

Synergies and complementarities between the European Structural and Investment Funds and other EU instruments in Slovakia

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Synergies in post-2020

Strengthening complementarities and synergies between EU policies and instruments is one of the key objectives of the post-2020 MFF

- ✓ Single rule book for 7 shared management Funds,
- ✓ Harmonization of rules among the delivery systems,
- ✓ Possibility to combine and transfer resources between different programmes and funds.
- ✓ Transfer of funds

Synergies in post-2020

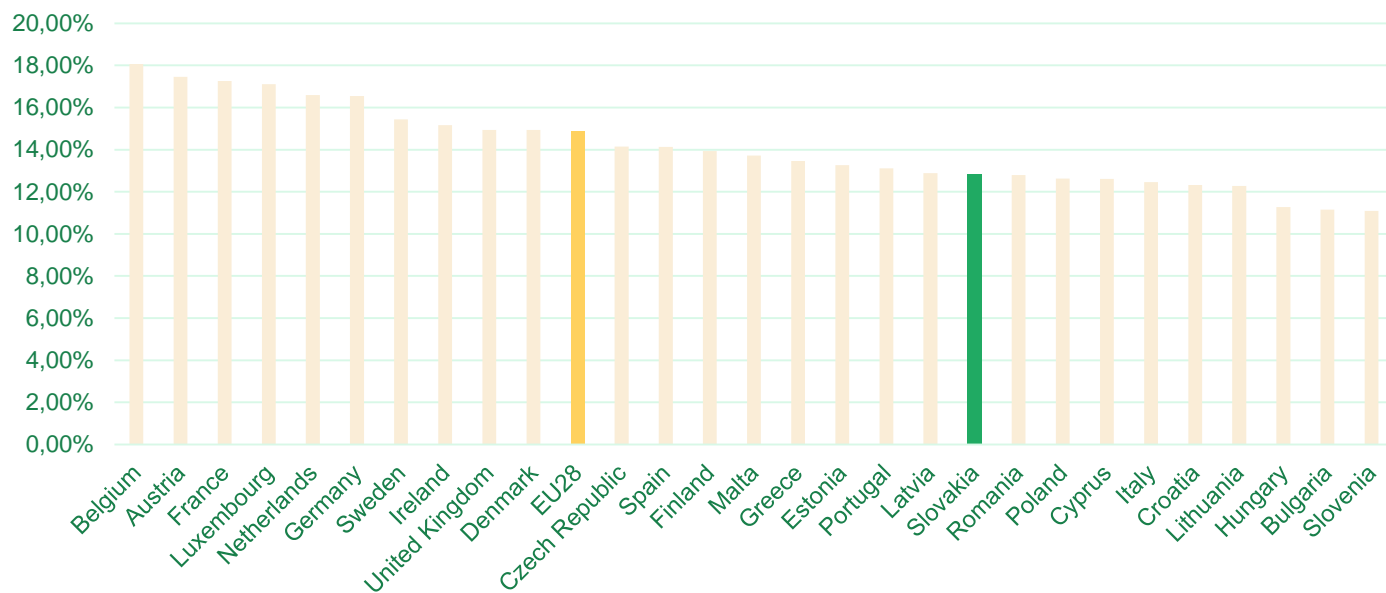
Types of synergies and complementarities:

- ✓ Synergies in design/programming phase
- ✓ Voluntary transfers
- ✓ Cumulative funding
- ✓ Sequential funding
- ✓ Seal of Excellence type of mechanism

Synergies in the design phase

- ✓ Partnership Agreements and programmes have to take into account **relevant 2019 country specific recommendations** when selecting policy objectives (Art. 8(a) and 17(3)(a)(iii) Common Provisions Regulation (CPR)*)
- ✓ **Partnership Agreements** have to set out arrangements for using the CPR Funds in an effective and efficient manner and **complementarities between the shared managed Funds and other Union instruments** (Art. 8 CPR*). There is 1 PA per MS covering all 7 CPR Funds .
- ✓ **Enabling conditions: Smart Specialisation Strategies** are key to synergies with Horizon Europe, Single Market Programme, Digital Europe Programme and other EU smart growth related instruments.

