



EU Newsletter 2024 - IV

Winter

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Horizon Europe

Selection of open and forthcoming calls

European Research Council (ERC)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
ERC Consolidator Grant 2025 Open	26/09/2024	14/01/2025
ERC Proof of Concept Open	13/11/2024	13/03/2025
ERC Advanced Grant 2025 Forthcoming	22/05/2025	28/08/2025

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Call	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
MSCA Staff Exchanges 2024 Open	19/09/2024	05/02/2025
MSCA COFUND 2025 Forthcoming	23/01/2025	24/06/2025

Pillar II (Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness)

Calls (compendious list)	Opening Date	Deadline for proposals
Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society		
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01: A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage Open	18/06/2024	22/01/2025
Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility		
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply Open	17/09/2024	04/02/2025
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use Open	17/09/2024	04/02/2025

Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (WIDERA)

HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-ACCESS-01: Teaming for Excellence Open	03/12/2024	10/04/2025 20/01/2026 (two-stage)
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Horizon Europe Missions

HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01: Changing urban spaces and mindsets to accelerate the transition to climate neutrality <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Open</p>	17/09/2024	11/02/2025
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Do not hesitate to contact us at euresearch@uni-potsdam.de if you need further information about these or other Horizon Europe calls. The European Commission publishes the calls in the [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal \(FTOP\)](#).

New European Commission



In November 2024, the EU Parliament has approved the [“von der Leyen II” Commission](#).

Ekaterina Zaharieva, as Commissioner for Startups, Research, and Innovation, will play a key role in **reinforcing the European Research Area and advancing AI through the European AI Research Council**. Part of Zaharieva’s role will be to implement many of the recent recommendations from former Italian Prime Ministers Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi, who delivered stark warnings about Europe’s failure to keep up with global competition. The recent [report on EU competitiveness](#), authored by Mario Draghi, sets a forward-thinking agenda for accelerating Europe’s economic and technological development. At its core, the report emphasises that innovation, research and education must be the cornerstones of Europe’s strategy to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving global landscape. Following these recommendations, Zaharieva will work to **expand the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the European Research Council (ERC)**, as already promised in the returning president’s political mandate.

Universities, however, may be disappointed that research and education – which were in the same portfolio in the previous Commission – are split now. In the future, **Roxana Mînzatu, Executive Vice-President for People, Skills and Preparedness**, will be responsible for the **European Education Area, Erasmus+ and European Universities Alliances**.

Further EC members who could play a crucial role for the development of the European Research and Education Area, especially the new Research and Innovation Framework Program (FP10), are:

- Henna Virkkunen, Executive Vice-President for Tech-Sovereignty, Security, and Democracy, who will focus on frontier technologies, including digital and AI, ensuring Europe's competitive edge in technology while addressing security and democratic values.
- Teresa Ribera, Stéphane Séjourné and Glenn Micallef, whose portfolios cover intergenerational fairness, sustainability, and industrial strategy - key areas for Europe's future competitiveness.

EIC Work Programme 2025 published (Horizon Europe Pillar III)

The European Innovation Council (EIC), a key component of Pillar III in Horizon Europe, focuses on funding breakthrough projects in innovation and technology. The EIC supports projects across various Technology Readiness Levels through its three main funding instruments: **EIC Pathfinder**, **EIC Transition**, and **EIC Accelerator**.



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In November, the EIC published its latest **Work Programme for 2025**, outlining a range of upcoming funding opportunities. The programme includes calls targeting cutting-edge research, innovation acceleration, and market uptake of breakthrough technologies.

For detailed insights, you can view the **Work Programme** [here](#) and find **additional resources** [here](#).

ERC Dashboard launched



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

The ERC Dashboard is a database that allows researchers and research managers to search and export data on

ERC-funded projects and evaluated proposals. The search can be refined by researcher, host institution, research domain, funding scheme, country, year or keyword.

The ERC dashboard is available [here](#).

EDUC Alliance Call for Seed Projects

The EDUC Alliance has launched a **Call for Seed Projects**. These small-scale research and innovation projects aim to foster collaboration between EDUC universities and pave the way for larger-scale projects.

Key information about the call:

- **Application deadline:** 27 January 2025, 12:00 PM CET.
- **Objective:** Support projects that enhance collaboration between EDUC universities and their local/regional ecosystems.
- **Requirement:** At least two EDUC universities must participate, including one from a widening country (Czech Republic, Hungary, Ukraine). Proposals involving additional EDUC universities and external partners (e.g. companies, research institutes, NGOs) are strongly encouraged.
- **Participating Universities:** Masaryk University (Czech Republic), University of Pécs (Hungary), Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University (Ukraine), University of Cagliari (Italy), University of Potsdam (Germany), University of South-Eastern Norway (Norway), University Jaume I (Spain), University of Rennes (France), University Paris Nanterre (France).
- **More information and application:** <https://www.educalliance.eu/calls/call-for-seed-projects>.

