UKRO Horizon 2020 Condensed

Societal Challenge 7: Secure Societies – Protecting Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens

What is Societal Challenge 7?

The 'Secure Societies – Protecting the Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens' challenge, looks at the protection of citizens, society and the economy as well as Europe's assets, infrastructures and services, its prosperity, political stability and well-being. It aims to boost the effectiveness of the Security Union, protect the infrastructure of Europe and its citizens, fight crime and terrorism, improve border and external security, create disaster-resilient societies, and provide enhanced cyber-security.

Calls under Societal Challenge 7 (SC7) cover a wide array of disciplines, both within science technology engineering and medicine (STEM) as well as social sciences and humanities (SSH). All calls within SC7 have a strong focus on practitioner and end-user involvement to ensure that the technologies and solutions which are developed are relevant for those who will use them.

What will be funded?

SC7 has approximately €716 million available for topics under the three main calls in the 2018-2020 Work Programme.

The calls are:

Protecting the infrastructure of Europe and the people in European smart cities

- Aim:
  - To protect and improve the resilience of critical infrastructures and soft targets.

Security

- Priority Areas:
  - Disaster Resilient Society (DRS)
  - Fighting Crime and Terrorism (FCT)
  - Border Security and External Security (BES):

Digital Security

- Priority Areas:
  - Cybersecurity, Digital Privacy and data protection
  - Management of cyber-attacks and other risks

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Funding, eligibility and project details

Funding within the 2018-2020 Work Programme is primarily for Research and Innovation Actions (RIA), though it is also available for Coordination and Support Actions (CSA), Pre-Commercial Procurement, Innovative Procurement (PCP, PPI) and Public Private Partnership. In some cases, international participation may be required and proposals are normally obliged to include a minimum number of practitioners, or end-users as partners.

As was the case in FP7, access to, or generation of security sensitive information is a requirement and outcomes will therefore be subject to security scrutiny processes. As a result, grant beneficiaries of this work programme may find it appropriate to opt out of open access to research data arrangement (see **Annex L** for more information.)

Relevant EU policy areas and developments

The call topics within SC7 are aligned to the Horizon 2020 Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) cross-cutting issue. The cross-cutting issues include engaging society on sensitive security issues, integrating gender and ethical dimensions, ensuring access to security research outcomes whenever possible and encouraging formal and informal science education relating to security.

In addition, these actions are also expected to support Europe's endeavours to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 16 'Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies', and SDG 11 'Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'. Furthermore, those call topics identified with a 'SU-xxxxx' prefix directly contribute to 'Boosting the effectiveness of the Security Union' focus area.

The 2018-2020 Work programme also contributes to a number of EU policy areas including:

- The European Agenda on Security

- EU Security Union.

- The Cyber Security Strategy

- The Digital Single Market Strategy

- The Security Industrial Policy

- Internal Security Strategy

Work Programme Update 2020

The European Commission has published the finalised work programme for SC7 in the last three years of Horizon 2020, including some changes to call texts and inclusion of new topics. A summary of the changes from 2 July 2019 is as follows:

A new call on **Artificial Intelligence**, with the following three topics, has been added:

- **SU-AI01-2020:** Developing a research roadmap regarding Artificial Intelligence in support of Law Enforcement;

- **SU-AI02-2020:** Secure and resilient Artificial Intelligence technologies, tools and solutions in support of Law Enforcement and citizen protection, cybersecurity operations and prevention and protection against adversarial Artificial Intelligence;

- **SU-AI03-2020:** Human factors, and ethical, societal, legal and organisational aspects of using Artificial Intelligence in support of Law Enforcement.

The following changes were made under the **'Security' call:**

- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'Methods and guidelines for pre-hospital life support and triage' has been added under SU-DRS02-2018-2019-2020;

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- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'First aids vehicles deployment, training, maintenance, logistic and remote centralized coordination means' has been added under SU-DRS03-2018-2019-2020;

- Sub-topic 1: [2018, 2020] 'New methods to prevent, investigate and mitigate trafficking of human beings and child sexual exploitation – and on the protection of victims' under SU-FCT01-2018-2019-2020 will continue in 2020;

- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'Developing evidence-based approaches to evaluate and to further develop initiatives to prevent and counter violent radicalisation' added under SU-FCT01-2018-2019-2020;

- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'Money flows tracking' and Sub-topic 4: [2020] 'Development and deployment of technologies, tools and relevant infrastructure to identify speedily terrorist content online, and prevent its re-upload', added under SU-FCT02-2018-2019-2020;

- Under SU-FCT03-2018-2019-2020– 'In 2020, proposals should address exclusively point b), with a focus on private operators;

