



Commissioner Carlos Moedas

BASIS (CAB Moedas/16)

Visit to Israel and Palestine¹

10-12 January 2016

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS OVERALL NOTES ON ISRAEL'S AND PALESTINE'S
SOCIECONOMIC AND R&I SITUATION
AND
STANDALONE BRIEFINGS FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM

<p><u>Main contact person:</u> [REDACTED], RTD.C.3</p> <p><u>Contributor(s):</u> [REDACTED], EU Delegation in Tel Aviv [REDACTED], RTD.B4 [REDACTED], RTD.I1 [REDACTED], RTD.I2 [REDACTED], RTD.B6 [REDACTED], RTD.B1 [REDACTED], RTD.B2 [REDACTED], RTD.B7 [REDACTED], RTD.F1 [REDACTED], RTD.G1 [REDACTED], RTD.I4 [REDACTED], RTD. H1 [REDACTED], RTD.J5 [REDACTED], RTD.J1</p>	<p><u>Cabinet Member:</u> Giulia Del Brenna</p>
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¹ This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

<div></div> , RTD E1 <div></div> , RTD E3 <div></div> , RTD. J1 <div></div> , Israel Desk, EEAS <div></div> , Palestine Desk, EEAS <div></div> , DG NEAR <div></div> , Palestine and Israel Desk, DG NEAR	
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DRAFT PROGRAMME

Mr. Carlos Moedas
European Commissioner for
Research, Science and Innovation

Visit to ISR/PA
10-12 January 2015

(as of Thursday, 7 January 2016 at 18:00 hours)

Delegation

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation

EU DELTA

- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Assistance – Technical Team

- [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel, Coordinator of the visit

EU REP

- Mr. Ralph Tarraf, the EU Representative, EU Representative, West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA
- [REDACTED], West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA
- [REDACTED]

Close Protection – Security Officers

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Sunday, 10 January 2015

15:00 Arr. Ben Gurion Int'l Airport on flight SN 3289 from BRU

Welcome by

- Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- [REDACTED], Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Proceed to VIP Room where all entry procedures will take place

Proceed to Jerusalem

Approx. 16:30

Arrival at the King David Hotel

Check-in. [REDACTED] will do registration prior arrival and deliver keys to each guest upon arrival. No need to stand at hotel reception for registration. No credit card will be requested. Guests are kindly requested to settle their bill before departure.

17:00 – 17:30 Meeting with [REDACTED]
Council for Higher Education
(The King David Hotel, Ambassadors Garden, Jerusalem)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

ISR Participants

- Prof. [REDACTED]
Council for Higher Education
- Dr. [REDACTED]
Council for Higher Education
- Mr. [REDACTED] Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr [REDACTED] Mission of Israel to the EU

17:45 – 18:45 Meeting with Mr. [REDACTED], Ministry of Economy
(The King David Hotel, Olive Hall, Jerusalem)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation

ISR Participants

- The list of ISR participants will be added to the briefing.

18:45

Dep. from the King David Hotel

19:00 – 19:30 Meeting with M.K. Ofir Akunis, Minister of Science, Technology and Space
(Inbal Hotel, Galil Hall, Jerusalem)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

ISR Participants

- The list of ISR participants will be added to the briefing.

19:30 – 21:00 Reception hosted by M.K. Ofir Akunis, Minister of Science, Technology and Space
(Hotel Inbal, Bistrot Hall, Jerusalem)

- Greetings by M.K. Ofir Akunis, Minister of Science, Technology and Space
- Greetings and Opening remarks by Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

Return to the King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Accommodation The King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, 11 January 2015

08:00 – 09:30 Breakfast hosted by Mr. [REDACTED], with key figures in Israeli Innovation (Entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, etc).
(The King David Hotel, Olive Hall, Jerusalem)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

ISR Participants

- The list of participants will be added to the briefing.

09:30 Dep. from the hotel

09:45 – 10:45 Visit to Mobileye Vision Technologies
(Har Hotzvim Industrial Park, Hartom Street, 13, Jerusalem)

- Presentation by Mr. [REDACTED]
- .Presentation of the After Market Division by Mr. [REDACTED], and Mr. [REDACTED]

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

11:00 – 12:00 Visit Jerusalem Venture Partners – Venture Capital Fund in Israel
(Hebron Road, 24, Jerusalem)

- Details will follow.

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

12:00 Dep. to the King David Hotel, Jerusalem

12:15 – 12:45 Light Lunch. We have only 30 minutes. No time to organize any "formal or official event". Some light snacks for the European Commissioner and team will be prepared by the hotel.
(The King David Hotel, Ambassadors Garden, Jerusalem)

12:50 Dep. from the hotel

13:00 Meeting with H.E. Mr. Reuven Rivlin, President of the State of Israel
(Presidential Office, Jerusalem)

Photo Op + Short Statements

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

14:00 Dep. from the Presidential Office

14:10 – 15:15 Visit Yad Vashem

- European Commissioner and Delegation will tour the Holocaust History Museum, including the Hall of Names, participate in a Memorial Ceremony in the Hall of Remembrance and lay a wreath, and visit the Children's Memorial, before signing the Yad Vashem Guests' Book.
- Brief remarks to the press after signing the Yad Vashem Guests' Book

15:15 Dep. Yad Vashem

16:00 – 18:30 Visit Weizmann Institute of Science (Rehovot)

- Meeting Point: Levinson Visitors Center
- Welcome meeting with Prof. [REDACTED]
(Ayala Conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building)
- Meeting with ERC Grant's Recipients
 - Dr. [REDACTED], Department of Condensed Matter Physics
 - Dr. [REDACTED], Department of Immunology
(Ayala conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building)
- Meeting with Prof. [REDACTED]
(Ayala Conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

Dep. from the Weizmann Institute

20:00

Dinner hosted by Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel, on the occasion of the visit of European Commissioner responsible for Research, Science and Cooperation, Carlos Moedas, to Israel.

(The King David Hotel, Ambassadors Hall, Jerusalem)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

ISR Participants

- Final list is attached.

Accommodation

The King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, 12 January 2016

08:15 Interview TV Channel One
(The King David Hotel, Olive Hall, Jerusalem)

08:45 Dep. from the hotel (check-out)

09:00 – 10:30 Visit the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]
- Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
- Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

09:00 Arrival at the Hebrew University, Mount Scopus, Main Entrance of Sherman Administration Building

All diplomatic vehicles stops at his point, and then will be directed to Maiersdorf Faculty Club Parking Lot

Greeted by Prof. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

09:05 – 09:10 Walking to the Maiersdorf Faculty Club, through the Nobel Prize Winners Wall

09:15 Enter Room 501, 5th floor, Maiersdorf Faculty club

09:15 – 09:20 Refreshments

09:20 – 09:30 Overview of Science and Innovation at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem by Prof. [REDACTED]

09:30 – 10:15 Presentations by Hebrew University ERC Recipients

- [REDACTED], Faculty of Medicine – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- Prof. [REDACTED], Department of History and Jewish History – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- Dr. [REDACTED], School of Computer Science and Engineering – [REDACTED]
- Prof. [REDACTED], Department of Political Science – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

10:20 End of the visit.

10:25 Change of cars at the Maiersdorf Faculty Club, Parking Lot, 1st floor

10:30 Dep. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

10:30 – 15:00 PAL Leg

12.00 – 13.30 Seminar on research, science and innovation issues, co-chaired by Dr [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Ministry of Education and
Higher Education
(National Institute for Education Training, AL Bireh, Ramallah)

13:45 Proceed to DARNA Restaurant

14:00 -15:00 Working lunch with Minister of Education & Higher Education, Dr Sabri Saidam
and [REDACTED]
(DARNA Restaurant, Ramallah)

EU Participants

- Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner responsible for Research, Science and Innovation
- [REDACTED]

- Ralph Tarraf, the EU Representative, EU Representative, West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA
- Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the Commissioner's Cabinet
- Mrs. Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- Mr. [REDACTED], West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA
- Mr. [REDACTED]

15.00 Departure from Ramallah

Change of cars at EU Representation, Jerusalem

Dep. to Ben Gurion Int'l Airport

16:30 Arr. Ben Gurion Int'l Airport

17:35 Dep. Ben Gurion Int'l Airport on flight LH 689 to Munich

USEFUL INFORMATION

Medical Assistance

- Medical assistance is generally high level in ISR.

Communications

- Mobile phone networks in ISR/PAL are aligned with EU ones.

Weather Forecast

- Sunday, 10 January: max. 19°, min. 9°, mostly sunny, no rain
- Monday, 11 January: max. 19°, min. 9°, partly cloudy, no rain
- Tuesday, 12 January: max. 20°, min. 9°, sunny, no rain

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

EU Delegation in Tel Aviv

Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen
Head of Delegation

Office: + 972 [REDACTED]
Mobile: + 972 [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Mobile: + 972 [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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EU Delegation in Jerusalem

Mr. Ralf Tarraf
Head of Delegation

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Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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PROGRAMME PART I

ISRAEL

Overview

This is your first visit to Israel as Research, Science and Innovation Commissioner. Israel has an excellent research base, with significant investment in research and innovation and a long history of association to the Union's Framework Programmes. Association enhances the possibility for entities from Member States to cooperate with Israeli entities, which is seen as beneficial to both sides. The EU – Israel cooperation was consolidated with Israel's association to the Framework Programmes in 1996 (entry into force in 1999) and we often refer to it as the jewel in the crown of the EU - Israel relations. Israel has been the first non-European country to be associated, shortly after the first association to FP by the EEA/EFTA countries in 1994.

Israel's participation in the EU Framework Programme has been a success story and presents an added value both for Israel and for the EU. However, its political and public visibility could be further enhanced as it could serve as a key building block for the overall bilateral cooperation.

At 4.1% Israel's expenditure on civilian R&D as percentage of GDP is the highest in the world. 85% of this expenditure is made by the business sector. On 8 June 2014, Israel and the EU signed the Agreement associating Israel to the Horizon 2020 programme. The Agreement entered into force on 23 October 2014, with retroactive legal effects from 1 January 2014.

During the visit you will meet with high-level officials, including President Reuven Rivlin and Mr Ofir Akunis, Minister of Science, Technology and Space. You will also visit key stakeholders such as Weizmann Institute of Science (ranking 8th in the list of top ERC hosting organizations) and Hebrew University (one of the top 70 universities in the world). Despite the high-level meetings the visit will have a technical nature, with an emphasis on good practices exchange and drawing on Israel's experience in areas such as open innovation, social innovation, public-private innovation partnership.

The visit will also mark the launch of a series of events dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Israel's participation in the EU Framework Programme.

Israeli participation in the EU Framework Programme

Since the entry into force of the first Association Agreement with Israel (1999), the Israeli organisations have received over 1 675 million euro from FP grants with some 4712 participations in 3 175 projects. On its side throughout these years, Israel has contributed over € 1 135 million to the Framework Programme. Under FP7, the EU was Israel's first biggest source of public research funding. Beyond the financial benefits the programme has provided considerable added value to the Israeli research. The beneficiaries have enjoyed a wide variety of benefits including access to knowledge, networks and infrastructures whose value is far greater than the value of the grant.

So far in Horizon 2020, Israel had paid more than 257 million euros and have received 265 million euros through 352 contracts and 432 participations.

The success rate of Israeli organisations in Horizon 2020 is 13.2% in terms of number of applicants (close to the EU average of 13.9%). The success rate of Israeli organisations in terms of financial contribution is 12%, similar to the EU average of 12.8%. The most active Horizon 2020 programme parts by EC contribution to the projects have been ERC European Research Council – 69,28%; Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT) – 40,86 %; Marie-Sklodowska-Curie Actions – 12,46%; Secure societies – protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens – 6,59%; Future and emerging technologies (FET) – 4,94%. The financial success rate is low for industry (10%), for Societal Challenge 6 applications (2.4%) and for the Health challenge (5%). In contrast, universities have done very well, with a success rate of 14% and accounting for around 63% of total funding so far to Israel.

Israel was indeed the most successful country in 6 of the 8 StG calls completed until now (if we ignore the countries that won very few grants and also had few applications). Only Switzerland had a highest success rate than Israel in StG2009 and StG2012.

EU's contribution to Israel, projects and participations since 1999 (FP5, FP6, FP7, Horizon 2020) - total and breakdown²

	Total	H2020	FP7	FP6	FP5
Financial contribution (millions of €)	1 675	265	877	175	358
Number of Projects	3175	352	1627	592	604
Number of Participations	4712	432	1985	772	1523

² Please note that the entry into force of the agreement between the state of Israel and the EU was in 08/03/1999. Therefore, you will find only contribution since 1999.

Contribution of the State of Israel since the Association in 08/03/1999

FP5				
1999	2000	2001	2002	Total paid for FP5
32.632.155,00	34.935.632,00	41.715.369,00	42.834.382,00	152.117.538,00

FP6				
2003	2004	2005	2006	Total paid for FP6
42.683.307,00	53.049.223,50	47.857.269,17	47.827.999,63	191.417.799,30

FP7							
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total paid for FP7
44.941.497,26	48.700.895,34	57.766.690,79	65.703.214,76	86.350.781,92	103.918.987,01	126.970.910,14	534.352.977,22

Horizon 2020		
2014	2015	Total paid for Horizon 2020
123.204.358,44	134.224.418,54	257.428.776,98

Total amount paid since the entry into force of the agreement with the State of Israel on 08/03/1999 :		1.135.317.091,51
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Key figures for Israel

GDP growth	0.3% (Q2, 2015)
Budget deficit	2.6% of GDP in 2014
Debt ratio	67.7% (2014)
Unemployment	5.9% (2014)
 R&D expenditure	 4.1% (2014 estimate) down from 4.3% in 2008
Private R&D	3.49% (2013) down from 3.76% in 2007

KEY FIGURES	FP7	Horizon 2020
Total number of participations	1,985	432
Total number of signed grant agreements	1,626	352
ERC – Number of grantees	273	65
Marie Skłodowska-Curie – Number of grantees	623	112
EU total financial contribution to participation (millions of €)	877	265

Data: DG RTD (Corda, Jan 2016)

Top ERC StG grants per country

Host countries	StG2014	StG2015	Total
DE	72	47	119
UK	68	48	116
FR	48	29	77
NL	40	32	72
IL	27	24	51
IT	16	18	34
ES	22	12	34
CH	2	21	23
BE	11	10	21
AT	12	9	21
DK	14	5	19
SE	6	10	16
IE	10	6	16
FI	8	3	11
Other	19	17	36

Ongoing ERC grants and related participation

FP7 ERC	Participant Legal Name	Nr of Participations	Participant EC Contribution
Advanced Grants	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	4	4732337
Advanced Grants	BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV	1	2251330
Advanced Grants	TECHNION - ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	7	14590514
Advanced Grants	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	11	18567186
Advanced Grants	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM.	24	46109270
Advanced Grants	THE ISRAEL DEMOCRACY INSTITUTE ASSOCIATION-IDI	1	2396952
Advanced Grants	UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA	1	2120424
Advanced Grants	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	17	37267935
Consolidator Grants	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	1	1999175
Consolidator Grants	MIGAL GALILEE TECHNOLOGY CENTER, LTD	1	1747914
Consolidator Grants	TECHNION ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2	3650000
Consolidator Grants	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	1	2255920
Consolidator Grants	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM.	3	5861238
Consolidator Grants	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	10	18872499
ERC Synergy	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	1	1318480
Other activities	BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV	1	149746
Starting Grants	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	5	7293812
Starting Grants	BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV	7	7608168
Starting Grants	HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION	1	1650000
Starting Grants	INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER (IDC) HERZLIYA	4	4374394
Starting Grants	TECHNION - ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.	14	20238424
Starting Grants	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	15	20378409
Starting Grants	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM.	32	43080049

Starting Grants	UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA	1	1178839
Starting Grants	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	34	48716714
TOTAL	11	194	318409730
H2020 ERC	Participant Legal Name	Nr of Participations	Participant EC Contribution
Advanced Grant	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	1	2822553
Advanced Grant	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM	1	1569488
Advanced Grant	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	3	4549206
Consolidator Grant	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	2	3267143
Consolidator Grant	TECHNION ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	4	8702614
Consolidator Grant	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	3	7424125
Consolidator Grant	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM	8	16434358
Consolidator Grant	UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA	1	1445151
Consolidator Grant	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	8	16236053
Proof of Concept Grant	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	3	449551
Proof of Concept Grant	INTELLISIV LTD	1	50000
Proof of Concept Grant	TECHNION - ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	6	897500
Proof of Concept Grant	TECHNION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION LTD	3	0
Proof of Concept Grant	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	1	150000
Proof of Concept Grant	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM	4	599800
Proof of Concept Grant	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	11	1600000
Starting Grant	BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY	2	2996722
Starting Grant	BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV	3	4623375
Starting Grant	TECHNION - ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	7	10362493
Starting Grant	TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	21	29980123

Starting Grant	THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM	8	12015637
Starting Grant	UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA	1	1495091
Starting Grant	WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE	10	13899499
TOTAL	10	112	141570481

Success Stories

Weizmann Institute of Science

Controlling electronic devices and computers by sniffing

The ODORSPACE research team built a sniff-sensor that used signals generated by sniffs to power external machines. The device, called "sniffcontroller", notably improved the lives of individuals who participated in the study, allowing completely paralyzed people to communicate text, surf on the web and even to drive an electric wheelchair. The team has now also obtained "top up" funding through the ERC Proof of Concept grant (€ 150 000 grant for the project SNIFFCONTROL), to optimize the device and create a pilot platform to order it on the web, test it, and provide feedback. In order to find out whether it can be transformed into a product for the large public, they will also explore the applications of the "sniffcontroller" for survivors of stroke, trauma or neurodegenerative diseases, as well as for healthy people with temporary disabilities.

Project: Predicting odour perception from odorant structure and neural activity in the olfactory system (ODORSPACE)

ERC call: Starting Grant 2007

ERC funding: About € 1.6 million for four years

Prof. [REDACTED] has received an ERC Advanced Grant 2014, for the [REDACTED] project [REDACTED] (2015-2020), amounting to almost 2.1 million EUR.

<http://www.weizmann.ac.il/neurobiology/worg/>

Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Detecting and monitoring cancer via exhaled breath

The research project is developing a low cost, non-invasive diagnostic method for breast and other types of cancer based on breath testing. The person exhales for a few minutes into the device, which analyses the sample with an array of nano sensors. Such breath tests could indicate not only the stage and subtype of the disease but could also contribute to monitoring the response to treatment. This approach could not only reduce health budgets through low-cost and earlier proposed tests but it would also in return lead to more cost-effective cancer treatments.

Project: *Diagnosis, Screening and Monitoring of Cancer Diseases via Exhaled Breath Using an Array of Nanosensors (DIAG-CANCER)*

ERC call: *Starting Grant 2010*

ERC funding: *€ 1.2 million for four years (2011-2014)*

Prof. [REDACTED] received an ERC Proof of Concept grant called [REDACTED]. (€ 150,000 for 18 months, 2015-2016)

<http://nbd.technion.ac.il/NanoChemistry/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=547>

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Is there a limit to yield?

Plant breeders are challenged with sustaining global crop improvements. Prof. [REDACTED] YIELD project aims to develop a new approach to translate available genomic information into more efficient plant breeding methodologies, using tomatoes as a model. His team aims to stabilise and increase the yield of processing tomato hybrids, which are used to make ketchup and sauces. With this type of tomato, it is not just the number of tomatoes produced that is important, but also how high in sugar each tomato is. It is not genetic modification – the researchers introduce wild species of tomatoes into the commercial strains, and isolates genes that improve specific traits. The aim is to develop breeding concepts and methods that will lead to an increased productivity of crops.

His research was recently covered in Horizon magazine “No limits – the biologists who are changing the rules of plant productivity”.

[REDACTED], ERC Project: *Is there a limit to yield? (YIELD)*

ERC call: *Advanced Grant 2011*

ERC funding: *About € 2.5 million for five years*

Website: [http://departments.agri.huji.ac.il/plantscience/people/\[REDACTED\]](http://departments.agri.huji.ac.il/plantscience/people/[REDACTED])

Societal Challenge 1 - Health

FP7 project ASSET, with the participation of the Weizmann Institute. The project scientists established screening platforms for three childhood tumours to test drugs, including novel drugs targeting directly the genetic material (small interfering ribonucleic acids (siRNAs), small hairpin RNAs (shRNAs)) and new drug combinations.

FP7 project TAILORED-TREATMENT, with several Israeli participants, including the company MeMed Diagnostics. The project performs a number of sophisticated diagnostic tests in patients with respiratory infections and/or sepsis, including characteristics of the microbes as well as of the host. Using these data and new computational tools, the project then constructs personalised treatment algorithms for these patients, which will deliver the most

effective therapy for the patient, reduce adverse events, and help limit the emergence of antimicrobial resistance in children and adults.

Societal Challenge 5 – Water

Demonstrating innovation in water reuse in the heavily populated Dan Region (near Tel Aviv - Israel)

The DEMOWARE FP7 project aims to overcome water reuse barriers in order to promote the marketability of water reuse schemes, create and nurture an identity and knowledge base for the nascent European water reuse sector and promote a wider understanding and awareness of water reuse practices among public administrations and end-users. It brings together 27 partners from 10 different countries, (Spain, France, Israel, Germany, Holland, Italy, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium and the Czech Republic) , including Mekorot, the Israel's National Water Company, one of the world's most advanced water companies, a leader in water resources management, desalination, wastewater treatment and effluent reuse, rain enhancement, water quality, water security and water engineering services, and ROTEC Ltd, an Israeli start-up company operating in the field of desalination and general water treatment.

The Israeli site is the Shafdan wastewater treatment plant located in the heavily populated Dan Region near Tel Aviv (Israel). The focus of DEMOWARE activities is on overcoming the technical limitations and improve and demonstrate water reuse technologies for agricultural uses.

Key defensives

Q. Has the adoption of the Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the occupied territories for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards led to decrease in the Israeli participation in Horizon 2020?

- *No, Israel ranks first among the Associated Countries to Horizon 2020 in terms of requested EU contribution and second in number of applicants. In this sense there is no evidence for a negative perception of Israeli research entities in Horizon 2020 that could eventually hamper their participation in the programme.*

Q. The adoption of the Interpretative Notice on indication of origin of goods from the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 has been followed by negative reactions by Israeli public figures and the media. The issue is often presented in the Israeli media as "boycott of Israel/settlements" and the different matters (trade preferences, indication of origin etc.) are often mixed up in the public debate.

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Q. What is the European Commission's position on Israel joining the PRIMA initiative?

- *The European Commission supports an eventual participation of Israel in PRIMA. Israel's excellent research base and scientific capacity in water and agriculture could bring a valuable contribution to the initiative. In this context, the Commission will*

welcome an official commitment of Israel to the initiative. As an associated country, Israel participates to the PRIMA working group meeting as an observer together with all other interested Member States and Southern Mediterranean countries. With regards to the SC5 Action on PRIMA in Horizon 2020 WP 2016-2017, the European Commission stresses the importance of an inclusive approach that will not leave out countries, including Israel that have officially shown interest and committed resources to the initiative.

Q. How can Israel foster its role as regional science diplomacy player, including with regards to SESAME?

- *The European Commission welcomes Israel's role as a founding member of SESAME and the tireless work of Professor [REDACTED] in promoting the initiative. In addition, its continued and timely financial support is essential for the completion of SESAME as orders can only be placed when there are sufficient resources available.*

Q. What are the biggest challenges to our cooperation?

- *The public opinion is dramatically shifting towards stronger call for accountability and against cooperation with some Israeli companies participating in Horizon 2020 and perceived to be involved in violations of international law.*

In July 2015 the Commission received a letter by 73 Members of the European Parliament questioning the participation of Israeli entities in the Framework Programme, in particular with regards to the potential military applications by the Israeli company 'Elbit Systems' of FP supported research.

Actions under Horizon 2020 must comply with Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 1291/2013, which requires that all activities carried out under Horizon 2020 must have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

Several mechanisms have been put in place to prevent that EU funds are used for activities that could be contrary to international law, including ethical evaluation of the project proposals and an assessment of the possible dual-use of the proposed research and compliance with applicable EU, national and international legislation, including the European Charter of Fundamental Rights.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Political situation	Page 25
II. Socio-economic and R&I situation in Israel	Page 26
III. EU – Israel Relations	Page 30
IV. Meeting with Prof. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Council for Higher Education	Page 35
V. Meeting with Mr [REDACTED] Ministry of Trade, Industry and Labour	Page 41
VI. Meeting with Mr Ofir Akunis, Minister of Science, Technology and Space	Page 52
VII. Reception hosted by Minister Ofir Akunis	Page 62
VIII. Breakfast hosted by [REDACTED] with key figures in Israeli Innovation	Page 69
IX. Visit to Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP)	Page 80
X. Visit to Jerusalem Venture Partners – Venture Capital Fund in Israel	Page 84
XI. Meeting with Reuven Rivlin, President of Israel	Page 90
XII. Visit Yad Vashem	Page 99
XIII. Visit to Weizmann Institute of Science	Page 104
XIV. Meeting with Hebrew University Faculty and ERC grantees in presence of HU President/VP Research	Page 158
XV. Annexes	Page 167
- Israel country fiche	
- Fact Sheet on the indication of origin	
- Israel's Association agreement to Horizon 2020	
- Guidelines	
- EP questions to Commissioner Moedas and related	

I. POLITICAL SITUATION

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

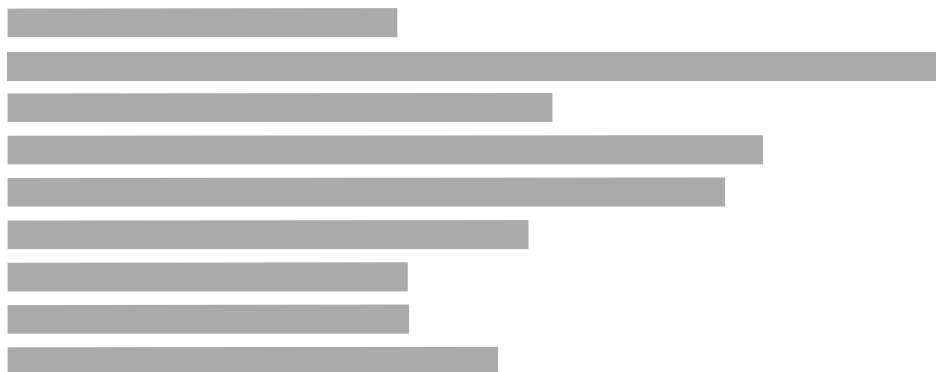
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

II. SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND R&I SITUATION

Basic facts



Current economic situation

- A horizontal bar chart with 4 bars. The bars are gray and have varying lengths. The first bar is the longest, followed by the second, third, and fourth bars which are also relatively long. The fourth bar is slightly shorter than the third.
- A horizontal bar chart with 7 bars. The bars are gray and have varying lengths. The first bar is the longest, followed by the second, third, and fourth bars which are also relatively long. The fifth bar is slightly shorter than the fourth. The sixth bar is shorter than the fifth. The seventh bar is the shortest.
- A horizontal bar chart with 6 bars. The bars are gray and have varying lengths. The first bar is the longest, followed by the second, third, and fourth bars which are also relatively long. The fifth bar is slightly shorter than the fourth. The sixth bar is shorter than the fifth.
- A horizontal bar chart with 6 bars. The bars are gray and have varying lengths. The first bar is the longest, followed by the second, third, and fourth bars which are also relatively long. The fifth bar is slightly shorter than the fourth. The sixth bar is shorter than the fifth.

Investment situation

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

The Israeli R&I system

- Israel has never had an explicit R&D or innovation strategy. It has managed with its informal system of policymaking in great part due to the informal and non-hierarchical aspects of Israeli culture and because Israel is a well networked society in which most of the chief players are well known to each other and many of whom move back and forth between the private and public sectors.
- There are two main government players in Israeli R&D - the Ministry of Economy's Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS), responsible for industrial R&D, and the Council of Higher Education whose Planning and Budget Committee is responsible for the funding of academic research. The only other ministry whose Chief Scientist has a relatively significant budget is the Ministry of Agriculture. It is nevertheless worth noting that in spite of its small budget, the office of the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Infrastructures, Energy and Water Resources is very active and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the JRC.
- The Ministry of Science and Technology has a small budget through which, inter alia, it supports eight regional research centres.
- Emphasis has started to be placed on areas in which Israel has the technological expertise and which address new markets such as advanced materials, biotechnology, nanotechnology, renewable energies and water technology. Most recently, increasing emphasis is being placed on cybersecurity and space.
- The Ministry of Science and Technology has active bilateral scientific agreements with 17 countries: Austria, Australia, Canada, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan, UK and the Ukraine.

Most of the bilateral scientific agreements are general in nature. The German agreements focus on cancer, water and marine research. The UK agreements focus on regenerative medicine and cyber security.

- The OCS has over fifty industrial R&D agreements. Israel is increasingly signing agreements with regions and even cities. These more localized agreements complement the broader national cooperation programmes. Some of the industrial R&D agreements are open to all topics. The main areas in agreements that specify preferences are nanotechnology, environment, water, biotechnology, space, life sciences, security, renewable energy, agriculture, ICT and brain research.
- The OCS also manages four binational foundations which provide R&D support, of up to 50%, to companies from Israel and the partner country. Bi national funds currently exist with the US, Canada, Korea and Singapore.

Recent government announcements on R&I policy

- The Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS) has been transformed. It will be removed from the government and established as a public corporation to be called the National Authority for Research, Development and Innovation. The Authority will have the flexibility necessary to react quickly to an industry facing increasing competition in a rapidly evolving world and will be operational from 1 January 2016.

Facts and figures for Israel's R&I system

EXPENDITURE ON CIVILIAN R&D (2014)³

National Expenditure on Civilian R&D as percentage of GDP	4.1%
Business Sector Expenditure on Civilian R&D as percentage of total	85%
University Expenditure on Civil R&D as percentage of total	12%
General Government Expenditure on Civil R&D as percentage of total	2%
Private Non-Profit Institutions Expenditure on Civil R&D as percentage of total	1%

FINANCING BY SECTOR (2014)⁴

Business Sector Financing of Civilian R&D	39.7%
Funds from Abroad ⁵ Financing of Civilian R&D	46%
General Government Sector Financing of Civilian R&D	12.5%
Higher Education Institutions Financing of Civilian R&D	0.2%

³ 2014 data from Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

⁴ 2014 data CBS

⁵ Comprises all non-resident institutional units that enter into transactions with resident units, or have other economic links with resident units (such as claims by residents on non-residents). Abroad includes certain institutional units that may be physically located within the geographic boundary of a country, for example: embassies, consulates or military bases, as well as international organizations

Private Non-Profit Institutions Financing of Civilian R&D	1.7%
---	------

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE BY RESEARCH OBJECTIVES (2014)⁶

Advancement of Research ⁷	56%
Advancement of Industrial Technology	30%
Development of Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	6%
Social Services	3%
Development of Infrastructures	3%
All the rest	2%

BUSINESS R&D EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC SECTOR (2012)⁸

Scientific Research and Development	36%
Computer Programming, Consultancy and Related Activities	32%
Manufacturing High Technology	24%
Manufacturing, Medium High, Medium Low, Low	7%
Other Service Industries	1%

MULTINATIONAL R&D CENTRES EXPENDITURE (2012)⁹

Share of R&D Expenditure out of Total Business Sector Expenditure	38%
Share of R&D Jobs in the Business Sector	33%

MANUFACTURING EXPORTS BY TECHNOLOGICAL INTENSITY (2014)¹⁰

High Technology	42%
Medium High Technology	37%
Medium-Low Technology	14%
Low Technology	7%

⁶ 2014 data CBS

⁷ All R&D which contributes to the advancement of general knowledge that cannot be attributed to a specific objective + General University Funds: All R&D financed by general-purpose grants from the Ministry of Education through the Budgeting and Planning Committee of the Council for Higher Education

⁸ 2012 data CBS (latest available)

⁹ 2012 data CBS (latest available)

¹⁰ 2014 CBS

III. EU – ISRAEL RELATIONS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Key Messages/LTT

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Interest/Position of EP, Member States and other key actors

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Israeli reactions to the Commission Notice on indication of origin

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted text block]

What Israel wants from the EU:

Bilateral relations

- [Redacted text block]
- [Redacted text block]
- [Redacted text block]

Middle East Peace Process

- [Redacted text block]

What the EU wants from Israel:

Bilateral relations

- [Redacted text block]
- [Redacted text block]
- [Redacted text block]

Middle East Peace Process

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Middle East Peace Process Glossary provided by EEAS and the delegations

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Gaza

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jerusalem

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Golan Heights

[REDACTED]

How we should best use them?

When in Israel

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

When in Palestine

[REDACTED]

IV. MEETING WITH PROF

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

17:00 – 17:30, Sunday, 10 January

The King David Hotel, Ambassadors Garden, Jerusalem

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will meet Prof [REDACTED]
Council for Higher Education.

There are two main government players in Israeli R&D - the Ministry of Economy's Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS), responsible for industrial R&D, and the Council of Higher Education whose Planning and Budget Committee is responsible for the funding of academic research.

1.2 Objectives

- Exchange views on the participation of the Israeli academia in the EU Framework Programme

1.3 Line to take

- Israeli academia's active participation is a great contribution to the success of our programme and we are confident that Israel also benefits from its participation.
- Horizon 2020 is the largest public R&D programme in the world. Its budget is larger than that of the previous Framework Programme. This shows the importance that the EU places on research and innovation.
- We are very impressed with the achievements of Israeli academia in the Framework Programmes and especially in the ERC in which 2 Israeli institutions (Weizmann Institute and Hebrew University) are in the top 10 hosting institutions (possibility to add the 3 in the top 30, including Technion).
- On this topic, I would be interested to hear whether you believe that Israeli institutions will be able to maintain this high number of grants or whether a saturation point might be reached.
- I understand that the Israeli university system is in the midst of reforms. I would be interested in hearing about the goals you hope to achieve and the means being taken.

2. DEFENSIVES (no defensives in addition to the key defensives)

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 CV of Prof [REDACTED]

Education:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Public activity:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.2 Overview of the Council for Higher Education (CHE) and the Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)

The Council for Higher Education is a statutory corporation established by the 1958 Council for Higher Education Law. It is the State institution responsible for higher education charged with preserving the autonomy of Israel's institutes of higher education, setting policy, granting permits to open institutes of higher education as well as their accreditation, approval of studies and granting of degrees. The Minister of Education is the head of the CHE.

There are 25 members in the Council. Among them are the Chairman – the Minister of Education, the Chairman of the Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC), and two representatives of the students' union. At least two thirds of the Council members are "persons of standing in the field of higher education". The remaining members serve as public representatives. Members of the Council are recommended by the Government and appointed by the President of the State, for a period of five years. The Vice Chair is the professional head of the CHE.

The Planning and Budgeting Committee, known as VATAT in Hebrew, is a subcommittee of the CHE, established by a 1977 government decision. Its functions include the proposal of higher education budgets, the allocation of the budgets between the different institutes of higher education and the monitoring of the budgets.

The PBC consists of 7 members, of which five members are senior academics in various fields in higher education, including one member from a non-university budgeted higher education institution and two members from different sectors of the economy. In practice, the PBC is composed of four members who are faculty in the universities, one member who is a faculty member in a publicly-funded college, and two public representatives.

PBC members are appointed by the Minister of Education, upon the judgement of the Chairman of the PBC and with approval by the Council after a secret ballot, for a period of three years, with the option of extension for an additional three-year period.

Recent Developments – Creeping Politicization?

In recent years, the CHE, which had functioned as a completely apolitical body, had begun to show signs of politicization. This began with the, eventually unsuccessful, attempts in 2012 to close the political science department of Ben Gurion University. At the end of 2012, the CHE voted in favour of upgrading to a university, Ariel College which is located in the West Bank. The association of university presidents (except Bar Ilan) appealed against the decision to the High Court of Justice which at the end of 2013 rejected the appeal on the grounds that the proper procedures had been followed. Ariel University is now eligible to receive funding from the CHE. This dilutes the funds available for the existing recognised universities which already suffer from inadequate funding. It could also cause confusion for foreign academic institutions wishing to cooperate with recognised Israeli universities. In 2013, the CHE was also criticised

for approving the request of the Shalem Centre to be recognised as a higher education institute entitled to grant undergraduate degrees. The Shalem Centre, located within Israel, is considered to be more of a neoconservative think tank than an academic institution.

In December 2013, the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Education and Finance established the Committee for the Regulation of the Governance of the Higher Education System. Its mandate was to evaluate the interface between the regulatory bodies responsible for the higher education system as well as between these bodies and the government, with the goal of strengthening the Israeli higher education system, making it more efficient, and strengthening its ability to achieve national aims. The Committee was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Council for Higher Education. In addition to the Chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, it included current and former high officials from academia and government as well as legal experts and a retired high court judge. The Committee presented its report in May 2014.

The Committee proposed the creation of a new body which would be responsible for Israel's higher education system and would ensure the balance between government policy and the autonomy of the higher education system. The proposed Higher Education Authority would be composed of three elements. The Council for Higher Education would be responsible for setting policy on the macro level. The Executive Board would be responsible for the ongoing management and execution of the CHE's policy, including the decisions of the Accreditation Committee, and for the budget allocation duties currently dealt with by the PBS. The Accreditation Committee would be a purely professional academic body responsible for accreditation and would function with maximum independence. The head of the new Higher Education Authority would be the Minister of Education.

The recommendations went into limbo with the fall of the government in December 2014. In November 2015, the New Minister of Education, Naftali Bennett of the right wing pro-settlement Jewish Home party, notified the CHE that he did not intend to proceed with the implementation of the Committee's recommendations. A few days later, the Minister requested that the highly regarded CHE Vice Chair Hagit Messer Yaron resign¹¹. A petition signed by 225 academics argued that "under these circumstances, her ouster looks like an arbitrary move that violates the fundamental norms of governmental behaviour and the rules of administrative law".

The "dismissal" of the CHE Vice Chair together with the rejection recommendations of the Committee for the Regulation of the Governance of the Higher Education System has increased fears of a continued politicization of the CHE and weakening of the universities.

¹¹ The Minister of Education cannot actually fire the Vice Chair.

**V. MEETING WITH MR AVI HASSON, CHIEF SCIENTIST OF
THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR**

**17:45 – 18:45, Sunday, 10 January
The King David Hotel, Olive Hall, Jerusalem**

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will meet Avi Hasson, the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy who is currently also acting head of the Israel-Europe Directorate (ISERD) until the appointment of a new ISERD Director General.

The main interlocutor for the FP7 programme/Horizon 2020 in Israel is ISERD - The Israeli Directorate for EU FP - which serves as the FP7 national contact point. ISERD is an inter-ministerial directorate, established by the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Council for Higher Education, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ISERD is also the main interlocutor for all other European industrial research cooperation.

The Ministry of Economy's Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS), responsible for industrial R&D and the Council of Higher Education are the two main two main government players in Israeli R&D.

Avi Hasson has worked intensively over the last couple of years for the establishment of the new National Authority for Research, Development and Technological Innovation Authority.

The meeting follows up on the meeting between Avi Hasson and Robert-Jan Smits held in Brussels on 9 September 2015 in Brussels.

1.2 Objectives

- Welcome the active participation of the Israeli industry in the EU Framework Programme
- Mark the 20th anniversary of Israel`s participation in the EU Framework Programme.
- Explore possibilities for strengthening cooperation in areas such as the GEO High-Level Working Group, the SET-Plan Steering Group and establishment of structured dialogue in Research Infrastructures.

1.3 Line to take

- The active participation of the Israeli industry to Horizon 2020 has strengthened research and industrial working relationships between Israel and the EU.
- EU and Israel have a long history of successful scientific and technological cooperation and you are there in Israel to mark the 20 anniversary of this cooperation.
- We, in the EU are very impressed by the great success of Israel - "the Start Up Nation" and believe we have much to learn from Israel in this regard.

- The cooperation and networking achieved through the Framework Programme have been one way to provide us with insights and mutual learning.
- The annual EU –Israel Innovation Seminar that our Delegation organized here provides another, albeit small, opportunity for exchanges of best practices and laying the basis for future cooperation. Since 2011 it has addressed pertinent issues such as the Innovation Ecosystem, Technology Transfer, Technological Incubators, Venture Capital, and Social Innovation.
- Israel and Europe have already achieved a lot, but many opportunities remain to be seized.
- We encourage Israel to collaborate more actively in the on-going preparation of the 2016 Innovation Union Scoreboard by providing statistical input data
- We highlight the impressively good performance of Israel. According to the latest calculations for the innovation output Indicator Israel is the top performer.
-
- Israel's innovative enterprises are encouraged to participate more actively in Horizon 2020 activities addressing SMEs and Access to Risk Finance.
- Israel is welcome to engage in the SET-Plan Steering Group on low-carbon technologies.
- We will be pleased to work closer with Israel also in the implementation of the new GEO strategic plan 2016-2025 and would welcome the participation of Israel in the GEO HLWG.
- We are pleased with the fact that there are two Israelis among the nine finalists of the EU Prize for Women Innovators 2016.¹²
- Israel has also been an important partner in ERA, with the ERA 'HR Excellence in Research' award has been granted to three institutions in Israel (Bar-Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University and Technion).
- Israel's involvement in the PRIMA initiative is welcome, particularly in view of its long-standing scientific excellence in the water and agricultural sectors. The Commission will continue to insist on inclusiveness in all relevant actions, including the forthcoming SC5 CSA Action.

¹² Prof. Zvia Agur, founder of Optimata in Israel, a leading health company creating pioneering medical software technology for oncology personalisation and Dr. Kira Radinsky, co-founder of SalesPredict in Israel, pioneers in predictive data mining algorithms for micro-economic business and sales interactions.

- I am most interested to hear also about the new National Authority for Research, Development and Innovation.

2. DEFENSIVES (no defensive in addition to the key defensives)

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 CV of Mr Avi Hasson, Chief Scientist; Ministry of Industry, Trade & Labor



Mr. Avi Hasson serves as Head of the Office of the Chief Scientist at The Office of the Chief Scientist. Mr. Hasson has been the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of Israel since January 2011. Mr. Hasson was a Venture Partner at Gemini Israel Funds, Gemini Fund V, Gemini Fund IV and Gemini Fund III. He joined Gemini Israel Funds in February 2000 and during his ten year tenure, he served as a General Partner and a Principal at it. At Gemini, Mr. Hasson managed the Fund's investments in the communications, storage and consumer electronic sectors. In addition he supported and supervised portfolio companies throughout their life cycle. Mr. Hasson was also responsible for Gemini Fund IV and Gemini Fund V and was involved in the entire deal flow process from the sourcing of deals, through the due diligence and investment process and actively supporting and assisting the portfolio companies. He served as the Director of Product Marketing at ECI Telecom (ECIL), responsible for next generation telephony systems. Prior to this, Mr. Hasson held several marketing and business development positions at Ectel Ltd (ECTX) and played a pivotal role in defining its strategy to penetrate the telecom market. While at ECTX, he was an active member of the ITU Quality of Service Development Group. During his tenure at ECI Telecom, ECTel and Tadiran Systems, Mr. Hasson fulfilled several duties in the fields of marketing, business development, and consulting. His work there involved operations such as market and technology research and analysis, together with supervision of research and development activities as well as product definition and specification (ECI Telecom); designing and redirecting ECTel towards Telecom Operation Support Systems as well as managing its first product in this area-a Fraud Management System. He serves as a Director of the U.S. Israel Science and Technology Foundation. Mr. Hasson served as an Board Member of a number of Gemini's portfolio companies including Axxana, ConteXtream, Inc., Starhome, and Prime Sense Inc. He served as a Director of Outsmart Ltd., PrimeSense Ltd. and Olista Ltd. Mr. Hasson traveled and lectured extensively both in Israel and in the United States on Venture Capital and High-tech subjects. His involvement in telecommunications began with his service in the Israel army. During his time in the Israel Defense Forces, Mr. Hasson was recruited to the prestigious Haman-Talpiyot project and served as a Major (Res.) in the Central Collection Unit of the Intelligence Corps. He is a graduate of the IDF's elite HAMAN-TALPIOT, Program, where he served as an Intelligence Officer of the Israel Defense Forces. Mr. Hasson holds an M.B.A. in 2004 and a B.A. in 1999, summa cum laude, in Economics and Middle East Studies both from Tel Aviv University.

3.2 Background

3.2.1 GEO High-Level Working Group

Israel has never appointed a representative in the GEO High-Level Working Group (HLWG), which is the group open to countries associated to Horizon 2020. We should take the occasion of this visit for inviting Israel to appoint one representative to the HLWG. The HLWG meets two or three times a year in Brussels to discuss and decide on European positions and approaches within GEO.

3.2.2 Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan Steering Group

Israel is participating in the Energy configuration of the H2020 Programme Committee, but is not involved in the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan Steering Group (contrary to other countries associated to H2020). The SET-Plan Steering Group is the driver of the SET-Plan catalysing the cooperation between Commission and Member States on low-carbon technologies, as well as between Member States.

Israel is welcome to request membership to the SET-Plan Steering Group. The Commission would welcome such request. This is the case for other countries who are not EU member States (e.g. Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey).

3.2.3 Research Infrastructures

Israel has demonstrated to be very knowledgeable and active in the frame of the activities conducted by the EU in the Research Infrastructure domain, however a proper bilateral structured dialogue between RTD and Israel on Research Infrastructures remains to be developed. Due to the strong connections between the scientific communities in Europe and Israel and the R&I potential of their Research Infrastructures, the Commission is willing to establish a structured dialogue in this specific field with Israel.

3.2.4 Israel and PRIMA

Even though Israel has not committed any financial resources to PRIMA initiative, Israel has participated in the preparatory meetings, following the process as an observer and showing interest in the initiative.

Additional countries and EU Member States have expressed their intention to make a well-considered decision on their participation in the light of the development of the programme (e.g. Germany, UK). The PRIMA Joint Programme remains open to any country willing to join the initiative. The initiative has been receiving more and more political attention from other countries, also due to the current immigration crisis in the Mediterranean area: as an example Montenegro and Tunisia have showed a strong interest to be more actively involved.

The PRIMA initiative concerns the potential Union participation in a proposal for a joint programme submitted by 9 Member States on 22nd December 2014 in accordance with Article 185 TFEU. The Member States that participated in the preparation of the joint programme

proposal are Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. Third country participants in the preparation of the joint programme comprise: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey¹³. The proposal consists of a joint research and innovation programme focussing on food systems and water resources in the Mediterranean basin.

The PRIMA joint programming proposal is fostering an integrated approach to address issues related to food production systems and the sustainable use of water resources, which are key socio-economic challenges of particular interest in the Mediterranean area, characterised by water scarcity and increasing fresh water demand for agricultural, domestic, touristic and industrial use. Due to the increasing competition for water from these different sectors, provision of adequate quality and sufficient quantities of water for sustaining agriculture and food systems in particular, is an issue of growing concern within the Mediterranean basin.

Providing solutions for citizens' prior concerns for ensuring food and water security in an ecologically sustainable way is the main aim of the PRIMA programme. The overall PRIMA goal is to develop innovative solutions and promote their adoption for improving the efficiency and sustainability of food production and water provision, in order to support an inclusive well-being and socio-economic development in the Mediterranean area, within the framework of a reinforced Euro-Mediterranean co-operation.

Within the Commission a preparatory work started in October 2015 in view of delivering an ex-ante Impact Assessment of the PRIMA initiative. This will include an assessment of the problem at stake, its potential impact at different levels including social, economic, environmental aspects as well as the possible policy options.

To this end, an Inter-Service Group chaired by DG Research & Innovation was set up in October 2015 to steer the PRIMA Impact Assessment Process in view of a possible Commission proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and the Council on the participation of the Union in PRIMA.

The Inception Impact Assessment paper was approved mid-December and is now public (in annex).

A public consultation will be soon on line and will last for 12 weeks and will collect the views of different stakeholders, such as citizens, companies, NGOs and public authorities. It is expected to finalise the impact assessment process before autumn 2016.

Whether the Commission will formally propose an article 185 initiative for co-decision by the legislators will then depend on the outcome of the impact assessment.

¹³ Financial commitments have been reported by: Czech Republic, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia.

3.2.5 Flash report by Cristina Russo for the meeting between Robert-Jan Smits and Avi Hasson, held on 9 September 2015 in Brussels

It was a very constructive meeting during which the following points were discussed and follow up actions agreed:

- H2020: on the Israeli's side, clear appreciation of the changes made in H2020, with a specific request on the importance of having more information on the evaluation results (ESRs) in order to be able to better understand the reasons for not successfully passing an evaluation. RJS stressed the importance of the seminar on simplification which is being organised by DG RTD and indicated that Israel should actively participate. The issue of "oversubscription" was also raised;
- Contractual PPs and SMEs: on the Israeli's side, the involvement of industry in H2020 was welcomed. However, the importance of continuing to promote the involvement of SMEs was also highlighted;
- Issue of "perception" related to Israeli's entities participation to H2020: Mr. Avi Hasson confirmed that Israel is highly committed to follow the "guidelines" for participation to EU's programmes but raised the importance of avoiding (as it seems to be the case sometimes now, as he mentioned) that a feeling of negative perception of Israeli's research entities (for political reasons) hampers our scientific cooperation. He referred to some specific case. RJS confirmed the importance of our scientific cooperation and also the role of "science diplomacy". In this respect, the foreseen visit of Commissioner Moedas to Israel (foreseen week 25 January) can play a very important role. Mr. Avi Hasson agreed to give the highest visibility to this visit (Prime Minister level) and we agreed that we'll remain in close contact with him and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to organise the mission (C3 and delegation to follow up);
- PRIMA: RJS made clear that the participation of Israel in PRIMA was of the outmost importance. Mr. Avi Hasson took note of that in a constructive manner.

Finally, it was agreed that pending the replacement of Mr. Shaton, we should contact directly Mr. Avi Hasson and his office.

3.2.6 Innovation Output Indicator (IOI) and the Innovation Union Scoreboard 2016 Measurement frameworks

The IOI was developed by the European Commission at the request of the European Council in order to benchmark national innovation policies and to monitor the EU's performance against its main trading partners. The IOI measures the extent to which ideas stemming from innovative sectors are capable of reaching the market, providing better jobs and making Europe more competitive. It covers technological innovation, skills in knowledge-intensive activities, the competitiveness of knowledge-intensive goods and services, and the innovativeness of fast-growing enterprises. It complements the R&D intensity indicator by focusing on innovation

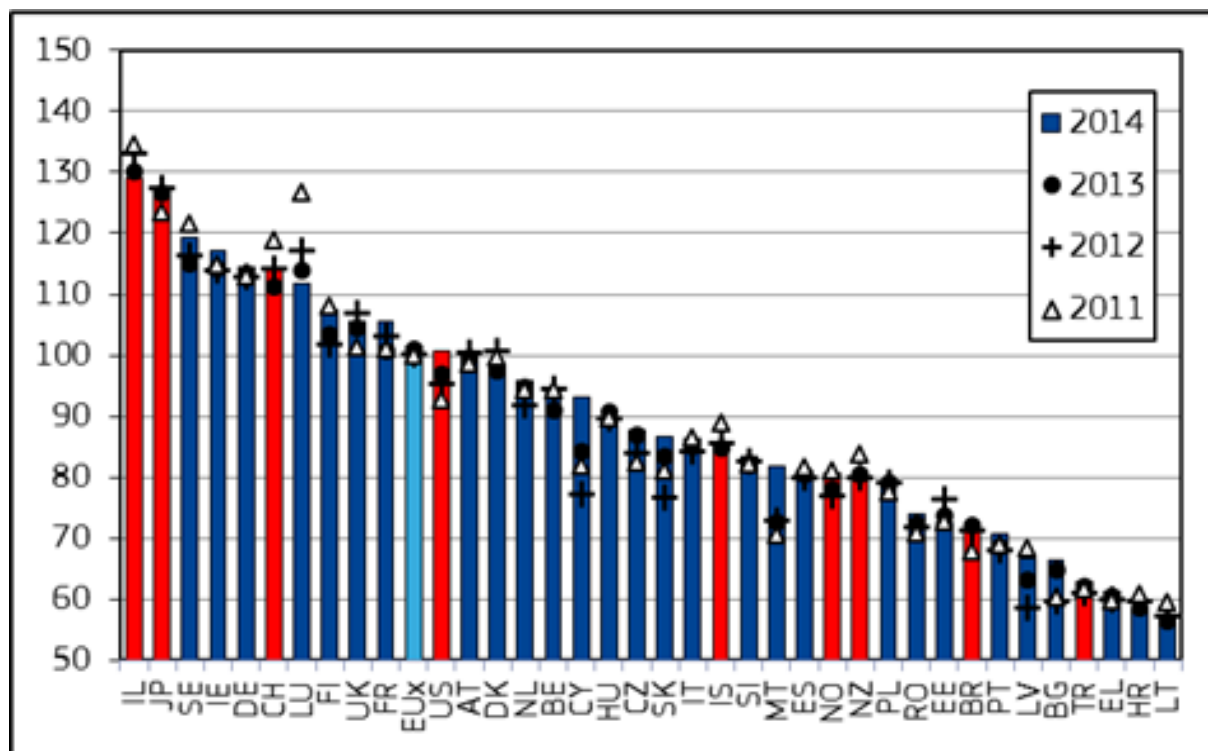
output. It aims to support policy-makers in establishing new or reinforced actions to remove bottlenecks preventing innovators from translating ideas into successful goods and services. The IOI is a composite of four components, chosen for their policy relevance, data quality, International availability and cross-country comparability and robustness. Its four components are:

- technological innovation as measured by patents (PCT);
- Employment in knowledge-intensive activities in the business industries as a percentage of total employment (KIABI);
- the average of the share of medium and high-tech goods and services in a countries export (COMP);
- and employment dynamism of fast-growing enterprises in innovative sectors (DYN).

The Innovation Union Scoreboard 2016 follows the methodology of previous editions. Innovation performance is measured using a composite indicator – the Summary Innovation Index – which summarizes the performance of a range of different indicators. The Innovation Union Scoreboard distinguishes between 3 main types of indicators – Enablers, Firm activities and Outputs – and 8 innovation dimensions, capturing in total 25 indicators.

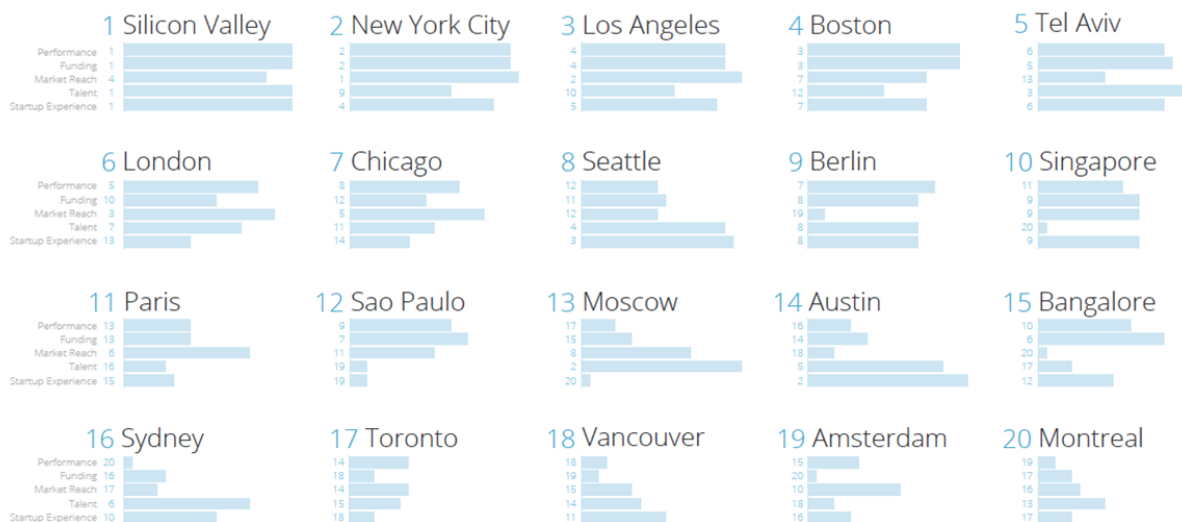
While Israel has provide data for IOI, we stil miss some data from Israel for IUS.

Innovation output indicator 2015, International Comparison



3.2.7 Tel Aviv ranks 5 in the Compass Start-up Ecosystems report (last time ranked second, in the 2015 report ranked 5th).

The Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking



**VI. MEETING WITH MR OFIR AKUNIS, MINISTER OF
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE**

**18:45-19:15, Sunday, 10 January
The King David Hotel, Olive Hall, Jerusalem**

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will meet Mr Ofir Akunis – the Israeli Minister of Science, Technology and Space.

The meeting does not take place in the Ministry as its headquarters are located in East Jerusalem, hence beyond the 1967 Israel's borders.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Space is our interlocutor for basic science cooperation. It has a small budget through which, inter alia, it supports eight regional research centres. However, the two main government players in Israeli R&D are the Ministry of Economy's Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS), responsible for industrial R&D, and the Council of Higher Education whose Planning and Budget Committee is responsible for the funding of academic research.

On 5 November, Israeli Minister of Science and Technology, Ofir Akunis, was due to speak at the annual reception for Horizon 2020 beneficiaries. Earlier in the day, Minister Akunis had given an interview to Army Radio in which he strongly criticized the EU for, in his terms, imposing a boycott on Israel through the labelling/indication of origin initiative. A few hours before the reception, the Delegation received a letter addressed to the Head of Delegation from Minister Akunis in which he cancelled his participation and accused the EU of anti-semitism. The letter was followed by a reaction in the Israeli media by the EU Head of Delegation. (*More information in the background*). We suggest not raising this issue formally unless the Israeli side raises it.

We also recommend that you do not raise the issue of PRIMA at this meeting. The issue will be raised by Avi Hasson.

1.2 Objectives

- Welcome the highly successful participation of Israeli academia in Horizon 2020 (around 63% of the total funding to Israel)
- Mark the 20th anniversary of Israel's participation in the EU framework programme
- To convince the Minister to engage his country as a full member (= 'Management Supporting Party (MSP)') of the Human Frontier Science Programme (HFSP).

1.3 Line to take

- Israel and the EU have a long and successful history of scientific cooperation. We like to say that this cooperation, which was consolidated with Israel's association to the Framework Programmes in 1996, is the jewel in the crown of our relations.
- Israel's participation in the EU Framework Programme has been a success story and presents an added value both for Israel and for the EU.
- Horizon 2020 is the largest public R&D programme in the world. Its budget is larger than that of the previous Framework Programme. This shows the importance that the EU places on research and innovation.
- We have been very impressed with Israel's achievements in the previous Framework Programme and there is every indication that Israel will be successful in Horizon 2020.
- Israel has an excellent research base, with significant investment in research and is among the world leaders in innovation. This makes it a valuable EU partner in research and innovation.
- We are very impressed with the achievements of Israeli academia in the Framework Programmes and especially in the ERC in which 2 Israeli institutions (Weizmann Institute and Hebrew University) are in the top 10 hosting institutions (possibility to add the 3 in the top 30, including Technion).
- Israel leads in the European grants for young researchers: more than 8% of the 2015 Starting Grants were awarded to Israeli Host Institutions (24 out of 291).
- Israel's good practices in the sphere of science education help young people make the best use of their capacities and capabilities to become a force of innovation.
- Both the EU and Israel share an interest in outreach to the general public and to youth in particular. In this context, I would like to say how pleased we are with our cooperation in the annual European Researchers Night events which I understand are hugely successful in Israel.
- Israeli students have been participating at the European Union Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS) since 1999.
- Congratulate Israel on its active participation in EU Health research, going beyond not just the participation in projects, but involving the alignment of national research

priorities and joint calls. Ask the Minister of Science to join the Human Frontier Science Programme (HFSP) as a MSP.

- Together, Israel and Europe have already achieved a lot, but many opportunities remain to be seized.

2. DEFENSIVES (in addition to the key defensives)

Q: Can Israeli scientists continue to be funded in HFSP even if Israel is not a member?

- *So far this has been the case. While this practice has positive outcomes in promoting international research done anywhere, it has become increasingly difficult to justify the support to non-member nations during these extraordinarily difficult budget times where member nations see lower proportion of their own scientists funded at the expense of non-participating nations. There is currently under discussion within the Board to put some limits to beneficiaries coming from countries that are not HFSP members. The HFSP membership of Israel would allow a smooth continuation of HFSP funding to Israeli partners.*

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 CV of Minister Ofir Akunis

A prominent right-wing Israeli politician, Akunis currently serves as a member of the Knesset of the Likud party, and as Minister of Science, Technology and Space. Until September 3, 2015 he served as Minister in the Communications Ministry, with responsibility for the Broadcasting Authority. Akunis joined the Likud party in 1996 and became Deputy Media Advisor to Prime Minister Netanyahu later that year. He served in a variety of communications roles over the next twelve years, including Speaker for the Likud Party and Speaker for the Minister of Justice, until being appointed Deputy Director of Communications and Information for the Likud in 2008, where he served until his election to the Knesset.



18th Knesset

Ofir Akunis began his first term in the Knesset in 2009 and stood out as a particularly active MK, serving as Chairman of the Economic Committee and Deputy Speaker of the House. Among the initiatives he promoted were the opening of the cellular communications market to competition, the introduction of consumer protections, and the lowering of radio and television fees, resulting in dramatic savings for consumers. Among his other legislative efforts were a bill requiring a referendum to be held for any future political agreement regarding the future of Judea and Samaria, and the "Embargo Prohibition Law," which prevents any party boycotting Israel from benefitting from financing or services provided by the State.

19th Knesset

During his second Knesset term Akunis was appointed Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, acting as liaison between the government and the Knesset with the portfolio of the Advancement of Young People and Students. He leads the "Computer for Every Child" project, which aims to reduce social disparities by increasing computer access for children living in the periphery of the country. At the start of 2014 he upgraded the project and started to distribute tablets to children from underprivileged neighborhoods. In December 2014, a week after a massive crude oil spill in Israel's Arava region, Akunis was appointed Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and oversaw both the immediate response to the disaster and the development of an NIS 17 million program to rehabilitate the region, treat contaminated soils and restore damaged wildlife populations.

20th Knesset

As a minister in the Communications Ministry Akunis led the effort to reform the Israel Broadcasting Authority to eliminate inefficiencies and include a wider range of voices from Israeli society, and spearheaded the legislative effort to establish the new Israeli Broadcasting Corporation, to be established in March 2016. He was appointed Minister of Science and Technology on September 2, 2015.

3.2 Participation of Israel to European Union Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS)

The European Union Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS) was established in 1989 to strengthen the efforts made in participating countries to attract young people to careers in science and technology. It gives young students, aged between 14 and 20, the opportunity to compete with the best of their contemporaries at European level. The students share a common interest: they are passionate about science, technology and innovation. The students meet others with similar abilities and interests and are guided by the EUCYS jury, many of whom are among the most prominent scientists in Europe.

The contest gathers participants from EU Member States, countries associated to Horizon 2020 and countries with Science and Technology agreements with the European Commission. Israeli students have been participating at EUCYS since 1999. Since this time, Israeli students have been awarded 16 prizes including 2 second prizes, 1 third prize and 13 Special donated prizes.

The president of the EUCYS jury in 2010 was an Israeli scientist, Professor Hagit Messer-Yaron.

3.3 Human Frontier Science Programme (HFSP)

The European Union is one of the 15 members of the HFSP. Currently, one of the fundamental elements of the HFSP is to offer nearly unrestricted access to researchers from all over the world. This is in line with supporting life science research without borders. Israel is not an HFSP member, but it benefits from its funding and prizes, such as the HFSP Nakasone Award in 2014 awarded to Professor [REDACTED] from the Weizmann Institute. This openness comes at an increasing cost for HFSP members, who are currently paying for this funding. The HFSP Board of Trustees is currently discussing options to restrict participation of scientists from non-member countries. It would be a very sad development, if with their professionalism, their vision and determination the Israeli researchers could no longer benefit from this programme. Therefore, Israel should seriously consider joining the HFSP.

3.4 Likud minister skips event with EU envoy in protest of settlement labelling

Jerusalem Post 5.1.2015, Akunis says the labelling initiative is a dark stain on the moral fabric of Europe

Minister of Science Technology and Space Ofir Akunis has cancelled his participation in a joint event with the EU envoy to Israel Lars Faaborg-Andersen in protest over the anticipated European Union labelling directives of products from the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

"The labelling initiative is a dark stain on the moral fabric of Europe which bears witness to the fact that the lessons of history have not been learned," he said.

Akunis said he viewed favourably the Horizon 2020 project and other joint science and technology initiatives with the EU but that he "could not ignore the EU initiative which is nearing implementation."

"What began with calls to boycott Jewish businesses, continued with the marking of human beings, and afterwards with their systematic destruction," the Likud minister said.

Faaborg-Andersen said on Tuesday that products produced over the pre-1967 lines are not "made in Israel" and cannot be labelled that way. He spoke to *The Jerusalem Post* in defence of the pending publication of guidelines to enable member states to place consumer labels on exports originating over the pre-1967 lines.

"The EU position is that we do not recognize Israeli authority beyond the Green Line. It is not part of Israel. It is not part of what we understand to be Israel's international recognized borders," said Faaborg-Andersen in a telephone interview. "For that reason we cannot agree that products that come from settlements beyond the Green Line are labelled 'made in Israel.'" Faaborg-Andersen will be one of the featured speakers at the fourth Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Conference in Jerusalem on November 18.

An Israeli diplomatic official warned on Monday that the EU settlement- labelling guidelines might be published in the coming weeks, possibly even in the next few days.

3.5 Austrian Vice-Chancellor Canceled his Visit to Israel in December 2015

The visit of Austrian Vice Chancellor Reinhold Mitterlehner, who holds the portfolios of Minister of Science and Minister of Economy foreseen for 6 – 8 December was been cancelled. The visit was centered around our bilateral scientific cooperation, including the signing of various MoUs with the Minister of Science, Technology and Space, Ofir Akunis. The decision has been taken after various attempts to schedule a meeting with Minister Akunis inside the 1967 borders of Israel were not successful.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Space is located in East Jerusalem. EU officials therefore do not hold meetings with the Ministry at its headquarters. These meetings take place in the Knesset (Parliament), a hotel or exceptionally in the Tel Aviv branch of the Ministry. Minister Akunis insisted that the meeting take place at the Ministry Office in Jerusalem. He was quoted as saying:

Austria will not divide Jerusalem. With all due respect to the Austrian Minister of Science, united Jerusalem, the capital of Israel for over 3,000 years, stands above any consideration...The government complex in the east is an integral part of greater Jerusalem...If I agreed to accept the demands of the guests it would be as though I would agree to divide Jerusalem, which will never happen.

Note: The Ministry of Science, Technology and Space is well aware that the Commissioner will not meet with the Minister at the Ministry in East Jerusalem.

**VII. PARTICIPATION IN A RECEPTION HOSTED BY
MINISTER OFIR AKUNIS¹⁴**

**19:30 – 21:00, Sunday, 10 January
Hotel Inbal, Bistrot Hall, Jerusalem**

¹⁴ Around 100 persons are expected to attend

COMMISSIONER MOEDAS DRAFT SPEECH

10 January 2016, Evening Reception – 5-10 minutes

Big head thinking for open innovation

Minister Akunis,

Thank you for those words of welcome.

Esteemed guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

[Attention]

I often quote the late President Shimon Peres, who I greatly admire.

"The value of a country is not and will never be measured by square metres of land, but by the number of scientists per square metre."

These words have stayed in mind.

Reminding me that science and innovation are more than knowledge.

Their purpose is to form a clear path towards peace and prosperity.

[Background - 20 years of R&I Cooperation]

Today,

I am delighted to mark the 20th anniversary of Israel's participation in EU research programmes.

I find myself humbled and inspired by 20 years of friendship and cooperation between our scientific and research communities.

20 years of projects contributing not only to Israel and to Europe, but to humanity.

20 years of work in areas of universal importance.

Health research has been a particularly valuable area of our cooperation.

Like the work of MeMedⁱ, a diagnostics company based just outside Haifa.

MeMed is currently researching how to limit antimicrobial resistance in children and adults as part of an EU funded project.

Very important work, given the great rise in resistance to antibiotics in recent years.

But Israel has gone much further than participating in our collaborative research projects.

You have also aligned your national research priorities and joint calls.

You have worked on common strategies for neurodegenerative diseases, anti-microbial resistance, personalised medicine and more.

So that we can achieve more together.

[Your visit]

Tomorrow, I have the opportunity to visit the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot.

They are participating in another exciting EU-funded projectⁱⁱ,

Looking for new ways to treat childhood tumours through interdisciplinary research.

I am hoping to learn what makes Israel such a successful partner in EU research.

Researchers based in Israel have almost the highest success rate (16%) in the European Research Council calls.

Second only to Switzerland.

That is truly remarkable.

Israel can teach us all a thing or two about how a country can succeed in science and innovation.

[Inspirational Example]

You know, one of my favourite books on innovation is *Start-up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle*:

A book which has influenced leaders of all kinds since its publication.

I was particularly interested to read about *rosh gadol*, or *big head* culture in Israel – which is favoured over *rosh katan*, *little head* thinking.

Meaning:

When an order is given by someone in authority, *rosh gadol* favours:

"...using judgement and investing in whatever effort is necessary. It emphasises improvisation over discipline..."

In contrast to making the least effort, or interpreting orders as narrowly as possible, which is *little head* thinking.

The motto of *big head* thinking is *challenge the chief!*ⁱⁱⁱ

[Lesson Learned]

I am sure *rosh gadol* is a big part of what has made Israeli innovators and entrepreneurs so successful.

I am sure it is what has led to so many Nobel Prize winners and ERC grantees associated with Israeli universities.

Rosh gadol encourages the individual to be bold and do what they believe is right.

Perhaps that is one of the reasons why Mahatma Gandhi's photograph, was the only picture to hang in Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's bedroom^{iv}.

Gandhi inspired him.

As an icon of peaceful resistance to authority and the power of freedom of thought and expression^v.

[Conclusion]

To me, Israel is a country of idea parity:

A country that flourishes on encouraging its people to have ideas, without concern about the level of society they come from.

Israel is country of open innovation. Something I want to see more of in Europe.

So I look forward to see the results of *rosh gadol* culture during this visit.

And I will be sure to take some back to my work in Europe.

VIII.

08:00 – 09:30, Monday, 11 January
The King David Hotel, olive hall, Jerusalem

1. SPEAKING POINTS

- Good morning ladies and gentlemen, as mentioned at yesterday's reception, I am pleased to be in Israel these days to mark the 20 anniversary of Israel's participation in the EU framework programme.
- As we like to say the EU – Israel research and innovation cooperation is the jewel in the crown of our relations.
- Israel's participation in the EU Framework Programme has been a success story and presents an added value both for Israel and for the EU.
- Like the rest of the world, we in the EU are very impressed by great success of "Israel the Start Up Nation" and believe we have much to learn from Israel.
- The cooperation and networking achieved through the Framework Programmes have been one way to provide us with insights and mutual learning. But I am sure there are many more ways in which we can work together for our mutual benefit
- I see this morning's breakfast as an excellent opportunity to learn from you the secrets of your success.
- At the EU level, a new path for R&I policy will be charted, based on my three strategic priorities: Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the World.
- We are moving into a world of open innovation and user innovation. A world where the digital and physical are coming together. A world where new knowledge is created through global collaborations involving thousands of people from across the world and from all walks of life.
- Open innovation is about involving far more actors in the innovation process, from researchers, to entrepreneurs, to users, to governments and civil society.
- We need open innovation to capitalise on the results of European research and innovation. This means creating the right ecosystems, increasing

investment, and bringing more companies and regions into the knowledge economy.

- Therefore, Horizon 2020s supplies funding that spans all across the innovation cycle, from lab to market.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 List of participants

Guests

Ms Anya Eldan – Manager OCS Technological Incubators Programme
Mr Jonathan Berger – CEO The Kitchen Incubator
Mr Yishai Green – Co-Founder Spot.Im
Mr [REDACTED] – Entrepreneur and Investor
Dr Rim Younis - Co-founder Omega Engineering
Dr [REDACTED] – Member of Knesset, Venture Capitalist
Mr Chemi Peres –Managing General Partner and Co-Founder Pitango (Venture Capital Fund)
Mr Erez Tsur – CEO EMC
Ms Sari Rot – Founder Bontact
Professor Dany Raz – CEO Bell Labs Alcatel

Israeli Participants

Avi Hasson – Chief Scientist, Ministry of Economy
[REDACTED], Ministry of Economy
Michel Hivert – Managing Director Matimop
[REDACTED], ISERD
[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] Mission of Israel to the EU
[REDACTED], Ministry of Foreign Affairs
[REDACTED] Ministry of Foreign Affairs

EU Participants

Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
[REDACTED]
Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
Mr. Antonio Vicente, Head of the European Commissioner's Cabinet
Mrs. Maria-Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
Mr. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
Mrs. [REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

2.2 Participants CVs

Mr. Avi Hasson

Mr. Hasson is the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy of Israel since January 2011. The Office of the Chief Scientist (the "OCS") in the Israeli Ministry of Economy is the government entity in charge of the execution of government policy for support of industrial R&D. The goal



of the OCS is to assist in the development of technology in Israel as a means of fostering economic growth, encouraging technological innovation and entrepreneurship, leveraging Israel's scientific potential, enhancing the knowledge base of industry in Israel, stimulating high value-added R&D and encouraging R&D collaboration both nationally and internationally. A variety of ongoing support programs developed and offered by the OCS play a major role in enabling Israel to be a key center for high tech entrepreneurship.

For ten years prior to his appointment, Mr. Hasson was a general partner at Gemini Israel Funds, one of Israel's top tier Venture Capital firms. At Gemini, Mr. Hasson managed the Fund's investments in the communications, storage and consumer electronic sectors. He travelled and lectured extensively both in Israel and in the United States on Venture Capital and High-tech subjects.

Prior to his time in Gemini, Mr. Hasson spent a decade in leading telecommunication companies, such as ECI Telecom, ECTel and Tadiran Systems, where he fulfilled several duties in the fields of product marketing and business development. Mr. Hasson holds a Bachelor Degree (BA) from Tel Aviv University in Economics and Middle East Studies (1997) as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Tel Aviv University (2002). He is a graduate of the IDF's elite HAMAN-TALPIOT, Program, where he served as an Intelligence Officer of the Israel Defense Forces. Ministry of Economy, Office of the Chief Scientist 5 Bank Israel St, P.O.B 3166, Jerusalem 9103101 Tel. 972-2-6662485/6, Fax 972-2-6662930

Anya Eldan is the General Manager, Early Stage Support Programs at the Office of the Chief Scientist since 12/2015. Ms. Eldan has been actively involved in NeuroTech Industry through innovation, entrepreneurship, seed investments, commercialization of proven research projects and BrainTech 2013 and 2015 Conferences. Ms. Eldan has over 25 years of Executive Experience in High Tech - managing Life Sciences companies, Managing a Venture Capital Fund and Technology Transfer ventures. Ms. Eldan has a proven track record of private and public fundraising.

Chemi Peres



is a Managing General Partner and Co-Founder of Pitango Venture Capital, Israel largest Venture Capital Group with over \$1.7 Billion committed capital under management, invested in over 200 companies with an Israeli nexus.

Mr. Peres is Chairman of the Al-Bawader Investment fund, a \$50M private-public partnership between Pitango Venture Capital and the Israeli Government. The Fund is focused on investments in the Israeli Arab Minorities sector.

Chemi has served on the boards of several NASDAQ/NYSE companies, such as AudioCodes, BackWeb Technologies, Magic Software Enterprises, Aladdin Knowledge, VocalTec Communications, Orckit Communications and Koor Industries, among others. He currently serves on the boards of numerous Pitango portfolio companies such as DudaMobile, Taboola, Radwin, Totango, Via Transportation and more.

In 1992, he founded the Mofet Israel Technology Fund, one of the first Israeli venture capital funds, that was publicly traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Prior to Mofet, Chemi held managerial positions at Decision Systems Israel (DSI), a real-time software development corporation. Chemi also serves as a board member in several non-for-profit organizations. He is chairman of the Peres center for Peace, board member at Social Finance Israel and Impact1st. He serves on the board of Governors of The Jewish Diaspora Museum. Chemi was Chairman of the Israel America Chamber of Commerce, and Chairman of IVA - Israel Venture Association. He holds BSc. degree in Industrial Engineering and Management, and MBA degree from Tel Aviv University.

Prof. Danny Raz is the director of the new Bell Labs site in Israel, focused on "distributed



cloud networking", the new paradigm in which Cloud and SDN are used to virtualize many of the services currently deployed over dedicated hardware. Danny is on a Sabbatical from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, where he is a professor at the Computer Science Department, conducting research in the areas of network optimization with specific focus on network and cloud management.

Response	Percentage
U.S. should take action	85%
U.S. should not take action	15%

[illegible]

Government	Percentage
Current government	75%
Previous government	25%

Government	Percentage
Current government	85%
Previous government	15%

Response	Percentage
Yes	85%
No	15%

Erez Tsur is the CEO of EMC-Israel as well as the joint Co-Chairman for IATI. The Israeli Advanced Technology Industries (IATI) is the largest umbrella organization representing the high tech and life science industries. With about 600 members, their mission is to strengthen the Israeli high tech and life science industries across the whole value chain while creating global, technological and innovational leadership.