MS application success rate in H2020

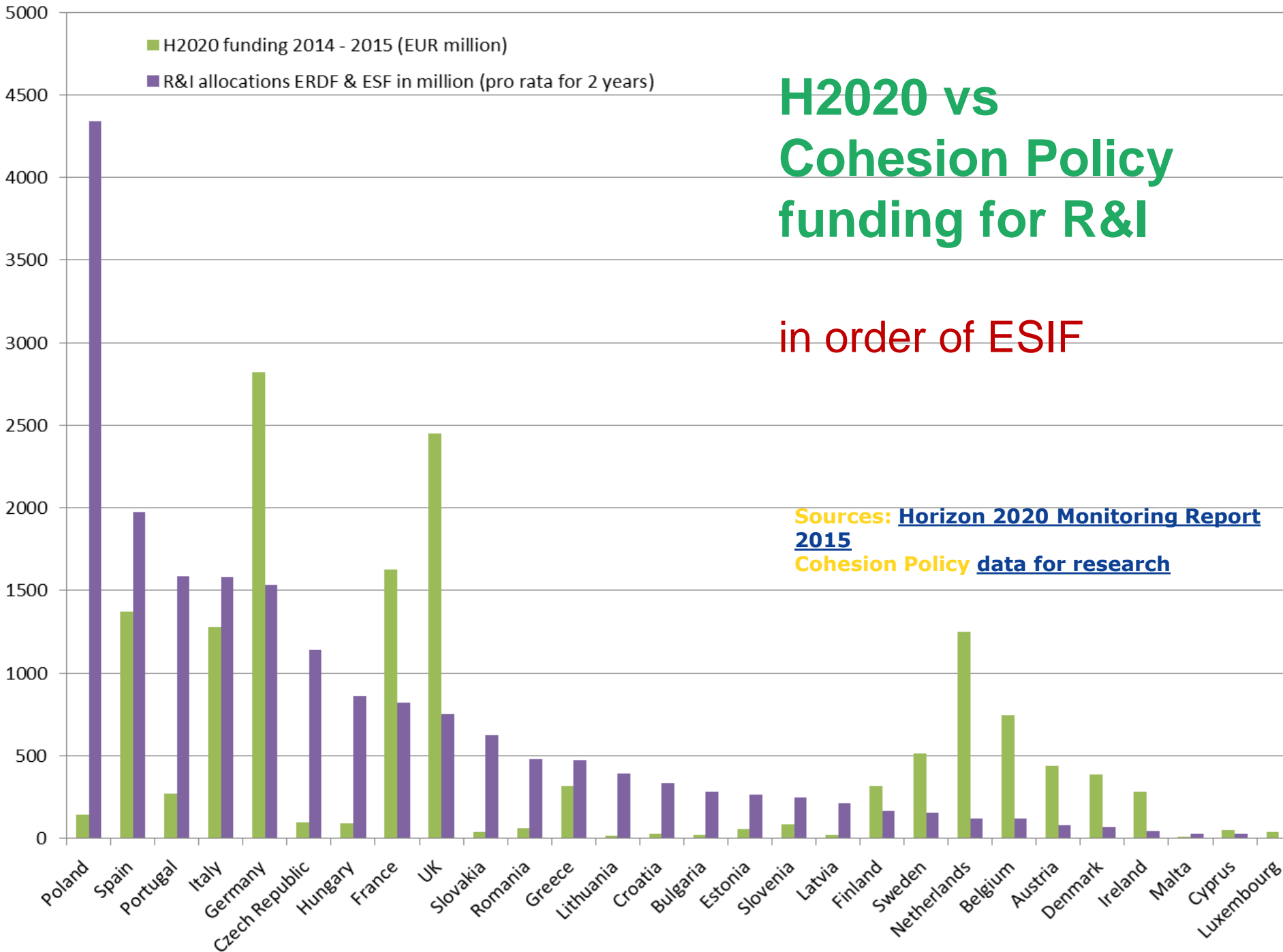


H2020 vs Cohesion Policy funding for R&I

in order of ESIF

■ H2020 funding 2014 - 2015 (EUR million)
■ R&I allocations ERDF & ESF in million (pro rata for 2 years)

