



WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 446_17 April 2026

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

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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe

Applying for an ERC grant in the 2027 competitions: what you need to know (16 April 2026)

Source: Website ERC [Applying for an ERC grant in the 2027 competitions: what you need to know](#) | ERC

The ERC plans to launch the grant competitions under its 2027 Work Programme between July 2026 and June 2027, with the calls for proposals introducing several changes to the eligibility rules for applications.



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

With these measures, the Scientific Council responds to the evolving career patterns among researchers and to the rapidly increasing number of applications, which is placing growing pressure on peer reviewers and the ERC executive agency.

The planned changes for the 2027 Work Programme follow several adjustments introduced in the previous work programme, such as the structure and expected content of grant proposals and the working methods of the evaluation panels. ERC President Maria Leptin presented some of these adjustments, together with their background and rationale, in a [public letter in September 2025](#). This letter also set out proposed changes to eligibility windows for researchers applying for ERC Starting and Consolidator Grants.

New eligibility windows for Starting and Consolidator Grants

To be eligible for an ERC Starting Grant in the 2027 call for proposals, the applicant must have defended their PhD no more than 10 years before 1 January 2027. For a Consolidator Grant in the 2027 call, the thesis defence must have been between 5 and 15 years before 1 January 2027. The eligibility period may be extended in duly documented cases, such as parental leave or clinical training. A researcher may hold only one ERC Starting Grant or Consolidator Grant during their scientific career.

The reason for the changes is that academic career paths vary significantly across countries and disciplines in Europe. Opportunities for independence arise at different stages and are defined by different criteria. A career in mathematics or law, for example, differs markedly from one in the life sciences or engineering.

New application restrictions

In common with many funding programmes, the ERC is receiving an increasing number of applications to its calls for proposals. The ERC Scientific Council therefore underlines that applicants should ensure that their research idea is sufficiently mature before submitting a proposal to an ERC call.

In addition:

- Applicants may have only **one proposal under evaluation at any given time** (except for the Proof of Concept Grant calls).
- Applicants will be allowed to **submit only one proposal under the ERC Work Programme 2027**. They may submit another proposal if the first submission has been declared ineligible.
- Applicants may not **hold a Starting or Consolidator Grant more than once**, so anyone who has held either a Starting or Consolidator Grant in the past may not apply to the same grant scheme a second time.
- Applicants who have submitted eligible proposals for the **Advanced and Plus Grant 2026 may not apply to Synergy Grant 2027**.

For Synergy Grants, all principal investigators (PIs) must remain eligible throughout the evaluation process; otherwise, the proposal will be declared ineligible. **If one PI in a Synergy Grant group is declared ineligible, the entire proposal will be deemed ineligible.** Previously, the group could continue in the evaluation without that PI and their contribution.

New resubmission restrictions

Under the ERC Work Programme 2027, resubmission restrictions are tightened to reduce pressure on the evaluation system:

- **Applicants who have received a C score at Step 1 in the 2024, 2025, or 2026 Synergy Grant calls or a B score at Step 1 in the 2025 or 2026 Synergy Grant calls cannot apply to Synergy Grant 2027.**
- Applicants who **have not passed Step 1 of the 2026 ERC Plus Grant** competition cannot **apply to ERC Plus Grant 2027**.
- **Applicants who have received a C score at Step 1 in the other three main grant calls of 2024, 2025, or 2026, or a B score at Step 1 of those calls in 2025 or 2026 cannot apply to any 2027 ERC main grant calls, including Synergy and ERC Plus. Advanced Grant 2026 applicants cannot apply to Synergy Grant 2027 irrespective of their result.**

This information is without prejudice and subject to the formal adoption of the 2027 ERC Work Programme. It is meant to allow the scientific community, including prospective applicants, to be prepared for the changes ahead of the publication of the individual calls.

In next article you will find the analysis of RVO team IRIS on this upcoming changes

Significant changes in upcoming ERC WP2027 call (16 April 2026)

Source: Mailing RVO team IRIS

During the ERC programme committee meeting of 14th of March, the scientific council announced significant changes in the upcoming ERC 2027 workprogramme. **These changes will have significant impact for many applicants.** Please make sure to inform your candidates as soon as possible to avoid nasty surprises when proposals are already fully prepared. **The main changes are summarized below:**

New eligibility windows confirmed

The changes in the eligibility windows for the StG and CoG are officially confirmed. **Please note: the reference date to calculate eligibility remains 1st of January of the call year.** After some reflection the scientific council decided not to go through with their original plan to change the reference date to the actual call deadline as that change would make strategic planning almost impossible. To confirm:

- **The Starting grant eligibility window:** **0-10 years** after successful PhD defense
- **The Consolidator grant eligibility window:** **5-15 years** after successful PhD defense

Harsher resubmission restrictions

To deal with the huge increase in number of applications, the scientific council feels forced to implement tighter restrictions for resubmissions. They have decided that:

- **an applicant can have only 1 proposal under review at any time.**

But most importantly:

- Applicants for StG, CoG and AdG receiving a C-score in step 1 **are not allowed to submit for the upcoming 3 call years**

- Applicants for StG, CoG and AdG receiving a B score in step 1 are **not allowed to submit for the upcoming 2 call years**

These changes are implemented retroactively, meaning that **applicants that received a B score in step 1 in any of the StG, CoG or AdG 2025 calls are not allowed to resubmit for the upcoming 2027 calls.**

Updated evaluation question for step 1 and step 2

To avoid confusion with applicants and reviewers the assessment of the groundbreaking nature and ambition will include an updated question:

To what extent are the project's objectives ambitious, will the project advance the frontier of knowledge and is the proposed approach scientifically convincing?

The purpose is **not** to bring back a detailed technical evaluation of the proposed methodology (feasibility), but the **overall/general approach should make sense**. We believe this updated question reflects the evaluation process better.

Expected call timing

Please note that the SyG-2027 call will have a deadline in May 2027 instead of the usual timing (November 2026)

StG-2027 deadline 14 October 2026

CoG-2027 deadline 12 January 2027

AdG-2027 deadline 26 August 2027

Plus-2027 deadline 1 September 2027

SyG-2027 deadline 11 May 2027

These are the main changes. It goes without saying that we are unpleasantly surprised with **these harsh resubmission restrictions**. However, the scientific council made it clear that the decision has been made and it will probably be announced on the ERC website next week. We should probably be prepared for **many complaints from disappointed applicants**. We will keep you informed about any other developments.

CESAER: Industrial PhDs strengthen innovation and talent development (16 April 2026)

Source: *E-mail Alert AWTI 16 April 2026*

Industrial PhDs, in which doctoral candidates work at both a university and a company, can help align research better with practice and train talent for the labor market. This is stated by the umbrella organization for universities, CESAER, in a new report. These tracks make it easier for researchers to move between academia and business, thereby contributing to the availability of experienced personnel and innovation in Europe. At the same time, fragmented regulations, complex funding, and uncertainty regarding intellectual property constitute significant obstacles. According to the organization, strengthening funding, simplifying regulations, and better integration into career structures are necessary to better utilize the potential of industrial PhDs.

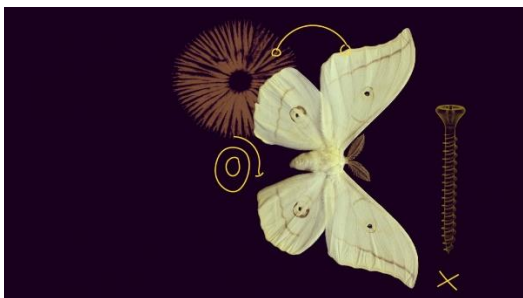
CESAER Press Release: [Industrial doctorates strengthen Europe's research–industry talent pipelines - CESAER](#)

CESAER Report: [cesaer-report-industrial-doctorates-strengthening-europes-research-industry-talent-pipelines.pdf](#)

MSCA 2026 call to co-fund doctoral and postdoctoral programmes receives 141 proposals (10 April 2026)

Source: *Website MSCA* [MSCA 2026 call to co-fund doctoral and postdoctoral programmes receives 141 proposals | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

COFUND gives organisations a unique opportunity to attract research and innovation talent through their own doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship programmes.



The sixth call under Horizon Europe of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions-funded COFUND scheme closed on 8 April 2026. Through the 2026 call, the European Union will fund around **30** projects with an indicative budget of **€105.5 million**.

The European Research Executive Agency (REA) received **141 proposals**. In comparison, 136 proposals were submitted in 2025 and **31 were eventually placed on the main list**, comprising 14 doctoral training programmes and 17 postdoctoral fellowship programmes.

The Commission has received 141 project proposals, of which 62 are for doctoral programmes, whilst 79 are for postdoctoral programmes.

Under this round, **organisations based in 24 countries** submitted proposals.

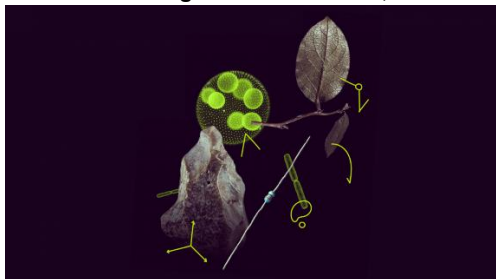
The top countries are France with 30 proposals, Spain with 22, Finland, Germany and United Kingdom with 9 each.

For more information: [MSCA 2026 call to co-fund doctoral and postdoctoral programmes receives 141 proposals | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

MSCA opens €399 million call for Postdoctoral Fellowships (9 April 2026)

Source: Website MSCA [MSCA opens €399 million call for Postdoctoral Fellowships | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

Postdoctoral Fellowships offer researchers holding a PhD the opportunity to acquire new skills through advanced training and international, interdisciplinary, and inter-sectoral mobility.



The 2026 call for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) is open as of **9 April 2026**. With a **budget of €399.05 million**, the grants target researchers holding a PhD and aim to help them acquire new skills, develop their careers, and gain international, interdisciplinary, and inter-sectoral experience by working in another country.

These prestigious fellowships are also a stepping stone in researchers' careers. They allow them to strengthen research cooperation with leading scientific teams and figures worldwide.

The **call will close on 9 September 2026** and is expected to fund nearly **1600 projects**.

Research in all fields

The call is open to applications in any scientific field, including Euratom research.

Fellowships include

- **European Postdoctoral Fellowships**, open to researchers of any nationality to carry out a personalised project in the European Union (EU) or countries associated to Horizon Europe for up to 24 months
- **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships**, open to EU and Horizon Europe associated countries nationals or long-term residents wishing to work with organisations in third countries for a period of 12 to 24 months, before returning to Europe for 12 months

The scheme encourages researchers to gain experience beyond academia by giving them the opportunity to request an additional six months at the end of their fellowship to undertake a placement in a non-academic organisation in Europe.

Conditions for researchers and organisations

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to postdoctoral researchers from all over the world, of any nationality and at any career stage, with a maximum of 8 years of research experience after their PhD.

Some exceptions and specific conditions apply, for instance for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships and Euratom research. Researchers must develop an application with their prospective supervisor and apply together with their future host organisation, which can be

- a university
- a research institution or facility
- a company, small or medium-sized enterprise
- a government, public institution, or body
- a museum, hospital, or NGO
- any other organisation

based in an EU Member State or [Horizon Europe associated country](#).

For more information: [MSCA opens €399 million call for Postdoctoral Fellowships | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#) and [\) Postdoctoral Fellowships](#)

European Funding News: FP10

MEPs adopt long-term budget report with €200 billion for next Horizon Europe (16 April 2026)

Source: Website [MEPs adopt long-term budget report with €200 billion for next Horizon Europe | Science|Business](#)
Budget committee proposal also sees Erasmus+ allocation rise slightly, to €42 billion from 2028



MEPs Carla Tavares (left) and Siegfried Mureşan (right) during a press conference ahead of the vote. Photo credits: Emilie Gomez / European Union

The European Parliament's budget committee has adopted [an interim report and compromise amendments](#) calling for a stronger, predictable EU budget from 2028. This includes a larger pot for the next Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, at €200 billion.

The text on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), co-authored in the budget committee by Carla Tavares of the Socialists and Democrats group and Siegfried Mureşan of the European People's Party, was approved on April 15, passing with 26 votes in favour, nine against and five abstentions. It will now pass to a vote by the whole Parliament. The report puts forward an average 10% increase in the MFF budget over the European Commission's proposal, to be allocated evenly across its three headings. "We think 10% is a reasonable, justified increase, because we expect Europe to do more for our security, for our defence, to improve the competitiveness of our economy but at the same time, we do not want to weaken the traditional priorities of the Union, which have proven their viability in time," Mureşan told MEPs prior to the vote.

This implies dedicating €200 billion for the next Horizon Europe, up from €175 billion proposed by the Commission in current prices, or €155 billion when adjusted for inflation over the seven years of the MFF. Similarly, it would mean another €42 billion to the Erasmus+ student mobility programme, close to the Commission's proposed €40.8 billion.

The vote in the budget committee was originally scheduled for April 8, a deferment which Mureşan attributed to the high number of amendments and opinions received on the report. "We wanted to put forward a position which is well justified, which is articulate, which is realistic in size," he said at the press conference. "But this is in no way a delay. We're going to meet the very ambitious objective of voting in plenary at the end of April."

Meanwhile, the Parliament has given rapporteurs working on specific sectors of the MFF proposal until November to conclude their readings, so that negotiations with the EU Council can begin.

University networks warn: successor to Horizon Europe must remain open (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

In the run-up to the next Horizon Europe program, leading university umbrella organizations are expressing concerns about an excessive focus on Europe, as set out in the rules of the new European Competitive Fund. In separate statements, umbrella organizations The Guild and CESAER emphasize that European strategic autonomy must not come at the expense of international cooperation. "Although concerns about research safety are justified and

require robust, proportionate responses, there is a risk of overcorrection,” writes CESAER, which fears the loss of international talent and a weakened European strategic position. “FP10 must in principle remain open, with restrictions only where clearly justified. Openness, excellence, and responsible international cooperation are not at odds with the safety of Europe, but are actually essential to it.”

Statement The Guild: [EU preference must strengthen, not undermine, international research collaboration - The Guild](#)

Statement CESAER: [FP10 should remain open, excellent and secure - CESAER](#)

Horizon Europe 2028-2034: Keep Agriculture and Bioeconomy as Europe’s R&I Priorities (8 April 2026)

Source: Website [European Bioeconomy Alliance https://www.bioeconomyalliance.eu/news/horizon-europe-2028-2034-keep-agriculture-and-bioeconomy-as-europes-ri-priorities/](https://www.bioeconomyalliance.eu/news/horizon-europe-2028-2034-keep-agriculture-and-bioeconomy-as-europes-ri-priorities/)

The 16 members of EUBA are proud to support a joint statement alongside a broad coalition of other European stakeholders, calling for agriculture and the bioeconomy to remain clearly recognised in the next EU Framework Programme.

Recognition of the ITRE’s Report

The discussions around the ITRE draft Report on HE 2028-2034¹ represent a pivotal moment for Europe’s research and innovation landscape. We, the undersigned organizations, welcome the ITRE draft Report on HE 2028-2034 from rapporteur, Mr. Christian Ehler, as a starting point for further work. We stand ready to engage with the rapporteur and the shadow rapporteurs to strengthening Europe’s research and innovation while ensuring that agriculture and bioeconomy have the right place in this key proposal.

Maintaining Agriculture and Bioeconomy Visibility in the EU Framework Programme

Our organizations would like to draw the attention to Amendments 48 and 51, which propose renaming the relevant policy window by removing explicit references to agriculture and bioeconomy and replacing them with the broader term sustainable prosperity.

As organisations dedicated to advancing Europe’s bioeconomy and agricultural sectors, we underscore the need to retain the original Part II policy window title as proposed by the European Commission (Art. 4-b-i-2). Preserving this terminology is essential for ensuring continuity, maintaining sectoral visibility, and safeguarding strategic coherence across the programme. While the proposed renaming may appear technical or editorial, it carries meaningful practical and political implications that warrant close attention. Words in a framework programme are not neutral: they shape the policy space, anchor political recognition, and signal strategic priorities.

Why the Original Policy Window Name Should Be Preserved?

a) The strategic importance of agriculture and bioeconomy: the explicit naming of agriculture and bioeconomy in the policy windows is not merely symbolic. It sends a clear signal to researchers, investors, and industry that Europe is committed to these sectors as pillars of its sustainable growth strategy. Agriculture stands as a stabilising force, contributing to food security, economic resilience, sustainability, and growth across the Union, and bioeconomy alone represents a multi-trillion-euro opportunity² for Europe’s green transition, rural development, and food security. Removing this visibility risks deprioritising these sectors in practice, regardless of intent.

b) Risk of procedural delay: reopening the question of policy window nomenclature at this stage of the legislative process risks triggering a broader debate on the overall architecture of the programme’s thematic priorities. This would introduce unnecessary complexity and could delay the timely adoption of the framework, an outcome that serves neither the Parliament nor the research and innovation community, which relies on regulatory clarity.

Our Ask

We respectfully urge you to oppose amendments 48 and 51 and to support retaining the original policy window designations as put forward in the Commission proposal (COM 2025/0543). We believe this is the most constructive path forward, one that preserves momentum, maintains sectoral visibility, and reflects the strategic ambitions Europe has set for agriculture and the bioeconomy. As a broad coalition representing diverse actors across Europe’s agriculture and bioeconomy ecosystem, we remain available for further discussion and stand ready to provide any technical or policy input that may be helpful to your deliberations.

EUBA members remain committed to working with EU institutions and partners to advance a competitive, circular, and sustainable European bioeconomy.

Download statement here: <https://www.bioeconomyalliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Joint-Statement-FP10-Agriculture-and-Bioeconomy.pdf>

Joint Statement: Research and Education are the Foundation of European Competitiveness and Resilience (7 April 2026)

Source: Website France Universities [Joint-Statement-Research-and-Education-are-the-Foundation-of-European-Competitiveness-and-Resilience.pdf](#)

German Rectors' Conference (DE), France Universités (FR), Universities of the Netherlands (NL), Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland (PL), Flemish Interuniversity Council (BE), The Rectors' Council of the French-speaking universities of Belgium (BE), Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (ES)

Introduction

Research, education, and the innovation that stems from this represent the foundation of Europe's position as a credible global actor. This foundation is being eroded by funding cuts and attacks on academic freedom from inside Europe, as well as by pressure from strategic rivals. Recent developments have made it clear that Europe can no longer take its geopolitical environment, partnerships, or security for granted. Signals coming from the global stage have underlined how quickly long-standing assumptions can be overturned. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has framed this moment as one in which Europe must seize greater strategic autonomy and 'take ownership' of its economic and geopolitical power.

The scientific community is not exempt from this turn towards hard geopolitics. Knowledge and research capacity are increasingly treated as strategic assets, contested and protected in a time of geopolitical tension and economic competition. All the while, polarised public discourse in our societies is weakening democratic standards and academic freedom. In this context, European cooperation in research and higher education takes on renewed strategic importance. **No Member State can address today's scientific, technological and societal challenges alone. A strong and coherent European commitment is essential to safeguard excellence, maintain global competitiveness, and ensure that knowledge remains a common good that serves society as a whole.** As the European Union prepares the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and shapes key initiatives such as the successor to Horizon Europe, the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), the European Research Area (ERA) Act, and the future Erasmus+ programme, the choices made will determine Europe's capacity to act collectively and compete in an increasingly fragmented world.

Research & Innovation

Recent reports have reaffirmed what the scientific community already knows: Europe's competitiveness and capacity for innovation rest on a strong and diverse knowledge base, built through long-term support for excellent research across all disciplines. **The next Framework Programme for research and innovation (FP10) must therefore remain well funded, autonomous and firmly anchored in excellence, with ample room for fundamental research alongside applied and policy-driven activities.** Fundamental research is a precondition for future breakthroughs and long-term innovation across Pillar 1 and Pillar 2. Similarly, collaborative research is vital for driving European scientific cooperation, allowing us to solve societal challenges that cannot be tackled by a single country. **The social sciences and humanities should be an integral and well-funded part of such collaborative ecosystems and FP10 as a whole, contributing essential insights into political disinformation campaigns, societal preparedness, and democratic governance, while being vital for governing and developing innovative technologies— from large language models to biotechnology.** New initiatives such as the ECF, aimed at strengthening competitiveness, should reinforce these foundations, not subsume them, and should be designed to complement and accelerate existing instruments that have proven their value.

Europe's capacity to innovate has been built through long-term investment in knowledge across all disciplines, supported by open competition and peer review. **A strong and sufficiently funded FP10 provides continuity and predictability,** allowing researchers to take risks, develop ideas over time and contribute to Europe's scientific, societal, and economic objectives. **FP10 should remain the key source of European funding for research and innovation, while the ECF will translate these innovations into concrete applications that enhance Europe's well-being, economic strength, and independence.** To achieve this, we call for a governance structure in which FP10 remains shaped, governed, and operated by the R&I community across all its pillars, while FP10 and the ECF jointly contribute to strengthening the impact of European R&I and to attracting additional resources through (bottom-up) collaborative research.

Education

Education is just as important for European solidarity, cooperation and long-term economic resilience. Erasmus+ has become one of the most tangible symbols of Europe for millions of students and staff. In the next MFF, its budget should be significantly increased to respond to rising demand and costs, ensure broad participation, and strengthen cooperation across the European Higher Education Area. This will help students develop vital skills to contribute to European cooperation and a rapidly changing labour market. Simultaneously, Erasmus+ and the broader practice of international student exchange and cooperation allow for personal development and educational insights that cannot be gleaned in just one country. Mobility and exchange foster critical thinking, creativity, and intercultural understanding—outcomes that go beyond immediate economic benefits and contribute to the cohesion and resilience of European society and culture.

ERA Act

As the negotiations on the new MFF proceed, the European Research Area (ERA) continues to be developed, including via a proposed ERA Act. Ideally, **the European Research Area can provide the structural foundation on which programmes such as FP10 depend. For research, innovation, and high-quality education, a culture of openness, academic freedom and trust-based cooperation have long been vital prerequisites.** Preserving and strengthening these principles is essential at a time when knowledge is increasingly instrumentalised and mobility is under pressure. The ability of researchers, students and ideas to move freely across borders, and the free circulation of knowledge in all its forms, are core conditions for excellence, creativity, and innovation.

While research security and the goal of European economic sovereignty are vital, they should be addressed in ways that preserve collaboration as a core objective. **The values of openness and international collaboration must remain central as the ERA Act is developed and implemented, because as important as European cooperation is, Europe remains alone if it is not open to the rest of the world.** International collaboration including with associated and partner countries beyond the EU in programmes such as FP10— is essential for scientific excellence, economic competitiveness, and for Europe’s credibility as a global actor. Even as these times of global uncertainty and conflict push states to look inward, we emphasize that scientific advancement will always be a process of global cooperation.

The ERA Act represents an opportunity to reaffirm our shared commitments. Its implementation should strengthen mutual trust among Member States, reduce structural barriers to cooperation, protect researchers’ ability to work freely across borders, and realise a “fifth freedom”. European cooperation must continue to provide a space in which these freedoms are protected and actively promoted. At the same time, care should be taken that the ERA Act reinforces existing instruments, practices and national legislation rather than adding unnecessary administrative complexity. A strong ERA is not another policy layer, but a collective commitment to the principles that allow Europe’s knowledge system to flourish.

The European University Alliances can act as a link in this knowledge chain, deepening the goals of the ERA, the European Education Area (EEA), and the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). They create systemic, diverse, cross-border partnerships in education, research, and innovation, and play an active role in regional development, attracting talent, building capacity, and connecting innovation ecosystems. Yet the alliances need perspective and long-term investment to become pioneers and share their knowledge with other European stakeholders. It is important that we work on developing long-term funding mechanisms so that the alliances can deliver on the high expectations that are projected on, and expected of, them.

Conclusion

Europe must treat knowledge as a strategic asset while also recognizing its intrinsic value: investing in research, education, and mobility is essential not only to safeguard autonomy and maintain technological leadership, but also to ensure that scientific advancement continues to generate societal benefit, drive innovation, and reinforce Europe’s credibility and influence on the global stage. To do so, it is essential to provide sufficient, dedicated funding to both research and education programmes and to recognize R&I and education as key building blocks of European values and broad societal welfare. In that respect, in keeping with other national and transnational umbrella organizations from the European academic sector, we jointly call for a budget of €220 billion for FP10 and €60 billion for Erasmus+. This would send a signal to the global scientific community that Europe is and will remain a major player on the international scene, and is doing everything it can to preserve its status as a knowledge hub. To do so, Europe must be willing to invest in research, innovation and education in order to attract and retain top researchers and students from all over the world.

SEDE opinion on KP10 under the microscope (7 April 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > SEDE-opinie over KP10 onder de loep](#)

In its opinion on the Commission proposal for FP10, the Security and Defence Committee (SEDE) makes a number of concrete proposals for the implementation of dual-use within FP10, including criteria for the identification of dual-use projects and strengthened coordination mechanisms between the Framework Programme and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).



Focus on dual-use

The European Parliament's Security and Defence Committee (SEDE) **recently published its opinion** https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/SEDE-AD-782488_EN.pdf on the Commission proposal for FP10. This focuses on supporting dual-use research and innovation (R&I). According to SEDE, the civilian character of the programme must be preserved, but FP10 should also support dual-use projects. This would enable strategic synergies between civilian and defence programmes and accelerate the development of critical technologies.

Concrete criteria for dual-use in FP10

SEDE also makes a number of concrete proposals for the implementation of dual-use R&I in FP10. For instance, projects with dual-use applications would only be eligible for funding if the relevant work programme explicitly opens a call for such actions. Furthermore, these calls must be open exclusively to projects with a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of at least 6, which means that a prototype has been tested and demonstrated in a relevant environment. In practice, this means that dual-use will fall solely under Pillar III (Innovative Europe) and Pillar IV (European Research Area).

Cooperation with third countries

SEDE also advocates for additional rules and safety requirements for associated countries participating in dual-use R&I projects. The amendments emphasize that cooperation with third countries, particularly candidate countries, must remain a key objective of the programme, but that this must not come at the expense of European security and defence interests. Third countries must therefore meet strict conditions and fully comply with international law.

Coordination with the ECF

Finally, SEDE proposes introducing an accelerated mechanism (fast track) to allow dual-use projects to be included more quickly in the work programmes of the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF). This should facilitate and accelerate the industrialisation and deployment of innovations with a defence application.

Other International funding

National funding

Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in Transition (17 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in Transition | NWO](#)



The 'Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition' call is now open for applications. At a time of rapid global change and growing uncertainty, society is calling for research that looks ahead and explores new solutions. This call supports interdisciplinary and transnational research that contributes to understanding future challenges and shaping a resilient, inclusive future.

In recent decades, societies have faced growing uncertainty driven by climate change, pandemics, geopolitical tensions, technological disruption and an increasingly fragmented public sphere. At the same time, rapid advances in areas such as AI, medicine and communication technologies are creating new opportunities for innovation and societal progress. This combination of complex risks and emerging possibilities calls for a forward-looking, challenge-driven approach.

Aim of the call

This call seeks to foster research that is not only interdisciplinary and transnational, but also deeply reflective of the complex interplay between global crises, emerging technologies, and evolving societal values. We invite researchers to submit project proposals that contribute to new knowledge and tools to support a shared vision of a resilient and inclusive global future responsive to emerging challenges.

In addition, the call focuses on research that helps societies to be better prepared for future uncertainties and transitions. By developing new insights, strategies and methods, this research contributes to our understanding of the dynamics that shape future social systems and supports policymakers and communities in strengthening their resilience.

Applications for funding from NWO should fit the general call scope and additionally focus on one of the three global transitions described below:

1. Sustainable energy transition. A broad transition from fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy sources with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while ensuring long-term ecological, economic and social sustainability.
2. Mobility and spatial planning in transition. This transition refers to a profound shift in the way people and goods move on a regional to inclusive global scale and the new demands this places on spatial planning.
3. Global food and water transition. This transition refers to a gradual, broad shift in how food and water systems are managed, protected and connected. The transition is driven by environmental impacts, health, climate change, urbanisation, industrialisation and population growth.

View call for proposals here: [Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition | NWO](#)

Budget and duration

NWO has made a total budget of €2,800,000 available for this call. A maximum of €400,000 may be awarded per project, with a maximum duration of 36 months.

Deadlines

- 8 July 2026 – Deadline to submit the required Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI)
- 28 October 2026 – Deadline to submit full application

Further information on these challenges can be found in the national annex to the call document: [Preparing-for-tomorrow-overview-of-the-call-application-form-and-instructions-and-assessment-procedure-30.03.2026-1.pdf](#)

Twenty-one innovative research projects granted through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme (15 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO news [Twenty-one innovative research projects granted through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)



The NWO Science Board has approved twenty-one grant applications in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme. The topics vary from developing new modelling approaches to solve optimisation problems, integration of fatty acid synthesis via microbial electrosynthesis in the production of bioplastics, and understanding how different plant cells and species can turn suberin genes on or off using specific transcription factors. M-grants are intended for innovative, high-quality, fundamental research and/or studies involving matters of scientific urgency.

Granted projects

For an overview of the approved proposals (in alphabetical order, by author): [Twenty-one innovative research projects granted through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)

About the NWO Open Competition Domain Science-M

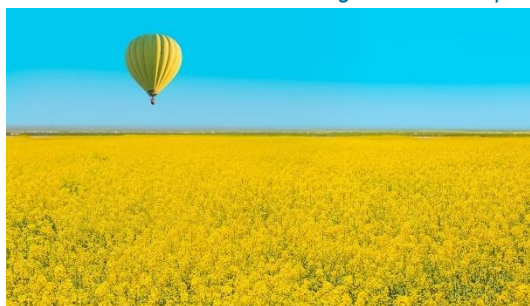
M-grants are intended for realising non-programmed, curiosity-driven scientific research with impact. There are five categories of M-grants:

- ENW-M-1: one scientific position)
- ENW-M-1X: one ENW-M-1 application with an additional investment component)
- ENW-M-1-Weave: Dutch main applicant with one or more co-applicants from Germany, Flanders Luxembourg (NWO as 'lead agency' and DFG, FWO or FNR as 'partner agency')
- ENW-M-1-LUX: Dutch main applicant with a co-applicant from Luxembourg
- ENW-M-2: Two scientific positions in collaboration). All categories are evaluated in mutual competition.

In this M-round (package 24-5), a total of 85 grant applications were evaluated, of which 48 M-1 proposals, 9 M-1-Weave proposals, 3 M-1-X proposals and 25 M-2 proposals. The NWO Science Board decided to award thirteen M-1 proposals, three M-1-Weave proposals and five M-2 proposals.

56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-1 (15 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO news [56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-1 | NWO](#)



The topics of the awarded proposals range from identifying the cause of synaptic dysfunction involved in neurological conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, or exploring Nanopore sequencing of patient-friendly urine samples in gynaecological cancers, to advancing thermoelectric materials that can operate more efficiently in the extreme cold of deep space exploration, or revealing how climate-driven melting reshapes microbial organization in polar ecosystems This diversity of projects reflects the broad scope of the research being funded in this round. A total of 2.8 million euros has been awarded.

The Open Competition Domain Science – XS grants of a maximum of € 50,000 are intended to support promising ideas and to facilitate innovative and more speculative initiatives within the seven Domain Science disciplines. The proposed research is ground-breaking and high-risk. What counts is that all results, be they positive or negative, must contribute to the advancement of science.

One project of WUR funded

IceAgg: How climate-driven ice melt triggers microbial aggregation and self-organization
Dr U. Sen (Wageningen University & Research)

Researchers with a promising idea or an innovative and risky initiative can submit applications within the the Open Competition ENW-XS 2026 call. The call has three deadlines in 2026, the second of which was 14 April 2026 at 14:00 CEST and the third one with foreseen deadline **15 September 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST**. All information about the call can be found **on the funding page** <https://www.nwo.nl/calls/open-competitie-enw-xs-pakket-26-2> .

The approved applications can be found here (in alphabetical order by applicant): [56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-1 | NWO](#)

NWO debate series: Is there a lack of perspectives in science, or not? (14 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO [NWO debate series: Is there a lack of perspectives in science, or not? | NWO](#)



In politics and society, there is increasing criticism of a perceived bias in science and of the topics that are (not) being researched. At the same time, concerns are growing about the pressure on academic freedom and about political interference in research. Can science manage to remain free from dogma and political influence? And are we asking the right questions in scientific research? These were the issues discussed in the eighth NWO debate, 'Science without taboos'.

The issue has now been discussed on several occasions in the House of Representatives and in various media outlets. It is claimed that there is a blind spot within the scientific community regarding topics that are relevant to a large proportion of the Dutch population. A motion has now been passed in the House of Representatives calling for an investigation into whether there is a lack of pluralism in science. At the same time, many academics fear political interference in academia. They warn that independent science is under pressure worldwide.

Even before the debate took place, NWO faced critical reactions to organising it. Should the question of whether there is sufficient dissenting or non-conformist science be asked at all? NWO president Marcel Levi believes it should. 'The question is already being asked', he says, 'not only in parliament but also by journalists. I don't have a direct answer, so let's talk about it.'

