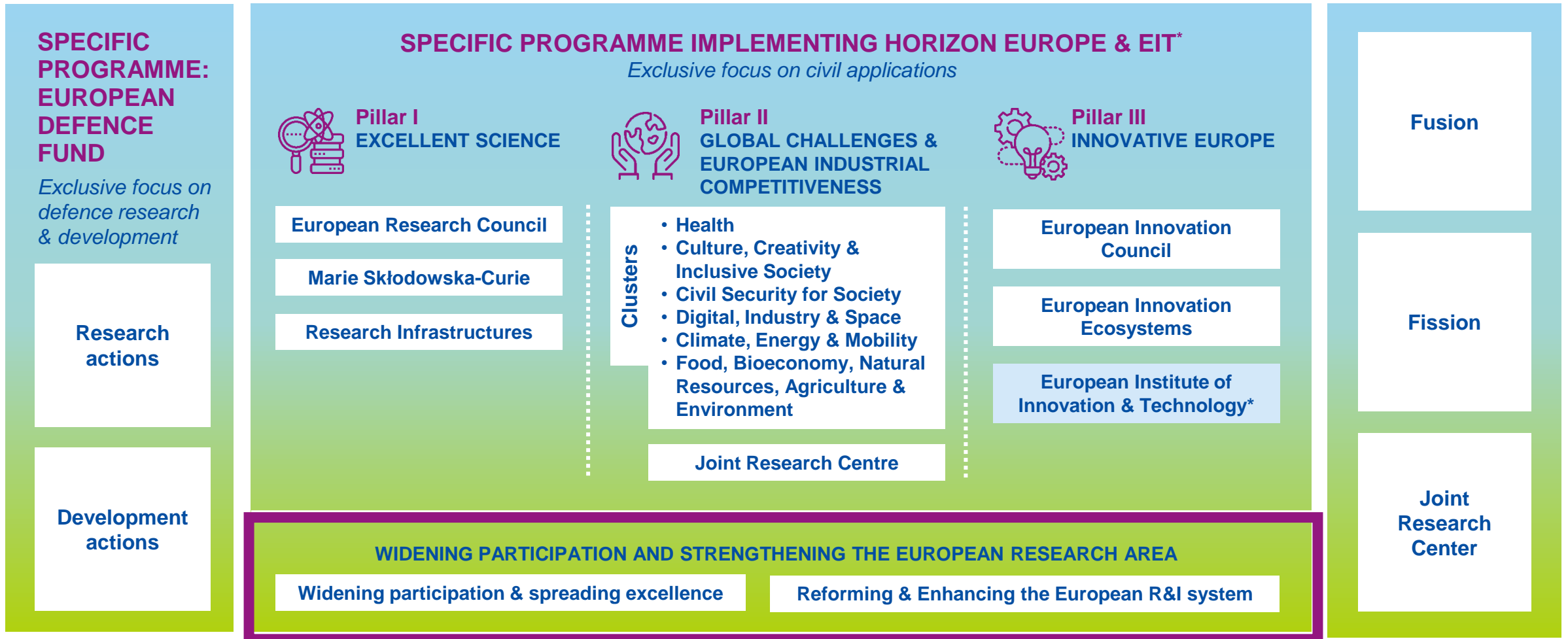

HORIZON EUROPE

Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)



