



Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

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The BioMed Alliance calls for the implementation of a “Steering Board for Health” under Horizon Europe for the coordination of health missions and health programs.

A Steering Board for Health should coordinate health programmes and health missions under Horizon Europe, guide applicants and create greater visibility for European health research programmes.

Missions are a major new element in Horizon Europe. It is essential that missions in ‘health’ fit to a general strategy and priorities of health research in Horizon Europe and that missions translate into well-defined project calls (top-down and bottom-up). Therefore, there is a need for participation of stakeholders in the design and steering of research. Such a Steering Board for Health, composed of stakeholders from biomedical research and innovation, other relevant sectors of research and industry and with strong participation of patient representatives and citizens, is of specific value for coordinating health programmes and health missions under Horizon Europe.

The European Institutions should put in place mechanisms that strengthen and increase the coherence and visibility of European health research. There should be a better coordination of national and European funding mechanisms to ensure complementarity of the funding programmes. Thus, the Steering Board for health would also help increase the visibility and effectiveness of European health research through integrated and coordinated communication and increase the clarity and transparency through establishing a ‘blueprint’ of existing funding mechanisms (such as Horizon Europe, European Social Fund, Digital Europe and national funds) and a ‘One Stop Shop’ for health research.

The outline of such a steering board for health is presented as an amendment ¹in the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. **The BioMed Alliance supports the introduction of the amendment 551 and calls on the members of the European Parliament involved in the Horizon Europe political negotiations to maintain the Steering Board for Health proposal in the text legislation.** It is time to walk the talk and to ensure deeper and longer-term collaborative and transnational initiatives that address the current gaps in the ‘innovation cycle’ and strengthen cross-fertilisation and collaboration across all relevant disciplines.

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¹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+COMPARG+PE-625.594+01+DOC+PDF+V0//EN&language=EN>