Left-wing progressive dominance

Diederik Boomsma is present. He is a Member of Parliament for JA21, one of the parties from which the question originates. Boomsma argues that there is a left-wing progressive dominance and a certain form of conformism at Dutch universities. He believes this influences the questions asked – and the answers given – particularly within the Social Sciences and Humanities. He cites migration research as an example. 'A topic that has preoccupied many people for a very long time. And yet, for years now, a one-sided discourse has dominated in universities, one that barely considers the potential risks or costs of mass migration.'

According to Boomsma, this leads to self-censorship among academics and undermines the pursuit of truth. Research that deviates from the dominant narrative would find it harder to gain a foothold within academia.

Not getting drawn into politics

According to university historian Pieter Slaman, it is nothing new that people with higher education have a more international outlook, which seems only natural in a field such as academia that operates on an international scale. He also notes that the diversity of viewpoints within academia is no less than in comparable professional groups. Slaman is therefore concerned about the political intentions behind this debate. Take Member of Parliament Mona Keijzer, for example, who said that it is taboo to discuss the backgrounds of offenders at university. A complete lie, he says. 'An entire branch of criminology is dedicated to this.' In his view, two worlds are being confused here. 'The political rationale for arriving at statements about reality is entirely different from the scientific one. And not everyone wants to conduct this conversation in an equally nuanced and bona fide manner. If we start spreading these kinds of untruths, we will destroy something that is very valuable.'

Educationalist Joyce Weeland agrees with Slaman that science should not be drawn too deeply into the political arena. When asked what she means by the title of her opinion piece *Left-wing or right-wing science is a categorical fallacy*, she explains: 'I think we must be very careful not to politicise these kinds of discussions and frame them specifically as left/right, because that is really too simplistic. We must cherish the fact that science also asks the questions that do not feature in the media or public debate. Questions that nobody stands to gain from.' As examples, she cites research into vulnerable groups who find it harder to stand up for themselves and into rare diseases affecting a small group of patients. 'That is precisely where our vulnerability lies, because we determine those topics ourselves. And of course we have blind spots.' We must therefore involve people without academic training in our work more often, Weeland concludes.

Read full article <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-debate-series-is-there-a-lack-of-perspectives-in-science-or-not> or watch the video of the debate here <https://www.youtube.com/live/jhnxdLJtlxE>

Thirteen early-career researchers set to cross borders thanks to Rubicon grants (13 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Thirteen early-career researchers set to cross borders thanks to Rubicon grants | NWO](#)



No fewer than thirteen talented researchers who have recently completed their PhDs are being given the opportunity to gain valuable research experience abroad. The Rubicon round, organised by NWO, had a budget of over 3.1 million euros.

The thirteen funded projects vary enormously. Whilst G. Zoppolat will be conducting research in Scotland into conflicting emotions within parenthood, H.E. Augustijn is going to investigate hidden metabolites behind a healthy microbiome in the United States. There are more interesting research projects like these, but they all share one common denominator: the impact they make.

Two WUR researchers received a Rubican Grant

1. **Erosional Mechanisms in Permafrost and Ice-Rich Environments (EMPIRE): Dr. S.I. de Lange** -> Wageningen University -> Canada -> Simon Fraser University, Department of Environmental Sciences -> 24 months.
2. **Scavengers as nutrient transmitters through ecosystems: Dr. E. Wenting** -> Wageningen University & Research -> Spain -> Biodiversity Research Institute (IMIB) – Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) -> 24 months

You can read the public summaries of all the granted Rubicon grantees here: [Awarded Rubicon grants 2025 | NWO](#)

Features of the Rubicon programme

The grant enables young researchers to conduct research at a foreign institute that offers the best environment for their research. The amount of funding depends on the chosen destination and the duration of the stay. For the 2025 rounds,

NWO and ZonMw have jointly been able to fund fifty young researchers. For a total amount of almost 11 million euros, spread over 3 rounds. The awards announced in this press release relate to the third funding round of 2025.

Real progress depends on large-scale scientific infrastructure (13 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Real progress depends on large-scale scientific infrastructure | NWO](#)



Minister Rianne Letschert of Education, Culture, and Science (OCW) is visiting Delft today for the celebratory ceremony marking the National Roadmap for Large-Scale Scientific Infrastructure. The day begins with a tour of one of the eleven approved Roadmap projects. She will visit the UTOPYS project, where she will see the virtual models of the energy system of the future with her own eyes in the ESP Lab.

Minister Letschert: *'Ensuring that everyone has access to energy—both now and in the future—to heat their homes or get from A to B is one of the major challenges of our time. New knowledge in this area is indispensable. With a simulator like this, researchers can make a crucial contribution to our energy security and strategic independence. It demonstrates why we, as a government, must continue to invest in such scientific infrastructure, as the foundation for groundbreaking research that advances the Netherlands.'*

Backbone of the Future and Innovation

The message that large-scale scientific infrastructure is indispensable to Dutch science is central to the celebratory ceremony held after the tour in the presence of the minister for all funded projects. The hard work of all eleven consortia and their journey toward securing funding is celebrated. 'Real progress depends on these very large projects,' says Marcel Levi, president of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). 'These are projects of great societal value. The funding goes to all kinds of large-scale research facilities that multiple researchers and institutions can use. This type of infrastructure is accessible to the entire research community. These are highly complex facilities that are built in only one location. Collaboration takes place at the national level, and sometimes even internationally. This is also very important for the Netherlands' scientific standing.'

New knowledge means collaboration in research and education

Minister Rianne Letschert expresses enthusiasm, not only for the ESP Lab but for all projects. She also has a message for all researchers: *'Collaboration is crucial in Large-Scale Scientific Infrastructure. The full breadth of science is important in this regard.'* When working on new knowledge, as is happening here, collaboration with vocational and higher vocational education is also important from the very beginning, so that the new knowledge not only finds societal application but is also incorporated early on into the curriculum of all programs.'

Why is Large-Scale Scientific Infrastructure important?

At the end of 2025, the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) allocated 197 million euros across 11 major infrastructure projects. The projects, ranging from brain research to research on future energy systems, share the commonality that collaboration to solve major societal challenges is essential. These are [research facilities](#) that are widely accessible to researchers, with a minimum investment of 10 million euros over 5 years. This may involve equipment, but also archives, collections, or digital networks. Every five years, NWO and the research community jointly set their priorities for the coming years in a National Roadmap. In 2025, NWO allocated 197 million euros across 11 consortia, which raised an additional 104 million euros in co-funding: a total of 301 million euros.

Four consortia start research on climate-proof building renovations in the Netherlands (7 April 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Four consortia start research on climate-proof building renovations in the Netherlands | NWO](#)



Four proposals have been awarded within the KIC call 'Sustainable buildings inspired by nature'. These projects will conduct research on making the Dutch building stock more sustainable. The four consortia consist of applicants from various universities of applied sciences and universities, companies from a wide range of sectors and social and municipal partners.

Climate change is causing increasingly extreme weather conditions, such as longer periods of heat and drought and large amounts of precipitation. Consequently, building renovations must increasingly take into account the changing climate of today and the future. The four awarded projects focus on different aspects around making various types of existing buildings in the Netherlands more sustainable. These include developing a waste-based façade with plants, renovating terraced houses inspired by nature and applying regenerative renovation techniques in school buildings to support biodiversity and create interactive learning environments.

The consortia will receive a total of over 8.9 million euros from NWO. The consortia themselves contribute approximately 2.6 million to the projects.

WUR is involved in two projects

1. BIO-SKIN: Bio-Inspired Outer Surfaces to Cool, Insulate and Nurture - **Dr. ir. S. Ghodrat, TU Delft. Co-applicants dr. ir. C.W. Quist - WUR**, dr. ir. J.G. de Boer – Aeres, dr. ir. P.R. Mooij – TU Delft, mr. M. Moed Hanze Hogeschool, **prof. dr. B Wertheim – WUR**, prof. dr. S.J. Picken TU Delft; **Partners:** Wageningen University & Research
2. Nature 4 homes - dr. ir. A. Eijkelenboom, TU Delft. Co-applicants: C.C.W.G. Bongers – HAN, dr. A. Luna Navarro - TU Delft, dr. E. Brembilla - TU Delft, **dr. ir. G.J. Steeneveld – WUR**, dr. ir. M. Ottele- TU Delft, dr. K. Chamilothoni – TU Eindhoven, ir. A. Makkink – NHL Stenden, ir. J.A. Vink- TU Delft, prof. dr. ir. A.C. Boerstra - TU Delft, prof. dr. ir. P.M. Bluysen - TU Delft, prof. dr. ir. Y.A.W. de Kort – TU Eindhoven, prof. dr. M.T.E. Hopman – Radboud UMC
Partner: Wageningen Academy

For more information about the awarded projects: [Four consortia start research on climate-proof building renovations in the Netherlands | NWO](#)

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

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

Nine projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 (7 April 2026)

Source: [Website NWO News Nine projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 | NWO](#)



When conducting scientific research, you sometimes encounter unexpected results that were not taken into account beforehand. It is precisely these unexpected discoveries that can yield valuable new insights. The Impact Explorer call offers researchers the opportunity to explore the potential impact of these discoveries. Nine projects are now receiving a small top-up to further investigate unexpected discoveries. In total almost 265.000 euros has been granted.

