

A blueprint for a European degree

EU education ministers have agreed on the roadmap and the criteria for awarding a joint European degree (ED) label within the [European Higher Education Area](#) (EHEA). This additional certificate would be open to programmes delivered jointly by universities from different countries including at least two EU member states. This is potentially the first step towards creating a new type of European degree. The joint European degree will be rolled out in three phases starting in 2026. The following two years would be spent evaluating the label and exploring the feasibility of a fully-fledged degree. Based on this evidence, Member States may decide in 2029 on whether to introduce the full degree or not. The package includes recommendations on a European recognition and quality assurance (QA) system, and attractive/sustainable careers, to ensure that national higher education systems address the uneven recognition of the diverse roles staff take on in addition to research.

Education is largely a national competence and an earlier [survey of ten Erasmus+ pilot projects](#) has revealed obstacles to the introduction of European joint degrees including incompatible national rules on curriculum structure, duration, teaching languages, and recognition of blended and online learning. However EHEA does not have a specific budget and taking part in the European degree is on a voluntary basis. Stakeholders are highlighting the need for additional budget to the Erasmus+ programme to develop joint degrees.

Sources: [Roadmap for ED](#); [Criteria for awarding joint ED](#); [Commission rolls out plan for European university degree](#); [Blueprint for a European degree](#)

European Commission

Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025

The European Commission is investing over €7.3 billion through its newly adopted Horizon Europe work programme for 2025. The calls, topics and actions will be published on the Funding & Tenders Portal in due course.

For the Horizon Europe Work programme (2025) - General introduction click [HERE](#)

MSCA Ukraine

The Commission has updated the [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#) (MSCA) 2023-25 work programme providing an extra €10 million to support Ukrainian scientists and to launch a new MSCA 'Choose Europe for Science' pilot, with opportunities for early-career researchers, including competitive allowances and longer contracts. This pilot is part of the wider '[Choose Europe](#)' initiative.

Source: [MSCA Actions Ukraine](#) [MSCA Choose Europe](#)

Work programme Cluster 1: Health

The first part for the Health Cluster under Horizon Europe's new strategic plan for 2025-2027 is published with indicative budgets for the various calls including deadlines for applications. It aims to align with the European Commission's Political Guidelines for 2024-2029, with a focus on healthcare resilience, leveraging biotechnology, and artificial intelligence, supporting the development of critical medicines and strengthening societal preparedness and response. In 2026-2027, the Health Cluster will pursue the following priorities:

- non-communicable diseases, including mental health;
- environmental impact on human health and healthcare systems;
- pandemic preparedness and response, including AMR;
- sustainability and efficiency of Europe's healthcare systems;
- digitalisation in healthcare through health data and data-driven approaches, including AI;
- innovative tools and critical technologies including AI, for topics ranging from predictive biomarkers of disease progression to biomedical research and regulatory testing.

The Health Cluster will also address the empowerment of specific populations, such as disabled persons and their families.

Access the full Work Programme Cluster 1: Health [HERE](#)

FP 10

The next Framework Programme (FP) for research and innovation is expected to remain independent but connected to European Competitiveness Fund, according to reports after the speech of European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen at the annual EU budget conference. The assumed rationale is that such connection will provide coherence in investment and address current fragmentation, overlaps, and gaps among existing programmes – such as Horizon Europe, Digital Europe, the European Defence Fund etc. However the nature of that connection is still to be defined.

Source: [Self-standing programme](#)

SNS JU in Health

The [Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking \(SNS JU\)](#) will dedicate €24 million to large scale “Trials and Pilots with Verticals” (Stream D) to accelerate vertical sector adoption of advanced connectivity technologies in health among other sectors e.g. 6G connectivity platforms. The objective is to shift the focus toward an in-depth exploration of specific challenges – so-called “pain points” – within individual vertical sectors and co-develop and demonstrate solutions to address concrete adoption barriers. An amended SNS JU R&I Work Program 2025 will be published in due course in 2025.

