



WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 396_31 May 2024

Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) Newsletter for Wageningen University & Research on the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, other international Grants, national and regional Grants, and on relevant EU, Global and national R&D and innovation developments.

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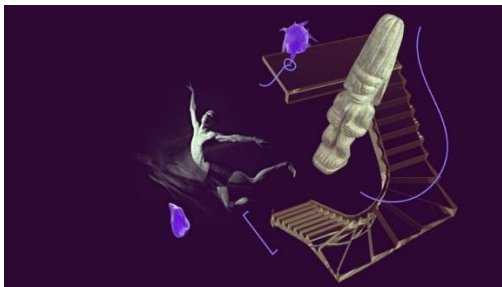
Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe and FP10

MSCA awards €78.5 million for international research cooperation projects (30 May 2024)⁴ (30 May 2024)⁴ (30 May 2024)⁴ (30 May 2024)

Source: Website EC MSCA <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/announcement-results-msca-staff-exchanges-2023>

The European Commission will support 73 Staff Exchanges projects to boost knowledge transfer and innovation.



The European Commission has announced the results of the 2023 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) call for Staff Exchanges under Horizon Europe, the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation. The Commission will assign **€78.5 million** for a total of **73 projects**, promoting cooperation between academic and non-academic organisations in the EU and around the globe, boosting innovation and knowledge transfer.

Through the MSCA Staff Exchanges, organisations can

- form international partnerships with other leading organisations
- strengthen long-term collaborations
- increase their research and innovation capacities

The European Research Executive Agency https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions_en (REA) received 233 applications for this call for project proposals, of which 229 were eligible and were evaluated. 73 projects were selected. This result corresponds to a 31.9% success rate. This was the third call of the scheme under the Horizon Europe funding programme for research and innovation.

Innovation and knowledge transfer

Selected projects will exchange and train researchers and innovators, as well as administrative, technical or managerial staff involved in research activities, to test new ideas and develop new products, services and processes.

Participants will go abroad to enlarge their networks, exchange knowledge, and carry out cutting-edge research.

This call will help researchers and relevant staff at different stages of their career gain new skills and competencies.

Read full article here: <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/announcement-results-msca-staff-exchanges-2023>

Lump sums in Advanced Grants 2024 (30 May 2024)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/lump-sums-advanced-grants-2024>



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

The ERC has been working on introducing a new way of awarding grants, namely as ‘lump sums’, which will be put in place as a pilot scheme for Advanced Grants starting with the 2024 call. What is the background of the decision by the ERC Scientific Council to introduce lump sums? In which way does this mechanism affect the application and evaluation process?

The reason for using lump sums is that they should reduce administrative work for grantees and their host institutions. Briefly, there will be no financial accounting, no cost claims, no time sheets (at least not for the ERC – institutions may have their own internal demands for time sheets) and no financial audits.

The lump sum will be awarded on the basis of a budget that will need to be well explained and justified in the proposal, but expenditures will then not be controlled once the grant agreement has been signed. 80% of the awarded grant amount will be provided at the start of the project, the remaining 20% at completion. Before agreeing to apply a lump sum model to ERC grants, the Scientific Council had established a series of conditions to ensure that the nature and flexibility of ERC grants will be preserved.

Most importantly, the Scientific Council categorically wants the potentially ground-breaking and ambitious nature of ERC grants not to change, and the evaluation criteria will remain the same for all grants, whether for lump sums or actual costs. What has changed for applicants and host institutions are some details in the financial part of the application form (e.g. staff reported by person-months rather than years; explanations for expenses subdivided by cost category).

The final payments of the lump sum grants depend on the completion of the activities described in the grant agreement. For ERC grants, the entire proposal will be formally considered as one ‘work package’ and the concept of ‘completion’ of that work package will explicitly not mean that the individual aims of the proposal will have been reached. This would simply be impossible for a high-risk project that is devised more than five years before its completion date.

Instead, ‘completion’ will be taken to mean that the work towards the stated aims has been carried out. Like now, if discoveries during the course of the project necessitate a significant deviation from the initially proposed path of investigation, the grantee can request an amendment so that work towards a newly defined goal can be covered by the grant. It is very simple: if the team financed by the grant has worked towards reaching the aims of the project for the entire five years as described in the grant agreement, then this is considered ‘completion’ of the work.

Please note this information applies to Advanced Grants only.

The staff of the **ERC Executive Agency will be running webinars over the summer** with detailed advice for applicants and host institutions, starting on 7 June 2024 at 11am CEST.

<https://consent.youtube.com/m?continue=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Flive%2FokhCdAavkMI%3Fsi%3D2GTrdMVC6-uWVMGw%26cbrd%3D1&gl=NL&m=0&pc=yt&cm=2&hl=en&src=1> .

NB: This text is based on the letter by ERC President Maria Leptin sent to ERC grantees and other stakeholders on 29 May 2024.

Call 2024 for ERC Advanced Grants open (29 May 2024)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/advanced-grant> and EU Funders and tender Portal <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erc-2024-adg?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&keywords=adg&isExactMatch=true&status=31094502,31094501>

The call for Proposals for ERC Advanced Grant (ERC-2024-ADG) is open since 29 May 2024. ERC Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are already

established research leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements. Principal Investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their research proposal.

Deadline date: 29 August 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

Size of ERC Advanced Grants

Advanced Grants may be awarded up to a maximum of **EUR 2 500 000** for a period of **5 years** (the maximum amount of the grants is reduced pro rata temporis for projects of a shorter duration).

However, up to an **additional EUR 1 000 000** can be requested in the proposal to cover (a) eligible "start-up" costs for Principal Investigators moving to the EU or an Associated Country from elsewhere as a consequence of receiving the ERC grant, and/or (b) the purchase of major equipment, and/or (c) access to large facilities, and/or (d) other major experimental and field work costs, excluding personnel costs. (As any additional funding is to cover major one-off costs it is not subject to pro-rata temporis reduction for projects of shorter duration. All funding requested is assessed during evaluation).

The Advanced Grant will be awarded as a single lump sum contribution for the entirety of the project. The lump sum will cover the beneficiaries' estimated costs for the project.

Profile of the ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigator

ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigators are expected to be active researchers and to have a track record of significant research achievements.

For further information, please see the ERC Work Programme 2024: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2024/wp_horizon-erc-2024_en.pdf

Newsflash Horizon Europe Health & EU4Health (29 May 2024)

Source: Team IRIS RVO

Impact training (for Horizon Europe proposals) organised by RVO – 10 July, 2024

On 10 July 2024, a **dedicated impact training** <https://www.rvo.nl/evenementen/horizon-europe-impact-training> for Horizon Europe pillar 2 (also applicable for other programs, such as EU4Health) will be organised. Our experts, National Contact Points, will coach you to become a master in writing a strong and compelling Impact section for a proposal under one of the Horizon pillar 2 clusters.

Please register yourself here <https://english.rvo.nl/events/horizon-europe-impact-training> for our impact training.

New Horizon Europe Health topics 2024 info day

On 28 May 2024 the EC has organised an **online information session** <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/3clxegsRz1MMCZg2Onsstd/overview> to explain the new topics that have been added to the 2024 Cluster Health Work Programme. Recordings of the session will become available in the programme section <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/3clxegsRz1MMCZg2Onsstd/programme> of the event website.

Information on Horizon Europe 2024 Missions and cross-cutting calls for proposals

On 21 May 2024 the National Contact Points for EU Missions organised the kick-off of the Missions Brokerage event. **The Brokerage platform** <https://missions-horizon-europe-brokerage-2024.b2match.io/login?next=/live-stage/15865> will remain open for matching activities until 20 November 2024. **The slides** <https://missions-horizon-europe-brokerage-2024.b2match.io/page-4181> of the interesting presentations on synergies, topic reading, finding partners and inter- and trans-disciplinarity are available. Also, recordings of the session can be found **here**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSXqshZ4sq8>.

New topics Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) Call 8

The Innovative Health Initiative has published **four draft topics for Call 8** <https://www.ih.europa.eu/apply-funding/future-opportunities>, which will be a two-stage call:

- A city-based approach to reducing cardiovascular mortality in Europe.
- Novel endpoints for osteoarthritis (OA) by applying big data analytics.
- Modelling regulatory sandbox mechanisms and enabling their deployment to support breakthrough innovation.
- Patient-centred clinical study endpoints derived using digital health technologies.

The final topic texts are expected in the 2nd half of June. The deadline for the first stage proposals will be around 3 months after that.

IHI is organizing info sessions on these draft topics from 17 to 21 June 2024. During the info days, the individual call topics will be discussed as well as the rules and procedures. **Please see the IHI website** <https://www.ihi.europa.eu/news-events/events/ihi-call-days-call-8> for more information.

FP10 should advance research excellence, stronger security and key technologies, Berlin says (23 May 2024)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/fp10-should-advance-research-excellence-stronger-security-and-key-technologies-berlin>

German government spells out its priorities for next research Framework Programme, in paper delivered today to Brussels



Bettina Stark-Watzinger, German Minister of Education and Research. Photo: BMBF / Hans-Joachim Rickel

The German federal government has published its discussion paper for the preparation of the EU's 10th framework programme for research and innovation (FP10), the successor to Horizon Europe. State secretary Sabine Döring will hand it over in Brussels on Thursday.

The aim is to emphasise the great importance of a powerful and adaptable research and innovation system for Europe in order to master global challenges and recent crises and to shape social transformation processes based on knowledge. Research and innovation are the key to maintaining and strengthening Europe's competitiveness, science minister Bettina Stark-Watzinger told Table.Briefings. "Because we need targeted funding for critical key technologies in particular. At the same time, excellent research that is open to all topics and technologies remains indispensable as the basis for forward-looking innovations," she said.

