

# D&E Obligations in Horizon Europe: Articles in Grant Agreements and Consortium Agreements

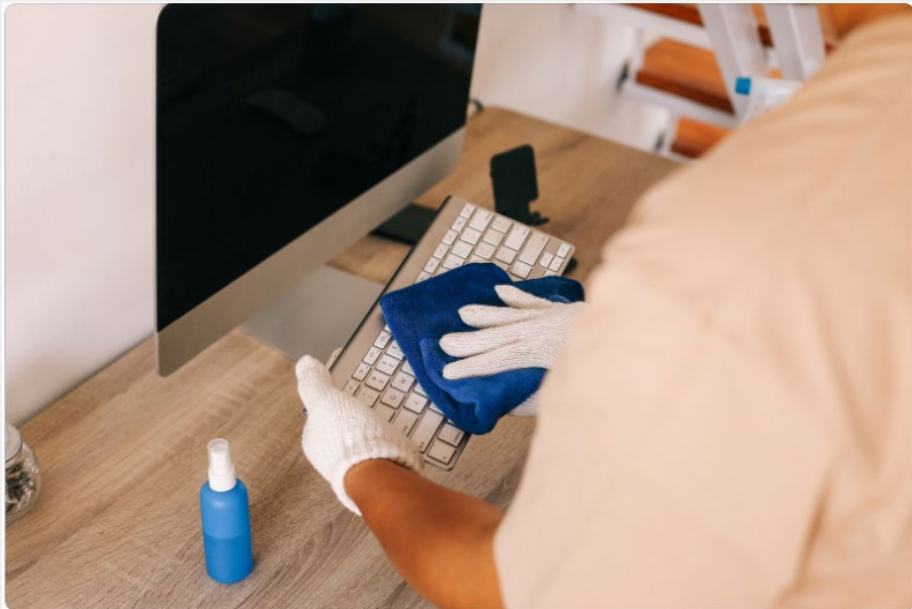
Scientific and Innovation Partnership Assistance Center, SIPAC, Armenia  
Instituto de Productos Naturales y Agrobiología CSIC, Tenerife, Spain  
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Funded by  
the European Union

# Housekeeping notes



**This webinar will be recorded!**

We will share with you the recording and presentations a few days after the webinar.

**Please keep your mics muted!**

**We will be using Slido!**

<https://www.slido.com/>

**Ask your questions via Q&A room in writing!**

**Feedback form**



# Today's Agenda



**01**

Introduction & Warm-up



**02**

About WiderAdvance Facility project



**03**

D&E in Horizon Europe: Articles in the Grant Agreement



**04**

D&E translated into Consortium Agreements and project practice



**05**

Q&A



**06**

Wrap-up Quiz

## Objectives



- Explain why D&E obligations are important
- Raise awareness on how D&E contributes to project impact and EU policy goals.
- Explain D&E obligations as set out in Horizon Europe Grant Agreements.
- Show how D&E obligations are translated into Consortium Agreements in project practice.
- Show how all of it works based on example of a practical case

# MEET OUR SPEAKERS



**Mr. Tigran ARZUMANYAN**

**Chairman, SIPAC**

**National NCP Coordinator**

NCP for HE Legal & Financial aspects,  
CL2, Widening Participation and EU  
Missions.

Euraxess BHO, COST National Coordinator

20+years of Experience in STI and FPs

18+ Participation in FP projects including  
coordination.



**Ms. Anahit KHACHIKYAN**

**Project Manager, SIPAC**

NCP for HE MSCA, CL1, CL6, EIC

10+ Experience in project  
management and FPs

14+ Participation in FP projects  
including coordination

**International Relations Officer at  
National Academy of Sciences of  
Armenia**



**Dr. Alicia BOTO**

**Doctor in Pharmacy, Scientific Researcher  
at the Spanish National Research Council  
(CSIC). Instituto de Productos Naturales y  
Agrobiología CSIC, Canary Islands, Spain**

**Dissemination: 92** publications with **77 in Q1  
journals**

**Exploitation: 7** patents (85% with international  
extensions, 5 licensed (71%), 1 licensed in >20  
countries (USA, EU, Asia), other product  
commercialized worldwide (FLTX1)