Source: [Research & Innovation \(R&I\) Work Programme 2025](#)

European Medicines Agency

First treatment against severe thyroid eye disease

The EMA has recommended EU approval of Tepezza (teprotumumab) for treating moderate-to-severe thyroid eye disease (TED), a rare autoimmune condition causing eye bulging, pain, and vision issues. The CHMP's opinion now goes to the European Commission for final approval, followed by national pricing and reimbursement decisions.

Source: [Severe thyroid eye disease](#)

Data and AI in medicines regulation to 2028

The EMA and the Heads of Medicines Agencies (HMA) released a joint work plan on using large volumes of regulatory and health data, and AI to enhance medicines regulation. The work plan aims to enable efficient discovery, access, and use of the network's data assets through cataloguing and strengthening data quality, starting with real-world data, adverse drug reaction data, and medicinal product master data, the core data needed for the operations of the network. Key initiatives include supporting EMA's scientific committees and the pharmaceutical industry in evaluating AI through the medicines lifecycle, developing guidance on AI in clinical development and in pharmacovigilance, fostering EU-wide and international collaboration, and providing the network with training on AI and a framework for sharing and collaborating on AI tools. A new strategic advisory group, the Network Data Steering Group (NDSG), will oversee the implementation of the work plan. NDSG combines the former Big Data Steering Group and the Network Data Board.

Source: [EMA leveraging power data](#)

[Click here for NDSG membership list](#)

Tackling vulnerabilities in the supply chain of radio-pharmaceuticals in EU

The EMA and HMA have issued recommendations to address radiopharmaceutical supply chain vulnerabilities due to limited EU production and reliance on third-country materials. Suggestions include boosting EU capabilities through:

- initiatives like the European Observatory on the Supply of Medical Radioisotopes; the Strategic Agenda for Medical Applications of Ionising Radiation (SAMIRA) and the European Radioisotope Valley Initiative (ERVI);
- improving aging infrastructure;
- enhancing production facilities, such as nuclear reactors;
- addressing transport challenges through harmonisation of certification procedures and standards across different countries.

Source: [Supply chain of radiopharmaceuticals in the EU](#)

Across the World

UK to rejoin Erasmus+

The UK and EU have agreed on the UK's return to the Erasmus+ programme starting in 2025. This decision reinstates student and staff mobility between the UK and EU member states, facilitating academic exchanges, research collaborations, and vocational training opportunities. The move aims to strengthen educational ties and promote cultural exchange, reversing the post-Brexit exclusion.

Source: [UK to rejoin Erasmus](#)

Other

IHI draft documents on forthcoming Call 11

The Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) has published draft information on future call topics ahead of the official call launch to give applicants additional time to find or build a consortium. The draft topics are still under development and the texts may change considerably between the versions published here and the call launch. Please check the final topic texts once the calls are launched. The following topics are under consideration for inclusion in IHI call 11, a two-stage call scheduled in Q2 2025:

- [Towards precision medicine: platform for transdiagnostic stratification of brain dysfunction](#)
- [Understanding how infections foster and induce non-communicable diseases](#)
- [AI-powered signal detection in pharmacovigilance](#)
- [Leveraging Europe's expertise to accelerate cell therapy for type 1 diabetes](#)
- [Establishing ortho and cardiology ambulatory surgical centres in Europe](#)

Source: [IHI Calls](#)

Biobanking for healthier world

The European Research Infrastructure (RI) for Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources (BBMRI-ERIC) has published its work programme 2025-2027. This overview from strategy to operation applies to all of BBMRI-ERIC, providing a framework of strategic objectives and operational goals for biobanks, National Nodes, and Headquarters and will guide operations for the coming years.

Source: [BBMRI-ERIC Work programme 2025-2027](#)

Legal Q&A: The status of broad consent in Austria

The article introduces the topic of broad consent from a General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) point of view and covers the perspective of the Austrian Research Organisation Act.

Source: [BBMRI.at Legal Knowledge Base](#)

Mutual recognition of biobank assessment

The project [Mutual Recognition](#) aims to create a uniform implementation practice for the assessment of multicentre biobank research in all University Medical Centres in the Netherlands. Until now, the assessment of biobanks was organised differently across all medical centres with high administrative burden and time investment as investigators of multicentre biobanks often had to go through a different process at each centre, in which various documents were used.