IATI's goal is to nurture and promote Israeli High-tech and Bio-tech as leading global players. As the Joint Co-Chairman of IATI, Erez believes that a well thought out and carefully planned policy has many advantages in promoting innovation and technological initiatives, which will, in turn, become a driving force in Israeli economics and future growth. Thus, IATI collaborates closely with all relevant public and private Israeli organizations in promoting these goals.

Prior to his current position, Tsur was the CEO of Cadence Design Systems, an American software company, where he also held the position of the chief business development officer for the company. Thus he was responsible for directing product development, market development and innovation. Before Cadence Tsur held several management positions for HP, including CMS responsibilities. His way in the industry began as the head of the IT and storage division in an Israeli high-tech firm.

Tsur has an B.Sc. in computerized communications from the Bar-Ilan University and an M.B.A. with a specialization in risk management from Heriot Watt. Tsur was elected one of the most promising managers for 2008 by the Globes G40 project.

Ishay Green, it's just another monday. green, 37, has no less than three successful exits on his resume, two of which are from startups he personally founded: onigma and soluto. Starting as a teenage whiz, green has been working in the startup scene since he was 15, and is now one of israel's most influential entrepreneurs (and in the startup-nation, that's saying something). his personal brand of enthusiasm has bought him as much fans as his top notch programming skills.

Major Careers

(2011~) cto & co founder at spot.im.

(2007-2011) cto & co founder at soluto (acquired by asurion ~\$120m).

(2004-2007) chief architect & co founder at onigma (acquired by mcafee \$20m).

Education

idc herzliya

ba, computer science

2003 - 2006

personal details

birthday -september 19

marital status-married

Jonathan Berger, CEO of 'The Kitchen'

Jonathan brings a unique combination of experience in clean-tech, agritech and foodtech investments along with hands on managerial experience. Jonathan served as the CEO of Elam,

an Israeli start-up in the field of electro-optic and as an entrepreneur-in-residence (EIR) in Precede VC. In the food industry, Jonathan has served in various positions including general management of Itzhar a leading edible oils producer. Jonathan has leaded "The Kitchen", the first Israeli FoodTech incubator since it's inception in 2014. The Kitchen, owned by the Strauss Group and supported by the state of Israel has been investing in early stage Israeli FoodTech start-ups aiming at nurturing the "FoodTech Valley"

Jonathan holds a BSc in Industrial Engineering & an MBA from Kellogg and Tel-Aviv University

Mrs. Reem Younis, Co- founder, Alpha Omega

Was born (1964) and raised in Nazareth, Israel. Mrs. Younis holds a B.Sc. Degree in civil engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology. Together with her husband founded "Alpha Omega Ltd." in 1993. Alpha Omega started as an R&D subcontractor and worked with companies and scientists in the Neuroscience fields. Throughout the years AO grew internationally to be one of the leading companies in the neurosurgery field.

During 1994 Mrs. Younis Co-founded "Alpha-Cad Ltd." a company that specializes in supplying complete CAD solutions, mainly for construction businesses. The company made exit in 2003

Currently, she is a board member of " NIF - New Israel fund organization" and "Kav Mashve", an association for the equality of Arab academic graduates in the Israeli employment market. In addition, she is also a board member at the "Israel Public Employment Service" a government statutory corporation committed to decreasing unemployment, and recently joined the Board of trustees & directors at "Ort Braude collage" so to be part of developing academic, technological and scientific center in the Galilee

Mrs. Younis' aspiration is to promote entrepreneurship among the younger generation, encouraging them to pursue their dreams for a brighter tomorrow. In turn, she believes, this would have a great impact on Nazareth. It would transform this diverse city into a modern and technological place. Reem and Imad share three children: Dima, Jude and Nada.

Sari Roth - 39 - Israeli haredi (ultra-orthodox) woman, resides in Bnei Brak, Israel. Sari is married to a *Talmid chacham*, a Talmud scholar, who wrote two Halacha works. At the age of 32 and as mother of seven, sari co-founded a start up company in the Voip field named Callme.

Later on Sari co-founded a start-up named Bontact that provides communication solutions for businesses worldwide. Bontact has raised seed funding and a OCS grant and was selected to the Microsoft accelerator in Israel batch #6. The company currently employs several men and women (religious and non-religious).

As a successful haredi entrepreneur and as a woman entrepreneur, many in the Israeli haredi community see her is a role model, a pioneer that "broke the glass ceiling".

Sari is a popular speaker at many forums, dealing with women in the hi-tech industry in general and particular in helping haredi young men and women to integrate into the business world in Israel.



IX. VISIT TO MOBILEYE VISION TECHNOLOGIES

09:45 – 10:45, Monday, 11 January

Har Hotzvim Industrial Park, Hartom Street 13, Jerusalem

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will visit Mobileye Vision technologies - the global pioneer in developing advanced collision avoidance systems. Ever since its inception Mobileye's goal is to develop and market vision-based systems that will help drivers keep passengers safe on the roads and decrease traffic accidents.

The company has never participated in the EU Framework Programme.

It is situated in Har-Hotzvim Hi-Tech Park - one of the largest and leading hi-tech centres in Israel.

The park includes leading international and Israeli companies such as Intel, Teva, Cisco, Ophir Optronics Solutions, Medinol, BrightSource, Mobileye, Rafa Laboratories, Omrix and many others. Beyond that, the park is a home for medium-size hi-tech companies as well as small start-ups.

1.2 Objectives

- To see at hands on example of Israeli innovation

1.3 Line to take

- Like the rest of the world, we in the EU are very impressed by great success of "Israel the Start Up Nation" and believe we have much to learn from Israel.
- I would like to thank you for this opportunity to see at hands on example of Israel innovation.
- I understand that Mobileye is a very successful example of technology transfer from academia to industry and would be very interested in hearing about the model you used and recommendations that you would have based on this experience.
- I would like to encourage you to participate in Horizon 2020 WP 2016-2017 topics related to Road Safety and Automated Road Transport.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 MOBILEYE

Mobileye was founded in 1999 by Professor Amnon Shashua and Mr. Ziv Aviram. Its development center, located in Har Hotzvim, Jerusalem is the world's largest machine vision development center and employs approximately 200 research and development employees. In addition, the company has offices in the Netherlands, the United States, Japan and Cyprus.

Mobileye has invested over 12 years in R&D and has gained an unparalleled know-how. The company is the global leader in the development of monocular vision-based advanced collision avoidance systems, providing system-on-chip and computer-vision algorithms to run DAS customer functions such as Lane Departure Warning (LDW), Vehicle Detection for radar vision fusion, Forward Collision Warning (FCW), Headway Monitoring (HMW), Pedestrian Detection, Intelligent High Beam Control (IHC), Traffic Sign Recognition (TSR), vision only Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC) and more.

Recognized as world leader Mobileye has been selected by a wide range of global automotive companies for their production vehicles, including BMW, GM, Volvo, Hyundai, Renault Trucks and more. To date, Mobileye's technology has been implemented and launched by BMW on multiple production platforms: 5-Series, 6-Series, 7-Series, Volvo S80, S60, XC70, XC60 and V70 models, and GM on the Buick Lucerne, Cadillac DTS and STS.

Mobileye's key technical breakthroughs lie in the use of a mono camera for all of its applications and in bundling together multiple applications to run simultaneously on a single EyeQ® and EyeQ2® processor based camera. Mobileye therefore has clear advantages in offering systems with multiple functions on a single hardware platform and in performing tasks previously only possible by an array of different sensors. Mobileye's award winning EyeQ® and EyeQ2® vision processors represent a major breakthrough combining high performance, low cost and the consolidation of multiple applications on a single platform. They enable high-end functions combinations to be offered to all market segments.

Mobileye's advanced collision avoidance systems' consumer product line contains features already in OEM production and new customer features to be launched by OEMs in the future. Mobileye C2 series is sold worldwide as an Aftermarket safety solution for passenger cars and commercial fleets. Mobileye is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the International Fleet Industry Award 2011, the Red Herring Top 100 Innovators Award and the Frost & Sullivan 2006 Entrepreneurial Company of the Year Award in the Automotive Industry. This recognition signifies the company's identification of a unique and revolutionary product solution with significant market potential.

X. VISIT TO JERUSALEM VENTURE PARTNERS (JVP)

11:00-12:00, Monday, 11 January 2016

Hebron road, 24, Jerusalem

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will visit the Jerusalem Venture Partners – a Venture Capital Fund in Israel. The fund was established in 1993 [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The fund specializes in investments in start-up companies, focusing on Digital Media, Enterprise Software, Semiconductors, Storage and Cyber Security. Currently it has over \$900 million under management.

1.2 Objectives

- Increase further the Israel's interest to Horizon 2020 activities addressing innovative SMEs/Start-ups and Access to Risk Finance.
- Ensure that EU tools in research and innovation continue attracting Israel innovative enterprises.

1.3 Line to take

- Like the rest of the world, we in the EU are very impressed by great success of "Israel the Start Up Nation" and believe we have much to learn from Israel.
- Thank for this opportunity to learn more about Israel's venture capital system and express interest to hear about the experience of venture capital funds in Israel.
- Inform about the Horizon 2020 SME Instrument as a successful tool for funding projects driven by SMEs, for innovative products and processes to get materialised into the market. ("Concept-to market").
- Remind that Israel with a success rate of 6,6 % in SME Instrument is at the second position of most successful associated countries, the first being Norway.
- An Israeli Bank will soon sign an agreement with EIF to provide access to loans to innovative SMEs in Israel. The loan is part of the SME Guarantee tool of H2020 ARF.
- In the frame of Horizon 2020, the European Commission, together with the European Investment Bank and European Investment Fund launched in 2014 "InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators", a series of integrated and complementary financing tools (covering both debt and equity financing) and advisory services supporting R&I promoters, such as universities, research centres, and companies - from the early stage to growth stage, all throughout the innovation lifecycle.

- All facilities branded as InnovFin-EU Finance for Innovators are implemented by the EIB-group, are demand-driven, and work on a first-come, first-assessed basis.`
- Israel is already benefiting from 1InnovFin product: InnovFin SME Guarantee.
- As for the debt facilities developed under InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators, it is expected that for every Euro earmarked to support these instruments, we will see 12 Euros of private investment, including VC. Concretely, for EUR 2.1 billion of commitments from the Horizon 2020 budget, over EUR 24 billion in loans, credit lines, leases and bonds will be extendable to a wide variety of entities developing R&I activities.
- On the debt side, the financial instruments provide loans for R&I-driven SMEs and small midcaps; loans plus hybrid and mezzanine finance for R&I-driven (or R&I done by) medium and large midcaps; and loans for R&I undertaken by larger firms, universities, R&I infrastructures, public-private partnerships, and special-purpose vehicles or projects:
- Among these projects a special interest could be the pilot clean energy tool - InnovFin Energy Demo Projects (EDP) which makes loans of between EUR 7,5 million and EUR 25 million to first-of-a-kind, commercial-scale industrial demonstration projects in the field of energy at Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7 or 8, or extends guarantees to financial intermediaries who will make such loans. Projects must relate to unproven pre-commercial technologies in the field of innovative renewable energy, fuel cells and hydrogen technologies. Projects may include, amongst others, first-of-a-kind power, heat, and/or fuel production plants and first-of-a-kind manufacturing plants. Projects must have a commercial component and demonstrate the ability to generate revenues after completion.
- In a nutshell Horizon 2020 supplies funding that spans all across the innovation cycle, from lab to market. Nonetheless, there is the recognition that improving the access to finance is not merely a supply side matter. Therefore, a supply side policy approach to mobilise investments in Europe must be accompanied by demand-side initiatives such as InvestHorizon which enhance the quality of deal flow by boosting the investment awareness and readiness amongst innovative SMEs across Europe and Associated Countries.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 JVP

Established in 1993 [REDACTED] JVP now has over \$900 million under management. The majority of the Fund's activities are led out of its International Media Quarter in Jerusalem with industry advisors in New York and Paris as well as an international network of strategic partners. The fund specializes in investments in startup companies, focusing on Digital Media, Enterprise Software, Semiconductors, Storage and Cyber Security

JVP leverages its unique market expertise, experienced and dedicated management team and substantial capital base to build companies with the potential to shape global markets. Through twenty five initial public offerings, acquisitions and mergers for its portfolio companies, JVP has helped to create some of the largest companies to come out of Israel over the past nineteen years:

JVP was the seed investor in Netro Corp. and sold its position when the company was traded on NASDAQ for \$5.5 billion. JVP was also the lead investor and the largest shareholder in Chromatis Networks, which was sold to Lucent in 2000 for \$4.8 billion. Additionally, JVP was the largest shareholder in Precise, selling its position in 2001 when the market cap was in the range of \$700 million, and in Cogent Communications, which was trading on NASDAQ at a market cap of \$1.2 billion in March 2007 when JVP sold its position. In July 2010 JVP's portfolio company QLIK Technologies was listed on NASDAQ, and with a market cap of more than \$2.0 billion, is being perceived as one of the most successful IPO's of a European-originated company in close to a decade. Beyond these examples, JVP has contributed significantly to a variety of technology companies that exited through industry sales and NASDAQ IPOs.

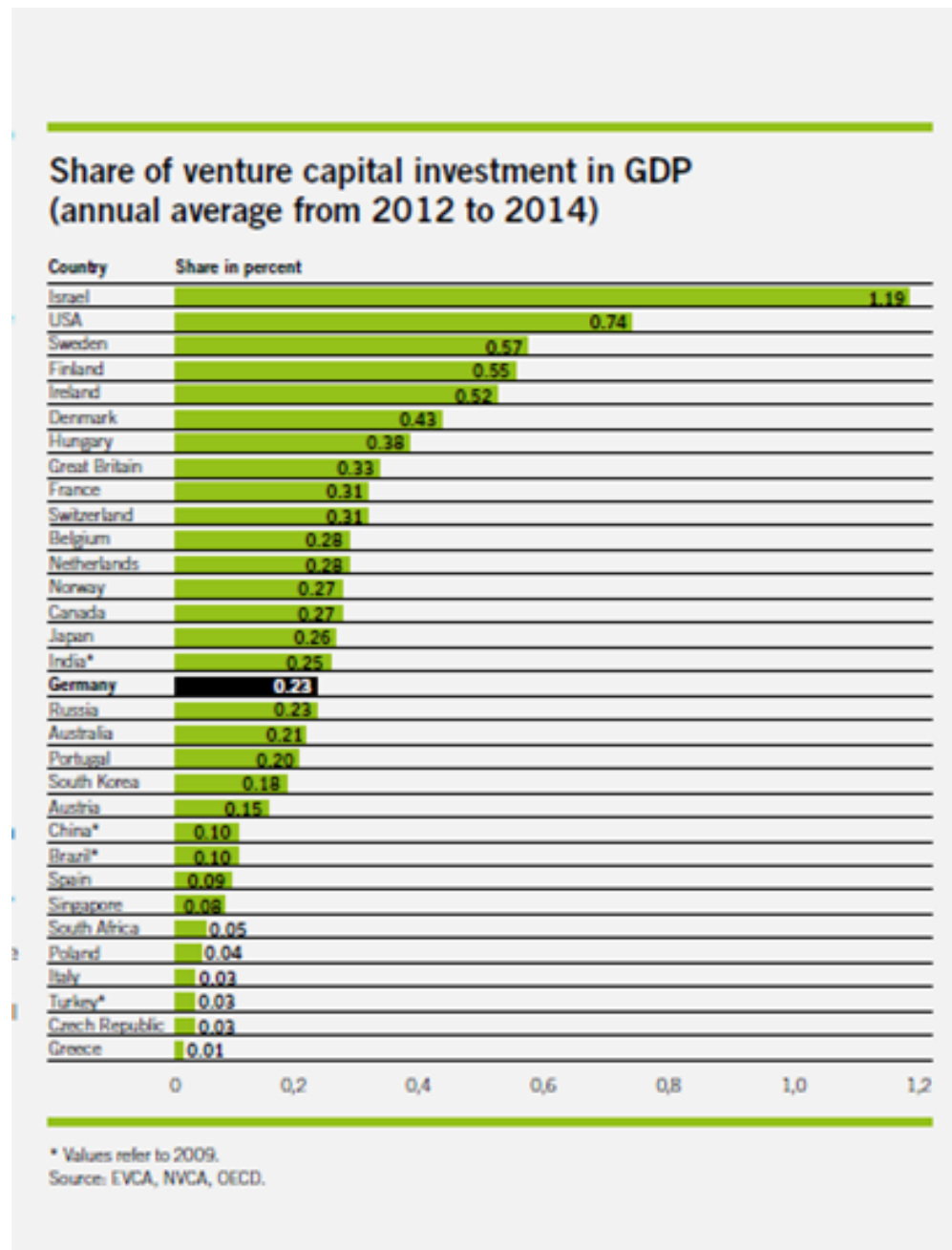
In addition to JVP's strengths in identifying companies with great potential and building them into global leaders, JVP has demonstrated keen ability in to recognize the trends that are shaping our world. In August 2011, Navajo Systems, a data-to-the-cloud encryption company, was sold to Salesforce.com, a mere two years after JVP had seeded it. This was Salesforce.com's first acquisition in the region and it currently serves as a Salesforce.com's research and development center. In May 2012, pioneering storage company XtremIO, which JVP helped found in 2009, was sold to EMC (NYSE: EMC) for a substantial multiple on JVP's investment.

The most recent exit was in July 2013 when JVP completed the sale of CyOptics for over \$400million in company value. JVP built CyOptics from scratch to substantial sales in 2013, further leveraging a secondary transaction in January 2011 to increase stake to over 50%, generating over \$200 million in proceeds to the funds.

JVP Media Quarter

In 2007, Erel Margalit established a Media Quarter in and around the historical train station compound in Jerusalem. Beside the main venture capital firm, the Media Quarter houses the JVP Media Labs, a technological early stage investment incubator; 10 start-up media companies; "Zappa Jerusalem in the Lab," a music club and concert venue for some of Israel's leading singers, and "JVP Community" ("Bakehila"), a youth empowerment program supporting up to 3,000 youngsters in 5 underprivileged Jerusalem neighborhoods.

2.2 Venture capital as a % of GDP - Israel is number 1



**XI. MEETING WITH REUVEN RIVLIN, PRESIDENT OF
ISRAEL**

**13h00, Monday, 11 January
Hebron Road 24, Jerusalem**

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will meet Mr Reuven Rivlin – Israel`s Tenth President (2014 – on-going).

President Rivlin has shown great interest in science outreach. He hosted a reception in 2015 for the winners of the Israel Young Scientists Competition which included 5 pupils who went on to participate in the EU Young Scientists Competition in Milan.

After the meeting both of you will make short statements.

1.2 Objectives

- Highlight that Israel is an important research and innovation partner for the EU
- Express satisfaction with the 20th anniversary of Israel`s participation in the EU framework programme and Israel`s world-class research and innovation system

1.3 Line to take/speaking points

- It is a great honour for me to meet you and I thank you for the opportunity to discuss EU - Israel scientific cooperation.
- Israel and the EU have a long and successful history of scientific cooperation. We like to say that this cooperation, which was consolidated with Israel's association to the Framework Programmes in 1996, is the jewel in the crown of our relations.
- One of the objectives of my visit is to mark the 20 anniversary of this association.
- We have been very impressed with Israel's achievements in the previous Framework Programmes and there is every indication that Israel will be as successful in our current programme - Horizon 2020.
- Horizon 2020 is the largest public R&D programme in the world. The Horizon 2020's budget is larger than that of the previous Framework Programme. This shows the importance that the EU places on research and innovation.
- Both the EU and Israel share an interest in outreach to the general public and to youth in particular. In this context, I would like to say how pleased we are with our

cooperation in the annual European Researchers Night events which I understand are hugely successful in Israel.

- I understand that last year you held a very successful reception for the winners of the Israeli Young Scientists Competition. We are very happy that five of those winners went on to EU Contest for Young Scientists.
- The EU – Israel cooperation in science, research and innovation has been a success story.
- Together, Israel and Europe have already achieved a lot, but many opportunities remain to be seized.

1.4 Statement for after the meeting (see below)

Statement for after the meeting

Israel and the European Union have a long and successful history of scientific cooperation.

Israel has been associated to EU research programmes for 20 years already:

- Contributing knowledge from some of the world's most talented thinkers;
- Working together with the European Union on areas of universal importance –

from cancer research to innovation in water management.

During this visit, I am learning a lot about open innovation.

I will take many ideas back to my work in Europe.

Israel is a free-thinking society and encourages the creativity of its people.

Our long-standing cooperation demonstrates the benefits of opening

European research, science and innovation to the world.

And I hope our partnership will serve as an inspiration to many other countries.

The European Union looks forward to another 20 years of scientific collaboration with Israel.

Together, we have a far better chance of solving some of the world's greatest challenges.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 CV of Reuven Rivlin



Reuven Rivlin, born in 1939, is a proud member of the Rivlin clan who have lived in Jerusalem since 1809.

Rivlin was first elected to the Knesset in 1988, and has served on a wide range of Knesset committees, among them: Foreign Affairs and Defence; Constitution, Law and Justice; State Control; Anti-Drug Abuse; Education and Culture; Ethics; Finance; House; and Advancement of the Status of Women. He also was a member of the Committee for Appointing Judges; the Committee for the Examination of the Maccabia Bridge Disaster; the Parliamentary Inquiry Committee on the Continuing Financial Crisis of the Local Governments; and the Parliamentary Inquiry Committee on Violence in Sports. In the 19th Knesset (the previous Knesset), until his election as President, Rivlin served as Chair of the Jerusalem Lobby. He also chaired the Knesset Delegation to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

A member of the right wing Likud Party, Rivlin, is a supporter of a united Jerusalem and against a two state solution. Unlike the majority of Likud members, however, Rivlin is a true liberal known for his unwavering support for democracy, civil and human rights. Thus, he has opposed anti-democratic legislation and attempts to silence human rights organisations. In 2011, he condemned the 2011 Boycott Law which prohibited advocating boycott of Israeli products and institutions, writing "Woe betide the Jewish democratic state that turns freedom of expression into a civil offence". Rivlin, whose scholar father translated the Koran into Hebrew, regularly condemns anti-Arab racism. He opposes the regular calls for the conditioning of civil and political rights for Israeli Arabs on service in the Israel Defence Forces and attempts to withdraw Parliamentary privileges of some Arab Members of Knesset. Although he now generally refrains from overt comment on the Middle East peace process, his longstanding position has been of support for a single state encompassing Israel and the West Bank, but with equal civil rights for all. In this sense he differentiates himself from the annexationist agenda of others on the right, such as Jewish Home.

Disturbed by the increasingly fractured state of Israeli society, in June 2015 Rivlin gave an address at an annual conference in which he argued that Israeli society was undergoing a far reaching transformation. In what became known as the "speech of the tribes", Rivlin said that a new Israeli order had been created. There was no longer a clear majority, nor were there clear minority groups. According to him, Israeli society is today composed of four population sectors, or principal 'tribes' which are essentially different from each other and which are growing closer in size. These four tribes are secular Jews, the national religious Jews, the Arabs and the ultra-orthodox Jews. Rivlin argued that it was necessary to abandon the view of

majority and minorities in favour of a concept of partnership between the different sectors of Israeli society. He concluded:

"Clarification of the essence of that partnership is the task of all of Israeli society. Even if it is not my role, as President of the State of Israel, to dictate the answers to these important questions, it is my duty and obligation to ask them, and demand they be debated and answered. And I will continue to do so from every platform, everywhere, before every tribe amongst us, and before the whole people."

XII. VISIT YAD VASHEM

14:10 - 15:15, Monday, 11 January

1. Scene setter

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2. Optional statement after the wreath-laying ceremony/Guest Book

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XIII. VISIT TO WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

16:00-18:30, MONDAY, 11 JANUARY, 2016

Programme

Weizmann Institute of Science

16:00 – 18:30, 11 January

- 16:00 Arrival to Weizmann Institute of Science
Meeting point: *Levinson Visitors Center*
- 16:10-16:40 Welcome meeting with **Prof.** [REDACTED]
Location: *Ayala Conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building*
- 16:50-17:50 Meeting with ERC Grant's recipients:
Participants:
- **Dr.** [REDACTED], *Department of Condensed Matter Physics*
 - **Dr.** [REDACTED], *Department of Immunology*
- Location: *Ayala Conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building*
- 18:00-18:30 Meeting with **Prof.** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- Location: *Ayala Conference Room, 4th Floor, Stone Administration Building*

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will visit Weizmann Institute – the most active Israeli organization in the EU Framework Programme. It ranks 8th in the list of top ERC hosting organizations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] received an ERC Advanced Grant in 2012 (2013-2018). The ERC Scientific Council's 23rd Plenary Meeting of 15 December 2009 was held at Weizmann Institute.

The Institute is a research rather than an academic institute as it does not have an undergraduate faculty. The Institute has five faculties– Mathematics and Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biology. The Weizmann Institute approach, however, is interdisciplinary with interaction between researchers from different fields encouraged.

The Weizmann Institute of Science played a key role in the development of the State of Israel. Its scientists pioneered cancer research in Israel, and they designed and built the first electronic computer in the country – one of the first in the world. They were the first in Israel to establish a nuclear physics department, which led to the construction of a particle accelerator; and they were the first to create an academically linked office for technology transfer and to initiate the creation of a science-based industrial park, built near the Institute. The Institute also played a pioneering role in the development of brain research, nanotechnology and solar energy research.

Technology transfer is deeply rooted at the Weizmann Institute which set up its technology transfer office in 1959. The Weizmann Institute's approach is to ensure a complete separation between the scientists carrying out the research and commercialisation which is carried out by the TTO and the Weizmann Institute's commercial arm the Yeda Research and Development Company Ltd.

