



Information to coordinators and beneficiaries of Horizon 2020 grants

Commission adopted revised versions of model grant agreements – retroactive applicability for clarifications, corrections and the new rules in favour of the beneficiaries

On 27 February 2017, the Commission amended the Horizon 2020 model grant agreements, providing among other changes, clarifications, corrections and new rules in favour of beneficiaries that can be applied retroactively to grants signed with the previous versions.

Is there any effect on my signed grant agreement?

No. The grant agreement that you signed continues being applicable without the need to amend it.

What are the modifications from which my grant could benefit retroactively?

The most important modifications that can be applied retroactively to grants signed with the previous version are:

- new definition for additional remuneration, i.e. the part of the remuneration which is higher than the remuneration paid by the beneficiary under national projects (see Article [6.2.A.1](#)).
- increased flexibility for accepting as personnel costs, the costs of staff employed via quasi-subordinate work contracts who, in practice, work under conditions similar to those of an employee (see Article [6.2.A.2](#)).
- wider acceptance of the beneficiaries' usual cost accounting practices for direct costs by allowing to charge costs for goods or services internally invoiced on the basis of a unit cost (see Article [6.2.D.5](#)).
- possibility for beneficiaries who are receiving an operating grant to declare indirect costs in the Horizon 2020 grant if they can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action (see [Article 6.2.E](#)).

Does my grant agreement have to be amended in order to benefit retroactively from the modifications?

No.

What do I have to do to signal that I want to benefit retroactively from the modifications?

You do not need to inform the Commission/Agency explicitly on your intentions. You can simply run your grant according to the above revised provisions applying retroactively, and the Commission/Agency will accept this.

How can I get an overview on the changed articles with retroactive applicability?

There is a [document](#) showing most of the articles affected by clarifications, corrections and the new rules in favour of beneficiaries with retroactive applicability, highlighting the changes for ease of comparison.

To whom can I turn if I have questions?

Please use the [Research Enquiry Service](#), choosing the subject item "10 – Legal and financial issues" from the drop-down list in the Web form.