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NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations

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Subject: Proposals for external financing instruments under Heading 4 of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020
– Partial General Approach
= Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II)

Delegations will find at annex the text of the above-mentioned partial general approach which was adopted by the Council (Foreign Affairs) on 25 June 2012.

DRAFT

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 212(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national Parliaments,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

- (1) In the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “A Budget for Europe 2020”¹, the Commission sets the budgetary framework for the external action instruments of the Union, including the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA).

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions *A Budget for Europe 2020*, COM(2011)500 final, 29.6.2011.

- (2) As Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)² expires on 31 December 2013 and in order to make the external action of the Union more effective, a framework for planning and delivering external assistance should be maintained for the period 2014–2020. The enlargement policy of the Union should continue to be supported by a specific financial instrument. The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) should therefore be renewed.
- (3) Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union provides that any European State which endorses the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights may apply to become a member of the Union.

A European State which has applied to join the Union can become a member only when it has been confirmed that it meets the membership criteria agreed at the Copenhagen European Council in June 1993 and provided that the accession does not overstretch the capacity of the Union to integrate the new member. These criteria relate to the stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities, the existence of a functioning market economy as well as the capacity to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union, and the ability to assume not only the rights but also the obligations under the Treaties.

- (4) The enlargement strategy based on consolidation, conditionality and communication, combined with the EU's capacity to integrate new members, continues to form the basis for a renewed consensus on enlargement. The accession process is based on objective criteria and the application of the principle of equal treatment of all applicants. Progression towards accession depends on the capacity of each respective applicant to undertake the necessary reforms to align its political, institutional, legal, administrative and economic systems with the rules, standards, policies and practices in the Union.

² OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

- (5) The enlargement process reinforces peace, democracy and stability in Europe and allows the EU to be better positioned to address global challenges. The transformative power of the enlargement process generates far-reaching political and economic reform in the enlargement countries which also benefits the EU as a whole.
- (6) The European Council has granted the status of candidate country to Iceland, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Serbia. It has confirmed the European perspective of the Western Balkans. Without prejudice to positions on status or to any future decisions to be taken by the European Council or by the Council, those benefiting from such a European perspective which have not been granted candidate country status may be considered as potential candidates for the sole purpose of this Regulation.

Financial assistance under this Regulation should be granted to all beneficiaries listed in the Annex to this regulation (hereinafter “the beneficiaries listed in the Annex”).

- (7) Assistance under this Regulation should be provided in accordance with the enlargement policy framework defined by the European Council and the Council and taking due account of the Communication on the Enlargement Strategy and the Progress Reports comprised in the annual enlargement package of the Commission. Assistance is also provided in compliance with the agreements concluded by the Union with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex, and in accordance with the European and Accession Partnerships. Assistance should mainly focus on a limited number of policy areas that will help the beneficiaries listed in the Annex strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law, reform the judiciary and public administration, respect fundamental rights and promote gender equality and non-discrimination. Assistance should continue to support their efforts to advance regional, macro-regional and cross border cooperation as well as territorial development, including through implementation of EU

macro-regional strategies. It should also enhance their economic and social development, underpinning a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth agenda in line with the Europe 2020 strategy and to align progressively with the Copenhagen criteria. The coherence between the financial assistance and the overall progress made in the implementation of the pre-accession strategy should be strengthened.

- (8) Strengthening the rule of law and public administration reform remain key challenges in most of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex and are essential for these to come closer to the EU and later to fully assume the obligations of EU membership. In view of the longer term nature of the reforms pursued in this area and the necessity to build up track records, financial assistance under this Regulation should address the requirements of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex in this area as early as possible.
- (9) The beneficiaries listed in the Annex need to be better prepared to address global challenges, such as sustainable development and climate change, and align with the Union's efforts to address these issues. Union assistance under this Regulation should also contribute to the goal of raising the climate-related proportion of the Union budget to at least 20 %.
- (10) The Union will also provide support to transition cooperation based on the experience of its Member States for the benefit of all the beneficiaries listed in the Annex. This cooperation will aim in particular at the sharing of experience acquired by Member States in the process of reforms.
- (11) The Commission and the Member States should ensure the compliance, coherence, and complementarity of their assistance, in particular through regular consultations and frequent exchanges of information during the different phases of the assistance cycle. The role of civil society should be enhanced both in programmes implemented through government bodies and as a direct beneficiary of EU assistance.

