

## DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

### approving the phasing-out plan

N°14/2023

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPE'S RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING, (hereafter referred as "EU-RAIL")

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 17.2 point (a1) and 19(4) point (v);

Having regard to European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 10(2)(c) and Annex III on the European partnerships;

Having regard to the EU-Rail Governing Board Rules of Procedure<sup>3</sup>, and in particular Article 11;

Having regard the consultation to the States Representatives Group and the Scientific Steering Group in accordance with Article 20(7) (a) of the Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085.

Whereas:

- (1) The joint undertakings are set up as Union bodies for a period ending on 31 December 2031 and financed under the EU multiannual financial framework 2021-2027;
- (2) According to Article 10 of the Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) 2021/695, the European partnerships should have a clear life-cycle approach, be limited in time and include conditions for phasing-out the Programme funding;
- (3) According to Article 17(2) point (a1) of the Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085, the Governing Board should adopt by the end of 2023 a plan for the phasing-out of the joint undertaking from Horizon Europe funding upon recommendation of the Executive Director;
- (4) According to Article 3 of the Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085, in order to take into account the duration of Horizon Europe, calls for proposals under the joint undertakings shall be launched at the latest by 31 December 2027. In duly justified cases, calls for proposals may be launched by 31 December 2028, at the latest;

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<sup>1</sup> [OJ L 427, 30.11.2021, p. 17–119](#)

<sup>2</sup> [OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1–68](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://rail-research.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/GB-Decision-01-2021.pdf>

- (5) According to Annex III of the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) 2021/695, the European Partnerships should define a common strategic vision, including in particular exit-strategies and measures for phasing-out of the programme. It means the process leading to independence from Horizon Europe funding and the end of the Union's participation;
- (6) Given the fact that the Joint Undertakings should annually report on this phasing-out plan in the Consolidated Annual Activity Report;
- (7) In order to ensure a lean and pragmatic approach, the Executive Director should submit to the Governing Board a plan focused on the administrative and operational adaptations needed for a 'winding-up procedure', and the necessary steps, including procedural and process aspects, to complete the other elements of the phasing-out plan;
- (8) The other elements of the phasing-out plan related to short and long-terms targets, strategic alignment with the SRIA, and the future financial stability should be further completed during 2024. The revised plan, after consultation of the relevant advisory bodies, including SRG, should be submitted to the Governing Board for adoption by the end of 2024.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The Governing Board of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking hereby approves the phasing-out plan enclosed in Annex to this Decision.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 5 December 2023.

For the Governing Board



Magda KOPCZYNSKA  
The Chairperson

**Annex:** Phasing-out plan of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking