

Grant opportunities

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11 September 2024



- *Often interchangeable terms, but have different meaning*

- **Funds** support a diverse range of projects through different programmes.
- *E.g. European Union's Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) delivering Cohesion Policy:*
 - **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**, strengthening EU economic, social and territorial cohesion by correcting imbalances between regions
 - **European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)**, investing in people contributing to EU's employment, social, education and skills policies
 - **Cohesion Fund (CF)**, supporting the field of environment and transport in the less prosperous EU Countries
 - **Just Transition Fund (JTF)**, aiming at achieving EU climate-neutrality by 2050
 - **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**
 - **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)**
- **Grants** are non-profit funding opportunities / financial contributions to individuals, organisations, or institutions for projects aligned with policy objectives.
- Obtained through *calls for proposals*.
- *Non-repayable*
- *Usually require co-funding*
- **Tenders** involve procurement processes, i.e. buying goods and services. These are opportunities that allow organizations to profit from the purchase of goods, works and construction services by a public entity.
- E.g. European Commission uses public contracts to buy goods and services - studies, technical assistance and training; consultancy, conference and publicity services; books and IT equipment etc. The providers are selected via calls for tenders which are issued by the Commission departments, offices and agencies around Europe.



Different funding bodies

- Visegrad Fund

Program
ŠVÝCARSKO-ČESKÉ
spolupráce



**EU - Europe's main
funding body**





Myriad of opportunities

**EU - Europe's main
funding body**



Erasmus+

EU programme for education, training, youth and sport



EU4health

Σ eureka



MSCA 4 UKRAINE

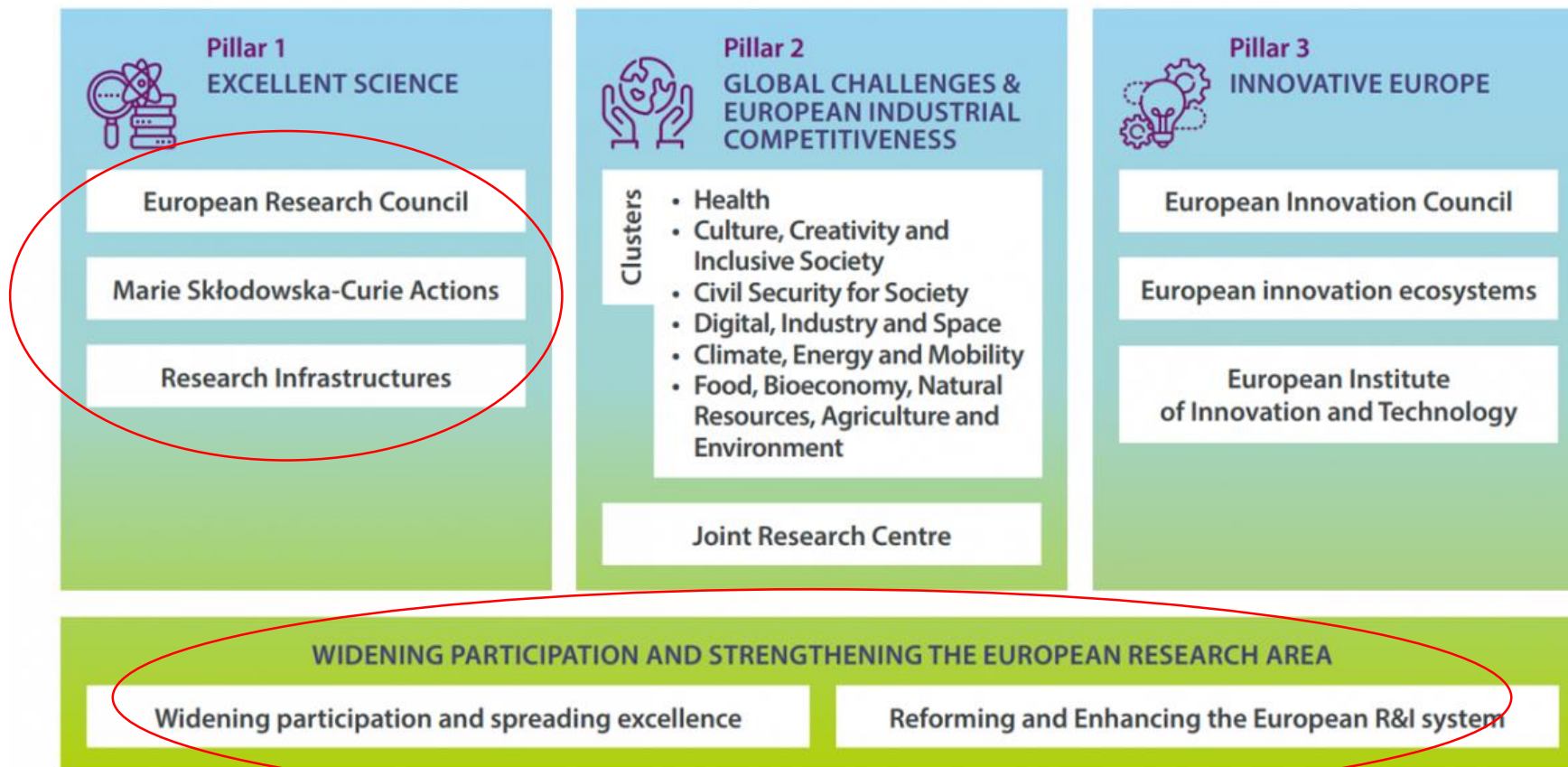
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Co-funded by
the European Union

