Guidelines on the application of the European Commission's visual identity on studies and publications produced by external organisations

The European Commission manages publications and studies from independent external organisations. The Commission's Visual Identity applies in these cases as follows:

I. Study written by an external independent body at the request of the Commission (following call for tenders) and financed by the Commission. The copyright holder is the European Commission (under the legal entity of the European Union): The European Commission’s visual identity rules apply. The external organisation which prepared the publication should be identified in the bottom part of the cover page with a line “Prepared by” + the logo of the organisation, as appropriate. In case the publication is an outcome of more individual than collective work and includes significant element of creativity, the author has a right her/his name to be quoted together with the name of contractor who prepared a product for publication (e.g. “Prepared by …., written by....”). A disclaimer shall be added to the inner pages of study:

“This document has been prepared for the European Commission however it reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”

II. Study written by an external independent body at the request of the Commission (following call for tenders) and financed by the Commission. The copyright holder is the external independent body: The visual identity of the external body applies. The Commission logo must appear on the publication's cover page as a “sign-off” with the words “Funded by the” + Commission logo. A disclaimer shall be added to the inner pages of the study:

“This document has been prepared for the European Commission however it reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”

III. Study written by an external independent body with support from the Commission. The copyright holder is the external independent body: The visual identity of the external body applies. The Commission logo may appear on the publication’s cover page as a “sign-off” with the words “With the support of the” or “Supported by the” + Commission logo. A disclaimer shall be added to the inner pages of the study:

“The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”

IV. Study written by an external independent body which is also the copyright holder: The visual identity of the external body applies. No Commission logo shall be displayed in the document.