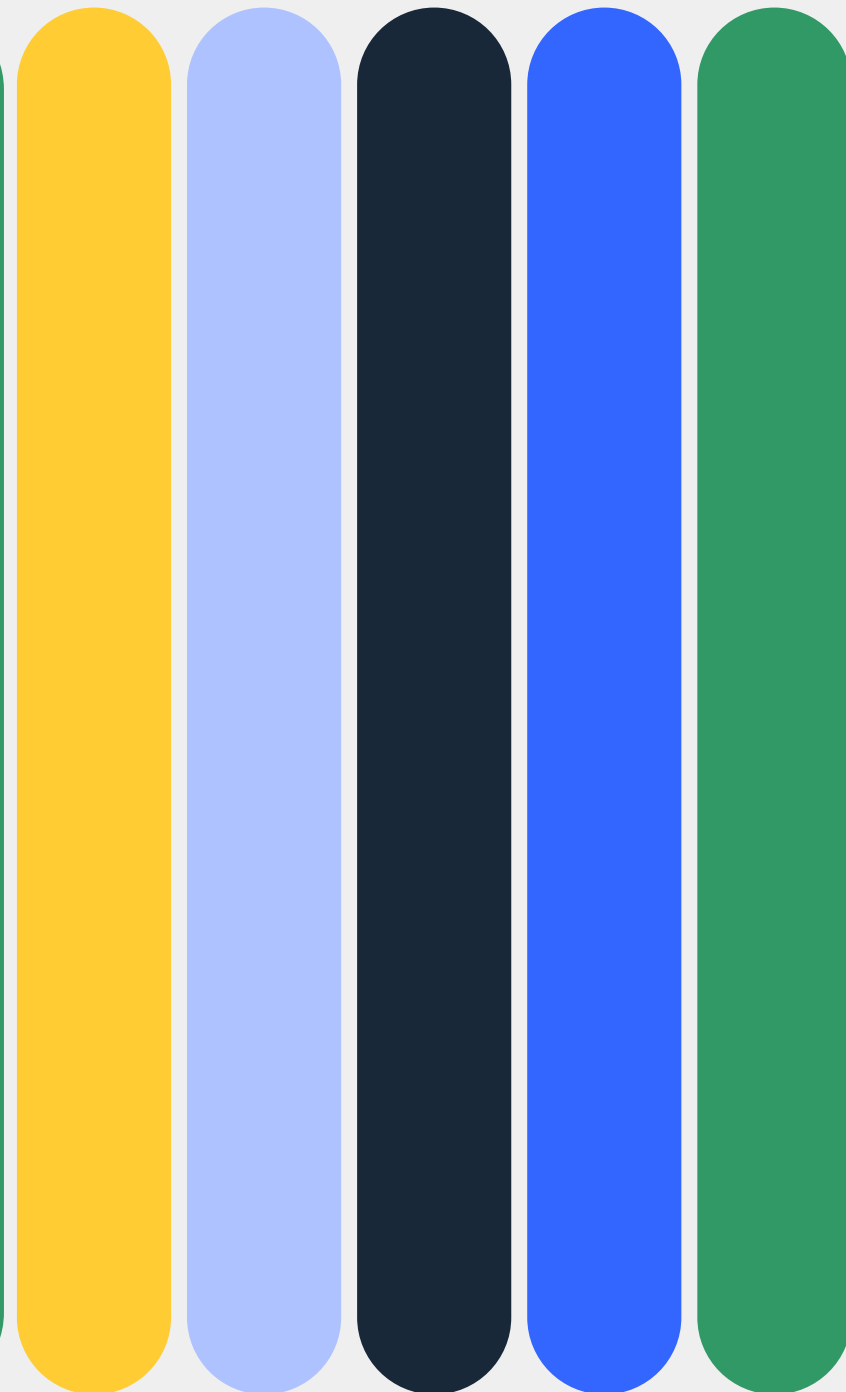
# 01 Warm-up

slido

Join at

**slido.com**

**#3819 331**





**03**

**D&E Obligations  
in Horizon Europe:  
Articles in Grant  
Agreement**

Anahit KHACHIKYAN

SIPAC

# What is D&E in General and why D&E Obligations Matter?

## CDE - Communication / Dissemination / Exploitation



**Communication:**  
Promote your action and result



Reaching multiple audiences

**When?**  
From the start until the end

**Why?**  
Legal obligation: Article 17 of the Grant Agreement

**How?**  
• well-designed strategy  
• clear messages  
• media channels

**Exploitation:**  
Make concrete use of results



**When?**  
Towards the end of the project and beyond

**Why?**  
Legal obligation: Article 16 of the Grant Agreement

**Dissemination:**  
Make your results public

Open Science: knowledge and results (free of charge) for others to use



**When?**  
At any time, and as soon as the action has results

Not only to scientists

**How?**  
Publishing your results

**Why?**  
Legal obligation: Article 17 of the Grant Agreement

Not only by researchers

**How?**  
• Creating roadmaps, prototypes, softwares  
• Sharing knowledge, skills, data



Research Executive Agency

# Why D&E Obligations Matter?



## Why are D&E obligations so important?

**First**, they ensure that EU-funded projects deliver real impact.

Your research outcomes can have a real impact on society. Share what you have discovered and spread the knowledge!

