

29 – 30 March 2021

State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation Projects

Experts

Chair & Speaker:

Phedon Nicolaides

Professor at Maastricht University; Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, and Academic Director at Lexxion Training

Péter Staviczky

State Aid Attaché, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU, Brussels

The two-day Lexxion Training Online focuses on the following topics:

Day 1:

- EU and Member States' support for R&D&I
- Concept of State Aid for R&D&I
- Non-economic Research vs Economic Research
- General Block Exemption Regulations (GBER) Provisions on R&D&I
- Framework for State Aid for R&D&I Projects

Day 2:

- Market Failure & Repayable Advances
- Claw-back Mechanisms
- National Experience

OVERVIEW

Overview

The European Commission adopted a set of rules that should facilitate the granting of aid measures by Member States in support of research, development and innovation (R&D&I) activities.

The R&D&I State aid Framework sets out the rules under which Member States can grant State aid to companies and institutions to carry out R&D&I projects. Moreover, the scope of measures that no longer need to be notified to the Commission for prior approval has been widened under the new General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). These rules help Member States reach the targets for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, while at the same time limiting distortions in the Single Market.

R&D&I projects might suffer from insufficient access to finance (due to asymmetric information) or from coordination problems among actors involved. Therefore, State aid for R&D&I can be compatible with the internal market where it can be expected to alleviate a market failure in promoting the execution of an important project of common interest.

Methodology

A Lexxion Training provides you with a **comprehensive overview of the current State aid control system** in different sectors. **Presentations, practical exercises and group work will enable you to apply the guidelines in the respective sector in practice.**

This training will be conducted by renowned experts from **EU and Member States' institutions, as well as leading law firms and consultancies.**

Our training method combines the **three stages of learning** to ensure that participants obtain the **best possible understanding of EU rules:**

1. Identification of the main points or principles,
2. Appreciation of the complexities and limitation of the principles,
3. Application of the rules and principles.

Participants will be actively involved in the course. The sessions will combine **presentations, case studies and discussion on practical issues.** You will have ample opportunities to present your own issues and discuss them with the speakers and participants from other Member States.

Target Group

Lawyers and funding experts responsible for compliance with State aid law of R&D&I projects, working at:

- State Aid Monitoring Office
- Departments responsible for R&D&I funding in the Ministries of Education, Research, Innovation and Technology and their implementing agencies
- Departments responsible for R&D&I funding in the regional authorities
- Managing Authorities and Intermediate Bodies involved in Operational programmes for R&D&I
- National research institutes and agencies for Research, Innovation, Development and Competiveness
- Research centers
- Companies conducting R&D&I projects benefitting from public funding
- Universities
- Consultants

Day 1

Chair & Speaker:

Phedon Nicolaides, *Professor at Maastricht University; Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, and Academic Director at Lexxion Training*

Day 1

09:00 Welcome Note by Lexxion & Introduction Round

09:15 EU and Member States' support for R&D&I

- Response to the Covid-19 pandemic

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09:45 Concept of State Aid for R&D&I

- Notion of economic activity and its application to research & universities
- Aid granted by a Member State or State Resources
- How to establish whether a measure confers a selective advantage
- Competition and its effects on trade between the Member States

Phedon Nicolaides

11:15 Small Coffee Break

11:30 Non-economic Research vs Economic Research

- Separating economic from non-economic activities

Phedon Nicolaides

12:30 Virtual Lunch Break

13:00 General Block Exemption Regulations (GBER) Provisions on R&D&I

- Explanation of the rules on R&D&I
- Definitions of research organisation
- Collaborative research

Péter Staviczky, State Aid Attaché, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU, Brussels

14:00 Small Coffee Break

14:15 Framework for State Aid for R&D&I Projects

- Explanation of the compatibility principles in the Framework
- Main differences between the Framework and the GBER
- Use of Art. 19 of the R&D&I Framework versus use of Art. 25-27 GBER

Péter Staviczky

15:15 Summary and end of Day 1

Day 2

10:00 Welcome Note

10:05 Market Failure & Repayable Advances

- Identification of Market Failure
- Determination of Necessity and Proportionality of State Aid
- Repayable Advances

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11:05 Small Coffee Break

11:15 Claw-back Mechanisms

- Design of Claw-back Mechanisms in the Funding of Research Infrastructures

Phedon Nicolaides

12:15 Virtual Lunch Break

12:45 National Experience

- Identification of innovative small and medium size enterprises
- Choosing appropriate funding instruments for recipients
- How to encourage cooperation between research organisations and undertakings
- Funding of research infrastructure

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14:15 Summary of Day 2 and end of the Lexxion Training

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Bigmarker is the platform for online participation in this course. In order to join the course online, please [check](#) your device compatibility first.

