
News of the Week - 05 | 2025

17 feb 2025 - Research & Innovation Pre-Award Advisory Unit (DPFC)

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1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» On the 11th February the call on Smart Cities Mission closed. IST-ID is participant in 5 proposals and coordinates one. Research Units involved are C2TN, CERIS, CiTUA and ITI.
Good luck everyone!

» **Benchmarking:** [Ghent University](#) (September 2024)

Ghent University has emerged as one of the fastest-rising higher education institutions within Horizon Europe and has significantly expanded its multidisciplinary footprint. While they remain exceptionally strong in certain domains, their participation across all domains is a pivotal element to their success.

The [EU team](#) offers support to every researcher at Ghent University, regardless of their experience or the maturity of their ideas. They organize trainings, workshops and brainstorm sessions and have extensive experience in tailoring these to the needs and expectations of individual research groups.

The EU team (~40 pax) consists of three subteams, called **People, Planet and Prosperity**, each dealing with a number of proposals and projects in different research fields. Each team has staff members with different roles to help with all aspects of the project.

Several key ingredients that make up their recipe for success:

- **Strategic investment in support for EU projects:** In 2019, Ghent University's Governing Board set a strategic goal: to enhance success in obtaining European funding. To that aim, the Board **doubled the capacity of the central EU Team** to provide **support for the pre-award preparation and post-award management** of European research projects. Since then, the EU team has been offering guidance across all stages of the project lifecycle. This includes **initiating concepts, strengthening storytelling, identifying suitable call topics and partners, scrutinizing budgets and eligibility**, helping kick-start the project, and managing all administrative, financial and legal aspects throughout the project.
- **More qualitative proposals:** The comprehensive **expertise of the EU team** has propelled the number of successful projects to an unprecedented high. Within the highly competitive environment of Horizon Europe, the **consistent support offered**

by the team has played a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of proposals. This makes a decisive difference.

- **Multidisciplinary participation:** While they have a strong reputation in research areas such as photonics, food security, marine biology, big data and pharmaceutical sciences, they have helped many departments discover their potential and have **welcomed almost 350 first-time participants to Horizon Europe**. Impressively, several of these newcomers have achieved success on **their very first try as a coordinator of large research projects**.
- **Innovating together:** The **EU team is a key player in the R&I ecosystem** of Ghent University. **Collaborating** with a large network of **business developers, IDC coordinators** and **innovation officers**, the team assists researchers in exploring and securing funding for the economic and societal valorization of their research results. In addition, all profiles with a strategic, supporting or intermediary role in funding acquisition for research and education at their university come together to **pool expertise and inform as well as train the entire Ghent University research community**.

» Pre-Award Network has its own Page in **IST-ID.pt**

The first step towards a Communication Strategy will be to present the **TEAM**, indicating a contact person per Research Unit / Associated Lab. You may use the form below to determine yours!



2. POLICY NEWS

» **Research faces uncertain future in EU budget shakeup** (source: Science Business)

The Commission’s roadmap for the 2028-34 budget has renewed fears that research and innovation will disappear into a European Competitiveness Fund

The European Commission is kicking off consultations on the post-2027 EU budget, which it wants to be ambitious “both in size and design” in the face of geopolitical tensions to unfair global competition.

“The status quo is not an option,” the Commission writes in its [outline for the 2028-34 budget](#), or Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), published on Wednesday.

The roadmap set off alarm bells for research organisations and universities, which already worry that research funding could fall under the Competitiveness Fund rather than a standalone Framework Programme to replace Horizon Europe.

At the Science|Business conference last week, MEP Christian Ehler insisted that “there will be a Framework Programme 10.” Marc Lemaître, director general for research and innovation at the European Commission, said the Commission would respect the EU treaty, which provides a legal basis for a Framework Programme, but he was unable to confirm whether FP10 would have a ringfenced budget.

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» **Globalstars Uruguay Call – Applications until 11 April 2025**

Funding opportunity for organisations collaborating on international clean hydrogen and derivative technologies R&D projects.

Applications must include at least two mutually independent companies, one from **Uruguay** and the other from any Eureka participating country in this call (Belgium|Flanders, Chile, Portugal, Spain)

Funding details available [HERE](#)

» **Eurogia Call28 – Applications until 24 April 2025**

The EUROGIA2030 programme supports and promotes international partnerships developing innovative projects in low-carbon energy technologies.

