EURAD-2 Partnership

Guidance for Affiliated Entities, version date 30.06.2023

Public Document - Core Group Communication

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on ways entities which are not Mandated Actors but which are part of the EURATOM Programme Member State participants can be involved with the EURAD-2 partnership being planned (submission of proposal November 2023, programme implementation autumn 2024-autumn 2029).

EURAD-2 partners (within Euratom) are distinguished into two categories: **the Beneficiaries** (mandated by their national programme owners or governmental Ministries) and **the Affiliated Entities.**

Beneficiaries and Affiliated Entities do not have the same rights, neither the same responsibilities nor duties. It is not possible to be at the same time a Beneficiary and an Affiliated Entities.

***** Who are EURAD-2 Beneficiaries (Mandated Actors)?

A first list of potential Beneficiaries is available in the EURATOM Work Programme call for EURAD-2. The final list of Mandated Actors as defined by Member States will be known in early October 2023. To see guidance about how to get a Mandate to be a Beneficiary from your country, please refer to Core Group communication May 2023 – Appendix 5.

Definition of Affiliated Entities

Affiliated Entities (previously referred during EURAD-1 as *Linked Third Parties*) can perform action tasks in the EURAD-2 programme and are allowed to charge costs directly to the grant (they receive EC funding). Therefore, they are subject to financial checks, reviews and audits. Contrary to Beneficiaries, they do not need a national level Mandate.

Affiliate Entities do not become party to the Grant Agreement and do not have any voting rights in the General Assembly, but they implement parts of the action and are thus involved actively in the Consortium. They have therefore the same obligations as the Beneficiaries: provide own financial statement/ Certificate on Financial Statements (CFS), must contribute to the technical report, must submit deliverables, milestones, etc. They can perform the same activities as Beneficiaries, including being part of all WP tasks and KM activities, being Task and WP leaders, utilizing mobility grants and so on.

Affiliated Entities must have a legal link with one of the Beneficiaries. The Beneficiary remains responsible towards the European Commission for the action tasks performed by its Affiliated Entity(ies) and financially responsible for the recovery of undue payments.

The full description of Affiliated Entities is defined by the European Commission, in Article 8 of the AMGA.

For open transparency during EURAD-2 implementation, the Core Group is making recommendations for the Colleges and General Assembly regarding the opportunity for Affiliated Entities to have more direct access to EURAD-2 communications from the Programme Management Office (PMO) and General Assembly. The communication information with respect to programme management or governance will be shared in due time.

What kind of documents can be considered as legal links to a Beneficiary?

The legal link means either a legal or a capital link. In any case this link should not be limited to the action (scope of EURAD-2), and not established for the sole purpose of its implementation.

The documents need to show that the two entities (Beneficiary and Affiliated Entity) have been collaborating previously to the implementation of EURAD-2 and have the intention of continuing further collaboration. For example, an existing contract that is not lasting for the whole EURAD-2 duration can still be considered as valid by the EC.

The Core Group recommends to first search for any link with a Mandated Actor coming from the same country as the Affiliated Entity but if no links can be found, there is no restriction to be an Affiliated Entity to a Mandated Actor from another country.

For inclusiveness to anyone for EURAD-2 participation, it has been discussed during 2023 with the European Commission that parties that cannot show any link with a Mandated Actor can become member of EURADSCIENCE (euradscience@sckcen.be) (Research Entities (RE) College) and that the Terms of Reference can be used as the legal link to become Joint Research Centre (JRC)'s Affiliated Entities (acceptance at JRC's discretion). This solution should be used only if no other solution can be found by early October and must not be considered as a preferred way to enter the Consortium. Further instructions on how this will be managed will be shared by October and affiliations to JRC should not be pursued yet until other avenues are sought.

In the meantime, we invite organization which are facing challenges to have a link with a Mandated Actor to be in touch with your College representatives listed below (for instance to EURADSCIENCE for Research Entities).

It should be reminded that the final decision to accept the documents as legal link is the sole responsibility of the European Commission.

What is the deadline to provide such documents?

The development of the final list of work packages will start in July 2023. Affiliated Entities are therefore encouraged to contact Mandated Actors (see list in the EURATOM Work Programme) during summer to ensure that they agree with their integration as Affiliated Entities. By the time the EURAD-2 proposal is ready for submission in late October 2023, all Beneficiaries and Affiliated Entities will need to be defined so they can be listed in the programme work plan (work package descriptions and budgeting).

The legal links will need to be provided after the submission of the proposal, during the Grant Agreement negotiation period (expected end of 2023 / early 2024). More precise information will follow on this issue.

For further general information, interested parties can contact the EURAD-2 Core Group and check the FAQ documentation where some questions are dedicated to the situation of Affiliated Entities (see for instance items A-1, C-5, C-6, C7 and C-13).

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