

**Priority question for written answer P-001499/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Nicola Beer (Renew)

Subject: Future of EU international research collaboration

International collaboration and integration in research is a key foundation for progress and development. In 2018, when the Commission first announced its plans for the EUR 85 billion Horizon Europe programme, they said it would be 'open to the world'. Switzerland, Israel, the EEA States and other countries have long been paying to be associated to EU funding programmes, such as Horizon Europe, which gives their researchers the right to apply for EU funding.

Hence, the the article on Sciencemag.org from 11 March 2021¹ is a large concern.

1. To what extent does the Commission discourage third countries from participating in quantum computing and space projects, or other Horizon Europe projects? What are the Commission's motivations?
2. How will the Commission develop research collaboration with countries such as the UK after Brexit, as well as Switzerland or Israel?
3. What strategy will the Commission adopt to prevent 'strategic autonomy' from becoming partitioning, protection and 'EU first', which could compromise the future of EU research collaboration?

¹ <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/03/europe-moves-exclude-neighbors-its-quantum-and-space-research>