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ERA Factsheet
No.1

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe - the ERA part briefly explained

This Horizon Europe part supports efforts to reform and enhance the European research and innovation system. A broad range of topics contribute to achieving this goal, such as: foster an efficient exchange of knowledge and research results, strengthen gender equality, uphold high ethical standards, address joint programming and agenda setting, encourage institutional changes at universities or promote the active contribution of citizens to research. Importantly, all these activities aim at strengthening the European Research Area (ERA), which is the central anchor point for setting the goals and themes of calls in this programme part.
The budget is about 440 million euros for the seven-year period of Horizon Europe (2021-2027).

Structure

The part Reforming and enhancing the European Research & Innovation System belongs to the programme part Widening Participation and Strengthening the ERA (WIDERA) which is separate from the three main pillars of Horizon Europe. WIDERA consists of two components, one component being Widening participation and spreading excellence, abbreviated as WIDENING, and the other Reforming and enhancing the European R&I System, called ERA part for short.

Funded by
the European Union

Context and content

The ERA part is policy-oriented, as it is intended to contribute to further enhancing the ERA along the current policy priorities. Politics on regional, national and European level continue in their efforts to shape the ERA into a single borderless market for research, innovation and technology. From its launch in the year 2000, the central aim for the ERA has been the free movement of researchers, knowledge and innovation.
Several recent policy developments underline and renew these ambitions for the ERA.
The Communication on the new European Research Area and the Pact for Research and Innovation with its ERA Policy Agenda set new objectives and priorities, embrace values and define concrete actions that are particularly relevant to the ERA part.
Each ERA call topic is assigned to one of the four priorities of the new ERA – prioritise investments and reforms in research and innovation, improve access to excellence, translate research and innovation results into the economy and society, and deepen the ERA – and will contribute to implementing the twenty actions of the joint ERA Policy Agenda. This means that call topics support specific actions of the ERA policy agenda, such as "better knowledge valorization" (no. 7) or "bring science closer to citizens" (no. 14).

The topics in the ERA part are closely connected to the current priorities of the ERA, and are defined and described as broad lines in the legal texts for Horizon Europe, especially in the Specific Programme:

- Strengthening the **evidence base** for R&I policy for a better understanding of research and innovation ecosystems;
- **Foresight activities** to anticipate emerging needs and trends;
- **Support for policy makers** to the ERA development to support programme level cooperation between national R&I programmes to implement transnational joint activities;
- Support to national **R&I policy reform**, including through a strengthened set of services of the Policy Support Facility;
- Providing researchers with **attractive career environments**, skills and competences and supporting the **modernization of universities** and other R&I institutions;
- Accelerating the transition towards **open science** by monitoring, analysing and supporting the development and uptake of open science policies and practices;
- **Citizen science**, supporting science education, ensuring a more effective and responsible engagement of citizens;
- Supporting and monitoring **gender equality** as well as other forms of diversity in scientific careers and in decision-making;
- **Ethics and integrity** to further develop a coherent Union framework in adherence with the highest ethics standards;
- Support to **international cooperation** through policy dialogues and other activities such collecting knowledge;
- **Scientific input to other policies**, through the creation and maintenance of advisory and monitoring structures;
- Support to the **Programme implementation**, including collecting and analysing evidence;
- Support to **dissemination & exploitation** of R&I results, data and knowledge, through dedicated support to beneficiaries, targeted communication activities

These broad lines are translated into concrete call topics. For example, a topic in support of reforming research assessment reflects the overarching open science goals, a topic funding good practices for value creation and transfer to the economy and society contributes to dissemination and exploitation goals, a topic on the implementation of inclusive gender equality plans strengthens gender equality objectives, etc.

Target groups

These diverse broad lines address a similarly wide-ranging set of actors from the research, education and innovation system as well as from civil society and the economic sector. **Depending on the topic, a single consortium might comprise very diverse partners from various disciplines and fields.** Likewise, policy-makers, research funders, research performing organizations, including research managers and practice partners from civil society, education and business, might be indispensable participants.

Participation as coordinating or partner organization is equally open to entities from EU member states and from countries associated to Horizon Europe.

Calls

An ERA call for proposals for Enhancing the European R&I system is published once a year on the Funding & Tenders Portal, which is also the platform for submitting the project proposals. The call topics, the programme objectives and the expected impacts are set out in multiannual work programmes that include both components, WIDENING and ERA. The WIDERA work programmes comprise topics under three destinations, with the first two destinations being dedicated to WIDENING objectives and the third destination to Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system. ERA call topics always carry the abbreviations WIDERA and ERA in the so-called "topic identifier" of the topic title (i.e. HORIZON-**WIDERA**-2023-**ERA**-01-01).

- ERA call topics follow a top-down approach, they are precisely predefined. Proposals must address the specified scope and the expected outcome accordingly.
- Funding is mainly provided for so-called Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) which often support capacity building activities, such as facilitating the exchange of information, mutual learning, best practice sharing, training and awareness-raising activities. In general, it is recommended to build a consortium even if one legal entity would formally suffice.
- Due to its wide range of broad lines and a limited budget, the allocated budget and number of projects per call topic are rather small in the ERA part. It also means that there are only one, two or sometimes even no call topics in a call year for the individual broad lines (such as gender equality, open science, policy support).
- Potential proposers should therefore always keep a close eye on the ERA part. Around 20 projects are funded in a call for proposals, which comprises a dozen or so call topics, and the average project budget is about 2 million euros.

The ERA part also includes so called "other actions", i.e. grants to identified beneficiaries, expert contracts, public procurements and prizes like the EU Award for Gender Equality Champions. These activities are not included in the annual call for proposals.
Funded ERA projects can be found in the CORDIS database.

Information and advice

The WIDERA National Contact Points provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process.
They also offer proposal checks.

Documents and links

- ERA part Reforming and enhancing the European Research and Innovation system (europa.eu) and Horizon Europe: Reforming and enhancing the European R&I system (europa.eu)
- ERA Calls in the Funding & tender opportunities portal Search Funding & Tenders (europa.eu)
- WIDERA Work Programme Reference Documents (europa.eu)
- WIDERA National Contact Points Funding & tenders (europa.eu)
- The European Research Area European research area (europa.eu)
- The Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe EUR-Lex - 32021D0764 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

ERA call page in the Funding & Tenders Portal

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Task leader: DLR

Task co-leader: ISERD Israel-Europe R&I Directorate

Funded by the European Union

NCP_WIDERA.NET project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No 101055286.

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ERA Factsheet
No.2

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – key information on the ERA call 2023

Are you looking for funding opportunities for best practices for value creation, for the integration of R&I within macro-economic modelling or for laying the groundwork towards Europe-wide citizen science campaigns? All this and more is covered by the ERA call 2023, which aims to build a stronger and more dynamic European Research Area (ERA). The call Enhancing the European R&I system – ERA call for short – is the annual call of the Horizon Europe programme component Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I System – ERA part for short.

Basic information on the ERA call 2023

Strengthening the European Research Area lies at the heart of the ERA part. More precisely, the ERA call 2023 is strongly guided by the new ERA priorities and the **ERA Policy Agenda**, as outlined in the **Pact for Research and Innovation**. Each topic is assigned to one of the following three (out of four) ERA priorities: prioritise investments and reforms, translate R&I results into the economy and deepen the ERA. In addition, most call topics are dedicated to supporting the implementation of specific ERA Policy Agenda actions. The call descriptions provide links to the respective ERA Policy Agenda actions.

Funded by
the European Union

Call opening:	**6 December 2022**
Call closing:	**9 March 2023 (5 p.m. CET)**
Overall indicated budget:	**34.7 million EUR**
Number of topics:	**12**
Indicative number of projects expected to be funded:	**17**

Main Sources: Information on the call topics can be found in the **work programme** 2023-2024 Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (destination Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system) and in the **Funding & Tenders Portal**.

More information on the ERA part is available in the ERA Factsheet No. 1, "Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – the ERA part briefly explained".

If you would like to learn more about the ERA Policy Agenda, the ERA Policy Brief, "The European Research Area Policy Agenda" will provide you with further details.

Overview of the ERA call topics 2023

Topic titles including core tasks[1]	Budgets in EUR million
PRIORITISING INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-01: Programme level collaboration between national R&I policy-makers ➜ Align national and regional research funding programmes on agreed priorities. ➜ Implement joint calls for transnational R&I projects as well other joint activities. ➜ Pool resources and ensure complementarity between activities and policies with those of the Framework Programme and relevant European Partnerships and EU missions.	**Per topic:** 6.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 3 projects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-02: A strong European R&I Foresight Community to better inform R&I policy decisions in the European Research Area about potential futures ➜ Accelerate the development of a European R&I foresight community, including national agencies on foresight and R&I, by • taking stock of foresight activities, • assessing strengths and weaknesses nationally and in relation to policy needs at European level, • fostering networking activities and pilot foresight projects on topics of common interest linked to ERA Policy Agenda Actions.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

[1] Please note that the full topic description is indispensable for the preparation of the application. For the full topic description (including additional specific conditions), please consult the WIDERA Work Programme 2023-2024 or the respective call topic page in the Funding & Tenders Portal.