ELI Focus on Horizon Europe

THREE PILLARS FOR IMPLEMENTATION





ELI Focus on Horizon Europe

Project number	Project acronym	Project title	Start date	End date	Duration (in months)	Funding programme	Call	Topic	Type of action
101094299	IMPRESS	Interoperable electron Microscopy Platform for advanced REsearch and Services	1/2/2023	31/01/2027	48	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-INFRA-2022-TECH-01	HORIZON-INFRA-2022-TECH-01-01	HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
101095207	THRILL	Technology for High-Repetition-rate Intense Laser Laboratories	1/1/2023	31/12/2026	48	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-INFRA-2022-TECH-01 (Next generation of scientific instrumentation, tools and methods (2022))	HORIZON-INFRA-2022-TECH-01-01	HORIZON-RIA
101008126	RADNEXT	RADIation facility Network for the EXploration of effects for indusTry and research	1/6/2021	31/05/2026	60	HORIZON 2020	H2020-INFRAIA-2020-1	INFRAIA-02-2020 Integrating Activities for Starting Communities	Research and Innovation action
101079773	EuPRAXIA	EuPRAXIA Preparatory Phase Project	1/11/2022	31/10/2026	48	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-INFRA-2021-DEV-02	HORIZON-INFRA-2021-DEV-02-01	HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions
101073480	EuPRAXIA-DN	EuPRAXIA Doctoral Network	1/1/2023	31/12/2026	48	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-MSCA-2021-DN-01	HORIZON-MSCA-2021-DN-01-01	HORIZON TMA MSCA Doctoral Networks
101105246	STEFF	Strong-field electrodynamics in Flying Focus pulses	1/5/2023	30/04/2025	24	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01	HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01-01	HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships
871072	EURIZON (former CREMLIN PLUS)	European network for developing new horizons for RIs	1/2/2020	30/04/2025	48	HORIZON 2020	H2020-INFASUPP-2019-1	INFASUPP-01-2018-2019 Policy and international cooperation measures for research infrastructures	Research and Innovation action
101124559	ERIC FORUM 2	Second implementation project for the ERIC Forum	1/9/2023	31/08/2027	48	Horizon Europe	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-ERIC-ART195-IBA	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-ERIC-ART195-IBA	HORIZON-csa
1011315116	FlexRICAN	Flexibility in RIs for global CARbon Neutrality	1/3/2024	28/02/2027	36	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-TECH-01	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-TECH-01-01	HORIZON-RIA
101131771	Lasers4EU	EUROPEAN LASER RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES SERVING SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY	1/10/2024	30/09/2028	48	HORIZON EUROPE	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-SERV-01	HORIZON-INFRA-2023-SERV-01-03	HORIZON -COFUND



Gender dimension in Horizon Europe

- **Horizon 2020**

- 1st framework programme to set gender as a cross-cutting issue
- One of objectives - integrate the gender dimension into research and innovation content, leading to an increased number of “gender-flagged” topics across the programme.

- **Horizon Europe**

- goes further, by making the integration of the gender dimension into research and innovation content a requirement by default
- Gender measures included in HE evolved from the [Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#)

3 main levels at which gender equality is addressed in Horizon Europe:

1. Having a **Gender Equality Plan (GEP)** in place is now an eligibility criterion for certain categories of legal entities from EU countries and non-EU countries associated to Horizon Europe (public bodies, research organisations, or higher education institutions). (**eligibility criterion**)
2. **Integration of a gender dimension** into research and innovation content is a requirement by default, and evaluated under the excellence criterion, unless the topic description explicitly specifies otherwise. (**award criterion**)
3. **Increasing gender balance** throughout the programme is another objective, with a target of 50% women in Horizon Europe related boards, expert groups and evaluation committees, and gender balance among research teams set as a ranking criterion for proposals with the same score. (**ranking criterion**)



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According to the **European Institute for Gender Equality**, gender equality means “*Equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys*”.

GEP should be published on the institution public website at least in one of the EU languages.

The monitoring of GEP is not foreseen in periodic reports but as agreed in your signed GA, you must support your GEP in the implementation of your actions.

GEP is not attached to the specific project, it is linked to the institution.



Gender dimension in Horizon Europe

Mandatory requirements for a GEP

1. Be a **public document**: The GEP should be a formal document signed by the top management, and disseminated within the institution. It should demonstrate a commitment to gender equality, set clear goals and detailed actions and measures to achieve them
2. **Have dedicated resources**: Resources for the design, implementation, and monitoring of GEPs may include funding for specific positions such as Equality Officers or Gender Equality Teams as well as earmarked working time for academic, management and administrative staff
3. **Include arrangements for data collection and monitoring**: GEPs must be evidence-based and founded on sex or gender-disaggregated baseline data collected across all staff categories. This data should inform the GEP's objectives and targets, indicators, and ongoing evaluation of progress, and be reported on annually
4. **Be supported by training and capacity-building**: Actions should address gender equality and unconscious gender biases, and may include developing gender competence establishing working groups dedicated to specific topics, and raising awareness through workshops and communication activities

In addition to these mandatory process-related requirements, the following 5 thematic areas are recommended for content:

- *work-life balance and organisational culture*
- *gender balance in leadership and decision-making*
- *gender equality in recruitment and career progression*
- *integration of the gender dimension into research and teaching content*
- *measures against gender-based violence including sexual harassment*

ELI ERIC's GEP: https://eli-laser.eu/media/2846/20230201_eli-eric-gender-equality-plan.pdf



EU Award for Gender Equality Champions

- A new EU Award created under Horizon Europe to recognise and celebrate the outstanding results achieved by some change-driving academic and research organisations in the implementation of GEPs
- The prize is open to universities, higher education institutions, and other research performing organisations (public or private), established in an EU Member State or a Third Country associated to Horizon Europe.
- Participants can apply for the prize online via the Funding and Tenders Portal as of **4 September until 16 October 2024 at 17:00 CET**
- Each winner will receive a trophy and a **€100 000 prize**.
- 3 prize categories:
 - **Sustainable Gender Equality Champions:** Organisations that can demonstrate a significant and sustained record of activity and a high level of achievement through the implementation of their GEP.
 - **Newcomer Gender Equality Champions:** Organisations that have recently finalised the implementation of their first GEP and can demonstrate the most progress achieved through its implementation.
 - **Inclusive Gender Equality Champions:** Organisations that have developed the most innovative inclusive GEP – i.e. a GEP addressing intersections between gender and at least two other social categories, such as racial or ethnic origin, social origin, sexual orientation and gender identity (LGBTIQ) or disability – and can demonstrate concrete results obtained through its implementation.

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/prizes/eu-award-gender-equality-champions_en



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According to the **European Institute for Gender Equality**, gender dimension means *“Ways in which the situation and needs of, and challenges facing, women and men (and girls and boys) differ, with a view to eliminating inequalities and avoiding their perpetuation, as well as to promoting gender equality within a particular policy, programme or procedure”*.

- The inclusion of the sex/gender dimension means that differences, whether biological or social, are taken into account in research and teaching.
- Under Horizon Europe, it is mandatory to present in your proposal how the gender dimension will be integrated in your R&D project or to explain why it won't be.
- Keep in mind, that gender dimension is different from gender balance!



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According to the **European Institute for Gender Equality**, gender balance means “*Human resources and equal participation of women and men in all areas of work, projects or programmes*”.

A ranking criterion for ex aequo proposals. To establish the priority order for proposals with the same score, 5 criteria are taken into account (starting from highest to lowest score):

1. Aspects of the call that have not otherwise been covered by more highly ranked proposals
2. Scores on ‘Excellence’ then on ‘Impact’
3. **Gender balance among the named personnel among research teams, that are included in the proposal**
4. Geographical diversity
5. Other factors set by panel

Commission gives also special importance in ensuring gender balance in the Horizon Europe evaluation panels and in other relevant advisory bodies, such as boards and expert groups.

Horizon Europe projects should aim to have an even, 50/50 participation rate of both men and women amongst teams and leading roles, not only research teams!!!



Fostering women's participation in STEM

- EU faces a shortage of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields
- While women make up 52% of the European population and the majority of tertiary graduates in the EU, they only account for 2 out of 5 scientists and engineers.
- The gender gap widens as seniority levels increase
 - women holding only 17.9% of full professorship positions in engineering and technology, while only 10.7% of patent applications were submitted by women between 2015 and 2018 as highlighted in the latest [She Figures](#) report.
- With the [European Strategy for Universities](#), adopted in January 2022, the European Commission is committed to strengthening women's and girls' participation in STEM studies and careers through a roadmap of activities:
 - EU Prize for Women Innovators, managed by the European Innovation Council and the SME's Executive Agency (EISMEA): three prizes of EUR 50 000 each in the [Rising Innovator Category](#) awarded to the most promising young innovators under 35
 - A range of Horizon 2020 funded projects aimed at strengthening gender equality in STEM fields – see CORDIS leaflet: [Bridging the gender gap in STEM](#)
 - Research and Innovation Days 2022: [Stream the STE\(A\)M – gender equality 4 studies and careers](#)



Fostering women's participation in STEM

Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC), supports several other activities to advance gender equality in STEM:

- [Girls Go Circular](#) project, a free online learning programme, which has trained over 26 000 14-19 year old girls in 15 countries across Europe since 2020. The initiative holds the annual [Women and Girls in STEM Forum](#)
- [STEAM Fests](#) offer hybrid workshops, where women and girls come together to improve their digital and entrepreneurial competences
- [MSCA and Citizens](#) initiatives organises the [European Researchers' Night](#) and Researchers at Schools, which foster the exchange between researchers and students and stimulate the interest of youngsters, particularly girls and women in research careers and STEM topics
- Several projects, funded under the [Erasmus+ Programme](#), to promote gender-inclusive STE(A)M education at schools and higher education institutions



“Men are from Mars,



Women are from Venus”

...this timeless book has helped men and women realize *how different they can be in their communication styles, their emotional needs, and their modes of behavior*, and offers the secrets of communicating without conflicts



What does your life look like a woman in Czechia?

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/index_en



As a **woman** from **Czechia**, you are likely to live **6 year(s) longer** than a **man** from your country.



In your national parliament, **21%** of decision-makers are **women**.



During your life, you will work **6 year(s) less** than an average **man** in **Czechia**.



You are **38 percentage points* more** likely to do housework or cook every day, compared to **men**.



You have a **22%** chance of graduating from university, compared to **20%** for **men**.



At work, women earn **36% less** than men. ⓘ



You live in a country where **51%** of women have experienced sexual harassment.



Tackling gender stereotypes - EU funded projects – Decision making

Look beyond the figures



69%

of Europeans think women are more likely than men to make decisions based on their emotions.



32%

of members of national parliaments across the EU are women.



8%

of CEOs in large listed companies in the EU are women.



Co-funded by the European Union

Empowering Women in Active Society (EWA)

Gender stereotypes and beliefs often limit young women's political engagement. This Slovenian project will strive to empower young women and create better opportunities for their involvement in politics and civic participation.



European Women on Boards

Women's Empowerment in Leadership Positions (WELP)

WELP sought to empower women in business management positions. Many tools were developed to strengthen women's leadership capacity and prepare them for executive roles.



Co-funded by the European Union

Power of Women Leaders (POWER)

The goal of this project is to bring about change in the Estonian workplace culture in order to help women reach leadership roles, both in the public and private sectors.



"Rewriting the Story: tackling media gender stereotypes in political and public life" (Gender and Media)

The International Federation of Journalists in Belgium, together with two Italian partners, will address barriers to the fair representation and portrayal of women and men in political life. By working with a whole range of media professionals, the project will seek to initiate reforms in European media, to improve newsroom culture, policies, and processes.



Co-funded by the European Union

An inter-municipal youth-led forum for substantive gender equality in local decision-making (Cities4Her)

The project aims to capitalise on youth as enablers of social change to promote women's participation in local decision-making in Greece by developing and piloting an inter-municipal forum led by youth.



The Brussels Binder Beyond (BBBeyond): Giving Women in Europe a Voice (BBeyond)

A free, searchable online database of female policy professionals and journalists in Brussels and beyond. It is an effort to address the lack of women in policy debates across Europe.



Tackling gender stereotypes - EU funded projects – Work –life balance



44%

of Europeans think that the most important role of a woman is to take care of her home and her family.



82%

of persons working part-time for care reasons are women.