In the current geopolitical situation, European cooperation in research and innovation is more important than ever to strengthen Europe's competitiveness and security, according to the paper. FP10 should place a clear focus on strengthening basic research, promoting key technologies and accelerating transfer.

In line with the principle of subsidiarity, FP10 should only include measures whose implementation offers significant European added value. The programme is not a substitute for national efforts. Achieving the EU target of spending 3% of GDP on R&D remains essential.

In view of Germany's *Zeitenwende* – a shift towards greater military spending and security considerations following the Russian invasion of Ukraine - and the increasing geopolitical tensions associated with hybrid threats, attacks on critical infrastructure, and the rise of extremism, FP10 should leverage the R&I potential for strengthening European security even more effectively.

In order to take a holistic approach to security, civil and military research must be promoted in a complementary manner. The aim is to realise synergies between military and civilian research. The coexistence of FP10 and purely military research remains important, the discussion paper says.

Better coordination, more cooperation

A research and innovation approach that is open to all topics and technologies is indispensable for developing resilience to unforeseen future challenges, the ministry argues.

These points, among others, are emphasised and called for in the paper:

- Maintaining, strengthening and disseminating excellence as a fundamental evaluation criterion
- Funding opportunities open to all technologies and topics in all research areas and along the entire innovation chain

- Targeted funding of critical key technologies and strengthening of European security through complementary funding and synergies between civil and military research
- The bundling of research and innovation funding through strategic priority topic management, known as "portfolio management"
- Better accessibility and clarity of the programme as well as simplification and acceleration of administrative processes
- Increased contributions to the implementation of the European Research Area and better coordination of national and European funding policy
- Openness as a principle of international research and innovation cooperation while at the same time strengthening resource and technology sovereignty in critical areas and strategically expanding cooperation with countries outside the EU

Council approves conclusions on the evaluation of Horizon 2020 (23 May 2024)

Source: Website EC <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/23/council-approves-conclusions-on-the-evaluation-of-horizon-2020/>

The Council has approved conclusions on 'the ex-post evaluation of Horizon 2020 and future outlook'. Horizon 2020 was the EU's 8th funding framework programme for research and innovation and was in place between 2014 and 2020 with an overall budget of €75.6 billion. The conclusions are member states' reaction to the ex-post assessment report that the Commission issued earlier this year. They are intended to provide political guidance in view of the preparation of the future framework programme (FP10).

The conclusions confirm the central role of the framework programme in supporting research and innovation at EU level, driven by the pursuit of excellence, and highlight its scientific, societal and economic impact. It addresses synergies with other European programmes and with national and regional funds and calls to improve feedback to policymaking and to better align the framework programme with the European Research Area. The conclusions also note considerable disparities in participation and success rates between countries and invites exploring a more effective approach that supports a wider participation. Finally, the conclusions address implementation issues of the framework programme, and the need to further optimise monitoring, including assessing its long-term effects. As such, these conclusions are a crucial step in the development of the next framework programme for research and innovation.

The draft conclusions will help to prepare for the following 10th framework programme for research and innovation 2028-2034.

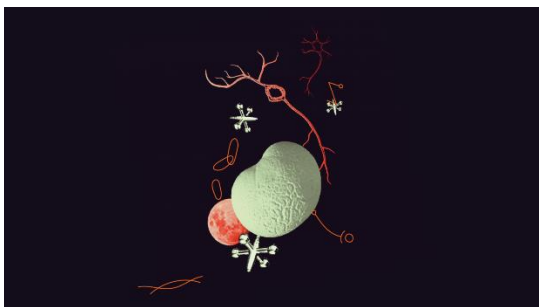
- **Council conclusions on the ex-post evaluation of Horizon 2020 and future outlook:** <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10183-2024-INIT/en/pdf>
- **Ex-post evaluation of Horizon 2020 (Commission report):** <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5941-2024-ADD-1/en/pdf>
- **Horizon Europe (background information):** <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/horizon-europe/>

Read full article here: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/23/council-approves-conclusions-on-the-evaluation-of-horizon-2020/>

Next Doctoral Networks 2024 call opening soon: 6 steps to prepare your application (22 May 2024)

Source: Website MSCA News <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application>

Get started with this funding scheme and learn how to prepare a successful proposal for this call opening on 29 May.



MSCA Doctoral Networks <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/doctoral-networks?> implement doctoral programmes through consortia of organisations from different sectors across Europe and beyond. Selected networks expose the researchers to the academic and non-academic sectors, and offer them training in research, as well as in transferable skills and competences relevant for innovation and long-term employability of researchers.

They also benefit participating institutions which receive funding to develop excellent doctoral programmes, allowing them to attract talent, increase their global visibility and foster cooperation with other sectors and countries. The MSCA and Doctoral Networks focus on excellence in various aspects. Excellence does not only apply to the individual fellows supported or the collaborations fostered and knowledge transferred. The quality and novelty of the research and innovation methodologies applied, the research conducted as well as the training, supervision and career guidance provided to researchers are also crucial aspects of MSCA Doctoral Networks and key award criteria. The MSCA are open to all domains of research and innovation, chosen freely by the applicants, and have a strong focus on interdisciplinary, international and intersectoral cooperation. Doctoral Networks support programmes addressing this triple dimension across all research fields, and provide specific incentives to encourage cooperation between academic and non-academic sectors.

If you are considering applying for MSCA Doctoral Networks, here are some useful tips and guidance to start preparing your proposal.

6 steps to prepare your application

1. **Get familiar with how funding works:** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step1>
2. **Make sure your organisation and consortium can apply** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step2>
3. **Find the best partners to prepare your proposal:** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step3>
4. **Start drafting your application:** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step4>
5. **Check your application with your peers:** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step5>
6. **Submit your application:** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step6>

For more information: <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-doctoral-networks-call-opening-soon-6-steps-to-prepare-your-application#Step1>

Broad support to maintain widening program in FP10 (22 May 2024)

Source: Website|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/how-researchers-see-future-widening>

There is broad support for retaining broadening measures in the successor to Horizon Europe (FP10). Science Business writes this based on an analysis of the position papers of 15 umbrella organizations of universities, research organizations and industry. The widening measures aim to bridge the R&I gap between Member States. Although there is broad support for retaining the measures, there are major differences regarding the structure, instruments, budget and goals.

Read full Article Science Business here: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/how-researchers-see-future-widening>

Extra €125 million for the ERC in 2024 (17 May 2024)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/extra-eu125-million-erc-2024>



The European Commission has allocated an additional 125 million euro to the ERC's 2024 budget. The extra money comes from the association of the United Kingdom to Horizon Europe and allows to fund another 48 Advanced Grants this year.

The amendment to the 2024 Work Programme also re-introduces the ERC Executive Agency's right to object to the transfer or licencing of intellectual property rights stemming from ERC grants to legal entities established in a non-associated third country. This change reflects the EU's general move to minimise risks arising from certain economic flows in the context of increased geopolitical tensions and accelerated technological shifts, while preserving maximum levels of economic openness and dynamism.

Lastly, one million euro was allocated to support communication activities in line with the **ERC External Communication Strategy** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-01/ERC-Communication-strategy-2024.pdf>

You can find amended Workprogramme here: <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-05/WorkProgramme-updated.pdf>

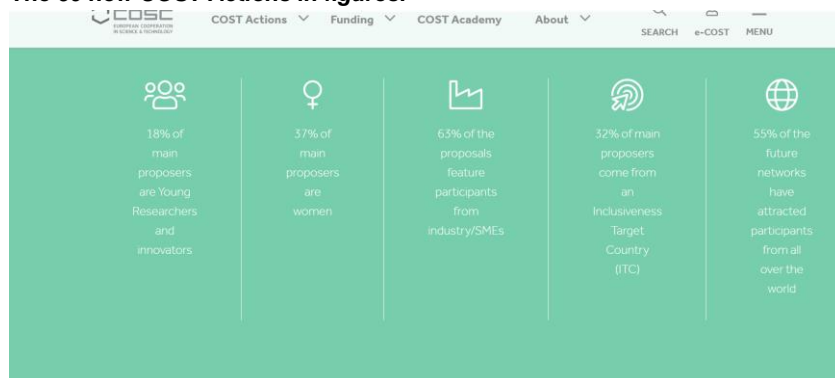
Other International funding

60 new COST Actions approved (22 May 2024)

Source: Website COST <https://www.cost.eu/60-new-actions-oc20231/>

On 17 May 2024, COST's governing board, the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), confirmed the funding of 60 new COST Actions, that will officially start in Autumn 2024.

The 60 new COST Actions in figures:



As an indicator of multidisciplinary of the new Actions, 50% of all Actions cover at least two OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) fields of science and technology, while 17% cover at least three fields. Natural sciences lead the way as the most represented field of science (represented in 47% of the Actions), followed by Social Sciences (37%), Engineering and Technology (27%), Medical and Health Sciences (23%), Humanities (23%) and Agricultural Science (12%).

The success rate for applications in this Open Call (OC-2023-1) was 11.5%.

The 60 new COST Actions cover topics as wide and varied as managing Artificial Intelligence in archaeology to advancing understand of vascular liver disease, promoting indoor air cleaning, encouraging non-chemical weed management in medicinal plants, and building a peace research community in Europe.

Download the full list of newly approved COST Actions: <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2024/05/oc-2023-1-Approved-Actions-Booklet.pdf>

On Thursday 13 June 2024 these new COST Actions, including all Memorandum's of Understanding, will be available on **the COST website** <https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions-event/browse-actions/> so if you see a network that is of interest then you can apply to join. The official kick-off, the first Management Committee meeting, of these research networks will take place between September and November 2024.