What do you need in order to join the course online?

- ✓ Speakers, Microphone; Camera is possible, if you would like to be seen during the course.
- ✓ A wired connection is strongly recommended.
- ✓ If your internet connection doesn't work, you can join the course by telephone, using a dial-in number. In this case there might be additional telephone costs.

How to join the course online?

- ✓ Choose the computer from which you would like to follow the course.
- ✓ Please check your device compatibility.
- ✓ As soon as you get the invitation link: Please register for the course by clicking the invitation link.
- ✓ 15 minutes before the course: Bring your headset and eventually camera, click the invitation, enter and enjoy the course!

Minimum system requirements are as follows:

- ✓ Operating System: Windows 7 or later; Mac OS X 10.12 or later, Linux.
- ✓ Browser: The most recently-published versions of Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari, or Opera.
- ✓ High-speed internet: A consistent, high-speed connection is required. Mobile tethering, hotspots, slow or inconsistent public Wi-Fi networks may create latency when using video conferencing.

FAQ

Why do I need to register before the course starts?

Thank you for registering! This not only helps us to communicate with you in regard to technical issues but it helps you to network with your fellow course participants.

Will the course be recorded?

Please ask the responsible event manager.

Do I need a camera?

It is recommended to have a camera for more comfortable communication with the speakers and other participants.

Do I need a microphone?

Since this is an interactive online course, yes.

Do I need to install anything?

No. We expect you to have a browser, of course.

Can I ask questions during the course?

Yes, you can ask your questions live by using your microphone. You can speak to all participants at the same time as you may have experienced in Skype.

When can I enter the course I'm attending?

Please enter 15 minutes before the start, so that you have enough time for technical checks. You can only enter if you have passed the system check.

May I leave the course and come back later?

Yes, just log in at a later time during the course.

May I access via Phone?

Yes, you can. Participating via phone means you can listen only. Please keep in mind that you will be dialling a US number which would result in higher telephone costs.

Can't find invitation?

Please check your spam-folder. You should also ask your colleague from the IT department to 'whitelist' us. For more details please ask the corresponding event manager, who will be happy to help you.

I failed the Firewall System Check – what can I do?

Please contact your IT department and have them open the necessary ports, which can be found [here](#).

What are the detailed System requirements?

All requirements can be found [here](#).

I failed the Audio Output System Test – what can I do?

If you are using headphones or external speakers, try unplugging them. Please unmute your device. Test your speakers [here](#) to find out if they work.

I would like to participate but I'm waiting for an approval.

Can I order a ticket on the day of the course?

Sure. Please message events@lexxion.eu.

My email address has changed – can I still participate?

Sure. Please provide us with your updated email address; you will then receive a new invitation.

How do I contact the host of the course?

events@lexxion.eu is happy to help you.

Participation fee

- YES, I would like to participate for the reduced fee for public authorities **EUR 990,00** (excl. VAT).
- YES, I would like to participate for the regular fee of **EUR 1.290,00** (excl. VAT).

Discount for European State Aid Law Quarterly (ESTAL) subscribers: € 100,-

The German VAT of 19% will be added. Customers from other EU countries with a valid VAT ID number receive an invoice without VAT (reverse charge).

Newsletter subscription

- Please send me information about European State aid law issues for free. I may unsubscribe from this service any time.

Cancellations

Cancellations should be made in writing per post or fax. Please note that the full fee will be charged in case of no show at the online event or for cancellations received after 15 March 2021. Nomination of a substitute remains possible without any additional costs. For more detailed information, scope and conduct of contract as well as cancellation policy, please check the Terms & Conditions on our website.



Please register with:

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Position, Department

Company Name

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Phone, Fax

E-Mail

VAT Reg.-No.

Date, Signature

Upcoming event:

State Aid for Transport

20 – 21 April 2021 | Lexxion Training Online

You will get a detailed overview of the most important State aid rules for the transport sector. Stay up to date with the newest developments in the application of the Regulation 1370/07 on public services for land transport and get acquainted with the State aid rules for airports and airlines.