



UK back on top of ERC advanced grant winners table (17 June 2025)	7
ERC backs cutting-edge research with €721 million in funding (17 June 2025)	7
<b>European Funding News: FP10</b>	<b>9</b>
Joint paper   European R&I networks call for a complementary FP10 and European Competitiveness Fund (3 July 2025)	9
Denmark hopes to make 'great progress' on FP10 negotiations (3 July 2025)	9
EU should double, if not triple, the EIC budget, Zaharieva says (27 June 2025)	10
New STOA report urges strategic rethink of EU research Framework Programme (26 June 2026)	11
Science Business: European Research Council wants to become an independent EU body (26 June 2025))	12
EU and Canada discuss 'potential' FP10 association (25 June 2025)	12
Horizon Europe forever: EU research programme brand set to roll over in 2028 (19 June 2025)	12
FOODforce published it's FP10 Position paper 'Accelerating Research and Innovation to Foster Resilience and Transformative Change in the EU Food System' (6 June 3035)	13
<b>Other International funding</b>	<b>14</b>
Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions (2 July 2025)	14
Upcoming call Biodiversa+: Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity and connectivity (1 July 2025)	15
Eurostars call for projects- September 2025 (25 June 2025)	15
70 new COST Actions now online: apply to join (12 June 2025)	16
<b>National funding</b>	<b>17</b>
From disinformation to memory traces: lots of variety in 59 new research projects (4 July 2025)	17
Fourteen consortia receive funding in the NWA ORC round 2024 (2 July 2025)	17
Spinoza and Stevin Prizes awarded to four outstanding researchers (27 June 2025)	19
NWA call 'Future-proof large rivers in the Netherlands' open for applications (25 June 2025)	19
Veni round 2025 now open for pre-proposals (24 June 2025)	20
From nanoplastics to sustainable pension funds: three research consortia launch diverse public-private research projects (23 June 2025)	21
Open Mind: seven outside the box research ideas awarded (19 June 2025)	22
Take-off autumn round 2025 opened for proposals with new assessment procedure phase 1 feasibility studies (18 June 2025)	22
Call open: opportunities and value chains for residual flows in the protein transition 16 June 2025)	23
From mixed-species forests to motor skills: Doctoral Grant for Teachers shows broad scientific spectrum (10 June 2025)	24
Call open: Cellular Agriculture, towards larger scale and lower costs (10 June 2025)	25
<b>Regional funding</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Internal Wageningen University and Research calls</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Latest developments within R&amp;I Policies</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>European Policy</b>	<b>29</b>
Commission launches new strategy to make Europe a global leader in life sciences by 2030 (2 July 2025)	29
Europeans consider tackling climate change a priority and support energy independence (30 June 2025)	30
Switzerland and EU sign new declaration smoothing path to formal Horizon Europe association (26 June 2025)	30
Think tank: Chinese innovation ecosystem creates risks for European companies (26 June 2025)	31
New EU Ocean Pact will direct around €330M into research and science (26 June 2025)	31
Analysis: Von der Leyen embraces science (25 June 2025)	32
Programme of the Danish EU Presidency (25 June 2025)	33
EU looks to strengthen research collaboration with ASEAN countries (25 June 2025)	34
"STEP strengthens EU competitiveness" (23 June 2025)	34
EU launches Science4EU campaign (20 June 2025)	35
EU investments in R&I are too low and too fragmented (16 June 2025)	35
<b>Global policy</b>	<b>37</b>
Think tank: Underfunding threatens to undermine US innovation (3 July 2025)	37
World Economic Forum publishes annual top ten emerging technologies (26 June 2025)	37
McKinsey outlines potential of AI on innovation (26 June 2026)	37
OECD: More research should increase awareness of AI (im)possibilities (26 June 2025)	37
China is chasing top scientific talent with large-scale recruitment programs (19 June 2025)	38
<b>National policy</b>	<b>39</b>
Top sectors call on politicians: 'Choose innovation' (3 July 2025)	39
Science Business: Horizon Europe receives large calls to support Clean Industrial Deal (26 June 2025)	39
TNO maps potential disruptive energy technologies in the long term (26 June 2025)	39
Interview Bruins: 'Give the next education minister less power' (26 June 2025)	39

<u>Universities concerned about Knowledge Security Screening Act (19 June 2025)</u>	40
<u>Bruins and sector want to update the Knowledge Security Guideline this year (19 June 2025)</u>	40
<b>Call deadlines</b>	<b>41</b>
<u>HORIZON Europe calls</u>	41
<u>Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDs etc.)</u>	46
<u>Other international calls</u>	47
<u>National calls</u>	48
<u>Regional calls</u>	51
<b>About the Wageningen Grant Office</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Contacts</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Disclaimer</b>	<b>54</b>
<u>WUR is serious about data</u>	54

## Latest Funding News

### European Funding News: Horizon Europe

#### *Knowledge field positive about incoming Danish EU presidency (3 July 2025)*

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 July 2025

The research community reacts positively to Denmark's work programme for the EU presidency that started on 1 July, writes Science Business. The programme focuses on security, competitiveness and the role of research and innovation. The Danes want a strong framework for research and cooperation between public and private parties to reduce the innovation gap with global competitors. Research organisations hope that Denmark will take important steps during the presidency in the preparation of the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10) and the European Research Area (ERA) Act.

**Article Science Business:** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/research-sector-has-high-hopes-danish-council-presidency>

#### *Go Abroad and Learn from Peers in Research and Innovation! Check out the MSCA Staff Exchanges Programme (3 July 2025)*

Source: Website Funding and tenders Portal EC <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/news/30371>



Ever wondered how to boost your scientific skills and expertise through collaborative projects? We have good news for you!

**The applications for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Staff Exchanges 2025** are now open

[https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions/msca-staff-exchanges\\_en!](https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions/msca-staff-exchanges_en!)

If you are a staff member involved in research and innovation activities, you can benefit from a short-term and inter-sectorial staff exchange in Europe and beyond.

Watch the Info Day recording for more details <https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/msca-staff-exchanges-info-day-2025-alicante-2025-06-05>

**And learn how to apply!** <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/msca-opens-eu977m-call-for-staff-exchanges>

**Deadline: 8 October 2025**

## Commission to pre-publish all draft Horizon Europe work programmes (1 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/horizon-europe/commission-pre-publish-all-draft-horizon-europe-work-programmes>

**In a win for transparency, plans for EU research calls will now be made available to all throughout the months-long drafting process**



Photo credits: [LIBER Europe](#) / Flickr

**The European Commission will make Horizon Europe work programmes drafts publicly available to all researchers during the drafting process this year.**

“The Commission is committed to making the work programme even more transparent and accessible to all stakeholders,” confirmed Commission spokesman Thomas Regnier. “This is why draft versions of the work programme 2026-27 are being made public and accessible through the comitology register.”

This is a significant, much-awaited win for transparency in EU research. “We have been calling for more transparency around draft work programmes for a long time, so we really welcome this move,” said Kamila Kozirog, deputy director of research and innovation at the European University Association.

The work programmes, which detail Horizon calls for proposals, their scope and budgets, take months to draft and involve extensive consultations with policymakers, stakeholders and member state officials. During this process, thousands of pages of these draft documents leak from the Commission, most often into the hands of those closest to the policymaking process.

This creates inequalities, as those with early access have more time to assemble consortia and prepare winning proposals for Horizon funding.

Sebastian Claus, team lead for EU project management at KoWi, Germany's information hub for European research funding, welcomed the move as a step towards more transparency and equal opportunity.

“Those who have information about the calls for proposals and their topics in advance therefore have a clear advantage and have more time to prepare a good application than others,” he told Science|Business.

Christine Balch, head of European affairs at TNO, the Netherlands' applied research organisation, said the early publication of draft programmes may even lead to better quality proposals.

Communicating plans early “gives them more time to find the right expertise, the right partners, industry, especially SMEs. This can only be beneficial for the quality of the proposal, the project and eventually increase the impact of the research,” she said.

All drafts will be made available on the **Commission's comitology register**

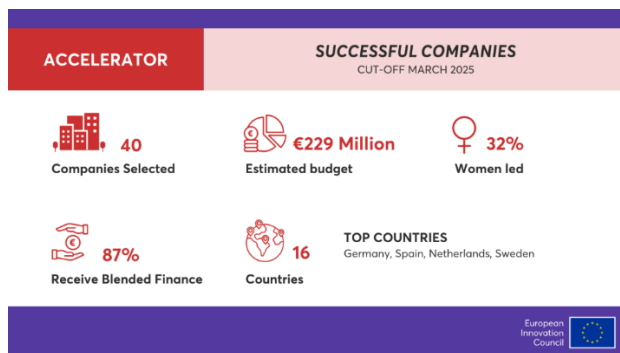
<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/comitology-register/screen/home?lang=en>. Even so, they are difficult to find, since

they are filed under meeting documents for the various Horizon programme committees. To find them, enter “Programme Committee for the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation” in the search bar. With a bit of looking, the drafts can be found in the meeting notes of the various committees. For example, here <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/comitology-register/screen/documents/107987/2/consult?lang=en> is the **latest draft for Cluster 4**, and

here <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/comitology-register/screen/documents/107811/2/consult?lang=en> you can find the **draft for Cluster 5**.

## From health to space: 40 start-ups secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator (30 June 2025)

Source: Website [https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/health-space-40-start-ups-secure-eic-support-latest-round-eic-accelerator-2025-06-30\\_en](https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/health-space-40-start-ups-secure-eic-support-latest-round-eic-accelerator-2025-06-30_en)



**The European Innovation Council (EIC) has selected 40 innovative start-ups and SMEs to receive funding following its latest evaluation round. Out of 150 proposals that reached the interview stage, these companies were chosen for their transformative technologies and strong commercial promise, securing a mix of grant and equity support.**

The total proposed funding amounts to almost €230\* million, with 87% of beneficiaries receiving blended finance—a combination of grants and equity investment—while others secured either grant-only or equity-only support. Notably, 32% of the selected companies are led by women in key leadership roles such as CEO, CTO, or CSO, marking a step forward for gender diversity in deep tech and innovation.

The selected companies represent 16 EU and associated countries, with the highest number of selected companies coming from Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, and Sweden.

The grant agreements for most selected companies are expected to be finalised within the next three months. Equity investments will follow based on each company's individual development and funding strategy. Managed by the EIC Fund – the EU's flagship deep-tech investment vehicle – the equity component often draws substantial additional capital from private investors, frequently leveraging the EIC's contribution by a factor of three or more.

**For more information:** [https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/health-space-40-start-ups-secure-eic-support-latest-round-eic-accelerator-2025-06-30\\_en](https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/health-space-40-start-ups-secure-eic-support-latest-round-eic-accelerator-2025-06-30_en)

## ***Call for university alliances not to politically steer the MSCA Programme (26 June 2026))***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**The European Commission should maintain the exclusive bottom-up nature of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Programme.** This is argued by a group of university alliances in a joint call. The proposal for the European Commission's 2026-2027 work programme includes a proposal to provide more guidance by focusing calls on predefined research areas that are in line with the EU's strategic priorities. The umbrella organisations find this proposal 'very worrying'. "Scientific excellence is not limited to predefined disciplines and monodisciplinary research. Europe's long-term competitiveness depends on sustained investment in all areas of knowledge and interdisciplinary research", it says. The umbrella organisations argue that in practice the programme often already focuses on strategic research areas before these are seen as political priorities. For example, they point to the number of projects in the field of AI and quantum technology that have been running for a long time.

**News item LERU:** <https://www.leru.org/news/no-directionality-in-msca>

## ***European Knowledge Field Calls on EU to Protect Academic Freedom (26 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

A group of European organisations from the knowledge field is calling on the EU to defend academic freedom and protect researchers at risk. The organisations are advocating, among other things, for a permanent European fellowship programme for researchers at risk, aimed at long-term and country-independent support. Such a programme could be integrated into the new Choose Europe for Science initiative of the European Commission.

**Press release Scholars at Risk:** <https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/category/news/press-releases/>

**News release EUA:** <https://www.eua.eu/news/eua-news/europe-must-champion-academic-freedom-and-protect-academics-at-risk.html>

**Joint call:** <https://sareurope.eu/call-to-europe-to-champion-academic-freedom-and-protect-academics-at-risk/>

## University alliances call for more even deadlines in Horizon Europe (19 June 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 19 June 2025

**University alliances CESAER and The Guild are calling on the European Commission and Member States to spread deadlines in Horizon Europe more evenly throughout the year.** According to a joint statement, the accumulation of deadlines in September 2025 is putting researchers under great pressure and hampering the quality of proposals. The current clustering is the result of delayed decision-making on the work programme and changing policy priorities, which makes it difficult for smaller institutions in particular to provide sufficient support to researchers. "It is essential for the programme's principle of excellence that all institutions, regardless of their location and size, can provide their researchers with the best support, so that they can focus on presenting their best ideas in their application. Spreading deadlines is therefore essential," says Jan Palmowski, Secretary General of The Guild.

**News item The Guild:** <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/news/2025/call-for-widely-spread-horizon-europe-call-deadlin.html>

**News item CESAER:** <https://www.cesaer.org/news/joint-statement-call-for-widely-spread-horizon-europe-call-deadlines-respecting-era-engagements-towards-research-managers-1976/>

## UK back on top of ERC advanced grant winners table (17 June 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-council/uk-back-top-erc-advanced-grant-winners-table>

**After associating to Horizon Europe, UK-based scientists have re-established their dominance in the prestigious basic research funding scheme**



Photo credits: Markus Spiske / Unsplash

The ERC has announced this year's winners of its advanced grants, and the UK has regained its top spot after years of Brexit-related uncertainty, which discouraged researchers from applying.

UK-based academics won 56 of the awards, worth up to €2.5 million over five years. Germany won 35, followed by Italy (25), the Netherlands (24) and France (23). But only 26 UK nationals won awards, a sign of how good the country is at attracting foreign talent.

**Overall, the success rate for applications was just 11%, down from 13.9% last year.**

The results mark a return to winning ways for the UK, which topped the list for the 2020 advanced grant awards <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/erc-2020-adg-statistics.pdf>, only to be entirely excluded the following year <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2022-12/erc-2021-adg-results-reserve-list-statistics.pdf> as Brexit-based wrangling prevented UK academics from applying.

**Read full article here:** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-council/uk-back-top-erc-advanced-grant-winners-table>

## ERC backs cutting-edge research with €721 million in funding (17 June 2025)

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

**The European Research Council (ERC) today announced the winners of its latest Advanced Grant competition. The funding, worth in total €721 million, will go to 281 leading researchers across Europe.** The Advanced Grant competition is one of the most prestigious and competitive funding schemes in the EU. It gives senior researchers the opportunity to pursue ambitious, curiosity-driven projects that could lead to major scientific breakthroughs. The new grants are part of the EU's Horizon Europe programme.



### **Projects selected for funding**

The new grantees' work will cover a wide range of subjects; from developing a preventive vaccine for hereditary breast cancer, and investigating how diet and exercise affect brain cells related to ageing, to creating AI digital twins that mirror and enhance human thought and social skills, and exploring the hidden oceans on Jupiter's and Saturn's moons.

### **Facts and figures**

The new grantees will be based at universities and research centres in 23 EU Member States and associated countries, notably in the UK (56 grants), Germany (35), Italy (25), the Netherlands (24), and France (23). Among the winners are 45 Germans, 37 Italians, 26 Britons and 22 French, as well as researchers of 28 other nationalities.

This competition attracted 2,534 proposals, which were reviewed by panels of internationally renowned researchers. Over eleven percent of proposals were selected for funding. Estimates show that the grants will create approximately 2,700 jobs in the teams of new grantees.

See more statistics <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-06/erc-2024-adg-statistics.pdf> and the **full list of winners** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-06/erc-2024-adg-results-all-domains.pdf>.

### **Next Advanced Grants call – 2025 round**

Interested in applying for an ERC Advanced Grant? The 2025 funding round is now open for applications, with the deadline set for 28 August 2025.

On top of its standard grants, the ERC offers additional funding to help new grantees establish their laboratories or research team etc. This funding is now being doubled from up to €1 million to up to €2 million for researchers who relocate from elsewhere to EU member states or countries associated with Horizon Europe (see the updated [work programme](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp_horizon-erc-2025_en.pdf) - page 18 [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp\\_horizon-erc-2025\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp_horizon-erc-2025_en.pdf)). This will apply already to the ERC 2025 Advanced Grant competition.

The increased funding aims to further help top scientists from around the world by easing their transition and establishment in Europe. **Read more** <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/increased-erc-funding-top-global-researchers-moving-europe-now-confirmed>.

**Read full press release here:** <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/erc-2024-advanced-grants-results>



## European Funding News: FP10

### *Joint paper | European R&I networks call for a complementary FP10 and European Competitiveness Fund (3 July 2025)*

Source: Website The Guild <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/news/2025/european-networks-call-for-a-complementary-fp10.html>

The Guild and LERU, supported by UNICA Network, ISE and EASSH, **have published** <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/news/2025/european-networks-call-for-a-complementary-fp10.html> a set of recommendations to tightly connect the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) to the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10). The paper aims to implement the declarations made by European Commission (EC) President Ursula von der Leyen.

The Guild, LERU and other research and innovation networks urge for FP10 and the ECF to be developed as two clearly distinct EU instruments both legally and financially since they will aim for and fund different activities, mobilize different funding instruments with different rules, and have (at least partly) different beneficiaries.

Although distinct, they should also be complementary: FP10 should have a clear focus on funding R&I, and R&I only, while the ECF should facilitate deployment and commercialization of these R&I activities. To guarantee that both EU instruments connect where deemed most useful, the signatories recommend the development of a number of clear linkages between FP10 and the ECF, including challenge managers. These experts will identify the most promising innovations for Europe's competitiveness and ensure that they receive support from ideation up to their scaling-up from FP10 and the ECF, as relevant. As part of the simplification efforts, we also identify instruments that should be discontinued (at least under FP10) because of their lack of effectiveness.

While complementarity between FP10 and the ECF will be crucial, this should not lead to a pure instrumentalization of R&I for competitiveness and industrial policy objectives. The paper highlights why it is necessary, also for Europe's competitiveness, that bottom-up instruments like the European Research Council (ERC), the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA) and some parts of the European Innovation Council (EIC), maintain their purely curiosity-driven nature. Any directionality in these instruments must be avoided. The paper also makes a strong plea for maintaining and reinforcing funding for pre-competitive, collaborative R&I in FP10, geared towards industrial competitiveness but also towards societal progress. We need to mobilize all disciplinary perspectives to maximize our capacity to support society and address its critical challenges.

**Read joint paper here:** [https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/position-papers/joint-paper-on-fp10\\_final.pdf](https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/position-papers/joint-paper-on-fp10_final.pdf)

### *Denmark hopes to make 'great progress' on FP10 negotiations (3 July 2025)*

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/denmark-hopes-make-great-progress-fp10-negotiations>

**Science and innovation are critical to EU competitiveness and security, Denmark's science minister Christina Egelund tells Science|Business**



*Danish Minister for Higher Education and Science Christina Egelund. Photo credits: Denmark's Ministry of Higher Education and Science*

The Danish presidency of the EU Council has an opportunity to make “great progress” on negotiations for FP10, the next Framework Programme for research and innovation, according to Christina Egelund, Denmark’s minister for higher education and science.

The structure of Horizon Europe’s successor and its links to the future European Competitiveness Fund will both be on the negotiating table during the six-month presidency, which kicked off on July 1, Egelund said in an interview with Science|Business.

She hopes this process will “shape a Framework Programme that enables science and innovation to support European competitiveness and strategic autonomy,” addressing priorities including security, growth and sustainability. The European Commission is due to present its proposal for the next long-term EU budget, including the Competitiveness Fund and the successor programme to Horizon Europe, on July 16. Ministers will waste no time in starting discussions, gathering in Copenhagen for an informal meeting on July 16-17.

Denmark’s broad aim is to “create the right conditions for European research and innovation, including covering the innovation gaps we have as a continent in comparison to the US and China,” Egelund said, referencing recent high-level reports by two former Italian prime ministers, Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi. Among the weaknesses that must be addressed are “gaps in the finance chain that we see in European research.”

“Europe stands at a crucial moment in history, and I believe you cannot underestimate the role science and innovation has in making Europe stronger, more competitive, [and] in ensuring our security and strategic autonomy,” Egelund said. She argues the world has entered a new era of technological competition which “has some similarities to the technology race we knew during the Cold War.”

**A key focus of the Danish presidency** will therefore be developing critical technologies, such as quantum, AI, space, biotech and other sectors, that are of strategic importance for Europe. In particular, ministers will discuss the strategies on quantum and **the life sciences**, published by the Commission on July 2.

## ***EU should double, if not triple, the EIC budget, Zaharieva says (27 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-innovation-council/eu-should-double-if-not-triple-eic-budget-zaharieva-says>

**A much larger budget could help the innovation funder churn out more breakthrough technologies and bring them to the market**



*Ekaterina Zaharieva, commissioner for Start-ups, Research and Innovation, speaking on the EU start-up and scale-up strategy. Photo credits: Denis Lomme / European Union*

**The European Commission hopes to at least double the budget of the European Innovation Council (EIC), if not triple it, when the agency can only finance 4% of the projects it receives, research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva told MEPs on Thursday.**

“We are going to expand the European Innovation Council, hopefully to minimum double the budget,” Zaharieva said at a meeting of the European Parliament’s industry and research committee (ITRE). “I think we even have to triple the budget for innovation because now it’s really unbalanced – the third pillar is very small.”

The EIC was launched to help start-ups and small businesses scale up breakthrough technologies and innovations. It currently has a budget of €10 billion out of the nearly €14 billion allocated to the third pillar of Horizon Europe over the 2021-2027 period. This represents less than 15% of the total funding for the research Framework Programme. On the other hand, the first and second pillars have dedicated budgets of €25 billion and €53.5 billion, respectively. Zaharieva said that the success rate of EIC project submissions was too low, at 4%, and that more money was needed to finance “the excellent projects” that it receives. Her team is working on a proposal to provide the EU’s funding body with “a budget that will fit the purpose [of making] Europe the best place to do innovation,” she told MEPs.

This statement comes after months of speculation over the structure and budget of FP10, <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/fp10-structure-be-announced-july-eu-financial-plan> .

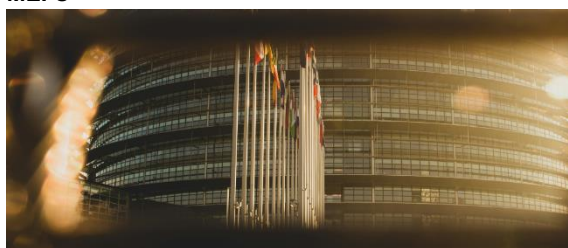
In March, the EIC joined forces with the European Research Council and asked for budget increases. MEPs and research lobbies have also insisted that FP10 has a ringfenced budget of at least €200 billion in the next multiannual budget of the EU, due to start in 2028.

Zaharieva has however indicated that more than doubling the next Framework Programme was an “unrealistic” demand <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-budget/requests-eu220b-fp10-budget-not-realistic-zaharieva-says>.

## ***New STOA report urges strategic rethink of EU research Framework Programme (26 June 2026)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/new-stoa-report-urges-strategic-rethink-eu-research-framework-programme>

**Greater efforts are needed to align EU research projects with the bloc’s strategic objectives, says report to MEPs**



*Photo credits: Jorgen Hendriksen / Unsplash*

**More effort must be made in the next EU Framework Programme to align research projects with the bloc’s strategic objectives, according to a report from STOA**

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2025/765780/EPRS\\_STU\(2025\)765780\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2025/765780/EPRS_STU(2025)765780_EN.pdf), the European Parliament’s science and technology advisory panel.

“The current and expected socio-economic and environmental pressures [ . . . ] can be seen as a wake-up call that requires re-orientation of established, inert research and innovation structures,” the report says.

Horizon Europe and its predecessors have relied on soft measures to produce a gradual alignment between projects and policies.

“The lack of structural mechanisms to drive long-term systemic change required for transitions such as the Green Deal, digital transformation, and resilience-building suggests that an evolutionary approach alone may fall short,” the report says. At the same time, the report’s authors acknowledge that this change in direction will not go down well with the research community.

“On the one hand, our analysis [ . . . ] shows that incremental change may no longer be sufficient,” said Kleitia Zeqo, a consultant with Technopolis Group and one of the report’s authors. “On the other hand, stakeholders understandably tend to prefer continuity and stability, having built experience and trust within the current system.”

“The challenge, then, is to design change that feels evolutionary in process but is transformative in impact,” she told Science|Business.

Measures that could be taken include reducing programme’s administrative complexity, and its thematic and funding fragmentation, through a greater harmonisation of the rules, a clearer architecture and better interoperability with national systems.

This should help to bridge the gap between research and real-world application, and provide stronger support to small businesses and emerging actors to scale up. Meanwhile, basic research can remain central in FP10, she said.

The report thinks that some EU member states have already taken this challenge on board. Their research and innovation programmes have evolved to prioritise agility, risk-taking, strategic investments and a stronger alignment of research with societal needs. They now “reflect a growing recognition that traditional research funding mechanisms must evolve to support breakthrough innovation, foster commercialisation, and tackle urgent societal challenges,” it says. Germany’s Sprind innovation agency and France 2030 investment plan are given as examples.

The report is unlikely to influence the European Commission’s proposal for the next Framework Programme, which is due to be published in July. However, it’s conclusions may well be picked up by the Parliament’s research committee when it comes to consider the Commission’s proposal.

## ***Science Business: European Research Council wants to become an independent EU body (26 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**The European Research Council (ERC) believes that it should become independent from the European Commission and receive a stable long-term budget.** The ERC suggests this in a letter to the European Commission, writes Science Business. Although the letter is not public, ERC President Maria Leptin confirms the contents to Science Business. According to Leptin, independence enables the ERC to commit itself to excellent science, instead of the political priorities of the day.

**Article Science Business:** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-council/erc-makes-bid-become-permanent-standalone-eu-body>

## ***EU and Canada discuss 'potential' FP10 association (25 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/live-blog/horizon-blog-european-rd-policy-newsbytes-2025>

The EU and Canada have agreed to boost collaboration in advanced technologies by leveraging Canada's association to Horizon Europe and "exploring its potential participation in EU's 10th Framework Programme," according to a statement by the European Commission.

The EU's next research programme is set to start in 2028 and the Commission is planning to put forward a proposal for its contents and budget next month.

**Read the full statement here:** [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_25\\_1600](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_25_1600)

## ***Horizon Europe forever: EU research programme brand set to roll over in 2028 (19 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/horizon-europe/horizon-europe-forever-eu-research-programme-brand-set-roll-over-2028>

**Research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva tells Brussels audience that FP10 will keep the Horizon Europe name**



Photo credits: Artem Beliaikin / Unsplash

The next Framework Programme for research and innovation, informally known as FP10, looks set to keep the name Horizon Europe, according to comments by research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva after a speech on June 12. According to several sources present, Zaharieva said during a question and answer session that the Horizon Europe name would continue in the 2028-34 budget period. Her staff later refused to confirm her statement, even though it was made at a public event.

A Commission spokesperson said that no decisions had been formally taken yet on "the architecture of the next [multiannual EU budget]" but that research and innovation policy would have "a strong position" in it.

Previous Framework Programmes were numbered, up to FP7 in 2007-13, before branding kicked in with Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe.

### ***The research community is broadly supportive of keeping the name.***

"Horizon Europe is a strong and well-regarded name," said Boštjan Šinkovec, senior EU affairs advisor at the Slovenian Business and Research Association, one of the event organisers. He confirmed that Zaharieva said that FP10 would continue under the Horizon Europe name.

Jan Palmowski, secretary general of the Guild of Research-Intensive Universities, was also present and heard the comment. He pointed out that this explained the [ambiguous phrasing](#) in a recent speech by Commission president Ursula

von der Leyen, who had said “our Framework Programme Horizon Europe will stay as a self-standing programme.” She also expressed her willingness for “this success story to continue.”

Robert-Jan Smits, former president of the executive board at the Technical University of Eindhoven, was also supportive, saying that the name has become a “well-established” brand. “Furthermore, it is a way to avoid a lot of work and a huge discussion about a new name, whereby you will never be able to make everyone happy.”

### ***FOODforce published it's FP10 Position paper 'Accelerating Research and Innovation to Foster Resilience and Transformative Change in the EU Food System' (6 June 3035)***

Source: Website FOODforce <https://www.foodforcenetwork.eu/foodforce-position-paper-fp10/>

FOODforce is a network of 26 leading research centres and universities in Europe with a strong focus on research and innovation in food, nutrition, health and food system transformation. Our mission is to develop healthier, safer, affordable and more sustainable food for all, while strengthening the competitiveness of the European agrifood sector. Achieving this goal requires support for collaborative research and innovation programmes that bring together private sector, research, NGOs, consumers, public authorities and other stakeholders; therefore, these efforts should be at the centre of the 10th Framework Programme (FP10). **WUR is partner in this network for more than 20 years with Peter Jongebloed and Andrea Selejova (WFBR) as representatives.**

**FOODforce proposes the following four key recommendations for FP10 to secure the future of the EU food system:**

1. Prioritise Food Security in the FP10 Research and Innovation Agenda
2. Invest in Collaborative Research & Innovation
3. Advance Food Research
4. Boost Innovation and Competitiveness in the Food Sector

To read more about our rationale behind and proposed actions contributing to the key recommendations, please download a copy of the FOODforce Position paper below, including endorsements from European Technology Platform 'Food for Life' and EIT Food Protein Diversification Think Tank:

[https://www.foodforcenetwork.eu/app/download/14745049733/Position+Paper+FOODforce+\\_incl.+endorsements\\_May+2025.pdf?t=1748419498](https://www.foodforcenetwork.eu/app/download/14745049733/Position+Paper+FOODforce+_incl.+endorsements_May+2025.pdf?t=1748419498)

The paper is co-signed by the European Technology Platform Food for Life and the Protein Transition Think tank of EIT-FOOD, so there is also broad support from the FOOD industry. The paper has been presented and discussed with DG-RTD and DG-GROW.. and was well perceived.. other DG's will follow.

**For more information:** <https://www.foodforcenetwork.eu/foodforce-position-paper-fp10/> and <https://www.foodforcenetwork.eu/>



## Other International funding

### ***Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions (2 July 2025)***

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0>



**The European partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) has announced its fourth call. DUT aims to support transnational research projects addressing urban challenges to help cities in their transition towards a more sustainable economy and functioning. The DUT Call 2025 is expected to open on 1 September 2025.**

With DUT's integrated and transnational approach, global strategies for sustainable cities can be translated into local action. In this way the DUT partnership helps to create more inclusive, safe, resilient, climate-neutral and sustainable cities across Europe.

#### ***About DUT***

The DUT partnership aims to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas in which European citizens, communities and their environment thrive. The partnership focuses on projects in a global context and aims for a sustainable future. DUT builds upon the international network of JPI Urban Europe, co-initiated by NWO in 2008. Three calls within DUT have already been developed, this is the fourth call.

#### ***Aim of the call***

Many complex challenges of today and the future must be addressed within cities and by urban communities. Urban areas are the places where transformations are required to secure a sustainable future. The purpose of this call for proposals is thus to support transnational projects addressing these complex urban challenges and to help cities in their transition towards a more sustainable economy and functioning.

**In this call for proposals these challenges are grouped into three themes called 'Transition Pathways':**

1. Positive Energy Districts
2. The 15-minute City
3. Circular Urban Economies

Within this call researchers affiliated with a Dutch research institution can apply for funding. The call invites researchers to form transnational consortia. The total budget for this call is 4,000,000 euro, which is made available by NWO and the Dutch Ministry of Housing and Spatial Planning.

**The submission deadline for pre-proposals is 17 November 2025.**

**The submission deadline for Full proposals is 23 April 2026:**

Decision making on projects is expected in summer 2026.

**For more information:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0>

## Upcoming call Biodiversa+: Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity and connectivity (1 July 2025)

Source: Website Biodiversa+ <https://www.biodiversa.eu/research-funding/upcoming-calls/>

Biodiversa+ is pleased to announce that it will soon launch a new transnational joint research call co-funded by the European Commission on “Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity, and connectivity” (referred to as BiodivConnect).

This call, along with actions from the **Flagship Programme** <https://www.biodiversa.eu/about-us/flagship-programmes/> “Supporting protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem across land and sea,” aims to achieve one of **Biodiversa+’s strategic objectives** <https://www.biodiversa.eu/about-us/strategy/>: producing actionable knowledge for transformative change to halt and reverse biodiversity decline.

### Scope of the call

This call is focused on **fostering innovative research to be integrated into nature restoration practices for interconnected and well-functioning ecosystems and habitats**, with special consideration for **long-term sustainability and future-proofing of restoration efforts**, at scales from local to regional to cross-border and global, including their evaluation.

The call covers restoration efforts for biodiversity **in all types of ecosystems and habitats, in all regions of the world**, supporting high-quality research and innovation projects on biodiversity and ecosystem restoration with **holistic, systemic, and integrated approaches**.

Projects that will be proposed under this call can focus on a **wide range of aspects**, e.g.: different categories of indicators; multiple scales for restoration upscaling; ecological, socio-economic, and socio-cultural dimensions; and/or varying levels of environmental regulations and policies needing alignment.

Projects should support progress towards **international biodiversity commitments**, also beyond 2030, under the Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework, and relevant biodiversity policy objectives at different levels in Europe and globally.

### Call schedule

- The call is planned to officially launch on **9 September 2025**.
- A **two-step application procedure** will be used, with the pre-proposal submission deadline in early November 2025. After a first evaluation of pre-proposals, the deadline for submitting full proposals will be in early April 2026.

### SAVE THE DATE

An **information webinar** for potential applicants will be held on 11 September 2025, from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST. **Don’t miss the information webinar Register here:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3xiV3pBMRv2o4F\\_Ce9V7uQ#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3xiV3pBMRv2o4F_Ce9V7uQ#/registration)



For more information about call and the foreseen topics: <https://www.biodiversa.eu/research-funding/upcoming-calls/>

## Eurostars call for projects- September 2025 (25 June 2025)

Source: Website Eureka/Eurostars <https://eurekanetwork.org/opencalls/eurostars-september-2025/>

**Deadline: 4 September 2025 14:00 Brussels time**

**Apply from: 4 July 2025 Until: 4 September 2025 14:00 Brussels time**

Eurostars is part of the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs. **The partnership is co-funded by the European Union through Horizon Europe** [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe_en).

Eurostars is a funding instrument that supports innovative SMEs and project partners (large companies, universities, research organisations and other types of organisations) by funding international collaborative R&D and innovation projects. By participating, organisations can access public funding for international collaborative R&D projects in all fields.

To have a successful Eurostars application you must define your project idea, collaborate internationally sharing expertise and develop products, processes or services that can be easily commercialised.

You can submit your R&D and innovation project application between 4 July 2025 and 4 September 2025 at 14:00 CEST using our project platform ([myeurekaproject.org](https://myeurekaproject.org)).

Your project consortium must have an innovative SME in the leading role, but it can also include other types of organisations like large companies, universities, research organisations and more.

**Apply:** <https://eurekanetwork.org/not-ready/>

**For more information:** <https://eurekanetwork.org/opencalls/eurostars-september-2025/>

## **70 new COST Actions now online: apply to join (12 June 2025)**

Source: Website COST <https://www.cost.eu/join-ca24-cost-actions/>

Our 70 newly approved research networks are now available on the COST website by browsing our **dedicated COST Action section** <https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions-event/browse-actions/>. All new Actions begin with CA24 so it's easy to identify them.



### **Apply to join today!**

COST Actions are different to many other EU funded projects because it is possible to join and participate in one of our research networks once it has started, even if you were not involved at the proposal phase. This same logic applies throughout the entire lifespan of a COST Action. This is the openness of COST.

These new research networks cover topics as far and wide as psychedelics in clinical practice to born-digital art conservation, monitoring permafrost, and testing fundamental physics with seismology. Have you seen a new network that is of interest? Apply to join one of its Working Groups or even become a Management Committee (MC) member.

### **Additional information**

**News on the 70 newly approved CA24 COST Actions:** <https://www.cost.eu/70-new-cost-actions-oc20241/>

**Download a list of the newly approved CA24 Actions:** <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/05/oc-2024-1-Approved-Actions-Booklet.pdf>

**Apply to the COST Open Call 2025 that remains open until 21 October 2025 at 12.00 (noon) CEST: a 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

### *From disinformation to memory traces: lots of variety in 59 new research projects (4 July 2025)*

Source: website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-disinformation-to-memory-traces-lots-of-variety-in-59-new-research-projects>



**The allocations for the SSH Open Competition M 2024 have been announced. No fewer than 59 researchers will be starting work on promising ideas. This means there will be plenty of room for experimentation and innovation. M projects last for a maximum of five years. Several projects will be conducting research into topics such as disinformation, artificial intelligence and gender.**

The projects cover the entire breadth of the SSH research field, some with an interdisciplinary or cross-domain character. For example, research will be conducted into the nature of socially disruptive technologies. Another project focuses on the dynamics of fatigue. Research will also be conducted into the extent to which immersive and realistic disinformation influences people; deep fakes, for example. One of the studies focuses on the lives of Dutch guest workers in 18th-century Spain. Furthermore, research will be launched into strongly embedded memory traces through recollections.

#### ***One led by WUR***

**Cholera Contagion: The Role of Climate and Mobility in European Pandemics:** *Dr D. Gallardo Albarrán (M), Wageningen University & Research*

**For all awarded projects see here:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh/granted-projects>

#### ***Next rounds within the SSH Open Competition***

An SSH OC M round is expected to open in 2026.

The deadline for the SSH Open Competition L is 9 September 2025.

The next deadline for the SSH OC XS is 18 September 2025.

### *Fourteen consortia receive funding in the NWA ORC round 2024 (2 July 2025)*

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/fourteen-consortia-receive-funding-in-the-nwa-orc-round-2024>



Fourteen consortia will receive funding in the 2024 round of the Research along Routes by Consortia (ORC) programme line of the Dutch Research Agenda (NWA). Each project will receive around 6.8 million euros to get started immediately. In these projects, researchers will collaborate with knowledge partners and social organisations. In this way, knowledge will be developed and utilised to achieve scientific and social impact together.

#### ***Collective effort for innovation and collaboration***

The research projects cover a wide range of expertise. We are facing major challenges such as housing shortages, climate change and the energy transition. To address these challenges, citizens, scientists, governments and organisations are working together to find solutions.

For example, ways are being developed to give citizens more influence over their living environment through cooperation with governments (**ECCO**). Politicians will be supported in strengthening their democratic and moral actions (**DeMoCraft**). Art and creativity will help people take action on climate justice (**JUST ART**). And AI systems will be designed to be fairer, more transparent and more democratic (**DECIDE**).

Health is also a major focus of this ORC round. Chronic diseases will be detected at an early stage using smart technology and blood tests (**META-IMMUNOTYPES**). People will be motivated to live healthier lives through insight into their biological age (**BIO-COMPASS**). Donor livers will hopefully soon be able to be repaired or grown outside the body (**ARREST**). And new nanomedicines will be developed more quickly through better collaboration and knowledge sharing (**NanoMedNL**).

Research is also being conducted into how new protein-rich crops can contribute to a sustainable food system (**REAP2SOW**). Young people are being helped in their social and mental development (**STRONGER2GETHER**). 3D printing enables circular repair (**Add-reAM**). And low-value waste is being converted into sustainable materials (**ABEL**). Trauma in our shared past is being investigated for a more inclusive future (**Traumascapes**). And finally, escalation in conflict situations, for example, between at-risk youth and the police, is being prevented through biofeedback and VR training (**CONTEXT**).

In short, a wide range of themes that all show how technology, art and society are finding answers to today's big questions.

#### ***One project is led by WUR:***

**REAP2SOW:** Resilient and Efficient Agricultural Proteins to Sustain Our World - **Dr W. Kohlen, Wageningen University & Research**

#### ***WUR is partner in four projects:***

**Ab-initio Biowaste Loop (ABEL)** - Dr L.L. Cutz, Delft University of Technology WU and WUR partner

**DECIDE: Democratizing AI** – Empowering Citizens through Transparent Decision-making - Prof. ir. M. Boon, Twente University WUR partner

**Traumascapes:** Valuing, Negotiating and Sharing Sites of Trauma, Pain and Loss - Prof. J.C.A Kolen, Leiden University WUR partner

**BIO-COMPASS:** BIOlogical age-driven, COMmunal, Personalized System for Sustainable health promotion - Dr R.T. Jaspers, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam WUR partner

Read more about the selected projects here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/fourteen-consortia-receive-funding-in-the-nwa-orc-round-2024>

## ***Spinoza and Stevin Prizes awarded to four outstanding researchers (27 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/spinoza-and-stevin-prizes-awarded-to-four-outstanding-researchers>



The recipients of the Spinoza and Stevin Prizes, the highest distinction in Dutch science, have been announced. Thijn Brummelkamp and Judith Pollmann will receive this year's Spinoza Prize. The Stevin Prize will be awarded to Ilse Aben and Ingrid Robeyns. All four researchers will receive 1.5 million euros to spend on scientific research and activities related to knowledge utilisation.

### ***Academic excellence and societal impact***

The researchers are receiving the prizes in recognition of their outstanding, groundbreaking and inspiring work. Both prizes focus on the quality of the researcher. While the Spinoza Prize primarily honours scientific work and fundamental issues, the Stevin Prize focuses on societal impact.

### ***Spinoza Prize***

The NWO Spinoza Prize is the highest award in Dutch academia. It honours researchers who, by international standards, rank among the very best in the world. Recipients of the NWO Spinoza Prize conduct outstanding and groundbreaking research with a broad impact.

### ***Stevin Prize***

The Stevin Prize is the highest award for researchers in the Netherlands who have achieved exceptional results in utilising knowledge for the benefit of society. NWO defines knowledge utilisation as the application of knowledge through productive interactions with a stakeholder group to create societal value, including economic value.

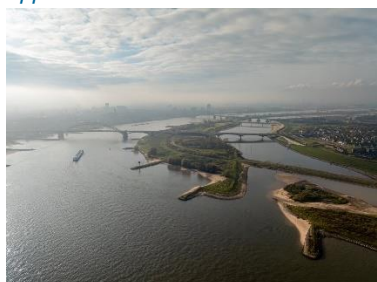
### ***Award ceremony***

The Spinoza Prizes and Stevin Prizes will be presented at an award ceremony on Tuesday, 14 October 2025. During the event, the selected candidates will discuss their research in more detail and explain how they intend to use the prize money.

**For more information:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/spinoza-and-stevin-prizes-awarded-to-four-outstanding-researchers>

## ***NWA call 'Future-proof large rivers in the Netherlands' open for applications (25 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-open-for-applications>



This call <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands> invites researchers to form a consortium with public and private partners to conduct joint research into the challenges facing the Dutch river system. This knowledge can help to better substantiate policy choices toward a future-proof Dutch river system in times of climate change.

How can the Netherlands best prepare for future challenges relating to the river system? The river system in the Netherlands is impacted by the effects of climate change, such as sea level rise and greater fluctuations in water levels and water quality. Therefore, this call for proposals invites researchers to develop knowledge to support policy choices for the river system in the Netherlands. Specifically, the programme calls for research into the possible choices for spatial planning of the river system, the effects of these choices and how river functions relate to each other within those choices. It is important to consider the whole system of the river basin, the socio-economic effects of policy choices and the role of waterborne transport.

The programme explicitly welcomes new insights and innovative research and calls for an interdisciplinary approach focused on the entire river system. This could include natural science, technical, planning, ecological, socio-economic, policy or legal knowledge. Given the cross-border nature of rivers, a river basin approach is also relevant. It is important that the research leads to concrete tools for policy and/or implementation and ties in with ongoing programmes such as "Ruimte voor de Rivier" (formerly known as Integrated River Management).

This call is part of the Dutch Research Agenda. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management is the initiator and is supported in this by Rijkswaterstaat.

#### **Budget and timeline**

The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday, 10 February 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. Approximately €2.8 million is available. This will enable NWO and the ministry to fund one project.

#### **Collaborative workshops**

On 10 and 25 September, NWO will organise workshops to support interested parties in forming consortia. It is therefore not necessary to have already formed a consortium prior to the workshops. The workshops are open to everyone. Civil society organisations are expressly invited to participate, and participation is mandatory for the principal applicant. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and Rijkswaterstaat will also be present at the workshops.

**Register for the collaborative workshops:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/collaborative-workshops-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-nwa>

**For more information:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/thematic-programming/future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands> and <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-open-for-applications> and [https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Rivieren\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Rivieren_ENG_def.pdf)

## **Veni round 2025 now open for pre-proposals (24 June 2025)**

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals>



Talented, creative and newly promoted researchers can now apply for a Veni grant. This funding instrument of the NWO Talent Programme offers person-specific funding. The funding amounts to a maximum of EUR 320,000.

#### **Veni: brief overview**

Veni is for researchers who have recently graduated. Researchers eligible for a Veni grant have academic qualities that clearly exceed what is usual. The Veni grant is intended to fund innovative scientific research and thereby give these researchers the opportunity to develop as independent researchers. The funding amounts to a maximum of €320,000.

### **Who can apply**

Applications can be submitted by PhD researchers with permanent or temporary employment, from home or abroad. The 2025 Veni round is open to researchers with a PhD date after 1 January 2022 and before 2 September 2025.

### **Mandatory pre-proposal phase**

Applicants must submit a pre-proposal to be considered for a Veni. In the pre-proposal the 'quality of the researcher' (100%) is assessed. If a positive decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant is invited to submit a full application. If a negative decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant cannot submit a full proposal. In the proposal the assessment is based on the criteria 'Quality and innovative character of the research proposal' (75%) and the 'Scientific and/or societal impact' (25%).

### **Important dates**

The planning for the 2025 Veni round is as follows:

- The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **2 September 2025, by 14:00:00 CEST**.
- The deadline for submitting full applications is 27 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET.

### **Prepare well for submitting a Veni application**

In preparation for a Veni application, it is important that you download the latest forms from the website. You should use the Veni pre-proposal form and the 2025 round embedding guarantee form. It is also important that you read the call for proposals carefully.

NWO has recently updated the instruction for writing an **EBCV** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/recognition-and-rewards>. The updated instruction can be found in the application form for the Veni. We would also like to draw your attention to the existence of an international digital platform to support narrative style CV writing (**PEP-CV** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/peer-exchange-platform-pep-cv>).

A pilot is being conducted at the **Science domain** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme-veni-science-domain-2025>. The word limit of the research idea will be expanded from in the pre-proposal, check. The other main changes in the call for proposals 2025 compared to the previous Veni call are listed at the beginning of the call for proposals.

**The Veni round 2025 has nine submission windows within NWO's four domains.** Check the domain's funding page for the specification of the submission windows (**you can find domain pages here:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals>) .

**For more information:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals> and <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme>

## ***From nanoplastics to sustainable pension funds: three research consortia launch diverse public-private research projects (23 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-nanoplastics-to-sustainable-pension-funds-three-research-consortia-launch-diverse-public-private-research-projects>



**The KIC instrument Demand by Consortia – S offers new and existing consortia the opportunity to convert a joint research question into impact-driven research. The content of the research can take many forms, as can be seen in the research projects awarded in this round. Topics range from innovation in nanoplastics to the development of sustainable inks for inkjet printing.**

All research projects are aligned with the mission-driven innovation policy of the Dutch government. Through intensive collaboration between knowledge institutions and public and private parties, the consortia contribute to creating



economic opportunities, broad prosperity and social impact. This collaboration takes place both during the development of the research question and throughout the entire research process.

***The awarded research projects of which one led by WUR***

1. **ComplexJets: Physicochemical complexities encountered during jetting in piezo acoustic inkjet printing - Dr U. Sen (Wageningen University and Research)**
2. SeparationTechnology Research to Effectively Address the Missing Links In Nanoplastics Examination and Detection (STREAMLINED) - Dr B.W.J. Pirok MSc (University of Amsterdam)
3. Clarifying the Dutch pension sector's role in the sustainability transition - Prof. Dr E.C. Brüggem (Tilburg University)

**For more information about KIC instrument Demand by Consortia and the awarded projects:**

<https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-nanoplastics-to-sustainable-pension-funds-three-research-consortia-launch-diverse-public-private-research-projects>

## ***Open Mind: seven outside the box research ideas awarded (19 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/open-mind-seven-outside-the-box-research-ideas-awarded>



**Seven research ideas have been awarded a €50,000 Open Mind grant during the annual NWO innovation festival TEKNOLOGY. With the Open Mind programme, NWO funds innovative and outside the box research ideas with global societal impact through technology.**

Fifteen finalists were selected from all the applications submitted for this round and were given the opportunity to pitch their research ideas to a committee during TEKNOLOGY. Of these fifteen, seven finalists received a grant that will enable them to work on their research ideas for a year. These “high risk, high gain” research projects carry a high level of risk, but at the same time have the potential to be groundbreaking. Precisely because of their high-risk nature, it can be difficult for researchers to find funding for their ideas. The Open Mind programme therefore offers researchers the opportunity to think outside the box and further explore their ideas.

Open Mind is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and is entering a new phase. There is a refreshed call text, a new call image and revised objectives and assessment criteria. The impact and originality of the research proposals will now be even more prominent. The committee therefore assessed the finalists during TEKNOLOGY on these new criteria. This year, the committee was chaired by Mariëtte van Huijstee.

***One of the selected projects is led by WUR***

From Poop to Battery: **Dr. R. Linssen MSc** – Wageningen University & Research

**For more information about the awarded projects including video's:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/open-mind-seven-outside-the-box-research-ideas-awarded>

## ***Take-off autumn round 2025 opened for proposals with new assessment procedure phase 1 feasibility studies (18 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/take-off-autumn-round-2025-opened-for-proposals-with-new-assessment-procedure-phase-1-feasibility-studies>



The autumn 2025 round of the Take-off programme is now open for proposals. Through Take-off, NWO supports economic activity from science, with funding from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Researchers can apply for funding to start a company and take an innovative idea to market.

In this new round, applicants can submit proposals for a feasibility study or a loan for their start-ups' Vroegefasetraject. Please note: for phase 1 feasibility studies, changes in the application- and assessment procedure are introduced.

**Changes to phase 1 feasibility studies procedure:**

- The interview is no longer part of the assessment procedure. This has been replaced by a written assessment and a written rebuttal by the applicant;
- The pre-registration step is no longer part of the procedure;
- The formal conditions for submitting applications where an already established startup is present have been simplified. A letter of intent (containing certain mandatory elements) replaces the previously mandatory (concept) knowledge transfer agreement;
- The maximum amount that can be applied for has been increased to €60,000.

**Take-off**

The science-wide grant instrument Take-off <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/take-off> stimulates activity and entrepreneurship from Dutch knowledge institutions. Academic entrepreneurs, but also start-ups from institutes of higher professional education and start-ups using knowledge from Applied Research Organisations (TO2) can use it to bring their innovative research results to the market. Take-off is one of the instruments for knowledge utilisation that NWO implements together with ZonMw. The programme consists of two phases aimed at different stages of innovation: feasibility studies and early-stage projects.

**When to submit**

The Take-off programme in principle has two rounds of submissions per year. The spring round opens in January and closes in March and the autumn round opens in July and closes in September. Consult the call page of the respective instrument for deadlines and guidelines. When the calls are open, the call pages are linked under 'Open Calls' further down on this page.

**Call open: opportunities and value chains for residual flows in the protein transition 16 June 2025)**

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition>



The new call 'Opportunities and chains for residual flows in the protein transition' from the National Research Agenda (NWA) is now open for applications. The call focuses on developing knowledge about the use of plant-based side streams as a protein source for human nutrition.

Dutch society is facing a major social challenge to change its food consumption patterns to make them healthier and more sustainable and to stay within planetary boundaries. Consuming a larger share of plant-based proteins and reducing the overconsumption of animal proteins by the average Dutch person—the protein transition—plays an important role in this.

### ***Purpose of the call***

The aim of this call is to develop knowledge about the use of plant-based side streams as a protein source for food applications and the adoption of proteins from side streams in the food consumption pattern of a large group of consumers. The programme provides insight into the functioning of the entire value chain based on the assumption that this knowledge is essential to achieve the necessary system change and effective valorisation of side streams. The call was developed on the initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security, and Nature (LVVN).

### ***Application procedure***

The application procedure for this call consists of two phases: submitting a research idea and submitting an application.

### ***Submitting a research idea***

Before submitting an application, the intended principal applicant must submit a research idea. A research idea consists of a concise and powerful idea for an application, an initial indication of the parties involved in the consortium (if known), the name of the principal applicant, and contact details. You can register using the online form below.

**Submit a research idea:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/thematic-programming/opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition/submitting-an-idea>

After the research ideas have been submitted, NWO will organize a matchmaking meeting. The aim of matchmaking is to enable potential applicants, researchers, collaboration partners, and stakeholders from various relevant fields and sectors to get to know each other and find additional expertise. The matchmaking will take place on Thursday afternoon, October 2, 2025. Participation in the matchmaking is not mandatory. You can register until September 29 using the online form below.

**Register for the matchmaking:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/matchmaking-opportunities-and-chains-for-residue-streams-in-the-protein-transition-nwa>

### ***Submitting a full application***

Full applications must be submitted via the online application system ISAAC. More information can be found **on the funding page** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition>.

### ***Budget and deadlines***

The total grant ceiling for this programme is €3,875,000. A maximum of one application is expected to be awarded under this programme.

- The deadline for submitting research ideas is Tuesday, **September 16, 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST**.
- The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, **January 27, 2026, before 14:00:00 CET**.
- The deadline for submitting a request for review by (foreign) organizations is Tuesday, January 13, 2026, before 2:00 p.m. CET.

**For more information:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition> and <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition> and <https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf>

## ***From mixed-species forests to motor skills: Doctoral Grant for Teachers shows broad scientific spectrum (10 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-mixed-species-forests-to-motor-skills-doctoral-grant-for-teachers-shows-broad-scientific-spectrum>





**Twenty-three teachers have received the Doctoral Grant for Teachers. A total of over 5.1 million euros has been awarded. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science makes 9 million euros available annually for the doctoral programmes until the end of 2026. The grant gives teachers the chance to further their development and strengthen the connection between universities and schools.**

The science-wide character of the programme is evident from the awarded grants. For instance, Juriaan Zandvliet (Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences) will investigate how individual trees in mixtures interact with their environment and respond to climate extremes. Another great example is Bente van Dijk's (The Hague University of Applied Sciences) research. The aim of her project is to improve fundamental motor skills by enhancing gaze behaviour in children. The applicants of the awarded projects will conduct research over the next five years, eventually leading to a PhD.

***WUR is involved in one of the awarded projects***

**Resilience and growth dynamics of mixed-species forests in Europe: a tree-level approach to climate-smart forestry.** J.J. (Juriaan) Zandvliet, Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences – Wageningen University & Research

**For more information about the awarded doctoral grants:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-mixed-species-forests-to-motor-skills-doctoral-grant-for-teachers-shows-broad-scientific-spectrum>

## ***Call open: Cellular Agriculture, towards larger scale and lower costs (10 June 2025)***

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs>



**This call was created in collaboration with the Cellular Agriculture Netherlands foundation (CAN) and is open to applicants as of now. This call is part of the National Growth Fund programme Cellular Agriculture and aims to achieve cost reduction and scale up this technology, specifically in the research lines precision fermentation and cultivated meat. 4.1 million euros has been made available for this call.**

Cellular Agriculture (CA) is a promising new technology to produce animal products using animal cells and micro-organisms, without the actual animal. It offers prospects for interesting economic developments, reduction of environmental impact, reduction of footprint and improvement of animal welfare. Cells are grown in bioreactors and then structured into meat or used as ingredients to improve the taste and texture of meat substitutes. Animal proteins or other molecules can also be produced by specifically adapted microorganisms using precision fermentation.

***Purpose of the call***

This call aims to develop technology to cost-effectively and successfully conduct Cellular Agriculture at scale. For example, through innovations in strains or cell lines, medium formulation, process design, process control, valorisation of co-products, or product prototypes. There are two lines of research in this call:

- A: Precision fermentation, the production of animal proteins by adapted microorganisms.
- B: Cultivated meat, the production of animal cells and tissue from both terrestrial and marine animals.

***Budget***

A total of € 4,115,508 is available. A maximum of € 1,371,836 of NWO funding can be applied for per project. Projects must contribute at least 20% co-funding. This mandatory co-funding may be provided either in cash or in kind.

***Matchmaking event***

In collaboration with the CAN Foundation, NWO will organise a matchmaking event on June 25. During this event, potential applicants and potential co-funders will meet to form consortia. Please register via the link below. **Participation in the matchmaking event is not mandatory, but recommended.**

**Matchmaking event:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/matchmaking-event-cellular-agriculture-ngf>

The deadline for submitting applications is **Thursday, November 13, 2025**, by 14:00:00 CET

## **Regional funding**

## **Internal Wageningen University and Research calls**

## Latest developments within R&I Policies

### European Policy

#### *Commission launches new strategy to make Europe a global leader in life sciences by 2030 (2 July 2025)*

Source: Website EC [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_1686](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1686)

Today, the European Commission has launched a new **strategy** [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/411698e8-6062-41af-96e5-af54474d70f5\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/411698e8-6062-41af-96e5-af54474d70f5_en) to make Europe the **most attractive place in the world for life sciences by 2030**.

Life sciences – the study of living systems, from cells to ecosystems – are central to our health, environment and economy. They drive innovation in medicine, food and sustainable production, adding nearly €1.5 trillion in value to the EU economy and supporting 29 million jobs across the Union.

Backed by more than €10 billion annually from the current EU budget, the strategy sets out a coordinated approach across the entire life sciences value chain. It aims to accelerate innovation, facilitate market access, and build public trust in new technologies, ensuring they benefit the people and the planet.

#### ***The Strategy proposes the following actions:***

##### **1. Optimising the research and innovation ecosystem**

The Commission will develop an **EU investment plan** to facilitate funding for multi-country clinical trials and strengthen European clinical research infrastructures. This Strategy will also promote a **One Health approach to research and innovation** and mobilise up to €100 million under the Horizon Europe work programmes 2026-27 to **develop and deploy microbiome-based solutions**. Furthermore, €250 million will be mobilised for cross-sectoral life sciences technologies, supporting the development of **new products that drive industrial innovation and sustainability**, including new approach methodologies, novel molecules, advanced materials and more efficient biomanufacturing.

##### **2. Enabling rapid market access for life science innovations**

To speed up market access for life science innovations, the Commission will propose an **EU Biotech Act** that will create a more innovation-friendly framework across biotech sectors. The Commission will also launch a **matchmaking interface to connect startups, industry and investors**, leveraging the **European Innovation Council** portfolio, and its Trusted Investors Network.

##### **3. Boosting trust, uptake and use of innovation**

The Commission will mobilise €300 million to stimulate the **procurement of life science innovation** in areas such as climate change adaptation, next-generation vaccines and affordable cancer solutions. The Commission will also set up a **Life Science Coordination Group** to align policies and funding across sectors, and support engagement with key stakeholders, including industry and citizens.

#### ***Background***

President **von der Leyen** announced the Strategy in **her political guidelines**

[https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en) and it is part of the **Competitiveness Compass** [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_339](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_339).

Europe has long been a leader in life sciences, backed by a strong knowledge base and scientific excellence, but is now losing ground to other global players in turning research into real-world solutions. Challenges include fragmented innovation ecosystems, underused data and artificial intelligence, and slow market uptake.

The strategy builds on a public consultation and a large body of evidence, including the Commission's **Joint Research Centre's** two studies: **The Life Sciences sectors in the EU: drivers of economic growth and innovation**, which highlights 29 million employed individuals and €1.5 trillion in value added, and **Trends in patents in Life Sciences: focus on pharmaceuticals and medical technologies**, showing that the EU ranks second globally with 17% of patents filed.

You can download EU Life science Strategy 20230 here: [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/411698e8-6062-41af-96e5-af54474d70f5\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/411698e8-6062-41af-96e5-af54474d70f5_en)

## ***Europeans consider tackling climate change a priority and support energy independence (30 June 2025)***

Source: Website EC [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_1376](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1376)

**A large majority of Europeans believe climate change is a serious problem (85%), according to a new Eurobarometer survey** <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3472> published today. Among those surveyed, **8 in 10 (81%) support the EU-wide goal of reaching climate neutrality by 2050**. From an economic perspective, more than three quarters (77%) of Europeans agree that **the cost of damage due to climate change is much higher than the investment needed for a net-zero transition**.

Most Europeans (85%) agree that **tackling climate change should be a priority to improve public health and quality of life**. Likewise, 83% of those surveyed agree that **preparing better for the adverse impacts** of climate change will improve the lives of EU citizens. European citizens also feel the impact of climate change in their daily lives. On average, almost **4 in 10 Europeans (38%) feel personally exposed to environmental and climate-related risks and threats**. In 8 Member States, more than half of those surveyed feel this way; mostly in Southern Europe, but also in Poland and Hungary.

### ***Support for renewables, energy efficiency and energy autonomy***

Close to nine in ten Europeans (88%) think it is **important that the EU take action to increase renewable energy**, and the same number (88%) believe that it is important for the EU to take action to **improve energy efficiency**, for example by encouraging people to insulate their home, install solar panels or buy electric cars. Three quarters (75%) believe that **reducing fossil fuel imports will increase energy security** and benefit the EU economically. 77% of Europeans **agree that acting on climate change will foster innovation**. More than eight in ten Europeans (84%) agree more support should be given to European companies to compete in the global market for clean technologies, demonstrating public backing for the Clean Industrial Deal.

### ***Citizens committed to individual action and structural reform***

**A large majority of EU citizens are taking individual climate action (92%)** and making sustainable choices in their daily lives. However, when asked who is best placed to tackle climate change, only 28% believe they are best placed to turn the tide through individual actions. Citizens identified national governments (66%), the EU (59%) and business and industry (58%) as best placed to tackle climate change. 44% saw regional and local government as well positioned to take climate action.

Read full press release here: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_1376](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1376)

## ***Switzerland and EU sign new declaration smoothing path to formal Horizon Europe association (26 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/horizon-europe/switzerland-and-eu-sign-new-declaration-smoothing-path-formal-horizon-europe>

**Joint declaration is latest sign of rapprochement, including in research**



Photo credits: Andrzej Bialy / Unsplash

Brussels and Bern have inked another deal that patches up their relationship following years of acrimonious negotiations, and confirms that Horizon Europe association should be fully signed off this year.

On June 24, Maroš Šefčovič and Swiss foreign affairs chief Ignazio Cassis signed a joint declaration [https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/0d4c336f-7df4-4301-afa8-eeaf257ca3ce\\_en?filename=joint\\_declaration\\_on\\_the\\_level\\_of\\_partnership\\_and\\_cooperation\\_en.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/0d4c336f-7df4-4301-afa8-eeaf257ca3ce_en?filename=joint_declaration_on_the_level_of_partnership_and_cooperation_en.pdf) to increase cooperation.

The declaration is “another important step forward in EU- Switzerland relations,” said Šefčovič [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1613](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1613), the commissioner responsible for trade, following the signing. “Cooperation is already producing tangible results,” including in research, he added.

Switzerland had been excluded from Horizon Europe since the country walked away from wider talks over its relationship with the EU in 2021.

But after restarting talks behind the scenes, Bern and Brussels finally struck a new deal in December last year, provisionally allowing Swiss researchers to once again apply normally for Horizon Europe grants from the beginning of 2025.

Association must be fully signed off before Swiss winners can actually receive any money. But this week’s declaration confirms both sides still plan to sign on the dotted line this year.

“Once the agreement is signed – targeted for this year – Swiss participants will gain full access to EU funding,” said Šefčovič.

A Swiss referendum on the wider deal with the EU could still scupper research relations down the line. A “no” from Swiss voters should not impact Horizon Europe, but would instead torpedo Bern’s chances of joining the successor programme, which starts in 2028.

### ***Think tank: Chinese innovation ecosystem creates risks for European companies (26 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**The Chinese innovation ecosystem currently plays an important role in the R&D strategies of many European companies.** In the longer term, this creates risks for their technology and market share. Think tank Merics warns of this in an analysis. The report ‘The trade-offs of innovating in China in times of global technology rivalry’ looks at the opportunities, risks and dilemmas for European companies in their dealings with the Chinese innovation ecosystem. According to the think tank, European companies and policymakers have underestimated China’s shift to a major power in technology and innovation for too long. “European technology and innovation policy is based on openness to globalised technology and investment and is slow to adapt to the technological challenges that China poses”, it reads. “European openness is being abused in particular, while Beijing gives strategic incentives to foreign technology providers to enter China and at the same time limits the outflow of technology, while China is leading the way.”

**Publication MERICS:** [https://merics.org/en/report/trade-offs-innovating-china-times-global-technology-rivalry#msdynmkt\\_trackingcontext=dce06eb1-7939-400f-a71d-0ee2afe20000](https://merics.org/en/report/trade-offs-innovating-china-times-global-technology-rivalry#msdynmkt_trackingcontext=dce06eb1-7939-400f-a71d-0ee2afe20000)

### ***New EU Ocean Pact will direct around €330M into research and science (26 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/oceans/new-eu-ocean-pact-will-direct-around-eu330m-research-and-science>

**Commission promises a new EU Ocean Observation Initiative, supported by an Ocean Research and Innovation Strategy**



Photo credits: Guillaume Bassem / Unsplash

A framework intended to unify EU policies on ocean health, the blue economy and coastal communities has been adopted by the European Commission. The Ocean Pact comes with a €1-billion budget, a third of which is “earmarked” for research and scientific projects, according to a Commission spokesperson.

The pact, announced on June 11 during the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, will fund 57 projects ranging from promoting sustainable fishing in Tanzania to regenerating mangrove forests in Guyana. It is expected to streamline coordination between maritime stakeholders and synchronise ocean-related reporting obligations to help member states navigate existing legislation.

By 2027, the Commission will propose an Ocean Act to help achieve the targets of the pact. A high-level board will guide its implementation and a dashboard track its progress.

The main scientific project under the pact is a new EU Ocean Observation Initiative, underpinned by an Ocean Research and Innovation Strategy. The initiative will feed into the creation of a European digital twin of the ocean that will “maintain the EU as a global ocean leader in ocean science, technology and data,” the document reads.

The Ocean Research and Innovation Strategy will build on existing activities under Horizon Europe, in particular the mission to restore oceans and waters by 2030. “It will ensure a source-to-sea approach, and aim at improving the current governance by overcoming the fragmentation of EU research and innovation initiatives, including their research infrastructures,” the Commission says. “This will fill the gap between research and innovation through financing for development and deployment of new knowledge and solutions.”

In all, around a third of the €1 billion budget will be “earmarked” for research and scientific projects, a spokesperson said, “recognising the crucial role that knowledge plays in ocean conservation.”

There will also be benefits for technology and innovation in the pact’s competitiveness activities, with renewable ocean energy and underwater robotics both singled out as priorities. Then there are commitments to reinforce maritime border security and surveillance by investing in a drone fleet and making more use of artificial intelligence and advanced sensors.

Meanwhile, the pact will put €40 million into a Global Ocean programme to support partner countries in ratifying the agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction. This sets goals for conserving and sustainably managing marine biodiversity in parts of the ocean that go beyond the jurisdictional boundaries of any single nation.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature will lead the first component of this new programme by providing “technical assistance” with a €20-million budget allocated between June 2025 and May 2030, explained Aurélie Spadone, senior programme officer for the union’s ocean team.

Among other activities, this will support biological diversity studies at the subregional level in areas beyond national jurisdiction, she added.

