

Basic information	
<p><b>2017/0199(NLE)</b></p> <p>NLE - Non-legislative enactments</p> <p>EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)</p> <p>See also <a href="#">2016/0325(COD)</a></p> <p><b>Subject</b></p> <p>3.50.20 Scientific and technological cooperation and agreements</p> <p><b>Geographical area</b></p> <p>Lebanon</p>	<p>Procedure completed</p>

Key players				
European Parliament	<b>Committee responsible</b>		<b>Rapporteur</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>ITRE</b>	Industry, Research and Energy	SAKORAFSA Sofia (GUE/NGL)	11/10/2017
			Shadow rapporteur AYUSO Pilar (PPE) TOIA Patrizia (S&D) MARIAS Notis (ECR) TELIČKA Pavel (ALDE) RIVASI Michèle (Verts/ALE) BORRELLI David (EFDD)	
	<b>Committee for opinion</b>		<b>Rapporteur for opinion</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>AFET</b>	Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	<b>Council configuration</b>		<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Date</b>
	General Affairs		3560	2017-09-25
European Commission	<b>Commission DG</b>		<b>Commissioner</b>	
	Research and Innovation		MOEDAS Carlos	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/08/2017	Preparatory document	COM(2017)0433 	Summary
19/09/2017	Legislative proposal published	11967/2017	Summary
23/10/2017	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/11/2017	Vote in committee		
14/11/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0352/2017	Summary
17/04/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0092/2018	Summary
17/04/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
28/05/2018	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/05/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		
06/06/2018	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2017/0199(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Amendments and repeals	See also <a href="#">2016/0325(COD)</a>
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 186-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/8/10575

Documentation gateway				
<b>European Parliament</b>				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE612.165</a>	12/10/2017	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A8-0352/2017</a>	14/11/2017	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T8-0092/2018</a>	17/04/2018	<a href="#">Summary</a>
<b>Council of the EU</b>				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Document attached to the procedure	<a href="#">11928/2017</a>	19/09/2017		

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">11967/2017</a>	19/09/2017	<a href="#">Summary</a>
<b>European Commission</b>			
<b>Document type</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Preparatory document	<a href="#">COM(2017)0433</a> 	11/08/2017	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Document attached to the procedure	<a href="#">COM(2017)0435</a>	11/08/2017	

<b>Additional information</b>		
<b>Source</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>	

<b>Final act</b>	
<a href="#">Decision 2018/0826</a> <a href="#">OJ L 140 06.06.2018, p. 0001</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>

## EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

2017/0199(NLE) - 28/05/2018 - Final act

**PURPOSE:** to allow Lebanon to participate in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT:** Council Decision (EU) 2018/826 on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

**CONTENT:** [Decision \(EU\) 2017/1324](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council provides for the participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area ('PRIMA') jointly undertaken by several Member States.

As a reminder, Lebanon expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State and on an equal footing with the Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020 — the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) participating in PRIMA.

In accordance with EU Decision 2017/1324, Lebanon is to become a Participating State in PRIMA, subject to the conclusion of an international agreement on scientific and technological cooperation with the Union setting out the terms and conditions for Lebanon's participation in PRIMA.

With this decision, the Agreement for **scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and Lebanon** laying down the terms and conditions for Lebanon's participation in the Mediterranean Research and Innovation Partnership (PRIMA) is now approved on behalf of the Union.

**PRIMA's strategic objective** is to build research and innovation capacities and to develop common knowledge and innovative solutions for agro-food systems in order to make them sustainable, as well as for an integrated water supply and management in the Mediterranean area.

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 28.5.2018.

# EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

2017/0199(NLE) - 11/08/2017 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to allow Lebanon to participate in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: [Decision \(EU\) 2017/1324](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council provides for the participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

**The strategic objective of PRIMA** is to build research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and **common innovative solutions for agro-food systems** in order to make them sustainable, as well as for an integrated water supply and management in the Mediterranean area.

PRIMA will be jointly undertaken by a number of Member States and third countries with a high level of commitment to scientific, management and financial integration and under the same terms and conditions.

Lebanon expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State and pledged to commit a financial contribution of **EUR 7 million** to the initiative.

The negotiations started on 26 June 2017 and were successfully completed on 27 July 2017, when the text of the draft Agreement was initialled by representatives from each of the future Parties.

In order to ensure that Lebanon participates in PRIMA on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020, an International Agreement with the Union is required to extend the scope of the legal regime established by Decision (EU) 2017/1324 to Lebanon.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council **conclude the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and Lebanon** setting out the terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

The present initiative will **allow Lebanon to become a Participating State in PRIMA**, and thus engaged on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020. Lebanese legal entities would be automatically eligible to apply for EU funding in projects funded from the EU budget.

