

ANNEX 9-G - INNOVATION MOBILITY

1. The Parties acknowledge that innovation plays an important part in their economies, including by stimulating competitiveness, increasing productivity, encouraging investment and promoting international trade.
2. The Parties recognise that skilled people drive innovation in the economies of the Parties, and that the movement of skilled professionals between their territories facilitates a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and skills.
3. The Parties recognise the importance of collaboration for the professionals involved in innovation and the benefits that international experience and exchange of skills can bring to those professionals.
4. To this end, the Parties undertake to facilitate the mobility of researchers, engineers and technicians to promote greater innovation and further cooperation in advancing scientific understanding and developing new technologies.

For the Union:

Additional procedural commitments applying to researchers and their family members

5. The Union shall extend to researchers of Australia and, where applicable, to their family members¹:
 - (a) the right to stay for a period of at least nine months after the completion of a research, under Article 25 of the Researchers Directive; and
 - (b) the rights on short-term mobility under Articles 28 and 30 of the Researchers Directive.

¹ This paragraph does not apply to the Member States that are not subject to the Directive (EU) 2016/801 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing (recast) (OJ EU L 132, 21.05.2016, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2016/801/oj>) (hereinafter referred to as "Researchers Directive"). The definitions included in Article 3 of the Researchers Directive apply to this paragraph.

EURAXESS

6. The Union shall extend to researchers of Australia and, where applicable, to their family members, access to EURAXESS and national portals, to the corresponding services related to mobility and to EURAXESS contact points across Member States.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

7. The Union's "Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions" (hereinafter referred to as "MSCA") programme contributes to fostering long-lasting research and innovation relationships between universities, research institutes, companies and researchers from the Union and Australia. The MSCA support research-performing organisations and the training, career development and two-way mobility of individual researchers and innovators between the Union and Australia. This can take the form of doctoral training, postdoctoral fellowships or secondments of all kinds of staff (researchers, innovators, managers, infrastructure operators) employed by research-performing organisations of the Union or Australia.

Erasmus+

8. The Union's "Erasmus+" programme supports exchanges of doctoral candidates and academic staff between higher education institutions of the Union and Australia. Doctoral candidates of the Union and Australia may exercise mobility for studies or traineeships in a partner university or in any other type of public or private organisation related to their research field. Academic staff of the Union and Australia may also exercise mobility for teaching or training for a period of up to two months. Erasmus+ mobility actions seek to facilitate the academic recognition of the learning and professional outcomes of the periods spent abroad.

For Australia:

9. Australia shall extend the right to temporary entry to certain highly-skilled researchers, engineers and technicians of the Union involved in innovation through an Innovation Mobility Pathway Scheme.¹ The Scheme shall involve three streams: an Innovation Research Stream, an Innovation Skills Exchange Stream and an Innovation Training Stream².

Innovation Research Stream

10. Australia shall allow certain highly skilled researchers from the Union, including doctoral and postdoctoral researchers and PhD candidates, to undertake a research placement or internship in

¹ For greater certainty, temporary entry granted under the Innovation Mobility Pathway Scheme applies only to natural persons of the Union who satisfy the requirements of the Scheme and not their partners and dependants.

² In accordance with this Annex, Australia shall allow temporary entry to natural persons of the Union who comply with Australia's immigration measures, application procedures and any other eligibility requirements or conditions applicable to temporary entry.

Australia under the Innovation Research Stream.

11. To be eligible to undertake a research placement or internship in Australia under the Innovation Research Stream, applicants must have:

- (a) a hosting agreement from a research organisation or higher education institution in Australia; and
- (b) a demonstrated contribution to research and innovation in the areas of advanced materials and manufacturing; artificial intelligence, computing and communications; biotechnology, gene technology and vaccines; energy and environment; quantum, sensing, timing and navigation; and transportation, robotics and space.

12. The permissible length of stay for qualified applicants seeking entry to Australia under the Innovation Research Stream is three years or the duration of their hosting agreement, whichever is shorter.

13. The number of entries allowed under the Innovation Research Stream will be capped at 1 000 in the first year after entry into force of this Agreement, rising to 2 000 for subsequent years.

Innovation Skills Exchange Stream

14. Australia shall allow certain highly experienced and skilled innovators, researchers, engineers and technicians from the Union to undertake short-term work placements in Australia under the Innovation Skills Exchange Stream.

15. To be eligible to undertake a short-term work placement in Australia under the Innovation Skills Exchange Stream, applicants must have:

- (a) a letter of offer or a contract of employment from an enterprise in Australia;
- (b) where applicable, the professional qualifications, licensing or other requirements to work, as required under the law of Australia; and
- (c) a demonstrated contribution to innovation in areas of advanced materials and manufacturing; artificial intelligence, computing and communications; biotechnology, gene technology and vaccines; energy and environment; quantum, sensing, timing and navigation; and transportation, robotics and space.

16. The permissible length of stay for qualified applicants seeking entry to Australia under the Innovation Skills Exchange Stream is one year or the duration of their contract, whichever is shorter.

Innovation Training Stream

17. Australia shall allow certain qualified researchers, engineers and technicians of the Union to undertake workplace-based training in Australia.

18. To be eligible to undertake workplace-based training in Australia under the Innovation Training Stream, applicants must have:

- (a) a training programme from a host organisation in Australia in a position relevant to their field of work; and
- (b) a minimum of three months of work experience relevant to their field of work.

19. The permissible length of stay for qualified applicants seeking entry to Australia under the Innovation Training Stream is one year or the duration of their training programme, whichever is shorter.

20. The number of entries allowed under the Innovation Skills Exchange Stream and Innovation Training Stream will be capped at 500 in the first year after entry into force of this Agreement, raising to 1 000 for the subsequent years.

21. Applicants under the Innovation Mobility Pathway Scheme must also have a bachelor's degree or higher or a qualification demonstrating knowledge of an equivalent level.

Review

22. The Trade Committee shall review the implementation and operation of this Annex in the third year after the date of entry into force of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, and thereafter as agreed by the Parties.

23. A review pursuant to paragraph 22 shall be undertaken with a view to updating and enhancing this Annex, to ensure that the commitments and obligations contained therein are effective and remain relevant to facilitating mobility to promote innovation within and in cooperation between the Parties.

24. A review pursuant to paragraph 22 shall take into account, *inter alia*:

- (a) the balance of commitments and obligations under this Annex;
- (b) opportunities to further facilitate the mobility of researchers, engineers and technicians to promote innovation; and

- (c) relevant developments in international fora or relating to a Party's laws and regulations.
