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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE ERASMUS+ NA DIRECTORS

Subject: Consequences of the terrorist attacks in Paris

First of all, on behalf of all the colleagues involved in the management of the Erasmus+ Programme in DG EAC, I would like to express our deepest condolences to the French colleagues following the atrocities which took place on 13 November in Paris.

A commitment to continuing intercultural dialogue at all levels must be part of our response to this situation. However, our services have been made aware of different requests that you are receiving from beneficiaries in relation to programme participants willing to refrain from travelling to Paris or wishing to return to their place of origin.

While there is no instruction from Member States inviting their citizens to leave Paris, we accept that in such cases (requests for cancellation, interruption, termination or postponement of mobility activities to/from Paris) you may decide to use the *force majeure* clause included in grant agreements, if you consider it appropriate. Any such decision should result from a case by case analysis considering if in your own judgment cancellations or postponements are linked to the security situation.

The NA may decide to accept costs entailed by activities that have not taken place due to *force majeure* or additional costs that were caused by the exceptional circumstances, up to the maximum grant amount awarded. In such case, the beneficiary has to be able to provide proof thereof to the NA including costs that are normally covered as a lump sum or a flat rate grant (e.g. additional accommodation costs on the basis of a hotel bill).

I trust that this guidance will help you to answer satisfactorily to these exceptional requests that you are receiving from beneficiaries in the aftermath of the Paris tragedy.

I look forward to continuing the effective implementation of our Programme, benefiting the individuals, institutions and the whole society as enshrined in its objectives.

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Head of Unit

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