



Brussels, 25.1.2022
C(2022) 363 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 25.1.2022

**on the financing of the individual measure for EU foreign policy needs on support to EU
Arctic policy for 2022**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 23(5) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the measure ‘EU foreign policy needs on support to EU Arctic policy’, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2022. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (‘the Financial Regulation’) establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The action provided for in this Decision contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the measure to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 are to enable the EU to address short and medium-term foreign policy needs and opportunities, by supporting innovative policies/initiatives and by deepening EU relations and dialogues, forging alliance and partnerships.
- (5) The individual measure aims to implement a rapid response action, pursuant to Article 23(5) of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947, and is justified by the imperative foreign policy interest to support the implementation of the Joint Communication on a

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

stronger EU Engagement for a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous Arctic. Its objectives require a rapid reaction and cannot be addressed by other means.

- (6) The action entitled ‘EU foreign policy needs on support to EU Arctic policy’ aims to enable the EU to address short and medium-term foreign policy needs and opportunities, in particular to support the implementation of the new EU Policy for the Arctic.
- (7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The European Parliament and Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should be informed of this Decision within one month following its adoption.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual measure for the implementation of the individual measure for EU foreign policy needs on support to EU Arctic policy for 2022, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the action ‘EU foreign policy needs on support to EU Arctic policy’.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2022 is set at EUR 4 980 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14 02 03 30 – Foreign Policy Needs of the general budget of the Union.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation (provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions).

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 25.1.2022

For the Commission
Josep BORRELL FONTELLES
Vice-President

EN

ANNEX

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measure for EU foreign policy needs on support to EU Arctic policy for 2022

ACTION DOCUMENT

MEASURE

This document constitutes the work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and measures in the sense of Article 23(5) of NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title	‘Support to EU Arctic policy’			
Basic Act	Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)/Overseas Association Decision/European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation Regulation			
2. Team Europe Initiative	No			
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Canada; the Kingdom of Denmark (Denmark, Greenland, Faroe Islands); Finland; Iceland; Norway; the Russian Federation; Sweden; and the United States of America.			
4. Programming document	N/A			
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives /expected results	N/A			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Multisector			
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal			
8 a) DAC code(s)	43010 - Multisector aid			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	60000 - Private sector institution			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance ¹			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective

¹ Thematic target for geographic programmes (at least 15%) in delegated act.

	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14 02 03 30 Total estimated cost: EUR 4 980 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 4 980 000			

MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

13. Type of financing² | **Direct management** through procurement and grants

1.2. Summary of the Action

This action aims to enable the EU to address short and medium-term foreign policy needs and opportunities by supporting the implementation of the new EU policy for the Arctic.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

On 13 October 2021, the High Representative and the Commission put forward their approach for a stronger EU engagement for a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous Arctic. The Arctic region is of key strategic importance for the European Union, in view of climate change and environmental degradation, raw materials as well as geostrategic influence. The Joint Communication responds to these geopolitical, environmental, economic, security and social challenges and opportunities. It seeks to foster cooperation with partners on sustainable approaches to overcome them. The proposed action, in line with EU priorities – a European Green Deal, an economy that works for people, and a stronger Europe in the world – will contribute to implementing the new EU policy for the Arctic.

There are eight Arctic States: Canada; the Kingdom of Denmark (Denmark, Greenland, Faroe Islands); Finland; Iceland; Norway; the Russian Federation; Sweden; and the United States of America. All the Arctic States have adopted national Arctic policy papers or strategies.

The Arctic is estimated to be inhabited by some 4 million people. Present estimates suggest that Indigenous People account for about 10% of the total population living in the Arctic; this proportion varies considerably across the region. There are over 40 different indigenous communities. The main challenges are linked to the multiple adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation in the region (which is disproportionately, and increasingly rapidly, affecting the Arctic), as well as to demographic, sustainable and inclusive development including the sustainable use and management of natural resources, and the need for improved connectivity at different levels.

2.2. Problem Analysis

In recent years, the interest of the international community in the Arctic has increased. With this background, a safe, stable, sustainable and prosperous Arctic is important not just for the region itself, but for the EU and, more generally, the rest of the world. It is important that the EU works with strategic partners in order to contribute to sustainable development in a balanced and integrated manner, while at the same time safeguarding prominently Arctic peoples and European interests.

