











The G6 welcomes the EU-UK agreement on Horizon Europe and Copernicus

September 13th 2023

The presidents of the G6 express their deep satisfaction with the agreement reached between the European Commission and the United Kingdom on Horizon Europe and the Copernicus program.

Over the last years, the G6 has repeatedly expressed its support for the return of UK into Horizon Europe, for our scientific communities to pursue their cooperation on the basis of a secure legal and financial foundation. The added value of the European Framework Program, in terms of cooperation opportunities and enhanced research quality is essential for the competitiveness of European research, as well as for a renewed and cohesive European Research Area.

The G6 presidents are confident that this agreement will strengthen the historical cooperation between European and UK research communities, bolstering research excellence and consolidating scientific networks across Europe. The agreement paves the way for Europe to foster cooperation with powerhouses of research inside and outside the EU to address strategic topics such as the energy transition and climate change.

In this latter respect, the G6 expresses their relief that the UK will rejoin the Copernicus programme, thus contributing to the long-term sustainability of this emblematic European Earth observation programme, which is so valuable for researchers.

The G6 is pleased to see both parties come to a mutual agreement that ensures strong collaboration and continued innovation in the research and science fields and look forward to the opportunities it will bring to our scientific communities.

The G6 network unites six large multidisciplinary European Research Performing Organisations, representing 143 000 research personnel: the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, the Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren, the Leibniz-Gemeinschaft and the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft.