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EU Research and Development News



Discover recent updates from Brussels in this part of the EU Newsletter.

EU Policy Updates

New Erasmus+ Programme for 2028–2034: Council Position and Budget Debate

On 11 May 2026, the Council adopted its [position on the Erasmus+ Regulation](#), reinstating greater Member State control through the Programme Committee and introducing a “new action work programme” for new measures, alongside the regular work programme. Beyond governance arrangements, funding remains a key point of debate. The Commission’s proposal for the next Erasmus+ programme allocates a budget of €40.8 billion. However, several higher education institutions, student organisations and other stakeholders [call for a more substantial budget for education and training](#). Budgetary issues will be addressed during negotiations on the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework.

Horizon Europe: Draft 2026–2027 Work Programme Includes New Call Topics

The European Commission is currently updating the Horizon Europe work programme for 2026–2027. A draft of the “Horizontal Activities” section of the work programme is now available. It includes two new calls: “Bridging actions” (supporting the commercialization of research results) and “Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society” (promoting biodiversity and nature-positive solutions). The current draft can be downloaded from the [Commission’s Comitology Register](#). Please note that the update is not binding until it has been officially published. This is scheduled for September.

ERC News

First Call for ERC Plus Grants Launched

The European Research Council launched its first [ERC Plus grant call](#) on 2 June 2026. This open-topic call offers long-term funding (4–7 years) of up to €7 million for researchers at any career stage. With only 30 grants available, the competition is expected to be very tough.

ERC Resubmission Rules for 2027 Adjusted

The ERC Scientific Council has considered the concerns raised by members of the research community regarding the [recently announced changes to the resubmission rules](#). For the calls under the 2027 Work Programme, the resubmission restrictions for applicants for **Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, and ERC Plus Grants** will remain unchanged for the time being.

However, the restrictions for **Synergy Grant** applications will remain in place. This means that researchers will not be eligible to apply for the 2027 Synergy Grant call if they received a C score at Step 1 in the 2025 or 2026 Synergy, Starting, Consolidator, or Advanced Grant call, or a B score at Step 1 in the 2026 Synergy, Starting, Consolidator, or Advanced Grant call.

MSCA News

Celebrating 30 Years of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions



Over the past 30 years, the MSCA programme has not only funded research, but also built bridges between nations, disciplines and people.

To celebrate this, throughout 2026 the Research Executive Agency (REA) will be highlighting 88 stories of projects and researchers that have reshaped science. Explore the new [Marie](#)

[Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\) anniversary website!](#)

New MSCA Model Consortium Agreement Published

The [National Working Group of EU Funding Advisors at German Universities \(BAK\)](#) has published a revised version of [the model consortium agreement for MSCA Actions](#). Like the previous version, this document is based on the [DESCA model](#) and adapts its provisions to the specific features of the MSCA funding lines. The model consortium agreement is provided on a non-binding basis. Users are advised to conduct their own legal review and adapt the agreement to the specific requirements of their respective projects.

Cluster and EIC News

New Lump Sum Template

As part of recent Horizon Europe Pillar II calls using the **Lump Sum** funding model, the European Commission has introduced a new budgeting system. In selected topics, the previously used Excel template has been replaced by an **integrated budgeting tool** within the

online application forms of the Funding & Tenders Portal, with the aim of simplifying the proposal submission process.

Bridging Ideas to Market

The European Innovation Council has launched the **second edition of the EIC Tech to Market Programme**, an EIC Business Acceleration Service designed to help deep-tech researchers and innovators move from breakthrough research to viable ventures. The path from lab to venture is one of the most challenging stages in innovation.



© Image: EIC

The EIC Tech to Market Programme gives you the skills, expert support, and ecosystem access needed to validate your idea, strengthen your team, and move from breakthrough research to an investable company. The programme offers Entrepreneurial Trainings as well as Venture Building Services to support selected EIC Pathfinder and EIC Transition teams. Please click [here](#) for more information.

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Association of Third Countries to Horizon Europe and Erasmus+

Australia

The [EU and Australia have formally opened negotiations on the association to Horizon Europe](#). Following the conclusion of the negotiations, it is expected that Australian organisations will be able to apply to research calls from 2027.

Switzerland and the United Kingdom Rejoin Erasmus+

[The EU and the UK signed the association agreement](#) on 15 April 2026. In addition, [Switzerland's association to Erasmus+](#) is also expected to take effect in 2027. This will allow universities, as well as their students and staff, and other organisations in the UK and Switzerland to participate in the 2027 Erasmus+ programme calls, scheduled to open in November 2026.