HORIZON EUROPE

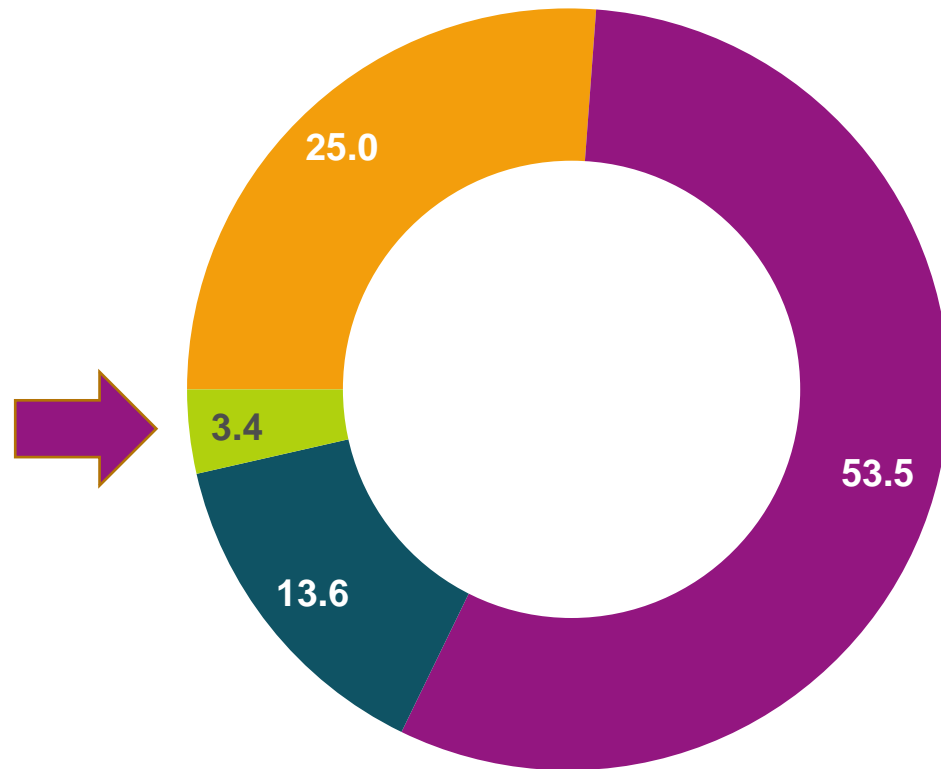
EURATOM



* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)



Political agreement December 2020

€ billion in current prices

- Excellent Science
- Global challenges and European ind. comp.
- Innovative Europe
- Widening Part and ERA

Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)

- Objective:
 - Increase support to EU Member States **and AC** in their efforts to make the most of their national research and innovation potential and promote an ERA where researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely

- Two components:

1. Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence

Destination 1: Improved access to excellence

Destination 2: Attracting and mobilising the best talents

2. Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system

Destination 3: Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system

One work programme,
consisting of 3 destinations

Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA):

Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence

- Teaming, Twinning, ERA Chairs,
- European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)
- Boosting National Contact Points' (NCPs) activities, pre-proposal checks and advice
- Brain circulation
- Excellence initiatives:
- Possibility for entities from widening countries to join already selected collaborative R&I actions
- Recognition of participation
- Matchmaking services

€2.96 billion

Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system

- Strengthening the evidence base for R&I policy
- Foresight
- Support for policy makers to the ERA development
- Support to national R&I policy reform, including Policy Support Facility
- Attractive researcher careers and links with higher education
- Open science, citizen science and science communication
- Gender equality
- Ethics and integrity
- Support to international cooperation
- Scientific input to other policies
- Support to the Programme implementation
- Support for National Contact Points
- Support to dissemination & exploitation

