

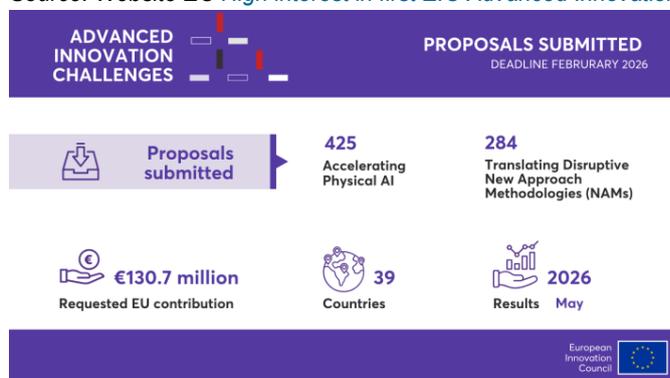
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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe

High interest in first EIC Advanced Innovation Challenges call (9 March 2026)

Source: Website EC High interest in first EIC Advanced Innovation Challenges call - European Innovation Council



The first European Innovation Council (EIC) Advanced Innovation Challenges call received 709 proposals across the two challenge topics. In total, applicants requested €130.7 million in EU funding to prepare and benchmark breakthrough solutions and explore their feasibility and viability

Submissions were distributed across the two challenge areas:

- Accelerating Physical AI: 425 proposals
- Translating Disruptive New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) into practice: 284 proposals

Proposals were submitted from 39 countries, with organisations from Germany, Italy and the Netherlands submitting the highest number of applications (84, 71 and 62 proposals respectively).

The majority of applicants were companies, with 490 participants (69%), followed by higher education establishments with 124 (17%) and research organisations with 89 (13%).

Background information

The Advanced Innovation Challenges (AIC) Pilot scheme supports high-risk, demand-driven deep tech innovations, particularly where strong research exists but market uptake remains limited. The pilot tests whether stage-gated funding and early involvement of demand-side actors can accelerate the path to market and strengthen the adoption of breakthrough solutions.

Next steps

Proposals will now be evaluated by independent experts. Applicants are expected to be informed of the results indicatively by May 2026. Each of the selected teams will receive €300 000 lump sum for up to nine months to prepare and benchmark their breakthrough solutions. The most promising ones will get the opportunity to apply for up to €2.5 million grants in 2027.

Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures info day (9 March 2026)

Source: [Website EC Events](#) | [The research and innovation community platform](#)

Information event targeted at potential applicants to the 2026 calls of the Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures Work Programme 2026–2027

When: 18 March 2026 10:00 (GMT+01:00)

About the event

This is an information event targeted at potential applicants to the 2026 calls of the Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures Work Programme 2026-2027, structured around four main destinations:

First, **INFRADEV**, which aims to develop, consolidate and optimise the European Research Infrastructures landscape, and maintain global leadership.

Second, **INFRAEOSC**, with the objective of enabling an operational, open and FAIR European Open Science Cloud ecosystem.

Third, **INFRASERV**, with the objective of offering services supporting transnational access to state-of-the-art facilities for researchers, relevant to a large research domain or in support of societal challenges and EU priorities.

Fourth, **INFRA TECH**, aiming to contribute to developing the next generation of scientific instrumentation, tools, methods and advanced digital solutions of Research Infrastructures.

Presentations

Please watch the pre-recorded presentations of the Work programme ahead of the event.

Video:

- [Destination INFRADEV: Consolidation and evolution of the European Research Infrastructure landscape](#)
- [Destination INFRAEOSC: Enabling an operational, open and FAIR EOSC ecosystem](#)
- [Destination INFRASERV: Research infrastructures services to support a healthier future, a global climate and energy vision, a circular and resilient economy, and to advance frontier knowledge](#)
- [Destination INFRA TECH: Next generation of scientific instrumentation, tools, methods, and advanced digital solutions of research infrastructures and fostering innovation and co-creation with industry](#)
- [Management of the Research Infrastructures Calls: Submission and Evaluation](#)

Documents:

- [Research infrastructures info day presentations](#)
-

Ask questions on 2026 INFRA calls

Ahead of the event, we advise you to watch the pre-recorded presentations of the WP and to send your questions in advance via [Sli.do](#), using [#infodayRI2026](#), so that they can be properly addressed during the live Q&A session of the research infrastructures info day.

Documents and links

- [Horizon Europe strategic plan](#)
- [Research Infrastructures Work Programme 2026-27](#)
- Video: [Your key to EU grants and tenders: the Participant Identification Code \(PIC\)](#)
- [Who should apply](#)
- [Support for applicants](#)

European Funding News: FP10

Germany's Helmholtz calls on EU to keep Horizon Europe research-driven (5 March 2026)

Source: Website Helmholtz [20260303_HELMHOLTZ_Position_to_Horizon_Europe_2028-2034_Draft_Regulation.pdf](#)

The Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres has published its position on the next Horizon Europe programme, calling on the EU to ensure sufficient support for fundamental science and earlier-stage research. The association wants the next Horizon Europe, due to start in 2028, to prioritise low-technology readiness level projects and ensure financing for fundamental research is not channelled to policy priority-driven programming. "Horizon Europe 2028-34 needs to retain its distinctive research-driven identity alongside industrial policy focused instruments," the paper says.

Read the full position paper here: [20260303_HELMHOLTZ_Position_to_Horizon_Europe_2028-2034_Draft_Regulation.pdf](#)

Competitiveness Council calls for a coherent approach to ECF and Horizon Europe (4 March 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Raad Concurrentievermogen pleit voor coherente aanpak ECF en Horizon Europe](#)

On 26 and 27 February, European research ministers met in Brussels for the Competitiveness Council meeting. The meeting focused on the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) and the new Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2028–2034). The ministers aim to reach a partial general position before the summer.



ECF and FP10: Ministers Call for Clarity on Coherence

On 26 and 27 February, European research ministers met in Brussels for the Competitiveness Council [Competitiveness Council \(Research\) - Consilium](#). Ministers emphasized that the ECF must be closely aligned with FP10, ensuring that promising projects progress from research to market. At the same time, they cautioned that fundamental research should not be subordinated to industrial or commercial interests. However, the precise relationship between the two instruments remains unclear. Ministers asked the Commission for more clarity on how the ECF and FP10 complement and reinforce each other. They also requested clarification on the definitions and practical application of dual-use research.

Excellence or Geographical Diversity?

One of the central points of contention is whether projects should be selected solely on the basis of scientific excellence, or whether geographical diversification should play an explicit role in the allocation of funds in FP10 and the ECF. Proponents of widening argue that funding based purely on excellence perpetuates existing inequalities between Member States. Opponents, on the other hand, fear that geographical criteria undermine scientific quality and Europe's competitiveness. The debate thus touches on a more fundamental question: should EU funding primarily support the most promising research projects, or should it also promote cohesion between Member States? Several ministers have indicated that they will not be able to adopt a common position before the summer.

Member States' Role Under Pressure

Another sticking point is the governance of the ECF. According to the Commission's proposal, Member States will have less direct influence on the fund's work programs, compared to the current setup under Horizon Europe. Several ministers opposed this and advocated for a stronger role for Member States in the substantive programming and adjustment of the ECF. They point out that national governments have a better understanding of the strategic priorities and needs of their research and innovation systems. While the Commission proposes involving stakeholders through a so-called Stakeholder Council, the composition and independence of this body remain largely unclear. How the formal role of Member States will ultimately be enshrined is therefore one of the open ends in the ECF negotiations.

Don't ignore basic research in next Horizon Europe, MEPs told (26 February 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Don't ignore basic research in next Horizon Europe, MEPs told | Science|Business](#)

Focus on competitiveness should not distract from the importance of fundamental science, research leaders tell European Parliament



From left to right: Maria Leptin, president of the European Research Council; Mirjam Storim, head of strategy and technology relations at Siemens Foundational Technologies; Maira Indrikova, vice-rector for research and at Riga Technical University; and former Portuguese science minister Manuel Heitor, speaking at the European Parliament on February 26. Photo credits: Allain Rolland / European Union

Support for basic research is an essential part of building European competitiveness, according to witnesses appearing before the European Parliament's industry and research committee on February 26.

"There's the narrative that in a geopolitical world, we need to prioritise applied instruments and industrial policy," said Maria Leptin, president of the European Research Council (ERC), during the hearing. "We all know the pressures that Europe is under, but we should be careful not to create a false hierarchy between frontier research and innovation." As head of the EU's main funding body for frontier research, Leptin might be expected to fight for her corner. But her view was echoed by others appearing before the MEPs.

Maira Indrikova, vice-rector for research and at Riga Technical University, said that a potential shift towards projects focused on high technology readiness levels (TRLs) could hinder the role of universities and higher education institutions, which currently receive the largest share of Horizon Europe funding.

"Industry typically focuses on products that are developed within five years [whereas] universities focus on long-term research," she said. "Sometimes, it takes 10-40 years until we see our breakthrough technologies," she added. "We need to balance the low TRLs together with the high TRLs [with regards to budget allocation]."

Speaking from industry, Mirjam Storim, head of strategy and technology relations at Siemens Foundational Technologies, said there should be a focus on industrial adoption through high TRLs. But "a clever mix" was most appropriate. "Seeing these different TRLs together in one bucket is a good start," she said.

Meanwhile, former Portuguese science minister Manuel Heitor, who chaired the European Commission's Expert Group on the Interim Evaluation of Horizon Europe, said it all comes down to the governance of funding allocation.

The expert group's report, published in 2024, said the Commission should apply lessons from the ERC and the European Innovation Council to launch two independent councils, one on industrial competitiveness and another one on societal challenges, which would set the funding agenda in Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe.

The recommendation was not picked up in the Commission's proposal dated July 2025, but Heitor urged MEPs to make room for it in the ongoing debate. "It really needs to be a programme which is governed by scientists and innovators, for scientists and innovators," he said.

Leptin said the ERC can offer guidance on how to set up such independent councils if that idea were to be put on the table again.

Budget talks

Turning to the Horizon Europe budget, Leptin said the increase proposed by the Commission shows that researchers are being taken seriously in the competitiveness and security debate. But “what’s on the table should be seen as a minimum, not as a final ambition.”

Heitor agreed, renewing a call for a €220-billion budget, which he deemed “the minimum acceptable.”

This budget is crucial if the Commission wants to close the innovation gap with the US and China. According to 2024 estimates, China and the US spent \$785.9 billion and \$781.8 billion respectively on R&D, way ahead of the EU with \$424 billion.

Since the US has fewer researchers than the EU, its expenditure per researcher is much higher. “In the EU, we spend roughly \$229,000 per researcher and in the US, that is half a million,” Leptin said. “If we increase only modestly while others continue at that scale, the gap does not close, it will widen.”

She also reminded MEPs that proposed EU research budgets had historically been cut towards the end of negotiations. “Not if, but when that happens again, the signal will be clear: Europe speaks about sovereignty and competitiveness, but it hesitates when it comes to sustained investment,” she added.

Strategic areas

According to Storim, strategic resource allocation will be needed to make the next Horizon Europe as efficient as possible. This means the EU should strengthen spending on areas where it is strong and can lead, such as industrial artificial intelligence, digital twins and cloud-edge computing.

She also wants to see the next Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund put an emphasis on digital and computing infrastructures. “I

Read full article here: [Don't ignore basic research in next Horizon Europe, MEPs told | Science|Business](#)

Policy experts advise rethink of European Competitiveness Fund (26 February 2026)

Source: [Website Science|Business](#) [Policy experts advise rethink of European Competitiveness Fund | Science|Business](#)

Idea that ECF should steer research priorities is “misconceived,” Parliament hears, as the research community issues governance advice



Johannes Jarlebring was one of several policy experts quizzed by MEPs. Photo credits: Alain Rolland / European Union

A rethink is needed to ensure the future European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) is effective and does not threaten the independence of the Horizon Europe research programme, experts told MEPs during a hearing on the ECF on February 25.

The European Commission had originally considered rolling the next iteration of the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, also known as FP10, into the proposed ECF. In the end, however, it decided FP10 should be a standalone programme with close connections to the ECF, with the latter focused more on industrialisation and deployment.

“I think there’s still a lingering idea that the ECF should orient Horizon Europe, and I think that’s perhaps a little bit misconceived,” said Johannes Jarlebring, senior researcher in political science at the Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies, before the Parliament’s industry and research committee.

“I think it would be better to clarify the complementary roles of these two different funds, where Horizon Europe has a specific role to generate new knowledge and disruptive innovation, and where the ECF should be focused on deploying knowledge and innovation.”

While precise details on the links between the two programmes [are currently missing](#) from the draft legislation, the intended connection can be seen within Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe, dedicated to collaborative research, which will be structured around the same four priority areas, or policy windows, as the ECF.

The Commission is currently planning to have a [single work programme](#) for each policy window, with specific sections for calls funded by Horizon Europe and the ECF. For Jarlebring, however, it “*could make sense*” to have different work programmes.

The experts appearing before the committee **also expressed concerns about the focus of the ECF**. “*I think the proposal we have right now is setting us up for failure*,” said Fredrik Erixon, founding director of the European Centre for International Political Economy. “*There are too many policy objectives, there are too many outcome objectives, there are too many sub-sectors and technologies that are being identified*.”

Philippine Lévy, researcher at the IDDRI think tank’s New Industrial Policies programme, likewise pointed to the broad range of technologies included in the ECF. “*We need to ask what we want this fund to do*,” she said. “*Do we want it to support existing industries that are competitive, or do we want to make sure that we identify where there’s a competitiveness gap?*”

A common criticism of the ECF proposal is the lack of a definition for competitiveness, but the experts disagreed about what this should be. For Lévy, any definition should include autonomy, resilience and decarbonisation.

According to Jarlebring, **increasing productivity should be the primary aim and autonomy** should be the subject of “*exceptional interventions*.” This is because interventionist policies related to autonomy and national security are likely to create disagreements among EU member states and are therefore more difficult to implement, while they could also be addressed through other tools such as trade diversification.

One thing is certain: the ECF will not come close to filling the €800 billion annual investment gap that Mario Draghi identified [in his report on competitiveness](#). As a result, its main role should be to promote risk-taking, as an “*incubator for ideas*” and for “*generating new technologies*,” said Laurian Lungu, co-founder of the think tank Consilium Policy Advisors Group.

For Erixon, the Commission is too focused on a macro view of industrial policy looking at investment gaps or comparing sectors with other countries, and is missing an “intervention logic” identifying the firms, sectors or regions where meaningful support could be provided. “It’s not about trying to plug an investment gap,” he said. “Try to drive as much innovation and as much change and disruption as possible.”

Research lobbies unite

The ongoing uncertainty around the ECF is a concern for the research community, which came together on February 25 to publish a [joint statement](#) setting out its vision for the ECF and its links to FP10. It follows [another joint publication](#) from December 2025 with proposed amendments to the FP10 proposal.

The latest statement says that the Commission’s proposal for the ECF risks “*creating a de facto hierarchy in which FP10 becomes subordinate to short-term priorities*,” and calls for “*clear legal safeguards*” to maintain FP10’s independence.

“*The Commission’s proposal for the creation of the ECF leaves many aspects insufficiently defined, particularly regarding how the ‘tight’ connection with FP10 will function in practice, which legal safeguards can ensure that FP10 is not subordinated to the ECF, and how to avoid creating silos while ensuring effective coordination between the two instruments*,” said Emmanuelle Gardan, director of the Coimbra group of universities.

Other organisations signing the statement included the Cesear university group, the European University Association, EU-Life, the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities, the League of European Research Universities and the Young European Research Universities Network.

“We stand ready to work with the European Commission and co-legislators to make the FP10–ECF interface fully operational,” said Orla Feely, president of Cesear.

The research lobbies are also backing separate work programmes for FP10 and the ECF in each policy window. They suggest creating two strategic stakeholder boards, one for Pillar 2 in FP10 and one for the ECF, to include input from experts including researchers. The Commission’s ECF proposal includes a strategic stakeholder board to

provide advice on the overall direction of the ECF and on “the identification of strategic portfolios of projects.” ([see next article](#))

The statement highlights the benefits of clear connections between the ECF and FP10, including through fast-track procedures so that results from FP10 can benefit from ECF instruments without starting from scratch. However, it notes that innovation does not follow a linear process, and says universities and research institutes should be able to contribute to both programmes.

Read full article here: [Policy experts advise rethink of European Competitiveness Fund | Science|Business](#)

European R&I organisations share their vision for a connected innovation-driven FP10 – ECF interface (25 February 2026)

Source: Website [The Guild](#) *European R&I organisations share their vision for a connected innovation-driven FP10 – ECF interface - The Guild*

The Guild together with six other research and innovation organisations put forward proposals of how the next Framework Programme for R&I (FP10) and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) should complement each other whilst preserving their respective autonomy.



Designing the European Competitiveness Fund: Key elements and the FP10–ECF interface



Building on our joint amendments for the Commission’s proposal for FP10, organisations representing the research and innovation sector present their vision to create an FP10 and ECF that are connected through a clear, structured interface. Such an interface should accelerate innovation pathways by enabling a smooth investment journey between the two instruments. At the same time, the programmes must remain autonomous and guided by expert-driven decision-making.

We urge for an ECF that accelerates the wider deployment of strategic and emerging technologies to boost Europe’s long-term competitiveness and prosperity. This innovation-driven competitiveness instrument should also reinforce Europe’s innovation ecosystem and strengthen its capacity to translate knowledge and innovation into impact at scale, benefitting not only Europe’s economy but also its society.

Universities and research-performing organisations are keen to work constructively and proactively with the European institutions and Member States to ensure this proposal becomes a reality and delivers tangible results for Europe’s future.

Read proposal: [the-guild_joint-ecf-statement_feb2026.pdf](#)

Other International funding

Commission invests over €103 million in European strategic environment and climate projects (9 March 2026)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_542

Today, the European Commission is investing **more than €103 million** in **seven strategic projects** across Europe with funding under the **LIFE programme**. They will contribute to strengthening the EU's prosperity, reinforcing economic stability, food systems and environmental ecosystems, while also improving public health and quality of life across the continent.

The selected projects are located in **Finland, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain**. Supporting and accelerating the implementation of EU environmental and climate policies, the projects are focused notably on climate and water resilience, nature restoration, circular economy and sustainable land use. These are expected to mobilise additional national public and private investment.

Seven strategic projects awarded in seven EU Member States

In **Finland**, **ACWA LIFE** aims to **restore and protect streams, lakes, coastal waters, river basins and groundwater** to secure water resources and ecosystem health. It will receive €16.5 million from the EU.

The **LIFE ADAPT EST** in **France** will **strengthen climate resilience** in the Grand Est region through more expertise on climate, water governance and infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events. The EU will provide €15.6 million to this project.

In **Greece**, **LIFE SIP GR Blue** focuses on **restoring marine ecosystems and reducing pollution**, marine litter and underwater noise across coasts and islands, strengthening ocean health and coastal livelihoods. The EU will provide €8.9 million to the project.

In the **Netherlands**, **CEL4LIFE** will support Limburg's **transition to a circular economy**. Aiming to halve raw material use in chemicals, manufacturing and construction by 2030, the project will receive €6.9 million from the EU.

In **Portugal**, the **LIFE IP AGRILLOOP** will **implement circular solutions** in the Azores, across agroforestry, agrifood and tourism, strengthening resource efficiency in the islands. It will receive €15.8 million of EU funding.

NatAdaptSK in **Slovakia** includes **nature-based solutions** for water, agriculture, forests and biodiversity to reduce climate risks for affected communities. The EU will provide €10.1 million to the project.

In **Spain**, **LIFE HumedalES** is the **largest project ever financed under the LIFE Programme**. The project aims to **restore** around 26,200 hectares of **wetlands** across 107 **Natura 2000** sites, improving flood protection, water security and biodiversity. It will receive €29.7 million of EU funding.

For more information: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_542

Strong response to Second Co-funded Call: 224 Pre-Proposals submitted (26 February 2026)

Source: Website FutureFoods Partnership <https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/news/results-of-the-second-call>

The second co-funded call of the FutureFoodS Partnership drew significant interest, with **224 pre-proposals submitted** across 3 topics. This strong response shows the commitment of the research and innovation community to advancing sustainable food systems.



More than **1,400 research actors** joined forces to develop creative project ideas. The partnership expresses its gratitude to all researchers and to the **national and regional funding agencies** supporting the consortia. Appreciation also goes to the expert teams ready to evaluate the many submissions.

This call brings together **33 funding organisations from 20 countries**, working closely with the European Commission. Together, they are committing **up to €39 million** to support impactful research and innovation projects.

This financial effort reflects a shared ambition to build a more sustainable food future. The momentum confirms FutureFoodS' key role in fostering collaboration and driving innovation across Europe's food systems.

Read more here: <https://www.futurefoodpartnership.eu/news/second-joint-transnational-co-funded-call> and <https://www.futurefoodpartnership.eu/news/results-of-the-second-call>

National funding

7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors (9 March 2026)

Source: Website NWO news [7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors | NWO](#)



The agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors face various challenges, for example in relation to production and sustainability. Thanks to recent breakthroughs in the field of artificial intelligence (AI), AI technology can contribute to finding solutions to these challenges. The KIC call ‘KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water, and food 2026’ invites researchers to form public-private consortia and submit research proposals on this topic.

The focus of research proposals within this call can vary from the application and further development of existing AI algorithms to demonstrating a proof-of-principle that is relevant to the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors. AI technology can support these sectors, for example in improving and making production in agriculture and horticulture more sustainable, in improving water management, allocation, and security, and in ensuring a healthy, nutritious, and safe food supply.

This is a revised version of a call of the same name from 2023. For this new call, the conditions for the focus of the research, co-funding, and interdisciplinarity have been made more attractive. All details can be found in the call for proposals.

Read the full call for proposals here: [KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 | NWO](#)

Download call for proposals here: [Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026](#)

Budget and deadlines

The deadline for submitting proposals is October 13, 2026, before 14:00 CEST.

The total budget for this call for proposals is 7 million euro. Consortia can apply for a minimum of 600,000 and a maximum of 1,840,000 euro in NWO funding. NWO will fund a maximum of 80% of the total project size; the rest of the project budget will be contributed through the mandatory 20 percent co-funding (in cash or in-kind).

Interested in joining a consortium?

To support the formation of consortia, NWO is organizing a matchmaking meeting on April 2, 2026. Here, interested parties, such as researchers, companies, and other organizations, can get to know each other better, pitch and exchange ideas, and discuss opportunities for collaboration. Participation in this meeting is not mandatory, but it is recommended.

Read full news item here: [7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors | NWO](#)

Twelve innovative research projects launched through the Weave pilot in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme (6 March 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Twelve innovative research projects launched through the Weave pilot in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)



The NWO Science Board has approved grant applications within the Weave pilot in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme for which NWO acted as partner agency. These proposals were submitted to the German research funder Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and the Flemish research funder Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO) as lead agency. DFG and FWO carried out the assessment according to their procedure and criteria. Decision making takes place on both sides. NWO followed the advice of the lead agency in the decision.

It is still possible to submit applications within the Weave pilot in the Open Competition Domain Science – M. Applications with DFG as lead agency and NWO as partner agency can be submitted to DFG at any time between 7 August 2025 and 31 July 2026. The deadline for submitting applications with FWO as lead agency and NWO as partner agency is 1 April 2026. More information about submission conditions and deadlines can be found in the call for proposals for the [Open Competition Domain Science – M](#). Applications with DFG as lead agency will be assessed throughout the year. Applications with FWO as lead agency will be assessed according to the FWO timeline. More information can be found on the FWO website.

For more information about granted projects: [Twelve innovative research projects launched through the Weave pilot in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)

39 researchers receive Vici grant (26 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [39 researchers receive Vici grant | NWO](#)



What is the welfare wall and why do we encounter it? How do lightning fires threaten permafrost soils? What do we know about restoring disrupted communication between brain cells after cardiac arrest? Or how can you replace pesticide use with potato microbiomes? These are just a few of the 39 research projects by scientists who have just received a Vici grant. Each researcher receives a maximum of one and a half million euros from NWO. The grant is an incentive for adventurous, talented and groundbreaking researchers.

The Vici grant enables researchers to develop an innovative line of research and further expand a research group over the next five years. Vici is one of the largest personal scientific grants in the Netherlands and is aimed at advanced researchers. The funding instrument makes it possible to conduct research of one's own choosing. This gives innovative scientific research a boost.

From welfare walls to brain research

The researchers who have received a Vici grant are conducting research on a wide range of topics. For example, one of the researchers is focusing on so-called “welfare walls”. Millions of people could escape poverty with government aid,

but many do not apply for benefits such as housing benefit. This is referred to as “non-take-up” of government services. By talking to citizens and developing a model, researchers hope to better understand and reduce such a “non-take-up” of existing government services – a serious problem that increases poverty.

But not just walls, also the soil is a subject of research. Permafrost soils contain a lot of carbon, which can be released when the soil thaws after fires. And it is precisely in cold areas that lightning fires are becoming more frequent and more intense. This project uses satellite data, among other things, to map lightning fires and predict future changes in lightning and fires. In this way, this research contributes to the protection of permafrost and the prevention of additional greenhouse gas emissions, thereby helping to achieve climate goals.

Sustainability is also central to a Vici research project into the potato microbiome. In order to feed the world's population sustainably, crops are needed that can resist disease without the use of large amounts of pesticides. The potato microbiome – beneficial microbes in the soil, roots and leaves of the potato plant – can offer a solution here and provide natural protection against disease. Using AI, advanced imaging and soil samples from a hundred potato fields, researchers are investigating which microbes can provide protection.

Finally, in a last example of an awarded Vici grant, brain research wants to tackle the question of how communication between brain cells is disrupted after cardiac arrest and how it can be restored. The project is studying this using computer analyses, microscopes and measurements of cerebrospinal fluid. These new insights could lead to better predictions of recovery chances and new treatments for coma patients.

Four WUR PI's received a Vici Grant

Smell yourself healthy? **Dr. S.B. Boesveldt (F)**, Wageningen University & Research

Doing Science Differently? **Dr. D.J. Ludwig (M)**, Wageningen University & Research

Insects' invisible influencers: **Dr. ir. V.I.D. Ros (F)**, Wageningen University & Research

Redefining how insects develop into males or females: **Dr. E.C. Verhulst (F)**, Wageningen University & Research

Facts and figures

The Vici grants are awarded annually by NWO. In 2025, total of 384 pre-proposals were submitted (151 by women and 233 by men). After selection in the pre-proposal phase, 131 applications were submitted (49 by women and 82 by men), of which 39 were awarded (18 to women and 21 to men). The award rates relative to the number of preliminary applications submitted for the 2025 Vici round are therefore: 12 percent for women (18 out of 151) and 9 percent for men (21 out of 233). In relation to the number of applications submitted, the allocation rate is 37 percent for women (18 out of 49) and 26 percent for men (21 out of 82).

For more information about funded projects: [Vici 2025 | NWO](#)

KIC call opened: AI-driven early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases (25 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [KIC call opened: AI-driven early detection of \(emerging\) outbreaks of infectious diseases | NWO](#)



Would you like to collaborate on developing AI-driven early detection? This technology should contribute to the early identification of infection hotspots in the Netherlands and the prevention of disruptive epidemics. NWO invites researchers in the arts, humanities and social sciences, the business community and public and social organisations to participate in the KIC call “Early detection of (impending) outbreaks of infectious diseases”.

The call is now open for proposals. An information meeting will be held on 10 March, and collaborative workshops will be organised on 19 March and 16 April.

Who is it for?

Researchers in the arts, social sciences and natural sciences are invited to collaborate with the business community and public and social organisations to develop AI-driven early warning systems. This should contribute to the early detection of infection hotspots in the Netherlands and the prevention of disruptive epidemics.

Purpose of the call

The purpose of this programme is the (further) development of AI-driven early warning systems. The focus is on the use and combination of already available, non-biomedical data sources for the early detection of infectious disease outbreaks. Combining these data sources with existing biomedical surveillance, such as data from the veterinary domain, general practitioners or screening, is an important innovation. This will enable the early detection of infection hotspots in the Netherlands and prevent disruptive epidemics. Applicants are also recommended to seek alignment with existing national and international initiatives and/or networks.

Applicants are encouraged to develop a plan for data infrastructure, revenue models and a response plan and/or integrate these into existing plans. Therapy and vaccine development are not covered by the call for proposal.

Read call for proposals here: [KIC - Early detection of \(emerging\) outbreaks of infectious diseases | NWO](#)

Download call for proposals here: [Call for Proposals - Early detection of \(emerging\) infectious disease outbreaks](#)

Deadline and budget

The deadline for submitting proposals is 6 October 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. A minimum of €2,000,000 and a maximum of €3,500,000 in NWO funding can be requested for a proposal. NWO will finance up to 90% of the total project scope; the remainder of the project budget will be contributed through mandatory co-funding. NWO never finances less than 50% of the total project scope.

Information meeting

Would you like more information about the KIC call and do you have any questions? Then register for the online information meeting on Tuesday 10 March, from 9.30 to 11.00 a.m.

Collaborative workshops

On 19 March and 16 April 2026, from 12:00 to 17:00, collaborative workshops will be held at the NWO office in Utrecht. These workshops are also open to companies and social partners. Participation in both workshops is mandatory for main applicants. More information and the registration form can be found in the agenda.

Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of (in)action (24 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of \(in\)action | NWO](#)

The Knowledge-in-Action grant mobilises science and practice for just climate transitions through doing-by-learning and learning-by-doing. Knowledge institutions and societal organisations can jointly apply for up to €50,000 for transformative, experimental intervention-projects to collaboratively explore what the value of transition can look like: what possible solutions, investigative questions and transition learning goals can accelerate the desired transition?

The Knowledge-in-Action grant stimulates collaboration between science and practice to accelerate Economic Transition. This program brings together the costs of inaction and the benefits of action, where costs and benefits are defined broader than money alone: this call challenges societal partners and researchers to develop concrete interventions in co-creation and learning that contribute to an economy that puts wellbeing, ecology and justice at its core. Proposals can be submitted on specific sub-themes of the Knowledge-in-Action Agenda (chapter 2.2).

The intended result is transformative knowledge and practical breakthroughs arising from action-oriented, cyclical processes of experimenting, researching and adjusting.

This thematic call welcomes diverse approaches - from (trans)disciplinary, visual, design-oriented, entrepreneurial or very process-oriented, reflective or activist - as long as they unite practice and research to develop and share knowledge. The grant offers a unique opportunity to contribute to sustainable, just solutions for economic transition.

Closing date full application: 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs.

There will be two online information sessions about this grant:

- on 9 march (11:00-12:00h)
- on 2 april (13:00-14:00h)

Read full article here: [Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of \(in\)action | NWO](#)

Download call for proposals here: [Call for Proposals - Kennis in Actie](#)

For more information: [Economic Transition: the Costs and Benefits of \(In\)Action - Het KIN and](#)

Doctoral grant for Teachers, 2nd round 2026 (23 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Doctoral grant for Teachers, 2nd round 2026 | NWO](#)

This grant offers teachers the opportunity to pursue a PhD. The programme helps teachers combine their PhD-project with their responsibilities at school.

Purpose

Teachers from primary, secondary, further vocational, higher vocational and special education can receive a grant for a PhD study. The aim is to directly apply the knowledge and research experience acquired for the benefit of educational practice. A higher number of practising teachers with a PhD also increases the quality of education and strengthens the connections between universities and schools. You can apply for a PhD grant for any research subject. However, you must be able to indicate the importance.

There are two submission rounds annually for the Doctoral Grant for Teachers, with submission deadlines in January and June.

Closing date full application: 11 June 2026 14:00 hrs.

Information session Doctoral Grant for Teachers: 27 March 2026, 13:00 - 16:20



On Friday 27 March 2026, an online information session will be held about the Doctoral Grant for Teachers. The programme secretary, a committee member and a PhD laureate will give short presentations about the programme.

This will be followed by workshops. More information about the speakers and the workshops will be announced shortly on the [speakers page](#).

Read full article here: [Information session Doctoral Grant for Teachers | NWO](#)

Download call for proposals here: [Call for Proposals](#)

Regional funding

Funding for innovative collaboration with European regions – Vinnovate call open from 2 March 2026 (26 February 2026)

Source: Website [Financiering voor innovatieve samenwerking met Europese regio's – Vinnovate-call open vanaf 2 maart 2026 | Oost NL](#)

This program encourages cross-border collaboration between entrepreneurs and knowledge institutions in selected European regions. This accelerates innovation, expands your network, and collaborates on solutions with international impact.

What is Vinnovate and who can participate?

Vinnovate supports SMEs that develop innovative projects together with European partners.

You must submit an application as a consortium of at least two organizations from two different participating regions and countries. Each consortium must include at least:

- one SME from the Eastern Netherlands
- with one partner from another participating region

This partner can be another SME, but also a knowledge institution, research or technology center, university, or larger company.

Characteristics of eligible projects

- Funding & activities**
 - Grant (funding rate specified at regional level)
 - Supporting TRLs 6-8 activities
- Scope**
 - Solutions for a smarter, a more sustainable or a more autonomous industry
 - Thematically linked to at least one VI Pilot
- Consortia**
 - At least two organisations from at least two different countries
 - At least one SME cooperating with at least one other organisation (company, research/technology centre and/or university)
- Range**
 - Total project costs: min. 100.000€
 - Total project duration: max. 30 months

Thema's 2026

De Vinnovate Call 2026 richt zich op de volgende thema's:

- Bio-economie
- Smart Production
- 3D-printing
- Smart Energy
- Smart health
- Waterstof

Projecten dragen bij aan een slimmere en/of duurzamere industrie en sluiten aan bij de EFRO-prioriteiten van Oost-Nederland.

Key Dates

- Opening Call: March 2, 2026 (5:00 PM CET)
- Project Fit Form Submission Deadline: September 10, 2026 (11:59 PM CET)
- (Review within 10 business days of submission)

- Full Proposal Submission Deadline: October 10, 2026 (11:59 PM CET)
- Results Communication: Second half of December 2026

[Financiering voor innovatieve samenwerking met Europese regio's – Vinnovate-call open vanaf 2 maart 2026 | Oost NLi](#)

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

European Commission presents first European Research Security Monitor (5 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

The European Commission has published the first European Research Security Monitor. The report maps how Member States address risks such as unwanted knowledge transfer and foreign interference and serves as a qualitative baseline. The Commission notes that approaches vary significantly between Member States and that further steps are needed. In the Netherlands, a national approach to knowledge security has been under development since 2020. National guidelines have been developed, a Knowledge Security Desk has been established to advise on international cooperation, and administrative agreements have been made with the higher education sector. A legislative proposal is also being drafted for mandatory screening of researchers in sensitive knowledge domains, and research funders and universities are applying additional assessments for high-risk collaborations.

European Research Security Monitor: [Research security monitor 2025 - Publications Office of the EU](#)

Court of Auditors: EU Agricultural Innovation Programme Underperforming (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

The EU tool for boosting productivity and sustainability in agriculture through innovation – EIP AGRI – has not delivered its full potential, according to a special report published today by the European Court of Auditors (ECA). Although nearly €1 billion in EU and national funding was devoted to fostering innovative practices in agriculture under the tool between 2014 and 2022, it often failed to produce innovations that were useful, practical or widely adopted. The auditors recommend focusing on farmers’ practical needs, improving project selection, and disseminating results more effectively, so that the entire sector can benefit from innovation.

The European innovation partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP AGRI), which was introduced in 2012, is financed by the common agricultural policy (CAP) and the EU research and innovation policy (Horizon programme). Under the 2014-2022 CAP, the tool supported more than 4 000 innovation projects that were intended to boost productivity and sustainability through collaboration between farmers, researchers, advisers, and agri-food businesses.

This is the conclusion of a report by the European Court of Auditors. A sample of 70 projects from over 4,000, including some from the Netherlands, revealed that the selection process often failed to assess whether a project was truly innovative or offered clear added value for agriculture. Farmers were also often insufficiently involved. The Court of Auditors recommends focusing more on the specific needs of the sector, tightening project selection, and improving the sharing of results.

Report by the European Court of Auditors: [news-sr-2026-09 | European Court of Auditors](#)

JRC: Clear innovation gap between urban and rural regions (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

Innovation in the European Union remains highly concentrated in urban regions, while rural areas lag behind. This is evident from an analysis by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. Urban regions invest an average of 2.4% of their GDP in R&D, compared to 1.6% in rural regions, and register significantly more patents, trademarks, and

industrial designs per inhabitant. At the same time, the report shows that some rural regions perform above average, even exceeding the EU urban average.

Joint Research Centre Press Release: [Urban-rural innovation divide: new metrics reveals rural regions that excel - Joint Research Centre](#)

Joint Research Centre Publication: [JRC Publications Repository - Innovation in the EU: technological and creative performances in numbers across urban and rural regions](#)

President von der Leyen launches OceanEye and calls for an international alliance to reinforce global ocean observation and protection (2 March 2026)

Source: Website EC [President von der Leyen calls for an international alliance to reinforce global ocean observation](#)

Today, the President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, called for an International Alliance to reinforce and expand ocean monitoring and observation. The Alliance will support OceanEye, the European Ocean observation initiative, with the aim to enhance global ocean observation efforts and collaboration.

President **von der Leyen** has also announced the EU contribution of €50 million from [Horizon Europe](#) to the International Alliance for 2026-2027.

OceanEye

The European Ocean observation initiative was first announced by President von der Leyen, along with Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans, Costas Kadiris, during the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference.

Building on the [European Digital Twin of the Ocean \(EDITO\)](#) and [Copernicus' marine programme](#), OceanEye aims to lay the foundation for Europe's sovereign and cutting-edge ocean observation technology infrastructure supporting international efforts in ocean observation and protection.

Ocean observation is key in collecting data needed to understand the state of the ocean, predict and mitigate the impacts of climate change, enhance the competitiveness of our economic activities at sea, and contribute to our maritime security. OceanEye, being an essential element of the [European Ocean Pact](#), will support EU ocean technology and innovation, and will position the EU at the forefront of international efforts to deliver a sustained Global Ocean Observing System.

International Alliance

The announced Alliance will unite EU Member States and international partners through commitments to secure funding and provide a framework for coordinated action and cooperation. It will ensure secure access to open and free ocean data for both the EU and international partners. It will support the [Global Ocean Observing System](#) capacities, in partnership with UNESCO's [Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission](#).

Next steps

OceanEye will be adopted by the Commission later in 2026 to take into account the feedback received following the [call for evidence on the EU ocean observation initiative](#). A pledging event to gather contributions for the International Alliance will be organised in September. The Commission set the objective of having a fully operational European Ocean Observation System by 2030.

Read full article here: [President von der Leyen calls for an international alliance to reinforce global ocean observation](#)

EU strengthens science diplomacy and research security to support global research cooperation (27 February 2026)

Source: Website EC [EU strengthens science diplomacy and research security to support global research cooperation - Research and innovation](#)

As geopolitical competition intensifies, research and innovation are becoming central to economic strength and global influence.

