

Horizon Europe 2028-2034 Where are we heading?

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Horizon Europe 2028-2034: where are we heading?

European Commission's proposal, July 2025

With a proposed **€175 billion** budget, the new programme will be based on four pillars.

Pillar I	Pillar II	Pillar III	Pillar IV
EXCELLENT SCIENCE	COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIETY	INNOVATION	EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA
€44.079 BILLION	€75.876 BILLION	€38.785 BILLION	€16.262 BILLION
EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL	COMPETITIVENESS ¹ : 1. Clean Transition and Industrial Decarbonisation 2. Health, Biotech, Agriculture and Bioeconomy 3. Digital leadership 4. Resilience and Security, Defence Industry and Space	EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL	ERA POLICIES
MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS		INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS AND THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE	RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURES
SCIENCE FOR EU POLICIES	SOCIETY: 1. Global societal challenges 2. EU Missions 3. New European Bauhaus Facility		WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

¹ Consistent with activities under the European Competitiveness Fund

Selected novelties

- ‘Tight connection’ with the new **European Competitiveness Fund**
- **Dual-use use** by default and dual-use by design
 - + exclusive defence-oriented projects supported from EIC (DARPA)
- **Simplification:**
 - **Lump-sums** as default funding model
 - **Less prescriptive** programming
 - Shorter **time-to-grant**

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EUA advocacy and engagement

The proposal's key features

- Horizon Europe remains a stand-alone programme
- Unclear boundaries with the European Competitiveness Funds threaten Horizon's independence and integrity
- Budget proposal points in the right direction, but falls short of what is really needed
- Approach to dual-use research remains unclear

Horizon Europe
2028-2034
EUA analysis of the European
Commission's proposal



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Joint FP10 amendments (EUA, CESAER, Coimbra Group, EU-LIFE, The Guild, LERU, YERUN)

Key proposals include:

- Safeguarding FP10 autonomy and governance
- Removing subordination to ECF and proposing complementarities
- Ensuring separate work programmes for FP10 pillars
- Strengthening stakeholder involvement in Pillar II
- Excluding defence-only funding from FP10
- Strengthening autonomy of the ERC
- Protecting the bottom-up nature of MSCA



**Shared Vision, Unified Voice:
Universities and Research Institutes
in Europe Propose Joint FP10 Amendments**



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Selection of other activities

- Joint statement on the links between FP10 and the European Competitiveness Fund
- Event at the European Parliament on international cooperation in FP10, 14 January 2026
- Joint event at the European Parliament on R&I in the next EU budget, 20 April 2026



Designing the European Competitiveness Fund: Key elements and the FP10-ECF interface



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Where we are in the political process

European Commission

- July 2025: Proposal for the Multiannual Financial Framework 2028–2034
- Includes proposal for the 10th Framework Programme (FP10), ‘tightly connected ‘ to the new European Competitiveness Fund (ECF)

European Parliament

- Draft reports by [MEP Christian Ehler](#) and [MEP René Repasi](#) published in March
- Followed by amendments by other MEPs
- Committee vote expected September (but end of negotiations possibly before summer)
- Plenary vote expected October → official position of the European Parliament

Council

- Work on the Council position initiated under Danish Presidency (Q3-Q4 2025)
- Continued under ongoing Cypriot Presidency
- Topics bracketed: widening, budget, ECF-related parts
- Aim: Partial General Approach at COMPET Council on 29 May → offers negotiation mandate

Next phase

- Official trilogue negotiations

Thank you for your attention