- (12) In order to ensure coherence between the accession process and the financial and technical assistance provided under this Regulation and to achieve the objectives of the accession agenda, a common strategic framework for using the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance should be established by the Commission. This framework should define, *inter alia*, the list of key actions which may be supported under this Regulation and the criteria for the allocation of funds and assessing performance. The common strategic framework should constitute the reference framework for the country and multi-country strategy papers.
- (13) The objectives of the assistance should be defined in indicative country and multi-country strategy papers established by the Commission for the duration of the Union's Multi-annual Financial Framework in partnership with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex, based on their specific needs and enlargement agenda. The strategy papers should identify the policy areas for assistance and, without prejudice to the prerogatives of the budgetary authority, lay down the indicative allocations of funds per policy area, broken down per year, including an estimate of climate related expenditure. Sufficient flexibility should be built in to cater for emerging needs and to give incentives to improve performance. The strategy papers should ensure coherence and consistency with the efforts of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex as reflected in their national budgets and should take into account the support provided by other donors. In order to take into account internal and external developments, the strategy papers should be revised as appropriate.

- (14) It is in the Union's interest to assist the beneficiaries listed in the Annex in their efforts to reform their systems in order to align them to those of the Union. Assistance should be managed with a strong focus on results and with incentives for those who demonstrate their commitment to reform through effective implementation of pre-accession assistance and progress on the path towards accession.
- (15) Assistance should continue to make use of the structures and instruments that have proved their worth in the pre-accession process. The transition from direct management of pre-accession funds by the Commission to indirect management delegated to the beneficiaries listed in the Annex should be progressive and in line with the respective capacities of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex.
- (16) The implementing powers relating to the IPA common strategic framework, the strategy papers and the specific rules establishing uniform conditions for implementing this Regulation should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers³. Taking into account the nature of those implementing acts, in particular their policy orientation nature or their financial implications, the examination procedure should in principle be used for their adoption, except for technical implementing measures of a small financial scale. When establishing the uniform conditions for implementing this Regulation, the lessons learnt from the management and implementation of past pre-accession assistance should be taken into account. The uniform conditions should be adapted to the evolution of the situation of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex.

³ OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13.

- (17) The committee established under this Regulation should be also competent for acts relating to the implementation of the previous Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance, as well as for the implementation of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 of 27 February 2006.
- (18) Where one of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex violates the principles on which the Union is founded, or fails to respect the commitments contained in the relevant agreements concluded with the Union, or makes insufficient progress with respect to the accession criteria, the Council should be able to take appropriate measures to redress the situation.
- (19) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve this objective.
- (20) Given the objectives and scope of the assistance provided under this Regulation, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions have been consulted before its adoption,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

TITLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

General objective

The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (“IPA”) aims to support the beneficiaries listed in the Annex in implementing the political, institutional, legal, administrative, social and economic reforms required to bring them closer to Union values and to progressively align to Union rules, standards, policies and practices with a view to Union membership.

Article 2

Specific objectives

1. Assistance under this Regulation shall pursue the following specific objectives according to the needs of each of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex and their individual enlargement agenda:
 - (a) Support for political reforms, *inter alia*:
 - (i) strengthening of democratic institutions and the rule of law, including its implementation;
 - (ii) promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, enhanced respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities, including sexual minorities, promotion of gender equality, non-discrimination and freedom of expression, and promotion of good neighbourly relations;

- (iii) capacity building measures for improving law enforcement, border management and migration control;
 - (iv) fight against corruption and organised crime;
 - (v) public administration reform and good governance;
 - (vi) development of civil society and social dialogue;
 - (vii) reconciliation, peace building and confidence building measures.
- (b) Support for economic, social and territorial development, with a view to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, *inter alia* through:
- (i) achievement of Union standards in the economy as well as fiscal and economic governance;
 - (ii) economic reforms necessary to be able to cope with competitive pressure and market forces existing in the Union, while pursuing economic, social and environmental goals;
 - (iii) fostering employment and developing human capital;
 - (iv) social and economic inclusion, in particular of minorities and vulnerable groups;
 - (v) development of physical capital, the improvement of connections with Union and regional networks.