TRANSLATING R&I RESULTS INTO THE ECONOMY	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-03: Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation ➜ Support value creation and its transfer to the economy and society by • experimenting on innovative ways to strengthen channels of valorising knowledge and research results and/or • transfer of best practices in knowledge valorisation by involving partners that implement best practices and partners that introduce a new practice or reform an existing one.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 1.00 **Funding for** up to 3 projects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-04: Development of new approaches to the macroeconomic modelling of research and innovation ➜ Improve the integration of research and innovation in macro-economic modelling. ➜ Shed fresh light on the role of research and innovation in tackling current societal challenges, with a particular focus on the European context.	**Per topic:** 1.00 **Per project:** 1.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-05: Exploitation and valorisation of results relevant for the ERA Policy Agenda ➜ Boost the dissemination, valorisation and broad uptake of results stemming from the different ERA Policy Agenda actions. ➜ Support sharing of information, mutual learning and awareness raising across Member States and stakeholders. ➜ Design a process to develop and share guidance and recommendations.	**Per topic:** 2.20 **Per project:** 2.20 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-06: Building a virtual European Info Platform on Contemporary China ➜ Bring together knowledge nodes on contemporary China from across Europe to build and manage a sustainable virtual European Info Platform on contemporary China that should become a European key go-to source of independent knowledge on contemporary China across major relevant research areas.	**Per topic:** 2.50 **Per project:** 2.50 **Funding for** up to 1 project
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: OPEN SCIENCE	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-07: Support to reforms of research assessment in the European Research Area ➜ Support reforming the assessment of research projects, researchers, research units, and research institutions to improve research quality, performance and impact by • supporting the coalition of committed organisations, • providing financial support to institutions to implement institutional changes, • envisaging international cooperation on research assessment.	**Per topic:** 5.00 **Per project:** 5.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

Topic titles including core tasks	Budgets in EUR million
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: CITIZEN SCIENCE	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-08: Laying the groundwork towards Europe-wide citizen science campaigns ➜ Conduct preparatory work for launching Europe-wide citizen science campaigns under the New ERA, which will also have synergies with Horizon Europe EU Missions. ➜ Identify the most promising citizen science initiatives for transnational upscaling, foster the development of broad societal coalitions around these initiatives, and propose how to unlock the necessary funding commitments.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 1.50 **Funding for** up to 2 projects
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: GENDER	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-09: Policy support to facilitate the implementation of a zero-tolerance approach towards gender-based violence in the ERA ➜ Support Member States and Associated Countries – national research funding organisations as well as research performing organisations – in implementing a strategic zero-tolerance approach towards gender-based violence (GBV) in higher education and research. ➜ Cover activities such as the sharing of information, mutual learning, best-practice sharing, training, raising awareness on tackling GBV.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-10: Support to the implementation of an EU Manifesto for STE(A)M education and research and innovation career paths to tackle gender inequalities in the ERA ➜ Develop a network of national R&I and education actors from Member States and Associated Countries involved in STEAM education. ➜ Set up principles and a joint commitment on gender equality and diversity in STEM education. ➜ Raise awareness of the deconstruction of gender stereotypes and unconscious biases in science. ➜ Support the development of STEM skills and learning opportunities.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: ETHICS	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-11: Research ethics for environmental and climate technologies ➜ Promote a responsible implementation of the EU Green deal by activities such as • producing guidelines for ethics committee members, • developing traditional and online training materials for students and researchers, • organising trainings for experts on the ethics appraisal scheme.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 3.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-12: The future of research ethics review in the changing research environments ➜ Support an effective adaptation of the ethics reviews to the evolution of scientific research, due to new research areas and new forms of collaborations by • analysing current approaches to ethics reviews and proposing ways to adapt to new challenges, • organising stakeholder consultations and mutual learning, • developing guidelines and education materials, • training Horizon Europe ethics experts.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 3.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

Basic information regarding proposals

Proposals

Relevant documents and information as well as access to the submission system are available on the respective call page in the Funding & Tenders Portal. Proposals are submitted online in a single-step process. They are pre-structured and consist of an A-part (online forms) and a B-part (the actual proposal, 30 pages long). Proposals must strictly follow the predefined proposal structure.
A successful proposal addresses all aspects of the topic description – the expected outcome as well as the scope. Applicants should also address relevant expected impacts as listed on page 75-76 of the WIDERA work programme. Applicants should try to meet the evaluation criteria to the greatest possible extent.

Composition of the consortium

Proposals for a CSA may be submitted by one or more legal entities established in a Member State, countries associated to Horizon Europe (Associated Countries), or – in exceptional cases and if provided for in the specific call conditions – a third country. Due to the nature of this programme part, it is generally recommended to build a consortium even if one legal entity would formally suffice.

Depending on the topic, actors from the research, education and innovation system, from civil society or from the business sector are addressed. Please keep in mind that some call topics define specific requirements, e.g. the participation of a specified stakeholder organisation. Participation as coordinating or partner organisation is equally open to entities from EU Member States and from Associated Countries.

Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)

The type of action (project type) is defined in the topic. The ERA call 2023 comprises Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) only.
Depending on the topic, the purpose of a CSA is dissemination, raising awareness and communication activities, mutual learning exercises, networking coordination, policy dialogues, studies, and other support services.

Funding rates

The maximum Horizon Europe funding rate is 100% of eligible direct costs for Coordination and Support Actions plus a 25% flat rate of the total eligible direct costs for indirect costs, excluding eligible direct costs for subcontracting and financial support to third parties.

Evaluation

The evaluation is carried out by independent experts. It is based on the three award criteria **excellence**, **impact** and **implementation**. These criteria are reflected in the structure of proposal section B. The criteria are equally weighted and can score a maximum of 5 points each. The threshold value for the individual criteria is 3 points, the overall threshold is 10 points.

Information and advice

The WIDERA National Contact Points provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process. They also offer proposal checks. Early contact is recommended.
Find the WIDERA NCP of your country in the NCP database.

ERA call page in the Funding & Tenders Portal

Task leader: DLR

Task co-leader: ISERD Israel-Europe R&I Directorate

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ERA Factsheet
No.3

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – key information on the ERA call 2024

Are you looking for funding opportunities for supporting the professionalisation of research management, for implementing inclusive gender equality plans or for capacity building on intellectual property as an open science enabler? All this and more is covered by the ERA call 2024, which aims to build a stronger and more dynamic European Research Area (ERA). The call Enhancing the European R&I system – ERA call for short – is the annual call of the Horizon Europe programme component Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I System – ERA part for short.

Basic information on the ERA call 2024 [1]

Strengthening the European Research Area lies at the heart of the ERA part. More precisely, the ERA call 2024 is strongly guided by the new ERA priorities and the ERA Policy Agenda, as outlined in the Pact for Research and Innovation. Each topic is assigned to one of the following three (out of four) ERA priorities: prioritise investments and reforms, improve access to excellence and deepen the ERA. In addition, most call topics are dedicated to supporting the implementation of specific ERA Policy Agenda actions. The call descriptions provide links to the respective ERA Policy Agenda actions.

Funded by the European Union

Call opening:	**6 December 2023**
Call closing:	**12 March 2024 (5 p.m. CET)**
Overall indicated budget:	**23.5 million EUR**
Number of topics:	**9**
Indicative number of projects expected to be funded:	**15**

Main Sources: Information on the call topics can be found in the work programme 2023-2024 Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (destination Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system) and in the Funding & Tenders Portal.

More information on the ERA part is available in the ERA Factsheet No. 1, "Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – the ERA part briefly explained".

If you would like to learn more about the ERA Policy Agenda, the ERA Policy Brief No.1, "The European Research Area Policy Agenda No.1" will provide you with further details.

Overview of the ERA call topics 2024 [2]

Topic titles including core tasks[3]	Budgets in EUR million
PRIORITISING INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-01: Programme level collaboration between national R&I policy-makers → Align national and regional research funding programmes on agreed priorities. → Implement joint calls for transnational R&I projects as well other joint activities. → Pool resources and ensure complementarity between activities and policies with those of the Framework Programme and relevant European Partnerships and EU missions.	**Per topic:** 6.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 3 projects
IMPROVING ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-03: Support for the professionalisation of research management → Create joint virtual and non-virtual training programmes, networking programmes and curricula for research managers and prepare the road to certification and accreditation. → Further develop and implement a methodology to identify, train and 'professionalise' individuals who are essential support for the 'research enterprise' dimension. → Improve accessibility for research management staff from regions of lower R&I intensity.	**Per topic:** 1.00 **Per project:** 1.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-04: Strengthening researchers' skills for better careers – leveraging the European Competence Framework for Researchers ➜ Support research performing organisations in adapting and reinforcing formal and targeted training for researchers based on: • The use of the European Competence Framework for Researchers (ResearchComp) to foster transversal skills (put a specific emphasis on science communication and making research careers attractive). • Promote and support networking and exchange of best practices. • Foster strategic partnerships with ecosystem actors.	**Per topic:** 0.50 **Per project:** 0.50 **Funding for** up to 1 project
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: OPEN SCIENCE	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-07: Capacity building on Intellectual Property (IP) management to support open science ➜ Support education and training in adequate IP management which is an important enabler of open science. ➜ Build capacity in research organisations and their staff, support and equip researchers at all stages with the knowledge they need about adequate IP management.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-08: Global cooperation in not-for-profit open access publishing ➜ Gather, share and improve good practices with regard to the non-technological aspects of service provision and with regard to business models. ➜ Implement practices that will strengthen high-quality publishing services at the global scale. ➜ Develop training materials and organize virtual trainings for not-for-profit publishing service providers and their editors.	**Per topic:** 2.50 **Per project:** 2.50 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-09: Support to the development and implementation of policies and practices for reproducibility of scientific results ➜ Build expertise and support research organisations to develop and implement policies and interventions, coordinate efforts between stakeholders. ➜ Support the development of training materials and training programmes, mutual learning and exchange of practices and tools and awareness raising. ➜ Put in place mechanisms to monitor the effects of policies and practices implemented.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 2.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

[1,2] Please note that the Commission is considering to cancel the topic "**HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-05: Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation**", that is why the topic is not included here. The next amendment of the Work Programme will propose to re-introduce the topic with an updated description to be funded under a call in 2024.

[3] Please note that the full topic description is indispensable for the preparation of the application. For the full topic description (including additional specific conditions), please consult the WIDERA Work Programme 2023-2024 or the respective call topic page in the Funding & Tenders Portal.

Topic titles including core tasks	Budgets in EUR million
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: GENDER	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-10: Policy coordination to support all aspects of inclusive Gender Equality Plans and policies in the ERA ➜ Develop a sustainable network of national representatives from EU Member States (at least 23) and Associated Countries. ➜ Develop knowledge and build capacities on inclusive gender equality plans and policies including mutual learning. ➜ Contribute to policy making and promote an inclusive and gender-responsive culture-change.	**Per topic:** 3.50 **Per project:** 3.50 **Funding for** up to 1 project
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-11: Support to the implementation of inclusive gender equality plans ➜ Advanced organisations will mentor less advanced organisations on best practices, processes, monitoring and actions to undertake in the inclusive gender equality plans. • Adress new areas, implement specific actions addressing intersectionality and diversity. • Organise activities such as on-site visits, training, capacity building.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 0.50 - 1.00 **Funding for** up to 4 projects
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: ETHICS	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-12: Next generation AI and Human Behaviour: promoting an ethical approach ➜ Review the current landscape, select three exemplary areas of research. ➜ Establish specialized, inclusive networks of expertise. ➜ Develop operational guidelines for AI systems that build on the study of human cognition and behaviour. ➜ Develop a toolbox for international cooperation in AI research and development. ➜ Produce innovative training material, train - among others - Horizon Europe Ethics Experts.	**Per topic:** 3.00 **Per project:** 3.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

Basic information regarding proposals

Proposals

Relevant documents and information as well as access to the submission system are available on the respective **call page** in the Funding & Tenders Portal. Proposals are submitted online in a single-step process. They are **pre-structured** and consist of an A-part (online forms) and a B-part (the actual proposal, 30 pages long). Proposals must strictly follow the predefined proposal structure.
A successful proposal addresses all aspects of the topic description – the expected outcome as well as the scope. Applicants should also address relevant expected impacts as listed on page 74-75 of the WIDERA work programme. Applicants should try to meet the evaluation criteria to the greatest possible extent.

Composition of the consortium

Proposals for a CSA may be submitted by one or more legal entities established in a Member State, countries associated to Horizon Europe (Associated Countries), or – in exceptional cases and if provided for in the specific call conditions – a third country. Due to the nature of this programme part, it is generally recommended to build a consortium even if one legal entity would formally suffice.

Depending on the topic, actors from the research, education and innovation system, from civil society or from the business sector are addressed. Please keep in mind that some call topics define specific requirements, e.g., the participation of a specified stakeholder organisation. Participation as coordinating or partner organisation is equally open to entities from EU Member States and from Associated Countries.

Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)

The type of action (project type) is defined in the topic. The ERA call 2024 comprises Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) only.
Depending on the topic, the purpose of a CSA is dissemination, raising awareness and communication activities, mutual learning exercises, networking coordination, policy dialogues, studies, and other support services.

Funding rates

The maximum Horizon Europe **funding rate** is 100% of eligible direct costs for Coordination and Support Actions plus a 25% flat rate of the total eligible direct costs for indirect costs, excluding eligible direct costs for subcontracting and financial support to third parties.

Evaluation

The **evaluation** is carried out by independent experts. It is based on the three award criteria Excellence, Impact and Implementation. These criteria are reflected in the structure of proposal section B. The criteria are equally weighted and can **score** a maximum of 5 points each. The threshold value for the individual criteria is 3 points, the overall threshold is 10 points.

Information and advice

The WIDERA National Contact Points provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process. They also offer proposal checks. Early contact is recommended.
Find the WIDERA NCP of your country in the **NCP database**.

ERA call page in the Funding & Tenders Portal

Task leader: DLR

Task co-leader: ISERD Israel-Europe R&I Directorate

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ERA Factsheet
No.4

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – key information on the ERA call 2024-02

An amendment to the work programme was published in April 2024. With this amendment, an additional call for the Horizon Europe programme part "Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I System" was added, creating new funding opportunities! The call "Enhancing the European R&I system, Horizon-Widera-2024-ERA-02" (ERA call for short) comprises only three topics but is endowed with a considerable budget of 28 million euros, with which up to 18 projects are to be funded. It supports activities on knowledge valorisation, early research careers, and science in cities, thus offering opportunities to a broad range of stakeholders active in building the European Research Area (ERA).

Basic information on the ERA call 2024-02

The first topic, **"Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation"**, supports the transfer of scientific knowledge and research results into innovative solutions, including through more experimentation, peer learning and testing of new models, as well as trying out good practices in different environments. Relevant for this topic are not only the guiding principles for knowledge valorisation but also the European Commission's two new recommendations for a code of practice for knowledge valorisation on industry-academia co-creation and on citizen engagement.

Compared to the 2023 topic, some adjustments have been made, e.g. the two types of challenges have been more clearly distinguished. The topic targets academia/research, industry/SMEs, public administration/policy makers.

Funded by
the European Union

The second topic, **"Science comes to town"**, offers the opportunity for a group of cities to host a coordinated joint year-long programme of activities, connecting local R&I communities with citizens and stakeholders around the topic of science and its role in society. It targets city authorities in collaboration with universities, research organisations, and civil society organisations.

The third topic, **"Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers"**, is a pilot which supports organisational change and the coordination of measures in academic and non-academic organisations that create talent ecosystems with a large pool of research and innovation positions providing intersectoral career opportunities for research and innovation talents. It shall operate under good training and working conditions, in line with the new Charter for Researchers (Annex II) of the Council recommendation on a European framework for research careers. It targets universities, research and technology organisations and infrastructures, SMEs/industry, government entities and international organisations as well as civil society organisations.

Each topic supports an ERA Policy Agenda action, respectively action 4 (Promote attractive and sustainable research careers), action 7 (Better knowledge valorisation) and action 14 (Bring science closer to citizens).

Call opening:	**15 May 2024**
Call closing:	**25 September 2024 (5 p.m. CET)**
Overall indicated budget:	**28 million EUR**
Number of topics:	**3**
Indicative number of projects expected to be funded:	**18**

Main Sources: Information on the call topics can be found in the **work programme 2023-2025** Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (destination Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system) and in the **Funding & Tenders Portal**.

The recording of the WIDERA info day from 22 April 2024 can be streamed **here**, slides are available **here**.