The Institute is committed to contributing to society through various science education programmes and activities for schools, the public and gifted students

Weizmann Institute of Science is in the top 25 host institutions for ERC grants (19/11/2015):

Host Institution	Starting grants	Consolidator grants	Advanced grants	StG+CoG+AdG	Proof of Concept	Total
Weizmann Institute	51	13	30	94	18	112

ERC Advanced Grantee 2010 (2011-2016),

Weizmann Institute has had 214 participations in FP7 and 32 in Horizon 2020. Its most active areas of involvement have been medicine, biology and physics. It is to be noted that in the majority of cases Weizmann Institute has been coordinating the consortia (FP7 - 124 coordinators to 90 participants; Horizon 2020 – 20 coordinators to 90 participants). *To be put in a table*

1.2 Objectives

- Highlight Weizmann Institute's active participation in the EU Framework Programme
- Exchange good practices and lessons learnt

1.3 Line to take

- We have been very impressed with Israel's achievements in the previous Framework Programmes and there is every indication that Israel will be as successful in Horizon 2020
- The achievements of Israeli academia are particularly impressive especially in the ERC programme in which Weizmann Institute is placed 8th in the list of the top 10 hosting institutions. In fact, it tops the list of Framework Programme recipients both in the recently completed FP7 and also in Horizon 2020 so far.
- Commend Weizmann Institute on its active participation in the EU Framework Programme and show interest in learning about the key for its success.
- Weizmann Institute is a pioneer in the field of technology transfer, and an extremely successful one, and we would be interested to hear about their model. This success is particularly interesting in light of the Institute's policy of total separation between basic science research and commercialisation
- Highlight that the Weizmann Institute was the most active Israeli organisation in FP7 receiving 20.21% of FP7 funding received by Israel. The Institute signed contracts for 215 participations in FP7 for which it received Euro 176.89 million.

- It also leads the list of most active organisations in Horizon 2020, receiving 17.07% of funding granted so far. As of 20 October 2015, it had signed contracts involving 32 participations for which it will receive EURO 26.45 million.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 CVs of the participants

Prof. ██████████
 ██████████ **Department of Biological Regulation**

Dr. [REDACTED] Department of Condensed Matter Physics

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
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Dr. [Redacted] Department of Immunology

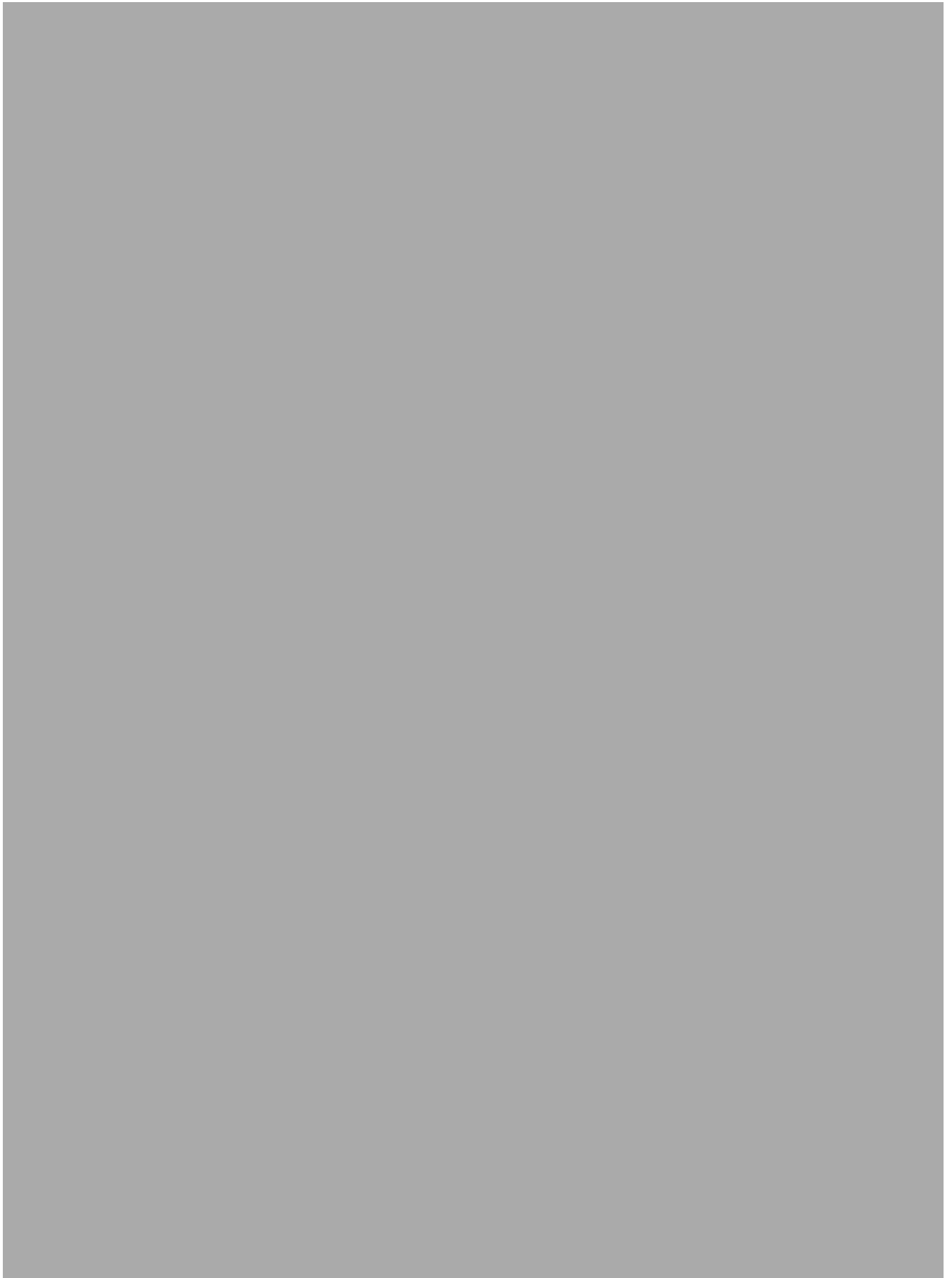


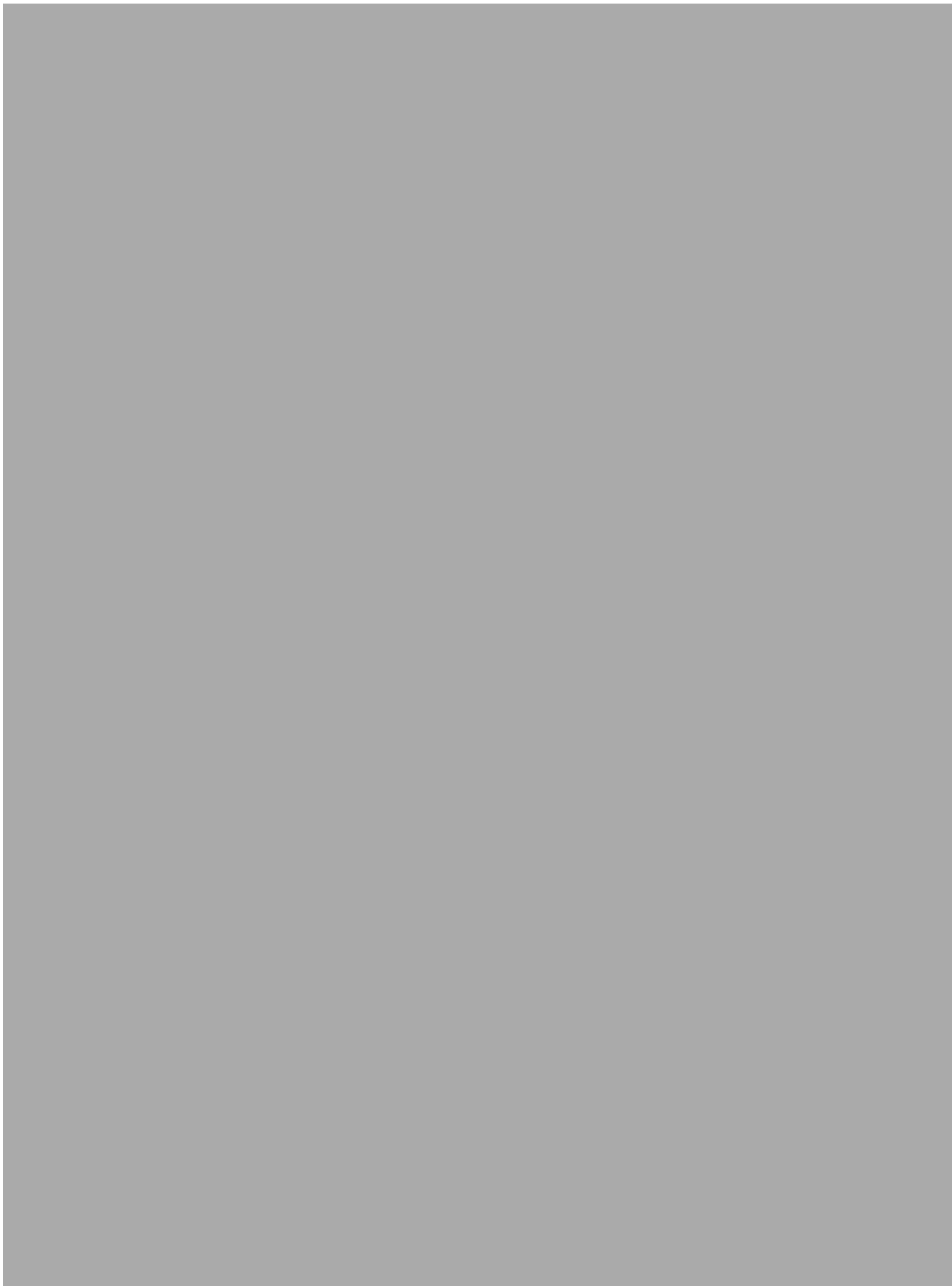
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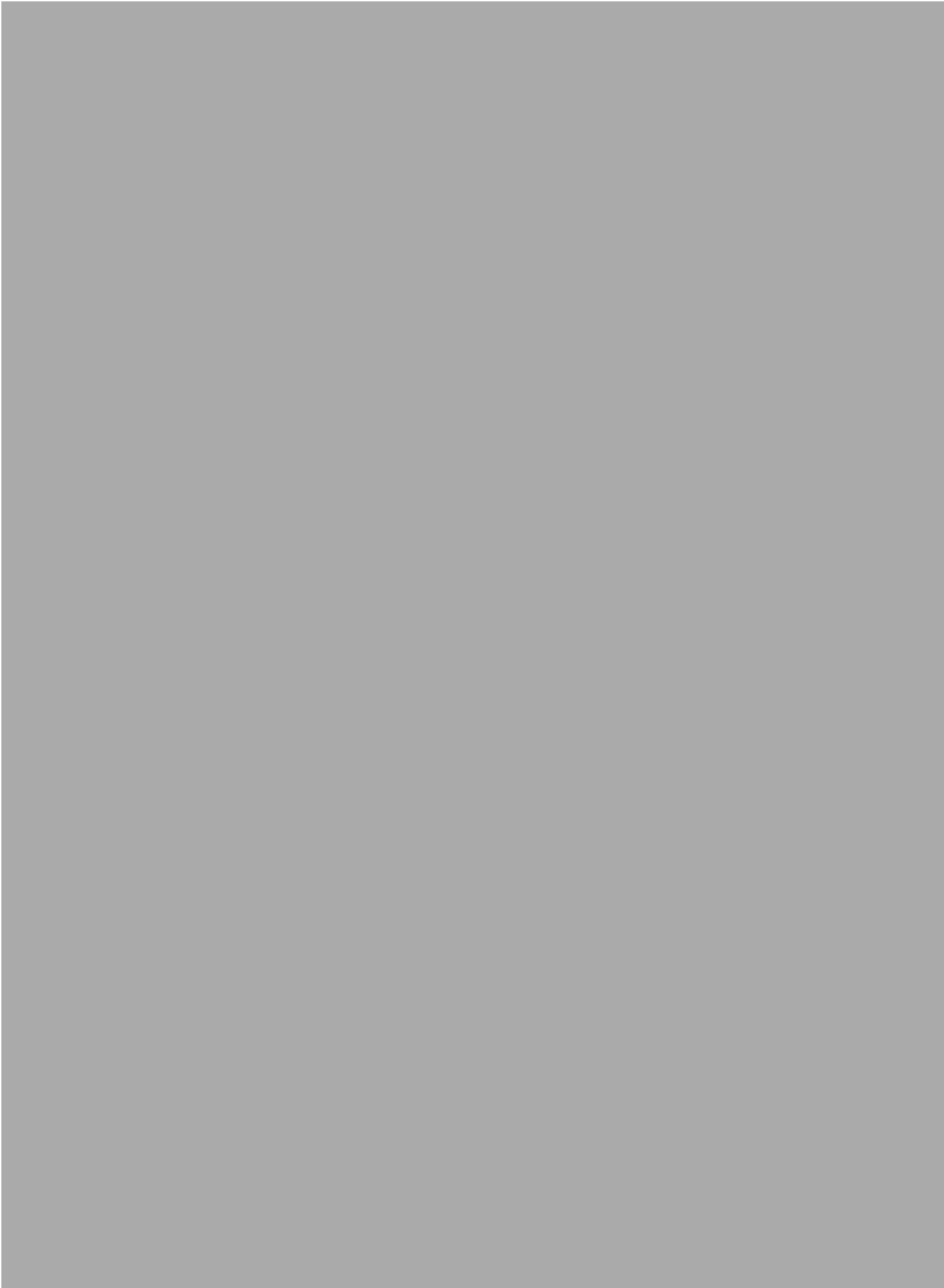
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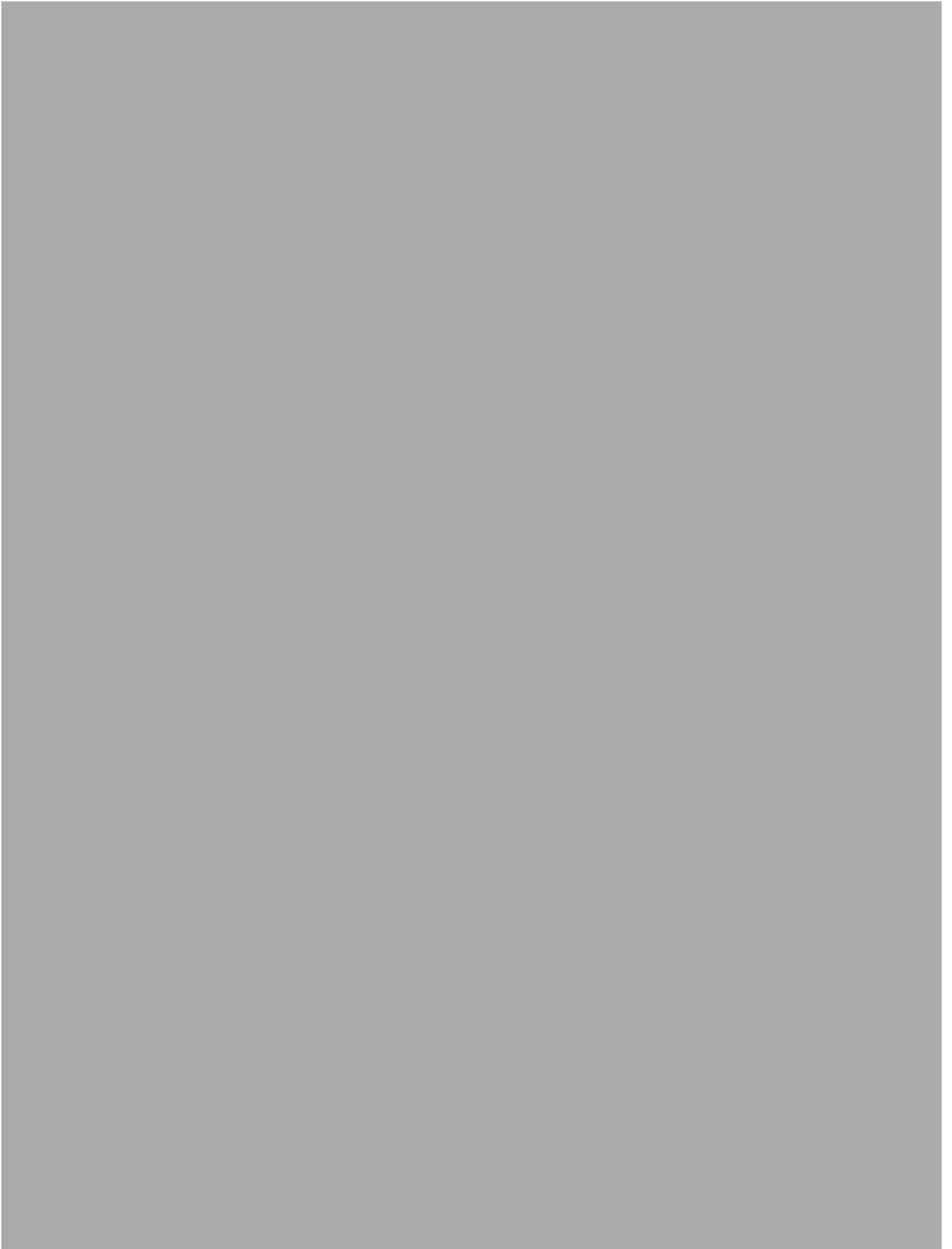
2.2 Weizmann in FP 7

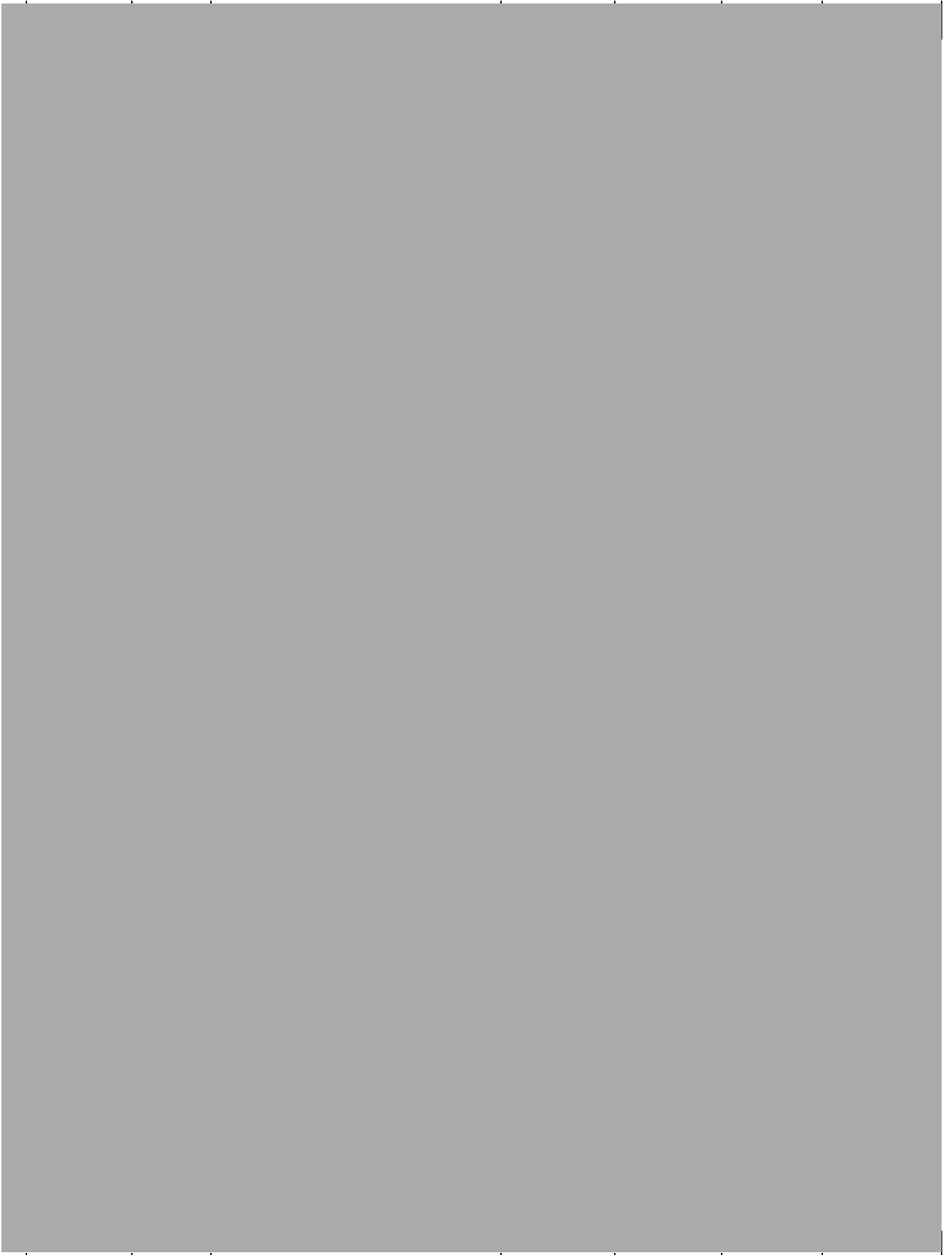
Framework Programme	Project Number	Project Title	Project EC Financial Contribution	Number of Participants	Participant Role	Participant EC Financial Contribution















2.3 Weizmann in Horizon 2020

Project Number	Project Title	Project EC Financial Contribution	Number of Participants	Participant Role	Participant EC Financial Contribution	Project Instrument/Funding Scheme
638142	Unraveling changes in cellular gene expression during viral infection	1500000	1	COORDINATOR	1500000	ERC-STG
637878	Sequence and Function Relationships in Long Intervening Noncoding RNAs	1500000	1	COORDINATOR	1500000	ERC-STG
677645	Commercialization of a novel tool for designing personalized nOvel MelAnoma Therapies	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
646604	Systematic exploration of peroxisomal structure and function	2000000	1	COORDINATOR	2000000	ERC-COG
648032	Distributed Biological Algorithms	1894947	2	PARTICIPANT	511309	ERC-COG
641389	Sequence-Enabled Single cell Identification device	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
646827	Analysis, Design and Experimental Evolution of Novel Carbon Fixation Pathways	1999843	1	COORDINATOR	1999843	ERC-COG
647413	Unravelling Fragile 1D Quantum States of Matter Through Ultra-sensitive Imaging	2475000	1	COORDINATOR	2475000	ERC-COG
638644	Deciphering the role of adult neurogenesis in hippocampal memory codes by optically imaging neuronal activity in freely behaving mice	1500000	1	COORDINATOR	1500000	ERC-STG
670535	Laying the Biological, Computational and Architectural Foundations for Human Cell Lineage Discovery	2250000	1	COORDINATOR	2250000	ERC-ADG
670798	Social Chemosignaling as a Factor in Human Behavior in both Health and Disease	2074206	1	COORDINATOR	2074206	ERC-ADG
636752	An integrative approach to uncover the multilevel regulation of 20S proteasome degradation	1500000	1	COORDINATOR	1500000	ERC-STG
637912	Relative representation theory and distributions on reductive groups over local fields	1196215	1	COORDINATOR	1196215	ERC-STG

641182	Highly-lubricated soft contact lenses	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
640926	Precise and non-GMO Engineering of Nutritional Factors for Breeding High Quality Crops	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
633888	Ultrafast Spatiotemporally-Encoding: A Superior Approach to Cancer Diagnosis by Non-Invasive Diffusion-Weighted MRI	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
655416	Ultra-sensitive Thermal Nanoscale Microscope	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
654816	High-throughput drug screening for identifying personalized cancer treatments tailored to the particular mutations of the patient's tumor	150000	1	COORDINATOR	150000	ERC-POC
635537	Exploiting light and material interaction	1999825	1	COORDINATOR	1999825	ERC-STG
639172	Expanding the Topological Frontier in Quantum Matter: from Concepts to Future Applications	1500000	2	PARTICIPANT	600000	ERC-STG
664918	Massive Reverse Genomics to Decipher Gene Regulatory Grammar	3999661	6	PARTICIPANT	725023	RIA
662629	NanoSmells: Artificial remote-controlled odorants	3979069	5	COORDINATOR	1019156	RIA
688945	Euro-BioImaging Preparatory Phase II - Project	1497910	21	PARTICIPANT	1500	CSA
653706	Infrastructure for NMR, EM and X-ray crystallography for translational research	9999534	23	PARTICIPANT	31250	RIA
654719	LincRNA and encoded small peptides: Functional discovery in development and evolution	182509	1	COORDINATOR	182509	MSCA-IF-EF-RI
642773	EUROPOL	3971124	12	PARTICIPANT	780902	MSCA-ITN-ETN
642866	Research Training Network on Integrated Component Cycling in Epithelial Cell Motility	3884019	11	PARTICIPANT	260301	MSCA-ITN-ETN
641272	High-Intensity Coherent Nonlinear Optics	2338562	8	PARTICIPANT	260301	MSCA-ITN-ETN
642192	Multi-Stimuli Responsive Molecular	2646334	9	PARTICIPANT	260301	MSCA-ITN-ETN

	Systems and Materials					
642934	Chromatin Dynamics in Development and Disease	3782583	12	PARTICIPANT	260301	MSCA-ITN-ETN
633277	European Researchers' Night 2014 and 2015 in Israel	300000	12	PARTICIPANT	20993	CSA
634107	Capture, dissemination and analysis of multiscale cell migration data for biological and clinical applications (MULTIMOT)	2999354	11	PARTICIPANT	490680	RIA

2.4 Success stories

Fresh research into climate benefits of algae

By using a combination of satellite imagery and laboratory experiments, researchers now have evidence showing that viruses infecting algae are driving the life-and-death dynamics of algae's blooms, even when all else stays essentially the same.

According to results reported in the Cell Press journal Current Biology and part funded by the European Research Council, a single North Atlantic algal bloom, about 30km in radius, converted 24,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere into organic carbon via a process known as carbon fixation. Two-thirds of that carbon turned over within a week as that bloom grew at a very rapid rate and then quickly met its demise. A closer look at those algae revealed high levels of specific viruses infecting their cells.

Assaf Vardi, of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, says that this patch of ocean fixes about as much carbon as an equivalent patch of rainforest and then almost immediately turns much of it over.

Important questions remain about the ultimate fate of all the carbon taken in by algal blooms, the researchers say; much of it is probably recycled back into the atmosphere by bacteria. Yet it's also possible that the virus-infected algae release sticky sugars and lipids, leading their cells and the carbon within them to sink faster to the ocean floor.

Vardi says: "If the latter scenario is true, it will have a profound impact [on] the efficiency of carbon dioxide 'pumping' from the atmosphere to the deep ocean. This carbon will then have a better chance [of being] buried in the ocean sediment."

The findings will improve models that predict the future of algal blooms and their impact on climate. They also serve as a reminder that sometimes it really is the little things that matter.

ERC-funded research sees mouse heart cells renewed

New research, funded by the European Research Council and conducted at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel, has provided an insight into the question of why the mammalian heart fails to regenerate. Investigations have also demonstrated in adult mice the possibility of reversing this outcome.

Dr Gabriele D'Uva, a postdoctoral fellow in the research group of Professor Eldad Tzahor, set out to learn exactly how Neuregulin 1 (NRG1) and the ERBB2 protein are involved in heart regeneration. In mice, new heart muscle cells can be added up to a week after birth. Newborn mice can regenerate damaged hearts, while seven-day-old mice cannot.

D'Uva observed that heart muscle cells called cardiomyocytes which were treated with NRG1 continued to proliferate on the day of birth, but that the effect dropped dramatically within a week, even with ample amounts of NRG1. Further investigation showed that the difference between a day and a week was in the amount of ERBB2 on the cardiomyocyte membranes.

The team then created mice in which the gene for ERBB2 was knocked out only in cardiomyocytes. This had a severe impact: the mice had hearts with walls that were thin and balloon-like, a cardiac pathology known as dilated cardiomyopathy. The researchers concluded that cardiomyocytes lacking ERBB2 do not divide, even in the presence of NRG1.

Commenting, Professor Eldad Tzahor of the Institute's Biological Regulation Department said: "The results were amazing. As opposed to extensive scarring in the control hearts, the ERBB2-expressing hearts had completely returned to their previous state."

It was found that the cardiomyocytes 'dedifferentiate', that is they revert to an earlier form, something between an embryonic and an adult cell, which can then divide and differentiate into new heart cells. In other words, the ERBB2 took the cells back a step to an earlier, embryonic form, and then stopping its activity promoted the regeneration process.

The full results are published in Nature Cell Biology.

**XIV. PARTICIPATION IN A DINNER HOSTED BY
AMBASSADOR LARS FAABORG-ANDERSEN**

20:00, Monday, 11 January

The King David Hotel, Ambassadors hall, Jerusalem

1. CLUSTERS FOR THE DINNER

The dinner offers the opportunity for the Commissioner to discuss issues that were not specifically covered by the mission meetings and visits. It may also include any other topic that has raised the interest of the Commissioner during his mission.

The main topics:

Science Diplomacy

- Regional (Israel and its neighbours) scientific cooperation
- Science cooperation as the positive element in EU Israel relations

Innovation in the Periphery

- Integrating the periphery – both geographic and social – into the innovation ecosystem

Women in Science

- Promoting increased participation of women in science

2. SPEAKING POINTS

- First of all, I would like to thank you all for coming this evening
- This has been a very short, if intense, visit and I am grateful for the opportunity to meet such an impressive group of Israeli scientists and researchers and am particularly honoured by the presence of two Nobel Laureates.
- As you all know Israel and the EU have a long and successful history of scientific cooperation. We like to say that this cooperation, which was consolidated with Israel's association to the Framework Programmes in 1996, is the jewel in the crown of our relations.
- One of the areas in which I believe that the EU can play an important role is that of science diplomacy. So I would be interested to hear from you your various experiences in this area.
- We would all like to see a greater involvement of women in science, so I am happy to see a strong representation here this evening.
- I believe that some of you are also involved in widening the circle of those involved in science and innovation, and look forward to hearing your views.
- We have been very impressed with Israel's achievements in the previous Framework Programmes and there is every indication that Israel will be as successful in Horizon 2020.
- The achievements of Israeli academia are particularly impressive especially in the ERC programme in which 3 Israeli institutions (Weizmann Institute, Hebrew U and Technion) are in the top 25 hosting institutions.

3. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Function
Guests	
Mr. Miguel Almeida e Sousa	Ambassador of Portugal
Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] SESAME (Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East)
Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Weizmann Institute of Science
Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Helen and Milton A. Kimmelman Center for Biomolecular Structure and Assembly of the Weizmann Institute of Science
Disting. Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Technion, Israel Institute of Technology
Mrs. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] TheHive by Gvahir, Startup Accelerator
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], Israel Aerospace Industries, Ltd.
Mrs. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem
Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Laboratory on Comparative Planning Law and Land Policy at the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] AVIV Ventures
Prof. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences [REDACTED] Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] IPSO, Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization
[REDACTED]	Ministry of Science, Technology and Space
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Ministry of Science, Technology and Space
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Int'l Technologies Ventures
Mr. Itzik Frid	Managing Partner Takwin Labs
ISR Officials	
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Ministry of Economy
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Ministry of Economy
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED], Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Israeli Mission to the EU
Mr [REDACTED]	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], ISERD - the Israel-european R&D Directorate
EU Participants	
Mr. Carlos Moedas	European Commissioner responsible for Research, Science and Innovation
Mrs. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
H.E. Mr. Lars Faaborg-Andersen	Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
Mr. Antonio Vicente	Head of the Commissioner's Cabinet
Mrs. Cristina Russo	Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General for Research and Innovation

Mr. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel
Mrs. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED], Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

4. CVS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Professor [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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Professor [Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Professor [Redacted] **on Science Diplomacy:**

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Biography

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[REDACTED]

Itzik Frid

Itzik Frid is the Managing Partner of Takwin Labs, an incubator and investment fund focused on investment in Arab entrepreneurs in mobile and media. Prior to joining Takwin, Itzik was the CEO of Playscape, a leading platform development company for mobile games; a Managing Director of Argoquest; VP Business Affairs for AOL and as the Senior Advisor to

the Minister of Finance. He studied Physics and also studied Law, both in the Tel Aviv University.

Takwin Labs makes return driven investments and incubates early stage Arab entrepreneurs. Takwin Labs believes that Arab Israeli entrepreneurship has the potential for strong growth, and it will focus on internet and mobile technologies.

Three leading businessmen, entrepreneurs, and venture capital investment managers are responsible for the establishment of the fund: MK Erel Margalit, founder of Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP) — prior to his entry into politics; Nehemia (Chemi) Peres, the founder and managing partner of Pitango Venture Capital, and the chairman of Al Bawader, the first investment fund for the Arab Israeli community, which was founded with government support; and businessman and founder of Babcom Centers, Imad Telhami. Takwin provides hitherto inaccessible interface with specialized venture capital, hands-on investment approach, mentoring and networks in relevant markets. Takwin labs is looking to play an instrumental role in creating the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Israeli Arab community, and the regional Arab speaking countries. The objective of the fund is to allow the ventures to operate in well-known markets, with a special focus on activity in the Middle East and the rapidly growing Arab market of more than 350 million mobile users and 120 million internet users in 22 countries.

[REDACTED]

The Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem was/is partner in the following EU projects:
FP6:

[REDACTED]

FP7:

[REDACTED]

Horizon 2020 .

[HBP-](#) Human Brain Project (2015-) : a European Commission Future and Emerging Technologies Flagship that aims to achieve a multi-level, integrated understanding of brain structure and function through the development and use of information and communication technologies (as partner)

HYPATIA – (2015-2018) a European initiative to address the challenge of gathering different society actors around bringing more teenage girls into STEM careers (as partner)

Nano2Trust -(2015-2018) sustainable platform for mutual learning and informed dialogue among different stakeholders to improve transparency and societal engagement on in responsible Nano- technology (as third party)

[EUCYS](#) European Contest for Young Scientists (since 1998 -)

[Researchers' Night](#) (since 2005 -)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[illegible]

[Redacted text block]

Degrees

[Redacted text block]

EU Funded Research And Grants

[Redacted text block]

External Review Committees Of Overseas Universities

[Redacted text block]

Reviewer For Research Proposals - International And National Research Institutes

and Horizon 2020 and Horizon 2020 during the negotiations:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **AVIV Venture**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Biography

[REDACTED]

[Redacted text block]

Investment strategy

[Redacted text block]

Public sector

[Redacted text block]

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Peace negotiations

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Breaking the Impasse

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International activities

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Awards

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[REDACTED]

Quotes

[REDACTED]

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Education

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. Question for written answer E-001904/2013 to the Commission, Rule 117 Sabine Lösing (GUE/NGL)

[REDACTED]

-
- | Government | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Current government | 85% |
| Previous government | 15% |

[REDACTED]
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A horizontal bar chart titled "U.S. should take action to address climate change" showing the percentage of respondents who believe the U.S. should take action to address climate change, broken down by age group. The x-axis represents the percentage from 0 to 100. The y-axis lists age groups. The bars are dark gray.

Age Group	Percentage
18-29	92%
30-49	91%
50-64	87%
65+	81%
18-29	92%
30-49	91%
50-64	87%
65+	81%
18-29	92%
30-49	91%
50-64	87%
65+	81%
18-29	92%
30-49	91%
50-64	87%
65+	81%

-
- | Government | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Current government | 85% |
| Previous government | 15% |

[REDACTED]

Answer given by Ms Malmström on behalf of the Commission (26.4.2012)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**3. Question for written answer E-5647/2010 to the Commission, Rule 117
Marian Harkin (ALDE)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission, (15.9.2010)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**4. Question for written answer E-5882/2010 to the Commission, Rule 117
Bairbre de Brún (GUE/NGL)**

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**5. Question for written answer E-6136/2010 to the Commission, Rule 117
João Ferreira (GUE/NGL)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission (25.10.2010)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**6. Question for written answer E-006276/2013 to the Commission, Rule 117
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission, (d.m.yyyy)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7. Question for written answer E-009936/2014 to the Commission, Rule 130

João Ferreira (GUE/NGL), Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL) and Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

[REDACTED]

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11. Ares (2015)214834

12. Other relevant coorespondence include:

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13. Israel Aerospace Industries Ltd - Participation in FP7 projects

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

XIV. VISIT TO HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

8:30- 10:30, Tuesday, 12 January 2016

Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Programme of the visit

- 9:00 Arrival at the Hebrew University, Mount Scopus, Main Entrance of Sherman Administration Building
- All diplomatic vehicles stops at his point, and then will be directed to Maiersdorf Faculty Club Parking Lot
- Greeted by Prof. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- 09:05 – 09:10 Walking to the Maiersdorf Faculty Club, through the Nobel Prize Winners Wall
- 09:15 Enter Room 501, 5th floor, Maiersdorf Faculty club
- 09:15 – 09:20 Refreshments
- 09:20 – 09:30 Overview of Science and Innovation at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem by Prof. [REDACTED]
- 09:30 – 10:15 Presentations by Hebrew University ERC Recipients
- Dr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
 - Prof. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
 - Dr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
 - Prof. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- 10:20 End of the visit

1. STEERING BRIEF

1.1 Scene setter

You will visit Hebrew University, where you will have meetings with [REDACTED] and ERC grantees.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was founded in 1918 and opened officially on Mount Scopus in 1925. Among its founders were Albert Einstein, Martin Buber and Chaim Weizmann. Although located in East Jerusalem, Mount Scopus is not considered occupied territory under international law, due to its special status as Israeli enclave in the Israeli-Jordanian Armistice agreement of 1949.

Its outstanding scholars have achieved impressive breakthroughs in a variety of disciplines and their research has garnered outstanding awards in Israel and worldwide, including the Nobel Prize, the Fields Medal and the Israel Prize.

It is among the very top winners of the European Research Council's competitive grants to young researchers. One-third of all competitive research grants awarded in Israel are won by Hebrew University scholars.

Yissum, the University's technology transfer company, has registered over 7,000 patents in all areas of technology and biotechnology.

The Hebrew University was the most second active Israeli organisation in terms of EC contribution to FP7 projects. It is fourth in list so far for Horizon 2020 and it ranked ninth in the list of top organisations hosting ERC principal investigators in FP7.

1.2 Objectives

- Highlight Hebrew University active participation in the EU Framework Programme and to the development of science globally

1.3 Speaking points

- It is a great pleasure to be here with you today in one of the world's top 70 universities and a true cradle of science – Hebrew University.
- I am pleased to mark together the 20 anniversary of the EU – Israel cooperation in science, research and innovation and of Israel's participation in the EU framework programme.
- The past 20 years have seen an ever growing closer cooperation between the Israeli and European researchers and innovators. A lot of these collaborations have grown in sustainable working partnerships and joint projects.
- Hebrew University has occupied a particular place in this cooperation.

- Your researchers are not only at the forefront of the world research but an inspiration for thousands of young scientists.
- They have achieved impressive scientific breakthroughs in a variety of disciplines, often leading to world class awards such as the Nobel Prize and the Fields Medal.
- They have also been among the very top winners of the European Research Council's competitive grants to young researchers.
- As you know, the ERC grants not only aim at bringing about new and unpredictable scientific and technological discoveries but also attracting the brightest brains worldwide.
- Openness to the world is a strategic priority for Europe to produce the very best science and technology, to get research results faster to market, and to have a leading voice in global debates and developments.
- Europe is very much aware of the importance of having science open to the world. And we have therefore engaged actively in associating our closest friends and neighbours to the European research programmes, as well as in developing partnerships with strategic partners worldwide.
- In this regard, we value highly partners like Hebrew University which has been a leader in bringing about important changes in the world community in agriculture, environment and health.
- EU is leading a number of multilateral initiatives in these areas as well as solutions can be developed and deployed more effectively only when we work together (e.g. International Rare Diseases Research Consortium, Belmont Forum).
- Both the European Union and Israel have much to gain from more and better collaboration on research and innovation, particularly in addressing the most urgent global societal challenges.
- Israel faces the same challenges as Europe: in carbon emissions, energy and transport needs, aging population, smart cities.
- Common challenges require joint action: therefore we need to continue our close cooperation on research and innovation which is a success story that holds great potential for the future as well.
- And this is why I am here today: to encourage you, the universities, to continue your outstanding job in bridging our societies and in putting science high on the political agenda for many more years to come.

1.4 CV's participants

Dr. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Why I became a researcher:

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

Education:

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Selected Awards and Honors:

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Professor [REDACTED]

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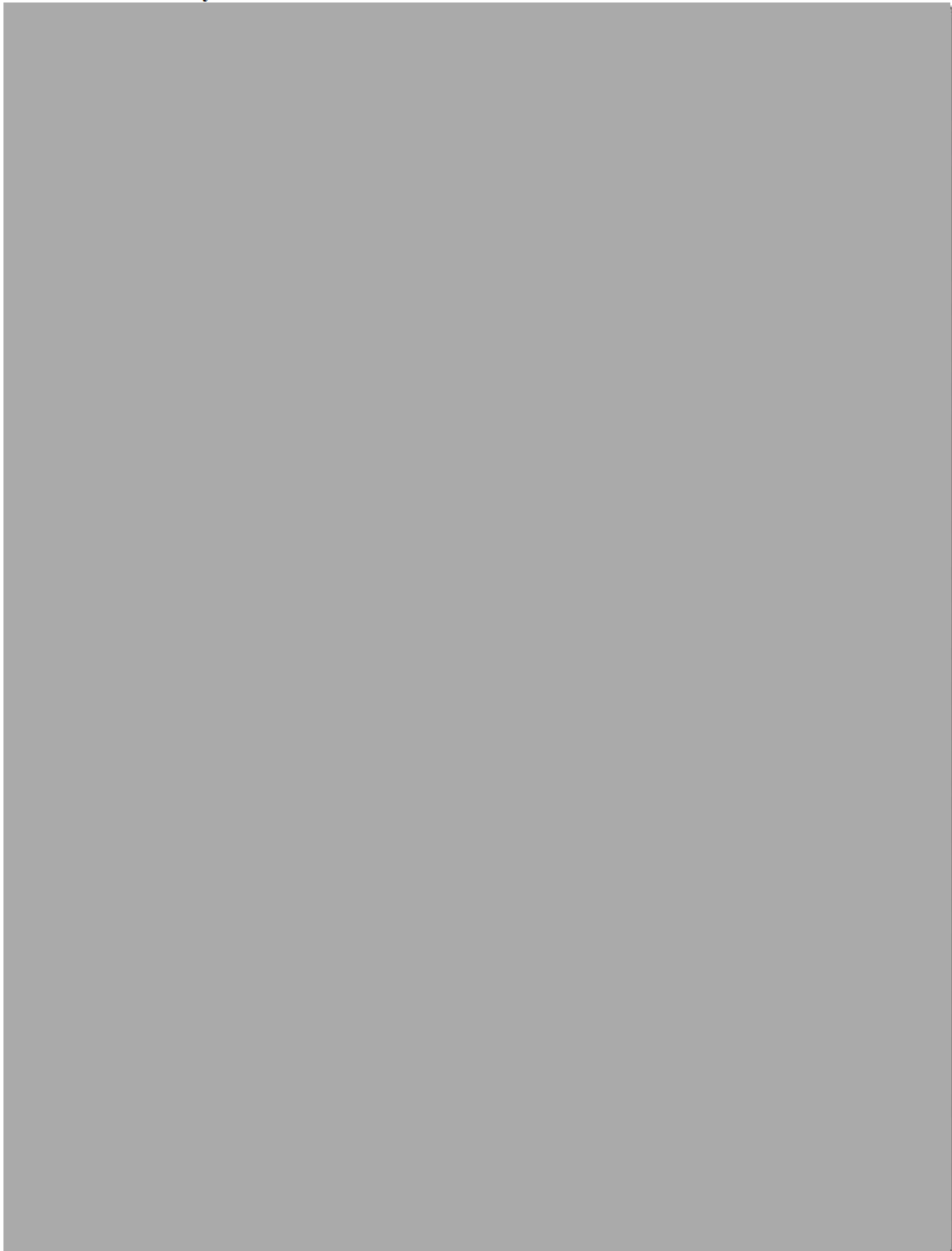
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XV. Annexes

I - Israel Country Fiche



EU – ISRAEL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

1. General context

-
- | Category | Percentage |
|---|------------|
| Yes, the current government is responsible | 45% |
| No, the current government is not responsible | 35% |
| Don't know | 15% |
| Other | 5% |

Country at a glance:

Age Group	Percentage
0-14	15%
15-64	55%
65+	30%

EU position in the country:

EU Member State	Percentage
Germany	35%
France	30%
Italy	25%
Spain	15%
Other EU countries	15%

Bilateral cooperation

- 




[REDACTED]

2.1 2014-2020

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

• COMMITMENTS

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				[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

• PAYMENTS

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
			[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

* [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Other ongoing types of cooperation benefitting the country

3.1 Regional and sub-regional cooperation

- 
- 

3.2 Thematic budget lines

- 
- 
- 
- 

3.3 Other EU external action instruments / major EU initiatives or agreements

- Israel is the only non- European state to be a full partner in Horizon 2020 Research Programme. In this, as in all other co-operation, EU financing is strictly limited to the geographical borders of Israel prior to 4th June 1967²⁸.

²⁸ Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards, published on the Official Journal of the European Union on 19/07/2013.

Evaluation and coordination

4.1 Monitoring and evaluation

- [REDACTED]

4.2 Coordination with other donors

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Questions and Answers

Why is the Commission doing this now?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

What is the current situation? Does any Member State label products originating from the settlements?

[REDACTED]

What Israeli exports are subject to mandatory or voluntary rules on indication of origin?

[REDACTED]

Does the notice suggest a specific wording to be used as indication of origin?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

What happens for products for which indication of origin is voluntary?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Who's in charge of checking the correct implementation of legislation on indication of origin, the Commission or Member States?

[REDACTED]

Will the notice be binding for Member States?

[REDACTED]

Is this a first step to boycott products from the settlements?

[REDACTED]

What's the total trade volume/value between the EU and Israel? What %/€ volume of the total of Israeli exports to the EU originate in the settlements?

Sound bite

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On the record

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Q&A for the record follow-up

Why is the Commission doing this now?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Does the notice suggest a specific wording to be used as indication of origin?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

What happens for products for which indication of origin is voluntary?

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

Will the notice be binding for Member States? Will Member States be forced to follow the guidance issued by the Commission?

[Redacted]

Did Member States have a say in this process?

[Redacted]

What is the current situation? Does any Member State label products originating from the settlements?

[Redacted]

What's the total trade volume/value between the EU and Israel? What %/€ volume of the total of Israeli exports to the EU originate in the settlements?

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

What kind of products are these?

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

Which products are subject to mandatory or voluntary indication of origin?

[REDACTED]

Who will have to label the products? The producer or the importer?

[REDACTED]

Who's in charge of checking the correct implementation of indication of origin legislation, the Commission or Member States?

[REDACTED]

Through SPS/agriculture measures (affecting poultry, dairy, and organic products) the EU is implementing a "boycott of agricultural products from Israel"

[REDACTED]

Is the EU considering doing the same to products originating from Crimea?

[REDACTED]

What about the northern part of Cyprus?

[REDACTED]

Does the EU do the same with products originating from Western Sahara?

[REDACTED]

These measures are discriminatory since Israel is the only country that has been singled out by the EU.

[REDACTED]

The European Union is blocking products from the Israeli settlements.

[REDACTED]

This decision will have a negative impact on the Palestinian economy.

[REDACTED]

The notice will negatively affect EU-Israel relations and prospects for MEPP

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

EU treatment of products originating in the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(i) Indication of origin

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(ii) Preferential tariff treatment

[Redacted]

(iii) Certification issues affecting agricultural products and farms

[Redacted]

a - Conformity certificates for fruits and vegetables

[Redacted]

30 [Redacted]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

b - Certification of animal products

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

c - Organic certifications

[Redacted text block]

On the procedure

[Redacted text block]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

III. Israel's Association Agreement to Horizon 2020

(1) Agreement

(2) between the European Union and the State of Israel on the participation of Israel in the Union programme "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and
(3) Innovation (2014-2020)"

(4) THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", on

(5) behalf of the European Union,

of the one part, and

(6) THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, hereinafter referred to as Israel,

of the other part, hereinafter referred to as the "**Parties**".

Whereas:

- | | 1 | 2 |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | The Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part on a Framework Agreement between the European Community and the State of Israel on the general principles governing the State of Israel's participation in Community Programmes, hereinafter referred to as the "Protocol", establishes the general principles for the participation of Israel in Union programmes, leaving the Commission and the competent authorities of Israel to determine the specific terms and conditions, including financial contributions, with regard to such participation in each particular programme. | |
| (2) | The Horizon 2020 Programme was established by Regulation No 1291/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December, 2013 ³¹ . | |
| (3) | Horizon 2020 should contribute to achieving the European Research Area. | |
| (4) | Pursuant to Article 7 of Regulation No 1/2013/EU, specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of associated countries in Horizon 2020, including the financial contribution, based on the gross domestic product of the associated country shall be determined by an international agreement between the Union and the associated country. | |

HAYE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 *Scope*

Israel shall participate in "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)", (hereinafter referred to as the "Programme"), in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Protocol, and under the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

³¹ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 104

Article 2

(7) Terms and conditions of participation in the Programme

1. Israel shall participate in the activities of the Programme in conformity with the objectives, criteria and procedures defined in Regulation No 1291/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013³², Regulation No 1290/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013³³, including delegated acts and any other subsequent rules, Council Decision No 743/2013/EU of 3 December 2013³⁴ and any other rule pertaining to the implementation of the Programme.

The Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended by the Regulation (EU) No 1292/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council shall apply to participation of Israeli legal entities in Knowledge and Innovation Communities³⁵.

In case the Union makes provisions for the implementation of Article 185 and 187 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Israel shall be allowed to participate in the legal structures created under these provisions, in conformity with the decisions and regulations that have been or will be adopted for the establishment of these legal structures.

2. Eligible Israeli entities shall participate in direct actions of the Joint Research Centre and in indirect actions of the Programme under the same conditions as those applicable to legal entities of Member States of the European Union.
3. In relation to eligible Israeli entities the terms and conditions applicable for the evaluation of proposals and those for the conclusion of grant agreements and the notification of grant decisions shall be the same as those applicable for grant agreements and grant decisions in respect of research entities in the Union.

³² Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-20) (OJ L 347).

³³ Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in Horizon 2020 (OJ L 347).

³⁴ Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon 2020 (OJ L 347).

³⁵ Regulation (EU) No 1292/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (OJ L 347).

4. One of the official languages of the Union, in this case English, shall be used for the procedures related to requests, grant agreements and reports, as well as for other legal and administrative aspects of the Programme.
5. Representatives of Israel shall be allowed to take part, as observers in the committees responsible for monitoring the measures of the Programme to which Israel contributes financially, and in respect of agenda points concerning measures in which Israel participates.

These committees shall meet without the presence of the representatives of Israel at the time of voting. Israel will be informed of the result.

Participation as referred to in this paragraph shall take the same form, including procedures for receipt of information and documentation, as that applicable to representatives from Member States of the European Union.

6. Representatives of Israel shall participate as observers in the Board of Governors of the Joint Research Centre. Participation as referred to in this paragraph shall take the same form, including procedures for receipt of information and documentation, as that applicable to representatives from Member States of the European Union.
7. Travel costs and subsistence costs incurred by representatives and experts of Israel for the purposes of taking part as observers in the work of the committee referred to in Article 10.1 of Decision No 743/2013/EU establishing the Specific Programme Implementing Horizon 2020, or other meetings related to the implementation of the Programme, shall be reimbursed by the Commission on the same basis as and in accordance with the procedures currently in force for representatives of the Member States of the European Union.

(8) *Article 3* Financial contribution

To participate in the Programme, Israel shall every year pay a financial contribution to the General Budget of the European Union in accordance with Annex I of this . Agreement.

The financial contribution of Israel in respect of its participation and implementation of the Programme shall be added to the annual allocation in the General Budget of the European Union for commitment appropriations to meet the financial obligations arising out of different forms of measures necessary for the execution, management and operation of the Programme.

