News of the Week - 16 |2025

12 may 2025 - Research & Innovation Pre-Award Advisory Unit (DPFC)

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1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» Workshop "AI for Research Management" | 26-28 May | IST

Under the DIG4BIO project, coordinated by iBB, a workshop **"AI for Research Management"**, will take place on the 26th to 28th of May, from 10:00 to 17:00 (WET).

This hybrid event will be held at Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, and is open to research managers and the Dig4Bio Project Team.

The workshop will be led by Avi Staiman, Founder & CEO of Academic Language Experts, and will provide hands-on sessions on how AI can support research management, from grant preparation to science communication.

Check the Programme

Register before 16 may HERE

» Participation of Research Managers at INORMS Congress Madrid 2025

INORMS Congress Madrid 2025/ EARMA was last week. 11 Research Managers (CAMGSD, CEGIST, CERENA, iBB, ISR, INESC-ID, IDMEC, CiTUA) from the IST research ecosystem participated. Some of these had a poster accepted and were organizing round table discussions; When the presentations are available we will share them with you.

Congratulations to Filipa Carvalho, Mariana Santos, Rita Soares, Sofia Martins e Rute Martins for winning the best Poster award!

» EARMA General Assembly

During the INORMS Congress 2025, the EARMA General Assembly was held and 2024 activities, changes in EARMA's organization and future plans were presented.

The fee for next years' membership will not change. You can read the summary HERE

» Results of MSCA Staff-Exchanges are out!

IST submitted 7 proposals and 1 was invited for funding.

Congratulations to CERIS!

» The **Calendar for the FCT ERC Pre-Assessment 2025** is out!

It includes the following calls, and its respective deadlines for submitting proposals for revision:

- ERC AdG 2925, 2nd June 2025

- ERC StG 2025, 19th August 2025

- ERC CoG 2026, 5th November 2026

We are organizing a session with the ERC NCP and expert Rui Munha in June, if there are applicants, to help them preparing their applications to ERC StG and CoG.

Please let us know if there are applicants and how many to ERC StG and ERC CoG 2026 so we can proceed with the session.

» Last week, DPFC was invited to the **CERENA's Annual Meeting**. It was an opportunity to follow more closely the research center activities and exchange with the researchers.

2. POLICY NEWS

» **European Partnership on Virtual Worlds** (source: LinkedIn)

A pivotal workshop on: "National Initiatives and the European Partnership on Virtual Worlds" was organized with over 90 participants from across Europe gathered to align efforts and shape a shared vision for Virtual Worlds.

Key takeaways:

- The European Commission introduced the Partnership

- Siemens leads private coordination, supported by top EU institutions

- Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) will drive €150M in funding calls starting 2026

- The future of Virtual Worlds goes beyond XR – AI, simulation, digital twins, and intuitive interfaces.

Read the full [summary](#)

» **Shaping the upcoming European strategy for research and technology infrastructures** (source: European Commision)

Key pillars of the new strategy include:

- Building a strong ecosystem of research and technology infrastructures, with targeted capacity building and strategic investments across Member States and regions.

- Facilitating access, especially for startups and scaleups, to ensure that innovation can scale from lab to market with fewer barriers.

- Developing a common governance framework to improve coordination, efficiency, and long-term sustainability of infrastructure initiatives.

- Enhancing international cooperation, to ensure Europe remains a global leader in open science, cutting-edge research, and technological development.

Boosting talent attraction and retention through the Choose Europe initiative, making Europe a top destination for researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs from around the world.

This strategic direction is crucial to delivering on the EU's green and digital transitions, boosting competitiveness, and reinforcing resilience.

» Expert Group for Partnerships and EU Missions (source: ERALEARN)

Under the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, major directional initiatives - such as **European Partnerships** and **EU Missions** - play a crucial role in addressing complex and urgent challenges.

The European Commission aims to establish a **dedicated expert group** to develop and test a robust methodology to guide the identification, design and selection of these directional initiatives under the next Framework Programme (**FP10**).

