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Innovation, Research and Development, especially in the framework of Horizon 2020: - extracts from the question time to the Commission

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Question Time with Commissioners Geogheghan-Quinn, Kroes and Vassiliou focused today in the European Parliament on research and innovation, particularly under the EU's "Horizon 2020" research programme for 2014-2020. Horizon 2020 aims to make the EU a world-leading economy. In order to achieve this goal, EU budget should reflect this goal, said the Industry Committee in its November vote on the programme. The Commission proposed an €80 billion budget for the programme, but MEPs are pressing for more. The proposed support for research and innovation under Horizon 2020 will: strengthen the EU's position in science with a dedicated budget of € 24 598 million. This is intended to provide a boost to top-level research in Europe, including an increase in funding of 77% for the very successful European Research Council (ERC7). Horizon 2020 should provide major simplification through a single set of rules. It will combine all research and innovation funding currently provided through the Framework Programmes for Research and Technical Development, the innovation related activities of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP5) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT6).

HEURE	DESCRIPTION	DUREE
00:00:00	TITLE : Innovation, Research and Development, especially in the framework of Horizon 2020: - extracts from the question time to the Commission	00:00:05
00:00:05	EXTERIOR SHOT of the European Parliament in Strasbourg	00:00:05
00:00:10	SOUNDBITE (English) Liam AYLWARD (IE, ALDE) "As more and more knowledge are created in third countries, what instruments are offered under Horizon 2020 to entice researchers and investors to the EU ?	00:00:10
00:00:20	SOUNDBITE (English) Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, Commissioner for research, innovation and science. "Horizon 2020 is all about creating the landscape and the architecture to prove to investors to researchers that Europe is a place to come and invest. For Researchers, for example, earlier last year I had the great opportunity of meeting about 80 European Researchers that are working in the Harvard MIT area of Massachusetts, during which I asked where they would like to see themselves in 10 years time. Each one of them said they would like to see themselves at home, and I asked does this mean your own Member State and they say no, they meant the European union. And I said : what's preventing them to do	00:01:13

	European union. And I said : what's preventing them to do so ? And they said : because everything is unclear, our career profile is unclear, mobility is difficult, taking a funding grant with your cross-border is impossible. So we need you to put in place the kind of landscapes that is necessary to encourage us to come back. and that's what Horizon 2020 is doing, that's what it is about, that's what the European Research area is all about, it's creating that level playing field so that people think it's a good place to do business.	
00:01:33	SOUNDBITE (Spanish) Teresa RIERA MADURELL (ES, S&D) "As the Rapporteur for the Horizon 2020 Programme and following on from the proposal from the Parliament I think we can confirm now that our vision isn't very far from the Commission's vision, and we also agree that this is our chief instrument in order to be more competitive in innovation and also in knowledge, which according to the expert is so vital to get out from this crisis."	00:00:28
00:02:01	SOUNDBITE (English) Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, Commissioner for research, innovation and science. "One billion less of funding for Horizon 2020 would mean that 600 SME's would not be in projects, or 500 projects would not be launched. That's perhaps the only figure that I should engage in here, but that's why it is crucially important that even when net contributors want to reduce the overall budget, that within that proposal that they look crucially at what is good for growth, jobs, sustainability within the European Union and if they do and when they do I think they will see that the investment in Research and Innovation provide growth and jobs and is the investment of the future."	00:00:46
00:02:47	SOUNDBITE (English) Paul MURPHY, MEP (IE, GUE/NGL) "Can I ask the Commissioner how she can justify the proposed increase in funding in Horizon 2020 for security research ? I know that the research carried out by the policy department of this Parliament that concluded that in the current framework programme it is mostly large defence companies which are the main beneficiaries. These large defence companies of course are the merchants of death that make 1/3 of the world arms trade. The example of Albot Systems and Israel aerospace industry which have received tens of millions Euros in European Tax payers fund surely illustrated this point. These are companies in the building of Israel apartheid wall, and involved in the supplying of the drones and warplanes that terrorize the Palestinian people. How does this funding tally, how does it square with the rhetoric of the Nobel Peace Prize winning European Union ?"	00:00:52

00:03:39	SOUNDBITE (English) Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, Commissioner for research, innovation and science. "We do not engage in the funding of other than the civilian dimension of security. And we are very conscious of this and always have been and we have ethical responses within the Directory General in relation to this all area, because we are conscious that the funding, the money that comes from the European taxpayers, needs to be used in research and innovation that add to the wellbeing of the European Union, that provide the kind of growth, innovation and sustainability that is required within the European Union. But we don't have control, which I think you accept, if those innovation or that research is being used in a military way."	00:00:50
00:04:29	CUTAWAYS : 7 shots	00:00:18
00:04:47	END	00:00:00

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