Association to Horizon 2020 is governed by Article 7 of the Horizon 2020 Regulation. Legal entities from Associated Countries have a similar status and can participate under the same conditions as entities from Member States.

Association to Horizon 2020 takes place through the conclusion of an International Agreement under the terms or on the basis of which it makes a financial contribution to all or part of Horizon 2020. Association Agreements are valid through the entire duration of the Framework programme.

As of 1 January 2017 Switzerland is fully associated to Horizon 2020, EURATOM Programme 2014-2018 and the activities carried out by Fusion for Energy. During the period from 15 September 2014 to 31 December 2016 the association of Switzerland to Horizon 2020 covered only some parts of the Programme. You can find more information on the status of Switzerland here.

Given that the EU does not recognise the illegal annexation of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, under the terms of the Horizon 2020 Association Agreement with Ukraine, legal persons established in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are not eligible to participate. Should the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol end, the Agreement will be revised accordingly. Ukraine is also associated to the Research and Training Programme of EURATOM (2014-2018), complementing Horizon 2020.