Today, the European Commission presented a **new set of measures to strengthen** how Europe engages internationally through research and innovation. The initiative aims to **reinforce Europe's global partnerships**, while safeguarding its **strategic interests**, keeping international cooperation open and secure, and enhancing Europe's attractiveness for talent and innovation worldwide.

Proposal for a Council recommendation on a European Union framework for science diplomacy

The Commission has adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation establishing the first EU framework for science diplomacy.

The initiative aims to enable the EU and its Member States to act more strategically and speak with one voice when engaging internationally through research and innovation. It seeks to strengthen Europe's competitiveness, promote democratic values and support cooperation to address global challenges, while improving coordination and the efficient use of expertise and resources across the Union.

Research Security Monitor 2025

The Research Security Monitor provides a qualitative baseline for research security policies and measures across the EU.

It supports Member States, research organisations and funders in strengthening safeguards through peer learning and the exchange of good practices. The report shows growing awareness of research security risks in international cooperation, while highlighting that further efforts are needed as policy maturity levels continue to vary across Member States.

Global Approach Implementation Report 2023-2025

The Global Approach Implementation Report 2023–2025 reviews progress in implementing the EU's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation.

It confirms the continued relevance of the strategy and highlights EU action to promote fair and reciprocal cooperation, strengthen global partnerships and pool international efforts on shared priorities such as the green and digital transitions and global health.

Background

Science diplomacy refers to the direct or indirect use of science, scientific evidence and scientific cooperation to support diplomatic objectives at different levels as well as the deployment of diplomacy to support scientific progress. The Proposal for a Council recommendation on a European Union framework for science diplomacy builds on the expert report [A European Framework for Science Diplomacy – Recommendations of the EU Science Diplomacy Working Groups](#), which was published by the European Commission in February 2025, being the result of a year-long consultation process that involved 130 science and diplomacy experts.

Research security addresses risks related to the undesirable transfer of critical knowledge and technology, malign influence on research, and violations of ethics and integrity. In 2024 the EU took important steps to address this issue by adopting the [Council Recommendation on enhancing research security](#), in the context of the [European Economic Security Strategy](#). The Council Recommendation is a reference point that contains common definitions, shared principles and guidance on what an effective and proportionate policy response might look like.

The [Global Approach to Research and Innovation](#) foresees that the Commission presents every two years a report on its implementation. The second biennial report on the implementation of the Global Approach to Research and Innovation 2023-2025 follows the [first report](#) which was published in May 2023. It presents the Commission's activities in the period between June 2023 and December 2025.

French research actors call on Europe to unite around competitiveness (26 February 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [French research actors call on Europe to unite around competitiveness | Science|Business](#)

Paris-Saclay Call appeals for European scale and for better alignment between national and European strategies



The research community launched the Paris-Saclay Call during the Paris-Saclay Summit on February 19. Photo credits: Communauté d'agglomération Paris-Saclay

Prominent voices in France's research community have urged European policymakers to stop thinking about fair national **returns on EU investments, and to focus instead on building the critical mass needed to compete with the US and China in strategic fields.**

The Paris-Saclay Call "**for a sovereign, free and competitive Europe through research and innovation**" was launched at the Paris-Saclay Summit on February 19, and urges decision-makers to "*make research a fully-fledged European political project.*"

The call has been **signed by universities and alliances in France and across Europe**, including France Universités, **Denmark's Aarhus University**, and **Wageningen University and Research in the Netherlands**. It also has the support of companies and a long list of research organisations such as France's CNRS, Inria, Institut Pasteur, and the European Institute for Energy Research in Germany.

"Major scientific and technological advances are first of all the result of cooperation, of the circulation of talent, on shared infrastructures, and in this regard the right level is the European level," said Sylvie Retailleau, former French research minister, as she presented the text at the summit.

Research and innovation "can no longer be thought of simply as a sum of national efforts," Retailleau said. "It must be conceived of as a collective investment based on the sharing of risks, expertise and infrastructures, and on a strong link between public financing and private investment at European level."

The initiators of the appeal, addressed to national decision-makers and EU institutions, hope to contribute to ongoing discussions on the next iteration of Horizon Europe, which will run from 2028. The EU's flagship research fund plays a "central role" in national and European research systems, Retailleau said.

Five priorities

The text is structured around five priorities. The first is to focus **on European scale**, which it says is "the precondition for effective research and innovation." The second recommendation is **to preserve and promote academic freedom**.

The third priority is to **strengthen the continuum from fundamental research to innovation and industrialisation**, including through public-private partnerships and greater alignment between the different pillars in Horizon Europe.

The fourth area is related to **mastering critical technologies in energy, health, agriculture and food, digital technologies, AI, biotechnologies, quantum, advanced materials, space and defence**. The signatories call for shared research and computing infrastructures, multi-annual technology roadmaps and better links between research, regulation and industrialisation.

The final priority is to **align national and European strategies**, including by better supporting university alliances and cooperation between national research organisations.

The idea is to publish a follow-up text at a later stage with more practical propositions on each of the key themes, Retailleau said.

France's current research minister, Philippe Baptiste, welcomed the initiative. European sovereignty relies on key technologies such as energy, AI and quantum, but no European country is able to master all of them on its own, he said in a recorded message to the summit. "European scale is essential to reach critical mass and to be at the level of the two other great powers."

EU countries must go further by strengthening European collaboration, and by "deepening the European research and training area," Baptiste added. The call has been signed companies including EDF, Danone, Sanofi and STMicroelectronics, which say they recognise the value of European funding.

By pooling resources at European level, it's possible to take risks on very innovative technologies, said Yves Desbazeille, international director at EDF. With the proposed €409 billion for the new European Competitiveness Fund and €175 billion for the next iteration of Horizon Europe, "we can work, try new technologies, get things wrong," he said. "The funding is sufficiently large to do that. At the level of a country like France, we wouldn't be able to."

Read full article here: [French research actors call on Europe to unite around competitiveness | Science|Business](#)

Global policy

Tensions surrounding Greenland fuel debate on collaboration with China (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

Tensions between the United States and Europe over Greenland have led to renewed debate on research and technology collaboration with China, reports Science Business. Chinese diplomats are actively advocating for closer scientific ties. Discussions on new collaborations are currently underway in countries including Germany and the United Kingdom. At the same time, experts warn of risks related to knowledge security, military applications, and inadequate intellectual property protection. The EU has previously largely excluded Chinese universities from Horizon Europe. Several experts argue that Europe should not choose between Washington and Beijing, but instead focus on broader international partnerships.

Article Science Business: [China lobbies Europe to restore science ties after US Greenland threats | Science|Business](#)

CSIS: China Expands International Influence Through High-Tech (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

According to the report "The Power of Innovation" from the think tank CSIS, China's innovation ecosystem has strengthened significantly over the past 20 years, although success varies by sector and structural weaknesses persist. Technological progress translates into, among other things, more military applications and greater influence on international technical standards. CSIS advises the United States and like-minded countries to invest specifically in their own technological strengths and mitigate risks, but not to break away from China entirely.

CSIS Analysis: [The Power of Innovation: The Strategic Value of China's High-Tech Drive](#)

Nature: Increasing militarization could alter scientific careers (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

The growth of defense budgets could dramatically alter research careers and scientific priorities, Nature writes in an analysis. Global military spending rose by 9.4 percent in 2024. According to researchers, this could lead to shifts in research funding, potentially benefiting AI, for example, and putting pressure on climate research. In OECD countries, public R&D expenditure on health fell by 11.5 percent between 2020 and 2024, while defense R&D increased by 17 percent. Experts also report less international cooperation and more regional blocs. Technological inequality between countries is also growing. Meanwhile, the Dutch Ministry of Defense is seeing that innovation is becoming increasingly important for military personnel, and that this is having real consequences for their daily work, a spokesperson told NOS.

Article Nature: [Five ways increased militarization could change scientific careers](#)

Article NOS: [Defensie is 'kraamkamer van innovatie', maar dat heeft gevolgen voor militairen \(in Dutch\)](#)

WIPO: Technology spreads at historically fast pace, but inequality persists (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

New technologies are spreading globally faster than ever, but disparities in access and use persist, reports the World Intellectual Property Organization in its annual report. It states that innovations can now be used globally within days, while this previously took decades. International knowledge flows have doubled in speed in 50 years, and geographical distance plays almost no role in the spread of new technological knowledge. At the same time, innovation leadership remains concentrated in the United States, Western Europe, and Japan, with China playing a growing role.

WIPO Report: [World Intellectual Property Report: Pace of Innovation Diffusion Reaches Historical Heights, But Access, Usage and Capability Gaps Remain](#)

Stanford Maps Strategic Breakthrough Technologies and Policy Implications (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

Stanford University has published the Stanford Emerging Technology Review 2026, which examines developments in ten strategic technology areas and their policy implications. The review covers areas including AI, biotechnology, energy, quantum technology, semiconductors, and space travel, and is intended as a tool for (US) policymakers to seize opportunities and manage risks. The report shows that developments in these domains reinforce each other, for example, when AI is used in materials research or biotechnology. According to the researchers, US technology policy is shifting from a broad focus on climate and international cooperation to an emphasis on strategic competition with China, technological dominance, and energy security. The university also emphasizes the need for continued investment in R&D, talent, and manufacturing capacity.

Stanford University Publication: [SETR | Stanford Emerging Technology Review](#) | [Stanford Emerging Technology Review](#)

Stanford University Report: [The Stanford Emerging Technology Review 2026](#)

National policy

The Young Academy advocates for a maximum number of PhD candidates per supervisor (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

If scientists supervise too many PhD candidates simultaneously, this will be detrimental to the quality of that supervision and to equal opportunities for scientists. The Young Academy therefore wants a reasonable limit on the number of PhD candidates per supervisor. According to the Young Academy, these so-called "profchickens" are both the result and the driver of an unequal distribution of opportunities and resources within academia. "In the Dutch science system, grants are primarily used to appoint PhD candidates. But the grant system leads to inequality: those who receive a Veni grant have a greater chance of receiving a Vidi grant, and this process continues," it states.

