News of the Week - 25 |2025

01 aug 2025 - Research & Innovation Pre-Award Advisory Unit (DPFC)

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1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» Novelties 2025 calls Factsheet

Following the announcement of 2025 calls novelties in NoW 14, DPFC developed a guidance document that summarizes the main novelties on 2025 templates and evaluation.

Please get your researchers aware of these new changes when applying to the 2025 calls. Factsheet

» **Guidance for ERC 2026 Applications**

DPFC has prepared a guidance document with checklist included to support you and your researchers in ERC 2026 applications. Summary & GUIDE

» Briefing on Choose Europe

Choose Europe for Science is a European Commission initiative **to attract and retain top global research talent** by offering long-term, well-funded research opportunities in Europe. It includes enhanced **ERC grants and a new MSCA pilot** that co-funds postdoctoral positions with a focus on stable employment and excellent working conditions. Institutions are selected not only for scientific merit but also for their commitment to offering researchers long-term career perspectives.

National research centers can receive up to €3.5 million per project, with EU funding covering the first 2–3 years and institutions funding the rest. The initiative aims to counter global brain drain and reinforce Europe's position as a leading hub for research and innovation.

A **briefing on this initiative and its implications was prepared by DPFC** HERE

» IPCEI Biotech

Collecting expressions of interest by August 19 for participation in a future Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) on Biotechnologies. If your research teams have **R&D projects or results applicable to industry** and they are willing to **collaborate with companies in biotechnology-related initiatives,** please let DPFC know so we can help prepare a unified institutional response to ANI's consultation. The focus is on strategic European collaboration to support **technologies that are key for the green and digital transition**, such as **bio-based chemicals, alternative proteins, and sustainable food ingredients**. This preliminary interest will shape the national and European proposal for the IPCEI Biotech project and assess potential funding commitment.

2. POLICY NEWS

» **Building or Using AI in/for Europe? Here's What the EU Expects from You**

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS need to consider how their development and release of AI models align with EU standards, particularly regarding transparency and systemic risk.

Guidelines on the scope of obligations for providers of general-purpose AI models under the AI Act

» The European Commission published the "**First monitoring report on SSH-flagged projects funded under Pillar II of Horizon Europe: 2021-2023"** (source: NET4SOCIETY)

The report states that „88% of the projects have **at least one SSH partner,** while the amount of SSH partners is 22% of the total partners. This is a clear indication of how EC is prioritizing effects of research.

Read and download the report HERE

» **European Parliament Briefing on the proposed EU budget for 2028-2034** (source: EP)

The European Commission has recently presented its proposals for the 2028-2034 multiannual financial framework (MFF), with a total budget of almost €1.8 trillion in commitments. EP briefing breaks down the key components of the proposal and compares it with the current 2021-2027 MFF, focusing on commitment appropriations. Learn more **HERE.**

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» EU4Health

Check out the tentative calendar with the list of foreseen calls for proposals and direct grants for 2025 **HERE**

» Hop-on Facility **04 September 2025**

List of funded projects under Horizon Europe pillar 2 and the EIC Pathfinder that you can look for and check if you are interested to join. If so, you can apply to the Hop on Facility. This list is updated in a weekly basis.

These documents are updated:

- ***[drafts] WP2026-27 (15jul2025)***
- *WP 2025 Calls deadlines*

4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

» **RGODIM LTD**, a UK-based technology company, is coordinating a proposal for the **HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01** call under Horizon Europe (deadline: 17 September 2025).

They are seeking **academic partners** to join an international consortium for a project aimed at creating a **European-scale network for high-resolution air quality monitoring and active atmospheric remediation** using innovative modular bioreactors controlled by AI-driven sensor networks. They are specifically looking for **universities or research institutions** with expertise in:

- Environmental sciences and air quality assessment
- Bioengineering and microbial systems
- Geospatial/atmospheric data analysis
- Electrical/mechanical engineering
- Environmental policy, circular economy, sustainable infrastructure
- Climate and meteorological sciences
- AI, software development, hardware engineering, and IoT network engineering

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9. LOOKING FOR EXPERTS

National Strategy for Emerging Technologies (ETE) - Contributions until the end of September 2025

PLANAPP, ANI, and FCT have launched a joint this initiative with the goal to guide future investment and innovation in Portugal by defining strategic priorities in **Biotechnology, Quantum Technologies, and Advanced Materials.** The process will be open and collaborative, involving experts, researchers, entrepreneurs, and other key stakeholders. **Contributions and expressions of interest can be submitted via an online form until the end of September.** This initiative aims to shape the country's scientific, economic, and social development through emerging technologies.

ON THE TOPIC OF: Circular Bio-based Europe JU (CBE JU)

» CBE JU 2025 call

Updated FAQ on the application process! The revised version includes new clarifications and guidance on:

- Proposal page limits
- Clarifications on topic interpretation
- Updates on resubmissions, plant location and eligibility of investments
- Revised information on peptide production

» Still searching for project partners? Explore the CBE JU Networking Platform

ON THE TOPIC OF: COST Actions

» COST Action proposals closes on 21 October

- **New Technical Annex template was introduced this year** and all proposals must be submitted using the new template. Looking for more support?

◇ COST Open Call HERE

◇ Tips for a winning proposal (video) HERE

◇ Rewatch our latest info day HERE

◇ Check your eligibility as a Main Proposer or part of a network of proposers HERE

Looking to grow you network and connect with a wider pool of experts in your field?

Why not **apply to join one of our 70 new research networks that have just been approved**?

Today we're introducing you to 5 of new networks:

COS-MICs SiDnet OBSERVISTA EVIM-NET AdResCanCER

ON THE TOPIC OF: Research Management

» EARMA Mentorship Scheme 2026 - Deadline September 22th

The EARMA Mentorship Scheme 2026 is now open for **applications from mentors and mentees** eager to grow professionally in research management. This program offers a valuable opportunity for **early-career professionals to learn and for experienced managers to share their expertise**. Applicants must be current EARMA members, meet specific experience criteria, and commit to active participation. **Applications close on September 22, 2025**, with selected participants joining a **kick-off event in January 2026.**

Join to accelerate your career, expand your network, and contribute to a stronger EARMA community, HERE

» Capacity Building needs under ERA Talent Project (source: CERENA/ CEGIST)

As part of the capacity building activities of the project, and to ensure the initiative responds to the real needs of our community, please fill in a **short survey** (5 minutes) open to all Técnico Lisboa research ecosystem, including **researchers**, **research managers**, **academic staff**, and **administrative/technical personnel**.

👉 **[Complete the survey here – open until 31 August]**