Source: [Mutual recognition](#)

Health and Food Safety - Newsletter of DG SANTE

Access the bi-monthly electronic news from the area of Health and Food Safety in the 23 languages of the EU. Please subscribe to the linguistic version of your choice [HERE](#)

Study on the availability of medical devices

The European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) has commissioned a "[Study supporting the monitoring of availability of medical devices on the EU market](#)". The study started in December 2022 and will be running for 36 months (December 2025). The study has been contracted to a consortium led by the Austrian National Public Health Institute. An overview of the study and the dashboard created as a result is now accessible.


[Dashboard on availability of medical devices](#)

[Availability study](#)

Consultations

Cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers


The European Commission is gathering more information in support of the implementation and refining of the planned actions on cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers.

 Deadline: 6 July 2025

[Click here to provide your views](#)

Critical Medicines Act

The European Commission is conducting a public consultation on the upcoming Critical Medicines Act (CMA) that aims to address supply chain vulnerabilities and improve availability of medicines.

 Deadline: 30 June 2025

[Click here to provide your views - it requires an ECAS account](#)

Events & Webinars

Cooperation event Cluster 1. Health

A free two-day event on fostering cooperation under Horizon Europe in environmental and brain health, digitalisation, and disease prevention for universities, research institutions, hospitals, healthcare providers, patient associations, NGOs,

public sector bodies; technology and innovation centres; enterprises and SMEs.

 Dates: 3-4 June 2025  Location: Brussels, Belgium

[Register HERE](#)



Online Info Sessions

IHI Call Days on Call 11 - A set of free online info sessions on all call topics, IHI's rules and procedures.

 Date: 23-30 June 2025  Location: online

[Register to the session relevant for you](#)

ERC Advanced Grant 2025 - Switzerland Free online event providing tips and advice on the conditions of the 2025 call.

 Date: 4 June 2025, 12:00–13:30  Location: online

[Register here](#)

Source: [ERC Advanced Grant 2025 National Information Event](#)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

MSCA Staff Exchanges

 Date: 5 June 2025, 09:00

 Location: [online in-person HERE](#); University of Alicante, Spain



MSCA Doctoral Networks

 Date: 24 June 2025  Location: [online HERE](#)

UKRO 2025 MSCA Doctoral Networks Webinar

 Date: 2 July 2025  Location: [Online: register HERE](#)

MSCA Actions - Switzerland A series of free online and face to face events providing tips and advice o for Swiss participants.

 Dates: 10 June-5 August 2025,  Location: online

[Check for topics, dates & registration HERE](#)

[MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships Webinar - UK participants](#)

A UKRO webinar with information about the Horizon Europe MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships.

[HTA: Webinar patients & healthcare professionals](#) presents the process for joint clinical assessments and joint scientific consultations with a focus on how patients (or their carers) and clinical experts can be involved in these processes.

Calls

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

COFUND for doctoral/postdoctoral programmes, requiring institutional top-ups.

 Deadline: 24 June 2025 [COFUND 6 steps to apply guide](#)

Postdoctoral Fellowships for researchers to gain skills, global exposure, and interdisciplinary experience abroad.

 Deadline: 10 September 2025

[Postdoctoral Fellowships 6 steps to apply guide](#)

Doctoral Networks to train PhD candidates across academia, industry, and public sectors, including joint and industrial doctorate programmes.

 Opens May 28 2025, Deadline: 25 November 2025

[Doctoral Networks 6 steps to apply guide](#)

Staff Exchanges global R&D collaborations across sectors.

 8 October 2025 [Staff Exchanges 6 steps to apply guide](#)

MSCA and Citizens 2026-2027 for public engagement activities that bring research to the public through [European Researchers' Night](#) and [Researchers at Schools](#) activities.

 Opens: 17 June 2025 Deadline: 22 October 2025

[Information and how to apply](#)