More information and application

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» Portugal participates in the Eureka Network call on **Applied Quantum Technologies**

Call deadline: 5th September 2025

This initiative is promoted by Eureka Network, and will support international collaborative projects in the applied quantum technologies area. Another 10 countries participate, including Portugal, Áustria, Bélgica (Flandres and Valónia), Dinamarca, Finlândia, França, Espanha, África do Sul, Turquia and Ucrânia.

Proposals should be submitted by consortia of, at least two organizations, from the participating countries. The team should be led by a commercial company (main applicant) in the respective countries and may include other parties such as research institutes or universities. There will be a *webinar* on the 27th of May, where ANI will present the national funding conditions.

Webinar **Registration**.

More information on the area, funding and evaluation **HERE**

» Eureka Network *Call* for ***Circular Value Creation*** *R&D Projects*

Call deadline: 30th September

Ministries and funding agencies in Austria, Belgium/Flanders, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, and Ukraine have funding for organisations collaborating on international circular value creation R&D projects. R&D project application are expected for this circular value creation funding opportunity between 12 June 2025 and 30 September 2025 inclusively. The R&D project must include at least two organisations based in at least two of the countries participating in this Network projects call for projects

More information **HERE**

On the 22nd May ANI will organize a *webinar* where it will present the national funding conditions. Webinar **registration** and Matchmaking event.

4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

» Brokerage Event - Horizon Europe funding for Virtual Worlds | 20 May 2025

Online (Webex) - 10:00 to 12:30 (CEST)

Learn about upcoming Horizon Europe calls on Virtual Worlds.

Participants can ask questions, share project ideas, and connect with potential partners.

Register **until Tuesday 13 May (17:00 CEST)**

Agenda

» NTNU'S RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Release of the 2025 Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) Expertise Brochures

Six comprehensive prospectuses aligned with each Horizon Europe pillar II cluster.

These Brochures highlight:

- Cutting-edge competencies across all key research areas
- Proven collaboration models with European partners
- Multidisciplinary approaches that drive innovation

WHY NTNU?

As of April 2025, NTNU has reached 232 funded Horizon Europe projects ranking among the top Norwegian performers in HES participation.

Their strength lies in combining technological excellence with academic breadth - a combination that delivers results.

The intention behind is to encourage and support the creation of collaboration dialogues with other EU stakeholders.

Potential Partner: SocialTech Lab, a nonprofit organisation based in Nicosia, Cyprus (source: Funding & Tenders Portal)

Dedicated to fostering resilient entrepreneurial ecosystems.

Their presentation

"We use entrepreneurship & innovation in fragile contexts to bridge divides, empower local change-makers, and solve social and environmental challenges. Our 9-year track record has garnered a 7000+ community, 50+ programmes (accelerators, venture builders, hackathons, etc.), and 10+ digital startup tools.

We are actively looking to contribute as a committed partner to Horizon Europe proposals, particularly those aligned with our expertise in entrepreneurship, social innovation, bioeconomy and sustainability, circular and creative economies, digital inclusion, and youth empowerment.

If you're seeking experienced and impact-oriented partners in Cyprus or the Eastern Mediterranean region, we'd love to explore potential synergies.

Would you be open to a short introductory call?

You can pick a time directly here: https://calendly.com/d/4df-t3j-q7y/socialtech-lab-team-1-1-meeting-30-min.

You can also find a brief overview of our offer as EU project partners here: https://docsend.com/view/ds3pxt3mr43bdkba.

Looking forward to connecting!"

5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

» MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - FCT Info Session 2025

📅 May 26 | 10:00   🔗 Online

The session will have the following content:

- Characteristics and typologies of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Eligibility conditions
- Success rates
- ERA Fellowships
- Structure of the proposal
- Evaluation criteria
- Budget structure

Register **HERE**

» Reminder for Early Bird Registration – AI, Data & Robotics Forum 2025

📅 September 23-24

🌐 Stavanger, Norway

Why attend **AI, Data, Robotics Forum 2025?**

- Cutting-edge keynotes and panels
- Industry and academic collaboration
- Robotics & AI Expo
- Public engagements & Open Day access
- Networking with top experts across sectors

Secure your spot among global innovators, researchers, and policymakers shaping the future of intelligent technologies.

