

**DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE  
No 171/2020**

**of 23 October 2020**

**amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement,  
on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms**

THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (“the EEA Agreement”), and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) It is appropriate to continue the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in Union actions funded from the general budget of the Union regarding the preparatory action on defence research.
- (2) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for that extended cooperation to take place from 1 January 2020,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

In paragraph 13(a) of Article 1 of Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, the words “and 2019” are replaced by the words “, 2019 and 2020”.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following the last notification under Article 103(1) of the EEA Agreement\*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2020.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall be published in the EEA Section of, and in the EEA Supplement to, the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 23 October 2020.

*For the EEA Joint Committee  
The President*

*Sabine Monauni*

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\* No constitutional requirements indicated.

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*The Secretaries  
To the EEA Joint Committee*

*Hege M. Hoff*

*Mikołaj Karłowksi*

*Not yet published*