News item The Young Academy: [Profkip in gesprek over promotiebegeleiding | De Jonge Akademie \(in Dutch\)](#)

Article HOP/U-Today: [Weg met de 'profkip', zegt De Jonge Akademie - U-Today \(in Dutch\)](#)

EU report signals decline in academic freedom in the Netherlands (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

Academic freedom in the Netherlands has declined significantly over the past 10 years, concludes the European Parliament's Academic Freedom Monitor 2025. The Netherlands will score 0.76 on the Academic Freedom Index in 2024, placing it below the EU average of 0.84. For example, institutional autonomy has deteriorated significantly during this period. Furthermore, the Netherlands has shifted from status group A to B within the EU classification. A total of 16 Member States saw their scores decline. According to the European Parliament, political interference, polarization, security policy, and foreign influence pose the main risks to academic freedom in the European Union.

European Parliament Press Release: [Academic Freedom Monitor 2025 - Analysis of academic freedom trends in the EU | Panel for the Future of Science and Technology \(STOA\) | European Parliament](#)

European Parliament Report: [Academic Freedom Monitor 2025](#)

Knowledge sector and business advocate for a coherent and future-proof talent policy (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

The new government must proactively develop a coherent, future-proof talent strategy. This is the argument of a broad group of innovative start-ups and scale-ups, established companies, knowledge institutions, and industry organizations in a call to action to the new government. According to the organizations, this strategic challenge requires an integrated approach focused on training, attracting, and retaining the broad spectrum of talent the Netherlands needs to safeguard its innovative strength and earning potential. The call makes several recommendations, including maintaining the international character of higher education and encouraging talent to establish themselves long-term.

News item UNL: [Pleidoi voor een coherent en toekomstbestendig talentbeleid | Universiteiten van Nederland \(in Dutch\)](#)

Call for a coherent and future-proof talent policy: [Pleidoi voor een coherent en toekomstbestendig talentbeleid_Feb26 \(6\).pdf \(in Dutch\)](#)

Rathenau Institute: Development of practice-oriented research continues (5 March 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 5 March 2026

Dutch universities of applied sciences are participating in a growing number of research projects, both nationally and internationally. This is evident from the Rathenau Institute's 2024 Practice-oriented Research Monitor. In 2024, total investment in practice-oriented research increased by 24%. "The fact that the monitor once again shows that research at universities of applied sciences is being organized more professionally and is growing in scale is an

important signal," says VH chairman Maurice Limmen. The new coalition agreement states that more practice-oriented research is needed. Limmen calls on the cabinet to translate this commitment into concrete, structural investments.

News item Association of Universities of Applied Sciences: [Vereniging Hogescholen | Praktijkgericht onderzoek in hbo helpt Nederland steeds meer vooruit \(in Dutch\)](#)

Rathenau Institute publication: [Ontwikkeling praktijkgericht onderzoek zet door | Rathenau Instituut \(in Dutch\)](#)

ESB: R&D sub-top performers have decreased their investments (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

Since 2018, R&D investments by the so-called R&D sub-top performers have consistently declined. This is evident from an analysis in the economics journal ESB. In recent years, R&D intensity has decreased for both the five percent with the highest R&D expenditures and the five percent below that. The decline is not problematic for the top performers. The researchers urge policymakers not to focus solely on the very largest R&D investors, but also to consider the group just below them. They also emphasize the importance of new business development in the form of start-ups that grow into scale-ups and attracting foreign R&D-intensive companies.

ESB Publication: [R&D-subtoppers zijn minder gaan investeren - ESB \(in Dutch\)](#)

Jetten Cabinet: Innovation Policy and Digitalization Transferred to the Ministry of Economic Affairs (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

This week, the Jetten Cabinet formally launched its mandate. The final portfolio allocation for the new cabinet has now been announced. Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy (EZK) Heleen Herbert will be responsible for innovation policy, among other things. Willemijn Aerdts, State Secretary for Economic Affairs, will start at the same ministry with the Digital Economy and Sovereignty portfolio. Most digital topics have been transferred from the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK), including the Dutch Digitalization Strategy. Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) Rianne Letschert will be responsible for further education and science policy, among other things.

Portfolio Allocation of the Jetten Cabinet: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/f0d89e0f-6a4b-4ad4-a4bc-6bd41e0432a0/file> (in Dutch)

Planning agencies present analysis of coalition agreement (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

Last week, various planning agencies published their analysis of the cabinet's plans. The CPB (Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis) states that scientific research and R&D will be stimulated to a limited extent. Furthermore, the CPB considers it plausible that financing options for scale-ups will improve, but for start-ups they will actually deteriorate. The PBL (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency) expects a decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, but warns that the current plans are insufficient to achieve the nitrogen targets. The SCP (Netherlands Institute for Social Research) acknowledges that the agreement aims to address several important challenges and makes choices to safeguard prosperity, but warns that little attention is paid to the policy's impact on inequalities in society and vulnerable groups. The SCP emphasizes the importance of feasibility and proper explanation of the plans.

CPB Analysis: [Analyse Coalitieakkoord 2026-2030 | CPB Website \(in Dutch\)](#)

PBL Analysis: [Reflectie CPB en PBL op Coalitieakkoord | Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving \(in Dutch\)](#)

SCP Analysis: [Een sociaal-maatschappelijke reflectie op het coalitieakkoord | Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau \(in Dutch\)](#)

SEO outlines options for quantifying the GDP impact of education and R&D (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

Investments in education, research, and development can increase productivity, strengthen earning capacity, and contribute to sustainable economic growth. In a report, research agency SEO outlines how these effects can be quantified for policy analysis. It also outlines a path toward more substantiated calculations of GDP effects. A majority of the House of Representatives has long advocated for such investments not to be considered solely as a cost item, while they actually contribute to future earning capacity. The report was submitted to Parliament last week. A substantive policy response and possible next steps are up to the new cabinet.

SEO Publication: [Slimme investeringen; Naar een kwantificering van de BBP-effecten van investeringen in onderwijs en onderzoek en ontwikkeling - SEO Economisch Onderzoek \(in Dutch\)](#)

Rathenau Institute: Incorporate voices from society and science into biotech policy (26 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 26 February 2026

Due to rapid developments in biotechnology, keeping knowledge and regulations up-to-date is becoming increasingly challenging. This is stated by the Rathenau Institute in its report "Towards a Responsive Biotech Policy," commissioned by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management. Policy and regulations primarily focus on health risks and environmental damage. The researchers recommend ensuring that signals from society are heard more effectively and paying greater attention to public values and ethical considerations.

Rathenau Institute News: [Luister en werk samen voor beter biotechbeleid | Rathenau Instituut \(in Dutch\)](#)

Rathenau Institute Publication: [Richting responsief biotechbeleid | Rathenau Instituut \(in Dutch\)](#)

Rianne Letschert joins cabinet, Peter Wennink acting chair of National Growth Fund advisory committee (23 February 2026)

Source: Website National Growthfund [Rianne Letschert naar kabinet, Peter Wennink waarnemend voorzitter adviescommissie Nationaal Groeifonds | Nationaal Groeifonds](#)

On February 23, 2026, Rianne Letschert was appointed Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW). She is therefore stepping down as chair of the National Growth Fund advisory committee.



In her role as chair, Rianne Letschert has championed a strong connection between science, innovation, and societal challenges in recent years. Under her chairmanship, the advisory committee guided investments in projects that contribute to the Netherlands' sustainable earning capacity: from technological breakthroughs to innovations in education, energy, healthcare, and digitalization.

We thank Rianne for her dedication and commitment to the National Growth Fund in recent years and wish her much success as Minister of Education, Culture and Science. Vice-chair Peter Wennink is provisionally acting chair of the National Growth Fund advisory committee.

More on this topic

In November 2025, we spoke extensively with Rianne Letschert about her role as chair and her vision for the significance and future of the National Growth Fund.

Read the interview with Rianne Letschert: [Het Nationaal Groeifonds, nu én in de toekomst: interview Rianne Letschert | Nationaal Groeifonds \(in Dutch\)](#)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 9 March 2026

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2026-AdG	Foreseen opening: 28 May 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 27 August 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Advanced Grant</i>)
ERC-2026-PoC	17 March 2026 and 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Proof of Concept Grant</i>)
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01	Opening 28 May 2026 and deadline 24 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 • TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates • TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01	Foreseen opening 26 May 2027 and foreseen deadline 23 November 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01 Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2027</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 • TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates • TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01	Opening 9 April 2026 and deadline 9 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Fellowships • Global Fellowships
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01	Foreseen opening 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline 8 September 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Fellowships • Global Fellowships
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01	16 April 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01: MSCA Staff Exchanges</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01	15 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01: MSCA Staff Exchanges</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01	8 April 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01: MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMA-Cofund-Doctoral • TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01 MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme	Foreseen opening 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline 6 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01: MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMA-Cofund-Doctoral • TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02 MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027	Foreseen opening 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline 6 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02-01: MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027</i>)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 08 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01 Call - MSCA and Citizens 2027</i>)
Research Infrastructures	
<u>Destination</u> INFRADEV - Consolidation and evolution of the European Research Infrastructure landscape (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-DEV	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-DEV: call INFRADEV</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-DEV	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-DEV: call INFRADEV</i>)
<u>Destination</u> INFRAEOSC - Enabling an operational, open and FAIR EOSC ecosystem (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-EOSC	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-EOSC: call INFRAEOSC</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-EOSC	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-EOSC: call INFRAEOSC</i>)
<u>Destination</u> INFRASERV - Research infrastructures services to support a healthier future, a global climate and energy vision, a circular and resilient economy, and to advance frontier knowledge (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-SERV-01	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-SERV-01: call INFRASERV</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01: call INFRASERV</i>)
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
<u>Destination</u> - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-STAYHLTH-two-stage	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage), 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-STAYHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-STAYHLTH	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u> - Living and working in a health-promoting environment	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-ENVHLTH-two-stage	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-ENVHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u>– Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-DISEASE-02-two-stage	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage) , 16 April 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-DISEASE single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE two-stage	Foreseen opening 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 22 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u> - Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare	
<u>Destination</u> - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-TOOL single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL single stage	Foreseen opening: 3 June 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-TOOL-01-two-stage	Foreseen opening 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 22 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u>	
<u>Custer 3 Civil Security for Society</u>	
<u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u>	
<u>Destination: Leadership in materials and production for Europe</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD single stage	21 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD two-stage	17 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 13 October 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD single stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD two-stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 2 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage</i>)
<u>Destination: Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data</u>	

