

JOINT DECLARATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE LEVEL OF PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION IN
THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE END OF 2024 AND THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE
BROAD BILATERAL PACKAGE

The representatives of the Swiss Confederation and of the European Union,

CONSIDERING that the conclusion of the negotiations on the broad bilateral package marks an important moment in the relationship between Switzerland and the European Union;

SHARING the objective of contributing to the smooth running and continued development of the European Union and Switzerland's comprehensive partnership to its full potential;

RECALLING the Common Understanding of 27 October 2023, between representatives of the Swiss Federal Council and the European Commission, and in particular paragraph 20 thereof;

WELCOMING the conclusion in December 2024 of the negotiations on the broad bilateral package for the stabilisation and development of their relations,

share the view that:

- The scope of cooperation in the bilateral relationship between Switzerland and the European Union should now increase.
- The transitional arrangement was opened in the Horizon Europe and the Euratom Research and Training programmes for Swiss entities, starting on 1 January 2025. Both sides should work towards the provisional application of the Agreement on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in Union programmes from that date.

- In the field of electricity, Switzerland and the European Union should take all necessary steps to preserve operational security also in the absence of an agreement on electricity. For this purpose, appropriate arrangements should be found between Swiss and European Union grid operators and regulators at technical level, where appropriate with the support of ENTSO-E, notably in the field of capacity calculation and balancing cooperation, and ElCom should be able to take part for that purpose in relevant meetings of Regulators within ACER's framework, on an *ad hoc* basis. Switzerland should continue to be able to participate in the Electricity Coordination Group on an *ad hoc* basis where appropriate.
- In the field of health, Switzerland and the European Union should continue taking all necessary and appropriate steps to preserve the health of citizens also in the absence of an agreement on health. For this purpose, where appropriate, mutual arrangements should be found on an *ad hoc* basis between Switzerland and the European Union at technical level, in case of severe cross-border health threats.
- As regards the Agreement on the carriage of goods and passengers by rail and road, Switzerland and the European Union note that the transitory measures regarding the European Union Agency for Railways were prolonged for 2025. Both sides endeavour to prolong the transitory measures to maintain smooth rail traffic between Switzerland and the European Union subject to the respective decisions of the Joint Committee.
- The regulatory dialogue on financial markets should continue.
- Switzerland and the European Union should cooperate closely and in good faith to ensure that the existing bilateral Agreements in the fields related to the internal market in which Switzerland participates function well. In particular, both sides should discuss the application of the existing Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment as regards both sides' economic operators and should strive to work together as regards issues pertaining to market surveillance.

- Mindful of the sensitivity of the ratification process of the broad bilateral package for Switzerland and the European Union, both sides should support the successful completion of this process, while strengthening their bilateral relations.

The representatives of the European Union and of Switzerland share the view that the foregoing should be maintained for as long as the ratification process of the broad bilateral package is ongoing.

Signed in [...], on [...], in duplicate in the English and French languages.

The representative
of the Swiss Confederation:

The representative
of the European Union: