

News of the Week - 19 | 2025

02 jun 2025 - Research & Innovation Pre-Award Advisory Unit (DPFC)

IN THIS ISSUE

Section	Content
1 - Institutional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medidas Simplificação HE 2026-2027 (GNAD) ○ Pre-Award Network meeting 06 jun 2025 ○ Interest in IPCEI-CAM? ○ AI for Research Managers and Researchers bootcamp (DIG4BIO) ○ Guidance for the Consortium Agreement to Horizon Europe projects (DPFC and DP) ○ ERC 2026-2027 Changes
2 - Policy News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IPCEI and IPCE-CAM ○ Europe's waters: key challenges and EU solutions ○ new Group of Chief Scientific Advisors ○ R&I Events in Danish EU Presidency
3 - Funding Opportunities & Upcoming Calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Science4Policy call ○ ECHOES Cascading Grants Second Call 2025 ○ SESAR Young Scientist Award 2025 ○ SESAR JU Exploratory research call 2025
4 - Networking & Partnership Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Digital, Aquaculture, Mission Soil ○ Materials, Manufacturing, Trustworthy AI
5 - Upcoming Events & Save the Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA2025) ○ MSCA Doctoral Networks Info Session 2025 (FCT)
6 - Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategy to apply to ERC ○ Nuclear Modelling and data ○ A successful proposal for HE (Webinar) ○ Widening Calls info day 2025 materials ○ BRIDGE 2025 #report
7 - Access to Research Infrastructures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instruct-ERIC 2025

1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» Medidas Simplificação HE 2026-2027 (GNAD) | Contributos até 05 jun 2025

A Comissão Europeia partilhou vários documentos relativos ao Horizonte Europa, nomeadamente uma lista com medidas de simplificação a aplicar no último biénio do programa (2026-2027) e documentos de suporte relativos à implementação dessas medidas (e.g. alterações ao formulário, recurso a 'Financial support to third parties', call horizontal). O objetivo é também testar ideias novas e formatos novos para o futuro FP10.

Estes documentos, listados abaixo, estão disponíveis [AQUI](#):

- Application Form (Part A and Part B) - Simplifications for WP 26-27 (May 2025) (documento aos quais se propõe alterações ao formulário de candidatura de RIAs e IAs, através *detrack and changes* e comentários, algumas destas alterações são a remoção da explicação da escala e significância dos impactos esperados, ou ainda redução do número de páginas máximo, entre outros);
- Proposed simplification actions for WP 2026-2027 - may 2025 (lista de medidas de simplificação)
- Fast Track to Research and Innovation (FTRI)
- Financial support to third parties_FSTP
- Horizontal Calls in Horizon Europe main work programme 2026_2027

Solicitamos, por favor, o seu contributo a estes documentos até **dia 5 de junho**.

Como contribuir?

- Introduza os seus comentários/sugestões [AQUI](#) em inglês.
- Deixe o seu nome e e-mail no documento para que o/a possamos contactar em caso de dúvida. Atendendo a que é um documento partilhado, pode, alternativamente, enviar os seus contributos via e-mail.
- **Justifique/corrobore/sustente/explique** os seus comentários e sugestões, o mais possível;

Relembramos que a sua participação no GNAD se rege por princípios de confidencialidade e não partilha e/ou disponibilização pública da informação ou documentos distribuídos no âmbito deste grupo. (P'la equipa da Unidade Programas I&I Europeus)

» **Pre-Award Network Unit – Meeting | 04-2025**

Date: 06 jun 2025 | 10:00 – 13:00

Host | Format: CERENA | Onsite (Torre Sul, Piso 0, sala reuniões DEQ)

Main Topic | Speaker: Skills & Ideas Mapping | Evelina Rodrigues

Agenda

10:00 Skills & Ideas Mapping (Evelina Rodrigues)

11:00 Break

11:30 Informations, all

12:30 Next Pre-Award Meeting: Host / Topic & Speaker

[live stream available](#)

» **IPCEI on Circular Advanced Materials for Clean Technologies** (more info in Policy News in this NoW)

Portugal government is assessing the relevance of participating in this initiative. If any research team of your Research Units consider they would like to be involved, please let us know **until 11th June, for the email pre-awar@ist-id.pt**

» **AI for Research Managers and Researchers bootcamp** (DIG4BIO project)

Under the scope of the DIG4BIO project, coordinated by iBB, last week we had a very comprehensive AI for Research Managers bootcamp. In this bootcamp we learned to work with AI Tools that can facilitate and increase the efficiency of Research Managers activities. Follow-up information regarding AI Tools will be shared soon.

» **Guidance for the Consortium Agreement to Horizon Europe projects** (DPFC and DP)

DPFC, in collaboration with NPI, are developing a Consortium Agreement (CA) template, based on the DESKA model, that will include several pre-validated options by the Legal and IPR office in order to reduce the response time of these offices when reviewing Horizon Europe projects CA. We have started with collaborative projects but we will do the same for the MSCA-SE and Pathfinder.