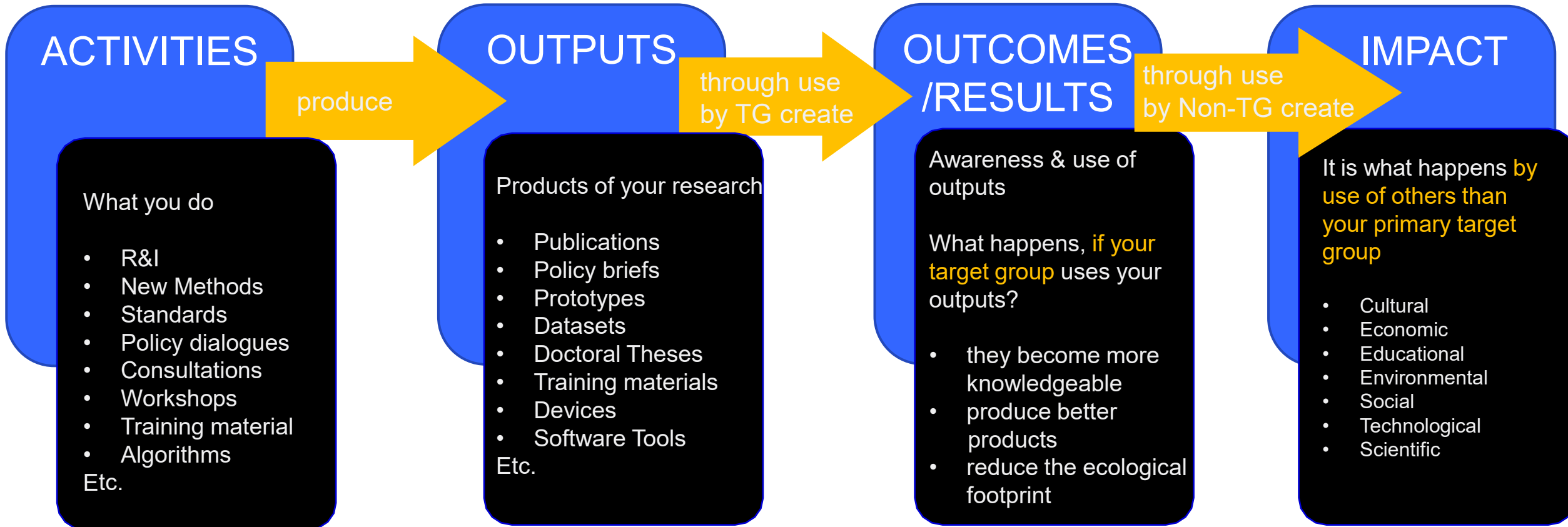
**Second**, they make your project visible and strengthen your reputation.

**Finally**, they are a legal requirement, without proper D&E, you risk non-compliance with your Grant Agreement.

D&E obligations ensure that EU-funded research doesn't stay on paper but actually contributes to Europe's growth, innovation, and wellbeing.