In order to ensure the **protection of Union financial interests**, particularly the powers of the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office, the Court of Auditors and the PRIMA Implementation Structure (PRIMA-IS) to carry out audits and investigations, the Agreement and obliges the Parties to provide all necessary assistance to ensure their implementation and agree on detailed arrangements for assistance.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the impact on expenditure is estimated at **EUR 82 800** for the period 2018-2020.

# EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

2017/0199(NLE) - 19/09/2017 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to allow Lebanon to participate in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with [Decision \(EU\) 2017/1324](#), Lebanon is to become a Participating State in **PRIMA** subject to the conclusion of an international agreement for scientific and technological cooperation with the Union setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of Lebanon in PRIMA.

**Lebanon expressed its wish to join PRIMA** as a Participating State and on an equal footing with the Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) participating in PRIMA.

The Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Lebanon laying down the terms and conditions for Lebanon's participation in PRIMA was signed subject to its conclusion at a later date. The Agreement must now be approved.

CONTENT: the draft Council Decision seeks the approval, on behalf of the Union, of the **Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Union and Lebanon** setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

*For further details on the objectives and content of the Agreement, please refer to the summary of the Commission's initial legislative proposal dated 11.8.2017.*

## **EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)**

2017/0199(NLE) - 11/08/2017

PURPOSE: to allow Lebanon to participate in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: [Decision \(EU\) 2017/1324](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council provides for the participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

**The strategic objective of PRIMA** is to build research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and **common innovative solutions for agro-food systems** in order to make them sustainable, as well as for an integrated water supply and management in the Mediterranean area.

PRIMA will be jointly undertaken by a number of Member States and third countries with a high level of commitment to scientific, management and financial integration and under the same terms and conditions.

Lebanon expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State and pledged to commit a financial contribution of **EUR 7 million** to the initiative.

The negotiations started on 26 June 2017 and were successfully completed on 27 July 2017, when the text of the draft Agreement was initialled by representatives from each of the future Parties.

In order to ensure that Lebanon participates in PRIMA on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020, an International Agreement with the Union is required to extend the scope of the legal regime established by Decision (EU) 2017/1324 to Lebanon.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council **conclude the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and Lebanon** setting out the terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

The present initiative will **allow Lebanon to become a Participating State in PRIMA**, and thus engaged on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020. Lebanese legal entities would be automatically eligible to apply for EU funding in projects funded from the EU budget.

In order to ensure the **protection of Union financial interests**, particularly the powers of the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office, the Court of Auditors and the PRIMA Implementation Structure (PRIMA-IS) to carry out audits and investigations, the Agreement and obliges the Parties to provide all necessary assistance to ensure their implementation and agree on detailed arrangements for assistance.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the impact on expenditure is estimated at **EUR 82 800** for the period 2018-2020.

## **EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)**

2017/0199(NLE) - 14/11/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Sofia SAKORAFI (GUE/NGL, EL) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon setting out the terms and conditions for Lebanon's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

The committee recommended that the European Parliament **give its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

As stated in the explanatory memorandum accompanying the recommendation, in July 2017 the European Parliament adopted the new Partnership on Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area ([PRIMA](#)). This is the first ever Public-to-Public Partnership under Article 185 TFEU to target a specific geographical area, the Mediterranean Basin, including the participation of neighbouring EU countries.

PRIMA will be launched on 1 January 2018 for a period of ten years with the aim of developing and adopting **innovative and integrated solutions for the sustainable management of water provision and agro-food systems** in the Mediterranean area.

This partnership is, so far, the most ambitious Euro-Mediterranean research and innovation initiative in this field. It represents one of the few attempts by the EU science diplomacy that could also help to resolve the issue of forced displacement of Mediterranean residents and thus address some of the root causes of migration.

**19 countries** are jointly undertaking PRIMA: 11 Member States, three associated countries to Horizon 2020 and five third countries with which the international agreements for scientific and technological cooperation need to be concluded.

In this context, the rapporteur welcomed the Commission proposal on the agreements already concluded with [Egypt](#), [Algeria](#) and [Jordan](#) following the adoption of PRIMA.

## **EU/Lebanon Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: terms and conditions for participation of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)**

2017/0199(NLE) - 17/04/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 628 votes to 27, with 2 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

PRIMA will be launched on 1 January 2018 for a period of ten years with the aim of developing and adopting innovative and integrated solutions for the sustainable management of water provision and agro-food systems in the Mediterranean area.