Additional information

Download the full list of newly approved COST Actions <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2024/05/oc-2023-1-Approved-Actions-Booklet.pdf>

The current COST Open Call (OC-2024-1) remains open until 23 October 2024 at 12.00 (noon) CEST. Discover more about the simple one-step application process to submit a **new COST Action** <https://www.cost.eu/funding/open-call-a-simple-one-step-application-process/>.

National funding

Political trends, eco-anxiety and male role models: diversity of research in SGW Open Competition XS (30 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/political-trends-eco-anxiety-and-male-role-models-diversity-of-research-in-sgw-open-competition-xs>



The awards of round 1 of the SGW Open Competition XS 2024 are a fact. As many as 60 researchers will start with a promising idea or innovative initiative. So plenty of room for experimentation and innovation. XS projects last a maximum of one year and can therefore quickly contribute to scientific insights. What is eye-catching in this round is that many projects deal with diversity.

The projects cover the full range of research in the social sciences and humanities (SSH). For instance, a project in which they investigate what makes each autistic brain unique. Another project focuses on the connection between social media and eco-anxiety in young people. A study is also about to start, looking into whether male managers are role models for other male employees who want to take parental leave. There also is a project in which they examine why support for right-wing parties is increasing among Dutch young people.

The next submission deadline <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-round-2> for the SGW Open Competition XS is 27 August 2024 at 14:00.

Take a look at the awarded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh/granted-projects>

Pre-announcement: KIC call 'Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S' 2024 opens this summer (28 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-kic-call-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-s-2024-opens-this-summer>



NWO is expected to open the call 'Demand-driven research by consortia 2024- S' for applications in early July. In this call for proposals, public-private consortia can apply for funding for impact-driven collaborative research. Topics must be associated with the Dutch government's innovation policy.

Purpose of the call

The aim of this call is to realise impact for the economy, people and society through public-private collaborative consortia. Topics for research proposals should stem from contemporary societal challenges as identified by the government's mission-driven innovation policy and the Knowledge and Innovation Agendas (KIAs) drawn from this policy. It is therefore crucial that submitted research proposals are associated with one or more of the 6 KIAs

Read more about the KIA's (in Dutch): <https://www.topsectoren.nl/missiesvoordetoekomst>

This research programme functions as a development hub for consortia consisting of knowledge institutions and private parties who want to jointly transform a shared knowledge and/or development question into an impact-driven research proposal. By funding scientific research conducted by knowledge institutions, public, and private parties, consortium members contribute to the creation of economic opportunities, broad prosperity and societal impact. The public and private partners in the consortium have a clearly demonstrable role in taking the knowledge further towards economic opportunities.

Consortia requirements and budget

Consortia should consist of at least two knowledge institutions and one co-funder. At least one co-funder must be a company. In this call, consortia can apply for a minimum of € 250,000 and a maximum of € 750,000 in NWO funding. NWO thereby funds 50% of the total project size. The other 50% must come from the consortium, of which 30% in cash from private parties.

NWO-KIC: innovation programmes in the knowledge and innovation covenant

NWO develops innovation programmes that focus on societal challenges in the Netherlands. These programmes aim to have an impact on the economy, people and society. The focus is on cooperation between knowledge institutions, private parties and the government. The results thus contribute to the realisation of economic opportunities. It is therefore essential that companies invest in every research project.

Evaluation: NWO institutes are among the world's best (27 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/evaluation-nwo-institutes-are-among-the-worlds-best>

The nine NWO institutes were evaluated at the end of 2023 and rated as excellent by committees of international independent experts. The scientific research they conduct is of absolute top quality.

Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP)

Every six years the NWO institutes are evaluated. This is done using the Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP), which was created by NWO, KNAW and UNL to provide a sound basis for evaluations of research groups and institutes. The SEP evaluation of the NWO institutes took place in the second half of 2023.

'The institutes are praised, among other things, for their groundbreaking research, the access they offer their scientific field to large (inter)national consortia or infrastructures and bringing the field together. The entire NWO Executive Board is therefore incredibly proud. It is clear that our institutes are an indispensable link in landscape of scientific research in the Netherlands.'

Evaluation themes and process

A separate evaluation committee, consisting of six independent scientific or societal experts, was established for each of the institutes. The evaluation focused on the scientific quality, social relevance and future-proofing of the institutes. Special attention was also paid this time to the PhD policy and the research culture.

The institutes first conducted a self-evaluation over the past six years and provided a strategic plan for the next six years. Next, a site visit by the evaluation committee took place. They then delivered a report with recommendations, which the institutes were then able to respond to again. On May 22, NWO's Executive Board of directors established the evaluation.

Read and download the evaluations of the NWO Institutes: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/evaluations-nwo-institutes>

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/evaluation-nwo-institutes-are-among-the-worlds-best>

From quantum to climate: five teams of top scientists receive Summit grant (24 May 2024)

Source: website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-quantum-to-climate-five-teams-of-top-scientists-receive-summit-grant>



Five consortia of top scientists from various Dutch universities will receive a total of 174 million euros. The ten-year funding from the Summit grant will enable the research groups to start their research and also play a prominent role internationally. This will strengthen the long-term position of Dutch science.

The five awarded projects come from different fields of science and address completely different topics. One consortium focuses on the fundamental question of existence: what is life? The researchers are trying to build a living synthetic cell with the core characteristics of life from inanimate biomolecules. The team is also developing ethical guidelines for the responsible development of synthetic life.

Another consortium aims to understand how connections between individuals, groups and institutions contribute to new ways and forms of social cohesion. A third group of researchers is working to bridge the gap between short-term and long-term climate change predictions. The fourth team of scientists is exploring the fundamental limits of physical processes imposed by the laws of quantum mechanics. The final consortium is an interdisciplinary group of scientists from regenerative biology, engineering and medicine that aims to fully understand and control the regeneration of tissues and organs in patients using implantable 'smart' materials with life-like properties.

Absolute world class

The Summit grant is an initiative of Robbert Dijkgraaf, Minister of Education, Culture and Science. About the awards, he is enthusiastic: 'The Netherlands is at the forefront of global research. The Summit grant recipients prove that. Top science is not a given. It is only possible because Dutch researchers can cooperate like no other. And because there is funding that, like science, is focused on the longer term. The Summit grant is geared toward this, both collaboration and long-term funding. Only in this way can we continue to push the boundaries of knowledge as the Netherlands as well.'

The Summit grant is intended for research consortia that have proven through existing partnerships that they belong to the absolute world top or are very close to it, and that this instrument will enable them to make the leap to world class. The winning projects have proven their worth over the past few years by contributing to major breakthroughs in their field of science. The teams will now have the time and space to develop further and make an important contribution to new knowledge for society. A new generation of researchers can also be trained, ensuring that knowledge and research are continued in the longer term

Wageningen is involved in one of the five funded Summit Grants: A broad consortium with leading climate experts, called **EMBRACER**, which will bridge the knowledge gap between predicting short-term and long-term climate change.

Read full article with more information about funded projects here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-quantum-to-climate-five-teams-of-top-scientists-receive-summit-grant>

NWO assigns seven applications for Computing Time on the National Computer Facilities (23 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO News: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-assigns-seven-applications-for-computing-time-on-the-national-computer-facilities>



The advanced national computer facilities are used for technical-scientific research in which major computational problems need to be solved and where the computational facilities of the individual institutions are inadequate. In the Netherlands, several systems are available for national use and are hosted by SURF.

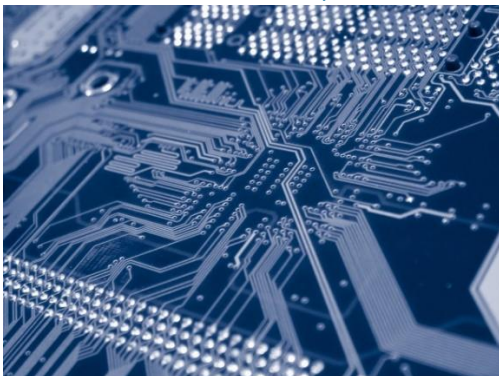
Via the Call Computing Time on National Computer Facilities, researchers can request computing time on the national computer facilities. Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis. Computing time, storage, and support can be requested on the following computer systems: Snellius supercomputer, Data Processing (Grid, Spider), Cloud Research Consultancy and HPC Cloud (via SURF Research Cloud). Researchers can request large amounts of computing time for a project duration of two years via NWO. Small amounts of computing time for a project duration of one year can be requested directly from SURF.

The NWO Committee for the Scientific Use of Supercomputers (WGS) meets six times a year in order to assess the applications that are complete at that moment. In 2024, the meetings will take place in February, April, June, September, October and December. The next meeting will take place in June 2024. The WGS advises the Board of the NWO Domain Science on granting or rejecting computing time applications.

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-assigns-seven-applications-for-computing-time-on-the-national-computer-facilities>

Five projects on improving digital infrastructure start (21 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-projects-on-improving-digital-infrastructure-start>



The first five so-called ‘bottleneck projects’ from the Thematic Digital Competence Centers in the Netherlands may start. NWO’s Executive Board has (so far) awarded five applications, totalling over 732,000 euros.

What are the TDCCs again? The Thematic Digital Competence Centers are network organisations. They were established in 2022 with funding from NWO. There are three TDCCs in the Netherlands: one for Life Sciences and Health (LSH), one for Natural and Engineering Sciences (NES) and one for Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH). Their ambitions were described in the **TDCC roadmaps** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/implementation-plan-investments-digital-research-infrastructure/roadmaps-three> when they were established.

So, what are bottleneck projects? The TDCC roadmaps describe bottlenecks in their respective fields and dedicated funding is available for each TDCC to tackle these bottlenecks. In this way, these bottleneck projects can receive funding quickly and energetically, so that the bottlenecks are addressed quickly. For TDCC-NES and TDCC-SSH applicants can submit proposals on the designated bottlenecks, described in the roadmaps, to improve those bottlenecks.