21%

of men spent more than 5 hours a day caring for their children, compared to 40% of women.



Everybody's Talking: Work-Life Balance Goes Mainstream (BALANCE) [↗](#)

In Lithuania, gender stereotypes and inequalities affect women's career possibilities and men's family lives. Activities from this project promoted the sharing of care between mothers and fathers and a better reconciliation between personal and professional lives for both women and men.



Co-funded by the European Union

Balance for all (B4A)

Childcare, elderly care, and flexible work options can be limited. Balance for All (B4A) challenged gender stereotypes in Latvian society and provided methodological materials for employers and recommendations for trade unions to promote work-life balance in collective agreements.



The Peace Institute
Institute for Contemporary Social and Political Studies

ACTION DAD (Action Dad) [↗](#)

The project's overarching goal is to contribute to the awareness raising of parents, employers, and the general public in Slovenia about the importance of actively involving men in paternity by encouraging a more equal distribution of parental care from the moment of birth.



Dismissal & unfavourable treatment of Women in Greek Workplace: Adopting an INtegrated and SystEmic approach of intervention (DIONE) [↗](#)

DIONE addressed the issue of dismissal of women during and after pregnancy and their unfavourable treatment during parental leave. Through the development of an online information platform, the project supported women victims of a discriminatory approach and helped public authorities and labour market actors prevent such discrimination.



Engaging employers and improving gender discrimination detection to ensure adequate protection for parents at work (Parents at work) [↗](#)

Informing employers about their obligations concerning work-life balance is as important as informing employees about their rights. With the promotion of best practice guidelines and the training of labour inspectors on the legal protection of parents in the workplace, this is precisely what this project strives to do.



Promoting work-life balance in companies and a better sharing of care between men and women (SHARE) [↗](#)

SHARE promoted family-friendly workplaces and activities that allow employers and employees to reconcile work and private life. It produced a methodology to create a label on gender equality for companies. It also identified best practices and raised awareness among participating companies about gender equality issues in the corporate sector.



ELI ERIC Grants Office

- ELI-wide organisational unit, with presence at both Facilities, responsible for providing full-service support (administration and finance) to the whole staff and management in the area of grants.
- Primary mission – *identify, secure and manage grants supporting ELI ERIC's goals and missions and contributions to its long-term sustainability.*
- *Oversees all steps related to a grant lifecycle:*
 - *Pre-Award (Grant Writing and Application Submission)*
 - *Award (Contracting)*
 - *Post-Award (Grant Administration and Compliance, Monitoring and Evaluation, Grants closure, Audits and Ongoing Relationship)*
- *Grants Office representatives at ELI ALPS:*
 - *Zsuzsa Hegedüsné Halmágyi, Zsuzsa.Halmaqyi@eli-alps.hu*
 - *Zoltán Gyarmati, Zoltan.Gyarmati@eli-alps.hu*

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Communicator

Informing MB and staff about opportunities, rules, requirements, etc.



Administrative and financial support

Day-to-day support with project implementation (risks, meetings, events, reporting, amendments, etc.)



Investigator

Looking for opportunities, Calendar and database of funding opportunities



Teacher

Explaining rules and requirements for EU and other types of funding.



Controller

Monitoring and compliance



Grants Office's different roles...



Analyst

Analysing rules, requirements, eligibility, etc.



Therapist

It will be better next time...don't be discouraged, but keep on insisting until you succeed...



Advisor

Suggests best ways forward based on analysis of requirements, conditions, etc.



Data keeper

Keep complete and up-to-date databases of opportunities, proposals, projects, etc.



About Grants

- EU funding is extremely competitive
 - 16.74% success rate for Horizon Europe
- Being good is not enough, only the best win
- Scoring against a set of criteria: **Excellence, Impact and Implementation**
- **Administrative, technical, financial aspect form integral part on proposals / projects.**
- How do successful proposals look like?
 - Score well in all criteria
 - Make sense (respond to real needs, everything is logically linked)
 - Are consistent (all pieces of puzzle fit)
 - Address everything (from work programme priorities to cross-cutting issues)
 - Consider the evaluator's perspective
 - Look and sound good (style, language, formatting, visuals)
- What is considered good at a given moment, might be considered bad at another moment
 - Conditions change from one period to another
 - Taking all evaluators' comments into consideration and adapting the proposal is not a guarantee of success. The EC does reassess proposals based on how they addressed evaluators' comments, but rather assesses proposals based on how good they are at a given moment
- Engaging specialized companies to support with proposal preparation is beneficial, but not necessarily a guarantee of success
- Success usually comes after several rejections



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**