HORIZON-CL4-2026-SPACE-03 single-stage	10 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-SPACE-03</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-03</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DATA single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-DATA-04</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-DATA-04</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2026-05-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-05-DIGITAL- EMERGING</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Digital and industrial technologies driving human- centric innovation	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-HUMAN single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-HUMA- EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN</i>)
<u>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</u>	
<u>Destination</u> - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-Two- Stage-D1-06:	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1	Foreseen opening: 17 November 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u> - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition	

HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D2	Foreseen opening: 5 May 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D2	Foreseen opening: 3 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2027-04-Two-Stage-D2	Foreseen opening: 15 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination:</u> Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 20 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3	Foreseen opening: 4 August 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 1 December 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-04-Two-Stage-D3-02	31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) Deadline(s) 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-01	14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination:</u> Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
<u>Destination 1:</u> Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time

<u>Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-ZEROPOLLUTION two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 5 - Land, ocean and water for climate action</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CLIMATE single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CLIMATE single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04-GOVERNANCE-01: Additional activities for the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data	Foreseen opening: 25 August and foreseen Deadline(s): 26 November 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 30 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 11 May 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Circular Biobased Europe	
CBE Circular Biobased Europe partnership https://www.cbe.europa.eu/	
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
<u>Mission calls 2026-2026</u>	
CLIMATE MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-MISS-2027-01-CLIMA single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CANCER MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-03-OCEAN single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CITIES MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time
SOIL MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL- two-stage	Foreseen opening: 9 December 2025 ; Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL- two-stage:	Foreseen opening: 10 November 2025 ; Deadline(s): 15 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
JOINT MISSION CALLS	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-06-CLIMA- SOIL joint call SOIL and CLIMATE missions	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-06-SOIL- CANCER Joint call SOIL and CANCER mission	Foreseen opening: 9 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-07-CLIMA- CIT-NEB Joint Call between the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>WIDERA 2026 - 2027</u>	
Destination: Widening participation and spreading excellence	

HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01-WIDENING-01: Teaming Synergies	Foreseen opening Opening: 23 April 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 Call - Teaming Synergies)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02-WIDENING-01: Twinning	Foreseen opening Opening: 8 January 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 9 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02 Call - Twinning)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility	Foreseen opening Opening: 13 January 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call - Hop on Facility)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01: ERA Fellowships	Foreseen opening Opening: 9 April 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 9 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 Call - ERA Fellowships)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs	Foreseen opening Opening: 6 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 8 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs	Foreseen opening Opening: 2 September 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights	Foreseen opening Opening: 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 11 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights)
Destination: Reforming and enhancing the European research and innovation system	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA (Enhancing the European R&I system)	12 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 Call - ERA Fellowships)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening	Foreseen opening Opening: 5 May 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 18 November 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening)

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 9 March 2026 for more details; go to EC Funding and Tenders opportunity Portal <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

Call identifier	Deadline
European Partnerships	
European Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare https://www.eupahw.eu/	2 nd co-funded call for proposals of the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (EUPAHW) "Shaping the Future of Animal Health and Welfare" NEW: The 2 nd call for research projects is open since 26 th January, 2026. Pre-Proposals must be submitted electronically via this EUPAHW submission tool.

	<p>Submission deadline for pre-proposals: March 30th, 2026, 12:00 h (CEST) Deadline for full-proposals 16th September 2026, 12:00 CEST EUPAHW: Call 2 PP</p>
<p>European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/</p>	<p>A two-step application procedure will apply, with a mandatory submission of pre-proposals at the first step and submission of full proposals at the second step, via the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for pre-proposals submission (mandatory): Friday 7 November 2025, 12:00 CET (CLOSED) • Results of the evaluation of the first step: mid-February 2026 • Deadline for full-proposals submission: Tuesday 14 of April 2026, 12:00 CEST • Recommendations for funding: late September 2026 • Start of the projects: between 1st of December 2026 and 1st of April 2027 <p>https://www.biodiversa.eu/2025/09/09/2025-2026-joint-call/</p>
<p>European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/</p>	<p>Water4All 2025 Joint Transnational Call https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/28-million-available-for-research-into-the-interaction-between-water-and-health and https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2025-joint-transnational-call</p> <p>Tentative timeline Call opening: 12 September 2025 Submission deadline of preproposals: <u>13 November 2025, 15:00 CET (CLOSED)</u> Selection of preproposals: End of February 2026 Submission deadline of full proposals: <u>13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST</u> Selection of funded proposals: September 2026 Projects start: End 2026/beginning 2027 Kick-off meeting of the funded projects: Spring 2027</p>
<p>European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/</p>	<p>FutureFoodS hereby pre-announces the 2nd co-funded call for transnational research projects Second Joint Transnational Co-funded Call — FutureFoodS and FutureFoodS: Call2</p> <p>The call will follow a two-step procedure with the following important steps:]Call launch: Second half of November 2025 Deadline for pre-proposal submission: ~ <u>11 February 2026 (CLOSED)</u> Deadline for full-proposal submission: ~<u>27 July 2026 (only by invitation)</u></p>
<p>European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Announcement 3rd call AGROECOLOGY partnership 3rd co-funded call — Agroecology Partnership and Agroecology: Call3</p> <p>Tentative timeline Deadline for <u>pre-proposal submission</u> is 18 February 2026, 14:00 CET. (CLOSED) Deadline for <u>full proposal submission</u> is 08 July 2026, 14:00 CEST.</p>
<p>European partnership Agriculture of Data</p>	<p>The 1st co-funded Call of the AgData partnership is now open! 1st Co-funded Call for Transnational Research Projects “EU-wide data-driven solutions to real problems”</p> <p>Agriculture of Data: Call 1 Procedure Short proposal & full proposal step The deadline for short proposals is January 21, 12:00h CET (noon). (CLOSED) The deadline for full proposal submission is July 21, 12:00h CEST (noon).</p>

<p>European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Third Joint Transnational Call for R&I Funding Call launch (provisional): 15 September 2025, 15:00 CEST Deadline submission Pre-proposals 17 November 2025 (CLOSED) Deadline submission Full proposals 17 June 2026</p> <p>https://www.bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunity/sustainable-blue-economy-partnerships-third-joint-transnational-call and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-partnerships/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep</p>
<p>European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0 <u>Foreseen timeline and information day</u> The timeline for this call is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 November 2025: stage 1 closing (Pre-Proposal submission deadline) (CLOSED) • 20 February 2026: stage 2 opening • 23 April 2026: stage 2 closing (Full Proposal submission deadline) • Summer of 2026: decision-making
<p>European Partnership ERA4HEALTH ERA4Health The Partnership</p>	<p>A new call within the European Partnership ERA4Health to which NWO contributes is now open for pre-proposals. PREVENT-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline for submitting a pre-proposal is 21 January 2026, 12:00 CET (CLOSED) • The deadline for submitting a full application is 11 June 2026, 12:00 CEST <p>For more information website ERA4HEALTH: Prevent-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity - Mechanisms of their onset and progression, neglected determinants and novel strategies for critical transitional periods in life</p> <p>For information on NWO pages: Call open for European research on the underlying causes of obesity NWO and Prevent-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity - Mechanisms of their onset and progression, neglected determinants and novel strategies for critical transitional periods in life</p>
<p>Joint Technology Initiatives</p>	
<p>Joint Programming Initiatives</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/
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Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **9 March 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
07-12-2025 until 31-07-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal at any moment from 7 August 2025 up to and including 31 July 2026, 14:00:00 CEST, with the exception of ENW-M-1-Weave proposals with FWO as partner agency, which may be submitted from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%202025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf
14-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals Biodiversity+ 2025-2026 Joint Call Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity, and connectivity. Submission deadline of full proposals: 13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-partnerships/rescuing-biodiversity-to-safeguard-life-on-earth and https://www.biodiversa.eu/2025/09/09/2025-2026-joint-call/
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission required Letter of Intent to apply (LOI) in the portal of the NFRF Call ‘2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges’ Deadline for submission of the required Letter of Intent to apply (LOI) in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
17-06-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership third Joint Transnational Call, “Digitalisation and Innovation for Resilient Marine Ecosystems, Businesses, and Communities to Strengthen the EU Blue Economy’s Competitiveness. Full proposal submission deadline (Provisional): 17/06/2026, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time). https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-partnerships/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep and https://bluepartnership.eu/ and https://bluepartnership.eu/news/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-launches-its-3rd-joint-transnational-call
From 20-01-2026 until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission proposals for The second ‘NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025. Applications can be submitted continuously until the deadline of Tuesday 23 June 2026 at 14:00:00 CE(S)T, or until the budget has been exhausted. Open: Hop-On Call for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO
23-06-2026	Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil. Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent is 23 June 2026 14:00:00 CET (via e-mail) and 23 June 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call ‘2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges’ Deadline for submission of the full proposals in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
20-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil. Deadline for submission of Proposals is 20 October 2026 14:00:00 CEST (ISAAC) and 20 October 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **9 March 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