- A new topic **SU-FCT04-2020: Chemicals: intelligence, detection, forensics** was added;

- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'Developing indicators of threats at the EU external borders on the basis of sound risk and vulnerability assessment methodologies' added under SU-BES01-2018-2019-2020;

- Sub-topic 5: [2020] 'Disruptive technologies for non-intrusive identification of hidden goods' added under SU-BES02- 2018-2019-2020;

- Sub-topic 3: [2020] 'Improved systems for the vessel tracking, behaviour analysis and automatic anomaly detection' was added under 'SU-BES03-2018-2019-2020';

- The following two networks of practitioners: (1) 'security and intelligence services network' and (2) 'fighting cybercrime network' added under SU-GM01-2018-2019-2020;

- Sub-topic 2: [2020] 'Procurement of prototype systems among those specified as a result of Sub-topic 1' added under SUGM02- 2018-2020.

The following changes were made under the **Digital Security** call:

- New topic **'SU-DS02-2020: Intelligent security and privacy management'** was added;

- Following policy developments, editorial changes were made under SU-DS04-2018-2020.

Beyond 2020 – EU Defence Fund

On 7 June 2017, in line with President's Juncker's 2016 'State of the Union' speech, the Commission adopted a Communication launching the **European Defence Fund** consisting of a funding 'window' for research. A two-step approach was proposed:

- An initial test period in 2014-2020 creating a **Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR)** supporting collaborative defence research, and a European Defence Industrial Development (EDIDP) Programme to co-finance collaborative development projects.

- A dedicated EU Defence Fund (EU DF) under the 2021-2027 multi-annual financial framework scaling up the funding for collaborative research in innovative defence products and technologies and for subsequent stages of the development cycle, including the development of prototypes.

The EUDF will launch within the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and contribute to Europe's strategic autonomy in protecting and defending its citizens. It will coordinate, supplement and amplify national investments in defence. The new programme will consolidate the current Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR) and **European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP).**

The Fund will support collaborative defence projects across three phases of development:

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- The EU will directly finance total costs during the research phase, in particular through grants.

- After that phase, the Fund will complement Member States' investment by co-financing up to 20% of the costs for prototype development and up to 80% of certification and testing activities.

- The Fund *does not cover acquisition phase* (procuring new technology) but if Member States decide jointly to acquire a capability, the Commission could offer practical support, providing terms and framework agreements and advice on ownership structures etc.

Research activities will be funded in the initial phase with a suggested budget of €4.1bn and the following eligibility criteria:

- **Only collaborative projects** are eligible. Must have at least 3 participants from 3 different Member States.

- **Projects will be defined along priorities set with Member States** in line with defence capability within the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy and other regional and international organisations (NATO).

- The Fund will incentivise the **cross-border participation of SMEs** by providing higher financing rates and favouring projects by consortia which include SMEs.

- **5% of the budget will be set aside for disruptive, high-risk innovation**

- Fund will only co-finance development of common prototypes where **Member States commit to buying the final product**. **No capability will be owned by the EU.**

UKRO will continue to communicate updates on the Defence Fund via the UKRO portal, as they are finalised during the negotiations of the next EU budget.

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More information:

- European Commission Research and Innovation Participant Portal for:
    - Calls for proposals: **ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/**
    - Work programmes: **ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference_docs.html**
- European Commission pages on EU-funded research on Security**: ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/financing/fundings/research-for-security/**
- Societal Challenge 7, 2018-2020 Work Programme: **ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-security_en.pdf**
- EU strategy on Cyber Security and Online Privacy: **ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/cybersecurity-privacy**
- Contractual Public Private Partnership (cPPP) in Cybersecurity **: www.ecs-org.eu/**
- EU strategy on the Digital Single Market: **ec.europa.eu/priorities/digital-single-market/docs/dsm-communication_en.pdf**
- The European Agenda on Security: **ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-security/index_en.htm**
- The EU Security Union: **europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1445_en.htm**
- The Security Industrial Policy: **eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2012:0417:FIN:EN:PDF**
- DG Home leaflet on 'Security in 2020: Meeting the challenge': **ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/financing/fundings/research-for-security/docs/security_research_brochure_2014_en.pdf**
- Focus Area Leaflet 'Security, Research and Innovation- Boosting effectiveness of the Security Union: **ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/sites/horizon2020/files/su_booklet.pdf**
- EU Defence Fund: **https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/european-defence-fund-2019-mar-19_en**
- Sign up to the UKRO Portal to stay up to date on Horizon 2020: **www.ukro.ac.uk**
- For specific questions, contact your UKRO European Advisor.

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