



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Delegations  
Subject: The European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures  
- Draft Council conclusions

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Delegations will find attached draft Council Conclusions on the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures with a view to the discussion by the Research Working Party at its meeting on 7 April 2014.

## Draft Council Conclusions on the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

RECALLING its Conclusions of 11 December 2012<sup>1</sup>, endorsing the Commission Communication on 'A reinforced European research area partnership for excellence and growth'<sup>2</sup>, and emphasising the need for renewing and adapting the mandate of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) to adequately address the existing challenges and also to ensure the follow-up of implementation of already on-going ESFRI projects after a comprehensive assessment, as well as the prioritisation of the infrastructure projects listed in the ESFRI roadmap;

1. WELCOMES the contribution of ESFRI to the objectives of the European Research Area and to achieving the Innovation Union commitment on research infrastructures.
2. ACKNOWLEDGES the work done by ESFRI to establish a shortlist of prioritised projects which are mature enough to be under implementation 2015-2016 and whose timely implementation is considered essential to extend the frontiers of knowledge in the fields concerned.
3. CONFIRMS the Member States' commitment to focus their available national resources on the respective prioritised projects they are participating in.
4. INVITES the Commission to complement the Member States' own financial commitments through a one-time financial contribution for these priority projects under Horizon 2020.
5. RECOGNISES the progress of those further ESFRI projects that are already under implementation, or well on the way towards it.
6. WELCOMES the plans of ESFRI to update its roadmap in 2015/2016, and INVITES the Member States to consider putting forward any further projects for inclusion in this roadmap update.

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 17649/12

<sup>2</sup> Doc. 12848/12