(9) *Article 4* Reporting and evaluation

The rules governing the reporting and evaluations concerning the participation of Israel in the Programme are set out in Annex II of this Agreement.

(10) **Article 5** Joint EU-Israel Committee

1. The Joint EU-Israel Committee composed of the representatives of the European Commission and Israel is hereby established.
2. The Committee's functions shall include the following:
 - a) To ensure, evaluate and review the implementation of this Agreement.
 - b) To ensure and facilitate the timely and continuous provision of information concerning the implementation of activities under the Horizon 2020 Programme.
3. The Committee's work shall be complementary to and consistent with the work of the relevant bodies of bilateral dialogue and cooperation established by the EU-Israel Association Council.
4. The Committee shall meet upon the request of one of the Parties. The Committee will work on an on-going basis through exchange of documents, e-mails and other means of communication. The Committee shall adopt its rules of procedure.

(11) **Article 6** Final provisions

1. In accordance with EU policy, this agreement shall not apply to the geographic areas that came under the administration of the State of Israel after 5 June 1967. This position should not be construed as prejudicing Israel's principled position on this matter. Accordingly, the Parties agree that the application of this agreement is without prejudice to the status of those areas.
2. This Agreement enters into force on the date when the Parties notified each other of the completion of their internal procedures to that purpose. It becomes applicable from 1 January 2014. Israel's participation in the subsequent multi-annual research programme of the Union, if Israel so requests, may be subject to a new Agreement to be agreed between the Parties. .
3. This Agreement can be terminated by the Parties at any time during the duration of the Programme by a written notice informing of the intent to terminate participation in the Programme.

Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, should the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Community and the State of Israel on the general principles governing the State of Israel's participation in Community programmes cease to apply, this Agreement shall cease to apply on the same day without any prior written notice needed to this purpose.

4. Subject to the provisions hereunder, termination shall take effect three calendar months after the date at which the written notice reaches its addressee.

The expiry and/or termination and/or cessation of application of this Agreement shall not affect:

- a) Any projects or activities in progress,
- b) The implementation of any contractual arrangements applying to these projects and activities as set forth in sub-paragraph 4 (a) above.

5. If this Agreement is terminated or ceases to apply:

- a) For the year during which the Agreement ceases to apply, Israel shall pay the financial contribution proportionally to the number of months of its participation in the Programme during that year. For the purpose of calculating such a contribution, the month that has commenced at the time of receipt of the notification pursuant to the first sentence of paragraph 3 or when the Agreement ceases to apply pursuant to the second sentence of paragraph 3 shall be counted as a full month. ...¹
- b) The Union shall reimburse to Israel the part of its contribution, already paid to the general budget of the European Union, that will not be spent because of the termination and/or cessation of application of this Agreement.

6. The Annexes form an integral part of this Agreement.

7. This Agreement may only be amended in writing by common consent of the Parties. Any such amendment shall enter into force in accordance with the procedure set forth in paragraph (2) of this Article.

Done in Jerusalem on the 8th June in the year two thousand and fourteen, which corresponds to the 10th day of Sivan in the year five thousand, seven hundred and seventy four in the Hebrew calendar Tsha'd in two originals, in English and Hebrew, each of those texts being equally authentic.

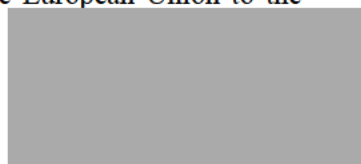
(12) For the Commission,
on behalf of the European Union

For the Government of Israel



Lars FAABORG-ANDERSEN Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the
State of Israel

te



Annex I

RULES GOVERNING THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF ISRAEL TO "HORIZON 2020 - THE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (2014-2020)"

I. Calculation of Israel's financial contribution

1. The financial contribution of Israel to the Programme shall be established on a yearly basis in proportion to, and in addition to, the amount available each year in the general budget of the European Union for commitment appropriations needed for the implementation, management and operation of the Programme.
2. The proportionality factor governing the contribution of Israel shall be obtained by establishing the ratio between the gross domestic product of Israel, at market prices, and the sum of gross domestic products, at market prices, of the Member States of the European Union. This ratio shall be calculated on the basis of the latest statistical data pertaining to the same year from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, available at the time of publication of the draft budget of the European Union.
3. The Commission shall communicate to Israel, as soon as possible, and at the latest on 1 September of the year before each financial year, the following information together with relevant background material:
 - the amounts in commitment appropriations, in the statement of expenditure of the draft budget of the European Union corresponding to the Programme,
 - the estimated amount of the contributions derived from the draft budget, corresponding to the participation of Israel in the Programme according to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

Once the general budget has been finally adopted, the Commission shall communicate to Israel, in the statement of expenditure corresponding to Israel's participation, the final amounts referred to in the first subparagraph.

4. In the fourth year after this Agreement becomes applicable, the Parties shall review the proportionality factor governing the financial contribution of Israel, on the basis of the data concerning participation of Israeli legal entities in indirect and direct actions under the Programme in the years 2014-2016.

II. Payment of Israel's financial contribution

1. The Commission shall issue, at the latest in January and June of each financial year, a call for funds to Israel corresponding to its contribution under this Agreement. These calls for funds shall provide, respectively, for the payment of six-twelfths of Israel's contribution not later than 90 days after receipt of the calls for funds. However, the six- twelfths to be paid not later than 90 days after receipt of the call issued in January shall

be' calculated on the basis of the amount set out in the statement of revenue of the draft budget: the régularisation of the amount thus paid shall occur with the payment of the six-twelfths not later than 90 days after receipt of the call for funds issued at the latest in June.

For the first year of implementation of this Agreement, the Commission shall issue a first call for funds within 30 days of its entry into force. Should this call be issued after 15 June, it shall provide for the payment of twelve/twelfths of Israel's contribution within 90 days, calculated on the basis of the amount set out in the statement of revenue of the budget.

2. The contribution of Israel shall be expressed and paid in euro. Payment by Israel shall be credited to the Union programmes as budgetary revenue allocated to the appropriate budget heading in the statement of revenue of the general budget of the European Union. The European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012^s hereinafter referred to as the Financial Regulation' applicable to the general budget of the European Union shall apply to the management of the appropriations.
3. Israel shall pay its contribution under this Agreement according to the schedule in paragraph 1. Any delay in the payment of the contribution, shall give rise to the payment of default interest by Israel on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall be the rate applied by the European Central Bank to its main refinancing operations in euro on the due date, increased by 1.5 percentage points.

In case the delay in the payment of the contribution is such that it may significantly jeopardise the implementation and management of the Programme, participation in the Programme of Israel for the concerned financial year will be suspended by the Commission following the absence of payment 20 working days after a formal letter of reminder sent to Israel, without prejudice to the Union's obligations according to grant agreements and/or contracts already concluded pertaining to the implementation of selected indirect actions.

4. At the latest on 30 June of the year following a financial year, the statement of appropriations for the Programme that financial year shall be prepared and transmitted to Israel for information, according to the format of the Commission's revenue and expenditure account.
5. The Commission, at the time of the closure of the accounts relating to each financial year, within the framework of the establishment of the revenue and expenditure account, shall proceed to the régularisation of the accounts with respect to the participation of Israel. This régularisation shall take into consideration modifications which have taken place, either by transfer, cancellations, carryovers, de-commitments, or by supplementary and amending budgets during the financial year. This régularisation shall occur at the time of the second payment for the next financial year, and for the last financial year in July 2021. Further régularisation shall occur every year until July 2023.

Annex II

FINANCIAL CONTROL OF ISRAELI PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAMMES COVERED BY THIS AGREEMENT

I. Direct Communication

The Commission shall communicate directly with the participants in the Programme established in Israel and with their subcontractors. They may submit directly to the Commission all relevant

information and documentation which they are required to submit on the basis of the instruments referred to in this Agreement and of the grant agreements and/or contracts concluded to implement them.

II. Audits

1. In accordance with European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012³⁶ (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation') and to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012³⁷ (hereinafter referred to as the 'Rules of Application') and with the other rules referred to in this Agreement, the grant agreements and/or contracts concluded with participants in the Programme established in Israel may provide for scientific, financial, technological or other audits to be conducted at any time on the premises of the participants and of their subcontractors by Commission agents or by other persons mandated by the Commission.
2. Commission agents, the European Court of Auditors and other persons mandated by the Commission shall have appropriate access to sites, works and documents (both electronic and paper versions) and to all the information required in order to carry out such audits on the spot subject to the inclusion of this right of access that shall be stated explicitly in the grant agreements and/or contracts concluded to implement the instruments referred to in this Agreement with participants from Israel. The nonprovision of such rights would be regarded as a failure to substantiate costs and, consequently, as a potential breach of the grant agreements.
3. The audits may be conducted after the Programme or this Agreement expire, on the terms laid down in the grant agreements and/or contracts in question. Any audit performed after the expiration of either the Programme or this Agreement shall be conducted in accordance with the terms set forth in this Annex II.

III. On-The-Spot Checks by OLAF

1. Within the framework of this Agreement, the Commission (OLAF) shall be authorised to carry out on-the-spot checks and inspections in the premises of participants and their

³⁶ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OIL 298. 26.10.2012)

³⁷ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OIL 362, 31.12.2012)

subcontractors from Israel, in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down in Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96³⁸.

2. On-the-spot checks and inspections shall be prepared and conducted by the Commission in close collaboration with the competent Israeli authority designated by the Israeli government.

For the purposes of this paragraph of this Annex II, in civil or administrative issues the designated Israeli Authority shall be the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy. However, request for the performance of investigative acts, inspections and the obtaining of documents in connection with a criminal matter or investigation, shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the International Legal Assistance Law 5758-1998. With respect to issues relating to such requests, the designated Israeli Authority shall be the Department of International Affairs of the Office of the State's Attorney in the Israeli Ministry of Justice. The designated authority shall be notified a reasonable time in advance of the object, purpose and legal basis of the checks and inspections, so that they can provide assistance. To that end, the officials of the competent Israeli authorities may participate in the on-the-spot checks and inspections.

3. If the Israeli authorities concerned so wish, the on-the-spot checks and inspections may be carried out jointly by the Commission and them.
4. Where the participants in the Programme resist an on-the-spot check or inspection, the Israeli authorities, acting in accordance with national rules and regulations, shall assist the Commission inspectors, to a reasonable extent as needed to allow them to fulfil their duty in carrying out an on-the-spot check or inspection.
5. The Commission shall report as soon as possible to the competent Israeli authority any fact or suspicion relating to an irregularity which has come to its notice in the course of the on-the-spot check or inspection. In any case the Commission shall be required to inform the abovementioned authority of the result of such checks and inspections.

(13) IV. Information and Consultation

1. For the purposes of proper implementation of this Annex, the competent Israeli and Union authorities shall regularly exchange information, unless forbidden or unauthorized by national rules and regulations and, at the request of one of the Parties, shall conduct consultations.
2. The competent Israeli authorities shall inform the Commission within reasonable time of any fact or suspicion which has come to their notice relating to an irregularity in connection with the conclusion and implementation of the grant agreements and/or contracts concluded in application of the instruments referred to in this Agreement.

³⁸ OJL292, 15.11.1996, p. 2.

V. Confidentiality

Information communicated or acquired in any form under this Annex shall be covered by professional secrecy and protected in the same way as similar information is protected by Israeli law and by the corresponding provisions applicable to the Union's institutions. Such information may not be communicated to persons other than those within the Union's institutions or in the Member States or Israel whose functions legally require them to know it, nor may it be used for purposes other than to ensure effective protection of the Parties' financial interests³⁹.

VI. Administrative Measures and Penalties

Without prejudice to application of Israeli criminal law, administrative measures and penalties may be imposed by the Commission in accordance with Regulations (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, (EU) No 1268/2012 and (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95⁴⁰.

VII. Recovery and Enforcement

Decisions taken by the Commission under the Programmes covered by this Agreement which impose a pecuniary obligation on persons other than States shall be enforceable in Israel. If so requested by the Commission, the authority designated by the Government of the State of Israel shall commence proceedings for the enforcement of the decision on behalf of the Commission. In this case, the decision of the Commission shall be submitted to the Israeli Court, without other formality than verification of the authenticity of the decision, by the authority designated for this purpose by the Government of the State of Israel, which shall inform the Commission thereof. Enforcement shall take place in accordance with the Israeli law and rules of procedure. The relevant enforcement provisions shall be incorporated in the grant agreements and/or contracts with participants from Israel. The Court of Justice of the European Union shall have jurisdiction to review the legality of the decision of the Commission and suspend its enforcement. Moreover, the courts of Israel shall have jurisdiction over complaints that enforcement is being carried out in an irregular manner.

³⁹ OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1.

⁴⁰ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995).

Unilateral statements by the Parties:

Unilateral Statement by the Commission

The provisions of this Agreement shall not prevent the European Commission from implementing Commission Notice Nr 2013/C-205/05.

Unilateral Statement by Israel

Israel notes that reference to Commission Notice Nr. 2013/C-205/05 should not be construed as prejudicing Israel's principled position against it.

IV. Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards

The EU's Foreign Affairs Council of 10 December 2012 has underlined the importance of limiting the application of agreements with Israel to the territory of Israel as recognised by the EU. These guidelines were prepared in order to implement the Commission's commitment to make a distinction in relevant EU legislation between the State of Israel and the occupied territories. The Commission has pledged to the European Parliament to issue such guidelines in conformity with the EU long standing position that Israeli settlements are illegal under international law and with the non-recognition by the EU of Israel's sovereignty over the occupied territories.

The guidelines are applicable to all grants, prizes and financial instruments implemented under the EU's Financial Regulation as from the 2014 financial year. They cover the provision of EU financial support as well as participation on a no-cost basis. All Israeli entities whose place of establishment is within the Green Line will be considered eligible. The guidelines will not apply to natural persons. Activities carried out within projects under EU funding instruments will be considered eligible only if they take place within the Green Line.

In practice, this means that entities such as Ariel University are not eligible for participation in EU programmes.

3.1 Ariel University case, Article from 06/01/2016

In setback for BDS, Spain awards West Bank school €70,000
By BENJAMIN WEINTHAL, 01/06/2016

Spanish Supreme Court issues landmark ruling against country's Housing Ministry for illegally excluding Israel's Ariel University from scientific competition in 2009.

BERLIN – Spain's Supreme Court, the Council of State, has issued a landmark ruling against the country's Housing Ministry for illegally excluding Israel's Ariel University from a scientific competition in 2009.

The legal victory, which was announced last week but made public by Ariel University on Tuesday, is a significant setback for Spanish BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) activists targeting the Jewish state.

The Council of State added €70,000 to a previous court penalty compensation of €30,000 awarded to the university. The award now totals €100,000.

Ariel University's chancellor, Yigal Cohen-Orgad, said the decision was "a partial, but necessary, response to the pressure being mounted by the BDS movement around the globe, and proves that efforts to isolate and demonize Israel can and will be thwarted."

The case dates back to 2009, when Spain blocked Ariel University from participating in a sustainable energy design competition, Solar Decathlon Europe.

"It's not a simple fight, but we are successfully combating both anti-Semitism and BDS in Spain," said Angel Mas, president of ACOM, a pro-Israel organization in Spain. "Every day, in every attempt by BDS [and others] to delegitimize and demonize the only democracy in the Middle East, we make sure they all receive a vigorous response," he said. "Social networks have become the new battlefields, and the rejection of BDS by mainstream political parties, which ultimately represent the vast majority of people in Spain, is an essential objective of ours," he continued. "Ultimately, court rulings such as this evidence BDS's anti-Semitic objectives and will send BDS discriminatory tactics back to the fringes of our democratic society in Spain and the dustbin of history, where they belong."

According to a university statement, Ariel received an invitation to participate in the international competition from Spain's Housing Ministry, the organizer.

The competition was open to universities from around the world.

"In 2008, Ariel University was selected as one of 21 finalist universities," the statement said. "Ariel University was the only Israeli and Middle Eastern finalist in the competition."

But the problems began the following year.

According to the university, in 2009, the Spanish government notified it that it had been ousted from the competition because "your institution is located in the occupied territories and since we are bound to respect the position of the European Union in relation to this matter, we are compelled to announce that it will not be possible for your center to continue in this competition."

"The important legal victory shows that Europe's treatment of Israeli entities and people in Judea and Samaria is legally baseless, and amounts to arbitrary discrimination," Eugene Kontorovich, a professor at Northwestern University School of Law in the US and a leading expert on BDS, told The Jerusalem Post.

"Coming just as the EU attempts to enforce much more serious discriminatory labeling requirements, Ariel University's legal victory highlights the inexplicable reluctance of the State of Israel to actively assert its legal rights in the World Trade Organization and other fora," Kontorovich continued. "The fact that private lawyers had to press this case exposes both the vulnerability of the EU's legal position and the fecklessness of the Israel government in resisting Brussels."

The legal case against the government of Spain was led by Spanish firm Cremades & Calvo-Sotelo on behalf of Ariel University, in coordination with the University's Anti-BDS Committee, headed by executive committee member and lawyer Marc Zell of Jerusalem.

Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards

(2013/C 205/05)

Section A. GENERAL ISSUES

1. These guidelines set out the conditions under which the Commission will implement key requirements for the award of EU support to Israeli entities or to their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967. Their aim is to ensure the respect of EU positions and commitments in conformity with international law on the non-recognition by the EU of Israel's sovereignty over the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967. These guidelines are without prejudice to other requirements established by EU legislation.
2. The territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 comprise the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
3. The EU does not recognise Israel's sovereignty over any of the territories referred to in point 2 and does not consider them to be part of Israel's territory⁽¹⁾, irrespective of their legal status under domestic Israeli law⁽²⁾. The EU has made it clear that it will not recognise any changes to pre-1967 borders, other than those agreed by the parties to the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP)⁽³⁾. The EU's Foreign Affairs Council has underlined the importance of limiting the application of agreements with Israel to the territory of Israel as recognised by the EU⁽⁴⁾.
4. These guidelines do not cover EU support in the form of grants, prizes or financial instruments awarded to Palestinian entities or to their activities in the territories referred to in point 2, nor any eligibility conditions set up for this purpose. In particular, they do not cover any agreements between the EU, on the one hand, and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation or the Palestinian Authority, on the other hand.

Section B. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

5. These guidelines apply to EU support in the form of grants, prizes or financial instruments within the meaning of Titles

VI, VII and VIII of the Financial Regulation⁽⁵⁾ which may be awarded to Israeli entities or to their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967. Their application is without prejudice to specific eligibility conditions which may be laid down in the relevant basic act.

6. These guidelines apply:

(a) for grants — to all applicants and beneficiaries, irrespective of their role (sole beneficiary, coordinator or co-beneficiary). This includes entities participating in the action on a no-cost basis⁽⁶⁾ and affiliated entities within the meaning of Article 122(2) of the Financial Regulation. This does not include contractors or sub-contractors selected by grant beneficiaries in conformity with procurement rules. As regards third parties referred to in Article 137 of the Financial Regulation, in the cases where the costs of financial support to such third parties are eligible under a call for proposals the authorising officer responsible may, where appropriate, specify in the call for proposals and in the grant agreements or decisions that the eligibility criteria set out in these guidelines also apply to the persons that may receive financial support by the beneficiaries;

(b) for prizes — to all participants and winners in contests;

(c) for financial instruments — to dedicated investment vehicles, financial intermediaries and sub-intermediaries and to final recipients.

7. These guidelines apply to grants, prizes and financial instruments managed, as the case may be, by the Commission, by executive agencies (direct management) or by bodies entrusted with budget implementation tasks in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation (indirect management).

8. These guidelines apply to grants, prizes and financial instruments funded from appropriations of the 2014

⁽¹⁾ On the territorial application of the EU-Israel Association Agreement see Case C-386/08 *Brita* [2010] ECR I-1289, paragraphs 47 and 53.

⁽²⁾ Under Israeli law, East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights are annexed to the State of Israel, whereas the Gaza Strip and the rest of the West Bank are referred to as 'the territories'.

⁽³⁾ See *inter alia* the Foreign Affairs Council conclusions on the MEPP adopted in December 2009, December 2010, April 2011, May and December 2012.

⁽⁴⁾ The Foreign Affairs Council conclusions on the MEPP adopted on 10 December 2012 state that 'all agreements between the State of Israel and the EU must unequivocally and explicitly indicate their inapplicability to the territories occupied by Israel in 1967'.

⁽⁵⁾ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

⁽⁶⁾ In which case the Israeli entity will finance its participation with funding from other sources, but will nonetheless be treated as a beneficiary and may therefore have access to know-how, services, networking and other opportunities developed by the other beneficiaries as a result of the EU grant.

financial year and subsequent years and authorised by financing decisions adopted after the adoption of the guidelines.

Section C. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY OF ISRAELI ENTITIES

9. As regards the place of establishment of Israeli entities:

- (a) In the case of grants and prizes, only Israeli entities having their place of establishment within Israel's pre-1967 borders will be considered eligible;
- (b) In the case of financial instruments, only Israeli entities having their place of establishment within Israel's pre-1967 borders will be considered eligible as final recipients.

10. The place of establishment is understood to be the legal address where the entity is registered, as confirmed by a precise postal address corresponding to a concrete physical location. The use of a post office box is not allowed.

11. The requirements set out in section C:

- (a) apply to the following types of legal persons: Israeli regional or local authorities and other public bodies, public or private companies or corporations and other private legal persons, including non-governmental not-for-profit organisations;
- (b) do not apply to Israeli public authorities at national level (ministries and government agencies or authorities);
- (c) do not apply to natural persons.

Section D. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY OF ACTIVITIES IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL

12. As regards the activities/operations of Israeli entities:

- (a) In the case of grants and prizes, the activities of Israeli entities carried out in the framework of EU-funded grants and prizes will be considered eligible if they do not take place in the territories referred to in point 2, either partially or entirely;
- (b) In the case of financial instruments, Israeli entities will be considered eligible as final recipients if they do not operate in the territories referred to in point 2, either in the framework of EU-funded financial instruments or otherwise.

13. Any activity or part thereof ⁽¹⁾ included in an application for an EU grant or prize which does not meet the requirements set out in point 12(a) will be considered as ineligible and will not be considered as part of the application for the purpose of its further evaluation.

14. The requirements set out in section D:

- (a) apply to activities under point 12 carried out by the following types of legal persons: Israeli regional or local authorities and other public bodies, public or private companies or corporations and other private legal persons, including non-governmental not-for-profit organisations;
- (b) apply also to activities under point 12 carried out by Israeli public authorities at national level (ministries and government agencies or authorities);
- (c) do not apply to activities under point 12 carried out by natural persons.

15. Notwithstanding points 12-14 above, the requirements set out in section D do not apply to activities which, although carried out in the territories referred to in point 2, aim at benefiting protected persons under the terms of international humanitarian law who live in these territories and/or at promoting the Middle East peace process in line with EU policy ⁽²⁾.

Section E. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

16. Each Israeli entity referred to in points 11(a) and (b) and 14(a) and (b), which applies for an EU grant, prize or financial instrument, shall submit a declaration on honour as follows:

- (a) In the case of grants and prizes, the declaration will state that the application of the Israeli entity is in accordance with the requirements under points 9(a) and 12(a) of these guidelines, while also taking into account the applicability of point 15 thereof ⁽³⁾. For grants, this declaration will be drafted in accordance with Article 131(3) of the Financial Regulation;
- (b) In the case of financial instruments, the declaration will state that the application of the Israeli entity as a final recipient is in accordance with the requirements under points 9(b) and 12(b) of these guidelines.

⁽¹⁾ For example, these could be nation-wide projects to be implemented in Israel, which involve both activities within pre-1967 borders and activities beyond pre-1967 borders (e.g. in settlements).

⁽²⁾ For example, these could be activities under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, the Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility and/or the Partnership for Peace programme.

⁽³⁾ In the case of Israeli public authorities at national level (ministries and government agencies/authorities), the declaration will contain an address for communication purposes that is within Israel's pre-1967 borders and that complies with point 10.

17. The declarations under point 16 are without prejudice to any other supporting documents required in the calls for proposals, rules of contests or calls for the selection of financial intermediaries or dedicated investment vehicles. They will be included in the package of application documents for each concerned call for proposals, rules of contests and call for the selection of financial intermediaries or dedicated investment vehicles. Their text will be adapted to the requirements relevant for each EU grant, prize or financial instrument.
18. The submission of a declaration under point 16 that contains incorrect information may be considered as a case of misrepresentation or a serious irregularity and may lead:
- (a) for grants — to the measures set out in Articles 131(5) and 135 of the Financial Regulation;
 - (b) for prizes — to the measures set out in Article 212(1)(viii) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation ⁽¹⁾ and;
 - (c) for financial instruments — to the measures set out in Article 221(3) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.
19. The Commission will implement these guidelines in their entirety, and in a clear and accessible manner. It will notably announce the eligibility conditions set out in Sections C and D in the work programmes ⁽²⁾ and/or financing decisions, calls for proposals, rules of contests and calls for the selection of financial intermediaries or dedicated investment vehicles.
20. The Commission will ensure that the work programmes and calls for proposals, rules of contests and calls for the selection of financial intermediaries or dedicated investment vehicles published by the bodies entrusted with budget implementation tasks under indirect management contain the eligibility conditions set out in Sections C and D.
21. In order to clearly articulate EU commitments under international law, taking into account relevant EU policies and positions, the Commission will also endeavour to have the content of these guidelines reflected in international agreements or protocols thereto or Memoranda of Understanding with Israeli counterparts or with other parties.
22. The award of EU support to Israeli entities or to their activities in the form of grants, prizes or financial instruments requires engagement with Israeli entities referred to in points 11 and 14, for example, by organising meetings, visits or events. Such engagement will not take place in the territories referred to in point 2, unless it is related to the activities referred to in point 15.

⁽¹⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Subject to the outcome of the comitology procedures that may be required by the relevant basic act.