Two NCP_WIDERA.NET publications provide further information on the ERA part (**ERA Factsheet No. 1**, "Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – the ERA part briefly explained") and on the ERA Policy Agenda (**ERA Policy Brief No. 1** "The European Research Area Policy Agenda").

The opportunity to get to know the call and find potential partner institutions will be given online on 17 June 2024 at a **Knowledge Day and Brokerage Event**.

Overview of the ERA call topics 2024-02

Topic titles including core tasks[1]	Budgets in EUR million
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01: Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation → Create and transfer value that can be applied to the economy and society by increased interlinkages and cooperation between knowledge valorisation actors. → Bring new and innovative solutions to different challenges through an improved uptake and deployment of research results, including through the engagement of citizens and civil society. → Improve existing structures, strategies and practices for knowledge valorisation through sustainable action and initiatives. → Proposals should address at least one of the following challenges: • Experimentation in knowledge valorisation, developing innovative ways to strengthen channels of valorising knowledge and research results. • Transfer of best practices in knowledge valorisation in the area of 'academia-industry/ SME linkages' or 'quadruple helix-based innovation'.	**Per topic:** 2.00 **Per project:** 1.00 **Funding for** up to 2 projects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-02: Science comes to town → A small group of cities jointly designs and implements a vibrant and engaging year-long programme of events and activities (such as lectures, workshops, exhibitions but also experiment with new formats). → The programme activities must also include the two science competitions "EUCYS 2026" – the European Union Contest for Young Scientists, and "EU TalentOn 2026" – the European Union Contest for Early Career Researchers. → Bring citizens and R&I communities together to showcase the contribution of science to society. → Increase societal responsibility, trust in and commitment to science and innovation. → Improve the appeal of careers in R&I for younger generations. → Develop and test the overall concept and brand of "Science comes to town" with a view to future editions.	**Per topic:** 6.00 **Per project:** 6.00 **Funding for** up to 1 project

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers – pilot ➜ Support the cooperation between academic, private, and public sector entities at organisational level to create ecosystems. ➜ Establish ecosystems for a large pool of research positions, connecting research training providers and the researchers' labour market. ➜ Widely implement the standards for attractive researcher careers as laid down in the Charter for Researchers. ➜ Improve early careers researchers' competences, employability as well as career interoperability between sectors.	**Per topic:** 20.00 **Per project:** 1.00-2.00 **Funding for** up to 15 projects

Basic information regarding proposals

Proposals

Relevant documents and information as well as access to the submission system are available on the respective call page in the **Funding & Tenders Portal**. Proposals are submitted online in a single-step process. They are **pre-structured** and consist of an A-part (online forms) and a B-part (the actual proposal, 30 pages long). Proposals must strictly follow the predefined proposal structure.

A successful proposal addresses all aspects of the topic description – the expected outcome as well as the scope. Applicants should also address relevant expected impacts as listed on page 87-88 of the WIDERA **work programme**. Applicants should try to meet the evaluation criteria to the greatest possible extent.

Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)

The type of action (project type) is defined in the topic. The ERA call 2024-02 comprises Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) only. Depending on the topic, the purpose of a CSA is dissemination, raising awareness and communication activities, mutual learning exercises, networking coordination, policy dialogues, studies, and other support services.

Composition of the consortium

Proposals for a CSA may be submitted by one or more legal entities established in a Member State or in a country associated to Horizon Europe. Due to the nature of this programme part, it is generally recommended to build a consortium even if formally one legal entity would suffice. In fact, the eligibility conditions of two topics of the ERA Call 2024-02 specifically require a consortium. Depending on the topic, actors from the research, education and innovation system, from civil society or from the business sector are addressed. Please keep in mind that some call topics define specific requirements, e.g., the participation of a specified stakeholder organisation. Participation as coordinating or partner organisation is equally open to entities from EU Member States and from Associated Countries.

[1] Pease note that the full topic description is indispensable for the preparation of the application and only important core aspects are specified here. For the full topic description (including additional specific conditions), please consult the WIDERA **Work Programme** 2023-2025 or the respective call topic page in the Funding & Tenders Portal.

Funding rates

The maximum Horizon Europe funding rate is 100% of eligible direct costs for Coordination and Support Actions plus a 25% flat rate of the total eligible direct costs for indirect costs, excluding eligible direct costs for subcontracting and financial support to third parties.

Evaluation

The evaluation is carried out by independent experts. It is based on the three award criteria Excellence, Impact and Implementation. These criteria are reflected in the structure of proposal section B. The criteria are equally weighted and can score a maximum of 5 points each. The threshold value for the individual criteria is 3 points, the overall threshold is 10 points.

Information and advice

The WIDERA National Contact Points provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process. They also offer proposal checks. Early contact is recommended.
Find the WIDERA NCP of your country in the NCP database.

NCP_WIDERA.NET has set up an additional service for applicants from WIDENING countries; a professional preliminary check of the application is possible via wideraexperts.eu.

ERA call page in the Funding & Tenders Portal

NCP_WIDERA.NET is the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points. Visit us on www.ncpwideranet.eu, register for our newsletter and follow us on X and LinkedIn to stay up to date on ERA and WIDENING.

ncpwideranet.eu/newsletter twitter.com/ncp_wideranet linkedin.com/company/ncpwideranet

Task leader: **Task co-leader:** **Contributors:**

DLR ISERD Israel-Europe R&I Directorate Latvian Council of Science granskingarráðið Research Council Faroe Islands REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA Ministry of Education and Science AKKSHI

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WIDERA.NET

ERA Factsheet
No.5

Results from the Horizon Europe ERA Calls: Exploring the Facts and Figures

Four calls so far have been successfully completed under the Horizon Europe part "Reforming and Enhancing the EU Research and Innovation System" (commonly referred to as the ERA [European Research Area] Part). Since the first call in 2021, calls have been conducted annually, covering a total of 57 topics. Specifically, these were the following calls for proposals: HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01, HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01, HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01 and HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01. It is now time to take a closer look at the outcomes of these calls and take a deeper dive into their various aspects.[1]

Signed Grants and EU Contribution

A total of 74 projects [2] have received funding so far, with an EU contribution amounting to €159.8 million. This translates to an average EU contribution of €2.18 million per project.

Programme Participation

Even though the ERA part represents only a small share of the overall Horizon Europe budget, it continues to generate interest, with 697 distinct participants (beneficiaries, associated partners and third parties) from 61 countries involved in the 74 funded projects. Some entities are involved in more than one project; when accounting for these multiple participations, the total reaches 970 participations. Participants come from all EU member states, almost all Associated Countries (16) and 18 third countries.

Funded by the European Union

Top Participating Countries

The five countries with the highest number of participations are Germany (80 participations), Belgium (79), Italy (71), Spain (66), and the Netherlands (64). Belgium, Germany, and France each coordinate 10 projects, followed by Spain with 9 and Italy and the Netherlands with 7 each. In addition to France (57 participations) and Ireland (31), the top ten participating countries include the Widening Countries Greece (50) and Portugal (31), as well as the United Kingdom (47), an Associated Country.

Widening Participation

In 70 projects – i.e. in nearly all ERA projects - there is at least one participation from a Widening Country. These account for 318 participations, involving 244 distinct institutions. A total of €33.6 million in EU contributions has been allocated to these participations. The five Widening Countries with the highest number of participations are Greece (50 participations), Portugal (31), Romania (27), Croatia (23), and Cyprus (19). Entities from Widening Countries coordinate 11 projects, with project coordination spread across seven countries: Greece (4), Hungary (2), and Cyprus, Czechia, Portugal, Romania, and Türkiye (1 each). At the institutional level, the most active participants have been the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (Romania, 7 participations), the University of Cyprus (Cyprus, 5), the National Technical University of Athens (Greece, 4), the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece, 4), the University of Coimbra (Portugal, 4), Vilnius University (Lithuania, 4), and the Research Council of Lithuania (4).

Top Participants

More than 150 participants are involved in more than one ERA project, with most participating in two projects. Of these, 29 participants are engaged in four or more projects. The institutions with the highest number of participations include the Dutch Stichting Amsterdam UMC (9 participations), the Danish Aarhus University (7), the French European Science Foundation (7), the Romanian Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (7), and the German EUREC Office GUG (6). While Stichting Amsterdam UMC and EUREC Office GUG demonstrate particular strength in research ethics projects, Aarhus University and the European Science Foundation are primarily – but not exclusively – involved in Open Science projects. Meanwhile, the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding is engaged in projects covering a wide range of ERA priorities. While participations are often in the partner role (Stichting Amsterdam UMC exclusively in the partner role), the European Science Foundation appears most frequently in the coordinating role, namely four times.

