



Thursday, 29 October 2015

Attention: Newsdesks / Science / Education correspondents

For immediate release

EUA: European Parliament remains a reliable partner in defending research budget

The European University Association (EUA) welcomes the decision of the European Parliament to reinforce the 2016 EU budget for research and innovation. Yesterday – 28 October 2015 – the plenary adopted amendments to defend EU research funding through:

- fully restoring funding for Horizon 2020 to the level agreed on prior to the adoption of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) for which 2.2 billion Euro has recently been diverted from the programme;
- offsetting the cuts to Horizon 2020 introduced by the Member States through the Council and going back to the draft budget proposed by the European Commission.

EUA Secretary General Lesley Wilson said: “With this vote the Parliament lives up to its commitment to protect Horizon 2020 and in particular minimise the impact of the EFSI-related cuts on the programme.”

The vote determines the Parliament’s position ahead of the conciliation phase with the Council starting today. EUA calls upon Member States in the Council to rethink their position and trusts that a compromise can be achieved to support research and innovation which are key for Europe’s future.

ENDS

Note

1. [EUA calls on European Parliament to defend research in upcoming EU budget](#) – 8 September 2015
2. [EUA statement on EFSI adoption](#) – 25 June 2015

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The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors’ conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA’s mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.