- (c) Strengthening of the ability of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex to fulfil the obligations stemming from membership by supporting progressive alignment with and adoption, implementation and enforcement of the Union *acquis*, including structural, cohesion, agricultural and rural development funds and policies of the Union.
- (d) Strengthening regional integration and territorial cooperation involving the beneficiaries listed in the Annex, Member States and, where appropriate, third countries within the scope of Regulation (EU) No (...) establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument⁴.
2. Progress towards achievement of the specific objectives set out in paragraph 1 shall be assessed through indicators that cover *inter alia*:
- Progress in the areas of democracy, the rule of law, the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, gender equality and women's rights, good governance, the justice system, the fight against corruption and organised crime and the level of administrative capacity, and in particular, the establishment of track-records in these areas;
 - Progress in economic and fiscal reforms and in addressing structural and macro-economic imbalances; the soundness and effectiveness of social and economic development strategies, progress towards smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, including through public investments supported by IPA;
 - The body of legislation aligned with the *acquis*; progress in Union-related institutional reform, including transition to decentralised management of the assistance provided under this Regulation;
 - The relevance of regional and territorial cooperation initiatives and the evolution of trade flows.

⁴ OJ L...

The indicators shall be used for monitoring, evaluation and review of performance, as appropriate, taking as a point of reference the Commission's annual reports mentioned in Article 4 as part of a comprehensive, multi-level framework for assessing the results of IPA assistance. Relevant indicators shall be defined in the Common Strategic Framework referred to in Article 6 and included in the strategy papers and programmes referred to in Articles 7 and 8. Indicators shall be established so as to enable progress to be assessed objectively over time and across programmes.

Article 3

Policy areas

1. Assistance under this Regulation shall mainly address the following policy areas:
 - (a) the transition process towards Union membership and capacity building;
 - (b) regional development;
 - (c) employment, social policies and human resources development;
 - (d) agriculture and rural development;
 - (e) regional and territorial cooperation.

2. Assistance under all policy areas referred to in paragraph 1 shall support the beneficiaries listed in the Annex in attaining the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 1 and 2, through policy reforms, approximation of laws, capacity building and the investments which are necessary to achieve those objectives. Particular attention shall be paid to good governance, the rule of law and the fight against corruption and organised crime.

3. Assistance under the policy areas referred to in points (b), (c), (d) and (e) of paragraph 1 may include *inter alia* financing of the type of actions provided for under Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of MM/DD/YYYY on specific provisions concerning the European Regional Development Fund and the Investment for growth and jobs goal⁵, Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY on the Cohesion Fund⁶, Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of MM/DD/YYYY on the European Social Fund⁷, Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY on specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal⁸ and Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)⁹.
4. Assistance under the policy area referred to in point (e) of paragraph 1, may in particular finance multi-country or horizontal actions as well as cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation actions.

⁵ OJ L
⁶ OJ L
⁷ OJ L
⁸ OJ L
⁹ OJ L

Article 4

Political framework for assistance

Assistance under this Regulation shall be provided in accordance with the enlargement policy framework defined by the European Council and the Council and taking due account of the Communication on the Enlargement Strategy and the Progress Reports comprised in the annual enlargement package of the Commission.

The Commission shall ensure coherence between the assistance and the enlargement policy framework.

Article 5

Compliance, coherence and complementarity

1. Financial assistance under this Regulation shall be consistent with Union policies. It shall comply with the agreements concluded by the Union with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex and respect commitments under multilateral agreements to which the Union is a party.
2. The Commission, the Member States and the European Investment Bank shall ensure coherence and strive to avoid duplication between assistance provided under this Regulation and other assistance provided by the Union, the Member States and the European Investment Bank.
3. The Commission shall, in liaison with Member States, contribute to the implementation of Union commitments towards increased transparency and accountability in the delivery of assistance, including by publicly disclosing information on assistance volume and allocation, ensuring that data is internationally comparable and can be easily accessed, shared and published.

4. The Commission and the Member States shall ensure coordination of their respective assistance programmes to increase effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of assistance and to prevent double funding in line with the established principles for strengthening operational coordination in the field of external assistance, and for the harmonisation of policies and procedures, notably the international principles on aid effectiveness. Coordination shall involve regular consultations and frequent exchanges of information during the different phases of the assistance cycle, in particular at field level and shall constitute a key step in the programming processes of the Member States and the Union.
5. In order to increase effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of assistance and to prevent double funding, the Commission shall, in liaison with the Member States, take the necessary steps to ensure better coordination and complementarity with multilateral and regional organisations and entities, such as international financial institutions, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and non-Union donors.
6. When preparing, implementing and monitoring assistance under this Regulation, the Commission shall in principle act in partnership with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex. The partnership shall involve, as appropriate, competent national, regional and local authorities, economic and social partners, civil society and non-state actors. Increased participation of civil society shall be encouraged, both in the partnership and as a direct beneficiary of assistance.