Average Participation per Project

The size of a project consortium is determined by ensuring that the necessary expertise for the planned activities and objectives is represented. In the ERA part, projects have 13 participants on average, including beneficiaries, associated partners, and third parties. The number of participants varies considerably: some projects involve just 4 participations, while one project boasts an impressive 40 participations. Such big project consortia are rare, however. More common are project consortia comprising 6 participants (8 projects), followed by consortia with 11 or 7 participants (6 projects each). Research and Innovation Action projects tend to be slightly smaller on average, with 11 participants, compared to Coordination and Support Actions, which average 13 participants per project.

[1] All information relates to the calls European Research Area HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01, European Research Area HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01, Enhancing the European R&I system HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01 and Enhancing the European R&I system HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01. Unless otherwise stated, the **Horizon Dashboard** was used as the data source, namely the sections R&I Proposals (base: 72 retained proposals) and R&I Projects (base: 74 signed grants; unless otherwise stated, beneficiaries, associated partners and third parties are always included) with data as of 21 January 2025. Figures were rounded to whole numbers or to one decimal. As this analysis is based on a snapshot of these four calls, it is important to note that further calls will follow, and the information presented in this factsheet will evolve as new call results become available.

[2] An overview of the projects resulting from the four calls for proposals, organised by ERA topic, is provided in the annex.

Organisation Type

Higher or secondary education establishments represent the largest group of organisation types participating, accounting for 34.5% of all participants. Approximately one in five participants is a research organisation, accounting for 21.8%. The third-largest group, at 17%, falls under the category "Other," which can encompass a wide range of entities, such as civil society organisations, which often play a key role in many ERA calls. Private for-profit entities represent 13.6%, followed closely by public bodies, such as ministries, which make up 13.1%.

Eligible Proposals

The number of eligible proposals across the four ERA calls has not followed a steady trend (268 in total). In the first call in 2021, there were 44 eligible proposals. This figure more than doubled in the 2022 call, reaching 98. It then dropped sharply to 39 in the 2023 call for proposals, however, only to more than double again in the 2024-01 call, climbing to 87 eligible proposals. Notably, the 2024 figure was achieved with the lowest number of topics open for proposals (10) across the four calls, indicating that the number of topics alone is not necessarily the decisive factor for the number of submitted proposals. It is often individual topics that appeal to a particularly large number of applicants. In 2022, for example, 26 eligible proposals were submitted for a topic on science education, while the topics on strengthening researchers' skills and on inclusive gender equality plans were particularly popular in the 2024-01 call with 24 and 22 eligible proposals respectively.

Retained Proposals and Success Rates

Anyone who invests significant time and effort into writing a strong proposal naturally hopes to be among the retained proposals. Overall, the average success rate across the four ERA calls stands at 27%. The success rates varied greatly between individual calls, however: two calls achieved rates exceeding 40% (ERA call 2021: 45%, ERA call 2023: 44%), while the other two were considerably lower, with 24% for the 2022 call and just 13% for the most recent call (2024-01). Success rates also fluctuated significantly across individual topics. Some topics boasted a dream success rate of 100% funding for applicants, meaning that all submitted proposals for that topic met the threshold and sufficient funding was available. In contrast, one topic recorded the lowest success rate at just 4%, indicating that the interest in the topic significantly exceeded the number of projects foreseen for funding.

Funding Scores

To even be considered for funding, proposals must meet the threshold score of 10. Reaching this threshold often does not guarantee funding though, as usually more proposals exceed the threshold than are earmarked for funding - often only a single project can be funded. Some proposals managed to achieve a score of 15, but in a few instances, even a score of 10 sufficed to obtain funding. The average funding threshold was 13 scores.[3]

Contributions to the European Research Area

The activities supported under the four ERA calls specifically address European Research Area policy priorities; they reflect the four objectives of the **ERA communication** – prioritising investments and reforms, improving access to excellence, translating R&I results into the economy and deepening the ERA – and are guided by several actions of the **ERA Policy Agenda** 2022-2024 and the values and principles of the **Pact for Research & Innovation**. Most of the 74 ERA projects, namely 53, contribute to the goal of deepening the European Research Area. In terms of thematic areas, a particularly high number of projects strengthen open science practices and thus particularly support EPA Actions 1 to 3 (17 projects), followed by projects aimed at improving the European research and innovation system in the area of gender equality (12 projects, EPA Action 5).

The fundamental breadth of the topics funded ensures that a number of other EPA actions are supported, e.g. through activities on citizen science (EPA action 14), knowledge valorisation (EPA action 7) or research management (EPA action 17).[4]

Thematic Continuity and Shifts

Over the four call years, certain thematic areas have been consistently represented in the call topics, namely Open Science, Gender Equality, and Ethics. With 35 projects, these areas account for nearly half of the 74 funded ERA projects, receiving approximately €80 million – half of the total EU funds allocated across the four calls. Continuity across all four calls is also evident in a specific topic: the promotion of programme-level collaboration, which has resulted in eight projects with a total funding of approximately €19 million.

In addition to these continuously present themes, some topics were represented by only a single project, such as Foresight, Science Communication, or International Cooperation. Furthermore, certain thematic areas were more prominent in the first WIDERA Work Programme (2021–2022), including Science Education and Higher Education Institutions and Researchers, which received funding for six and five projects, respectively.

[3] Own calculation based on an evaluation of the ranking lists.

[4] See the overview of projects resulting from the four calls for proposals, organised by ERA theme, in the annex.

Annex: List of Topics and Funded Projects

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage[5]
Strand: Prioritizing Investment and Reform	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-09: Support for policy makers – Programme level collaboration between national R&I programmes	**Green ERA-Hub** - Coordination of national research programmes in Agri-Food and biotechnology - Joining forces of ERA-Net Cofunds, EJP and self sustained initiatives **Home Page | Green Era Hub**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-10: Support for policy makers – Programme level collaboration between national R&I programmes	**ForestValue2** - Innovating forest-based bioeconomy **ForestValue » ForestValue2**
	SD-WISHEES - Supporting and Developing WIdening Strategies to tackle Hydroclimatic Extreme Events: impacts and Sustainable solutions for cultural heritage Home - **SD WISHEES (cnr.it)**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-01: Programme level collaboration between national R&I policy-makers	**EUPHRESCO III** – Strengthening Phytosanitary Research Programming and Collaboration: From European to global Phytosanitary Research Coordination **Euphresco**
	CASRI - Collaborative Action coordinating and enhancing systemic, actionable and transversal Sustainability Research and Innovation **CASRI | Umweltbundesamt**
	FUTURE4PRIMA - Towards A Brighter Future for The Mediterranean with a Renewed Prima Partnership **https://prima-med.org/primas-new-horizon-future4prima-project-paves-the-way-for-a-resilient-mediterranean/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-02: A strong European R&I Foresight Community to better inform R&I policy decisions in the European Research Area about potential futures	**Eye of Europe** - The Research and Innovation foresight community **Home | Futures4Europe**

[5] Links to project homepages reflect the status as of January 2025, to the best of available knowledge, incompleteness cannot be excluded.

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Strand: Prioritizing Investment and Reform	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-01: Programme level collaboration between national R&I policy-makers	**HDHL F4H** - HDHL Food4Health **HDHL Food4Health | HDHL**
	LUKE - Linking Ukraine to the European Research Area - Joint Funding and Capacity Building Platform for Enhanced Research and Innovation Cooperation
Strand: Improving Access to Excellence	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-20: Towards a Europe-wide training and networking scheme for research managers	**RM Roadmap** – Creating framework conditions for research management to strenghten the European Research Area **RM ROADMAP Project Home**
	Cardea - Career Acknowledgement for Research (Managers) Delivering for the European Area **CARDEA | University College Cork (ucc.ie)**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-03: Support for the professionalisation of research management	**RM Framework** - Creating a European Framework for Research Management Training and Networking
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-04: Strengthening researchers' skills for better careers – leveraging the European Competence Framework for Researchers	**RESKILLSPAN** - SKILLSPAN – TRAINING FOR IMPACTFUL RESEARCH CAREERS
Strand: Translating R&I Results into the Economy	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-32: Standardisation Booster for fostering exploitation of FP-funded research results	**HSbooster.eu** - Standardisation Booster for H2020 & HE research results **HSBooster.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-30: Testing of the ERA Hub concept – pilot phase	**ERA_FABRIC** - Framing And Bridging Regional research and Innovation ecosystems Capacities for a renewed ERA **https://erafabric.eu/**
	COOPERATE - Coordinating and Piloting actions towards ERA-hubs as inTer- and intra-regional Ecosystems for knowledge production **https://www.cooperate-project.eu/**