€0.44 billion

Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence



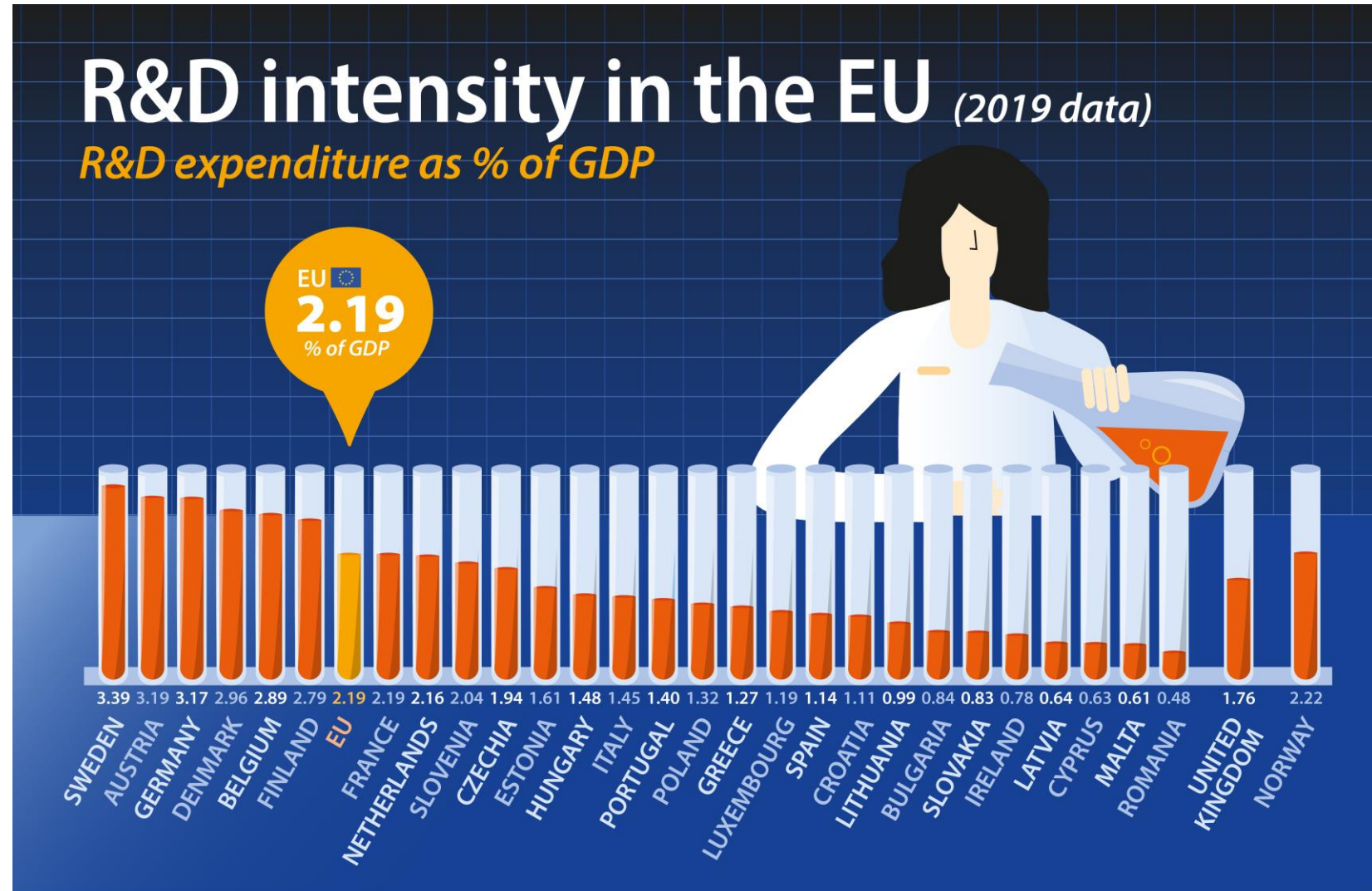
R&I Intensity (3%-Goal, GERD)

