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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: Ukraine's Recovery – the role of research and innovation

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ERAC delegations will find in the Annex the Commission document " Ukraine's Recovery - the role of research and innovation", with a view to the ERAC meeting on 14 February 2023.

## **Agenda point in preparation of the ERAC Plenary**

### **“Ukraine’s Recovery – the role of research and innovation”**

#### **Why this topic in ERAC?**

International high-level discussions on Ukraine’s recovery kicked-off in the dedicated conference held on 4-5 July in Lugano, Switzerland. On that occasion, the Commission announced its plans to set up an international Platform for Ukraine’s Reconstruction<sup>1</sup>, while Ukraine presented the first draft of its National Recovery and Development Plan for the period 2022-2032. This plan, once finalised and approved, will guide the work of the Platform, which will be driven by the RebuildUkraine Facility from the EU side.

As the content of these key political and operational frameworks on Ukraine’s recovery are under development, the objective is to ensure that R&I needs of Ukraine as well as Research and Innovation contribution to the recovery are well integrated in these frameworks and visible enough. This is essential also in order to secure that an appropriate share of funding for the recovery-related R&I work as well as Ukraine’s R&I ecosystem are allocated in the forthcoming multi-billion dedicated financial and technical assistance for Ukraine, both at the EU and global levels. The EU support for Ukraine under the Horizon Europe/Euratom programmes will play a complementary role in this broader international framework.

In this context, as Ukraine is now an EU candidate country and associated to Horizon Europe and Euratom programmes, discussions on its recovery should:

- i) take into account the war-inflicted damages on the R&I ecosystem of Ukraine,
- ii) acknowledge the cross-cutting role of R&I in rebuilding a modern Ukraine, and
- iii) facilitate Ukraine’s integration into the European Research Area.

The key R&I-related needs of Ukraine will be varied and could include e.g. physical reconstruction of research infrastructures and higher education institutions, more competitive R&I institutions, brain return/gain initiatives, investments in green technologies and digital solutions as well as policy development-related support.

#### **What guidance would be needed?**

In view of high-level political discussions on Ukraine’s recovery, ERAC is invited to discuss the following questions:

- ✓ Based on your national experience and engagement with the Ukrainian partners, what R&I-related support, at international, EU or national level, would you consider the most urgent and effective in rebuilding Ukraine?
- ✓ Do you have or plan to launch national R&I measures or national support measures for Ukraine’s R&I ecosystem as part and with the aim of Ukraine’s reconstruction?

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<sup>1</sup> As per [Communication: Ukraine relief and reconstruction of 18 May 2022](#)

**What could be a possible follow-up to the discussion?**

To agree to map and coordinate the R&I-related support provided to Ukraine in its recovery efforts at both the EU and national levels. This work could be coordinated by the Commission/DG RTD and anchor possible future recommendations to the broader Ukraine's recovery process (at EU and international level) on R&I contribution to that recovery and related support measures/financing required for it to materialise.