



Research Infrastructures NCPs Network Consortium for Horizon Europe



FREE ACCESS TO SUPPORT BY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

Discover research facilities, scientific services and digital resources made available by European Research Infrastructures (RIs) through EU-funded projects. Researchers across Europe and worldwide, including from the private sector, can use support services from leading European research infrastructures at no cost.

WHAT IS TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS (TNA)?

TNA may involve:

- Physical/onsite access of a user to a research facility or site, OR
Users remotely receive support given by
- RIs (specific services, materials, access to expertise or remote use of RI instrumentation and tools).

In any case, with or without physical access of the user to RI services, users benefit from free-of-charge scientific and technical support provided by infrastructure staff, including analytical services performed by the infrastructure on behalf of the user. RI services are borne by the research infrastructures which in turn are reimbursed through EU funded RI support projects.

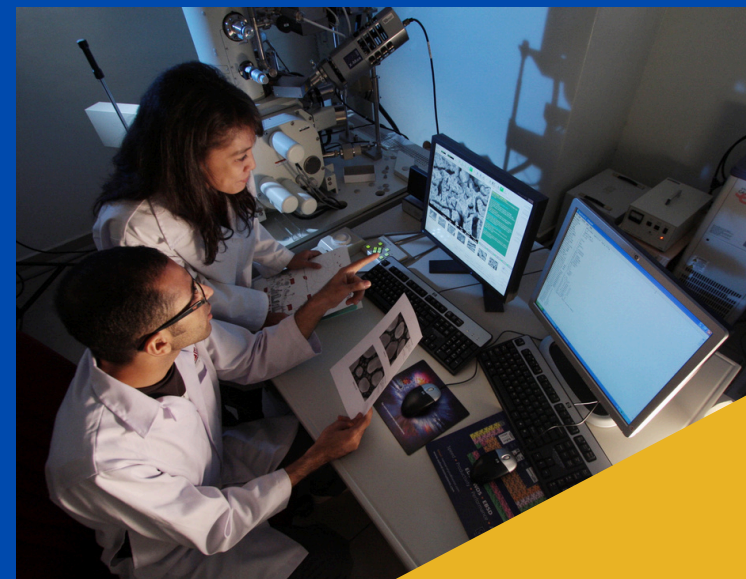
Transnational Access requires submission of a user's service request to the research infrastructures consortium, which will through a peer review select user proposals according to excellence, feasibility and budget availability.

As a general rule, TNA users must be based in an EU or EU-associated country different from the country where the infrastructure installation is located. Exceptions apply, e.g. for researchers from Third Countries, or when the infrastructure to be used is an EU multinational entity.

WHAT IS VIRTUAL ACCESS (VA)?

VA provides free online access to European digital infrastructure resources and services.

Virtual Access is open and free-of-charge for users. No application nor selection processes are required since no user-tailored support or customised services are given. Costs for making these digital resources and services available and accessible are reimbursed to the digital infrastructures according to their use.





WHY USE TNA/VA?

- Get access to most advanced and specialised research services, facilities and methodology available in other EU or EU-associated countries.
- Make your research hence more competitive.
- Connect with leading European Research Infrastructures and research communities.
- Use scientific services and digital tools free-of-charge.
- Identify opportunities that complement your research needs.

HOW TO APPLY FOR TNA SUPPORT:

Users may leverage infrastructure facilities and expertise to address gaps in their own research. They can thus apply for specific RI support in response to either continuously open, or targeted TNA calls launched and managed by EC-funded Research Infrastructure projects.

- 1 Identify specific support needs within your own R&D project to determine the most relevant infrastructure.
- 2 Check relevant RI facilities, services or digital resources for which EU-funded Research Infrastructure support projects offer free access opportunities. If you are aware of a relevant on-going RI support project, go to the respective project's website. Otherwise, as a first step to identify available access opportunities, consider the RICH Europe website. RICH Europe is the support project for the National Contact Points for the Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures programme. The [website](https://rich-europe.eu) lists all Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures projects offering [TNA](#) and [VA](#) opportunities, together with information on their open and closed calls.
- 3 Check specific features, access conditions and eligibility criteria to make sure they correspond to your support needs; check (where required) if the TRANSnationality requirement is met (your home institution placed in another country than RI installation to be used).
- 4 For TNA requests, submit a service request proposal describing your access needs. For Virtual Access it is not needed to submit a service proposal, as VA-online resources and services can freely be accessed.
- 5 If your TNA service proposal is selected for support, coordinate your physical access or remotely delivered services directly with the support providing infrastructure.



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TNA VS. VA OVERVIEW

FEATURE	TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS (TNA)	VIRTUAL ACCESS (VA)
PURPOSE	Access to specialized research facilities, services and expertise available in another EU or EU-associated country	Open access to digital resources and services online available at a European RI
TYPE OF ACCESS	Physical access or remote use of services	Open online access
USERS	Identified and selected users	Open to all users
SUPPORT PROVIDED	Tailored scientific or technical support requiring infrastructure's staff or other resources	No active and tailored support efforts by RI for individual users
SERVICES	Customized services adapted to user needs	Standardized online services and use of resources
SELECTION PROCESS	Submission of service requests/ proposals, peer-review and competitive selection of user proposals	No service request/proposal or selection process required
USER IDENTIFICATION	Users must be identified as basis for selection process.	No user identification required (except user authentication, e.g. for accessing sensitive data) as no selection process follows
TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION	Supported in some specific cases involving physical access	Not applicable
EXAMPLES	Physical access for on-site facility uses, remote instrument access, remote use of RI laboratory services, user's sample analysis by RI, materials sent from RI site	Scientific databases and repositories, open data resources, digital platforms and online workspaces, computational tools and services