Change in the past 10 years

19 ↑ Belgium
Poland
Czech Republic

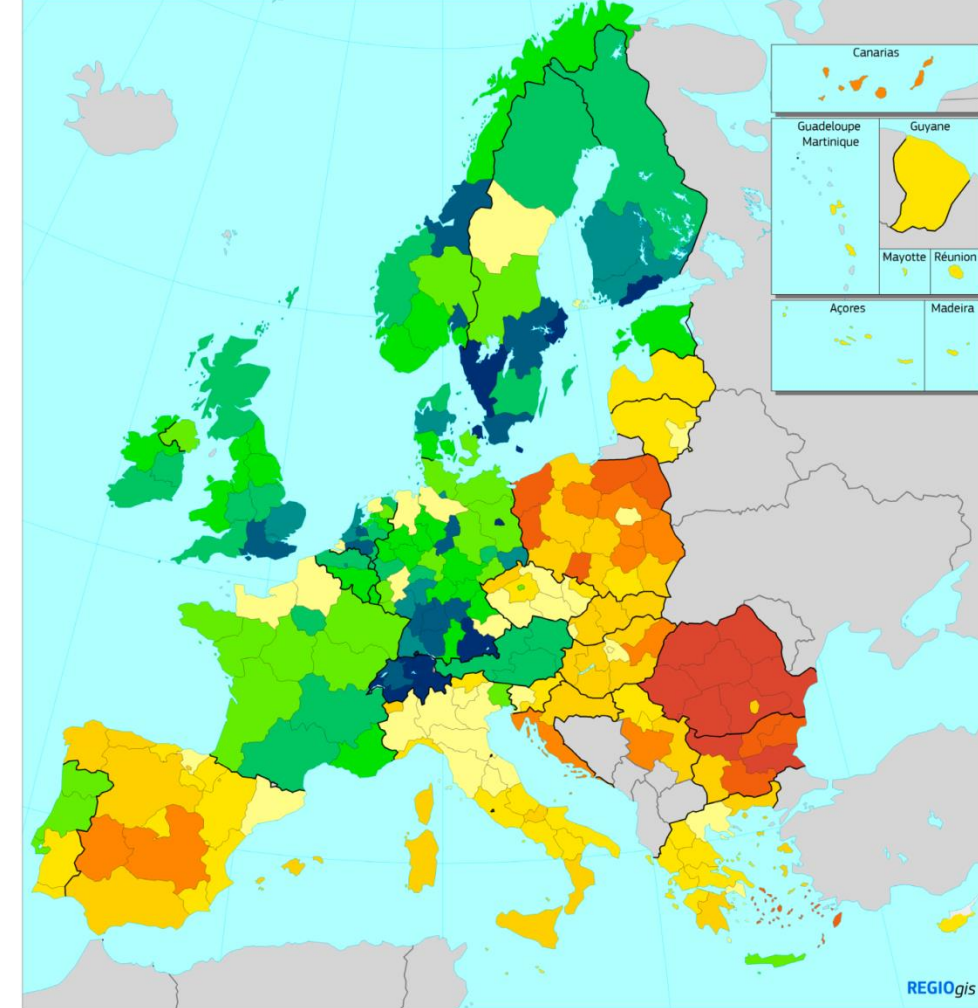
6 ↓ Finland
Ireland

2 → France, Sweden



Research and innovation gap

- **Large differences** in scientific and innovation performance in Europe
- Efficient national R&I systems >>> leads to economic development, competitiveness, employment
- **Target countries for the programme:** The countries with less advanced R&I systems, as compared to leading countries in the EU



Regional performance groups



Source: European Commission - Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2019

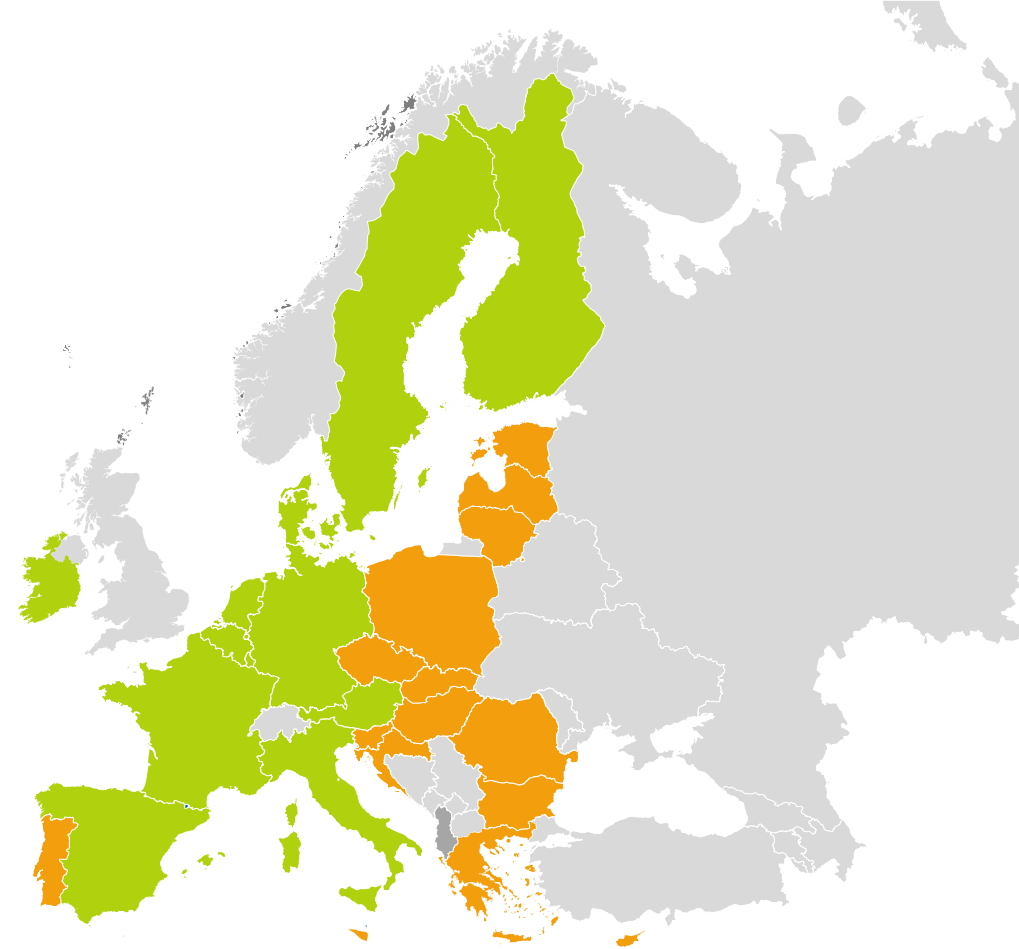
Applicants / Coordinators

Eligible Coordinators



Eligible Countries

EU Member States (EU14)
+ Associated Countries to HEU; still being negotiated



Overview: Widening in Horizon Europe

Budget

800 m. EUR (H2020)



