



# ROMÂNIA

## CONSILIUL CONCURENȚEI



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### FORMAL OPINION

#### **On the State aid scheme “Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”**

By analyzing the following:

- The ANCS Decision no.9451/21.12.2007 on the approval of the State aid scheme “Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”
- Draft of Order of the deputy minister for higher education, scientific research and technological development for the amendment and completion of the Decision ANCS no. 9451/21.12.2007 on the approval of the State aid scheme “Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”;
- Draft of GD for the amendment and completion of GD no. 475/2007 on the approval of the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan for the period 2007-2013;

and

The draft of simplified notification form submitted by the Ministry of National Education by the address no. 3259/TP/16.12.2013, registered at the Competition Council with no. RG 14560/16.12.2013, in order to receive a formal opinion,

and

ascertaining that:

1. On 21.09.2007 Romania has notified to the European Commission the State aid scheme “*Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan*” (State aid N 542/2007 – Romania). The State aid scheme was authorized by the European Commission by the Decision C (2007) 6545/12.12.2007;
2. The scheme was set-up based on the provisions of *Community framework for State aid for research and development and innovation*<sup>1</sup>;
3. The main objectives of the scheme are the following: to create knowledge, obtain top scientific and technological results, competitive on global level, in order to increase the international visibility of the Romanian research and to transfer the results into economy and society.

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<sup>1</sup> JO C 323/2006

4. The State aid scheme no N 542/2007 - *“Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”*- is applied until December the 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013, and the budget is of 4,825 million rol (1,444 million Eur).

5. The Draft of Order of the deputy minister for higher education, scientific research and technological development and the draft of government decision submitted to the Competition Council, do not bring any alteration of the conditions on granting the State aids and do not modify the budget of the scheme, the only amendment being the prolongement of the scheme until June the 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

6. The notification is completed in accordance with the standard form enclosed in Annex II to the *Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 of 21 April 2004 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty*, with the subsequent amendments and completions.

## **COMPETITION COUNCIL**

Based on the Law on competition no.21/1996, republished, with the subsequent amendments and completions and of art. 8 recital (1) of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 117/2006 on the national procedures in the State aid field, approved with amendments and completions by the Law no. 137/2007,

## **ISSUES FORMAL OPINION**

On the simplified notification for the extension of the State aid scheme *“Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”*, provisioned by the Draft of Order of the deputy minister for higher education, scientific research and technological development for the amendment and completion of the Decision ANCS no. 9451/21.12.2007 on the approval of the State aid scheme *“Financing the RDI Projects in accordance with the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan”* and by the Draft of GD for the amendment and completion of GD no. 475/2007 on the approval of the National Research, Development and Innovation II Plan for the period 2007-2013.