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## News of the Week - 06 | 2025

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

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## 1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» IST is a partner in the project **Sustainable Careers for Research Empowerment 2 -SECURE 2**. This is a follow-up project of SECURE, where IST did not participate. The project is now in the grant agreement stage, and, internally, it is led by the International Affairs Unit of IST. The expected outcomes are: 9 institutions, of which, IST is one of them, will implement customized Action Plans, improving research career frameworks; Enhanced researcher employability through training and development programs; Better alignment of research competencies with market needs via stakeholder engagement; Policy briefs and recommendations to inform European research policies; Creation of collaborative ecosystems for RMAs and researchers, strengthening research management across Europe.

» *On the 20-21th of February, under the DIG4BIO project, led by iBB, the **Training School: Introducing the European Political Context** had the attendance and attention from around 20 RMA. Materials and recordings will soon been available.*

» The statistics for the 2024 calls is the following:

- Total applications submitted to European calls – 196 (IST – 77; IST-ID – 119)
- Total projects funded in European calls – 11 (IST – 4; IST-ID – 7)
- Total funding – 4,5 M€ (IST – 0,6M€;IST-ID - 3,9M€)

Next week, the figures by R&D Unit will be sent for each R&D Unit to validate its statistics in European projects.

### 3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

#### » *Europe's Rail Call for Proposals 2025*

This call seeks potential solutions to address current transport challenges and enhance the performance of the existing rail system through the introduction of Maglev-Derived Transport Systems (MDS). The Call aims to further evaluate and address the technical open points of maglev-derived technologies. Additionally, the call focuses on advancing the design concept based on the most promising use cases, resolving technical issues, analysing the system's economic viability, and proposing a fully automated, full-scale MDS application concept.

**Foreseen Timeline and Budget** - 26 February 2025 until 7 May 2025, with a total value of €3 million.

For more information on the Call topics, please consult the [Work Programme 2025-2026](#).

(Related to this call, check also section **Save the Date**)

#### » *Clean Aviation Call 3 for Proposals 2025*

The Call 3 for Proposals is centred around the following areas:

- Aircraft Concept Integration & Impact Assessment (ACI&I): €15 million
- Ultra-efficient Short-Medium Range (SMR) aircraft architectures: €205 million
- Ultra-efficient Regional (REG) aircraft architectures: €145 million

The upcoming Call 3 will support technologies aligning the aircraft concepts described in the Strategic Research Initiative Agenda ([SRIA](#)). Major projects corresponding to Hydrogen Powered Aircraft should be planned in the fourth Call.

Clean Aviation is also introducing a new initiative to play a crucial role in advancing disruptive technologies: the **Fast Track Areas (FTAs)**, designed to de-risk alternative or complementary technical solutions, enabling a faster implementation process and enlarging the breadth of competencies. Priority will be given to projects that can rapidly advance impactful technologies to the development phase and are closely connected to

the SMR and REG projects, encouraging the participation of universities, research centres, and SMEs.

[Standard Call](#) **Foreseen Timeline and Budget** - 27 March 2025 until 15 May 2025, with a total value of €380 million.

[FTA Call](#) **Foreseen Timeline and Budget** - 27 March 2025 until 23 April 2025, with a total value of €15 million.

(Related to this call, check also section **Save the Date**)

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## 4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### » Crowdhelix Spring 2025 [Brokerage Events](#)

The condensed nature of Horizon Europe's pillar two 2025 call schedule means that universities, research centers and innovative SMEs must prepare competitive funding proposals quickly to access the €13bn the European Commission has set aside to fund Horizon Europe projects this year.

Crowdhelix's collaborating with world-renowned member' organisations to host brokerage events to help our global network get ready for what promises to be an intense period of preparation in advance of these deadlines.

The brokerage events, hosted at key strategic locations, have been specifically designed to bring researchers, innovators, and business leaders together so that they build collaborative responses to Horizon Europe's pillar two calls.

Their ambition is to help members successfully respond to Horizon Europe's 2025 pillar two calls so that they can address the most pressing societal, environmental and technological challenges we face.

The brokerage events are estimated to generate **100+ innovation networks** this year. These networks will generate consortia who will develop competitive proposals that secure Horizon Europe funding, leading to societal and industrial impact.

(Check the section **Save the Date** for Spring 2025 Schedule)

### » Industry Call for Opportunities (source: InPart)

#### **Seeking Organic Electro-optical Materials and/or Modulators for High-speed Communication, and Materials for Photonic Assemblies and Protective Coatings**

**Nippon Kayaku**, a global chemical products company, is actively seeking to advance the research and development of organic electro-optical (EO) polymer materials for modulators, switches, and optically integrated circuit (PIC) technology towards ultra high-speed and energy-saving optical communication technology. There is also interest in materials associated with photonic assemblies and protective coatings.

Additional Information [HERE](#)

» Industry Call for Opportunities (source: InPart)

### **Seeking Materials and Processes for the Production of Porous Tubing**

A global leader in optimized resource management providing water, waste, and energy management solutions is seeking materials, technologies, and proven processes for the production of porous, hollow tubing.

Additional Information [HERE](#)

## 5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

### » Clean Aviation Info Day - Call 3 for proposals in 2025

 on 4 march 2025 | 10:00 CET  in Brussels  and online

This call will feature a total EU funding of up to €380 million corresponding to a minimum of €950 million of total research effort to support disruptive projects aimed at decarbonising aviation.

Draft Agenda and Registration [HERE](#)

### » Save the Date! Clean Aviation Annual Forum25: Mastering the Shift

 on 18 & 19 march 2025 | 09:00 CET  in Brussels

This year's forum focuses on the updated vision for EU aviation, where competitive and clean stand as the core of our strategy to introduce a new generation of aircraft by 2035.

Draft Programme [HERE](#)

### » Europe's Rail Info Day 2025-1 | Advancing Maglev-Derived Systems

 on 11 march 2025 | 09:30 CET  online

The event will provide an overview of the objectives of the Europe's Rail Research and Innovation Programme and highlight opportunities for involvement in making rail a more attractive mode of transport for both passengers and businesses across Europe. Participants will also learn about the Europe's Rail funding opportunity, Europe's Rail Call for Proposals 2025.

Register [HERE](#)

Draft Agenda [HERE](#)

» **2025 Cleantech Conference: Advancing Europe's Clean Industrial Transformation**

 on 8 April 2025 | 08:30 CET  in Brussels  and online

This year's Cleantech Conference will explore the Clean Industrial Deal and how Europe is going to navigate the much-needed investment for decarbonisation. Notably, the conference will discuss how decarbonisation through innovation, thanks to initiatives like the [Innovation Fund](#), can give the EU the upper hand in the race to climate neutrality.

Register [HERE](#)

» **Save the Date! Crowdhelix Brokerage Events**

<https://crowdhelix.com/events/network-events>