2,95 bn. EUR (HEU)

Advancing Europe Package (Council of the European Union)

- Admission of additional partners from the Widening countries to existing projects (pillar 2)
- Reinforcement of matchmaking services in the search for project partners
- External pre-proposal checks for EU13
- Comprehensive evaluation of the funded projects (network analyses etc.)

Destination 1: IMPROVED ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE

	2021 (M. EUR)	2022 (M. EUR)
Teaming (two-stage)	-	180
Twinning Western Balkan	21	-
Twinning	149	-
Excellence Hubs	-	50
European Excellence Initiative (EEI)	30	-
Support for R&I policy making in the WBC	5	-
Hop On Facility	-	40
Total Budget in M. EUR / year	205	270

Teaming

New: One Call (**two-stage:** submission and evaluation process)

Objective: Establishing or expanding **Centers of Excellence** through partnerships with leading institutions

Consortium

Applicant (Coordinator)

- from „underperforming“ state
- Research institution, university, funding agency or regional / national authority *

* if not coordinator - involvement:
financial + structural support

Partner(s)

- From EU member state or associated country
- One or more public or private R&I excellent institution

Teaming

HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-01-two-stage

Budget 2022	Per project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline 1	Deadline 2
180 M. €	8-15 M. €	12	08.06.21	30.09.21	20.04.22

Duration: up to 6 years

Twinning

Objective: To strengthen a specific research area of a research institution through partnerships with leading institutions in Europe

Consortium

Applicant (Coordinator)

- from „underperforming“ state
- Research university or public / private (non-profit) research institution

Partner(s)

- From EU member state or associated country
- At least two internationally leading research institutions

Twinning

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03

Budget 2021	Per project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline
149 M. €	0,8-1,5 M. €	100	15.06.21	21.12.21

Duration: up to 3 years

Excellence Hubs I

Objective

- Develops excellent innovation in **place-based innovation ecosystems**
- Creates better connections **between science and business** with the involvement of state actors and society
- Adaptation to regional **smart specialisation**, national or European R&I strategies

Scope

- Cross-border cooperation between at least **two ecosystems** from other countries; mandatory **involvement of companies**
- Develop a **joint R&I strategy** with proven economic and / or societal impact

Excellence Hubs II

Scope

- Parts of the R&I strategy can be tested and substantiated through **joint research projects**
- Projects need to develop an **investment plan** for the implementation of the strategy
- **Synergies** from various sources of finance (esp. European Structural Funds)
- Contacts to **society** and/or the **regional economy** are required
- Accompanying measures: training, entrepreneurial skills, communication
- The composition of the actors follows the **quadruple-helix-principle**: with the involvement of science, business, regional government and social actors

Excellence Hubs

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-04

Budget 2022	Per project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline
50 M. €	3-5 M. €	10	03.11.21	15.03.22

Duration: up to 4 years

European Excellence Initiative (EEI)

Objective

- **Capacity building** to strengthen the networks of higher education institutions and collaboration with the surrounding ecosystems
- Improvement of the **scientific and technological capacity** of the related institutions
- Improvement of the **excellence profile** of the institution and the staff
- **Integrated and long-term cooperation** between the partner universities in the network and with actors in the surrounding ecosystems

European Excellence Initiative (EEI)

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-05

Budget 2021	Per Project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline
30 M. €	1,5-2 M. €	15	09.06.21	04.11.21

Duration: up to 4 years

Hop On Facility

- Start:** 4 January 2022
- Deadlines:** 20 April 2022, 10 November 2022
- Budget:** 40 M. EUR
- Eligibility:** “**Coordination fee**” of up to 10% of the increased budget for the consortium leader.
Submission by the coordinator of a **funded consortium from Pillar 2**.
So far **without participation** from Widening countries.
- Evaluation:** Current project is not an issue. The **added value of the new partner** is decisive for the task.
Equal score: relevance for **green or digital transformation** of the economy decides.
Applications must demonstrate the **R&I added value of the new partner** and submit a dedicated **work package** for the new partner.

