TEMPLATE FOR EXPLANATORY DOCUMENTS ON ERA ACTIONS FROM THE ERA POLICY AGENDA

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Action 2: Propose a EU copyright and data legislative and regulatory framework fit for research

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1. Description

A legislative and regulatory framework fit for research should enable, among other things, the seamless:

- access to (including open access) and reuse of publicly funded R&I results;
- access to (including open access) and reuse of publications and data for research purposes;
- data services and infrastructures managed by/for the benefit of research stakeholders; and
- flow of research knowledge and data across the EU based on Article 179 TFEU and academic freedom.

However, barriers and challenges to these objectives exist in the EU legislative and regulatory framework. To address this situation, the Commission will analyse EU copyright and data legislation to identify existing and possible additional barriers and challenges, and possible measures to address them. The results of the analysis will be discussed with MS/AC and relevant stakeholders.

With regard to copyright and related rights, the analysis will examine whether the relevant EU Copyright legislation (e.g. Information Society Directive, Copyright Directive) fosters and/or deters access and reuse of scientific publications and will examine some of the legal barriers encountered by researchers and institutions to provide open access to them (e.g. due to copyright and licensing conditions in publishing agreements). The analysis will also look at specific initiatives to enable open access to scientific publications, including amendments introduced by several MS into their national copyright legislation enacting a secondary publication right for publicly-funded scientific publications and non-legislative initiatives (such as those developed by research funders (e.g. cOAlition S Rights Retention Strategy) and research institutions (e.g. Harvard model)). Beyond scientific publications, the analysis will also explore whether the EU Copyright legislative framework fosters and/or deters access to (including open access) and reuse of data for scientific purposes. It will also examine relevant copyright and licensing initiatives that seek to foster access to and reuse of publicly funded research data.

With regard to data legislation, the analysis will explore how existing legal instruments (e.g. Open Data Directive) and upcoming data legislation (e.g. Data Governance Act, Data Act, Digital Services Act) (may) impact research and research stakeholders' operations (e.g. access to data, research data sharing and reuse, impact on research performing organisations, research funding organisations, and research infrastructures/services).

On the basis of the copyright and data legislation analysis, the action will explore possible legislative and non-legislative measures to ensure a framework fit for research.

This action will interact with ongoing actions such as the monitoring and

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	guidance on the transposition of existing Directives (e.g. Copyright Directive; Open Data Directive) and the activities in preparation and follow-up of upcoming legal instruments (e.g. review of the Database Directive). Outcomes: Identify barriers and challenges to access and reuse of publicly funded R&I results and of publications and data for scientific purposes, and identify potential impacts on research, through an analysis of relevant provisions under EU copyright and data legislation and related regulatory frameworks, and of relevant institutional and national initiatives Propose legislative and non-legislative measures to improve the current EU copyright and data legislative and regulatory frameworks
2. Actors	The results of the analysis by the Commission and the possible way forward will be discussed with MS/AC and relevant stakeholder organisations during (a) workshop(s) in April/May/June 2022. The proposed legislative and non-legislative measures to improve the current EU copyright and data legislative and regulatory framework are expected to be developed and implemented by the Commission, the MS/AC and research performing/funding organisations.
3. Timing and milestones	 Independent experts will support the analysis and deliver reports on: copyright and related rights and access and reuse of scientific publications (end of March 2022) copyright and related rights and access and reuse of data (end of March 2022) the Open Data Directive, the Data Governance Act and the Data Act (end of March 2022) the Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act (end of February 2022) Workshop(s) with the MS/AC and relevant stakeholder organisations to discuss the draft results of the analysis and gather their input on possible ways forward (April/May/June 2022). Finalising the identification of barriers and challenges and potential impacts on research, and developing the proposals for possible legislative and non-legislative measures (Summer/Autumn 2022). Publishing the results of the analysis and the proposals for measures (Autumn 2022).
4. Funding	Horizon Europe (in particular the WIDERA part) for training/capacity building, and for support to non-legislative initiatives that may result from the action. National funding.
5. Expected impact	Improved understanding of the impact of the EU copyright and data

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	legislative and regulatory framework on research and innovation.
	 Improved EU legislative and regulatory framework conditions for research and innovation.
6. Monitoring	 Monitoring of the uptake of the legislative and non-legislative measures resulting from the action.
7. Communication	 Publication by the Commission of the results of the analysis. Dissemination of the legislative and non-legislative measures proposed.
8. Additional information	