Calls for Proposals

This section contains a selection of open and forthcoming calls from various EU funding programmes. The European Commission publishes the calls in the [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal \(FTOP\)](#). Do not hesitate to contact us at euresearch@uni-potsdam.de if you need further information about these or other international calls for proposals.

Horizon Europe

European Research Council (ERC)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
ERC Advanced Grants 2026 Open	28/05/2026	27/08/2026
ERC Plus Grants 2026 Open	02/06/2026	02/09/2026
ERC Proof of Concept 2026 Open	20/01/2026	17/09/2026

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026 Open	09/04/2026	09/09/2026
MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026 Open	28/05/2026	24/11/2026
MSCA Cofund 2027 Forthcoming	08/12/2026	06/04/2027
MSCA Staff Exchanges 2027 Forthcoming	15/12/2026	15/04/2027

Clusters

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society		
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society 2026 Open	12/05/2026	23/09/2026
Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society		
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01: Civil Security for Society 2026 Open	06/05/2026	05/11/2026

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space		
HORIZON-CL4-2026-03: SPACE Open	10/03/2026	03/09/2026
Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility		
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09: BATTERIES and ENERGY Open	05/05/2026	15/09/2026
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10: BATTERIES and ENERGY Open	04/06/2026	08/10/2026
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11: ENERGY Forthcoming	04/08/2026	01/12/2026
Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment		
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01 Open	17/04/2026	17/09/2026
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04 Forthcoming	25/08/2026	26/11/2026

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Agenda (WIDERA)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05: ERA Fellowships Open	09/04/2026	09/09/2026
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01: Teaming Synergies Open	23/04/2026	24/09/2026
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility Open	13/01/2026	24/09/2026
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-04: Research Management Facility Open	23/04/2026	24/09/2026

Missions

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02: Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission Open	10/02/2026	15/09/2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01: Supporting the implementation of the Adaption to Climate Change Mission Open	04/02/2026	23/09/2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-03: Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission Open	04/02/2026	23/09/2026

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05: Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission Open	04/02/2026	23/09/2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-06: Joint Call between the Soil Deal for Europe Mission and the Adaption to Climate Change Mission Open	04/02/2026	23/09/2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-04: Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Open	04/02/2026	08/10/2026

European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
HORIZON-EIE-2026-03: Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems Open	09/06/2026	22/09/2026

Horizontal Activities

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
HORIZON-CID-2026-01: R&I in Support of the Clean Industrial Deal Open	18/12/2025	15/09/2026

European Innovation Council (EIC)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
EIC Transition 2026 Open	22/04/2026	16/09/2026
EIC Pathfinder Challenge 2026 – 1: Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems Forthcoming	22/07/2026	28/10/2026
EIC Pathfinder Challenge 2026 – 2: Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing Forthcoming	22/07/2026	28/10/2026
EIC Pathfinder Challenge 2026 – 3: Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning towards trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems Forthcoming	22/07/2026	28/10/2026

Next Erasmus+ Calls

The next round of Erasmus+ calls (Cooperation Partnerships, Capacity Building Projects, Erasmus Mundus Action, Jean Monnet Actions, etc.) is expected to be launched in autumn 2026. The calls will be published in the [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal \(FTOP\)](#). The [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#) provides the details of each action (aims, eligible organisations, budget, duration, etc.).

Funding of Travel Costs for the Preparation of Erasmus+ Projects Through the NA DAAD

The National Agency of the German Academic Exchange Service (NA DAAD) provides funding to cover travel expenses related to the preparation of Erasmus+ cooperation projects. Detailed information is available on [the website of the NA DAAD](#).

European Partnerships and Other EU Co-Funded Programmes

Joint Call Title	Network	Opening Date	Deadline Pre-proposal	Deadline Full-proposal
TRANSCAN-4 Joint Transnational Call 2026 Translational Research on Cancer Metabolism: Multidisciplinary Approaches for Diagnosis and Treatment Open	TRANSCAN-4	20/05/2026	21/07/2026	13/01/2027
Water4All 5th Joint Transnational Call Sustainable water management Forthcoming	Water4All Partnership	September 2026	TBA	TBA

COST Open Call 2026



COST Actions are interdisciplinary networks bringing together various stakeholders for collaborative projects lasting four years. Funding is provided to organise events such as short visits, communication activities, conferences, or training schools. Through the 2026 Open Call, COST will fund up to 80 COST Actions. Applications can be submitted from 31 July to 28 October 2026. More information can be found on the [COST website](#).