Additional information available [HERE](#)

*(Related to this call, check also sections **Networking Opportunities & Save the Date**)*

» **CBE JU Work Pro-gramme 2025 - [HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025](#)**

The Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU) is a partnership between the EU and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.

In 2025, CBE JU will open a call of project proposals covering 13 topics, with a total indicative budget of €165 million.

Foreseen Call Timeline – 04 April 2025 until 17 September 2025

*(Related to this call, check also sections **Networking Opportunities & Save the Date**)*

4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

» Partner search (source: Crowdhelix)

Collaboration Opportunity in for ERDERA Call - [ERDERA - European Rare Diseases Research Alliance](#)

Seeking expertise:

Statistics

Big data

Biostatistics

Prof. Fentoğlu and her team are seeking partners for Work Package 4 within their international collaboration project, which is being developed under the ERDERA call and currently involves researchers from Turkey, the UK, and Germany, with the inclusion of Czechia as a new partner.

Scope of Work Package 4:

As part of this work package, they aim to:

-Conduct correlations between demographic, anthropometric, genetic, and biochemical data collected from Turkey within the framework of integrative medicine

-Develop personalized host modulation strategies using artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms to enhance precision medicine approaches.

-Collaborate with leading research groups from Turkey, the UK, Germany, and Czechia to advance data-driven medical solutions.

Targeted Partnership Areas:

They invite academics, researchers, and institutions specializing in:

*Biostatistics

*Data analytics

*Artificial intelligence

*Bioinformatics

Interested researchers and institutions may contact them for further details and application at:

Prof. Dr. Özlem FENTOĞLU - ofentoglu@ankara.edu.tr

» **Partner offer (source: Funding & Tenders Portal)**

A consultant company (PMO) on behalf of a leading paint and varnish manufacturer ([Kayalar Kimya](#)) is looking to find a consortium that Kaylar Kimya can join in the **HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-MATERIALS-43** call under Horizon Europe Program.

Their strong R&D capabilities and extensive industry experience align with the project objectives, particularly in advanced coatings, functionalized surfaces, and sealants.

If you have an established consortium and are looking for a project partner, they would like to have a meeting to discuss this matter if you need expertise in the following area.

Key Expertise:

- Development of fast-curing, durable, and sustainable coatings.
- Advanced material characterization and testing facilities.
- Automated production processes with AI and IoT integration.
- Commitment to sustainability and circular economy principles.

Contributions:

- Providing innovative, scalable, and sustainable coating solutions.
- Supporting industrialization and market exploitation through our extensive network.
- Actively contributing to dissemination and standardization efforts.

Available for a meeting.

Email contact: ozan.dabak@pmo.partners

» **EUROGIA [Brokerage Tool](#)**

To support their preparation of proposals for EUROGIA Calls, applicants can use an online Brokerage tool to:

- Upload Project idea
- Upload Expertise Offering
- Look for partners via the Partner Expertise search
- See the Project Ideas of others
- Contact Project Idea owners or partners

» **CBE JU networking [PLATFORM](#) services:**

- Partner search
- Expressing interest in a topic
- Offer of services
- Presentation of project ideas
- Direct messaging
- Scheduling b2b meetings
- Registration for the CBE JU info days

5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

» Save The Date! EUROGIA's **Informative Webinar** for the Call28 process

 on February 28th

 online

The webinar will have:

- morning session: 10-12 CET for our European, African and Asian community, with the participation of **ANI (PT), CDTI (ES), Tubitak (TR) and DLR (DE)** representatives
- afternoon session: 15-17 CET for the Americas community, with the participation of **InnovateUK (UK), IRAP (CA) and Corfo (CL)** representatives

Register [HERE](#)

» Save the date! **Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU) Info Day**

 on 3 April 2025 | 8:00

 in Brussels  and online

Join this event for a day of insights and networking, featuring in-person sessions with ample opportunities to connect face-to-face. The sessions will also be streamed online.

Register to attend the event in person [HERE](#)

Additional information and Draft Agenda [HERE](#)

6. RESOURCES

» On 29 January 2025, the French National Contact Points for Horizon Europe **Cluster 5** organized an *infoday* dedicated to funding opportunities for **Clean Hydrogen**.

During the *pitching* session, **15 French and Belgian organizations** presented their projects, with the aim of forming partnerships for the next Clean Hydrogen JU applications.

If you are looking for partners for new projects, check out the ideas presented and explore potential collaborations [HERE](#) .