V. Letter of 73 MEPs and the reply

Madame the High Representative of the European Union, Federica Mogherini

Mr Robert Jan Smits - Director-General for Research and Innovation

We address you regarding Israeli participation within the new Horizon 2020 program.

We appreciate the EU guidelines to regulate the eligibility of Israeli entities for funding schemes and financial instruments of the EU¹ and believe they are an important step in the right direction. These guidelines show that the EU recognizes its political responsibility and obligation to respect international law when it awards funds, grants or prizes to Israeli entities. However, Palestinian civil society has raised concerns that these guidelines may not be sufficient or not be correctly interpreted in order to effectively ensure EU money is not being awarded in forms that aid and assist serious Israeli breaches of peremptory norms of international law².

In a joint letter, Palestinian civil society organizations have brought to our attention a report released by Stop the Wall detailing financial assistance to Elbit Systems and other Israeli military and security companies involved in Israeli violations of international law³.

Elbit Systems is one of Israel's biggest military companies and a major producer of drones, weapons and other technology that is a key part of Israel's military apparatus. Funding technological development and research to Elbit Systems or any similar company would at the very least infringe the EU's policy against the funding of dual use projects.

Beyond this, Elbit's technologies have been developed during the course of Israel's military actions that have been severely condemned by EU member states and provoked mass mobilizations throughout Europe⁴.

In 2014 over 60,000 people including Nobel Laureates, artists and public intellectuals issued a letter calling for an immediate military embargo on Israel. The letter underlines that "Israel's ability to launch such devastating attacks with impunity largely stems from the vast international military cooperation and trade that it maintains with complicit governments across the world."⁵ We cannot accept that the public money of our constituents, many of whom may hold similar views, will be used for such purposes.

Elbit Systems furthermore participates with the construction of Israel's Wall, which was ruled illegal by the International Court of Justice in 2004. Subsidiaries Elbit Electro-Optics (El-Op) and Elbit Security Systems supplied and incorporated 'LORROS' surveillance cameras in the Ariel settlement section as well as around Ar Ram, in East Jerusalem. For this reason, various pension funds and financial institutions within the European Union have already divested from the company⁶ and the UN Special rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territories in 2012 has called for the company to be boycotted⁷.

The European Union has repeatedly condemned Israeli settlements and policies in Area C. It therefore seems in clear contradiction to established EU policies to award funds for research and development to any Israeli company involved in the settlements or the Wall and that may use its technology to further these policies or improves technologies developed for these purposes.

¹ http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/israel/documents/related-links/20130719_guidelines_on_eligibility_of_israeli_entities_en.pdf

² <http://www.stopthewall.org/briefing-supporting-israeli-apartheid-eu-funding-elbit-system>

³ <https://www.stopthewall.org/2015/05/08/palestine-eu-stop-funding-elbit-systems>

⁴ <https://wanderingraven.wordpress.com/2015/01/08/drones-use-acknowledged-in-gaza-attacks/>

⁵ <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jul/18/arms-trade-israel-attack-gaza>

⁶ The most elaborate justification has been published by the Norwegian Pension Fund Council on Ethics already in 2009: <https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/160311fdf03347bca414b1fdd7aefc35/tilradning-elbit-engelsk.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43376#VWzYUVxViko>

Funding for projects that include Israeli corporations involved in the 'homeland security' framework of the settlements risks undermining the guidance to private business issued by more than 20 member states that warn against economic ties that benefit the settlements by instead actively encouraging and financing such cooperation.

Public opinion is dramatically shifting towards an ever stronger call for accountability and against cooperation with companies involved in Israel's violations of international law and for a military embargo. During the last funding cycle FP7, civil society has targeted a series of projects with Israeli companies involved in the Wall and the settlements⁸. We believe these growing concerns need to be taken into due consideration.

We believe it is our duty to ensure public money is spent on projects that promote the values and principles of the European Union and respect its general commitment to upholding and promoting international law, as set out in the Treaty of the European Union.

We remind the EU that it is obliged to act in conformity with the Horizon 2020 Participation Regulation, which specifies that actions financed under H2020 "should be in conformity with any legal obligation including international law", as well as with Article 3 (5) of the Lisbon Treaty, which specifies that the Union shall contribute, among others, to peace, security, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples and the protection of human rights as well as to the strict observance and the development of international law, including respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter.

On February 9, the Israeli R&D Directorate for the European Research Area (ISERD) published a document announcing that the EU had already approved 162 projects with Israeli participation within the Horizon 2020 research cycle with a total value of €452.3m⁹. A number of these projects are in the field of space and other sectors such as homeland security and dual use technology. The evaluation process of the new Horizon Space program is starting in April. Other evaluation processes appear to be already ongoing.

We therefore ask you to take these arguments into due consideration and ensure that EU funding is accountable to the demands of EU citizens, does not contradict established EU policies, effectively complies with the EU obligation to respect and promote respect for international law and promotes peace, solidarity and the respect of human rights.

Yours Sincerely,

- 1 Martina Anderson MEP (Ireland, GUE/NGL)
- 2 Lynn Boylan MEP (Ireland, GUE/NGL)
- 3 Liadh Ní Ríada MEP (Ireland, GUE/NGL)
- 4 Matt Carthy MEP (Ireland, GUE/NGL)
- 5 Luke Ming Flanagan MEP (Ireland, GUE/NGL)
- 6 Marisa Matias MEP (Portugal, GUE/NGL)
- 7 Malin Björk MEP (Sweden, GUE/NGL)
- 8 Josu Juaristi MEP (Basque, GUE/NGL)
- 9 Eleonora Forenza MEP (Italy, GUE/NGL)
- 10 Paloma Lopez MEP (Spain, GUE/NGL)
- 11 Neoklis Sylikiotis MEP (Cyprus, GUE/NGL)
- 12 Tania Gonzalez Peñas MEP (Spain, GUE/NGL)
- 13 Sofia Sakorafa MEP (Greece, GUE/NGL)

⁸ See for example: <http://www.bricup.org.uk/documents/FP7Letter.pdf>, <http://www.eccpalestine.org/eu-research-funding-and-israeli-violations-of-international-law/>

⁹ http://www.iserd.org.il/Uploads/dhcAttachedFiles/final_il_stat_iserd_dec2014.pdf

14 Keith Taylor MEP (UK, Greens/EFA)
15 Patrick Le Hyaric MEP (France, GUE/NGL)
16 Norbert Neuser MEP (Germany, S&D)
17 Georges Bach MEP (Luxembourg, EPP)
18 Marie Christine Vergiat MEP (France, GUE/NGL)
19.Stelios Kouloglou MEP (Greece, GUE/NGL)
20 Bart Staes MEP (Belgium, Greens/EFA)
21 Judith Sargentini MEP (Netherlands, Greens/EFA)
22 Jordi Sebastia MEP (Spain, Greens/EFA)
23 Merja Kyllonen MEP (Finland, GUE/NGL)
24 Josep-Maria Terricabras MEP (Spain, Greens/EFA)
25 Javier Nart MEP (Spain, ALDE)
26 Julie Ward MEP (UK, S&D)
27 Angela Vallina de La Noval MEP (Spain, GUE/NGL)
28 Anne-Marie Mineur MEP (Netherlands, GUE/NGL)
29 Younous Omarjee MEP (France, GUE/NGL)
30 Eugen Freund MEP (Austria, S&D)
31 Ana Maria Gomes MEP (Portugal, S&D)
32 Sylvia-Yvonne Kaufmann MEP (Germany, S&D)
33 Tanja Fajon MEP (Slovenia, S&D)
34 Philippe Lamberts MEP (Belgium, Greens/EFA)
35 Maria Arena MEP (Belgium, S&D)
36 Sirpa Pietikainen MEP (Finland, EPP)
37 Dennis De Jong MEP (Netherlands, GUE/NGL)
38 Mady Delvaux Stehres MEP (Luxembourg, S&D)
39 Claude Turmes MEP (Luxembourg, Greens/EFA)
40 Marian Harkin MEP (Ireland, ALDE)
41 Sergio Gaetano Cofferati MEP (Italy, S&D)
42 Merja Kyllonen MEP (Finland, GUE/NGL)
43 Marina Albiol Guzman MEP (Spain, GUE/NGL)
44 Igor Soltes MEP (Slovenia, Greens/EFA)
45 Ivo Vajgl MEP (Slovenia, ALDE)
46 Sebastia Jordi MEP (Spain, Greens/EFA)
47 Estefania Torres Martinez MEP (Spain, GUE/NGL)
48 Molly Scott Cato MEP (UK, Greens/EFA)
49 Ernest Urtasun MEP (Spain, Greens/EFA)
50 Alyn Smith MEP (UK, Greens/EFA)
51.Rina Ronja Kair MEP (Denmark, GUE/NGL)
52.Izaskun Bilbao Barandica MEP (Spain, ALDE)
53.Pascal Durand MEP (France, Greens/EFA)
54.Alfred Sant MEP (Malta, S&D)
55.Liliana Rodrigues MEP (Spain, S&D)
56.Karima Delli MEP (France, Greens/EFA)
57.Yannick Jadot MEP (France, Greens/EFA)
58.Margrete Auken MEP (Denmark, Greens/EFA)
59.Jean Lambert MEP (UK, Greens/EFA)
60.Ricardo Serrao Santos MEP (Portugal, S&D)
61.Bodil Valero MEP (Sweden, Greens/EFA)
62.Fabio De Masi MEP (Germany, GUE/NGL)
63.Eva Joly MEP (France, Greens/EFA)

- 64.Karin Kadenbach MEP (Austria, S&D)
- 65.Josef Weidenholzer MEP (Austria, S&D)
- 66.Michelé Rivasi MEP (France, Greens/EFA)
- 67.José Bové MEP (France, Greens/EFA)
- 68.Jill Evans MEP (UK, Greens/EFA)
- 69.Nessa Childers MEP (Ireland, S&D)
- 70.Curzio Maltese MEP (Italy, GUE/NGL)
- 71.Evelyn Regner MEP (Austria, S&D)
- 72.Barbara Spinelli MEP (Italy, GUE/NGL)
- 73.Lidia Senra Rodriguez MEP (Galicia, GUE/NGL)

Brussels,
rtd.ddg1.a.2(2015)3493775

European Parliament
rue Wiertz 60
B-1047 Brussels

Honourable Members,

Subject: Israeli participation in the new Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

I would like to thank you for your letter to Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General for Research and Innovation and HR/VP Federica Mogherini, which brings to our attention your concerns regarding the participation of Elbit Systems Ltd. in Horizon 2020.

Israel is associated to the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme in accordance with Article 7 of the Horizon 2020 Regulation.

As you note in your letter, the participation of Israeli entities in Horizon 2020 is governed by the July 2013 'Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards'⁴¹. The aim of these Guidelines, developed in 2013 by the European External Action Service, is precisely to ensure the respect of EU positions and commitments in conformity with international law on the non-recognition by the EU of Israel's sovereignty over the territories it has occupied since June 1967.

⁴¹ OJ C 205, 19/07/2013

These Guidelines foresee that Israeli entities established in these territories are not eligible to take part in EU Programmes, and that activities of Israeli entities are considered ineligible for EU funding if they take place in the occupied territories, either partially or entirely.

The EU has put in place measures to prevent the use of EU funds for research activities that could be contrary to international law. These include ethical screening of proposals and assessment of the possible dual-use of the proposed research. All of the FP7 and Horizon 2020 projects involving Elbit Systems Ltd. were evaluated by independent experts, and where they deemed it necessary, the project underwent a detailed ethical review. Any requirements identified in ethical reviews become contractual obligations. The compliance with applicable EU, national and international legislation, including the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, remains a sine qua non condition.

Under Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 1291/2013, all activities carried out under Horizon 2020 must have an exclusive focus on civil applications. However, this does not exclude that project partners carry out military activities outside Horizon 2020 actions.

In cases where the Council of the European Union adopts sanctions targeting potential participants, such participants would be ineligible for funding. However, since no sanctions have been adopted by the Council to date, there is no legal basis for excluding a particular participant from an associated country from participation and funding.

As you know, Israel has a long history of association to the EU's Research Framework Programmes. Association enhances the possibility for scientists from Member States to cooperate with scientists from Israel, which is seen as beneficial to both sides.

This said, we remain concerned about the current situation and will keep a very close watch on its potential evolution and take appropriate measures if necessary.

I reaffirm my strong commitment to ensure an effective system of monitoring, in full compliance with the requirements of the Guidelines.

Yours faithfully,

Carlos Moedas

5. Letter on the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the reply

From: David Cronin [<mailto:dvcronin1971@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 3:40 PM

To: SMITS Robert-Jan (RTD)

Cc: MOEDAS Carlos (CAB-MOEDAS); MOGHERINI Federica (CAB-MOGHERINI); federica.mogherini@eeas.europa.eu

Subject: Further concerns about Hebrew University of Jerusalem's role in Horizon 2020

Dear Mr Smits

Thank you for your letter, dated 3 July.

I wish to express my concern about the point you made on Hebrew University of Jerusalem's "self-declaration" that its place of establishment is within Israel's pre-1967 borders.

This "self-declaration" is contradicted by some of Hebrew University's own publications. For example, a "students' guide" from the University states that before 1967, its original Mount Scopus headquarters was "an Israeli enclave in the eastern part of the city, then under Jordanian control."

The booklet adds that "expansion of the campus began" with the "reunification of Jerusalem in 1967."

In my view, that is a clear admission that Hebrew University has been expanding into land that Israel occupied in 1967.

The booklet can be found at this weblink:

<https://overseas.huji.ac.il/Uploads/dbsAttachedFiles/SG.pdf>

Given that this information - which appears to have been officially approved by Hebrew University - contradicts the "self-declaration", I request that you examine this question as a matter of urgency.

In accordance with the code of conduct applying to senior European Union representatives, I would be grateful if you could reply to this message within 15 working days.

Yours sincerely

David Cronin

David Cronin

176 rue Jules Lahaye

207/263

1090 Brussels.

 Ref. Ares(2015)3356487 - 12/08/2015



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The Director-General

Brussels, **11 AOUT 2015**
rtd.ddg2.c.3(2015)3482233

Mr David Cronin
176 rue Jules Lahaye
1090 Brussels
Email: dvcronin1971@gmail.com

Subject: Reply to your letter on further concerns about Hebrew University of Jerusalem's role in Horizon 2020

Dear Mr Cronin,

Thank you for your email, as well as for providing the link to the booklet by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. I immediately asked my services to follow-up on this and to run an in-depth analysis of the information at our disposal.

My services analysed our records and checked the data at our disposal in order to assess whether the said University could be in breach of the July 2013 Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards¹.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem participated in EU Research Framework Programme projects as a Higher Education establishment established in Israel, at 'Givat Ram Campus, 91904 Jerusalem'. This information is available in the Financial Transparency System records. In line with the EU Financial Regulation, the Commission has to make available, in appropriate and timely manner, information on recipients of Union funds, such as the name of the recipient; the locality of the recipient; the amount awarded; the nature and purpose of the measure.

As regards the information included in the booklet published by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, we have carefully checked and we can confirm that Mount Scopus is located within the pre-1967 borders.

Thus, since both Givat Ram and Mount Scopus are located within pre-1967 borders, the University is eligible for participation and funding in the Research Framework Programmes.

In addition, in accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines, please note that all Israeli participants should ensure, by signature of a declaration on honour and on a case by case basis, that research activities are physically not performed in territories which

¹ [OJ C 205, 19/07/2013](#)

came under Israeli administration post-1967. These activities *cannot* be considered as eligible for the purposes of EU-funded projects.

I would like to thank you once again for drawing our attention to this very important issue, and reassure you that my services will continue to closely monitor the situation.

Yours sincerely,



ANNEX:

Commission website on the Financial Transparency System:

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/fts/index_en.htm

6. Examples of European Parliament's questions and answers to Commissioner Moedas and others on Israel

1. Question for written answer E-010865/2015 to the Commission, Rule 130

Mady Delvaux (S&D)

Subject: EU funding for Elbit Systems

The EU-Israel Association Agreement is the main treaty on relations between the two countries. As part of this agreement, the EU-Israel action plan sets out Israel's participation in EU programmes such as Horizon 2020.

The eligibility of Israeli entities for EU funds and financial instruments is in principle regulated by EU guidelines involving an obligation to respect international law when it awards funds. In this context, the EU has already approved 205 projects with Israeli participation within the framework of the Horizon 2020 research cycle.

As actions financed under Horizon 2020 should be in conformity with any legal obligation, including international law, how does the Commission explain the financial assistance awarded to Elbit Systems, one of Israel's biggest military companies and a major producer of drones involved in the construction of the Wall and the settlements.

Is the Commission considering revising current EU guidelines regulating the eligibility of Israel entities for EU funding schemes?

E-008594/2015

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
(3.8.2015)**

Research and innovation activities carried out under Horizon 2020, the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020), have an exclusive focus on civil applications. This is stated in Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing Horizon 2020 and repealing Decision No 1982/2006/EC. The Horizon 2020 Work Programmes and their Calls for Proposals are written on this basis.

Furthermore, proposals received that raise dual-use issues undergo a scientific and ethics evaluation by independent experts. In the course of this phase, applicants are informed about the responsibilities they will have in accordance with Article 37 of the Horizon 2020 Grant Agreement "Security-related obligations".

Finally, the general Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement includes an option regarding dual use in the abovementioned Article 37, which states that activities involving dual-use goods or dangerous materials and substances must comply with applicable EU, national and international law.

In cases where the EU Council adopts sanctions targeting potential participants, such participants would be ineligible for funding. However, since no sanctions have been adopted by the EU, there is no legal basis for excluding from participation and funding a particular participant from an associated country.

The Commission provides a statistical update on triannual basis to the Members of Horizon 2020 Programme Committee on their entities' participation in Horizon 2020 and upon request this update could be provided.

2. EN

E-010150/2014

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
(16.12.2014)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3. EN

E-008524/2014

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
([d.m.yyyy])**

All FP7 funds have already been committed. There are still payments to be made to Israeli entities participating in on-going FP7 actions in compliance with the respective grant agreements.

The ‘Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards’ refer to the participation of Israeli entities in EU-funded grants, prizes and financial instruments from 2014 onwards. In line with the Guidelines, Israeli entities established beyond Israel’s 1967 borders or wishing to carry out activities – including security related activities – in the Occupied Territories under an EU funded project will not be eligible to participate in Horizon 2020 or other EU programmes, including on a no-cost basis.

The EU research framework programmes, including FP7 and Horizon 2020, do not provide support for military research. They focus explicitly on civil security research, including topics such as disaster response, civil protection and crisis management. Several mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that EU funds are not used for activities that could be contrary to international law – ethical review, assessment of possible dual-use and audit.

4. EN

E-002757/2015

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
([d.m.yyyy])**

Dear Mr. Patrick Le Hyaric,

I would like to assure you that Horizon 2020 does not provide support for military research. Several mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that EU funds are not used for activities that could be contrary to international law. Firstly, Horizon 2020 is a completely transparent program: all projects, most of which are of a collaborative nature involving participants from a number of different countries, are selected on the basis of excellence. Eligible proposals are evaluated by a panel of external independent experts. If a project raises ethical questions it also undergoes an additional ethical review. The ethical evaluation of these projects includes an assessment of the possible dual-use of the proposed research and compliance with EU and international legislation, including the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. Proposals involving security issues can also be subject to additional review. The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out investigations to verify the use of EU funds in case of sufficiently serious suspicions of fraud or irregularity.

In June 2013, the EU adopted ‘Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards’. In line with the Guidelines, Israeli entities established beyond Israel’s 1967 borders or wishing to carry out activities in the Occupied Territories under an EU funded project are not eligible to participate, including on a no-cost basis (the case when the entity finances its own participation from other sources than the Union).

**5. EN
E-003089/2015**

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
(30.4.2015)**

The Commission wishes to inform the Honourable Member that EU research funding only reimburses eligible costs. The precise amount to be paid is not set from the start of a project but is calculated on the basis of beneficiaries' cost statements in accordance with the rules for determining eligible costs. FP7 funding to Israeli entities will end after the Commission has approved the final reports for all FP7 projects where Israeli entities are participating. All FP7 funds have already been committed. There are still payments to be made to Israeli entities participating in on-going actions. As projects have different durations and as payments are on-going, it is very difficult to determine the exact amounts that remain to be paid to Israeli entities.

The participation of Israeli entities in EU-funded projects is checked in line with the Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 . Projects are selected according to the criterion of excellence. External independent experts evaluate the eligible proposals. If a project raises ethical questions, it undergoes an additional ethical review . Proposals involving security issues can be subject to additional

review and project participants must comply with the grant agreement . The Commission may carry out controls and, as a result, impose sanctions.

Actions under Horizon 2020 must comply with Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 1291/2013 , which requires that all activities carried out under Horizon 2020 must have an exclusive focus on civil applications. This does not exclude that the legal entities involved carry out military activities outside the Horizon 2020 action.

6. EN

E-010865/2015

**Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
(10.9.2015)**

Israel has signed an Agreement for Association to Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) and contributes financially to it. On the basis of this Agreement, any Israeli legal entity may participate in, and receive funding from Horizon 2020 if it complies with the eligibility criteria set out in the 'Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards '. Revision of the Guidelines is not under consideration.

In cases where the EU Council adopts sanctions targeting potential participants, such participants would be ineligible for funding. However, since no sanctions have been adopted by the EU, there is no legal basis for excluding from participation and funding a particular participant from an associated country.

Actions under Horizon 2020 must comply with Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 1291/2013 , which requires that all activities carried out under Horizon 2020 must have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

Several mechanisms have been put in place to prevent that EU funds are used for activities that could be contrary to international law, including the ethical evaluation of the project proposals and an assessment of the possible dual-use of the proposed research and compliance with applicable EU, national and international legislation, including the European Charter of Fundamental Rights.

7. Question for written answer E-003419/2014 to the Commission, Rule 117 Cornelis de Jong (GUE/NGL)

[REDACTED]

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Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission, (22.5.2014)

[REDACTED]

8. Question for written answer E-011598/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative), Rule 130

Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Israeli participation in the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

The Israel Europe R&D Directorate (ISERD) recently published an article revealing that the European Union has approved Israeli participation in 162 projects under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, to a total value of some EUR 450 million.

The regulation governing the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme requires all participants to respect fundamental values, such as peace, security, protection of human rights, solidarity, mutual respect between peoples, and respect of international law.

Can the High Representative confirm this information and, if it is true, provide a list of Israeli bodies and private companies participating in these projects?

Answer given by Vice-President Mogherini, On behalf of the Commission, ([d.m.yyyy])

Article 19 of Regulation (EU) n. 1291/2013 establishing the Horizon 2020 programme describes the ethical principles with which all research and innovation activities have to comply. These principles include relevant national, Union and international legislation, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention on Human Rights and its Supplementary Protocols.

The Commission provides a statistical update on a triannual basis to EU Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 on their entities' participation in the programme.

**9. Question for written answer E-013981/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Compatibility of subsidies for dual-use technologies with the July 2013 guidelines

In a reply to addressed to 73 MEPs, the Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, confirmed that checks to the compatibility of grants with the July 2013 guidelines were carried out on a project-by-project – rather than entity-by-entity – basis. The access of Elbit Systems, a company operating in the occupied territories, to EU funding was the root cause of the problem.

However, the receipt of financial aid for a given project benefits a company in its entirety. Similarly, know-how and experience obtained in civilian projects may be put to use in work for the military. Particular attention therefore needs to be paid to funding granted to companies operating in both sectors.

Elbit Systems is a partner of the EU's FLYSEC airport security project. It has received funding to the tune of EUR 4 million for its contribution to the deployment of video surveillance, smart image processing and biometrics technologies, all of which have applications associated with the occupation of Palestinian territories.

Does the Commission believe its approach of considering each project in isolation to be in line with the spirit of the July 2013 guidelines?

10. Question for written answer E-002894/2014 to the Commission, Rule 117

Keith Taylor (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Follow-up to Written Question E-014264/2013 on 'Implementation of EU guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities for EU grants, prizes and financial instruments'

Collaborative arrangements, even with good will, can be difficult to monitor. We know that Ariel University (AU) is built on illegally expropriated Palestinian land and the answer to Written Question E-014264/2013 confirms that AU is not eligible to participate in Union research programmes. But we also note the following, taken from AU's website:

'Many studies are conducted in collaboration with researchers affiliated with other institutions,

including Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Ben Gurion University, the Technion, and other advanced research institutions, colleges and universities in Israel and overseas. University researchers are also extensively involved in research projects that are initiated by the industrial sector. We conduct studies that are commissioned by and/or in collaboration with IAI (Israel Aerospace Industries), ELTA, Elbit, El-Op, Refael, and other companies from Israel, Europe and the US. The total annual research budget for the University exceeds NIS 30 million (not including salaries for researchers who are faculty members)'.

The question is, how does the EU intend to prevent funds awarded to Israeli and other eligible institutions filtering through to AU and other ineligible institutions via collaboration agreements?

Answer given by High Representative/Vice President Ashton on behalf of the Commission (6.6.2014)

As regards the eligibility of entities, the conditions stipulated in the text of the guidelines are very clear: any entity outside Israel's pre-1967 borders is considered ineligible.

The Commission will pay particular attention to ensuring that the work programmes and calls for proposals comply with the requirements for implementing the EU budget and, thus, include the eligibility conditions set out in Sections C and D of the guidelines text. If any activity fails to meet the requirements set out in point 12(a) of the guidelines that activity will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered as part of the application.

In practice, in the field of higher education, the executive agency managing the EU supported programmes (closing the Erasmus Mundus and Tempus programmes and now opening Erasmus+) makes sure that the Ariel University is neither an applicant nor a partner organisation in projects selected in Israel. In all project proposals, not only the name of the applicant is mentioned, but also of all partners involved in one way or another in the project.

The same remark applies to activities supported in the research field through the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (under Horizon 2020) managed by the European Research Agency.

11. Question for written answer E-007365/2011 to the Commission

Rule 117

João Ferreira (GUE/NGL)

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice President Ashton on behalf of the Commission,
(14.9.2011)

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