This top-up will also be useful in the research of dr. Islam Khalil: “The Impact Explorer project builds on our recent work on motion control of wireless micro-robotic clot retrievers navigating through complex vascular networks. In the original project, we focused on developing precise magnetic control strategies to steer untethered microrobots under clinically relevant conditions. These results have now revealed a broader opportunity: the same control principles can be translated to a different clinical domain—video capsule endoscopy in the gastrointestinal tract. What we can do now, which was not part of the original proposal, is explore how this technology can enable actively steerable capsules for improved diagnosis of bowel diseases. With the Impact Explorer grant, we will work closely with our industry partner DEMCON Life Sciences and Health and clinical partners within the HealthTech Nexus, Medisch Spectrum Twente and RadboudUMC, to assess clinical needs, usability, and implementation pathways. This step allows us to evolve from a single application toward a versatile platform technology for minimally invasive diagnostics.”

For more information about the funded projects: [Nine projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 | NWO](#)

About this call

The grant is intended for activities to validate the potential societal impact of discoveries from more curiosity-driven research. Such as from the Talent Line and the Open Competitions of both NWO and ZonMw. And to explore a route to societal impact. A minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 30,000 euro is available per proposal. The call is currently closed for new applications. A new round of Impact Explorer will open later in 2026.

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Call for Proposals – Co Funding Available for WUR EngD Projects (10 April 2026)

Source: WUR Website <https://www.wur.nl/en/education/engineering-doctorate>

We're excited to open a new call for proposals to further strengthen the WU Engineering Doctorate (EngD) Programme. This call offers co-funding for six EngD projects, creating a great opportunity for new design-driven research.

With the first EngD candidates successfully graduating over the past three years, the programme is proving its value in delivering high-quality technological designs that directly support WUR's mission. We now invite (new) supervisors to submit new project ideas that will help expand this momentum.

About the EngD Programme

Wageningen University offers the Engineering Doctorate (EngD) programme "Design for Agrifood and Ecological Systems (DAES) since 2023. This two-year (full-time) post-master programme provides talented recent Master graduates and employees from interested organisations and institutes with a Master degree the opportunity to obtain an Engineering Doctorate degree. The programme covers 45 EC of training and education activities and 75 EC for the development of a design in the domain of Agrifood and Ecological Systems. Through the programme, candidates gain knowledge, skills, and insights necessary to develop a technological design which contributes to solving sustainability challenges in agri-, aqua- or horticulture, livestock farming, healthy foods, or the living environment in general. The programme bridges the gap between academia and industry as EngD candidates apply their scientific and technical knowledge to design an innovative solution for "real world" problems in close consultation with external organisations in a professional context. For more information about the programme see the [website](#). For more information about WU EngD projects, see the SAI project books of [2023](#), [2024](#), and [2025](#)

Call for proposals

To give the WU Engineering Doctorate Programme a second kick-start, Wageningen University offers co-funding for 6 WU EngD projects. The co-funding consists of 100K per project.

We invite those interested to apply for one of these co-funding positions. The application must be submitted by a supervisor with ius promovendi from Wageningen University.

An application for an EngD co-funding project consists of a 2-A4 (max) document with the following information:

- A brief proposal clearly addressing the problem, the design challenge, and the intended valorisation of the resulting design. Proposals should preferably align with the strategic plan of WUR.
- Specifications of the project supervisors with a short description of how they will contribute to the project, see for EngD supervision guidelines the [EngD regulations](#).
- When a potential candidate is already available, please also provide:
 - Curriculum Vitae candidate (max 2 A4)
 - Motivation letter candidate (max 1 A4)

Please use the prescribed format (to be found at the end of this call) for the proposal.

A candidate is only eligible for an EngD position if they meet [the entry requirements](#) of Wageningen University for an EngD. If a candidate does not have a master's degree yet, but will obtain one in the near future, this can be stated in the application. An applicant must be fluent in spoken and written scientific English.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the research questions proposed, the suitability of the research questions to the EngD trajectory, and the potential for societal impact. If more qualified candidates apply than positions are available, the selection committee will make a decision on those positions granted.

Candidates should start their EngD project before the 15th of October 2026 and should have an approved budget before the start (see section below).

Applications should be sent to engd@wur.nl with a deadline of 4 June 2026.

Budget

Each position is co-funded by max €100k from Wageningen University.

Further information

For information about this call and the EngD programme in general, please contact: Femke Brouwer-Damen (femke.brouwer-damen@wur.nl / engd@wur.nl).

Or see: Website: [Engineering Doctorate 'Design for AgriFood and Ecological Systems' | WUR](#)

More information on the EngD is available on our [WUR website](#), and the EngD office is always happy to help via engd@wur.nl if you have questions on the call or the programme.

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Industry calls for more attention to scaling up in Biotech Act II (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

Nearly 40 European industry organizations are calling for an ambitious European Biotech Act II to enable industrial-scale biotechnological production. In a joint statement, they state that the EU is the only major region that does not yet have a strategy for this. Existing policy reportedly stimulates innovation but contributes insufficiently to translating it into large-scale production. According to the organizations, additional legislation is needed to improve market access, scaling up, and investment, thereby strengthening the position of the European bioeconomy.

EuropaBio Press Release: [The EU Biotech Act II: A vital Act for biomanufacturing in Europe - Europabio](#)

Joint statement: [Draft Biotech Act II Position Paper](#)

Europe must improve research careers to retain talent (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

Europe must structurally improve research careers to retain and attract talent, an analysis by Cambridge University states. The study, which surveyed 24 universities, shows that the number of researchers is growing, but that many of them work on temporary and project-based contracts. There are also significant differences between countries and institutions. According to the authors, this makes Europe less attractive to scientific talent. They advocate for better monitoring of careers, adjustments to evaluation systems, and more co-financing to enable stable careers.

Cambridge University Report: [Choose Europe: Research Careers, Brain Drain and Policy Lessons from the CESAER 2024 Survey | European Review | Cambridge Core](#)

European Union and United Kingdom take decisive step towards Erasmus+ association in 2027 (15 April 2026)

Source: Website EC Press corner [EU and UK Erasmus+ association in 2027](#)

Today, the European Union and the United Kingdom have enabled the UK's association to Erasmus+ in 2027.

The UK's association to Erasmus+ will place UK learners, staff, education institutions and organisations on the same footing as those in EU Member States and other third countries associated to the programme. It puts people-to-people exchanges at the core of the renewed EU-UK agenda and strengthens cooperation between both sides. This important step delivers on the commitment made at the first EU-UK Summit in May 2025, by adopting an amendment to Protocol I of the [EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#).

European Commission President, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: *“Europe and the UK have enjoyed mutually beneficial educational ties for centuries. Strengthening those ties further makes perfect sense on both sides – for our students, teachers, educational systems, economies and societies as a whole. I look forward to seeing the immense potential of this development being realised as soon as possible.”*

This exciting development will create opportunities for thousands of students, educational staff and youth, and provide them with future-proof skills and competencies sought after by employers. It will ensure that more people from diverse backgrounds can study, teach or train abroad.

The agreement will also help create and deepen partnerships between EU and UK academic institutions. It will foster cooperation and exchange of practices, allowing actors to make better use of new technologies, develop innovative

teaching, training and learning methods, promote non-formal learning, and develop common tools and activities. This will help strengthen Europe's position as a global education hub.

The European Commission will work closely with UK partners to ensure Erasmus+ delivers maximum benefits for students and institutions on both sides of the Channel. The UK will designate a National Agency to oversee its participation in the programme as of 2027.