TITLE II

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Article 6

IPA Common Strategic Framework

1. The Commission shall establish a Common Strategic Framework for the IPA. The IPA Common Strategic Framework shall translate the political priorities of the enlargement policy into key actions which can receive assistance under this Regulation.

Union support provided under this Regulation shall be differentiated in scope and intensity according to commitment to reforms, progress in implementing these reforms, and needs. Transition from direct management of pre-accession funds by the Commission to indirect management delegated to the beneficiaries listed in the Annex shall be progressive and aligned to their respective capacities.

The IPA Common Strategic Framework shall *inter alia* include:

- (a) the criteria to be used for the initial allocation of funds to the beneficiaries listed in the Annex as well as to multi-country and territorial cooperation actions;
- (b) the types of actions which can be financed by the IPA;
- (c) the common guidelines for management and implementation of the IPA;
- (d) the criteria to be used for the allocation of additional funds to the beneficiaries listed in the Annex based on performance;
- (e) the definition of indicators to be used for assessing progress in achieving the specific objectives of IPA as set out in Article 2.

The criteria referred to under point (a) shall be based on an objective and transparent assessment of needs, capacities, and commitment to reforms, and take account of the level of social and economic development, and of whether the beneficiaries listed in the Annex have candidate country status or not.

The criteria referred to under point (d) shall be established so as to reward performance in implementing pre-accession assistance and progress on the path towards accession.

2. The Commission shall adopt the IPA Common Strategic Framework and any revision thereof in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of the Common Implementation Regulation.

Article 7

Strategy Papers

1. Assistance under this Regulation shall be provided on the basis of country or multi-country indicative strategy papers (hereinafter "strategy papers"), established for the duration of the Union's Multi-annual Financial Framework, by the Commission in partnership with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex.
2. The strategy papers shall specify the appropriate mix of policy areas as referred to in Article 3 which will receive financial assistance under this Regulation to reflect needs and priorities set in accordance with the objectives referred to in Article 2, with the IPA Common Strategic Framework referred to in Article 6, and with the national strategies, as appropriate.
3. The strategy papers shall include the indicative allocation of Union funds per policy area, as applicable, broken down per year, in line with the criteria set in the IPA Common Strategic Framework referred to in Article 6 and shall allow for addressing emerging needs. They shall include the indicators for assessing the performance of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex with regard to the objectives set in the strategy papers.

4. The Commission shall make an annual assessment of the implementation of the strategy papers and their continued relevance in the light of the evolution of the policy framework referred to in Article 4. The Commission shall inform the committee referred to in Article 12(1) of the results of this assessment and may propose revisions of the strategy papers and/or of the programmes and measures referred to in Article 8 as appropriate. The strategy papers shall also be reviewed at mid-term and revised as appropriate.
5. The Commission shall adopt the strategy papers and any revision thereof in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of the Common Implementation Regulation.

TITLE III

IMPLEMENTATION

Article 8

General Framework

Union assistance under this Regulation shall be implemented directly, indirectly or in shared management through programmes and measures as referred to in Articles 2 and 3 of the Common Implementation Regulation and in accordance with specific rules establishing uniform conditions for implementing the present Regulation, in particular as regards management structures and procedures, which the Commission shall adopt in accordance with Article 11 of the present Regulation. Implementation shall, as a rule, take the form of annual or multiannual, country specific or multi-country programmes as well as cross-border, interregional and transnational co-operation programmes established in accordance with the strategy papers referred to in Article 7 and drawn up by the respective beneficiaries listed in the Annex and/or the Commission, as appropriate.

Where budget support referred to in Article 4 of the Common Implementation Regulation is used, it shall be based on precise objectives and related benchmarks, and be contingent on a stable macro-economic framework, credible national/sector policies and reforms, sound public financial management as well as transparency and budget oversight. Disbursements of budget support shall be conditional on satisfactory progress towards achieving the objectives in terms of results and outcomes.