We might consult you for feedback regarding some clauses.

» ERC 2026-2027 Changes

ERC Work Programme 2026 Summary changes in the table

Looking Ahead to 2027

Widened eligibility periods:

- **Starting Grant:** from **PhD defense up to 10 years.**
- **Consolidator Grant:** from **5 to 15 years post-PhD.**
- **Only one Starting and one Consolidator Grant** allowed per researcher in a lifetime.

Category	Change
Proposal Structure	Two-part scientific proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part I (5 pages): project idea, contribution, objectives. • Part II (7 pages for most; 10 for Synergy): implementation, methodology, budget, feasibility.
Feasibility	No longer assessed in Part I or Step 1; moved entirely to Part II (Step 2 only).
Evaluation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: Part I + CV/Track Record. Focus on ambition and originality. • Step 2: Full proposal incl. feasibility and resources.
Additional Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to €2M for applicants relocating from outside Europe. • Personnel costs now eligible for additional funding.
New Instrument (2026)	Long-term (up to 7 years) funding instrument to be introduced under "Choose Europe for Science" initiative.
Eligibility Extensions	Victims of violence (incl. gender-based) can request PhD window extensions. Parental leave explicitly recognized.
Resubmission Restrictions	Synergy Grant applicants with 'B' at Step 1 (2025) may not reapply in 2026.
Ongoing Grants	New applications only allowed if current grant ends within 2 years of call deadline.

2. POLICY NEWS

» **Portugal** is part of the potential Important Project of Common European Interest on **Circular Advanced Materials for Clean Technologies (IPCEI-CAM)**

This strategic initiative, in collaboration with the European Commission, aims to accelerate innovation and sustainability in European industry. IPCEI-CAM focuses on the **circular economy, promoting the reuse and recycling of advanced materials for clean technologies, reducing dependence on essential raw materials** and strengthening Europe's autonomy and technological leadership.

The Directorate-General for Economic Activities (DGAE), ANI and IAPMEI, I.P. - Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation **invite industries and research, development and innovation institutions** to participate in this national consultation, taking the opportunity to contribute to a transnational project that could transform the sector.

More information regarding IPCEI [HERE](#) and for CAM specifically, please ask DPFC, on the email pre-award@ist-id.pt

[What is the rationale of an IPCEI?](#)

[How does the IPCEI process work?](#)

[What are the benefits and requirements of joining an IPCEI?](#)

» **Europe's waters: key challenges and EU solutions | European Parliament Topics - Climate and environment**

From water scarcity to pollution and climate risks - uncover the key issues concerning Europe's waters and the Parliament's proposals for water policy.

Read the article [HERE](#)

» **Shaping Europe's Future: meet the new Group of Chief Scientific Advisors!**

The Group of Chief Scientific Advisors to the European Commission was officially renewed - six distinguished scientists were appointed by Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva, joining continuing members to form a diverse and high-level advisory body.

The Group will provide independent, evidence-based policy advice on the EU's most pressing challenges — from sustainability and public health to digital transformation and global resilience. Their work draws on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research to ensure that science delivers real impact where it's needed most. [Get to know](#) the new members and take a look at the outstanding former Advisors who made great contributions to our policymaking

» **Research assessment reform** on the Danish EU Presidency Agenda (source: Research Professional)

Presidency will also host events on **science diplomacy** and use of **artificial intelligence in science**

The agenda of the **July to December Danish presidency of the Council of the EU member states** is starting to take shape, ahead of the unveiling of policy priorities later this month.

Research-related events

Denmark's Ministry of Higher Education and Science has published a list of planned events among which, one on **attracting and retaining research talent** will take place on 18-19 September in Lyngby and will have a **particular focus on the role of universities**.

An event in Copenhagen on 24-26 September will focus on **digitalisation and wellbeing in education**.

A conference on **space** will be held in Aalborg on 20-21 October, while on 22-23 October a conference on **research and technology infrastructures** will take place in Copenhagen with the aim of shaping an upcoming strategy on that topic.

Copenhagen will host an event on 3-4 November on the use of **AI in science**, which will also inform an upcoming strategy. It will host another event on 10-12 November on **quantum technologies**, as well as one on 3-4 December on **reforming research assessment**.

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» **Science4Policy (S4P-25) call** (initiative of PLANAPP in collaboration with FCT)

Deadline: June 30

S4P-25 supports scientific research studies applied to public policies, in [28 thematic lines](#) and with a global allocation of 1.4 M€

It has the support and involvement of all government areas through the REPLAN including, for the Economy, the Office of Strategy and Studies - GEE and the DGPM - Directorate General for Maritime Policy.