Background

Beyond the 27 EU Member States, the following third countries currently participate in the Erasmus+ programme: Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Türkiye. Both UK and Switzerland shall participate in Erasmus+ as of 1st of January 2027

Only 3-4% of European VC-backed start-ups relocate abroad, study shows (9 April 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Only 3-4% of European VC-backed start-ups relocate abroad, study shows | Science|Business](#)

In some cases, partial relocation is unavoidable and may bring benefits to home innovation ecosystems, report suggests



Between 3.3% and 4.3% of European start-ups backed by venture capital firms (VCs) relocate abroad, according to **new data** <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC146239> from the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Almost three quarters of relocating start-ups head to the US, usually to entrepreneurship hubs in the San Francisco Bay Area, Greater Boston and the New York metropolitan area, with another 7% settling in the UK.

This perspective on relocation was welcomed by Michiel Scheffer, president of the European Innovation Council (EIC), the main EU funder of innovative start-ups. There are “*a lot of urban legends*” about start-ups leaving Europe, he told Science|Business. “*There is a feeling that everyone moves to the US, but no, it's a small fraction.*”

The figures come from an ongoing research project studying the magnitude, drivers and impact of start-up relocation, in which the JRC analysed almost 17,000 VC-backed start-ups and compared them to European start-ups that did not receive VC funding.

In the latter group, the relocation rate was between 0.3% and 0.5%, suggesting investors play a role in convincing start-ups to move their headquarters. US-based VCs often require start-ups they support to relocate to the US, where they are familiar with the regulations and can make use of their networks, and where there are better exit opportunities. VCs are also likely to back firms with higher growth potential, which may influence the decision to relocate. According to Scheffer, it's also important to remember that in both the US and Europe, around 50% of start-ups don't survive the first five years. “*The simple fact of companies leaving to the US does not mean they are all successful in the US.*”

Nonetheless, relocation is an issue that needs urgently to be addressed, for instance by implementing [the EU-wide corporate regime](#), removing barriers to the single market and creating an ecosystem of larger funds that invest across EU borders, he said.

Regional variation

While the confirmed relocations of European VC-backed start-ups stands at 3.3%, the rates vary significantly between countries. Companies from smaller EU countries with less mature innovation and investment ecosystems are generally more likely to move abroad.

Relocation rates by country of origin

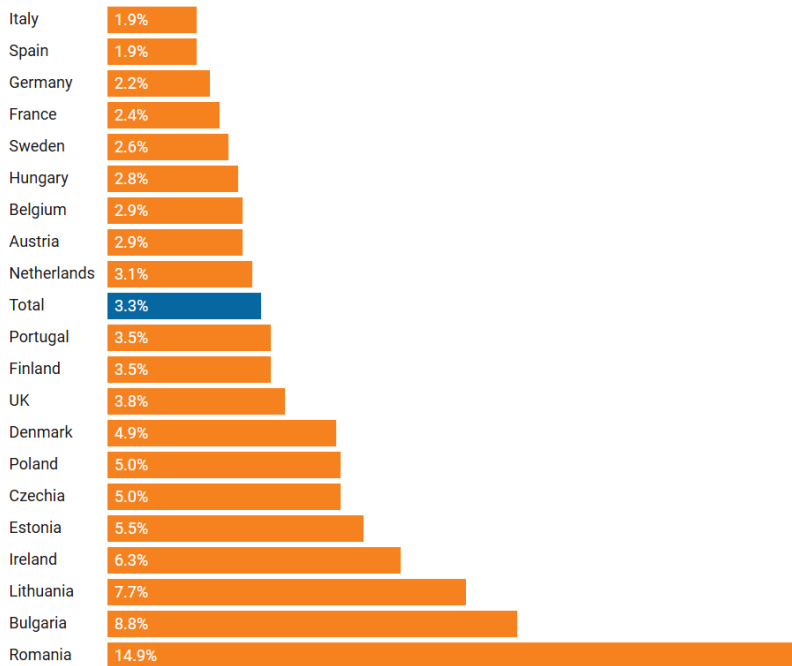


Chart: Science|Business • Source: JRC • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

The highest rate of relocation is from Romania, at 14.9%, followed by Bulgaria on 8.8% and Lithuania on 7.7%. Italy and Spain recorded the lowest rates, at 1.9%.

“Start-ups in Baltic countries, while being located in innovative hotspots, inevitably need to expand to foreign markets, which often might also imply a move of their headquarters,” the JRC writes.

Countries that do well in EIC funding competitions, such as France, Germany and the Netherlands, also have lower levels of relocation, Scheffer notes. *“It really matters that regions and countries do their best in developing their ecosystems,”* he said. *“If the conditions are not as good, relocation is more likely.”*

Read full article here: [Only 3-4% of European VC-backed start-ups relocate abroad, study shows | Science|Business](#)

Project-based funding should no longer drive research careers, says Heitor (9 April 2026)

Source: [Website Science|Business Project-based funding should no longer drive research careers, says Heitor | Science|Business](#)

Influential adviser and ex-Portuguese science minister Manuel Heitor calls out the broken system of short-term contracts



Manuel Heitor, former Portuguese research minister, addresses the Science|Business conference on Fostering Innovative Careers held in Zagreb on March 26, 2026. Photo credits: Science|Business

Europe must end the “bad practice” of project-dependent salaries for researchers, Manuel Heitor, Portugal’s former science minister, said at a Science|Business conference in Zagreb on March 26.

“Funding schemes tend to be around three years, and most European institutions, if not all, have adopted the bad practice of contracting young adults for the duration of these projects,” he said in a video message to the conference [Fostering Innovative Careers](#). “We need to recognise it as a bad practice that needs to be broken.” Heitor is the author of [the 2024 Align, Act, Accelerate report](#) that laid out 12 recommendations to improve Europe’s research and innovation funding landscape. One suggestion was to launch a “choose Europe” initiative to attract and retain research talent.

The European Commission picked up on this idea and last year, at an event at Sorbonne University in Paris, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced a €22.5 million [Choose Europe for Science pilot scheme](#) to be run through the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. The initiative, largely in line with Heitor’s recommendation, offers young researchers co-funding from their host institution and the MSCA for a period of five years. The host institute is encouraged to offer longer term employment opportunities during this period.

Von der Leyen also announced a new “super grant” that has become the European Research Council’s ERC Plus grants, which offer longer, seven-year projects with a maximum grant size of €7 million, as part of Europe’s efforts to retain and attract scientific talent.

Heitor welcomed the new MSCA pilot scheme, but said it was only a starting point. “The current budget is very, very low and unacceptable. It can only be understood as a very initial and preliminary pilot phase,” he told Science|Business in a discussion following the Zagreb conference.

He is calling for the MSCA budget to be increased threefold under the next Horizon Europe programme, bringing it up from around €9 billion to over €30 billion for the period 2028 to 2034. This increased budget would support a larger Choose Europe initiative, he said.

Lost institutional memory

Mostafa Moonir Shawrav, executive director of the Marie Curie Alumni Association, also said that precarious short-term academic work contracts were a challenge.

“If you have project-based funding, you don’t have institutional memory and subject-specific memory, and that means there is a lack of understanding, a lack of depth of knowledge in that field,” he said, speaking in Zagreb on a panel addressing research careers after Heitor’s video message.

Universities must have greater access to structural funding in order to offer more stable careers, he said, but he did not completely dismiss the idea of project-based funding. “You still need to have the competition factor there. You need to have mobility,” he said, saying a better system would be some combination of project-based and structural funding.

“I think it should be balanced, but I don’t see that happening by the next Framework Programme,” he said.

For Miroslav Rajter, associate professor in the law faculty at the University of Zagreb, the culture of project-based funding comes from what he calls “survivor bias.” “When you have some people who have managed to stay in academia through various project-based funding jobs, they say, well this is just something everyone should do because I did it,” he said.

If this problem isn’t addressed, he went on, the flow of people leaving academia will continue and possibly increase.

“They will seek security and stability,” he said. “It should not be that someone in their 20s or 30s is punished for wanting to have the security they need to start a family.”