Sources: [Horizon 2020 Monitoring Report 2015](#)
[Cohesion Policy data for research](#)



Voluntary transfers

- **NEW: Voluntary transfer of Cohesion Policy allocations:** MS may request transfer of up to 5 % of their programme resources to any other EU Fund or instrument under shared, direct or indirect management (Art. 21 CPR)
 - ✓ Transferred resources may only concern the future budgetary commitments
 - ✓ The relevant ERDF programme has to be amended, incl. its financing plan
 - ✓ Investments have to be for the benefit of the transferring Member State
 - ✓ Commission may object to a request for transfer if achievement of ERDF programme's objectives would be undermined
 - ✓ Rules of the receiving EU Fund/instrument apply to the transferred amounts
- **10 proposed EU programmes allow to receive such transfers:** Horizon Europe, Digital Europe, Single Market Programme, InvestEU, Creative Europe, Erasmus+, Space Programme, Rights & Values Programme, Reform Support Programme, Connecting Europe Facility²

2014-2020 SK Cohesion CEF envelope - 740 mln EUR

Grants amounting to ca 711 mln EUR (Cohesion calls and general calls).

Biggest CEF projects in SK:

- ✓ Modernisation of railway line Devínska Nová Ves - state border SK/CZ) – CEF grant 200 mln EUR, total investment 273 mln EUR
- ✓ Upgrade of Gabčíkovo Locks – CEF grant 123 mln EUR, total investment 145 mln EUR
- ✓ Modernisation of railway line Žilina - Košice, section Liptovský Mikuláš - Poprad - Tatry – CEF grant 78 mln EUR, total investment 98 mln EUR

➤ **Post 2020 CEF proposal (CF transfer) - 527 mln EUR**

Post 2020: complementarity between the Connecting Europe Facility and Cohesion Policy Funds (transport)

	Connecting Europe Facility		CF/ERDF	
	General envelope	Cohesion envelope	Cohesion Fund	ERDF
	EU27	EU15		Concentration on less developed regions
TEN-T Core network development	Yes, with priority on cross-border links		Yes	Yes
TEN-T Comprehensive network development	Yes but limited to cross-border sections and outermost regions		Yes	Yes
Smart sustainable, inclusive, safe and secure mobility	Yes, both on TEN-T core and comprehensive network		Yes, both on TEN-T core and comprehensive network and beyond TEN-T network	
Urban transport	Yes but only connection of TEN-T nodes – infrastructure only		Yes	

Cumulative Funding

- **Cumulative funding** from different Union instruments **in the same operation**, as long as double financing is avoided (Art. 57(9) CPR):
 - ✓ **Rules of each contributing Union programme apply to its respective contribution**
 - ✓ Cumulative financing shall not exceed the total eligible costs
 - ✓ Support from different Union programmes may be calculated on a pro-rata basis
 - ✓ Single document setting out for the beneficiary the conditions for support
- Cumulation possibility proposed for **14 EU Funds/programmes**: Horizon Europe, Digital Europe, Single Market Programme, LIFE, Creative Europe, Space Programme, CEF2, Euratom, Erasmus+, Customs, Justice Programme, AMF, ISF and BMVI

NB: Cumulation on pro rata basis with Horizon2020 is already possible under current CPR: see "[Omnibus Regulation](#)" (Regulation EU 201871046)

Synergies through sequential funding

Key issue: Link and/or align strategies (S3 & HE governance, European Partnerships, contract level links ...) and connect actors from regional development and research "communities".