**Read full article here:** [https://sciencebusiness.net/news/oceans/new-eu-ocean-pact-will-direct-around-eu330m-research-and-science?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Von+der+Leyen+reaffirms+dual+use+R+D+plans+ahead+of+EU+budget+proposal&utm\\_campaign=](https://sciencebusiness.net/news/oceans/new-eu-ocean-pact-will-direct-around-eu330m-research-and-science?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Von+der+Leyen+reaffirms+dual+use+R+D+plans+ahead+of+EU+budget+proposal&utm_campaign=)

## ***Analysis: Von der Leyen embraces science (25 June 2025)***

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/analyse-von-der-leyen-omarmt-de-wetenschap>

**Ursula von der Leyen is increasingly enthusiastic about knowledge. Since the start of her second term a year ago, she has spoken about knowledge more often than in the previous five years combined. Not since the Lisbon Strategy in 2000—and the 3% norm—have science, research and innovation received so much attention. How serious is this ambition and what does her innovation master plan ‘Choose Europe’ mean for the European knowledge agenda?**





### ***Passion for knowledge***

It was immediately noticeable when Von der Leyen was reappointed: the prominent place for research and innovation in her programme. Since the start of her second term as President of the European Commission, the contours of an unofficial innovation master plan with four spearheads have gradually emerged: 'Choose Europe'. This political attention is unprecedented since European leaders agreed on the Lisbon Strategy and the historic 3% investment standard in 2000 with the aim "to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world." How far does Von der Leyen's ambition reach and what does that mean for the European knowledge agenda up to 2029, in particular the fifth freedom, the ERA and Innovation acts, and Horizon Europe?

**"Europe's competitiveness – and its position in the race to a clean and digital economy – will depend on starting a new age of invention and ingenuity. This requires putting research and innovation, science and technology, at the heart of our economy.**

**We will increase our research spending to focus more on strategic priorities, on groundbreaking fundamental research and disruptive innovation, and on scientific excellence.**

**To do this, we will expand the European Research Council and the European Innovation Council."**

► **Von der Leyen in 'Europe's Choice: Political Guidelines for the next European Commission, 2024-2029'**  
[https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en)

### ***Von der Leyen speaks out***

Over the past twelve months, Von der Leyen has seemed to seize every opportunity to advocate for the free practice of science. With each speech, her agenda has taken shape. These have been at the 70th anniversary of CERN [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_4982](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_4982) in October, the 60th anniversary of the Hannover Medical University (MHH) [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1257](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1257), the 'Choose Europe for Science' [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1130](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1130) conference at the Sorbonne, the Aachen University of Technology (RWTH) [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1362](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1362), at the reception of the Charlemagne Prize [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1366](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1366), and recently at the European Parliament (G6-STOA) [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_1416](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1416). Her re-election speech, the presentation of the Competitiveness Compass, and the annual budget conference are also relevant.

**Read full analysis of Neth-ER here:** <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/analyse-von-der-leyen-omarmt-de-wetenschap> (in Dutch)

## ***Programme of the Danish EU Presidency (25 June 2025)***

Source: Website Danish Presidency <https://danish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/programme-for-the-danish-eu-presidency/programme-of-the-danish-eu-presidency/>

From 1 July to 31 December 2025 Denmark will hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Under the slogan 'A strong Europe in a changing world', the Danish Presidency will work for a secure Europe as well as a competitive and green Europe.

The EU is facing a new international order marked by uncertainty, global strategic and economic competition, and rising levels of conflict. That is why the EU must be able to act in its own right. The EU's strength lies in European unity, a solid economic foundation, stable democracies, and socially balanced societies, among other things. This strength must be

developed further and used to promote and defend both European interests and the international legal order. The Danish EU Presidency will work for a strong and resolute EU that takes responsibility for its own security and for strengthening its competitiveness. This calls for the EU to match words with action and deliver on the challenges it faces. The green transition is essential to building a more secure and competitive Europe.

#### **Priority for EU Life Science Strategy**

The Danish Presidency is ready to negotiate legislative proposals for research and innovation (R&I) in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The Presidency prioritizes several upcoming strategies. It is actively committed to the EU Life Science Strategy and the European Strategy for Research and Technology Infrastructures. Denmark believes that quantum technology should strengthen Europe. Therefore, the Presidency is committed to creating a supportive framework for the European quantum ecosystem. In addition, it supports initiatives around copyright and artificial intelligence (AI).

**For more information about Danish EU Presidency:** <https://danish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/programme-for-the-danish-eu-presidency/programme-of-the-danish-eu-presidency/>

### ***EU looks to strengthen research collaboration with ASEAN countries (25 June 2025)***

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/live-blog/horizon-blog-european-rd-policy-newsbytes-2025>

The EU and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have met in Jakarta, Indonesia last week to discuss ways to enhance cooperation in science, technology and innovation.

The two sides agreed to “deepen collaboration in science, technology and innovation” through initiatives such as Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe.

The EU will work on “stronger research and education links” with ASEAN countries, including through exchanges among researchers, students and youth.

**You can find more details here:** [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/regional-dialogues-and-international-organisations/south-east-asia\\_en#policy-background](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/regional-dialogues-and-international-organisations/south-east-asia_en#policy-background) .

### ***“STEP strengthens EU competitiveness” (23 June 2025)***

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/-step-versterkt-concurrentievermogen-eu->

**The Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) strengthens the EU’s competitiveness. The initiative is a good example of how the EU budget can respond to political priorities. The STEP Portal makes it easier for applicants to find information about EU funding. The STEP Seal opens the door to multiple forms of European funding.**



#### **No step forward without STEP**

The Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) is making a significant contribution to the EU’s competitiveness and the priorities of the new Commission. This is evident from the report “Annual report on the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)” <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/bfe0c3aa-4d86-11f0-a9d0-01aa75ed71a1/language-en> published by the Commission. By 2024, more than €10 billion in funding will be distributed across 11 EU funding programmes aligned with STEP. The initiative promotes synergies between funds and facilitates access to financing for high-quality projects. STEP focuses on three sectors: digital technologies and deep-tech innovation, clean and resource-efficient technologies and biotechnologies. In doing so, it strengthens the EU’s innovation capacity.

### ***Take the step and get the seal***

One of the instruments with which STEP promotes critical technologies is the STEP Seal. This seal is similar to the Seal of Excellence, but is also awarded to projects that have received funding. The STEP Seal facilitates access to multiple EU funds and private investors. In practice, this still proves to be complex. That is why the Commission is investigating this year how STEP Seals can better contribute to attracting alternative and additional financing. In 2024, 162 STEP Seals will have been issued, seven of which to projects in the Netherlands.

## ***EU launches Science4EU campaign (20 June 2025)***

Source: [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu_en)



The European Commission has recently launched the **Science4EU** [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu_en) communication campaign, which aims to raise public awareness of the EU's support for science, research and innovation. The campaign will cover all EU Member States and includes creation of original content and promotion across traditional and digital media. The Commission will be working with a range of multipliers including EU institutions, bodies and agencies, as well as external stakeholders such as NGOs, trade associations, science communicators, and museums. In order to maximise the impact of the available budget, the EC will strategically focus paid promotion on the following countries, identified based on a thorough analysis of the campaign's target audience and media landscapes, as well as the current and upcoming Council Presidencies: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Poland, and Slovenia.

**EC Science4EU communication campaign:** [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/special-features/science4eu_en)

## ***EU investments in R&I are too low and too fragmented (16 June 2025)***

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/eu-investeringen-in-o-i-zijn-te-laag-en-te-gefragmenteerd>  
**Low spending**

European investments in research and innovation (R&I) are too low compared to other major economies such as China and the US. This is evident from two recent reports: "A comparative analysis of public R&I funding in the EU, US, and China" <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/06e2860c-44ea-11f0-b9f2-01aa75ed71a1/language-en> and "Shaping the future: EU R&D investments explained" <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/59594812-402b-11f0-b9f2-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>. In 2022, the EU spent 2.22% of its GDP on R&I. This is lower than other global players such as South Korea (4.85%), the US (3.59%) and China (2.56%). There are also large differences between EU member states, where this figure varies between 0.46% and 3.47%.



### ***Mid-tech midlife crisis***

Both the US and China are more successful in complementing public R&I investments with private funds, partly due to their strong high-tech sectors. In Europe, the economy is more concentrated in mid-tech companies such as the automotive industry. As a result, the EU is more dependent on government investments. However, this is not done efficiently and investments are fragmented across different programs and levels of government. This is in stark contrast

to the US, where 96% of public R&D expenditure comes from the federal budget. The EU also simply invests less public money in R&D than the US: in 2021 this was €24 billion less.

### ***More strategic investments***

The report makes several recommendations. More coordination at EU level can counter fragmentation and create economies of scale. It is also crucial that the EU invests sufficiently in strategic R&D sectors to remain globally competitive. The EU must also investigate in terms of policy whether the final phases of R&D are sufficiently supported. In this phase, research is converted into innovations that are ready for the market. At the member state level, **the Dutch approach with the National Growth Fund is described as a notable example of a multi-year investment programme in R&D. At the start of the Schoof Cabinet, it was decided to phase out the National Growth Fund.**

## Global policy

### ***Think tank: Underfunding threatens to undermine US innovation (3 July 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 July 2025

The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) think tank is calling on the US Congress to fully fund the Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnership (TIP) to help it compete with China in technology. Although the CHIPS and Science Act pledged \$20 billion over five years, only \$410 million has actually been awarded so far. According to ITIF, this makes it virtually impossible for the TIP to fulfill its mission: to accelerate technology development and support its translation into commercial applications. "A directorate designed to operate on a budget of \$20 billion cannot be expected to lead US innovation on a fraction of that," the think tank warns. That is why it is calling for an increase to at least \$1 billion in the coming budget year, as a first step towards the originally promised \$4 billion per year.

**Publication ITIF:** <https://itif.org/publications/2025/06/30/congress-should-fully-fund-nsf-tip-directorate/>

### ***World Economic Forum publishes annual top ten emerging technologies (26 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**The World Economic Forum (WEF) has published its annual top ten emerging technologies.** These are technologies that are expected to have a major impact on society in the next three to five years. According to the WEF, these include advanced nuclear technologies, osmotic (blue) energy systems and generative AI watermarks. The report also outlines a number of overarching trends, including the importance of trust and security in a digital world and the use of the next generation of biotechnologies for health. The report also points to increasing technological convergence, such as combinations of AI with biological systems or the role of new materials in the development of clean energy.

**News item WEF:** <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/06/top-10-emerging-technologies-of-2025/>

**Publication WEF:** <https://www.weforum.org/publications/top-10-emerging-technologies-of-2025/>

### ***McKinsey outlines potential of AI on innovation (26 June 2026)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**AI has the potential to not only make production processes more efficient and faster, but can also drive innovation to develop completely new products and services.** McKinsey writes this in an extensive article.

According to the analysts, innovation has become more expensive and complex in recent years, including in sectors such as semiconductors, drug development and agriculture. With AI, this trend can be stopped and innovation can be accelerated again. For example, AI systems can quickly develop and evaluate a large number of 'design options'. The article also discusses in detail the possibilities of using AI to accelerate further research and production, for example by analyzing user requirements, existing research and available data. "Our research shows that AI could significantly accelerate R&D processes [...]. For sectors whose products consist of intellectual property (IP) or whose R&D processes are closest to scientific discoveries, the speed of innovation could potentially double", it says. "Our analysis estimates the potential annual economic value that could be generated by using AI to accelerate R&D innovation at around \$360 billion to \$560 billion."

**Article McKinsey:** <https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/quantumblack/our-insights/the-next-innovation-revolution-powered-by-ai>

### ***OECD: More research should increase awareness of AI (im)possibilities (26 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**It is crucial that more research is done into the reliability of AI systems.** This is stated by the OECD in a report on the effects of generative AI on productivity, innovation and entrepreneurship. According to the organisation, reliability is an obstacle to further roll-out, while developments in the field of AI are moving very quickly. Important gaps include, for example, how users deal with AI-generated errors. There is also still too little awareness of the possibilities and

limitations. "Confidence in the outcomes of AI and a deep understanding of its limitations are crucial to exploiting the potential of the technology", it says. "Human expertise and oversight are needed to ensure that generative AI remains a valuable tool in creative, operational and technical processes."

**OECD publication:** [https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/the-effects-of-generative-ai-on-productivity-innovation-and-entrepreneurship\\_b21df222-en.html](https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/the-effects-of-generative-ai-on-productivity-innovation-and-entrepreneurship_b21df222-en.html)

## ***China is chasing top scientific talent with large-scale recruitment programs (19 June 2025)***

*Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025*

**With hundreds of recruitment programs and attractive benefits, China is intensifying the battle to attract top scientific talent. Nature has written about this.** In addition to attracting foreign researchers, the country is also focusing on retaining its own. In exchange for relocation, Chinese regions and universities offer a range of extras to attract and retain scientific talent, such as housing, research funding and family facilities. This commitment is part of a broader strategy to reduce dependence on foreign technology and build a stronger, self-sufficient innovation system. The measures are expected to benefit from US immigration restrictions on Chinese students and researchers. For example, some researchers in the US are considering returning to China. "The Trump administration has made that decision much, much easier than ever before," says researcher Yanbo Wang. However, retaining talent in the long term remains a challenge for China, partly due to concerns about academic freedom and quality of life.

**Article Nature:** <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-01750-4>

## National policy

### *Top sectors call on politicians: 'Choose innovation' (3 July 2025)*

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 July 2025

The top sectors of the Netherlands have sent a joint letter to all political parties about the importance of innovation. "We call on you to make clear choices in the upcoming coalition agreement in favor of supporting transformative innovation policy. Not as an abstract concept, but as a concrete precondition for economic growth, social progress and strategic autonomy", it reads. The top sectors advocate, among other things, a stable, directional industrial policy, targeted support for start-ups and scale-ups and a structural increase in public and private innovation investments.