Global policy

OECD: R&D investments remain stable, public funds under pressure (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

Total growth in R&D expenditure in OECD countries remained stable in 2024, despite governments investing relatively less in R&D. This is evident from figures from the OECD. The private sector remains responsible for 73% of total R&D expenditure. Regarding public investments, it is notable that attention is shifting from energy and the environment to defense. Total R&D expenditure grew by 2.6 percent, with strong growth in the United States and Asia, among others. Growth was limited in the European Union, while R&D investments in Germany even fell by 0.4 percent. **OECD Analysis:** [OECD overall R&D growth stable; government R&D budgets decline and reorient towards defence](#)

Trump wants to cut research budgets again (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

The Trump administration is once again proposing substantial cuts to American research budgets. The 2027 budget proposal foresees major cuts at the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency, among others, with reductions of more than 50 percent. It is also proposed to no longer use federal funds for subscriptions and publication costs of scientific articles. According to Nature, investments in AI and quantum research, among others, will be partially retained, but these funds will shift towards defense. The proposal still needs to be approved by the US Congress, which has toned down previous budget cuts.

United States Presidential Budget Proposal: [Budget of the U.S. Government](#)

Nature Article: [Massive budget cuts for US science proposed again by Trump administration](#)

Nature: Increasing number of incorrect references in publications due to AI use (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

An increasing number of scientific publications contain fabricated or incorrect references due to the use of AI, writes Nature. A joint analysis by Nature and Grounded AI shows that this problem is escalating rapidly and may already affect tens of thousands of publications. Another analysis reportedly shows that the proportion of articles with potentially fabricated references has risen from approximately 0.3 percent in 2024 to 2.6 percent in 2025. Publishers are now developing tools to detect incorrect references, but manual verification remains necessary.

Nature Article: [Hallucinated citations are polluting the scientific literature. What can be done?](#)

Stanford: AI develops faster than policy and oversight can keep up (15 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

AI is developing faster than policy frameworks, oversight, and measurement methods can keep up, according to Stanford University's AI Index Report 2026. The report states that the performance of AI systems continues to increase and is getting closer and closer to human levels. At the same time, responsible use is lagging behind, with an increase in AI-related incidents. The analysis also shows that the competitive struggle between the United States and China has intensified, with Chinese and American AI models now matching each other and regularly exchanging the lead. Furthermore, the report points to the increasing economic impact of AI, with productivity gains in specific sectors, but also growing pressure on labor markets.

AI Index Report Stanford University: [The 2026 AI Index Report | Stanford HAI](#)

National policy

Rathenau Institute: defense and Europe increasingly important for research and innovation (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026 and Site Rathenau Institute [Defensie en Europa steeds belangrijker voor onderzoek en innovatie | Rathenau Instituut](#)

The Rathenau Institute has published its annual TWIN report. The report analyzes the central government's investments in R&D and innovation. Because the report is based on the 2026 budgets, the Jetten cabinet's planned investments have not yet been included. The report identifies the strongest growth in expenditure on research related to defense. In addition, European funds, averaging 1.1 billion euros per year, form an increasingly important part of public research funding for Dutch researchers.

Government investments in research and development will decrease by one billion euros over the next four years, unless the Jetten cabinet invests extra. Defense-related spending is an exception; it is actually rising from 300 million to 400 million euros. Furthermore, the Netherlands receives an average of approximately 1.1 billion euros per year from Europe. The European budget for research and innovation may double starting in 2028. This is revealed in the publication 'TWIN 2024-2030', which the Rathenau Institute is releasing today.

3% of GDP further out of reach:

Total R&D expenditure in the Netherlands as a percentage of GDP has fluctuated between 2.1 and 2.3% for well over a decade. The Netherlands is aiming for the European target of 3%. To achieve that 3% by 2026, an additional 12.7 billion euros is needed. Of this, at least 1.2 billion should come from the government. The remainder is to be borne by the business sector and by foreign and other parties.

The TWIN 2024-2030 report can be downloaded here: [TWIN 2024-2030](#)

Rathenau Institute Publication: [Defensie en Europa steeds belangrijker voor onderzoek en innovatie | Rathenau Instituut](#)

RaboResearch: Dutch economy vulnerable due to lagging innovation capacity (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

The international competitive position of the Netherlands remains strong, but the Dutch economy has become structurally vulnerable due to prolonged stagnation in productivity growth and lagging investment and innovation capacity. RaboResearch warns of this in a comparative study with Belgium, Denmark, and the US. The researchers point, among other things, to recommendations from the agendas of Draghi, Wennink, and De Wever.

RaboResearch Publication: [Concurrentiekracht en brede welvaart: een vergelijking van Nederland met België, Denemarken en de VS - Rabobank \(in Dutch\)](#)

NOS Article: [Rabobank: 'Nederlandse economie verliest de strijd met België en Denemarken' \(in Dutch\)](#)

OECD: Low productivity growth slows down Dutch economy (16 April 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 April 2026

In a new report, the OECD states that the Dutch economy is being slowed down by low productivity growth, a lack of investment, and persistent labor shortages. According to the OECD, growth in the Netherlands in recent years has been driven primarily by higher labor participation, while productivity per hour worked lags behind comparable countries. The organization advises encouraging more working hours, including by simplifying the tax and benefits system and reducing incentives for part-time work. It also recommends focusing more strongly on lifelong learning to address skills gaps. Additionally, the OECD makes recommendations to strengthen the investment climate and long-term competitiveness.

OECD Press Release: Improving the business environment and boosting skills and employment are key to reviving economic growth prospects and seizing opportunities from new technologies
OECD Report: Foundations for Growth and Competitiveness 2026 | OECD

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 17 April 2026

StG-2027	deadline 14 October 2026
CoG-2027	deadline 12 January 2027
AdG-2027	deadline 26 August 2027
Plus-2027	deadline 1 September 2027
SyG-2027	deadline 11 May 2027

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 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Proof of Concept Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-StG	Foreseen Deadline 14 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Starting Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-CoG	Foreseen Deadline 12 January 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Consolidator Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-AdG	Foreseen Deadline 26 August 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Advanced Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-PLUS	Foreseen Deadline 1 Septem 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Plus Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-SyG	Foreseen Deadline 11 May 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Synergy 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	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	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-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	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> INFRA SERV - 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	16 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-SERV-01: call INFRA SERV</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 INFRA SERV</i>)
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
<u>Destination</u> - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
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-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-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	
Destination - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-TOOL single stage	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>Cluster 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-CL4-2027-03 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-CL4-2027-04-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-CL4-2027-04-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-CL4-2027-04-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-CL5-2026-08-Two-Stage-D1-06:	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) (CLOSED) 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-CL5-2026-09-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) (CLOSED) 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

Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
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	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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)
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
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	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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)
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-ZEROPOLLUTION two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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</u> - Land, ocean and water for climate action	
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)
<u>Destination 6</u> – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 7</u> – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
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	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	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	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	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	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL- two-stage	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 2026 ; 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	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	9 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02 Call - Twinning)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility	24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call - Hop on Facility)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01: ERA Fellowships	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-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 17 April 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. Submission deadline for pre-proposals: March 30 th , 2026 (CLOSED), 12:00 h (CEST) Deadline for full-proposals 16th September 2026, 12:00 CEST

<p>European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/</p>	<p>EUPAHW: Call 2 PP</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: 13 November 2025, 15:00 CET (CLOSED) Selection of preproposals: End of February 2026 Submission deadline of full proposals: 13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST 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.futurefoodspartnership.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: ~ 11 February 2026 (CLOSED) Deadline for full-proposal submission: ~27 July 2026 (only by invitation)</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 pre-proposal submission is 18 February 2026, 14:00 CET. (CLOSED) Deadline for full proposal submission 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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Foreseen timeline and information day</p> <p>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.facejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **17 April 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
07-12-2025 until 31-07-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> 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 <u>Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)</u>. 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%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission <u>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’</u> 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 <u>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</u> . 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 <u>proposals for The second ‘NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025</u> . 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 <u>mandatory Letter of intent for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil</u> . 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 <u>Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call ‘2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges’</u> 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 <u>Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil</u> . 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 (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **17 April 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

07-05-2026	Deadline for submission <u>full applications thematic Call Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research (Part of GO programme)</u> . The deadline for submitting proposals is 7
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	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	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
08-07-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission letter of Intent for call Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition . The deadline for applicants to declare their Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) is 8 July, 2026 23:59 CEST. Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in Transition NWO and Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition NWO and Preparing-for-tomorrow-overview-of-the-call-application-form-and-instructions-and-assessment-procedure-30.03.2026-1.pdf
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	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	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
28-10-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission for Full applications for call Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition. The deadline for applicants to submit their

	full application is October 28, 2026, 23:59 CEST . Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in Transition NWO and Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition NWO and Preparing-for-tomorrow-overview-of-the-call-application-form-and-instructions-and-assessment-procedure-30.03.2026-1.pdf
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	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	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 **17 April 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
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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