

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

Ref. 20-734
4 March 2020

Subject: Preparations for the EEA EFTA Budget 2021

Dear Ms Ganslandt,

In accordance with Article 2 of Protocol 32 to the EEA Agreement, the Standing Committee of the EEA EFTA States shall communicate to the European Commission a list of European Union Programmes and activities which the EEA EFTA States wish to include in the EEA Annex to the preliminary draft budget of the European Union for the first time.

With reference to the European Commission Proposal for a Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2021-2027, the European Commission's budget in 2021 is foreseen to include appropriations to several new EU Programmes of EEA Relevance.

Please find below a preliminary list of EU Programmes and activities which the EEA EFTA States have identified for possible cooperation in accordance with Part VI of the EEA Agreement, as of the year 2021. The list specifies each EEA EFTA Member State's interest in cooperation by Programme and/or, where applicable, by individual Programme activities.

Programme / Programme Activity	Proposal	EEA EFTA Member State
Horizon Europe (incl. EIT)	COM(2018) 435, 436	Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
Erasmus	COM(2018) 367	Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
Creative Europe	COM(2018) 366	Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
European Solidarity Corps	COM(2018) 440	Iceland, Liechtenstein
Connecting Europe Facility	COM(2018) 438	Iceland, Liechtenstein
European Space Programme	COM(2018) 447	Iceland, Norway
LIFE Programme	COM(2018) 385	Iceland
Single Market Programme	COM(2018) 441	
- <i>Internal Market objective (excl. Taxud)</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
- <i>Competitiveness & SME's objective</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
- <i>Consumers objective</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway ¹
- <i>Statistics objective</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway

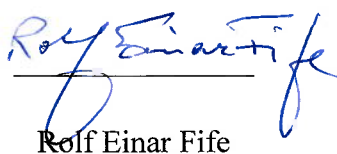
European Social Fund +	COM(2018) 382	
- <i>Employment and Social Innovation strand</i>		Iceland, Norway
- <i>Health strand</i>		Iceland, Norway
Rights and Values Programme	COM(2018) 383	
- <i>Equality and Rights strand</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
- <i>Daphne strand</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
- <i>Citizen engagement and participation strand</i>		Iceland, Liechtenstein
Justice Programme	COM(2018) 384	Norway
RescEU Programme	COM(2019) 125	Iceland, Norway
InvestEU fund	COM(2018) 439	Iceland, Norway
Digital Europe Programme	COM(2018) 434	Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway
European Defence Fund	COM(2018) 476	Norway

¹ Norway specifies a preliminary wish for including participation under the Consumer objective only in accordance with Article 3 paragraph 2(d)(i) of COM(2018) 441.

Please note that this information is without prejudice to the final position adopted by each respective EEA EFTA State as regards its participation in these activities, and without prejudice to any new proposals that are introduced by the EU during the year.

The EEA EFTA States note that the European Commission proposes substantial increases in the budget for the new EU Programmes, which will have significant implications for the EEA EFTA States' budgets. These implications will need to be addressed under the budgetary planning of each EEA EFTA State over the course of this year. Consequently, a final decision on participation in individual Programmes can only be made at a later stage.

Sincerely yours,



Rolf Einar Fife

Chair of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States

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