Read full article including information about funded projects here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-projects-on-improving-digital-infrastructure-start>

Work on your dissertation with a Doctoral grant for teachers (21 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/work-on-your-dissertation-with-a-doctoral-grant-for-teachers>



Are you a teacher looking for a new challenge? Do you want to help improve the education system? This Doctoral grant for teachers allows you to fulfil your ambitions by conducting research and writing a dissertation while still teaching. This grant aims to improve the quality of education and strengthen the link between schools and universities.

Whether you teach in primary, secondary, vocational, higher vocational or special education, this grant presents a unique opportunity to implement your research ideas. You are free to choose any topic, as long as it contributes to educational practice.

The evaluation criteria for research proposals have been updated to three main criteria:

1. **Quality of the research proposal**
Consideration will be given to the theoretical grounding, the scientific problem and the feasibility of the research design.
2. **Impact of the research proposal**
The candidate must indicate whether the research proposal focuses on scientific impact, societal impact or both, and justify this choice.

The application must also demonstrate a contribution to your own teaching, to wider educational practice and to your development as a teaching professional.

3. **Quality of the candidate**
Relevant training, research experience, motivation and integration into a supervisory team will be assessed. This criterion is unchanged from the previous evaluation criteria.

Grant recipients will have the opportunity to be exempted from teaching for up to 0.4 FTE for a maximum of five years, allowing them to focus on their doctoral research.

The new round of applications will open soon, with a deadline of 10 September 2024.

Call open: 2.85 million euros available for the NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' (20 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-285-million-euros-available-for-the-nwa-call-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory>

The NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' is open for submissions. The transition to clean energy is bringing about major changes in the Netherlands. It is not only a question of replacing old energy sources with new, more sustainable options. The success of the transition also depends on people's behaviour. With this call, NWO aims to help accelerate the energy transition in the Netherlands. A total of 2.85 million euros is available for this research.



Aim and background

With the NWA Call for proposals 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' NWO aims to stimulate knowledge development on how social dynamics can accelerate or slow down the energy transition. Social dynamics refer to behaviour within groups of end users and between end users and the system to which they belong. End users here refer to citizens and small, local businesses. The knowledge developed in this programme should provide governments with tools to respond more adequately to and anticipate the unpredictability of social dynamics among end users.

In this call for proposals, NWO invites knowledge institutions and social stakeholders to jointly develop a scientific and practice-oriented research proposal on 'Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' The consortia will work from a knowledge chain-wide, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary . Knowledge chain-wide means that this programme combines fundamental, applied and practical research and meets the knowledge needs of social stakeholders.

View the call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory>

Information meeting

An information meeting will take place on **Wednesday 12 June at 12:00h CEST**. Would you like to register for this online meeting? Please click on the button below.

View the information meeting: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/online-information-meeting-for-the-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory>

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

France and Germany call for 'European Tech Deal' (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

French Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire and German Minister of Economic Affairs Robert Habeck argue for a European Tech Deal in a joint position paper. Euractiv writes about this. The ministers say that the EU has enormous potential, but that 'the need is increasing to tackle Europe's competitiveness challenges'. "To ensure Europe's long-term competitiveness, prosperity and global role as a geopolitical actor, efforts will be needed at all levels and in all policy areas to close the growth, productivity and innovation gaps between the EU and its international partners and main competitors," it can be read. The ministers advocate, among other things, 'a European Tech Deal that strengthens the EU's technological capabilities, which will accelerate digitalization in all sectors and seize opportunities in the most innovative technologies'. The ministers further state that enormous investments are needed to boost productivity, competitiveness and innovation. To achieve this, the EU should reform, simplify and speed up administrative procedures and EU funds. The EU should also boost private investment by pursuing "a more ambitious agenda to achieve the Capital Markets Union and by agreeing on the remaining elements of the Banking Union."

Article Euractiv: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/news/paris-berlin-urge-eu-tech-deal-forceful-reforms-by-next-eu-commission/>

Press release German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action:

<https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/05/20240523-gemeinsame-initiative-fuer-mehr-wachstum-in-europa.html>

Bruegel: Letta report on R&I is ambitious, but needs further refinement (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

Research and innovation should be at the top of the EU's economic policy agenda, but should not rely too much on public investment. This is stated by think tank Bruegel in an analysis of former Prime Minister Enrico Letta's much-discussed paper on the EU's internal market. Letta proposes expanding the four freedoms of the EU with a fifth freedom, focused on research, innovation, knowledge and education. "Several of Letta's policy proposals challenge the status quo, but the reliance on public sector-led industrial policies and investments ignores the fact that the private sector today invests much more in R&D than the public sector," the think tank said. According to Bruegel, the ideas require "significant refinement and adjustment" to fit the reality of today's innovation economy.

Analysis Bruegel: <https://www.bruegel.org/analysis/research-innovation-and-data-fifth-freedom-eu-single-market>

Report Enrico Letta: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/ny3j24sm/much-more-than-a-market-report-by-enrico-letta.pdf>

What do the European elections mean for the knowledge sector? (30 May 2024)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderwijs/what-do-the-european-elections-mean-for-the-knowledge-sector->

Why should you vote for the European elections? What is the importance of European cooperation for education, innovation, and research? And where should the focus lie for the EU's next 5-year term? Watch our new video and find out what the Dutch knowledge sector has to say.



European elections & innovation, education, and research

In the countdown to June 6-9, Neth-ER travelled across to the Netherlands to underline the importance and relevance of the upcoming elections, as well as the role of innovation, education, and research in the European context. We talked to several players from the Dutch knowledge sector – from students to doctors, and from researchers to university rectors – to understand what the EU can offer them and what they can offer the EU. **Click here to watch our video** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ls_Wi15jDsA

Interview segments

In the build-up to this publication, Neth-ER has published various interview segments that dive deeper into the experiences, hopes and concerns of the interviewees regarding EU affairs. Watch vocational students <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40w6uQQSSKY> share their experiences with the Erasmus+ programme, listen to rectors of two universities <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koOAZU6l8j8> discuss the need to invest in knowledge, and hear about the role of Applied Universities <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omrcl2Az1Y8> in tackling societal challenges. **Find a playlist of all the interviews here:** <https://consent.youtube.com/m?continue=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fplaylist%3Flist%3DPLvE4kXgA-FINdJhyj34aP0ER0t2h4EWYO%26si%3DoYluuZiIR2UaNuio%26cbrd%3D1&gl=NL&m=0&pc=yt&cm=2&hl=en&src=1> .

European knowledge umbrella organizations launch joint campaign for a higher R&I budget (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

A number of European knowledge umbrella organizations have launched a joint campaign 'Research Matters'. Science Business has written about this. The campaign highlights the role of research and innovation in tackling global issues in the run-up to the European elections. The campaign is an initiative of the European Association of Communication Professionals in Higher Education (EUPRIO) and is supported by Science Europe, the European University Association (EUA), The Guild, LERU and EuroTech, among others. The parties advocate, among other things, a doubling of the budget for the next Framework Program (FP10) and that Member States increase their national R&I investments to the Lisbon target of 3% of GDP. "It is important that policymakers both at EU and national level understand that if you want future competitiveness and resilience, you have to invest in your future, and that is higher education, research and innovation," said Julien Chicot, head of research and innovation policy at The Guild, against Science Business. Science Europe also launched the 'Vote for Science' campaign last week. The umbrella organization calls on candidates for the elections to commit to the 'five promises to safeguard the future of European research and innovation'.

Research Matters: <https://research-matters.eu/>

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/eu-research-lobbies-team-ask-rd-budget-boost>

Article Science Europe: <https://www.scienceeurope.org/our-resources/vote-for-science-5-pledges-for-candidates-of-the-european-parliament-elections-2024/>

European Commission invests more than one billion in industrial defense projects (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

The European Commission has announced that it will allocate a total of more than one billion euros to 54 joint defense R&D projects. This concerns the awards in response to the calls for 2023 from the European Defense Fund (EDF). The projects should support technological excellence in a number of critical areas, such as cyber defense and space. There was a lot of enthusiasm for the third round of the fund, with 76% more proposals than last year and great interest from SMEs. "With this round of the EDF, we see that the new EU defense innovation regime facilitates the adaptation of

civilian technologies to the defense sector, thereby making Europe's defense technological and industrial base more competitive," said Commissioner Vestager.

Press release European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2666

EU report outlines measures to improve accessibility and reuse of research (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

The European Commission has published a report on improving access to and reuse of research results. The report looks at the barriers and challenges to accessing and reusing publicly funded research results. In addition, the impacts of the EU copyright framework on research are assessed and relevant provisions for research in the field of EU data and digital law are identified. The researchers outline a number of options for legislative and non-legislative measures. "At the heart of our ambitious open science policy lies a simple but powerful belief: publicly funded research should be a public resource," said European Commissioner Ivanova. "In our ongoing efforts under the European Research Area and its Policy Agenda, we are working closely with Member States, associated countries and stakeholders to create an environment where knowledge flows freely for the benefit of society."

News item European Commission: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/enhancing-research-accessibility-and-reuse-new-study-outlines-strategic-measures-2024-05-16_en

Academic boycotts over Gaza war jeopardise Israel's place in Horizon Europe (23 May 2024)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/universities/academic-boycotts-over-gaza-war-jeopardise-israels-place-horizon-europe>



A growing number of European universities are ending their ties with Israel over the war in Gaza, including in existing Horizon Europe projects, prompting Israel's science minister to hold emergency talks with the country's research leaders over how to retain scientific links with Europe.

Gila Gamliel has said that Israel is **considering new incentives** <https://x.com/GilaGamliel/status/1788593584553205800> to encourage academics to come to Israel, and last week signed a cooperation agreement with Guatemala to try to shore up the country's outside scientific links in the face of European boycotts.

With student protest camps spreading across the continent, European university boycotts could prove a major headache for the EU's entire science strategy, which has since 1996 included Israel, a technology leader, as a fully integrated part of its research and innovation framework programmes.

To date, Israel has received more than €600 million from Horizon Europe, more than many EU member states, including Poland and the Czech Republic.

Last week, the University of Granada said it would suspend student and researcher exchanges with Israeli institutions, and stop cooperating with Israeli on five Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 projects.

The University of Barcelona yesterday confirmed it would not strike any agreements with Israeli institutions "until the conditions in the Gaza area guarantee absolute peace and respect for human rights", and would immediately break a cooperation agreement with Tel Aviv University.

It also called on the EU to immediately block Israeli institutions from all European funded projects, and said that until that happened, the university would “not participate in any academic or institutional event in which Israeli institutions are involved.”

Some Israeli researchers say the country is already being shut out of Horizon Europe. “They were told to leave [consortia] because they were Israeli,” said Netta Barak-Corren, a law professor who is heading a taskforce at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem monitoring boycott attempts. “It was very blunt.”

An internal Israeli Ministry of Intelligence report compiled in mid-April and seen by Science|Business warns that the growing wave of European boycotts “pose risks to Israel's scientific-technological position in the world, and in the long run could lead to damage to national security and the strength of Israel's economy”.

It also warns that the boycott movement risks stopping Israeli scientists joining research consortia as part of Horizon Europe.

The report singles out Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, Ireland, Belgium and Italy as the European countries where action including protests, petitions and boycotts have been particularly pronounced.

Examine why the European elections matter to you (23 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/examine-why-the-european-elections-matter-to-you>



Not once every four years, but once every five years. Not one day, but four days. The same red pencil, but different list leaders: the European elections are coming up. From 6 to 9 June 2024, 27 member states will vote for the European Parliament. With the Dutch research field's broad participation in the European programme for research and innovation, these elections are highly relevant. What are the elections for the knowledge field about?

Knowledge is a key resource of Europe. In many areas, Europe is becoming increasingly dependent on other continents. Whether you look at raw materials, labour or capital; on all these aspects, Europe almost always loses out to other continents. This means greater dependence on others and less autonomy. Add to this the fact that Europe's population is shrinking where other continents are growing. Our share of world trade, and thus our influence, is in danger of shrinking. However, we do enjoy a high quality of life and are an attractive location for international talent.

Thereby, Europe, including the Netherlands, is very good at cooperating on (scientific) research. The European Union recognises the importance of knowledge for Europe. Within the EU, research and innovation fall under the banner of Horizon Europe, a European funding programme. With this programme, the European Commission stimulates science and innovation in Europe and allows industry and academia to jointly come up with solutions to societal issues that affect all of Europe. With a budget of €95.5 billion – although for seven years - it is a significant additional flow of money to national and regional funding. In this, the Netherlands achieves a return rate of about 9.5 per cent, equivalent to more than a billion euros a year. Consider that NWO's total budget is also over 1 billion euros. So this is a lot of money.

Horizon Europe - an important programme for the Dutch research field

Horizon Europe has three different pillars: (1) *Excellent Science* (2) *Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness* and (3) *Innovative Europe*. The first pillar aims to maintain or bring science in Europe to excellence. This includes, for example, the European Research Council (ERC); this programme promotes scientific research in Europe by funding excellent scientists. These are the well-known ERC grants. Strengthening the quality and accessibility of research infrastructures also falls within this pillar. The second pillar focuses on the major challenges facing the EU and the world, e.g. the Sustainable Development Goals. In this programme, partnerships consisting of public and private companies (e.g. university researchers, commercial companies and end users) can apply for funding for projects aimed at excellence and societal impact. The third pillar focuses mainly on innovation companies, aiming to develop innovations that strengthen the EU's economic position.

For years, the Netherlands has been among the top countries in Horizon Europe, with most funding coming from the European Research Council. So an important programme for the Dutch research field. Moreover, it also makes money for the Netherlands: every investment the Netherlands makes towards the Horizon Europe programme yields double that amount. This means the programme is also good for the Dutch economy.

Partnerships across borders

Horizon Europe also makes it easier for Dutch researchers to collaborate internationally with other researchers in Europe. Within Europe, for instance, various agendas have been set up to address societal and scientific challenges. This is done through European co-funded partnerships. These focus on complex societal challenges and impact, for example research programmes on water safety or biodiversity. Within the European partnerships, research funders from various European countries draw up multiannual research agendas. NWO also contributes to this and develops various thematic, transnational research programmes together with the partners. Dutch researchers can jointly submit research proposals with international researchers, social and/or industrial organisations from the participating countries. The European Commission co-finances the partnerships, thus increasing the total funds available for cross-border research cooperation.

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/examine-why-the-european-elections-matter-to-you>

EU Member States adopt recommendations to enhance research security (23 May 2024)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/eu-member-states-adopt-recommendations-enhance-research-security-2024-05-23_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Today, the EU made an important step towards ensuring that international research and innovation cooperation can take place in a way that is both open and safe. At the meeting of the Council of the EU, research ministers adopted a Recommendation on enhancing research security, which puts forward measures designed to protect research and innovation from misuse.

The Recommendation is based on a Commission proposal tabled on 24 January 2024 as part of measures underpinning the European Economic Security Strategy. It strikes a balance between being open and safe, while respecting and safeguarding crucial principles such as academic freedom, institutional autonomy and non-discrimination.

Today's agreement will enable the Member States to address research security in a collective and coordinated way. Alignment and consistency across the EU are key to an effective response to these threats.

With the adoption of this Recommendation, EU Member States commit to work jointly on the issue. Next steps on their part include developing a coherent set of policy measures and support structures for the research sector, introducing research security questions in grant application forms and encouraging research performing organisations to introduce research security risk management.

For its part, the Commission will follow up on the recommendations by leveraging the European Research Area governance structures bringing together Member States' experts, funding organisations, and EU level stakeholders.

For full article and more background information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/eu-member-states-adopt-recommendations-enhance-research-security-2024-05-23_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Artificial intelligence (AI) act: Council gives final green light to the first worldwide rules on AI (21 May 2024)

Source: Website EC <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/21/artificial-intelligence-ai-act-council-gives-final-green-light-to-the-first-worldwide-rules-on-ai/>

Today the Council approved a ground-breaking law aiming to harmonise rules on artificial intelligence, the so-called **artificial intelligence act**. The flagship legislation follows a **'risk-based' approach**, which means the **higher the risk** to cause harm to society, **the stricter the rules**. It is the first of its kind in the world and can set a global standard for AI regulation.

The new law aims to foster the development and uptake of **safe** and **trustworthy** AI systems across the EU's single market by both private and public actors. At the same time, it aims to ensure respect of **fundamental rights** of EU citizens and stimulate investment and innovation on artificial intelligence in Europe. The AI act applies only to areas within EU law and provides exemptions such as for systems used exclusively for **military and defence** as well as for **research** purposes.

Classification of AI systems as high-risk and prohibited AI practices

The new law categorises different types of artificial intelligence according to risk. AI systems presenting only **limited risk** would be subject to very light transparency obligations, while **high-risk** AI systems would be authorised, but subject to a set of requirements and obligations to gain access to the EU market. AI systems such as, for example, **cognitive behavioural manipulation** and **social scoring** will be banned from the EU because their risk is deemed unacceptable. The law also prohibits the use of AI for **predictive policing** based on profiling and systems that use **biometric data** to categorise people according to specific categories such as race, religion, or sexual orientation.

For more information: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/21/artificial-intelligence-ai-act-council-gives-final-green-light-to-the-first-worldwide-rules-on-ai/>

Global policy

NBER: China's scientific impact overestimated due to home bias (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

The US National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) notes that China's number of scientific citations is overestimated. This has to do with the phenomenon of home bias, where researchers cite above-average research work from their own country. NBER analysts therefore developed their own benchmark, which looks at the relative size of a country. The bias is filtered out as much as possible. "Our findings show that China exhibits the largest domestic bias among all major countries and in almost all scientific fields studied," it said. "After adjusting the citation counts, it appears that the apparent increase in the citation rankings is exaggerated. Our adjusted ranking places China fourth globally, behind the US, Great Britain and Germany."

Publication NBER: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w32468>

RD&I institutes strengthen regional and sectoral innovation capacity building (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

The UK Productivity Institute has explored the role of intermediate research, development and innovation (RD&I) institutions in building regional and sectoral innovation capabilities. The analysis looked at institutions from the US, Japan, Singapore and Germany. The analysis shows a wide variety of different activities in the areas of knowledge development, knowledge dissemination and skills and education. According to the researchers, the UK currently has no regional RD&I institutes with a specific mandate to strengthen and fill gaps in regional innovation capabilities. "The absence of such institutions puts Britain at a disadvantage in supporting the high-quality industry clusters across the country that are crucial for productivity growth and reducing regional inequality."

Publication The Productivity Institute: <https://www.productivity.ac.uk/research/the-role-of-intermediate-research-development-and-innovation-institutes-in-building-regional-and-sectoral-innovation-capabilities/>

EIG: Foreign talent crucial for US innovation capacity (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

American policymakers pay too little attention to the role of foreign talent in their own innovation capacity and international competitive position. This can be read in an analysis by the Economic Innovation Group (EIG). Research shows that immigrants are (co-)authors in thirty percent of patent applications in strategic industries such as semiconductors, the automotive industry or IT. According to EIG, this makes them an indispensable factor in the innovation capacity of the US. However, according to the researchers, the policy to recruit talented people is outdated and therefore needs to be revised. The US is currently trying to catch up on various developments, for example by being less dependent on foreign countries in the development of chips, but EIG points out that it is also important that the US is at the forefront of crucial innovations in the future.

