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NOTE

From:	The Commission
To:	Council
Subject:	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap 2021 - Information by the Commission

Delegations will find attached a note from the Commission on “European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap 2021” with a view to the AOB items at the meeting of the Competitiveness Council on 26 November 2021.

European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap 2021

Information by the Commission

The **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** adopted the sixth edition of its Roadmap on 14 October 2021. On 18 October, the Roadmap was presented to the Council Research Working Party, receiving broad support.

Key features of the ESFRI Roadmap 2021:

- 11 new projects enter the Roadmap with total investment costs over EUR 4 billion. This is by far the highest value of new research infrastructures investment plans since the first roadmap in 2006.
- 4 Research infrastructures receive the Landmark status, signifying their successful implementation.
- A revamped Landscape Analysis presents the existing research infrastructures in Europe and identifies scientific needs and gaps as well as collaboration opportunities and directions for strategic investments in the future. It also explores the available research infrastructures services of particular relevance for the environmental, economic and social issues, focusing specifically on Sustainable Development Goals, COVID-19 and digital transition.

The ESFRI Roadmaps, since the first edition in 2006, supported the development of the European Research Area. In 2021, the ESFRI Roadmap will include 41 Landmarks and 22 Projects that are in their preparatory phase. The total investment in these facilities will exceed EUR 20 billion. Most of these facilities are globally unique.

This capacity creates outstanding conditions for European R&I to be globally competitive, enabling Europe's leadership in a broad range of research fields. Research infrastructures on the ESFRI Roadmap contribute to key EU policy priorities, such as the European Green Deal, the twin transition or the Health Union. They facilitate the development of science-based solutions to key societal challenges, as illustrated with the COVID-19 platform. The services they offer could play an important role in implementing Missions and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

The Roadmap would serve as a base to reflect on a methodology towards a more targeted approach to select future priorities, taking into account the scientific and political needs, based on a comprehensive gap analysis with regards to the already available capacities and services, main scientific developments and key societal challenges.

A public Launch Event of the ESFRI Roadmap 2021 is foreseen on 7 December 2021 as an official event of the Slovenian Presidency.