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Strand: Translating R&I Results into the Economy	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-32: An experimentation space for the uptake and use of R&I results for EU resilience and future preparedness	FUTURESILIENCE - An experimentation space for the uptake and use of R&I results for EU resilience and future preparedness https://futuresilience.eu/
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-03: Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation	BEAGLE - Blue Oceans Strategy for Value Creation Project Beagle
	CO-VALUE - Citizen-Oriented Valorisation for Advancement, Learning and Uptake in Europe Home - covalue
	Kaleidos - Quadruple-helix-based knowledge valorisation best practices to transition to an Open Science innovation management model KALEIDOS PROJECT
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-04: Development of new approaches to the macroeconomic modelling of research and innovation	TWINRD - Macroeconomic modelling of R&D for the twin transition TWINRD
Strand: Deepening the European Research Area	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-05: Exploitation and valorisation of results relevant for the ERA Policy Agenda	INSPIRING ERA - Breathing Life into the New European Research Area and the ERA Policy Agenda Through Engaging Awareness-Raising Initiatives Homepage - Inspiring Era
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-06: Building a virtual European Info Platform on Contemporary China	EuroHub4Sino - European Hub for Contemporary China EuroHub4Sino (eh4s.eu)
Open Science	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-40: Modelling and quantifying the impacts of open science practice	PathOS - Open Science Impact Pathways pathos-project.eu
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-41: Global cooperation on FAIR data policy and practice	WorldFAIR - Global cooperation on FAIR data policy and practice worldfair-project.eu

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Open Science	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-43: Capacity-building for institutional open access publishing across Europe	**DIAMAS** - Developing Institutional open Access publishing Models to Advance Scholarly communication **diamasproject.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-44: Societal trust in science, research and innovation	**POIESIS** - Probing the impact of integrity and integration on societal trust in science **poiesis-project.eu**
	IANUS - INspiring and ANchoring TrUst in Science **trustinscience.eu**
	VERITAS - deVEloping scientific Research with ethIcs and inTegrity for shAred benefitS **verityproject.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-45: Support to changes in the assessment of research and researchers to reward the practice of open science.	**OPUS** - Open Universal Science **opusproject.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-40: Stepping-up institutional and territorial changes towards open and responsible research and innovation	**REINFORCING** - Responsible tEerritories and Institutions eNable and Foster Open Research and inClusive Innovation for traNsitions Governance **https://reinforcing.eu/about**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-41: Increasing the reproducibility of scientific results	**OSIRIS** - Open Science to Increase Reproducibility in Science **https://osiris4r.eu/**
	TIER2 - Enhancing trust, integrity and efficiency in research through next-level reproducibility impact pathways **https://tier2-project.eu/**
	iRISE - improving Reproducibility In SciencE **https://irise-project.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-42: Supporting the development of aligned policies for open access books and monographs	**PALOMERA** - Policy Alignment of Open access Monographs in the European Research Area **https://operas-eu.org/projects/palomera/**

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Open Science	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-44: Developing and piloting training on the practice of open and responsible research and innovation	**PATTERN** - Piloting open and responsible Activities and Trainings Towards the Enhancement of Researchers Networks **https://www.pattern-openresearch.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-07: Support to reforms of research assessment in the European Research Area	**CoARA Boost** - Strengthening CoARA and Enabling Systemic Reform of Research Assessment - A Booster **CoARA Boost Project – CoARA**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-07: Capacity building on Intellectual Property (IP) management to support open science	**IP4OS** - IP4OS Unpacking the possibilities of Intellectual Properties for Open Science **https://www.ip4os.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-08: Global cooperation in not-for-profit open access publishing	**ALMASI** - Aligning and Mutualizing Nonprofit Open Access Publishing Services Internationally
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-09: Support to the development and implementation of policies and practices for reproducibility of scientific results	**TRUSTparency** - Increasing reproducibility through the co-creation of interventions that support a transparent and trustworthy research ecosystem
Higher Education Institutions and Reseachers	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-50: Developing an effective ERA talent pipeline	**SECURE** - Sustainable Careers for Researcher Empowerment **Secure (secureproject.eu)**
	DocTalent4EU - Transforming Europe Through Doctoral Talent and Skills Recognition **https://doctalent4eu.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-51: Acceleration Services in support of the institutional transformation of Higher Education Institutions	**CATALISI** - Catalysation of institutional transformations of Higher Education Institutions through the adoption of acceleration services **https://catalisi.eu/**
	Accelerate_FutureHEI - Entrepreneurial & Innovative Universities Acceleration Programme **Home - Accelerate Future HEI**
	aUPaEU - A University Partnership for Acceleration of European Universities **https://aupaeu.widening.eu/**

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Citizen Science	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-60: A capacity-building and brokering network to make citizen science an integral part of the European Research Area	**ECS** - European Citizen Science **EU-Citizen.Science**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-61: Supporting and giving recognition to citizen science in the European Research Area	**Impetus** **https://impetus4cs.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-08: Laying the groundwork towards Europe-wide citizen science campaigns	**CROPS** - Curating, Replicating, Orchestrating, and Propogating Citizen Science across Europe **https://www.crops-cs.eu/**
	ScienceUs - Integration of citizen SCIENCE best practices to Upscale and maximise projects impact related to Green Deal and EU missions **https://scienceus-project.eu/**
Science Communication	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-60: A European competence centre for science communication	**COALESCE** - Coordinated Opportunities for Advanced Leadership and Engagement in Science Communication in Europe **https://coalesceproject.eu/**
Science Education	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-70: Developing a STE(A)M roadmap for Science Education in Horizon Europe	**SENSE** - The New European Roadmap to STEAM Education **sense-steam**
	Road-STEAMer - Developing a STEAM Roadmap for Science Education in Horizon Europe **road-steamer.eu**
	The SEER - The STE(A)M Education European Roadmap **The SEER (scientix.eu)**

Topic	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Science Education	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-70: Open schooling for science education and a learning continuum for all	**ICSEfactory** - ICSE Science Factory **https://icse.eu/international-projects/icse-factory/**
	SLEs - STE(A)M Learning Ecologies **SLE project (steamecologies.eu)**
	LEVERS - LEarning VEntuReS for Climate Justice **leversforclimate.eu**
Gender Equality	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-80: Centre of excellence on inclusive gender equality in Research & Innovation	**INSPIRE** - Centre of Excellence on Inclusive Gender Equality in Research & Innovation: Creating Knowledge & Engaging in Collaborative Action **inspirequality.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-81: Policy coordination to advance the implementation of the ERA gender equality and inclusiveness objectives within Member States	**GENDERACTIONplus** - Gender Equality Network to Develop ERA Communities to coordinate inclusive and sustainable policy implementation **https://genderaction.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-80: Living Lab for gender-responsive innovation	**GILL** - Gendered Innovation Living Labs **GILL-Project | GILL-Project (gi-ll.eu)**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-81: Support to the implementation of inclusive gender equality plans	**AGRIGEP** - Assessment and implementation of Agriculture and Life Science Universities' first Gender Equality Plans in widening countries **https://agrigep.eu/**
	BUDGET IT - Building Gender Equality through gender budgeting for Institutional Transformation **https://budget-it.eu/**
	SUPPORTER - SecUring sPORTs Education thRough innovative and inclusive Gender Equality Plans **https://www.supporter-project.eu/**
	Nexus - Twinning Research and Innovation Institutions to Design and Implement Inclusive GEPs **Home - Nexus Project**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-09: Policy support to facilitate the implementation of a zero-tolerance approach towards gender-based violence in the ERA	**GenderSAFE** - Advancing the zero-tolerance approach to gender-based violence in higher education and research in the European Research Area **GenderSAFE - UniSAFE**

Topics	Project Acronym, Title and Link to Cordis and Project Homepage
Gender Equality	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-10: Support to the implementation of an EU Manifesto for STE(A)M education and research and innovation career paths to tackle gender inequalities in the ERA	**STREAM IT** - St(r)e(a)m It/Streaming Girls and Women into Steam Education, Innovation and Research **STREAM IT | Streaming girls and women into STEM**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-11: Support to the implementation of inclusive gender equality plans	**SEE-ERA** - Transforming R&I organisations and advancing the ERA through gender equality and inclusiveness in SEE
	GEPINC - Gender Equality Plans for INclusivity: engines of Change
	INCLUDE - Fostering INCLUsive biomeDicine gEps in research and higher education institutions
Research Ethics and Integrity	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-90: The challenges of research ethics and integrity in response to crisis: the coronavirus pandemic and beyond	**PREPARED** - Pro-active Pandemic Crisis Ethics and Integrity Framework **prepared-project.eu**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-91: Ensuring reliability and trust in quality of Research Ethics expertise in the context of new/ emerging technologies	**iRECS** - improving Research Ethics Expertise and Competences to Ensure Reliability and Trust in Science **irecs**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-91: The empirical and behavioural approach to research ethics and integrity	**BEYOND** - Beyond Bad Apples: Towards a Behavioral and Evidence-Based Approach to Promote Research Ethics and Research Integrity in Europe **Beyond Bad Apples**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-11: Research ethics for environmental and climate technologies	**RE4GREEN** - Research Ethics and integrity for the GREEN transition **RE4GREEN**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-12: The future of research ethics review in the changing research environments	**CHANGER** - Challenges and Innovative Changes in Research Ethics Reviews **https://changer-project.eu/**
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-12: Next generation AI and Human Behaviour: promoting an ethical approach	**AIOLIA** - OPERATIONALIZING AI ETHICS FOR LEARNING AND PRACTICE: A GLOBAL APPROACH **AIOLIA**

NCP_WIDERA.NET is the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points. Visit us on **www.ncpwideranet.eu**, register for our **newsletter** and follow us on **X** and **LinkedIn** to stay up to date on ERA and WIDENING.