10-03-2026	Deadline for submission of pre-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is Tuesday 10 March 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
10-03-2026	Deadline for submission research proposals for The Open Mind 2026 call . The deadline for submitting a research proposal is Tuesday, March 10, 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. Open Mind 2026 now open for groundbreaking, outside-the-box ideas NWO and Open Mind 2026 NWO
10-03-2026	Deadline for submission pre-proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is March 10, 2026, by 14:00:00 CET. Vici round 2026 now open for pre-proposals NWO and NWO Talent Programme NWO
From 06-02-2026 to 17-03-2026	Deadline for registration and participation in collaborative workshops NWA-ORC 2026 call . Registration for and participation in collaborative workshops (mandatory for main applicants) Between 6 February and 17 March 2026, NWO organizes collaborative workshops with the aim of bringing together interested parties (researchers and public and/or private social parties) around a specific theme, combining research ideas (joining forces) and forming broad innovative consortia. You can register for the workshops via this page: Collaborative workshops NWA ORC 2026 NWO . Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO
19-03-2026	Deadline submissions proposals The Demonstrator 2026 call . 19 March 2026 at 14:00:00 hours CET. Demonstrator 2026 round open: marketing your own Demonstrator knowledge now also possible NWO and Demonstrator 2026 NWO
24-03-2026	Deadline for submission of full applications for Research Infrastructure (RI): national consortia 2025-2026 . The deadline for applications is 24 March 2026, before 14:00:00 CET: this call is coordinated for WUR by CVI Mascha Rasenberg . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-30-million-available-for-research-infrastructure and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/research-infrastructure-ri-national-consortia
24-03-2026	Deadline for Full proposals Rubican call 1 2026 . The deadline for this round is Tuesday 24 March 2026 at 14:00:00 hours CET (2 PM sharp). Rubicon 2026-1 NWO and Call for Proposals - Call for proposals SGW Rubicon 2025-2
24-03-2026	deadline for submission of letters of intent KIC call “Collaborative business models for a circular economy” . The deadline for submitting letters of intent is 24 March 2026, before 14:00:00. Call open: Collaborative business models NWO and KIC Collaborative business models for a circular economy NWO and Call for Proposals - Collaborative business models for a circular economy
31-03-2026	Deadline for submission of nominations for new NWO Tulip Fund for top international scientists . The deadline for submitting nominations is provisionally set at 31 March 2026, 14:00:00 CEST. Submissions are accepted continuously. Note PJ: Nominations for WUR will be done by RvB, max 2 nominations per University, NWO institute, KNAW institute and Medical Academic Centre . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/tulip-fund-opens-for-top-international-scientists and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/tulip-fund and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Tulp%20Fonds_EN%20%282%29.pdf
07-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 . Closing date full application Round 2: 7 April 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Second round of SSH Open Competition XS 2026 open for applications NWO and SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 NWO and Call for Proposals - SGW Open Competitie XS
09-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals NWO Talent Programme Vidi 2025 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is 9 April 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Vidi%202025_EN.pdf
14-04-2026	Foreseen deadline Full proposals NWO-KIC call Fewer critical raw materials in the energy transition . Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).

	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/fewer-critical-raw-materials-in-the-energy-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant
14-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full applications KIC Digital Twinning – Actual and accurate models for insight, optimisation, and decision-making . Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. NWO makes 7 million euros available for research into Digital Twins NWO and KIC Digital Twinning – Actual and accurate models for insight, optimisation, and decision-making NWO and Call for Proposals - Digital Twinning
14-04-2026	NEW: deadline for submission Full proposals Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of (in)action . Proposals can be submitted until 14 April 2026 14:00:00 CEST. Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of (in)action NWO and Call for Proposals - Kennis in Actie
From 17-02-2026 until 14-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals PPS-I 2026 Call TKI Green Chemistry and Circularity Applications can be submitted between February 17, 2026, 12:00 p.m. and April 14, 2026, 2:00 p.m. via the call page on the ChemistryNL website Call-text-PPS-I-2026- _ChemistryNL_English.pdf and Oproep voor projecten PPS-I 2026: Duurzame chemie en circulariteit - ChemistryNL
15-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for PPS-call Innovatie-Impuls Agri&Food . Proposals can be submitted until April 15, 2026. Pre-registration is mandatory and can be submitted until March 1, 2026. PPS-call 'Innovatie-impuls Agri&Food' geopend - Topsector Agri & Food and PPS-Oproep innovatie-impuls agri&food - Topsector Agri & Food
07-05-2026	Deadline for submission full applications thematic Call Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research (Part of GO programme) . The deadline for submitting proposals is 7 May 2026 at 14:00 CEST. Call "Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research" is open for submission NWO and Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research NWO and Preparatory workshops: Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research NWO
19-05-2026	Deadline for submission Full applications for Perspectief round 2025-2026 . The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday 19 May 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-of-perspectief-now-open-for-joint-research-proposals-on-technological-innovation and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2025-2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Perspectief%202025-2026_EN.pdf
26-05-2026	Deadline for submission of Full applications KIC call "Collaborative business models for a circular economy" . The deadline for submitting applications is 26 May 2026, before 14:00:00. Call open: Collaborative business models NWO and KIC Collaborative business models for a circular economy NWO and Call for Proposals - Collaborative business models for a circular economy
26-05-2026	: deadline for submission Full applications for Faculty of Impact round 2026 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 26 May 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Faculty of Impact round 2026 now open: focus on all five themes NWO and Faculty of Impact 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Faculty of Impact
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission Full-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 9th June 2026, before 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission of Full proposals for KIC call Adaptivity in transitions . The deadline for submitting the full application is 9 June 2026 at 14:00 CEST. Call open: Adaptivity in transitions NWO and KIC Adaptivity in transitions NWO and Call for Proposals - Adaptivity in transitions
16-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission of Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks . Closing date full application 16 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks NWO
16-06-2026	Deadline for submission of full applications Call 'The power of collaboration' for or SSH researchers to further deepen consortia (NWA) . The deadline for submitting applications is June 16, 2026 ; The deadline for submitting a request for review by organizations based in the Netherlands is May 19, 2026. The deadline for submitting a request for review by foreign organizations is May 19, 2026. . New Call: Unique opportunity for SSH researchers to further deepen consortia (NWA) NWO and The power of collaboration NWO
30-06-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of statement of intent for KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 . The deadline for submitting a statement of intent 30 June 2026. KIC AI

	for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3. Round 3: 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2026-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_sgw_oc_xs_2026.pdf
16-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks. Closing date full application 16 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-early-detection-and-impact-forecasting-of-threatening-infectious-diseases-outbreaks
Until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission full applications for the 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine'. Closing date full application 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs NWO and NRFU launch second funding round for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO Hop-On Call for Proposals for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-2025---DEF.pdf
23-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Letter of Intent KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future. Foreseen closing date for letter of intent 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
02-07-2026	Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2026 fall round. Deadline for submission proposals fall deadline 2 July 2026 14:00:00 CET. Full 2026 round of Venture Challenge open now NWO and Venture Challenge Spring 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Venture Challenge
08-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026. The deadline for submitting full applications is September 8, 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Vici round 2026 now open for pre-proposals NWO and NWO Talent Programme NWO
18-08-2026	Deadline for submission for a request for assessment of organisations for phase 1 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 1 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 August 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 1 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 August 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3. Closing date full application Round 3: 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.. Second round of SSH Open Competition XS 2026 open for applications NWO and SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 NWO and Call for Proposals - SGW Open Competitie XS
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full applications for phase 1 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO
17-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for Full applications TRI-POLAR call The deadline for submitting the application is Thursday, 17 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: TRI-POLAR call expected to open in March NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications DeepNL Top-up Call "Opportunities for Integration and Impact" . Closing date full application 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). DeepNL Top-up Call: Opportunities for Integration and Impact NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026. Foreseen closing date full application: 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026 NWO and Demand Driven Research By Consortia - S NWO
29-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food. Closing date full application 29 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-ai-for-agriculture-horticulture-water-and-food
06-10-2026	Deadline submission of Full proposals for the NWA-ORC 2026 round. The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST. NWA call for Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 now open NWO and Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA ORC
06-10-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases. The deadline for submission of full applications is 6 October 2026, 14:00:00 CEST. KIC call opened: AI-driven early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious

	diseases NWO and KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases NWO and Call for Proposals - Early detection of (emerging) infectious disease outbreaks
13-10-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of Full applications for KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 . Closing date full application 13 October 2026 14:00 hrs. 7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors NWO and KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026
20-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future . Foreseen closing date Closing date full application 20 October 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
26-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals NWA ORC Round 2026 . The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST . Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and NWA ORC 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA-ORC
12-11-2026	Deadline for submission of Full-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL The deadline for submitting full proposals is Thursday 12 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for full proposals call NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected species for sustainable fisheries policy . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission full applications call Netherlands Polar programme The Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). The Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO
From 12-01-2026 to 11-12-2026	Deadline for submission proposals Open Technology Programme 2026 . Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis between 12 January 2026 until 11 December 2026, as long as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been reached. Open Technology Programme 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Open Technology Programme 2026
21-01-2027	Deadline submission proposals 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. January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation
28-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for full applications Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 . Closing date full application 28 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/large-scale-research-infrastructure-lsri-national-roadmap-consortia-2026
02-03-2027	Deadline for submission full applications NWA Call 'Municipal policy for biodiversity restoration' . The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, 2 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration
18-09-2029	NEW: Deadline for submission for a request for assessment of organisations for phase 2 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 2 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 September 2029 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 2 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 September 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 18-09-2029 is the right date
16-10-2029	NEW: Deadline for submission Full applications for phase 2 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 16 October 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 16-10-2029 is the right date

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **9 March 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	Opening EFRO East Netherlands: Innovation projects priority 1 (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	Opening EFFO East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1 (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.
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/
24-02-2025 to 04-04-2025	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4, 2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-10-2025	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: 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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