

EN

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Answer given by Ms Zaharieva
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.8.2025)

The EU has a long-standing position of non-recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 and considers its settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory as illegal. All cooperation programmes must respect the 'Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967'¹ and all beneficiaries of EU-funded grants, prizes and financial instruments have to abide to these Guidelines.

Under Horizon Europe² and Horizon 2020³ Programmes Israeli legal entities as well as all other beneficiaries must sign a grant agreement that requires compliance with EU values, ethical principles, and relevant EU, national and international law, including the Charter and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Supplementary Protocols⁴.

Under Horizon Europe there have been no projects involving the participation of Israel's national water company Mekorot.

Under the previous Framework Programme, Horizon 2020⁵, Mekorot received EUR 1.23 million in funding in six projects⁶, all of which have been completed.

Mekorot was involved in the FIT4REUSE project⁷, under the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)⁸. The total amount received by Mekorot under this project, completed on 31 December 2023, was EUR 350 000. Mekorot has not been involved in any projects funded by PRIMA under subsequent calls.

¹ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52013XC0719\(03\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52013XC0719(03)).

² https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

³ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-2020_en.

⁴ See Article 19 (1) Horizon Europe Regulation <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/695/oj/eng>.

⁵ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-2020_en.

⁶ AquaNES: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/689450>, ULTIMATE: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869318>, STOP-IT: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/740610>, SMART-Plant: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/690323>, SuWaNu Europe: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/818088> and MARSoluT <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/814066>.

⁷ FIT4REUSE: Sustainable Non-Conventional Water Solutions for Mediterranean Agriculture <https://www.bioazul.com/en/projects/fit4reuse-integrated-use-of-water-resources/>.

⁸ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/prima_en PRIMA is partly funded by the EU under Horizon 2020.