) 651/2014 can be cumulated:

- with any other State aid, provided that the measures in question concern different identifiable eligible costs.
- with any other State aid, in respect of the same eligible costs, which overlap, in whole or in part, only if such cumulation does not result in an aid intensity or amount exceeding the highest aid intensity or aid amount applicable to that aid under this Regulation.

State aid exempted under Regulation (EU) 651/2014, as in force, shall not be cumulated with any de minimis aid relating to the same eligible costs if such cumulation would lead to an aid intensity exceeding the prescribed aid intensity (Chapter III of Regulation (EU) 651/2014).

8. PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

8.1. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

Starting work on the research project before the online submission of the funding application will result in the rejection of the application for the entire research project, because **the aid must be incentive-based**.

The application for funding is submitted electronically exclusively through the Integrated State Aid Management Information System (OPSKE). The technical description of the proposed project must be submitted as an attached file in a non-editable format (e.g. pdf), following the instructions in the indicative form in ANNEX I). Applications for funding in which not all the mandatory fields of the OPSKE have been completed will not be able to be submitted

The present Detailed Call for Proposals and its annexes can be found on the following websites:

- of the EEAS "COMPETITIVENESS" Programme (21-27.antagonistikotita.gr)
- of the NSRF (www.espa.gr)
- of the GGC (https://gsri.gov.gr/)

The starting and closing dates for online submission will be set out in the ministerial decision of the call for proposals.

In order for the online submission process to be considered completed by the deadline, the application must be completed by the deadline date and time. If the application is submitted and then reprocessed, the final-final submission will be taken as the submission date for the purposes of establishing the timeliness. Applications that are in a reprocessing status at the submission deadline will be considered non-submitted and will not be evaluated.

Attention: in case of reprocessing, the application must be resubmitted in order to be valid and to proceed to the next stages (Evaluation), while it should be noted that the last date of submission (resubmission) is taken into account in order for the application to be considered late.

No submission/confirmation of a funding application will be accepted after the online submission deadline. Funding applications submitted after the deadline will not be evaluated.

The beneficiaries of the cooperative scheme log in to the IPSKE with their TaxisNet codes and each of them individually designate an IPSKE Action Coordinator for the specific action in their Profile.

The Project Coordinator (Project Coordinator) manages all the required project activities from start to completion on behalf of the Project Beneficiaries.

Authorized persons of the Beneficiary's Coordinator (e.g. Legal Representative, Accountant) who have a Greek VAT number may be appointed as coordinators of the IPSF for an action (project).

When submitting the funding application, the project's IPPC Coordinator is required to cumulatively:

- fill in the relevant fields of the submission form in the OPSKE,
- to attach to the OPSKE the RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM, in accordance with the model set out in ANNEX I
- attach to the OPSKE the supporting documents provided for in ANNEX II: DOCUMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING submitted electronically at the time of submission of the application for funding,
- finalise the application so that it can be made available for processing at a later stage.

Beneficiaries are responsible for the complete and correct completion of their online application for funding, as well as for its timely submission.

The Beneficiary, through its Profile and specifically through the IPSKE Relationship tab, designates users as Financial Officers for its Sub-Actions. The Financial Controller

1. It enters supporting documents through the add process or through interoperability, depending on the type of document
2. Enter Invoices through the add process or through interoperability
3. Registers Payment Vouchers and
4. Allocate the invoices to projects/operations so that the Coordinator can link them to expenditure in the Request for Payment of Aid.

The Coordinators can also be appointed as Financial Officers, but in this case a new relationship with the IPSCE as "Financial Officer" is required.

The application for funding shall be deemed to be an affidavit pursuant to Article 8 of Law No. 1599/1986 (A'75) for the information mentioned therein. Any inaccuracy in the information given in the application shall incur the criminal and administrative penalties provided for. Therefore, it must be identical in content to the digital documents submitted. Correction or amendment or completion of applications, completion of any missing data, even if supplementary or clarifying, is not permitted after the completion of the electronic submission of the application and the start of the next action.

The submission of an application for funding to the action also constitutes an authorisation to the GSC and the competent Managing Authority "COMPETITIVENESS", to collect data registered in databases (such as those of the ADEA), as well as the further processing by the competent services of personal data, including sensitive data, which are also respected:

- for the needs of the implementation of this action (indicatively: automatic pre-filling of fields of the IPSKE through the interface with the AADE, checks and cross-checks during submission, evaluation, monitoring of compliance with the obligations of the Beneficiaries),
- for the purpose of extracting statistical data (indicators),
- for the purpose of carrying out surveys and studies to evaluate this action.

It is clarified that through the interoperability of the OPSKE with other public sector databases (such as the AADE), the respective individual fields of the OPSKE (e.g. Name, Legal Form, Business Cycle, etc.) will automatically appear pre-filled without the possibility of processing by the Beneficiary. Furthermore, in case of modification of the data in the relevant databases during the period of processing - submission of the application for funding, without these modifications being reflected in the online application through interoperability, or in case of modification after the final finalisation of the application, the new data will not be taken into account in any of the stages of the evaluation procedure (eligibility - objections).

If the data obtained from other public sector databases indicate that at least one of the formal eligibility criteria is not met, either the submission of the funding application to the IPSME will not be completed or the application will be declared ineligible.

In any case, compliance with the legislation on personal data under Law no. 4624/2019, as in force.

Each potential beneficiary accepts that the messages sent by e-mail and in particular to the e-mail address that he/she has declared/confirmed during his/her registration as a user of the IPSCE, which he/she can update/confirm again in his/her contact profile (where it appears), as well as to the e-mail address declared/confirmed during his/her registration as a user of the IPSCE by the coordinator, as it may have been updated and valid, have the status of notification and imply the initiation of all the It is the sole responsibility of the undertaking/beneficiary to monitor this e-mail address and to inform the NF of any changes in its contact details.

The evaluation shall ensure compliance with the conditions set out in this Regulation concerning the maximum number of applications for funding per undertaking under the measure.

In case the verification procedure reveals that an enterprise participates in more than 2 applications for funding in the Action, all applications for funding submitted after the 2nd application in the order of the 2nd application will be rejected.

8.2. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

The potential beneficiaries must submit to the OPSKE at the same time with the submission of the funding application all the required supporting documents - if applicable - for participation/inclusion in the Action (Annex II - DOCUMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FUNDING APPLICATION)

The required supporting documents and information contained in ANNEX II submitted electronically to OPSKE must be in the permitted .pdf, .jpg, .png file format and must be less than 50 MB in total size. In addition, each individual file must be less than 10 MB with the possibility of attaching up to 5 files for each separate supporting document. It is also possible to enter multiple lines for the same document. The above restrictions are mandatory and failure to comply with them may result in failure to submit the application. Compressed files will not be accepted for security reasons. For the convenience of the stakeholders, it is suggested to use/import files as generated/created/executed by the information systems (AADE etc.) without further processing.