Analysis EIG: <https://eig.org/immigrants-patents/>

OECD: Policymakers must anticipate a green labor market (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

Policymakers must anticipate a changing labor market in which employees increasingly become active or have to switch to green jobs. The OECD writes this in a report. Education is mentioned as an important instrument, but also a labor market that promotes the redistribution of employees. In this light, the OECD states that a high level of employee protection could be counterproductive in this transition. "Strict protection of regular jobs could contribute to labor market segmentation, misallocation and mismatches [...] and the labor market's responsiveness to changes in economic conditions. This could create obstacles to labor market redistribution linked to green transition, especially for newcomers," it can be read. In this transition, policymakers should pay specific attention to groups and regions where the impact of the transition is greater. "This requires place-based policy interventions to guide the transition process at

community level. Successful past policy experiences can help governments develop tailor-made approaches to support an efficient and fair transition process in the labor market," it said.

OECD report: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/labour-markets-transitions-in-the-greening-economy_d8007e8f-en

UNESCO advocates global and equitable open science (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

The second UNESCO report takes a closer look at the role of open science in achieving the SDG goals. The growth of open science is found to be uneven across regions and research areas. "Gaps persist along the existing socio-economic, technological and digital divide between countries. A lack of equity in access to funding, skills and tools prevents open science from reaching its full potential," it said. "The transition to open science requires a shift in the culture of science. Only collective, collaborative and coordinated action and investments can accelerate the transition to a truly global, equitable open science." The report takes the first step in this regard.

UNESCO report: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000387324>

OECD policy proposals to anticipate a growing digital economy (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

In a periodic report on the state of the digital economy, the OECD makes various relevant policy proposals to anticipate the digital developments of the future. For example, it is important to measure the digitalization of the economy in order to design and implement timely government policy. The rise of AI must also be anticipated. Not only through regulations surrounding use, but also by ensuring sufficient computing power and policy to manage the environmental impact. Furthermore, policymakers should think about an ecosystem for connectivity now that many connections are no longer land-based. Think of drones, satellites and airplanes. In addition, the possibilities of digital innovation could be better utilized by making data and technology more widely accessible and making people more digitally skilled. The OECD figures show that in general the digital economy is growing much faster than the total economy. Both the Netherlands and Belgium score excellently. For 2023, Belgium will be in second place behind the UK, with a growth in the ICT sector of 11.52 percent over the past ten years. The Netherlands is in fifth place with 10.21 percent.

OECD report: <https://www.oecd.org/publication/digital-economy-outlook/2024/>

OECD: 12 pitfalls for innovation labs (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

In a background article, the OECD lists 12 pitfalls that can cause public innovation labs to fail. For the analysis, 137 cases from 37 countries were examined. This warns that attention is often paid to the solution rather than the problem. This may be due to unwanted pressure to deliver results. It is also called for to focus on 'a balanced portfolio' to avoid picking all kinds of low-hanging fruit and, above all, to achieve quick results. "Most change processes take time. To bring innovations to scale, it is reasonable to calculate a time period of ten to twelve years. Such time horizons are realistically outside the life cycle of a laboratory and teams should plan how they will handle referrals from the start ", it can be read. In this light, it is also important to think carefully about the long-term vision with sufficient capacity and resources.

Article OECD: <https://oecd-opsi.org/blog/12-fallacies-innovation-labs/>

National policy

Growing criticism of cutback plans for higher education and science (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

The KNAW and De Jonge Akademie are concerned about the cutback plans for higher education and science that are included in the main agreement. The organizations reported this in a joint statement. "KNAW and De Jonge Akademie ask the coalition partners to reconsider these cuts, which are not explained in the text of the main lines agreement. They are bad for higher education and science, and undermine the ambition to strengthen the knowledge economy," it can be read. KNAW chairman Marileen Dogterom and NWO and Knowledge Coalition chairman Marcel Levi wrote a joint opinion piece in NRC this week, in which they warn that the Netherlands is in danger of losing its leading position as an innovation country. Economists from Rabobank also published a critical publication this week. "The effects of the enormous cuts to education and innovation of 12.6 billion are not addressed in the CPB calculation of the Outline Agreement. This policy direction causes structural weakening of the Dutch economy," says RaboResearch. Calculations by Rabobank show that the cuts will lead to a lost prosperity gain of 27 billion euros up to and including 2040, according to the most conservative estimate.

News item KNAW: <https://www.knaw.nl/nieuws/bezuinigingsplannen-zijn-slecht-voor-hoger-onderwijs-en-wetenschap-nederland> (in Dutch)

Opinion piece NRC (Paywall): <https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2024/05/26/als-nederland-zijn-positie-als-innovatieland-wil-behouden-moet-het-nu-in-actie-komen-a4199980> (in Dutch)

Publication Rabobank: <https://www.rabobank.nl/kennis/s011428822-doorrekening-cpb-maskeert-verzwakking-van-nederlandse-economie> (in Dutch)

Save the date for the AWTI annual symposium (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

On September 26 from 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM, the AWTI will hold its annual symposium, with the theme 'Natural connection - Successful innovation with social sciences and humanities'. Science, technology and innovation connect us and take us further in this world. Technology in combination with social sciences and humanities (SSH) knowledge can help us innovate better and faster. We need to make much better use of SSH research in tackling social issues. The AWTI states this in the advice 'Natural connection. Anchor social sciences and humanities research in innovation' <https://www.awti.nl/documenten/adviezen/2024/03/25/advies-vanzelfsprekende-verbinding---veranker-sociaal-en-geesteswetenschappelijk-onderzoek-in-innovatie> (in Dutch).

What needs to be done for this? This question will be central during the symposium. The AWTI aims to connect, inspire and facilitate scientists from various disciplines, technicians, innovators, policymakers and other interested parties. So put September 26 in your calendar and keep an eye on the AWTI email alert for the registration link

Rathenau: Developments in science require recalibration of science policy (30 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 May 2024

New policy instruments are needed so that science policy is equipped for the science of the future. The Rathenau Institute states this in the report 'Knowledge of the Future'. The report looks at how four major developments influence the functioning of science: 1) **further digitalization and AI**; 2) **more focus on coordination and cooperation in the organization of science**; 3) **an increasing urgency of social challenges**; and 4) **changing international relations**. The Rathenau Institute also responds critically to the announced cuts to science in the Outline Agreement. "Science seems to have become a plaything for political expediency. This is risky, because science is of great importance to society, whether it concerns maintaining and promoting prosperity, knowledge and solutions for climate policy, or insights for quality of life. That is why science policy plans should be based on an analysis of the future of scientific research and the knowledge needs of the future," it reads.

Publication Rathenau Institute: <https://www.rathenau.nl/nl/werking-van-het-wetenschapssysteem/ontwikkelingen-de-wetenschap-vereisen-herijking-van-het> (in Dutch)

Cabinet responds positively to EU white paper on dual-use technologies (23 May 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 May 2024

The government is in favor of more coordinated attention to European technological leadership for critical technologies. This can be read in the government's appreciation of the European Commission's white paper on dual-use technologies. The government calls it essential that Dutch researchers and innovators can collaborate at the highest level worldwide through Horizon Europe. "That is why the government is in favor of the open character of Horizon Europe. The principle "open where possible, closed where necessary" is leading here," it can be read. Last week, the cabinet also answered written questions from the House about the appreciation.

Cabinet appreciation: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/247b5b46-7f6f-4c6a-9d7f-6955a2ee2856/file> (in Dutch)

Answering parliamentary questions: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/783f7d41-475d-40ff-be97-44000c6fa2c6/file> (in Dutch)

Minister Dijkgraaf regrets the cuts in science (22 May 2024)

Source: Website Science|Guide <https://www.scienceguide.nl/2024/05/minister-dijkgraaf-treurt-om-bezuinigingen-op-wetenschap/>

During a debate on knowledge security, Minister Dijkgraaf expressed his concerns about the cuts in science that the new coalition has in store. Dijkgraaf compared the situation to a peloton that is in the lead, but suddenly has to hit the brakes.



During the two-minute Knowledge Safety debate with outgoing Minister Dijkgraaf, the VVD proposed further expanding the Knowledge Safety desk, which was introduced a number of years ago. Researchers can now obtain expertise there if they have questions about knowledge security within existing or new collaborations. According to the VVD, the Knowledge Safety Desk can probably identify knowledge security risks more often than just in situations in which the desk is asked for advice. That is why the VVD considers it desirable to have the Knowledge Safety Desk also provide proactive, unsolicited advice to knowledge institutions.

Chinese PhD students are banned from sensitive research areas

In another motion from the VVD, it was pointed out that approximately two thousand Chinese PhD students in the Netherlands receive a so-called CSC grant. This means they will be required to sign contracts binding them to the Communist Party and report regularly to the Chinese embassy. Given the access of these researchers to sensitive knowledge that China is actively trying to obtain, and given the risk that they are put under pressure to share this knowledge with China, the VVD and NSC want to consult with knowledge institutions to ensure that new PhD students with a CSC grant will no longer have access to sensitive research areas.

Knowledge coalition concerned about Dutch knowledge and innovation position (17 May 2024)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/knowledge-coalition-concerned-about-dutch-knowledge-and-innovation-position>



The Knowledge Coalition is concerned about the position of the Netherlands as a knowledge and innovation country following the outline agreement of PVV, VVD, NSC and BBB. The proposed cuts to the Growth Fund, the Research and Science Fund and the sector plans (higher education) are detrimental to research, science and innovation and affect public R&D investment. 'As the Netherlands, we will fall further behind if we make these cuts in knowledge and innovation,' said Marcel Levi, chairman of the Knowledge Coalition, the partnership between entrepreneurs and scientists.

The outline agreement states that the Growth Fund will be phased out (round 4 and 5 will be cancelled), the Research and Science Fund will be reduced by EUR 1.1 billion and a cut of EUR 215 million per year will be made to the sector plans (higher education). These investments are urgently needed for the public knowledge base and innovation capacity of the Netherlands.

Not on track

It is hopeful that the coalition also speaks of 'strengthening the knowledge economy, innovation, and that (digital) infrastructure is prioritised'. But this is at odds with some proposed measures. The coalition wants to sharply reduce the number of international students and tighten and increase the requirements of the knowledge migrant scheme. This could affect the availability of highly educated talent for the labour market, and the Dutch knowledge economy. Possibly, companies will also invest less, thereby actually weakening the position of the Netherlands. Structural investments in research and science pay off handsomely, studies and reports show time and again.

The Netherlands has set itself the target of investing 3% of gross domestic product (GDP) in research and development (R&D) by 2030, but is not on track. With the proposed measures, the Netherlands may fall even further off course compared to a number of European countries, which invest at or even above this standard.

The Knowledge Coalition is keen to discuss the outline agreement with the new cabinet and also offers an outstretched hand for this purpose.

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/knowledge-coalition-concerned-about-dutch-knowledge-and-innovation-position>

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 31 May 2024

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2024-ADG ERC-2024-ADG	29 August 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC-2024-ADG Advanced Grants</i>)
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA2024-DN-01-01 MSCA Doctoral Networks 2024 TMA Doctoral Networks	Foreseen opening 29 May 2024 and foreseen deadline 27 November 2024 (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates	Foreseen opening 29 May 2024 and foreseen deadline 27 November 2024 (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates	Foreseen opening 29 May 2024 and foreseen deadline 27 November 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships - European	11 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships – European</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global	11 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships – Global</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01 MSCA Staff Exchanges 2024 Staff Exchanges	Foreseen opening September 2024 and foreseen deadline 5 February 2025 (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01 Staff Exchanges</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-COFUND- 01-01 <a href="https://marie-sklodowska-curie-
actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/cofund">https://marie-sklodowska- curie- actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/cofund	26 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-COFUND- 01-01</i>) <i>TMA Cofund postdoctoral and TMA Cofund doctoral</i>
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-INCO-01- 01 MSCA International Cooperation 2024 International cooperation	4 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2024-INCO-01- 01 International cooperation</i>)
Research Infrastructures	
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
Destination 1 – Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE- 09-01 European Partnership: One Health Anti-Microbial R European	25 September 2024 (<i>HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-09-01 European Partnership: One Health Anti-Microbial Resistance</i>)

Partnership: One Health Anti-Microbial Resistance	
Destination 2. Living and working in a health-promoting environment	
Destination 3. Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
<u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u>	
<u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u>	
Destination 1: CLIMATE NEUTRAL, CIRCULAR AND DIGITISED PRODUCTION	
HORIZON-CL4-2024-TWIN-TRANSITION-01-TWO-STAGE	7 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage) and 24 September 2024 (Second Stage) at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 2: INCREASED AUTONOMY IN KEY STRATEGIC VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT INDUSTRY	
HORIZON-CL4-2024-RESILIENCE-01-TWO-STAGE	7 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage) and 24 September 2024 (Second Stage) at 17.00 Brussels time
DESTINATION 3 - WORLD LEADING DATA AND COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES	
DESTINATION 4 – DIGITAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND FIT FOR THE GREEN DEAL	
DESTINATION 5 – DESTINATION – OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY IN DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING AND USING GLOBAL SPACE-BASED	

INFRASTRUCTURES, SERVICES, APPLICATIONS AND DATA	
DESTINATION 6 – A HUMAN-CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES	
CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility	
Destination - Climate sciences and responses	
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D2-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-03 Development of next generation synthetic renew and several other topics	Planned opening date 17 September 2024 Deadline date 21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-03 en several other topics</i>)
Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use	
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
<u>Cluster 6</u>	
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	

HORIZON-CL6-2024- BIODIV-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- FARM2FORK-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- CIRCBIO-02 2 stage	Foreseen deadline stage 1 22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- ZEROPOLLUTION-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 5 – Land, oceans and water for climate action	
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- COMMUNITIES-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
Mission calls 2024	
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CLIMA-01 Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-CLIMA-01</i>)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CANCER-01 Mission: Cancer	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-CANCER-01</i>)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01 Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01</i>)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01 Mission: 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030	16 January 2025 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01</i>)

HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-02 Mission: 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-02</i>)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01 Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe	8 October 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
WIDERA 2024	

Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDS etc.)

Overview of deadlines of most important public-public and public-private EC calls related to Horizon Europe based on information per 17 May 2024 for more details; go to EC Funding and Tenders opportunity Portal <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

Call identifier	Deadline
European Partnerships / ERANET-COFUND	
European Partnership Agroecology	<p>1ST CO-FUNDED CALL OF THE AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP "FOSTERING AGROECOLOGY AT FARM AND LANDSCAPE LEVELS" THE CALL IS OPEN</p> <p>THE RECORDINGS AND SLIDES OF THE WEBINAR CAN BE FOUND HERE: HTTPS://FZ-JUELICH.SCIEBO.DE/S/ITWWA2NDTC1KHGS</p> <p>For all call information: https://agroecology.ptj.de/call1 The deadline for pre-proposals is 26 April 2024 6, 14:00h CEST (CLOSED). The deadline for full proposal submission is 19 September 2024, 14:00h CEST.</p>
European Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare https://www.eupahw.eu/	<p>NEW: 1st co-funded call for proposals of the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (EUPAHW) "Supporting the Future of Animal Health and Welfare"</p> <p><u>Pre-proposal:</u> This first step is now open and will be closed on <u>July 8th, 2024, 15:00 h (CEST).</u></p> <p>Deadline for <u>full-proposal submission 4th February 2025, 14:00 CET</u> https://www.eupahw.eu/pdf/open-calls/call-01/call-01_EUPAHW%20Call%20Announcement_13.5.pdf EUPAHW submission webpage: https://eupahw.ptj.de/ EUPAHW webpage: www.EUPAHW.eu</p>
European Partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://www.bluepartnership.eu/	<p>Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) – Second Joint Transnational Co-Funded Call.</p> <p>Closing date for pre-registration 10 April 2024 15:00 hrs. (CLOSED)</p> <p>Closing date full application 6 November 2024 15:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20text%20-%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20Partnership_Def%20%282-24%29.pdf and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-second-joint-transnational-co-funded-call</p>
Joint Technology Initiatives	

Joint Programming Initiatives	
JPI OCEANS https://jpi-oceans.eu/en/about	<p>new JPI Oceans Joint Call on the ecological aspects of deep-sea mining Deadline for submitting pre-proposals - 01.03.2024 (CLOSED) Deadline for submitting full proposals - 30.09.2024</p> <p>View the call for proposals on the website of JPI Oceans: https://jpi-oceans.eu/en/announcement-new-jpi-oceans-joint-call-ecological-aspects-deep-sea-mining</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **31 May 2024**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
11-06-2024	Foreseen deadline proposals for NL-CGIAR SEP II on enhancing knowledge and innovation for global food and nutrition security . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-nl-cgiar-sep-ii-on-enhancing-knowledge-and-innovation-for-global-food-and-nutrition-security and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/netherlands-cgiar-research-programme and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/netherlands-nl-cgiar-research-programme/senior-expert-programma-sep-cgiar
19-09-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals 1ST CO-FUNDED CALL OF THE AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP "FOSTERING AGROECOLOGY AT FARM AND LANDSCAPE LEVELS" The deadline for full proposal submission is 2024 September 19, 14:00h CEST. https://agroecology.ptj.de/call1 and HTTPS://FZ-JUELICH.SCIEBO.DE/S/ITWWA2NDTC1KHGS
17-09-2024 and 19-09-2024	Deadline submission proposals for several LIFE calls 'Nature and biodiversity', 'Circular economy and quality of life', 'Climate change mitigation and adaptation and 'Clean energy transition' Deadline dates: 19 September 2024 and 17 September 2024 https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-calls-proposals-2024_en and https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/life-calls-proposals-2024-bring-your-green-dream-life-share-eu571-million-funding-2024-04-18_en
06-11-2024	Deadline for submission full applications Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) – Second Joint Transnational Co-Funded Call . Closing date full application 6 November 2024 15:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-second-joint-transnational-co-funded-call and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20text%20-%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20Partnership_Def%20%282-2-24%29.pdf and https://www.bluepartnership.eu/

Open until 23-11-2024	Deadline for collection proposal for Open COST Call 2024 . The next collection date will be 23 October 2024 at 12.00 (noon) CEST. The following collection date is expected in Autumn 2025. https://www.cost.eu/funding/open-call-a-simple-one-step-application-process/ and https://www.cost.eu/funding/documents-guidelines/
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National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **31 May 2024**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

04-06-2024	Deadline for submitting a grant application for Off-Road 2024 (ZonMw) . The applicant the applicant can submit the grant application until June 4, 2024, 14:00h CEST. a completed application form must be submitted via MyZonMw. https://www.zonmw.nl/en/news/road-call-opened and https://www.zonmw.nl/en/subsidie/off-road-2024#orientate-when and https://www.zonmw.nl/sites/zonmw/files/2024-04/Application-form-Off-Road-2024.docx and https://www.zonmw.nl/sites/zonmw/files/2024-04/Subsidieoproep-Off-Road-2024_English_0.pdf
06-06-2024	Deadline for submitting full-proposals Open Competition Domain Science-XL . The deadline for submitting full proposals is June 6, 2024, before 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-open-competition-domain-science-xl-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl
18-06-2024	Deadline for submitting an application The NWA call 'Behavioural insights for climate policy' The deadline for submitting an application is 18-06-2024, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-28-million-euros-available-for-new-nwa-call-behavioural-insights-for-climate-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/thematic-programming/behavioural-insights-for-climate-policy
02-07-2024	NEW: Deadline for submission full proposals Venture Challenge Fall 2024 . Closing date full application 2 July 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-application-round-venture-challenge-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/venture-challenge-fall-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Brochure%20Venture%20Challenge%20Fall%202024%20EN.pdf
Continuously applications until 31-07-2024	Deadline submission of proposals for NWO Open Competition Domain Science - M Applications for the current round (2023/2024) can therefore be submitted until 31 July 2024 at the latest, as long as the maximum number of 420 applications has not yet been reached. The new round, year 2024/2025, will be opened in August 2024, in which applications can again be submitted continuously. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2023/2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2023-24_EN_def.pdf
27-08-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2024 - round 2 The deadline for the first round is 19 March 2024. The deadline for the second round is 27 August 2024 and the deadline for the third round is 15 October 2024. Applications for the first round are now open. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-a-call-for-promising-ideas and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202024%20-%20EN.pdf
03-09-2024	Deadline submission proposals Rubicon 2024-2 ENW, SGW, TTW, ZonMw . The deadlines in 2024 are: March 26, September 3 and December 3. Once the call is open, a link appears at the bottom of this page. In 2024, the budget for each round is approximately 2.47 million euros??. https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/rubicon
05-09-2024	NEW: Deadline Final Applications BioBased Circular projects . The final application must be submitted no later than Thursday September 5, 2024, 5:00 PM. https://www.biobasedcircular.com/nieuws/eerste-oproep-voor-projecten-opent-op-19-maart/ and https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/missiegedreven-onderzoek-ontwikkeling-en-innovatie/biobased-circular and https://topsectoragrifood.nl/nieuws/eerste-oproep-voor-projecten-biobased-circular-geopend/
10-09-2024	Deadline for submission Full-proposals VICI round 2024 . Deadline developed applications September 10, 2024, 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vici-round-2024-open-for-pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme
18-09-2025	Deadline for submitting an application for PHASE 3 NWA-call for research on vulnerability and resilience in an online society . Phase 3: deadline for submitting an application is on September 18 2025, 14:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/publication-call-research-vulnerability-and-resilience-online-society and

	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/thematic-programming/synergy-theme-vulnerability-and-resilience-online-society
24-09-2024	NEW: Deadline for submission pre-proposals NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' The deadline for the submission of pre-proposals is Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-285-million-euros-available-for-the-nwa-call-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/def_-_cfp-sociale_dynamielen_in_de_energietransitie_-_nwa_sjabloon_-_nl.pdf
24-09-2024	Deadline for submission of full applications for NWO call for Large-scale Scientific Infrastructure . Submission applications: September 24, 2024. https://www.nwo.nl/onderzoeksprogrammas/nationale-roadmap-grootschalige-wetenschappelijke-infrastructuur and file:///C:/Users/jonge026/Downloads/NWO-GWINC%202024%20537%20call%20for%20proposals%202024.pdf Please contact Shared Research Facilities (SRF, mascha.rasenberg@wur.nl) if you are coordinating a proposal or are part of a consortium submitting a proposal. SRF coordinates the internal submission procedure including the needed approval of our Executive Board.
01-10-2024	Deadline for submission full proposals Dutch Research Agenda - Research along Routes by Consortia 2024 (NWA-ORC 2024) Closing date full application 1 October 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2024-now-open and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2024-nwa-orc-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_orc_2024_eng.pdf
01-10-2024	Deadline submission full proposals KIC call 'Antimicrobials for the preclinical pipeline' . The deadline for submitting applications is 1 Oktober 2024, before 14:00:00 CEST https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-for-research-on-antimicrobials and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-antimicrobials-for-the-preclinical-pipeline and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWO-VWS%20partnerschap%20calltekst_EN_final.pdf
08-10-2024	Deadline for submission of NGF AiNed XS Europe grants . Deadline proposals 8 October 2024 at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-ained-xs-europe and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-ained-xs-europe-24-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NGF%20AiNed%20XS%20Europe%20EN%202023-2024v1.pdf
05-11-2024	Deadline for submission full-applications third call PhD scholarship programme Mosaic 2.0 . The deadline for submitting applications: 5 November, at 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/now-open-call-third-grant-round-mosaic-20 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/mosaic-20-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals_Moza%C3%AFek%202.0%202024%20DEF_0.pdf
From 15-11-2023 until 15-11-2024	Deadline for submitting applications for Thematic Digital Competence Centers Integrated approach for digitalization in science Applications can be submitted from November 15, 2023 until November 15, 2024 at 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-thematic-digital-competence-centers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/thematic-digital-competence-centers
15-11-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2024 - round 3 The deadline for the first round is 19 March 2024 . The deadline for the second round is 27 August 2024 and the deadline for the third round is 15 October 2024 . Applications for the first round are now open. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-a-call-for-promising-ideas and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202024%20-%20EN.pdf
28-11-2024	Deadline for submission Full-proposals The call 'Smart Materials: From responsive to adaptive' within the Knowledge and Innovation Covenant (KIC) The deadline for submitting proposals is 28 November 2024, at 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-for-new-adaptive-materials-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/smart-materials-van-responsief-naar-adaptief and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/screened-English%20version%20of%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20Smart%20Materials%20FINAL_11-12-2023_DEF.pdf
30-11-2024	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Biodiversity informed decision making in Agri-Horti-Water-Food sectors 2024 . Closing date full application 30

	November 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-biodiversity-informed-decision-making-in-agri-horti-water-food-sectors-2024
03-12-2024	Deadline submission proposals Rubicon 2024-3 ENW, SGW, TTW, ZonMw . The deadlines in 2024 are: March 26, September 3 and December 3 . Once the call is open, a link appears at the bottom of this page. In 2024, the budget for each round is approximately 2.47 million euros??. https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/rubicon
Applications from 15-01-2024 until 13-12-2024	Deadline for submission proposals for NWO call for Open Technology Program 2024 . Applications can be submitted from January 15, 2024 to December 13, 2024 via ISAAC, NWO's digital application and reporting system. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-opening-open-technology-programme-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-technology-programme-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-technology-programme/2024-change-of-support-letter
13-12-2024	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Nature-based solutions for sustainable climate control of buildings . Closing date full application 13 December 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-based-solutions-for-sustainable-climate-control-of-buildings
30-01-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Value(s) in transition(s) 2024 . Closing date full application 30 January 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-values-in-transitions-2024
30-01-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - High performance materials for Defence and Security 2024 . Closing date full application 30 January 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-high-performance-materials-for-defence-and-security-2024
27-02-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Call Digital Identities - a foundation for trust in the digital world . Closing date full application 27 February 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-call-digital-identities-a-foundation-for-trust-in-the-digital-world
31-03-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full proposals KIC - Future Plastics 2024 . Closing date full application 31 March 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024
22-04-2025	NEW : Deadline for submission applications NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy transition. From practice to theory' . The deadline for the submission of applications is Tuesday 22 April 2025 at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-285-million-euros-available-for-the-nwa-call-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/def_-_cfp-sociale_dynamieken_in_de_energietransitie_-_nwa_sjabloon_-_nl.pdf

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on 31 May 2024. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-02-2024 to 31-01-2025	Opening for submission of innovation projects ERDF East! The European subsidy program ERDF East 2021-2027 . You can submit your application from February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2025 (as long as a budget is available). https://www.efro-oost.eu/innovatieprojecten
From 01-03-2024 to 31-01-2025	Opening for submission of Testing and demonstration facilities ERDF East! The European subsidy program ERDF East 2021-2027 . You can submit your application from March 1, 2024 to January 31, 2025 (as long as a budget is available). https://www.efro-oost.eu/test-en-demonstratieprojecten-2024
From 15-05-2024 to 30-10-2024	Opening for submissions proposals Vinnovate-pilot EFRO East Netherlands . East Netherlands has made €500,000 available from the ERDF budget for Vinnovate. The resources will be made available in a tender arrangement from May 15 (9 a.m.) to October 30, 2024. https://www.efro-oost.eu/nieuws/innovatieve-grensoverschrijdende-samenwerking-van-start and https://www.efro-oost.eu/aanvragen and https://www.efro-oost.eu/v-innovate-pilot-2024
From 19-02 to 12-03-2024	Opening 1 for proposals OP-Zuid from February 19, 9:00 AM to April 12, 2024, 5:00 PM . A budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equally divided into a smarter Europe and a greener Europe. A total of 50 million euros will be available in 2024.

	https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/ and https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/
From 16-09-2024 to 01-11-2024	Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1, 2024 5:00 PM. A budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equally divided into a smarter Europe and a greener Europe. A total of 50 million euros will be available in 2024. https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/ and https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/

About the Wageningen Grant Office

Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) is a team of WUR-wide experts specialized to support the participation of WUR in funding programmes at national, European and global level. WGO provides information and advice about relevant funding opportunities and about effective and efficient applications for funding. The WGO consists of a specialized expert team with advisors from the EU office, Corporate Strategy & Accounts Department and Liaison officers from different Science groups. The specialized team provides technical and personalized advice on specific funding programmes and themes and closely collaborates with the Liaison offices - the first line support services - within the Science Groups. WGO focusses its support on Horizon Europe (**Pillar 1**: ERC, MSCA, Research Infrastructure; **Pillar 2**: Clusters, missions and partnerships; **Pillar 3**: EIC; WIDENING and on support on NWO vernieuwingsimpuls, NWO Open Competition Programme and NWO Open technology programme.

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