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**WORKING DOCUMENT**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)

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Subject: Post Meeting Flash - Extraordinary Informal Videoconference of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) on 17 March 2022

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**EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA AND  
INNOVATION COMMITTEE  
(ERAC)**

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**ERAC co-Chairs**

**Extraordinary informal videoconference of the members of ERAC, 17 March 2022 (agenda CM 2223/22)**

**Post-meeting flash**

The extraordinary meeting of ERAC on 17 March 2022 took place in the format of an informal videoconference with a single topic for discussion: “Follow-up to the extraordinary ERAC meeting on 4 March 2022 on measures put in place within Research and Innovation policies following the invasion of Ukraine”.

The outcome of the meeting and the next steps can be summarised as follows:

ERAC delegations welcome the initiative presented by the Commission to integrate European and national actions in support to Ukrainian researchers in a one-stop shop, based on the existing Euraxess platform. Many delegations expressed a preference for “ERA4Ukraine” as name for the platform. The Commission announced that the platform will go live on Tuesday 22 March and invited national authorities to feed the platform with national initiatives and to promote outreach notably towards Ukrainian scholars.

The Commission also informed the ERAC delegations that it is working on an update of the Horizon Europe Working Programme 2022 to include, inter alia, a new Coordination and Support Action (CSA) dedicated to displaced Ukrainian researchers in the context of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), and specifically within the “Inspireurope” project that supports researchers at risk. The grant agreement is expected to be signed in May. In addition, it confirmed that the Commission will ensure openness of Horizon Europe to Ukrainian entities, despite the fact that the association process could not be completed due to the Russian invasion.

Finally, the Commission provided an update on suspension of grant agreement preparations for proposals including Russian entities. For Russian participants directly under sanctions, the Commission is seeking for the termination of the project. For other ongoing projects, the payment of over € 12 million is currently suspended. For individual grants, such as those under the European Research Council (ERC) and MSCA, the Commission is carrying out an analysis on a case-by-case basis. Some ERAC delegations requested guidelines on how to deal with ERA-Net actions involving Russia and informed that they are suspending the participation in national projects of Belarusian entities alongside Russian entities.