


Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2023/0088(NLE)	Procedure completed, awaiting publication in Official Journal
EU/USA agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: extension		
Subject 3.50.20 Scientific and technological cooperation and agreements		
Geographical area United States		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Industry, Research and Energy	 BUȘOI Cristian-Silviu	28/06/2023
Council of the European Union European Commission		Shadow rapporteur	
		 GÁLVEZ Lina	
	Commission DG Research and Innovation	Commissioner VESTAGER Margrethe	

Key events			
29/03/2023	Preparatory document	COM(2023)0176	Summary
01/06/2023	Legislative proposal published	08892/2023	Summary
01/06/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/07/2023	Vote in committee		
20/07/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0242/2023	Summary
13/09/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/09/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0313/2023	Summary
25/09/2023	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

Technical information	

Procedure reference	2023/0088(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 186-p2; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed, awaiting publication in Official Journal
Committee dossier	ITRE/9/11674

Documentation gateway

Preparatory document		COM(2023)0176	29/03/2023	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		08892/2023	01/06/2023	CSL	Summary
Committee draft report		PE750.134	30/06/2023	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0242/2023	20/07/2023	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0313/2023	13/09/2023	EP	Summary

EU/USA agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: extension

PURPOSE: to renew the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: a first bilateral Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America was signed in Washington, DC, on 5 December 1997 and entered into force on 14 October 1998. Since then, the Agreement was extended four times, i.e. in 2003, in 2008, in 2013 and in 2018 for an additional period of 5 years each time. The current Agreement is due to expire on 14 October 2023.

The assessment carried out by the Commission services demonstrates that the Agreement provides an important framework for facilitating cooperation between the EU and the US in common Science and Technology priority areas of mutual benefit. It is therefore in the interest of the Union to renew the Agreement for a further five years.

The EU's relationship with the US in Science & Technology is stronger than with any other country outside Europe. Among non-Associated third countries, the US was by far the most active country participating in Horizon 2020.

Under the current Agreement cooperation has been thriving both at a bilateral and multilateral level.

Multilaterally, a particularly valuable example of a Global Alliance, promoted by the EU and the US, is the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance. A further example is Mission Innovation (MI), which is a global initiative of 22 countries and the European Union, with the aim to accelerate effort in innovation in clean energy. The EU is working closely with the US in a variety of other multilateral initiatives including in the field of health, bioeconomy and earth observation.

Bilateral cooperation is very dynamic in the fields of health, transport, advanced materials, research infrastructures, information and communication technologies, food security and sustainable agriculture, climate and the environment, areas where the US participation in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe has been particularly important.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council approve, on behalf of the Union, the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America for an additional period of five years (i.e. from 14 October 2023 to 13 October 2028). The content of the renewed agreement will be identical to that of the current agreement.

This initiative will allow both Parties to improve and further intensify their cooperation in scientific and technological areas of common interest.

It should allow both sides to enhance both bilaterally and multilaterally and develop a more strategic partnership by increasing the scale and scope of existing cooperation, by addressing global challenges and by promoting reciprocal access to programmes and funding.

EU-US research and innovation cooperation under the Agreement contributes to overarching EU policy objectives related notably to:

- the Green Transition, for example with initiatives stemming from Mission Innovation, the All Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance, Arctic research, the International Bioeconomy Forum (IBF), and the Group on Earth Observation (GEO);

- Global Health through multilateral and bilateral cooperation on infectious diseases, cancer, mental health, and many others;
- Digital transition, innovation, and data sharing through for example work on smart Specialisation methodology, Open Access and Open Science, and bilateral ICT cooperation.

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PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

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BACKGROUND: a first bilateral Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America was signed in Washington, DC, on 5 December 1997 and entered into force on 14 October 1998. Since then, the Agreement was extended four times, i.e. in 2003, in 2008, in 2013 and in 2018 for an additional period of 5 years each time. The current Agreement is due to expire on 14 October 2023.

CONTENT: the purpose of the draft Council Decision is to approve, on behalf of the Union, the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America for an additional period of five years.

The assessment carried out by the Commission demonstrates that the Agreement provides an important framework for facilitating cooperation between the Union and the United States of America in common priority areas for science and technology, leading to mutual benefits. It is therefore in the Unions interest to extend the Agreement for an additional period of five years.

The exchange of letters between the Parties, dated 7 November 2022 and 13 December 2022, confirmed their interest in extending the Agreement for an additional period of five years.

EU/USA agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: extension

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Cristian-Silviu BUȚOI (EPP, RO) on the draft Council decision concerning the extension of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America.

The committee responsible recommended the European Parliament to give its consent to the Commission proposal.

The first bilateral Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America' was signed on 5 December 1997 and entered into force on 14 October 1998. Since then, it has been renewed four times since then, namely in 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2018.

The current Agreement expires on 14 October 2023. Both Parties confirmed their wish to extend the Agreement by exchange of letters, dated 7 November 2022 and 13 December 2022.

The EU's relationship with the US in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) is stronger than with any other country outside Europe. Among non-associated third countries, the US was by far most active country participating in Horizon 2020. This is a reflection of the special long-term relationship that has been developed between the EU and the US, which should continue to deepen in the future.

For these reasons, it is in the Unions interest to extend the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America' for a new period of five years.

The substance of the extended Agreement will be identical to that of the current Agreement.

EU/USA agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: extension

The European Parliament adopted by 616 votes to 7, with 23 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision concerning the extension of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America.

In line with the recommendation of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Parliament gave its consent to the extension of the agreement.

A first bilateral agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America was signed in Washington, DC, on 5 December 1997 and entered into force on 14 October 1998. Since then, the agreement has been renewed four times, in 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2018 for an additional period of 5 years each time. The current agreement is due to expire on 14 October 2023.

It is in the interest of the Union to renew the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America for a further period of five years. The content of the agreement will be identical to that of the current agreement.