

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001193/26
to the Commission
Anja Arndt (ESN)
(23 March 2026)**

Subject: Research, possible applications and regulation of weather modification and geoengineering technologies in the EU 4

Which universities, research institutes or consortia in the EU are currently involved in EU-funded projects concerned with researching and regulating weather modification and geoengineering technologies, and with their possible applications?

Submitted: 23.3.2026

**Answer given by Ms Zaharieva on behalf of the European Commission
(3 June 2026)**

The EU has no legal definition for ‘geoengineering’. The Convention on Biological Diversity stated ⁽¹⁾ that ‘[...] any technologies that deliberately reduce solar insolation or increase carbon sequestration from the atmosphere on a large scale that may affect biodiversity [...] should be considered as forms of geo-engineering [...]’.

’ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) referred to geoengineering as ‘a broad set of methods and technologies that aim to deliberately alter the climate system in order to alleviate the impacts of climate change.’

Most, but not all, methods seek to either (1) reduce the amount of absorbed solar energy in the climate system (Solar Radiation Management) or (2) increase net carbon sinks from the atmosphere at a scale sufficiently large to alter climate (Carbon Dioxide Removal).

Scale and intent are of central importance. [...] Geoengineering is different from weather modification and ecological engineering, but the boundary can be fuzzy ⁽²⁾’.

Due to the rather broad scope and variable interpretation of ‘geoengineering’, it is not possible for the Commission to provide a comprehensive list of projects on weather modification and geoengineering technologies, and the entities involved in them.

Depending on the scope and interpretation of ‘geoengineering’, information on specific projects funded under the Research and Innovation Framework Programmes, and the entities benefitting from them, can be extracted from the Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS) ⁽³⁾.

The Commission is not aware of EU-funded research activities specifically on weather modification.

⁽¹⁾ Decision X/33. Biodiversity and climate change <https://www.cbd.int/decision/cop?id=12299>.

⁽²⁾ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_annex-i.pdf, page 1262.

⁽³⁾ <https://cordis.europa.eu/projects/en>.