**News item Holland High Tech:** <https://hollandhightech.nl/nieuws-agenda/nieuws/topsectoren-sturen-gezamenlijke-brief-aan-de-politiek-kies-voor-innovatie> (in Dutch)

### *Science Business: Horizon Europe receives large calls to support Clean Industrial Deal (26 June 2025)*

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**The European Commission is considering organising two large-scale calls in 2026 and 2027 to stimulate research and innovation in support of the Clean Industrial Deal.** This is according to Science Business based on a leaked version of the Horizon Europe work programme 2026-2027 of cluster 4. These would involve two large-scale calls for 20 to 25 million euros per project, intended for technologies close to commercialisation. An annual amount of 125 million euros would be available per call. According to Science Business, it is not yet clear whether this 250 million euros is part of the promised budget of 600 million euros for the Clean Industrial Deal, or whether it constitutes an additional investment.

**Article Science Business:** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/horizon-europe/horizon-papers-industry-calls-get-clean-industrial-deal-makeover-2026-27>

### *TNO maps potential disruptive energy technologies in the long term (26 June 2025)*

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

TNO has published a new Technology Radar. This provides an overview of technologies and innovations that have the potential to have a fundamental impact on the Dutch energy system in the long term (10-30 years). The radar was developed on behalf of the Top Sector Energy and is intended to help policymakers, companies and knowledge institutions to anticipate technological breakthroughs in a timely manner. "The radar helps to identify blind spots in innovation policy and to provide direction for follow-up research," says researcher Aart Kooiman.

**News item TNO:** <https://www.tno.nl/en/newsroom/insights/2025/06/disruptive-energy-technologies/>

### *Interview Bruins: 'Give the next education minister less power' (26 June 2025)*

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 June 2025

**Minister Bruins believes that Dutch politics should be careful about too much control in higher education. He warns against this in an interview with HOP.** "We are looking at America with concern, but I think that we have not been far from that in the Netherlands either," says Bruins. "We also have people here who say that public broadcasting is biased and can be cut away. And people who say that science is just an opinion." Bruins wants the Minister of Education to have less power in a number of areas after his term ends. "I want less influence on science policy. I want less influence on what a journalistic code looks like. Politics should not have an opinion about that," says the minister. During a debate, VVD MP Martens-America criticized the interview. In a debate, she spoke of an 'embarrassing interview' and wanted to know whether the minister supports the main points agreement. Bruins emphasizes that he fully supports the main points agreement, but finds it important to defend the importance of academic freedom and press freedom. "I explained that to the Higher Education Press Agency and I think I emphasized that well with strong words."

**Interview HOP/U-Today:** <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75720/minister-bruins-vreest-amerikaanse-toestanden-geef-onderwijsminister-minder-macht> (in Dutch)



**Report plenary meeting:** [https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/plenaire\\_verslagen/detail/2024-2025/99#0d8305a6](https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/plenaire_verslagen/detail/2024-2025/99#0d8305a6) (in Dutch)

## ***Universities concerned about Knowledge Security Screening Act (19 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 19 June 2025

**The Knowledge Security Screening Act misses its target and makes the Netherlands unattractive to international talent.** This is the warning issued by Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) in response to the internet consultation on the bill. "This law will not benefit safety, is difficult to implement and will mainly damage the international position of our universities. In terms of feasibility, effectiveness and proportionality, this law really falls short," says UNL chairman Caspar van den Berg. The universities fear, among other things, 'an unworkable amount of screenings', on top of the budget cuts. The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) previously also criticised the bill.

**News item UNL:** <https://www.universiteitenvannederland.nl/actueel/nieuws/universiteiten-wetsvoorstel-kennisveiligheid-schiet-zijn-doel-voorbij> (in Dutch)

## ***Bruins and sector want to update the Knowledge Security Guideline this year (19 June 2025)***

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 19 June 2025

**Outgoing minister Bruins has drawn up a national set of risk indicators together with knowledge institutions to assess the risks when entering into international collaborations.** This can be read in a collective letter on knowledge security. Furthermore, a number of components of the Knowledge Security Guideline have been updated. These components follow, among other things, the AWTI advice 'Knowledge in conflict'. Bruins also wants to update the rest of the Guideline this year. Furthermore, at the request of the VVD, the outgoing minister has drawn up a flowchart with his options for intervening if scientific collaboration would nevertheless pose a threat to national security. Bruins indicates that the knowledge institution's own responsibility is the leading principle and that he will enter into discussions if the cabinet sees a risk to national security. Bruins warns that various formal follow-up steps are conceivable if an institution's board subsequently continues to adhere to a risky collaboration and does not address the concerns.

**Letter to Parliament from outgoing Minister Bruins:** <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/8e4ab765-5bdd-4a19-8c9d-def78802b9c1/file> (in Dutch)

**Flowchart of unwanted transfer of knowledge and technology:** <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/b75907f2-a69b-4285-893e-47719916e7de/file> (in Dutch)

**Indicators for Risk Assessment International Collaborations Knowledge Security:** <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/bc7cb9f6-5a33-4023-aadf-995f03242dd6/file> (in Dutch)



## Call deadlines

### *HORIZON Europe calls*

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 4 July 2025

Call identifier	Deadline
<b>Pillar I Excellent Science</b>	
<b>ERC</b>	
ERC-2025-AdG	<b>28 August 2025</b> at 17.000 Brussels time ( <i>ERC-2025-AdV-Grants</i> )
<b>Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions</b>	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01 - Doctoral networks - Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates - TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates	<b>25 November 2025</b> ( <i>MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025, Industrial doctorates, Joint Doctorates</i> )
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF - TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships - TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships	<b>10 November 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time ( <i>MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025</i> )
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-SE-01	<b>8 October 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time ( <i>MSCA Staff Exchanges 2025</i> )
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-MSCA4Ukraine	<b>The next MSCA4Ukraine call is expected to open in November 2024</b>
<b>Research Infrastructures</b>	
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-DEV (5 topics)	<b>18 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-EOSC (5 topics)	<b>18 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-SERV (4 topics)	<b>18 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-TECH (4 topics)	<b>18 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Cluster 1 HEALTH</b>	
<b>Destination - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society</b>	

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-STAYHLTH-two-stage	<b>18 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>(First Stage)</b> , <b>16 April 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>(Second Stage)</b>
<b>Destination - Living and working in a health-promoting environment</b>	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-ENVHLTH-two-stage	<b>Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 16 September 2025 (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)</b>
<b>Destination– Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden</b>	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE	<b>Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 16 September 2025</b>
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-DISEASE-02-two-stage	<b>Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 16 September 2025 (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)</b>
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-02-DISEASE COFUNDED Partnerships	<b>3 June 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination - Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare</b>	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-CARE	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society</b>	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-TOOL	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination - Maintaining an innovative, sustainable, and competitive EU health industry</b>	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-IND	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b><u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u></b>	
<b><u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u></b>	
<b>Destination 1: CLIMATE NEUTRAL, CIRCULAR AND DIGITISED PRODUCTION</b>	
<b>Destination 2: INCREASED AUTONOMY IN KEY STRATEGIC VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT INDUSTRY</b>	

<b>DESTINATION 3 - WORLD LEADING DATA AND COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES</b>	
<b>DESTINATION 4 – DIGITAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND FIT FOR THE GREEN DEAL</b>	
<b>DESTINATION 5 – DESTINATION – OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY IN DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING AND USING GLOBAL SPACE-BASED INFRASTRUCTURES, SERVICES, APPLICATIONS AND DATA</b>	
<b>DESTINATION 6 – A HUMAN-CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES</b>	
<b>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</b>	
<b>Destination - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality</b>	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-03-D1	<b>24 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition</b>	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	<b>17 February 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply</b>	

HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	<b>17 February 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use</b>	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>Deadline(s) 20 January 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes</b>	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-D5	<b>Deadline(s): 4 September 2025</b>
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D5	<b>Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 20 January 2026</b>
<b>Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods</b>	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-D6	<b>4 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>20 January 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV	<b>17 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-two-stage	<b>4 September 2025 (First Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-two-stage	<b>4 September 2025 (First Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO	<b>17 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-two-stage	<b>4 September 2025 (First Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time

<b>Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION	<b>17 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION-two-stage	<b>4 September 2025 (First Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-two-stage	<b>4 September 2025 (First Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02 COMMUNITIES	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal</b>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE	<b>24 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>Circular Biobased Europe</b>	
CBE Circular Biobased Europe partnership <a href="https://www.cbe.europa.eu/">https://www.cbe.europa.eu/</a>	<b>The call for proposals will open on 4 April 2025, and the call deadline is foreseen for 17 September 2025.</b> <a href="https://www.cbe.europa.eu/system/files/2024-12/cbeju_awp2025.pdf">https://www.cbe.europa.eu/system/files/2024-12/cbeju_awp2025.pdf</a>
<b>Pillar III Innovative Europe</b>	
<b>EIC Pathfinder-2025-open</b>	<b>21 May 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>EIC-Pathfinder-Challenges</b>	<b>29 October 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>EIC Transition-2025</b>	<b>17 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>EIC-Accelerator-2025</b>	<b>1 October 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time
<b>EIC Accelerator Challenges 2025</b>	<b>Foreseen Deadline 1 October 2025</b> <a href="https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/5e1eb75f-e437-477f-9ee9-ef54ff6387fd_en?filename=EIC%20Work%20Programme%202025.pdf">https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/5e1eb75f-e437-477f-9ee9-ef54ff6387fd_en?filename=EIC%20Work%20Programme%202025.pdf</a>
<b>Mission calls 2025</b>	
<b>HORIZON-MISS-2025-CLIMA Adaptation to Climate Change Mission</b>	<b>24 September 2025</b> ( <i>HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA Adaptation to Climate Change Mission</i> )

<b>HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER</b> Cancer: Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission	<b>16 September 2025</b> (HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission)
<b>HORIZON-MISS-2025-03-OCEAN</b> Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission	<b>24 September 2025</b> (HORIZON-MISS-2025-03-OCEAN Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission)
<b>HORIZON-MISS-2025-04-CIT</b> Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission	<b>4 September 2025</b> (HORIZON-MISS-2025-04-CITIES Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission)
<b>HORIZON-MISS-2025-05</b> Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission	<b>30 September 2025</b> (HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission)
<b>WIDERA 2025</b>	

### 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 4 July 2025 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
<b>European Partnerships / ERANET-COFUND</b>	
European Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare <a href="https://www.eupahw.eu/">https://www.eupahw.eu/</a>	
European Partnership Biodiversa+ <a href="https://www.biodiversa.eu/">https://www.biodiversa.eu/</a>	<b>NEW:</b> Upcoming Biodiversa+ call 2025-2026 Joint Call Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity and connectivity (BiodivConnect) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The call is planned to officially launch on 9 September 2025.</li> <li>A two-step application procedure will be used, with the pre-proposal submission deadline in early November 2025. After a first evaluation of pre-proposals, the deadline for submitting full proposals will be in early April 2026.</li> <li>An information webinar for potential applicants will be held on 11 September 2025, from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST.</li> </ul>
European Partnership Water4All <a href="https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/">https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/</a>	
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) <a href="https://dutpartnership.eu/">https://dutpartnership.eu/</a>	
European Partnership FutureFoods <a href="https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/">https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/</a>	The first call of FutureFoods Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The deadline for pre-submissions is January 15, 2025 (13:00 CET) <b>(CLOSED)</b></li> <li>he deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST</li> </ul> <a href="https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/">https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/</a>

European Partnership Agroecology <a href="https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/">https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/</a>	<p>Second co-funded call AgroEcology Partnership <a href="https://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&amp;action=download&amp;id=955">https://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&amp;action=download&amp;id=955</a> is open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deadline for pre proposal submission is 17 February 2025, 14:00h CET. <b>(CLOSED)</b></li> <li>• Deadline for full proposal submission is 09 July 2025, 14:00h CEST.</li> </ul>
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) <a href="https://dutpartnership.eu/">https://dutpartnership.eu/</a>	<p><b>NEW:</b> Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0</a> <u>Foreseen timeline and information day</u></p> <p>The foreseen timeline for this call is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 September 2025: stage 1 opening</li> <li>• 9 September 2025: transnational info webinar (online)</li> <li>• 17 November 2025: stage 1 closing (Pre-Proposal submission deadline)</li> <li>• 20 February 2026: stage 2 opening</li> <li>• 23 April 2026: stage 2 closing (Full Proposal submission deadline)</li> <li>• Summer of 2026: decision-making</li> </ul> <p>On 9 September 2025 (10:00–13:00) , DUT will host an online information meeting for those who are interested. More information and registration can be found <a href="#">here</a>. NWO and SIA representatives will be available for your questions during a break-out session for The Netherlands.</p>
Joint Technology Initiatives	
Joint Programming Initiatives	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL):</b> <a href="http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/">http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE):</b> <a href="http://www.faccejpi.com/">http://www.faccejpi.com/</a></li> <li>• <b>Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR):</b> <a href="http://www.jpiamr.eu/">http://www.jpiamr.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU):</b> <a href="http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home">http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home</a></li> <li>• <b>Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans):</b> <a href="http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/">http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL):</b> <a href="http://www.jp-demographic.eu/">http://www.jp-demographic.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND):</b> <a href="http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/">http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe):</b> <a href="http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/">http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI):</b> <a href="http://www.waterjpi.eu/">http://www.waterjpi.eu/</a></li> <li>• <b>Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage):</b> <a href="http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/">http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/</a></li> </ul>

### Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **4 July 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list



