



**COUNCIL OF
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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology(first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act (LA + S) = Statement

Statement by Malta

Malta welcomes the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme as a key tool in realising the European Research Area, as well as in implementing the Europe 2020 Strategy Innovation Union flagship initiative and in delivering on the commitments made therein. In this context, Malta has been fully committed to and fully engaged in the negotiations aimed at shaping an inclusive Horizon 2020 Programme which rewards excellence and supports potential excellence.

In spite of this, Malta cannot agree with the eligibility for funding under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of activities that involve the destruction of human embryos.

It is also of the opinion that the approach envisaged by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme does not take sufficiently into account the therapeutic potential of human adult stem cells.

Furthermore, Malta believes that the principle of subsidiarity should be fully abided by with the refrain of EU level financing of research activities involving matters of fundamental ethical principles, which differ among the Member States.