All the information about S4P-25 is available [HERE](#)

» **ECHOES Cascading Grants Programme | Second Call - Engagement & Collaboration | September 2025**

The Cultural Heritage Cloud (ECCCH) is a shared platform designed to provide heritage professionals and researchers with access to data, scientific resources, training, and advanced digital tools tailored to suit their needs.

For a comprehensive overview of the Cascading Grants Programme and other initiatives that ECHOES is launching to involve the community in the development of the Cultural Heritage Cloud, we invite you to take a look at this promotional video and the results of the December 2024 [Onboarding Workshop](#).

For specific enquiries, please see the [FAQ](#) (last update 06may2025)

» **SESAR Young Scientist Award 2025 | Deadline for applications is 31 August 2025**

Recognises young scientists, who have demonstrated excellence in ATM and aviation-related research fields. The award also provides researchers starting out in their career with an opportunity for further professional development.

Read the Contest Rules and other details [HERE](#)

» **SESAR JU Exploratory research call | deadline 16 sep 2025 ([HORIZON-SESAR-2025-DES-ER-03](#))**

With a budget of EUR 24 million, this call focuses on disruptive technologies and innovative concepts that are in the early stages of development. The primary aim is to explore new ideas, concepts, methods and technologies that will help define future development activities in ATM aligned with the long-term vision of the Digital European Sky.

More details [HERE](#)

4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Browse the STACK and check these expertise' seeking announcements :

Keywords: Materials, Manufacturing, Trustworthy AI

Seeking expertise (Robust ai technologies, Fair data principles) for upcoming call **Integrated approaches for remanufacturing - Made in Europe Partnership** ([HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN-TRANSITION-01](#))

Keywords: Digital, Aquaculture, Mission Soil

Seeking expertise (Sustainability, Green transition, Farming systems) for upcoming call [HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-06](#)

5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

» 7th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA2025)

Smarter, Faster and More Systemic Adaptation

 June 16-18th

 in Rimini, Italy

The European Climate Change Adaptation 2025 (ECCA2025) is one of the largest conferences on climate change adaptation and held every two years in Europe since 2013. This year's edition will take place in Rimini, Italy, from 16 to 18 June 2025.

ECCA 2025 brings together interested parties from science, politics and various practitioners, including stakeholders, non-governmental organisations and decision-makers, to promote adaptation to climate change at the global and local level. The conference presents fundamental new research findings as well as implementation experiences from adaptation projects.

[Register](#)

[Agenda](#)

» MSCA Doctoral Networks Info Session 2025 (FCT)

 june 23 (mon) | 10:00

 Online

Nesta sessão informativa serão abordados os seguintes temas: Características e tipologias das MSCA Doctoral Networks; Condições de elegibilidade; Taxas de sucesso; Estrutura da proposta; Critérios de avaliação e Orçamento.

A participação obriga ao [registo prévio](#)

6. RESOURCES

» Taking in consideration the Changes on ERC Programme for 2026 and 2027 we have prepared a **strategy to help you prepare your application to ERC**.

You can find it [HERE](#)

» **Nuclear Modelling and data** (JRC)

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) launched a new [modelling hub](#) aimed at providing reliable nuclear modelling and data to stakeholders across Europe.

The purpose of this digital modelling is to describe and predict the behaviour nuclear reactors in critical conditions.

The modelling hub aims to help Europe's nuclear industry develop and deploy applications such as [Small Modular Reactors](#), which may contribute to decarbonising the EU's economy, particularly in heavy industry. The hub is also a useful tool for policymakers by acting as a centralised platform to support designing and assessing European policies at the intersection between energy, environment, and economy.

The new hub builds on the JRC's unique strengths, combining advanced computing tools with decades of expertise in nuclear research.

» **A successful proposal for Horizon Europe: Scientific-technical excellence is key, but don't forget the other aspects** (21 April 2021)

Webinar's Recording [HERE](#)

» **Horizon Europe info days - WIDERA Work Programme 2025 | 20 may** [Presentation](#)

» **ERA call: Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system** [Recording](#)

» **WIDENING calls: Improved access to Excellence** [Recording](#)

» Bridge, Cooperation between Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects in the fields of smart grid, energy storage, islands, and digitalisation | 2025 brochure (15may2025)

This comprehensive document outlines:

- The vision, mission and strategic objectives of the BRIDGE initiative
- The scope and structure of the four Working Groups, including stakeholder roles
- Factsheets for 120+ BRIDGE projects

Read it [HERE](#)

7. ACCESS TO RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

» Access to Instruct-ERIC Technologies in 2025 - 3rd call | 01 jul 2025

Academic and commercial scientists from Instruct Member Countries and organisations can apply for funded access to structural biology technologies. Researchers worldwide can apply for self-funded access - [apply to find out more](#).