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Answer given by Ms Gabriel  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(20.9.2022)

Articles 3(1) and 18 of the Horizon Europe Regulation and Article 2 of the Council decision establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe specify that the programme should deliver on the EU's strategic priorities – in particular the European Green Deal (EGD), the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement – and promote responsible Research & Innovation, taking into account the precautionary principle.

Since the 'do no significant harm' (DNSH) principle pertains to the EU priorities mentioned above, as identified in the EGD and Interinstitutional Agreement<sup>1</sup>, it is appropriate to make sure that projects supported by the European Innovation Council (EIC) – irrespective of the type of support – do no significant harm within the meaning of the EU Taxonomy Regulation. In accordance with Article 197(3) of the Financial Regulation<sup>2</sup>, the granting authority may lay down additional eligibility criteria for a call for proposals. These criteria may be set out in the work programme in accordance with Article 22(6) of the Horizon Europe Regulation.

More details on the application of the DNSH principle can be found in the Commission's staff working document 'Climate Mainstreaming Architecture in the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework'<sup>3</sup>.

EIC calls have not had any cases where DNSH considerations have affected the evaluation/selection outcome.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32020Q1222\(01\)&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32020Q1222(01)&from=EN)

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046>

<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/Climate-Mainstreaming-Architecture-2021-2027-Multiannual-Financial-Framework\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/Climate-Mainstreaming-Architecture-2021-2027-Multiannual-Financial-Framework_en)