Earlybird tickets for ADRF2025 available until 18 May **HERE**

» Horizon Europe Research Infrastructures info day

📅 May 19 | 08:00 🔗 Online

This event has finally been updated.

You can check the programme HERE and follow it on **Webex**

» Are you a Canadian or European innovator in digital tech, deep tech, or Industry 4.0? Join **Connexion Canada**, a virtual matchmaking event connecting Canadian and European innovators under Horizon Europe – Cluster 4 (Digital, Industry & Space).

📅 Webinar: May 21 | 14:30 Lisboa

📅 Virtual B2B Platform: May 20 to June 2. | Messaging is already live—and stays open beyond the event. Start connecting today!

💬 Hear from expert speakers on Canadian, Spanish and EU innovation ecosystems

🤝 Engage with EU, Spanish and Canadian peers through a dedicated matchmaking platform 🔍 Key collaboration areas in the Cluster 4 work programme include: • Destination 3: Data services & trustworthy AI • Destination 4: Strategic autonomy in emerging technologies • Destination 6: Human-centric digital and industrial innovation Explore new opportunities in cross-border R&I for Industry 4.0, deep tech, and beyond.

🔗 Register now - space is limited HERE

📄 Review the upcoming funding topics **HERE**

» Bridging Research and Industry Through Social Sciences and Humanities

Organized by 4 NCP Networks: NCP4Industry | Idealist ICT | COSMO4HE | Net4Society

🗓 22 May 2025 | 🕐 10:00–12:30 CET | Online

Are you working at the intersection of research, innovation, and society?

Don't miss this free online event exploring how Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) can drive impact in Horizon Europe projects!

This session will highlight:

☑ Successful integration of SSH in industrial and digital R&I

☑ Practical guidance from NCPs and EU officials

☑ Real project examples and lessons learned

Register HERE

» AED Days 2025: First Speakers Announced!

🗓 June 3-5 | 🌐 Oeiras

This year's edition will feature prominent national figures who will contribute to high-level strategic dialogue in the Aeronautics, Space, and Defence sectors:

- Paulo Portas – Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
- General João Cartaxo Alves – Portuguese Air Force Chief of Staff
- Admiral Jorge Manuel Nobre de Sousa – Portuguese Navy Chief of Staff
- Lieutenant General Maia Pereira – Vice-Chief of the Staff of the Army

Their participation underscores Portugal's commitment to fostering expert discussions and collaboration within these industries.

🔗 Learn more and secure your spot: AED Days 2025

6. RESOURCES

» Tips on how to build a Successful Consortium in a HE projects #networking

» **Personnel Unit Cost – New cost method in Horizon Europe** Webinar (June 2024) #worthrevisiting

» **HE Proposal Evaluation -** Standard Briefing (V.9.0) #worthrevisiting

» **Horizon Implementation Day: Grant Agreement Preparation in Horizon Europe (20 March 2025)**

    – Watch the **Recording**

    – Read the **Presentations**

» **Engaging stakeholders in R&I for the green transition** #report

Comparative analysis of Horizon Europe cluster 5&6, partnerships and missions : working paper supporting the interim evaluation of Horizon Europe (support study on green transition)

» **The Ocean Economy to 2050** #report

The Ocean Economy to 2050 builds on a new quantitative and foresight analysis of potential pathways for the ocean economy's development, highlighting that a healthy ocean is crucial for climate and biodiversity processes, as well as for the economy. This report builds on more than a decade of OECD ocean economy work, with statistical measurement and ocean science and innovation at its core, supported steadily by several countries. The OECD *Ocean Economy Monitor* programme supports informed decision-making on a global scale.

- Full Report

- [Support Materials](#)

» Artificial intelligence in science - Promises or perils for creativity? #report

The paper explores the impact of AI on scientific creativity, examining its use across 80 fields from 2000 to 2022, and its findings contribute to discussions on AI's role in science and are relevant to policy initiatives promoting AI-driven research.

[Working Paper 2025/03](#)