Hop On Facility

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-HOPON-01

Budget 2022	Per project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline 1	Deadline 2
40 M. €	0,2-0,5 M. €	80	04.01.22	20.04.22	10.11.22

Destination 2: ATTRACTING AND MOBILISING THE BEST TALENTS

	2021 (M. EUR)	2022 (M. EUR)
ERA Chairs	-	80
Fostering balanced brain circulation (BBC) - ERA Fellowships	-	8
Fostering balanced brain circulation (BBC) - ERA Talents	-	24
Fostering balanced brain circulation – ERA Fellowships	-	8
Total Budget in M. EUR	-	120

ERA Chairs

- Objective:** To attract outstanding scientists to Institutions with potential for excellent research
- Funding:** ERA Chair holders + team members
(including remuneration, recruitment costs, travel costs)

Consortium

Applicant (Coordinator)

- from „underperforming“ state
- Support from national / regional authorities

ERA Chair Holder

- Appointment at the start of the project
- Scientist / research manager
(no nationality requirements)
+ team members

ERA Chairs

HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01

Budget 2022	Per project	Number of projects approx.	Call	Deadline
80 M. €	1,5-2,0 M. €	32	08.06.21	15.03.22

Duration: up to 5 years

Fostering balanced brain circulation (BBC) - ERA Fellowships

Strategic goal:

- Promotion of excellent scientists through cross-border mobility in the widening countries

Characteristics

- **Target group:** young researchers
- **Focus:** cross-sector mobility and research infrastructures subject to the ESIF
- Same conditions as the regular MSCA postdoc scholarships (for 2021 call)
- ERA fellowships correspond to "Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships"

Fostering balanced brain circulation (BBC) – ERA Fellowships

HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-02

HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-04

Budget 2022	Number of grants approx.	Call	Deadline
02: 8 M. €	50	08.06.21	15.09.21
04: 8 M. €	50	08.06.22	14.09.22

ERA Talents

Objective:

- To attract more **R&I talents** with different specialist knowledge for companies in widening countries

Scope:

- Grants and attractive work and employment practices
- **Target group:** researchers, experts, operators of research infrastructures, R&I brokers in higher education institutions...

!!This topic is subject to the conclusions of a study organised by the Commission that will map the brain drain problem across ERA, analyse its causes and identify the most appropriate solutions towards increased attractiveness for talents in Widening Countries and more balanced brain circulation across the ERA.!!

ERA Talents

! HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-03 !

Budget 2022	Number of grants approx.	Call	Deadline
24 M. €		01.12.21	12.04.22

Effects / benefits of Widening Measures

Amongst other things

- **Promotion of mobility:** exchange / posting / recruitment of staff
- Building of **new networks** and/or extension of **existing networks**; opening **new research areas** and **new markets**
- **Further development of own research institution**; improving own skills through development/implementation of new research strategies or new forms of cooperation
- In the medium to long term, an improvement in **research and innovation performance** should be achieved in the EU13 countries (+ associated countries)

Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system



Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

- Strengthening the evidence base for R&I policy
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- Support for National Contact Points
- Support to dissemination & exploitation

€0.44 billion

Implementation of the component

- Annual calls
- Pre-defined topics (top down approach)
- Type of actions: Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) and Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)
 - Be aware that non-associated third countries can participate in a CSA in exceptional cases only
- One stage proposal
- Project budget on average around 2 M. EUR

Information on the calls for proposals in 2021 and 2022

2021 Call

Opening: 08 Jun 2021 & Deadline: 23 Sep 2021

Budget: 61.50 EUR million

Number of topics: 18 (13 CSA, 5 RIA)

Focus of the topics: policy support, translating R&I results in the economy and the society, open science practices, higher education institutions and researchers, science communication, science education, gender equality, ethics and integrity

2022 Call

Opening: 19 Jan 2022 & Deadline: 20 Apr 2022

Budget: 60.50 EUR million

Number of topics: 15 (13 CSA, 2 RIA)

Focus of the topics: policy support, translating R&I results in the economy and the society, open science practices, higher education institutions and researchers, science communication, science education, gender equality, ethics and integrity

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

For questions and advice please contact your
National Contact Point Widening Participation and ERA

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/support>

Please find the work programme and calls in the Funding &
Tenders Portal [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon)

[tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon)



Contact us!

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- Trainer 2
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Thank you!

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