# IMPACT JOURNEY

Communication: Inform, promote and communicate activities and results

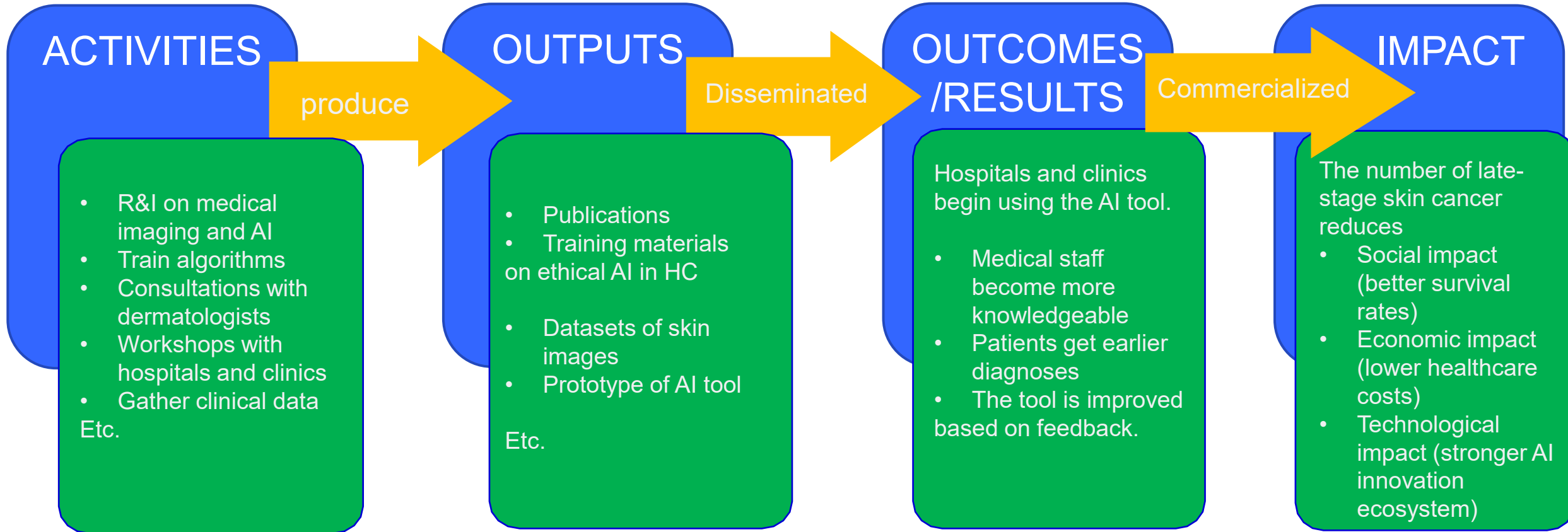


D&E Planning starts here:  
CDE Strategy, DMP, etc.

Dissemination: As soon as results become available, up to 4years after the end of the project

Exploitation: As soon as exploitable results are available, up to 4 years after the end of the project

# Example: AI-based Diagnostic Tool for Early Detection of Skin Cancer



Each stage is supported by **communication**, **dissemination**, and **exploitation** actions that ensure the result is visible, shared, and ultimately used for the benefit of society.



**03**

**D&E in Horizon  
Europe: Articles in  
Grant Agreement**



# Legal Framework for D&E in Horizon Europe

## 1. REGULATION (EU) 2021/695 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 28 April 2021

Horizon Europe Regulation (Rules for  
Participation)

*Article 39* Exploitation and dissemination

## 2. Horizon Europe Grant Agreement (AGA)

**Article 16**– Intellectual property rights: ownership,  
joint ownership, transfers, access rights.

**Article 17** – Dissemination, exploitation, visibility  
of EU funding, and open science obligations.

**Annex 5 – specific rules**, practical clarifications  
that you need to apply in your projects.

D&E is an obligation under Article 39 of the  
regulation establishing Horizon Europe.

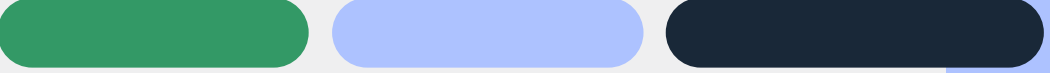
Beneficiaries must make sure their research  
**results are used and shared** for public  
benefit.

They **must exploit results and share them  
openly** unless restricted by IP or security  
reasons.

**Open access** is mandatory for publications  
and generally applies to data

Projects also need a **plan for dissemination  
and exploitation** that is updated during and  
after the project

Beneficiaries must **provide the EC with  
information** on these activities while  
protecting legitimate interests.




## Article 16 Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Background and Results, Access Rights and Rights of Use

Remember, access is never exclusive, and confidentiality always applies. This protects all partners and ensures results remain accessible for use.

- **Ownership:** results belong to the generating beneficiary.
- **Joint ownership:** if results are created together and cannot be separated.
- **Transfers & licensing:** allowed but EC can object if EU interests are affected.
- **Access rights to background/results:** must be granted for implementation and exploitation; some cases royalty-free.
- **Protection:** beneficiaries must protect results capable of commercial or industrial use.
- **EC has limited royalty-free rights for policy & communication**

In short, Article 16 balances protection of ownership with the need for collaboration and access so that the project can run smoothly and create impact.



## **Article 16 Additional Exploitation Obligations**


Always check your call conditions carefully — if there are additional exploitation obligations, they will be spelled out there. These are exceptional measures, but they show how D&E obligations are not only about project impact, but also about protecting EU interests and responding to urgent needs.