Goals of the Seed Projects:

- Strengthen collaboration between EDUC universities and regional ecosystems.
- Establish and deepen joint research and innovation topics.
- Generate preliminary data supporting ambitious scientific and technological initiatives.
- Translate academic knowledge into non-academic contexts.
- Promote sustainable cooperation within the EDUC Alliance.

We encourage you to submit your project proposals and take advantage of this unique opportunity for international collaboration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ulrike Schmidt from the EDUC team at the University of Potsdam at ulrike.schmidt@uni-potsdam.de.

Using CONNECT by YERUN for international research collaboration

[CONNECT by YERUN](#) is a data-driven web application developed by the University of Southern Denmark and YERUN - Young European Research Universities Network, of which the University of Potsdam is a



member, to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among YERUN member institutions. These are some of the platform highlights:

- **Dynamic collaboration insights:** CONNECT by YERUN provides real-time insights into the current research focus areas and collaborations across YERUN institutions.
- **Comprehensive data access:** Through the platform, users can access an extensive repository of data on YERUN members' EU project participation and publication history.
- **Intelligent matchmaking tool:** One of the platform's standout features is its intelligent matchmaking tool, which enables researchers and managers to identify ideal collaborators for funding applications, new research initiatives.
- **Integration with EU funding calls:** CONNECT by YERUN seamlessly integrates access to current and upcoming EU funding calls and matches these opportunities with relevant researchers within the network.

The platform is available to all researchers and research managers of the University of Potsdam. To access the platform, users need an ORCID ID.

YERUN is hosting a series of **webinars to introduce CONNECT by YERUN**. All upcoming dates can be found [here](#).

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EU Competence Network: new website launched



**EU-Kompetenznetzwerk der
Brandenburgischen Hochschulen**

The EU Competence Network of Brandenburg Universities (EUK) is a network of 8 universities and universities of applied sciences in

the German Federal State of Brandenburg, among them the University of Potsdam. It fosters the participation of Brandenburg's universities in research funding programs of the European Union – with the aim to spread knowledge and bundle the expertise of all participating institutions. The EUK advisors are well experienced in grant applications and project management, providing a professional and comprehensive service to researchers and administrative staff at Brandenburg's universities. The EUK is decentrally organised and is coordinated by the Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development.

You can visit the newly designed EUK website here: <https://euk-brandenburg.de>. For questions about the EU Competence Network, you can contact the EUK advisor at the University of Potsdam, Dr. Adriana Wipperling-Klepke (adriana.wipperling@uni-potsdam.de).

First ERC Synergy Grant at the University of Potsdam

548 project proposals were submitted this year for the coveted Synergy Grants of the European Research Council (ERC); only 10 percent were successful. One of them is IRASTRO, a joint research project by four outstanding scientists, including Prof. Peter Saalfrank, a theoretical chemist at University of Potsdam. They will receive a total of 12 million euros over a period of six years.



© Image: Adriana Wipperling-Klepke

The four scientists investigate in laboratory experiments and by computational modelling how the molecules observed by space telescopes are produced by chemical reactions in and on interstellar icy dust grains. Among the species found are complex organic molecules, and it has been speculated that even “molecules of life” can be formed in interstellar space. Specifically, the researchers will measure and compute infrared spectra of molecules in and at these ices and study chemical reactivity under interstellar conditions, which is often dominated by subtle quantum behaviour, e.g., the so-called tunnel effect. They will develop methods that can detect and compute the infrared signatures of individual molecules and reaction pathways. An infrared signature is a kind of fingerprint that differs from molecule to molecule and gives information on its local environment. Hence, by measuring and theoretically interpreting the infrared signatures, one can unravel the conditions under which these molecules are formed.

IRASTRO’s focus on infrared spectroscopy means that the project’s results can also be relevant to the interpretation of observational data from space telescopes such as the James Webb Space Telescope”, says project leader Alec Wodtke from the Max-Planck Institute of Interdisciplinary Natural Sciences in Göttingen, and: “There is still a great deal of fundamental chemical physics, especially low-temperature chemical physics in solids, that needs to be better understood to support large space missions like this.”

Upcoming events in Horizon Europe

Date/Time	Event	Place	Organisation
09/12/2024 10:00 – 15:00	Workshop: Audit in EU-Projekten (in German) → more information: see below	Wildau/ Online	EUK
09/12/2024 10:00 – 11:30	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Staff Exchanges: Online Info Event → Link to the event page	Online	KoWi

10/12/2024 10:00 – 12:00	Kostenabrechnung in Horizon Europe (in German) → Link to the event page	Online	NKS RuF
15/01/2025 09:00 – 17:30	NKS DIT Event: Nationales Stakeholdertreffen für Cluster 4 → Link to the event page	Cologne	NKS Digitale und Industrielle Technologien
30/01/2025 – 20/02/2025	Horizont Europa: Cluster 6, Missionen und das Neue Europäische Bauhaus – Ihre Fördermöglichkeiten 2025 (in German) → Link to the event page	Online	NKS Bioökonomie und Umwelt
11/03/2025 – 13/03/2025	KoWi-Seminar EU-Kompakt I → Link to the event page	Bonn	KoWi