Article 9

Framework and subsidiary agreements

1. The Commission and the respective beneficiaries listed in the Annex shall conclude framework agreements on the implementation of assistance.
2. Subsidiary agreements concerning the implementation of assistance may be concluded between the Commission and the respective beneficiaries listed in the Annex or their implementing authorities, as required.

Article 10

Cross-instrument provisions

1. In duly justified circumstances and in order to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster regional cooperation, the Commission may decide to extend the eligibility of programmes and measures referred to in Article 8 to countries, territories and regions which otherwise would not be eligible for financing pursuant to Article 1, where the programme or measure to be implemented is of a global, regional or cross border nature.

2. The European Regional Development Fund shall contribute to programmes or measures established under this Regulation for cross-border cooperation between the beneficiaries listed in the Annex and Member States. The amount of the contribution from the European Regional Development Fund shall be determined pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No ...¹⁰. The provisions of this Regulation shall apply to the use of this contribution.
3. Where appropriate, the IPA may contribute to transnational and interregional cooperation programmes or measures that are established and implemented under the provisions of Regulation (EU) No ...¹¹ and in which the beneficiaries listed in the Annex participate.
4. Where appropriate, the IPA may contribute to cross-border cooperation programmes or measures that are established and implemented under Regulation (EU) No ...¹² and in which the beneficiaries listed in the Annex participate.

¹⁰ OJ L... Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY on specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal.

¹¹ OJ L... Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY on specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal.

¹² OJ L... Regulation (EU) XXXX/201X of the European Parliament and of the Council of DD/MM/YYYY establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument.

TITLE IV

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 11

Adoption of further implementing rules

In addition to the rules in the Common Implementation Regulation, the Commission shall adopt specific rules establishing uniform conditions for implementing this Regulation in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of the Common Implementation Regulation.

Article 12

Committee

1. An IPA Committee shall be established composed of representatives of the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission ("IPA Committee"). The IPA Committee shall assist the Commission with regard to all policy areas referred to in Article 3. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. The committee referred to under paragraph 1 shall be competent for legal acts and commitments under Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance¹³. In addition, the IPA committee shall also be competent for the implementation of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 of 27 February 2006 and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2667/2000 on the European Agency for Reconstruction¹⁴.

¹³ OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82-93

¹⁴ OJ L 65, 7.3.2006, p. 5

Article 13

Suspension of Union support

Without prejudice to the provisions on suspension of aid in agreements with the beneficiaries listed in the Annex, where one of the beneficiaries listed in the Annex fails to observe the principles of democracy, the rule of law, human rights, rights of persons belonging to minorities and fundamental freedoms, or the commitments contained in such agreements, or where progress towards fulfilment of the accession criteria is insufficient, the Council may take the appropriate measures in accordance with Article 215 (1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Before adopting appropriate measures, the Union may conduct any consultations with the beneficiary listed in the Annex concerned.

Article 14

Financial reference amount

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of this Regulation for the period from 2014 to 2020 shall be *EUR [14 110 100 000] (current prices)*¹⁵. Up to 4% of the financial reference amount shall be allocated to cross-border cooperation programmes between the beneficiaries listed in the Annex and EU Member States.
2. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the Union Multi-annual Financial Framework.

¹⁵ All reference amounts will be entered after the conclusion of negotiations regarding the Multiannual Framework (2014-2020).

3. As referred to in Article 13, paragraph 2 of the "Erasmus for All" Regulation, in order to promote the international dimension of higher education, an indicative amount of EUR [1 812 100 000]¹⁶ from the different external instruments (Development Cooperation Instrument, European Neighbourhood Instrument, Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance, Partnership Instrument and the European Development Fund), will be allocated to actions of learning mobility to or from non EU countries and to cooperation and policy dialogue with authorities/institutions/organisations from these countries. The provisions of the "Erasmus for All" Regulation will apply to the use of those funds.

The funding will be made available through 2 multiannual allocations only covering the first 4 years and the remaining 3 years respectively. This funding will be reflected in the multiannual indicative programming of these instruments, in line with the identified needs and priorities of the countries concerned. The allocations can be revised in case of major unforeseen circumstances or important political changes in line with the EU external priorities.

Article 15

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2014 until 31 December 2020.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

¹⁶ All reference amounts will be entered after the conclusion of negotiations regarding the Multiannual Framework (2014-2020).

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Iceland
- Kosovo*
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Turkey
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.