### **In call conditions (linked to):**

- Restriction of participation
- Control due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy, or security
- Noted in the Data Sheet

### **In call conditions (public emergency):**

- Non-exclusive licenses
- Fair & reasonable conditions
- 4-year time limit



## Article 17 Dissemination, Exploitation and Visibility

### Open Science

In short, Article 17 ensures that Horizon Europe projects are open, visible, and impactful, while still protecting legitimate interests.

- **Communicate** project and ensure EU visibility
- **Disseminate** results promptly, unless restricted (Advance notice to partners, objections allowed)
- **Exploit** beneficiaries must make best efforts to exploit the results during project & 4 years after. If unable, pass on to those who can do that:  
[Horizon Results Platform](#)
- **Open Science:** Publications must be open access, metadata must be freely available, and research data must follow the FAIR principles and be deposited in trusted repositories
- **Data Management Plan** required and updated
- **Provide and update a plan for CDE** (last version covers 4 years post-project)
- **EC monitors via Continuous Reporting & Horizon Results Platform** and may request results for communication or other purposes.

RESEARCH

INNOVATION

COLLABORATION

# Open Science

*Open access to publications and open access to research data based on the principle of ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.*

**All peer-reviewed publications** arising from the project must be deposited immediately in a trusted repository with open access - **no embargo period**, typically, under CC BY license or equivalent.

**Research data** must be managed according to the **FAIR principles**: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable. This means datasets should be deposited in trusted repositories, stored in open formats, accompanied by clear documentation, and made discoverable. **Restrictions are allowed if justified (IPR, personal data and privacy, EU’s interest, security).**

**Metadata** must be openly available under a CC0 license or equivalent, aligning with the FAIR principles. When data cannot be fully open, the **metadata** about the dataset must still remain openly available under CC0 or equivalent.

## **Data Management Plan (DMP)**

Projects must also prepare a **DMP** within six months of the grant agreement. This plan describes the full data lifecycle, how data is collected, processed, preserved, or deleted. It must be updated at least once during the project, at the end, and whenever significant changes occur.

## **European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)**

EOSC is EC initiative to create a **trusted environment** where researchers can store, share, and reuse scientific data and it follows the FAIR principles. EOSC is not automatically mandatory, but in some **call conditions** the EC can require you to store or share your data there.

When planning your DMP, always check whether your call requires EOSC use and consider it as a best practice option for storing and sharing project data.

# Useful Links



<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

European Commission | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

Sign in EN

Home Funding Procurement Projects & results News & events Work as an expert Guidance & documents

Search...

Guidance & manuals  
Reference documents  
How to participate  
FAQ  
Helpdesk & support  
SME Self-assessment tool  
Videos

## Discover the funding & tenders opportunities

Find out how to participate by following these key steps.

### Find calls for proposals

Explore the available EU funding opportunities by searching for calls for proposals within your topics of interest, find partners and submit a proposal.

### Find calls for tenders

Find business opportunities in the calls for tenders managed by EU institutions, bodies and agencies.

# Useful Links 2

## EC Tools to support CDE



### [Open Research Europe](#)

An open-access publishing platform for EU-funded research, offering free publication and peer review for Horizon Europe beneficiaries.

### [European Open Science Cloud](#)

A federated European platform providing trusted access to data, services, and resources for research. It supports Open Science and FAIR data management, helping researchers store, share, and reuse scientific data securely across disciplines and countries.

### [Horizon Results Platform](#)

A space to showcase and share project results, find collaboration opportunities, and connect with potential users or investors.

### [Horizon Results Booster](#)

A free consulting service helping beneficiaries design dissemination and exploitation strategies, business plans, and market pathways.

### [Horizon Standardisation Booster](#)

A support service helping projects increase impact by linking results with European and international standardisation activities.

[Innovation Radar](#) — An EU initiative connecting innovators with investors and policymakers to bring high-potential research results closer to the market.

# Useful Links 3

## Useful materials provided by European Commission in relation to CDE

[Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#)

[Guide on communication, dissemination and exploitation](#)

[Open Science in Horizon Europe](#)

[D&E by Research Executive Agency](#)

[Communicating about your EU-funded project](#)

**DESCA** is not an official EC document.  
However, it is endorsed and widely recognised by the EC and the research community as a **best-practice model**.



[Development of a Simplified Consortium Agreement.](#)

# Thank you for your attention!

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Funded by  
the European Union

**Thank you for your active participation!**  
**Please take a moment to give us your feedback.**



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