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Task leader: **Task co-leader:**

DLR ISERD Israel-Europe R&I Directorate

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ERA Factsheet

No. 6

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – Key Facts on Knowledge Valorisation in the European Research Area

This factsheet[1] presents key information on knowledge valorisation (KV) and highlights its relevance within the European Research Area and Horizon Europe, with a special focus on the Horizon Europe programme component "Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I System" (in short: the "ERA part").

> The European Commission defines **knowledge valorisation** as follows:
>
> *"Knowledge valorisation is the process of creating social and economic value from knowledge – transforming research results, data, and know-how into sustainable products, services, solutions, and knowledge-based policies that benefit society. It serves as a bridge linking academia, industry, policymakers, and citizens".*
>
> Source: COM(2022) 391 final

Knowledge Valorisation in the ERA Part of the WIDERA Programme

The European Research Area (ERA), first proposed by the European Commission in 2000, aims to create a single, borderless market for research, innovation, and technology across Europe.

Producing excellent research is not sufficient on its own. For R&I investment to deliver its full return in economic growth, societal solutions, and global competitiveness, research results need to reach and

[1] This factsheet does not claim to be exhaustive and is based on the state of play as of July 2026.

benefit the people and sectors that can use them. KV is the policy approach the EU has put in place to make this happen.

Recognising its strategic importance, KV was identified as a dedicated ERA priority in the 2020 ERA Communication (COM(2020) 628), which called for updated guiding principles for KV and a code of practice for the smart use of intellectual property.

Within Horizon Europe, the ERA part of WIDERA plays a specific and central role in supporting KV activities. While the thematic clusters in Pillar II of Horizon Europe embed KV as a cross-cutting dimension of broader R&I objectives, for example, WIDERA's mandate to strengthen the ERA make it the dedicated programme for targeted KV actions within Horizon Europe.

Specifically, it supports the implementation of the ERA Policy Agendas, which define the upscaling of KV capacities and activities as a structural policy. The ERA part funds measures that test and replicate valorisation practices, build intermediary capacity, and strengthen citizen engagement in the uptake of research results.

ERA Knowledge Valorisation: Key Milestones

The timeline below provides background context on how KV became part of ERA.

January-March 2000	ERA is proposed by the European Commission in COM(2000) 6 and endorsed in March 2000 at the Lisbon European Council, aiming to integrate Europe's fragmented research systems and to lay the foundations for today's objective of a more connected and coordinated European research landscape.
2008	Commission Recommendation on IP management in knowledge transfer – predecessor to modern KV guidance.
September 2020	Commission Communication 'A new ERA for Research and Innovation' (COM(2020) 628) proposes developing guiding principles for KV as a priority action.
November 2021	The Council of the EU adopts the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe (Council Recommendation, 26 November 2021), which identifies knowledge valorisation as one of the priority areas for joint action in support of ERA. On the same day, the Council Conclusions on the Future Governance of ERA endorse the ERA Policy Agenda 2022-2024, which translates this commitment into a concrete action: ERA Action 7 – "Upgrade EU guidance for better knowledge valorisation".
August 2022	The European Commission adopts the proposal for a Council Recommendation on KV guiding principles: COM(2022) 391.
December 2022	The Council of the EU formally adopts the Recommendation on Guiding Principles for Knowledge Valorisation – a landmark ERA milestone. The seven guiding principles cover: KV in policy frameworks; skills and capacities; incentive systems for researchers; intellectual asset management; relevance in public funding; peer learning; metrics and monitoring.
March 2023	Two Codes of Practice adopted as Commission Recommendations, providing practical guidance for researchers and institutions on IP strategy, smart

	licensing, and standardisation of research results: (1) Intellectual Assets Management; (2) Standardisation for KV.
March 2024	Two further Codes of Practice adopted: (3) Industry-Academia Co-Creation; (4) Citizen Engagement for KV. The Industry-Academia Co-Creation Code supports structured collaboration between research organisations and companies. The Citizen Engagement Code supports the involvement of citizens and civil society in co-creating and deploying research-based solutions.
January 2025	Competitiveness Compass adopted. Highlights insufficient commercial exploitation of research results as a key European challenge. Points to the ERA Act and European Innovation Act as planned initiatives to address this issue.
2025-2027	ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027 elevates KV from a time-limited action (ERA Action 7, 2022-2024) to a structural policy, reflecting a sustained commitment from both the European Commission and the EU Member States beyond individual ERA Policy Agendas.
2026 (Planned)	ERA Act – expected legislative initiative aimed at strengthening the governance of the European Research Area, including KV. It is intended to reinforce long-term coordination between the European Commission and the EU Member States across key ERA policy areas, such as R&D investment, researcher mobility, open science and scientific freedom. European Innovation Act – planned legislative initiative at Single Market level addressing barriers to innovation and commercialisation, including knowledge and IP exploitation, industry–academia collaboration, access to finance and infrastructure, and framework conditions for startups.

Horizon Europe: Knowledge Valorisation Funding Actions

→ ERA Knowledge Valorisation: Awarded Projects in the ERA Part

The following projects have been awarded funding under Horizon Europe's ERA calls and are specifically targeting KV, thereby contributing to the ERA Policy Agendas. These projects represent an important part of the active EU KV project ecosystem, supporting policy implementation, experimentation, and best practice exchange.

Many of these projects offer tools, training resources, or networking opportunities relevant to Horizon Europe applicants and beneficiaries. The projects target different levels, ranging from individuals to institutions to the European level. The project websites provide further information on their outputs.

Call	Project	Full Title and Focus
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-32 Standardisation Booster	HSbooster.eu	Standardisation Booster for Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe research results. Connects project beneficiaries with standardisation experts; provides a Standards Orientation Tool, Training Academy, and micro-grants for CEN Workshop Agreements.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-32 Experimentation space for R&I results	FUTURESILIENCE	An Experimentation Space for the Uptake and Use of R&I Results for EU Resilience and Future Preparedness. Tests and applies research results to strengthen policy resilience.

HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-03 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	Project BEAGLE	Blue Oceans Strategy for Value Creation. Translates scientific outputs into scalable services and policy tools.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-03 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	CO-VALUE	Citizen-Oriented Valorisation for Advancement, Learning and Uptake in Europe. Experiments with citizen-centred collaboration and replication of valorisation practices across borders.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ERA-01-03 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	KALEIDOS	Quadruple-helix-based KV Best Practices to Transition to an Open Science Innovation Management Model. Builds multi-stakeholder networks for knowledge uptake.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	MEDViEW	Medical Research Valorisation through Intelligent Engagement of Citizens for Well-being. Focuses on health research KV through structured citizen engagement.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	ERIS	European Research Institute on Simulation. Valorisation of simulation-based research results for industrial and policy applications.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-01 Experimentation and good practices for value creation	GreenEsteem	Collaborative KV for Sustainable Nature-Based Solutions. Applies KV approaches to nature-based solutions in the context of the green transition.
HORIZON-WIDERA -2023-ERA-01-05 Exploitation and valorisation of results relevant to the ERA Policy Agenda	INSPIRING ERA	Connects ERA policymakers with the R&I community, translating ERA policy outcomes – including KV - into accessible tools, factsheets, and events for practitioners across Europe.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 4: Establish a European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries	Valleys	Valorisation Alliance Linking Laboratories, Enterprises and societY Stakeholders. Establishes a European network to empower and bring together experts who translate research into practice.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 4: Establish a European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries	ALL4KV	European Alliance for Knowledge Valorisation. A practical bridge between academia, industry, public authorities and society so that the Guiding Principles and the four Codes of Practice become daily practice.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 4: Establish a European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries	TransBioNet	Accelerating Biomedical Translation through a European Network of Knowledge Valorisation Intermediaries. The first pan-European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries fully dedicated to drug discovery and biomedical innovation.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology	KnowValTE	Knowledge VAlorisation To Everyone. Coherent, demand-driven framework that builds competences, upgrades institutional services, and embeds systemic change.

Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations		
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations	Skills4Valorisation	Valorising Skills, Empowering KTOs – Building Europe's bridge from research to impact. Maps and benchmarks practices, develops a European competence framework, designs training modules and service-adaptation toolkits.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations	Knowledge to Impact	Valorising Knowledge for European Competitiveness. Transforms fragmented Technology and Knowledge Transfer Offices into a connected, professionalised, and impact-driven ecosystem.
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results – Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations	WINGS	Widening Innovation through Networking, Growth and Skills. Addresses the persistent innovation gap between WIDENING countries and the EU average by strengthening the capacity of Knowledge/Technology Transfer Offices and fostering KV across research-performing organisations.

Further projects aimed at strengthening various aspects of KV will follow in 2026 under the ERA call topics:

- HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-04: Piloting innovative approaches to support academic startups and spinoffs, and
- HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-06: European Citizens' Hackathon Championship.

By the end of Horizon Europe, the ERA component will have funded almost 20 projects aimed at strengthening KV, with a **total budget of over 30 million euros**.

→ KV-Related Calls for Proposals Beyond the ERA Part in 2026-2027

KV is not confined to the WIDERA part of Horizon Europe. It is embedded as a cross-cutting priority across the entire framework programme, appearing, for example, in thematic clusters, missions, and partnerships under Pillar II alongside sector-specific research objectives. This reflects the European Commission's recognition that KV is not a standalone policy area but an expected dimension of excellence-driven R&I. Projects are encouraged to demonstrate how their results will reach users, generate impact, and create value beyond the research community itself.

To support applicants, National Contact Points (NCPs), and ERA stakeholders, NCP_WIDERA.NET has produced two dedicated guidebooks mapping all ERA-relevant topics outside the ERA calls, across Pillar II and the Mission calls, with a dedicated chapter for KV-relevant topics.

For each relevant topic identified, the following information was provided: topic ID, title, funding type, direct link to the Funding & Tenders Portal, total budget, expected funding per project, number of projects to be funded, and a description of the KV dimension within the topic.

ERA Opportunities Guidebook 2026 – Covers KV-relevant topics in the 2026 calls.

Based on the NCP_WIDERA.NET mapping, 6 KV-related topics appear in the 2026 work programmes:

- **Cluster 2** (1 topic): creative startups and disruptive innovation in the cultural and creative industries.
- **Cluster 4** (5 topics): industry-academia knowledge exchange in SSH; Technology Infrastructure access for startups, scaleups and SMEs; discoverability of research assets; Proof-of-Market pilots for Horizon R&I results.

ERA Opportunities Guidebook 2027 – The equivalent document for 2027 calls, structured identically.

Based on the NCP_WIDERA.NET mapping, 6 KV-related topics appear in the 2027 work programmes:

- **Cluster 2** (1 topic): scaling culture and creativity-driven European innovation ecosystems.
- **Cluster 4** (3 topics): unlocking academic intellectual assets for industry and SMEs; Technology Infrastructure access; Proof-of-Market pilots for Cluster 4 R&I results.
- **Cluster 6** (1 topic): commercialisation of food systems microbiome research.
- **Missions** (1 topic): deployment and scaling of innovative wastewater valorisation solutions in climate-resilient cities and regions.

Total indicative budget across all listed Pillar II & Missions calls with KV-related topics in 2026-2027: **approximately 89.5 million euros**.

What KV means for your Horizon Europe project:
All Horizon Europe projects must include:
(1) a **Data Management Plan** (DMP), explaining how research data will be stored, shared, and made reusable (FAIR);
(2) an **Exploitation and Dissemination Plan**, setting out how project results will reach users and generate impact beyond the research community.
Both are grant agreement obligations, submitted at the start of the project and updated throughout. Evaluators assess KV at both proposal and reporting stages.

EU Tools and Resources for Knowledge Valorisation

→ EU Valorisation Policy

The European Commission's overarching policy framework for knowledge valorisation, bringing together EU strategies, policy initiatives, guiding principles, and implementation tools supporting the uptake and impact of research and innovation results.

→ EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform

The EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform is the Commission's central community hub for KV practitioners across Europe. It provides:

- A repository of best practices and case studies from universities, companies, research organisations, and public authorities.
- Regular thematic publications, articles, and news on KV trends and policy developments.
- The EU Knowledge Valorisation Newsletter for ongoing stakeholder communication.
- EU Knowledge Valorisation Talks - online events showcasing novel approaches.
- Events, online trainings and workshops.

→ ERA Platform: Horizon Europe Support for Knowledge Valorisation

The ERA Platform page is the main ERA-level entry point mapping Horizon Europe instruments, calls, and projects that support KV implementation. It aggregates information on funded ERA KV projects, relevant WIDERA calls, and the ERA structural policy on KV, providing practitioners, NCPs, and policymakers with a single point of access to the full landscape of KV support available under Horizon Europe. It complements the European Commission's EU Valorisation Policy and EU KV Platform by focusing specifically on the ERA governance and Horizon Europe implementation dimensions.

→ Horizon Results Booster

The Horizon Results Booster is a free expert support service funded by Horizon Europe, open to projects funded under FP7, Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, and related programmes (Joint Undertakings, EIT KICs). It provides tailor-made dissemination support and go-to-market mentoring to help project teams translate research results into societal and commercial impact.

→ European IP Helpdesk

The European IP Helpdesk is a European-Commission-funded service providing free, first-line IP support to EU-funded project participants and SMEs. It offers a helpline, online training, and comprehensive information resources covering patent strategy, licensing, trade secrets, and the Unitary Patent system.

→ Competence Centre on Technology Transfer (CCTT)

The Competence Centre on Technology Transfer offers expertise in technology transfer, capacity building, financing, and innovation ecosystem development. It provides technology transfer policy related expertise and services to the European Commission and other institutions of the Union, and operational support services to a broader range of stakeholders, including: EU Member States and individual research institutions facing technology transfer related challenges and issues.

Activities and Key Studies for Knowledge Valorisation

→ Mutual Learning Exercise

A Mutual Learning Exercise (MLE) on KV (March 2023 – April 2024) brought together 18 EU Member States and associated countries in a structured policy dialogue focused on three themes: incentives and skills for researchers, the role of KV intermediaries, and multi-stakeholder networks and processes. The exercise produced thematic reports, discussion papers, and a final report including a policy toolbox and recommendations for implementing the Guiding Principles at national level. All outputs are available on the Policy Support Facility page.

→ Key Studies and Reports

These selected studies and reports represent part of the evidence base and broader policy discourse that contributed to the development and evaluation of the ERA KV policy framework:

- Role of Arts and Cultural Organisations in KV (September 2022): Investigates how cultural and creative sector interactions can foster KV and broaden societal impact beyond technological innovation.
- Citizen Engagement for KV (2024): Analysis of 60 case studies from 37 countries on how citizens and civil society can be active partners in KV processes.
- Letta Report (2024): "Much More Than a Market" – identifies the gap between European research excellence and market uptake as a Key Single Market Challenge, with implications for KV policy.

- Draghi Report (2024): "The Future of European Competitiveness" – identifies Europe's insufficient translation of research into commercial outcomes as a core competitiveness challenge, providing a political impetus for KV-related measures.
- Study on Metrics and Indicators for Knowledge Valorisation (2026): It investigates how R&I activities generate economic and societal value across the EU, responding to the growing need for a harmonised measurement framework for KV.

Information and Advice

Where to get support:

IP strategy, licensing, patents, trade secrets → **European IP Helpdesk**
Exploitation and dissemination of Horizon project results → **Horizon Results Booster**
Standardisation of research results → **HSbooster.eu**
KV policy, best practices, and community → **EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform**
Finding KV-relevant calls and opportunities → **ERA Opportunities Guidebooks**
Personalised advice on ERA calls and KV requirements → **your country's WIDERA NCP**

The WIDERA National Contact Points (NCPs) provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process. They also offer proposal checks. Early contact is recommended. Find the WIDERA NCP of your country in the NCP database.

NCP_WIDERA.NET is the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points. Visit us on www.ncpwideranet.eu, register for our newsletter and follow us on X and LinkedIn to stay up to date on ERA and WIDENING.

http://ncpwideranet.eu/newsletter https://x.com/ncp_wideranet http://linkedin.com/company/ncpwideranet

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