The action shall allow the EU to consolidate further its presence and visibility on the global scale and in international processes on different Arctic strategic priorities (e.g. tackling climate change and environmental degradation, transport, connectivity, raw materials, security and defence, space programmes, energy, maritime security and safety, health security or ocean governance, social inclusion, gender, cultural preservation and identity, livelihoods, youth futures, collaboration with people living in the Arctic.). The action will also aim to support the promotion of European interests, standards and values, and enhance the role of the EU as a key actor in matters of importance for the Arctic.

It will also help to improve the understanding and knowledge of the EU's role in the Arctic and of its policies through people to people contacts, specifically among young people, women, and indigenous peoples, their communities and between urban(ised) centres/regions.

The action will coordinate with existing internal funding opportunities and other EU initiatives, which may have an external dimension (e.g. cross-border programmes, Horizon Europe, ERASMUS+, European Year of Youth) and, when relevant, will showcase and share its best practices with international partners.

Identification of main stakeholders: EU Institutions and Member States, Arctic States, Arctic Council and related regional/multilateral institutions, municipalities, city associations, research centres, private sector, youth organisations, women organisations, indigenous people's organisations, multilateral institutions.

² Art. 27 NDICI

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to enable the EU to address short and medium-term foreign policy needs and opportunities, in particular to support the implementation of the new EU Policy for the Arctic.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this action are to :

1. Contribute to implementing the EU’s updated Arctic policy through the facilitation of policy dialogue and implementation in key priority areas, such as climate change, environmental protection/biodiversity, and the link between climate, research, innovation and security.
2. Promote dialogues with the Arctic youth to create awareness of the current challenges the Arctic is facing and support youth proposals to policymakers.
3. Promote cooperation among Arctic local and regional authorities, communities and organisations as well as in a broader international context in synergy with the EU-Arctic cooperation.

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

1.1 contributing to Specific Objective 1: a dedicated **policy support facility for a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous Arctic**. This facility will use the existing coordination mechanisms among EU services to ensure a smooth implementation. Some **indicative** priorities already outlined are climate change, environmental protection/biodiversity, sustainable economic development including sustainable raw materials, research and innovation, science diplomacy (in line with the Global Approach communication), health security, digitalisation and connectivity, as well as the link between climate and security including health and mobility aspects related to thawing permafrost. The facility will act in a flexible way to be able to quickly respond to emerging needs (demand-driven facility);

2.1 contributing to Specific Objective 2: **Arctic Youth Dialogues** – involving the youth on the implementation of the EU strategy is a key element to ensure its sustainability in the long term. This initiative is based on other related actions such as the youth transatlantic dialogues between Canada and the EU, which have proven very successful in engaging young people on policy debates. The action will have a strong gender approach and focus on indigenous communities.

3.1 contributing to Specific Objective 3: **Arctic Urban/Regional cooperation**. This action will support exchanges of knowledge and best practices through a peer to peer approach, and will showcase successful initiatives (e.g. supported by other EU programmes such as Interreg) with the aim of supporting existing or new city networks on priority topics (e.g. climate change (net zero emission, adaptation, zero emission transport, black carbon mitigation, fight against fire), innovation, renewable energy, digital connectivity, social inclusion and gender, research, vocational training, higher education exchanges, research networks, or e-health). Rural and coastal communities will also be included in the activities.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Outputs 1.1-3.1: events, studies, peer to peer exchanges, , mobilisation of short-term specialised technical expertise and organization of experts meetings; organisation of workshops, seminars, exchanges and webinars, including logistics, briefing etc.

3.3. Mainstreaming

This action mainstreams the following cross-cutting issues: Multilateralism (building alliances) contributing to a global order based on international law, EU principles and values (democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for human dignity, the principles of equality, including gender equality, solidarity, and disability); Resilience and Innovation.

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/Medium/Low)	Impact (High/Medium/Low)	Mitigating measures
Activities affected by disruptions and delays	Risk 1	H	M	Contingency plans and virtual/remote activities will be planned.

caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.				
Irritants coming from political developments that negatively affect EU relations with key partners.	Risk 2	M	H	Careful monitoring of the political agenda, continuous engagement with main stakeholders and diversification of interlocutors/partners, constant identification of less sensitive topics of mutual interest that could be explored.
Limited budget and short/medium-term intervention against needs to be covered at national level.	Risk 3	M	L	Prioritisation of needs in the short/medium-term and parallel planning of a longer-term action will significantly reduce such risk.
Inability to work with specific local stakeholders, given the changing political and security environment.	Risk 4	M	M	Constant engagement in identification of possible alternative local partners and on possible means of engagement.