Example for "up-stream" synergies:

- **ERDF** support for improving and developing **R&I eco-systems**, incl. infrastructures, administrative capacities, interaction between innovation actors, **smart specialisation processes** and governance
 - ▶ Prepares for HE participation
- **Horizon** support to develop **business plans for centers of excellence** ("sharing excellence"), "industrial pilot test-beds" or feasibility of **research infrastructures**
 - ▶ Facilitates application for ERDF funding for the infrastructure

Example for "down-stream" synergies:

- **Horizon (2020&Europe) results** to be analysed in view of funding their further development, testing, etc. (e.g. "Innovation Radar", H2020 "dashboard", Cordis)
 - ▶ **ERDF can carry further Horizon/FP results** towards marketable products, integration in value-chains, take-up in less innovative regions and countries, etc.

Synergies through alternative funding

- **Seal of Excellence: the ERDF side**
- ✓ Projects may receive directly, without a new qualitative evaluation, ERDF or ESF+ funding **under CPR rules** (i.e. only check of eligibility, contribution to programme objectives, smart specialisation priorities, and other issues not guaranteed by the Seal before signing an ERDF grant agreement (Art. 67(3) and (5) CPR)
- ✓ **The cost eligibility rules** for the ERDF programme can be aligned to the HE eligibility cost rules (Art. 57(1) CPR), including use of "simplified cost options" (unit costs, lump sums, flat-rates)(Art. 48(2)c CPR)
- ✓ The **co-financing rate** of the instrument providing the Seal of Excellence certification "shall" be used (Art. 67(5) CPR)
- ✓ Beneficiary is provided with a **document setting out all the conditions** for support, incl. the method for determining the eligible costs and the conditions for payment of the grant (Art 67(4) CPR)
- ERDF Managing Authorities may receive Seals issued not only under Horizon Europe, but **12 other Union programmes** (Digital Europe, Single Market Programme, LIFE, Creative Europe, Space Programme, Defence Fund, CEF2, Rights & Values Programme, Euratom), but EU programmes are largely conceived to be complementary, i.e. the same type of projects can hardly be replicated in other programmes.

Synergies through alternative funding

- **Seal of Excellence: the Horizon Europe side**
- ✓ Seal of Excellence award follows previous practice as in Horizon 2020 "SME instrument": "**mono-beneficiary**" type of projects (no transnational consortia), only to SMEs (no mid-caps) and only for "innovation actions" type of activities (no Technology Readiness Level 9) and only for grants (Art 43(6) HE Regulation)
- ✓ **Expanded to Horizon co-funds / partnerships** that can also issue SoE
- ✓ **ERDF managing authorities may receive directly information on SoE recipients** subject to the conclusion of confidentiality agreements and prior authorisation from the applicants (Art 20(5) Horizon Europe Regulation)
- ✓ **Horizon work programmes will specify under which calls SoE will be awarded** (Art 20(5) Horizon Europe Regulation)
- ✓ Horizon VC support may be combined with an ERDF grant for a SoE project (Art 43 Horizon Europe Regulation)
- ✓ Projects that receive alternative funding thanks to an EIC SoE may **benefit from Horizon EIC business acceleration services** (Annex I to Horizon Europe Decision, 1.1.3.)

Examples of projects funded from different funds and instruments in 2014-2020

- ✓ **D4 Private Public Partnership project Motorway Bypass of Bratislava (2014-20) :**
 - ✓ EU budget contribution to the project:
 - ✓ **App. 28 mln EUR** as mezzanine facility from Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure
 - ✓ **EIB: 427mln EUR** (backed by EFSI),
- ✓ **D3 motorway Čadca-Bukov:**
 - ✓ EU budget contribution to the project:
 - ✓ **110 mln EUR** from OP Integrated Infrastructure
 - ✓ **114 mln EUR** from Connecting Europe Facility
- ✓ **ROP Low Emission Programme for Krakow agglomeration & LIFE Integrated Project “Malopolska”:**
 - ✓ EU budget contribution to the project:
 - ✓ **50 mln EUR** Regional Operational Programme for Małopolska 2014-2020
 - ✓ **10 mln EUR** LIFE Programme