



**THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
8TH TERM**

638TH

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 23rd session held on 13th June 2012

**on Horizon 2020 – framework programme for research and innovation
(2014-2020) /Senate Press no. N 125/08, N 126/08, N 129/08, N 130/08/**

The Senate

I.

1. Perceives

the key importance of science and research for future competitiveness of the European Union;

2. Supports

generally and in accordance with the long-term position of the Senate, as stated for example in the resolution No. 162 of 17th March 2011 on the Communication from the Commission on the flagship initiative of the strategy Europe 2020 – Innovation Union, the EU plans in the field of science and research, especially the focus on an increase of investments, the completion of the European Research Area and the removal of barriers to mobility of scientists and ideas;

3. Recalls

in accordance with the long-term position of the Senate, as stated for example in the resolution No. 371 of 10th December 2009 on the Communication from the Commission on the progress made within the scope of the Seventh framework programme for research, that basic and applied research have to be developed in certain proportion which enables a successful commercialization of research outputs in the short and in the long term and, at the same time, ascertains that the development of scientific excellence is not jeopardized in the long run;

II.

1. Welcomes

the significant increase of the budget of the strategy for science and research Horizon 2020 as a confirmation of the commitment of the EU to become a highly competitive knowledge-based economy;

2. Supports

the proposed structure of the Horizon 2020 programme, which reflects the needs of the society and the challenges of the EU Member States;

3. Points out

the necessity of taking into account the geographical diversity of the EU during project evaluation and of supporting research initiatives of all Member States, which would strengthen the regional dimension of science and research;

4. Agrees

with the efforts to even more facilitate the access to activities within the framework of the Horizon 2020 programme, for example by reducing administrative barriers and by simplifying reporting and financial rules of participation;

5. Expects

that the discoveries of all scientific disciplines, including social and human sciences, will be used when dealing with current societal challenges within the Horizon 2020 programme;

6. Appreciates

in accordance with the long-term position of the Senate, as stated for example in the resolution No. 169 of 19 July 2007 on the Green Paper on the European Research Area, the attention the Horizon 2020 proposal dedicates to all forms of mobility of researchers, including third-country citizens;

7. Is of the opinion

that the centres of competence and the large research infrastructure projects, which are currently being created in the Czech Republic with the support of the structural funds of the European Union, represent a unique possibility to develop Czech science at a top level;

8. Therefore calls upon the Government

to engage these institutions into the Horizon 2020 programme, for example through the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT);

9. Asks the Government

to pay attention to the conclusions of the round tables organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports during further negotiations on the Horizon 2020 programme;

10. Recommends to the Government

to provide maximum possible support to potential applicants, including consultations and preliminary evaluation of research plans;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with further information on the proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate