COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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NOTE

From :	The Czech, Hungarian and Romanian delegations
To :	The Council ("Competitiveness")
Subject :	Declaration of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania on the integrated proposal to implement the project ELI (Extreme Light Infrastructure) of the ESFRI Roadmap - Information from the Czech, Hungarian and Romanian delegations

Delegations will find attached a declaration from the Czech, Hungarian and Romanian delegations on the above-mentioned topic.

Declaration of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania on the integrated proposal to implement the project ELI (Extreme Light Infrastructure) of the ESFRI Roadmap

The Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania consider of outmost importance the strengthening of the ERA by building excellent research infrastructures in all its regions and help realize the "fifth freedom" – free movement of knowledge.

Therefore, in the light of the coming window of opportunity opened by the availability of structural funds for this purpose, as well as the existence of critical mass in all relevant areas for a successful implementation of a research infrastructure of pan-European interest in the three named Member States, the Ministers responsible for research of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania proclaim their will and readiness to construct ELI.

ELI project consists of the following pillars: the "Beamline" facility, in the Central Bohemian Region, in Dolní Břežany, Czech Republic, the "Attosecond" facility, in Szeged, Hungary, the "ELI-Nuclear Physics" facility, in Magurele - Bucharest, Romania. All these facilities will be equal partners of one integrated research infrastructure. These facilities will also participate on the development of technology for the High intensity facility, site of which will be decided after 2012.

The three Member States would like to highlight the fact that this integrated proposal is the application of the principle of pooling national resources with structural funds, as well as the fact that this proposal reflects the ESFRI Roadmap into national and regional policy implementation. The integrated proposal on the implementation of ELI corresponds to the need to provide access to research infrastructures throughout Europe as well as to the need to develop Europe's regions. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania invite all Member States to participate in this endeavour, and to make the ELI project a truly European achievement.