

ANRT's recommendations toward the Horizon Europe's Strategic Plan

On May the 9th 2019, the Member States outline their common ambition toward a protective, competitive, sustainable, fair, and influent European Union. As far those political targets have to be considered as a whole and not in a separate manner, they emphasise once again the need to strengthen or develop synergies between Union's programmes. In addition, they underline the key role of research and innovation to define pathways to reach those political targets.

I. The Strategic plan should be a reference document for research and innovation in all programs across the European Union.

In order to progress toward articulations between Union's programme the Commission propose to launch a strategic planning process. This process should deliver a reference document for research and innovation in all related programme across the EU: The Strategic Plan. ANRT strongly supports this perspective.

As a general comment, this strategic plan should embrace a long-term perspective. It will operationally last four years but should develop a ten-year vision as proposed today. The revision process of this first exercise should be clarified in the document and should be performed at least once every two years.

At the first stage of the elaboration process, the strategic plan will be focused on the second pillar of Horizon Europe. At a later stage the strategic plan will address synergies between Horizon Europe and other Union Programmes. ANRT is pleased to contribute to this process by sharing its views on the future orientations and architecture of the final document.

II. ANRT considers as a backbone, the second pillar of Horizon Europe "global challenges and industrial competitiveness".

The architecture of Horizon Europe is strongly coherent to address both long, medium and short terms perspective and impact on society and growth.

An important political challenge is to make understood by the European citizen the action of European Union. In order to address this question, the second pillar of Horizon Europe programme will address jointly with missions, the global challenges of the Agenda 2030, and the industrial competitiveness. This second pillar is the backbone of the future of Europe position as a global actor. The budget dedicated to this part of the programme should be at least 60% of the total one. In order to transform research in market, the link with the strategic value chain and the pillar 3 "innovative Europe", currently built in silo, should be emphasised.

At last, Social Science and Humanities (SHS) should be fully integrated in the programming, both in a specific Cluster and in strengthened collaborations with other research domains. This two-way

development should be reminded clearly in the document and taken into account during the projects' evaluation.

III. ANRT suggests maintaining the general architecture of the strategic plan and give emphasis on synergies and partnerships.

The document "Orientations toward Strategic plan" is considered as a food for thought to draft of the strategic plan document itself. The first part of the document is dedicated to the general orientation, followed by a specific part for each cluster, partnerships and missions. This general architecture should be kept for the Strategic Plan.

Concerning more specifically the "general orientation part". This part is rather heterogenous but some interesting elements should be developed for the Strategic plan. For each political orientation as reminded by the Council during the Sibiu summit, the general orientation part of the strategic plan should be structured homogenously around the following points:

- European and global policy objectives.
- Impacts to be address
- Synergies issues
- Partnership issues

ANRT strongly supports Climate and Environment as the first R&I priorities for Europe. This transversal priority will contribute to the objectives of a sustainable, competitive, fair, secure and influent Europe. The development of innovative solutions as well as the research on the acceptability of changes in lifestyle and production and consumption models are essential in this regard.

As access to raw materials is a strategic European issue. Promotion of circular economy is clearly insufficient and not in line with the political ambition of European sovereignty. We recommend to clearly add circular economy in the programme in order to transform it into a reality. A genuine European circular economy extended to all sectors of activity could be a way for the EU not only to combat the climate crisis and biodiversity loss, but also to re-ignite the European industrial competitiveness. Furthermore, the cluster Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture & environment should be also linked to the "Competitive Europe" policy.

Nine industrial strategic value chains (SVC) have been defined in march 2019: batteries, clean, connected and autonomous vehicles, cybersecurity, high Performance Computing, hydrogen, Internet of Things, low carbon industry, microelectronics and smart health. Those nine SVC should foster cooperation, reduce the fragmentation, and finally contribute to the achievement to the single market. That is why they should be explicitly integrated in the strategic plan.

Concerning global policy objectives, the Strategic Plan should clarify the position of the Sustainable Development Goals beyond the mere intention. The European Council called in its July Conclusions¹

¹ "Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals across the world: The 2019 Joint Synthesis Report of the European Union and its Member States - Council conclusions" (8 July 2019, 10997/19)

for further aligning the national and European programmes with the implementation of the SDGs. It is therefore essential to translate the SDGs into specific objectives and targets in each dedicated cluster sections to achieve concrete results.

In order to tackle global challenges, international cooperation is mandatory. Nevertheless, this should be done in a balanced manner. The participation of third countries to Horizon Europe program should be at least conditioned by full reciprocity (same openness of access, chance to succeed, Open science and open data requirements).

As far as impacts are concerned, they should be better quantified. The starting points have to be mentioned for each targeted impact specified in each cluster section.

Synergies are only mentioned for the policy priority “A Protective Europe”. They should be address for all policy priority. For example, for the “Competitive Europe”, synergies with InvestEU, cohesion funds, digital Europe have to be mentioned.

As implementation tools, European partnerships should be included in the strategic plan. For each cluster section, beyond the co-funded European partnerships, each cluster section should mentioned the institutionalised ones.

About ASSOCIATION NATIONALE DE LA RECHERCHE ET DE LA TECHNOLOGIE

French association, the Association Nationale de le Recherche et de la Technologie (ANRT), gather since 1953, public and private organization involved in research and innovation. Our 342 members come from various sector. They represent around 30% of the French participation to the programme Horizon Europe and 50% of the European funds received.