Lessons Learnt:

The action’s component “Arctic Youth Dialogues” (Output 2.1) will coordinate with other existing structures such as the Permanent Participants’ Youth Network, initiatives such as the Arctic Youth Leaders’ Summit, and the annual EU Arctic Forum and Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples and with the All Atlantic Ocean Youth Ambassadors scheme. Synergies with the Canadian “students on ice” expeditions could be envisaged. Synergies could be furthermore explored with the [Interreg Volunteer Youth Initiative](#) , with the work related to the follow-up of the [Youth Manifesto](#), which aims to empower youth in Interreg and with the Competence centre on participatory and deliberative democracy led by the JRC. Possible coordination/synergies actions should also be explored with the Permafrost Young Researchers Network (PYRN).

The action’s component “Arctic Urban/Regional cooperation” (Output 3.1) is based on the experience of the International Urban Cooperation-IURC and the European Territorial Cooperation programmes (ETC)”, also known as “Interreg”. Coordination with DG REGIO and the existing and new Interreg programmes - such as the Northern Periphery and Arctic, AURORA and Arctic and NEXT-CBC Kolartic - as well as the mainstream regional programmes will be assured. The action will coordinate with structures and initiatives already in place such as the Arctic Mayors Forum and the Smart Specialisation Platform of the JRC.

The action will seek synergies with the “All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance”.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 72 months³ from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission’s responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

4.1.1. Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to achieving the specific objective 2 in section 3.1.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Civil Society Organisations specialised in youth, indigenous peoples and women/gender issues etc., academic and research institutions, local authorities.

4.1.2. Direct Management (Procurement)

The procurement will contribute to achieving the specific objectives 1 and 3 in section 3.1.

4.1.3. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution
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³ This can be extended for a period not exceeding the same duration.

	(amount in EUR)
Grants – total envelope under section 4.1.1	2 000 000
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.1.2	2 980 000
Total	4 980 000

4.1.4. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The action shall be implemented under direct management. It will be managed by the Commission, with the support of the European External Action Service and relevant EU Delegations for the policy steering and the monitoring of the actions.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

5. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.1.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, mid-term and/or final evaluation(s) will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

Evaluation(s) will be carried out for problem solving, learning purposes, in particular with respect to continuation of the action in longer-term perspective.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partners at least one month in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the premises of the action and its activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁴. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project. The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

5.1.3. Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

6. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility is a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to advertise the European Union's support for their work to the relevant audiences.

To that end they must comply with the instructions given in the [Communication and Visibility Requirements of 2018](#) (or any successor document), notably with regard to the use of the EU emblem and the elaboration of a dedicated communication and visibility plan, to be completed for every action at the start of implementation.

⁴ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

These obligations apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, the partner country (for instance, concerning the reforms supported through budget support), contractors, grant beneficiaries or entrusted entities. In each case, a reference to the relevant contractual obligations must be included in the respective financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

Communication and visibility measures may be funded from the amounts allocated to the action. For the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action, the Commission may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union. Visibility and communication measures should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Effectiveness of communication activities on awareness about the action and its objectives as well as on EU funding of the action should be measured.

Implementing partners shall keep the Commission and concerned EU Delegation/Office fully informed of the planning and implementation of specific visibility and communication activities before work starts. Implementing partners will ensure adequate visibility of EU financing and will report on visibility and communication actions as well as the results of the overall action to the relevant monitoring committees.

APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention⁵ (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

Primary Interventions are those contracts or groups of contracts bearing reportable results and respecting the following business rule: ‘a given contract can only contribute to one primary intervention and not more than one’. An individual contract that does not produce direct reportable results and cannot be logically grouped with other result reportable contracts is considered a ‘support entities’. The addition of all primary interventions and support entities is equivalent to the full development portfolio of the Institution.

Primary Interventions are identified during the design of each action by the responsible service (Delegation or Headquarters operational Unit).

The level of the Primary Intervention is defined in the related Action Document and it is revisable; it can be a(n) (group of) action(s) or a (group of) contract(s).

Tick in the left side column one of the three possible options for the level of definition of the Primary Intervention(s) identified in this action.

In the case of ‘Group of actions’ level, add references to the present action and other action concerning the same Primary Intervention.

In the case of ‘Contract level’, add the reference to the corresponding budgetary items in point 4.6, Indicative Budget.

Option 1: Action level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action

⁵ [ARES \(2021\)4204912](#) - For the purpose of consistency between terms in OPSYS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI have harmonised 5 key terms, including ‘action’ and ‘Intervention’ where an ‘action’ is the content (or part of the content) of a Commission Financing Decision and ‘Intervention’ is a coherent set of activities and results which constitutes an effective level for the operational follow-up by the EC of its operations on the ground. See more on the [concept of intervention](#).