



Press Release

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Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

The European Union provides further support and assistance to the Research and Development field in the Republic of Moldova

The EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova and the Academy of Science of Moldova have signed yesterday the grant contract „Financial support for Moldova's participation in the EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020”. With this grant, the European Union is offering additional financial assistance in the equivalent of 50% from the membership fees of Moldova to Horizon 2020 (equivalent EU contribution of maximum 924,000 Euros corresponding to years 2014 and 2015).

This support will enable the increase of resources made available to the Moldovan research community for their active participation in the Program for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, one of the biggest EU Research and Innovation programmes, with nearly €80 billion available for a period of 7 years (2014 to 2020).

With the occasion of the grant signature, Pirkka Tapiola, the Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova, mentioned: “The Association Agreement is often referred to as a framework for reform and modernisation. The actions undertaken in the context of Horizon 2020 are related precisely to that. High quality goods, high quality ideas and products, which are attractive and encourage people to be interested and purchase them is essential to the economic development of a country. The EU-Moldova Association Agreement is a joint and shared commitment for future modernisation and the framework of Horizon 2020 provides for relationships which lead to new opportunities and innovative growth, thus bringing concrete benefits to the citizens of Moldova.”

The President of the Academy of Science, Mr Gheorghe Duca noted that in this context the Republic of Moldova came with 305 proposals and 58 of them were accepted with a total budget of more than 4.15 million Euro. "We hope this program will motivate the Government to provide more finance for research and innovation" he added.

Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument which implements the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative that aims at securing Europe's global competitiveness.. Horizon2020 will bring more breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market.

Background information:

The Republic of Moldova was the first country from the European Neighbourhood area to become a member of the predecessor of Horizon 2020, the Framework Programme 7 for Research and Development.. Overall, Moldova's participation in FP7 resulted in a total EU contribution of 3.75M€ while the country's contribution for association in 2012/2013 amounted to 1.4 M€ Moldova's participation in FP7 is proportional to the size and strength of the research base in the country.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission and Academy of Sciences on behalf of the Republic of Moldova was signed in Brussels on the 1st July. The ratification process was concluded on the 8th of August 2014.

More details at: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/>



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