© Image: COST Association

EDUC Research Fellowship Call

The [EDUC Research Fellowship Call](#) is designed to offer researchers at all career stages (R1–R4) the opportunity to engage across disciplines, sectors, and cultural contexts. It funds short- to mid-term research mobilities aimed at developing new skills and fostering research partnerships within the EDUC Universities and their broader ecosystems.



The call was launched on 1 December 2025 and will remain open as a rolling call until the allocated funds are exhausted or until 1 November 2026, whichever comes first.

European Structural Funds for Universities in the State of Brandenburg

We advise you on the funding opportunities in the Federal State of Brandenburg and support you in project and cost planning as well as the completion of the necessary cooperation agreements. Information on funding schemes is available [here](#) in German. If you need information in English, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Contact: Kerstin Schweigel
kerstin.schweigel@uni-potsdam.de
Phone: +49 (0)331 977-1529

New EU Projects at the University of Potsdam

The new **ERC Consolidator Grant** of Professor Alexandra Carpentier started on 1 June 2026:

SOCE: "Statistical Optimality and Computational Efficiency: batch and sequential unsupervised learning under additional structure and sampling constraints"

Horizon Europe – ERC Consolidator Grant

PI: Prof. Dr. Alexandra Carpentier

Institution: Faculty of Science – Institute for Mathematics

Duration: 1 June 2026 – 31 May 2031

Funding UP: €1,329,469.84

The University of Potsdam has so far obtained funding for 29 projects in Horizon Europe. A complete list of EU projects can be consulted on the [website of the UP](#).

EU Publications

Report on the Practical Use of Horizon Europe’s Legal, Financial and Administrative Rules

While discussions about programme simplification for the next Research and Innovation Framework Programme (2028–2032) are ongoing, the project "Horizon Academy (NCP4HE)" has published the results of a survey conducted among 1,360 beneficiaries across EU Member States regarding the practical application of Horizon Europe’s legal, financial, and administrative rules. The report is available [here](#).

Additionally, a [dashboard](#) has been set up allowing users to filter the survey results based on specific criteria.

Update on the Use of AI in Research

The European Commission has published an update to [the ERA Living Guidelines on the responsible use of AI in research](#). The new guidelines address the rapid progress of generative AI and ensure that they reflect current technological developments and their impact on research. Principles of research integrity, such as accountability and transparency, are reinforced.

European Union Framework for Science Diplomacy

The European Commission has published a fact sheet on the [European Union Framework for Science Diplomacy](#). The document outlines, among other things, what science diplomacy is and what the objectives of the EU Framework are.

Updated “How to Manage Your Lump Sum Grant”

The Commission has published an updated version of “[How to Manage Your Lump Sum Grant](#)”. This guidance document provides advice on all project stages, from writing a lump sum proposal to project completion and reporting.

EIC Impact Report 2026

The European Innovation Council has published its **impact report** for the current year, indicating a continued strengthening of Europe’s position as a global deep tech scaling hub. The findings highlight increasing investment volumes, stronger cross-border activity, and a more mature European innovation ecosystem. The report can be downloaded [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Horizon Europe

Date/Time	Event Name	Place	Organisation
12/06/2026 12:00 – 13:30	Webinar Horizon Europe Open Science requirements in practice → Link to the event page/registration	Online	OpenAIRE
17/06/2026 10:00 – 16:30	Workshop zur Antragstellung in Horizon Europe und Digital Europe → Link to the event page/registration	Bonn	NKCS
17/06/2026 10:30 – 12:00	Maximizing the Impact of Horizon project results → Link to the event page/registration	Online	European Commission
19/06/2026 10:00 – 16:30	Strengthening ERC participation: from policy to practice through support mechanisms → Link to the event page/registration	Online	mERCury
23/06/2026 11:00 – 15:00	Workshop: ERC – Strike the iron while it’s hot! More information: see below	Potsdam	UP/EUK
25/06/2026 10:00 – 12:00	Online-Seminar zur Antragstellung in den MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN) 2026 → Link to the event page/registration	Online	NKS MSCA
29/06/2026 10:00 – 11:30	Infoveranstaltung der NKS DIT zu den Policy Objectives in Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 → Link to the event page/registration	Online	NKS DIT
02/07/2026 13:00 – 14:00	"Frag die NKS!": Erfolgreicher EU-Antragsteller teilt Erfahrungen zur Antragstellung in Cluster 2 → Link to the event page/registration	Online	NKS Gesellschaft