Hybrid Workshop: Audits in EU Projects

On **9 December 2024, 10:00 – 15:00**, the EU Competence Network (EUK) will organize a workshop on how to „survive“ EU 2nd level audits: How to prepare for a 2nd level audit? How does it work? What are the most common problems and how can they be avoided? These questions are the focus of this workshop, which will take place at the University of Applied Sciences in Wildau. In addition to project managers, the workshop is also aimed at administrative staff. It will be half expert lecture, half exchange of experiences between those already involved and those not (yet) involved. The registration to attend the on-site workshop in Wildau is already closed, but you can follow the [livestream](#) via Webex.

Please find more information [here](#).



Technische Hochschule Wildau - © Image: Adriana Wipperling-Klepke

European Partnerships and other EU co-funded programmes

Selection of open and forthcoming calls

Joint Call Title	Network	Opening Date	Deadline Pre-proposal	Deadline Full-proposal
FutureFoodS JTC 2024 Transforming Food Systems - reshaping food system interactions, fostering food innovations and empowering sustainable food choices Open	FutureFoodS	06/11/2024	15/01/2025	09/07/2025
Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2025 Pre-clinical therapy studies for rare diseases using small molecules and biologicals – development and validation Forthcoming	European Rare Diseases Research Alliance (ERDERA)	10/12/2024	13/02/2025	09/07/2025
EP PerMed JTC2025 Pharmacogenomic Strategies for Personalised Medicine Forthcoming	European Partnership for Personalised Medicine (EP PerMed)	Mid of December, 2024	18/02/2025	17/06/2025

Erasmus+ Actions 2 and 3 and Jean Monnet Actions

New Programme Guide and calls

On 19 November 2024, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Commission published the new [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#) and the 2025 call for proposals. The call text can be consulted in the [Official Journal of the European Union](#). Below you find a list of the actions covered by the 2025 Erasmus+ call that are relevant for higher education institutions. The deadline for applications varies from one action to another.

Actions included in the ERASMUS+ 2025 call

Key Action 2	Deadline for proposals
Cooperation partnerships in the field of education	05/03/2025
Cooperation partnerships in the field of sport	05/03/2025
Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters	13/02/2025
Erasmus Mundus Design Measures	13/02/2025
Alliances for Innovation	06/03/2025
Capacity building in the field of higher education	06/02/2025
Capacity building in the field of sport	05/03/2025
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies	26/03/2025

Jean Monnet Actions	Call closes
Jean Monnet Actions and Networks	12/02/2025

The EACEA will open separate calls in the [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal \(F&TP\)](#) for each action. Until the calls open, they will appear as “forthcoming call” in the F&TP. Applicants can already find application forms and relevant information in each of the forthcoming calls. Applications must be submitted electronically through the F&TP.

Cooperation Partnerships in the field of education are managed by the national agencies of the countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme. Applications must be submitted electronically through the [Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps website](#). Further information can be found on the websites of the [National Agency of the German Academic Exchange Service](#) (higher education) and of the [National Agency of the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst](#) (school education).

New Erasmus+ project at the University of Potsdam

The University of Potsdam participates in the Erasmus+ Capacity Building project “**Maker & STEM Education: Equal access to progressive pedagogies to boost STEM development for all women – MakerWomenSTEM**”. The project has started in December 2024 and is funded by the Erasmus+ programme with €400.000 for a period of two years. MakerWomenSTEM aims to use Maker Education to empower women in the development of crucial skills needed to succeed in STEM disciplines. The project is coordinated by Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico) and the consortium comprises nine partners from six different countries: Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia, Spain, Finland and Germany. Michaela Fuhrmann, Director of the Centre for Quality Enhancement in Teaching and Learning (ZfQ) leads the project at the University of Potsdam.

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Funding of travel costs for the preparation of Erasmus+ projects through the NA DAAD

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

Upcoming events in Erasmus+

Date/Time	Event	Place	Organisation
05/12/2024 10:00 – 12:30	Online Info session: Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) action → Link to the event page	Online	European Commission
10/12/2024 14:00 – 17:00	Online-Seminar zur Antragstellung Erasmus Mundus-Aktion (in German) → Link to the event page	Online	NA DAAD
17/12/2024 10:00 – 13:00	Online-Seminar zur Antragstellung Kapazitätsaufbauprojekte im Hochschulbereich (in German) → Link to the event page	Online	NA DAAD

About us

EU Research Funding

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

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

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EU Cohesion and Structural Policy - European Structural Funds for universities in the state of Brandenburg

We advise you to the funding opportunities in the state of Brandenburg and support you in project and cost planning as well as the completion of the necessary cooperation agreements.

For more internal information please follow the link:

<https://z-wiki.uni-potsdam.de/x/XQToBQ>

Information available in German. If you need information in English, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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We wish you a merry Christmas, joyful holidays and a happy New Year!