Deadline	Call
14-07-2025	Deadline submission <b>Full proposals</b> (mandatory) for the <b>Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus (LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme</b> . The deadline for the submission of <b>Full proposals</b> (mandatory) is <b>14 July 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-programme">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-programme</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf</a>
02-09-2025	Deadline for <b>knowledge management proposal in Phase II ADM-LAB: Livings Labs for Adaptive Delta Management in Bangladesh</b> . Deadline for submission of a knowledge management proposal in Phase II is <b>Tuesday 2 September 2025, 14:00:00 CEST in ISAAC</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf</a>
09-09-2025	Foreseen Deadline for <b>Full Proposals INT - Global programs NWO-JST Japan call 2025</b> . <b>Closing date full application 9 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/int-global-programs-nwo-jst-japan-call-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/int-global-programs-nwo-jst-japan-call-2025</a> .
16-09-2025	<b>NEW</b> : Deadline for submission <b>Pre-proposals</b> for <b>PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers</b> . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is <b>16 September 2025, before 17:00:00 AST/11:00:00 CEST</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025</a>
September 2025	<b>Foreseen closing date 9<sup>th</sup> Call Eurostars</b> . Follow information on <a href="https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/eurostars">https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/eurostars</a>
30-10-2025	<b>NEW</b> : Foreseen deadline <b>full proposals Biodiversity and agriculture in balance collaboration between NWO and the Brazilian science council CNPq</b> . <b>Closing date full application 30 October 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/biodiversity-and-agriculture-in-balance">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/biodiversity-and-agriculture-in-balance</a> ?
24-02-2026	<b>NEW</b> : Deadline for submission <b>Full-Proposals</b> for <b>PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers</b> . The deadline for submitting full applications is <b>24 February 2026, before 17:00:00 AST/12:00:00 CET</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025</a>

## National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **4 July 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

10-07-2025	Deadline submission <b>Full Proposals Hydrogen and green electrons for special and fine chemicals. 13 March 2025 - Deadline to apply for preparatory workshops</b> . Participation in the two workshops is mandatory for the main applicant and the technical manager of the consortium. 7-9 April 2025 - First preparatory workshop. 12-14 May 2025 - Second preparatory workshop. <b>10 July 2025 - Deadline to submit full proposal</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-special-and-fine-chemicals">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-special-and-fine-chemicals</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/national-growth-fund/groenvermogen/nl/hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-specialities-and-fine-chemicals">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/national-growth-fund/groenvermogen/nl/hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-specialities-and-fine-chemicals</a> and <a href="https://groenvermogen.nl/org/en/event/information-meeting-groenvermogen-nl-rd-theme-6/">https://groenvermogen.nl/org/en/event/information-meeting-groenvermogen-nl-rd-theme-6/</a>
Until 31-07-2025	Deadline for submission <b>proposals Open Competition Domain Science - M 2024/2025</b> . Applications for the current round (2024/2025) can therefore be submitted until <b>31 July 2025 (continuous call)</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2024/2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2024/2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2024-25_EN_def%20%282%29.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2024-25_EN_def%20%282%29.pdf</a>
14-08-2025	Deadline submission <b>proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 14 August 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer</a>
02-09-2025	Foreseen deadline <b>Rubicon 2025 Round 2</b> . <b>Closing date full application 2 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-2">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-2</a>
02-09-2025	<b>NEW</b> : Deadline submission for <b>pre-proposals Veni round 2025</b> . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is <b>2 September 2025, by 14:00:00 CEST</b> . <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme</a>

09-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submitting <b>full applications</b> for <b>second round of the 2025 Doctoral Grant for Teachers</b> . The deadline for submitting an application is 9 September 2025, 14:00 (subject to change).
09-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission <b>pre-proposals</b> for <b>Call Open Competition L</b> . Closing date for pre-proposals 9 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh</a>
11-09-2025	Deadline Submitting <b>Full Proposals</b> for <b>NWA call Knowledge development ecological effects of wind farms on sea</b> . The deadline for submitting the proposal is Thursday 11 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-development-ecological-effects-of-wind-farms-on-sea">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-development-ecological-effects-of-wind-farms-on-sea</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20WPE%20final%2026-2-2025%20ENG%20def%20%282%29.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20WPE%20final%2026-2-2025%20ENG%20def%20%282%29.pdf</a>
11-09-2025	Deadline submitting <b>full proposals</b> <b>NGF: Strengthening the knowledge base for the high tech equipment sector: second call of the NXTGEN Hightech programme</b> . The deadline for submitting proposals is 11 September 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-strengthening-the-knowledge-base-for-the-high-tech-equipment-sector">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-strengthening-the-knowledge-base-for-the-high-tech-equipment-sector</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/2025-03-21%20NGF%20NXTGEN%202025%20ENV2.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/2025-03-21%20NGF%20NXTGEN%202025%20ENV2.pdf</a>
16-09-2025	Deadline for submission <b>proposals</b> for <b>Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025</b> . Deadline for submission of proposals round 2025-3 16 September 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-25-1">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-25-1</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20ENW-XS%202025_ENG.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20ENW-XS%202025_ENG.pdf</a>
16-09-2025	Deadline submission <b>Full Proposals</b> for call <b>Future Plastics: Development of safe plastics for a sustainable future</b> . Tuesday 16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST Deadline proposals. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-plastics-development-of-safe-plastics-for-a-sustainable-future">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-plastics-development-of-safe-plastics-for-a-sustainable-future</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/20250305%20KIC%20KIC%20Future%20plastics_development%20of%20safe%20plastics%20for%20a%20sustainable%20future.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/20250305%20KIC%20KIC%20Future%20plastics_development%20of%20safe%20plastics%20for%20a%20sustainable%20future.pdf</a>
16-09-2025	Deadline for submission <b>pre-proposals</b> for <b>Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026</b> . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is Tuesday 16th September 2025, before 14:00:00 hours CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026</a>
16-09-2025	Deadline submission <b>Pre-proposals</b> for <b>PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers</b> . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 16 September 2025, before 17:00:00 CEST/11:00:00 AST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach</a>
16-09-2025	<b>NEW:</b> Deadline submission of <b>Research Ideas</b> for <b>NWA call Opportunities and value chains for side streams in the protein transition</b> . The deadline for submitting research ideas is Tuesday 16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST (The Matchmaking will take place on Thursday 2 October 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. The deadline for submitting a request for review of (foreign) organisations is 13 January 2026 before 14:00:00 CET. EN tekst). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf</a>
17-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission <b>Full proposals</b> <b>KIC - Future Plastics 2024</b> . Closing date full application 17 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024</a>
18-09-2025	Deadline for submission <b>Full-proposals</b> <b>KIC Nature-inclusive decision making in business</b> . The deadline for submitting full proposals is September 18, 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf</a>
18-09-2025	Deadline submission <b>full applications</b> for <b>SSH Open Competition XS round 3</b> . Round 3: 18 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-competition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-competition</a>

	competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-1">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-1</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf</a>
07-10-2025	Deadline submission <b>proposals</b> NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 7 October 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer</a>
11-11-2025	Deadline for submission <b>Full applications</b> NWA Call 'Building blocks for integral policy on Planetary Health'. Closing date full application 11 November 2025 14:00 hrs. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-new-research-on-building-blocks-for-integral-policy-on-planetary-health">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-new-research-on-building-blocks-for-integral-policy-on-planetary-health</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/building-blocks-for-integrated-policy-on-planetary-health">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/building-blocks-for-integrated-policy-on-planetary-health</a>
12-11-2025	Deadline submission <b>proposals</b> NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 12 November 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer</a>
13-11-2025	<b>NEW:</b> Deadline for submission of <b>Full applications</b> Call Cellular Agriculture - towards larger scale and lower cost. Deadline for submitting proposals: 13 November 2025, by 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NGF%20CA%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20EN.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NGF%20CA%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20EN.pdf</a>
02-12-2025	Foreseen deadline for <b>Full application</b> call KIC Reducing health inequalities - technology for people in a lower social economic position. Closing date full application 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-reducing-health-inequalities-technology-for-people-in-a-lower-social-economic-position">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-reducing-health-inequalities-technology-for-people-in-a-lower-social-economic-position</a>
02-12-2025	Foreseen Deadline for <b>Rubicon 2025 Round 3</b> . Closing date full application 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-3">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-3</a>
From 13-01-2025 until 12-12-2025	Deadline submission <b>full proposals</b> Open Technology Programme 2025. Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis between 13 January 2025 until 12 December 2025, as long as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been reached.. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-opening-open-technology-programme-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-opening-open-technology-programme-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-technology-programme-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-technology-programme-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/CfP_OTP_2025_EN.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/CfP_OTP_2025_EN.pdf</a>
20-12-2025	Deadline submission <b>proposals</b> NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 20 December 2025 by 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer</a>
22-01-2026	Deadline submission <b>proposals</b> for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. <b>January 22, 2026, before 2:00:00 PM CET.</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation</a>
27-01-2026	<b>NEW:</b> Deadline submission for <b>Full applications</b> for Veni round 2025. The deadline for submitting full applications is 27 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme</a>
27-01-2026	<b>NEW:</b> Deadline submission of <b>Full Proposals</b> for NWA call Opportunities and value chains for side streams in the protein transition. The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 27 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf</a>
03-02-2026	Deadline submission <b>proposals</b> NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 3 February 2026 by 14:00:00 CET. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer</a>
03-02-2026	Deadline submission <b>Full proposals</b> Dutch Research Agenda - Research along Routes by Consortia 2025 (NWA-ORC 2025). Closing date full application 3 February 2026 14:00 hrs. <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2025-nwa-orc-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2025-nwa-orc-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWAORC2025_Call%20for%20Proposals_EN.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWAORC2025_Call%20for%20Proposals_EN.pdf</a>

03-02-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <b>Full applications for Call Open Competition L. Closing date full application 3 February 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh</a>
10-02-2026	<b>NEW:</b> Deadline for submission <b>full proposals NWO-NWA Call Future proof large rivers in the Netherlands.</b> <b>Deadline proposals: 10 February 2026, 14:00:00 CET.</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-open-for-applications">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-open-for-applications</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Rivieren_ENG_def.pdf">https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Rivieren_ENG_def.pdf</a>
12-02-2026	Foreseen Deadline for <b>Full applications NWO KIC Call Biochemical diversity.</b> Closing date full application 12 February 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-biochemical-diversity">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-biochemical-diversity</a>
24-02-2026	Deadline submission <b>Full proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers.</b> <b>The deadline for submitting full proposals is 24 February 2026, before 17:00:00 CET/12:00:00 AST.</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach</a>
14-04-2026	<b>NEW:</b> Foreseen deadline <b>Full proposals NOW-KIC call Fewer critical raw materials in the energy transition.</b> <b>Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/fewer-critical-raw-materials-in-the-energy-transition">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/fewer-critical-raw-materials-in-the-energy-transition</a> and <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant">https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant</a>
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission <b>Full-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026.</b> <b>The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 9th June 2026, before 14:00:00 hours CEST.</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026</a>
30-11-2026	<b>NEW:</b> Foreseen deadline for <b>full proposals call NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected species for sustainable fisheries policy.</b> <b>Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy</a>
21-01-2027	Deadline submission <b>proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation</b> This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. <b>January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET.</b> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation</a>

## Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on 4 July 2025. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	<b>Opening EFRO East Netherlands: Innovation projects priority 1</b> (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is € 11.7 million, of which € 10 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and € 1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel;
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	<b>Opening EFFE East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1</b> (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is €6.7 million, of which €5 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and €1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel.
From 16-09-2024 to 01-11-2024	<b>Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1, 2024 5:00 PM.</b> 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. <a href="https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/">https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/</a> and <a href="https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/">https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/</a>
2023-2024	<b>EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands:</b> For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost <a href="https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen">https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen</a>

2023-2024	<b>EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands:</b> For calls Kansen voor West III <a href="https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/">https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/</a>
2023-2024	<b>EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands:</b> For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN <a href="https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027">https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027</a>
2023-2024	<b>EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands:</b> For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus <a href="https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/">https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/</a>
24-02-2025 to 04-04-2025	<b>Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025:</b> from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4, 2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-10-2025	<b>Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025:</b> from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24 October, 2025 (until 5 p.m.).



## About the Wageningen Grant Office

### Wageningen Grant Office

The Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) is a team of experts across Wageningen University & Research (WUR) dedicated to supporting WUR's participation in national, European, and global funding programs. WGO offers information, guidance, and training on available funding opportunities and on effective, efficient application processes. The team includes specialized advisors, i.e. Grant Support Officers, Policy Officers, Liaison officers from various science groups and Officers dealing with Co-creation Value & Impact.

This expert team—providing second-line support services—delivers technical and personalized advice on specific funding programs and themes. They work closely with the liaison offices, which provide first-line support within the science groups.

WGO primarily focuses its generic support on Horizon Europe (including ERC, MSCA, Research Infrastructures under **Pillar 1**; Clusters, Missions, and Partnerships under **Pillar 2**, and EIC and WIDENING under **Pillar 3**), and on NWO-programmes (such as the **Talent Programme** (Veni-Vidi-Vici), **Open Competition M1 and M2 (OC)**, **Open Technology Programme (OTP)**, and **Research along Routes by Consortia (NWA-ORC)**). More specific support is given to large initiatives WUR coordinates.

Through the WGO web portal (<https://intranet.wur.nl/Project/GrantOffice>), users can access up-to-date information on the latest developments within specific funding programmes, along with links to relevant resources, documents, and contacts. There, also the link can be found to our funding identification tool Research Connect (<https://search.myresearchconnect.com/Default/Index?ReturnUrl=%2fHome>), that can be used by all WUR colleagues to assess national, European and global grant opportunities by themselves.

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