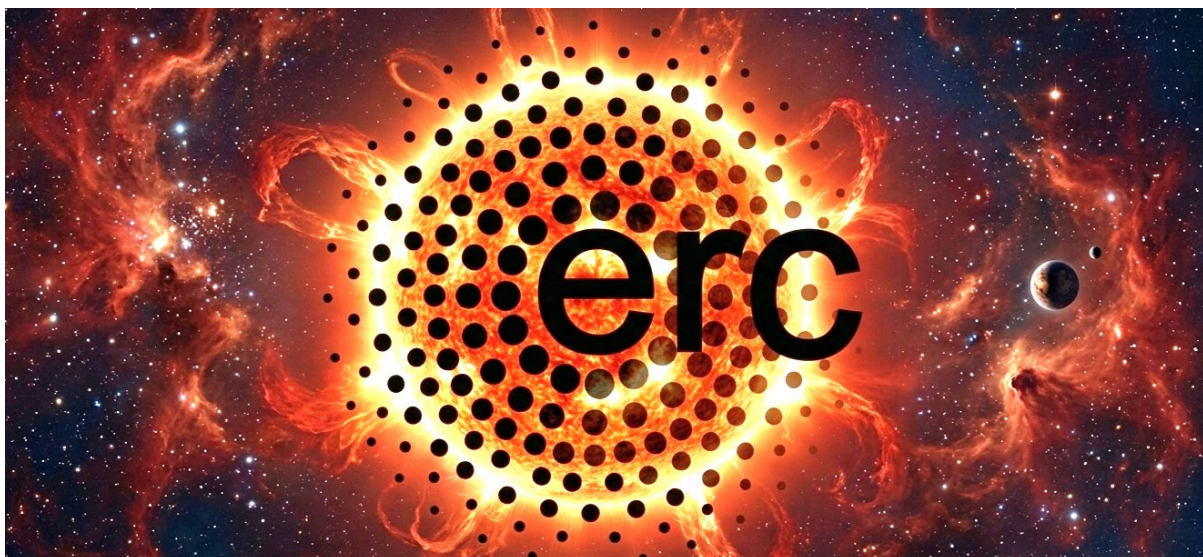
Date/Time	Event Name	Place	Organisation
28/07/2026 09:30 – 12:00	ERC Starting Grant/Consolidator Grant Call 2027 – Information event → Link to the event page/registration	Online	NKS ERC
02/09/2026 – 17/09/2026	ERC CoG Interviewtrainings → Link to the event page/registration Registration opens on 9 July 2026, at 10:00!	Online	NKS ERC
30/09/2026 – 14/10/2026	RP Kompakt - Multiplikator/innenseminar zu Horizont Europa → Link to the event page/registration	Bonn	EU-Büro des BMFTR
03/11/2026 – 05/11/2026 09:00 – 13:00	EU-Kompakt I: Einführung in die EU-Forschungsförderung → Link to the event page/registration	Bonn	KoWi

Workshop at UP: “ERC – Strike the Iron While It’s Hot!”

Are you a talented, ambitious, and creative researcher at a host institution in Brandenburg? **Are you considering applying for an ERC grant?** Are you wondering whether your project idea is “ERC material” and what challenges you might face? **Then this workshop is for you.**

An expert from the NCP ERC in Germany will provide an informative overview of the various ERC funding schemes and calls. In the afternoon, two successful ERC grantees will share their experiences with the application process, evaluation and project implementation. Throughout the sessions, there will be ample opportunity for questions, discussion, and networking.

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Where? University of Potsdam, Am Neuen Palais 10, Building 8, Room 0.58

When? 23 June 2026, 11:00 – 15:00

Who to contact? Dr. Adriana Wipperling-Klepke, +49 331 977 1190
adriana.wipperling@uni-potsdam.de

Please be aware that registration closes on 12 June 2026!

Erasmus+

Date/Time	Event	Place	Organisation
22/09/2026 – 23/09/2026	Erasmus+ Jahrestagung 2026 → Link to the event page/registration	Hybrid	NA DAAD

Other EU Funding Programmes

Date/Time	Event	Place	Organisation
16/06/2026 10:00 – 12:00	Online COST Info Day 2026 → Link to the event page/registration	Online	COST Association

About Us

EU Research Funding

In Dezernat 1 you will find guidance on EU Research Funding in the following areas:

Consultancy (pre-award support)	Application (pre-award support)	Management (post-award support)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of suitable funding opportunities for your research in Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ • Organization of workshops and information events • Support through local, regional, national, and international networks • Other information (e.g., success rates) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative issues • Formal assessment of the proposal • Funding & Tenders Portal • Detailed feedback on the structure and formal issues of the proposal • Elaboration and checking of the budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation and signature of the Grant Agreement and, if applicable, the Consortium Agreement • Coordination and support for the administrative and financial management of Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects

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