2025 changes for Horizon Europe proposal templates and evaluations

General Reminders

- Use the **latest proposal template** from the submission page.
- Part B includes a **box on generative AI tools** guidance.

RIAs/IAs/CSAs Changes

- **Gender balance criterion** now applies only to **leading researchers** (Part A).
- **DNSH principle** removed unless explicitly required.
- **AI robustness** section removed (still covered under ethics).
- **Research Data Management** simplified: but DMP still required by month 6.
- **Evaluation forms updated** accordingly.
- Use the correct template for **Blind Evaluation** vs. normal evaluation.

Pathfinder Open Call

- New award criterion: **"Long-term vision"** under Excellence.
- New award criterion: **"Quality of the consortium"** under Implementation.

EIC Pathfinder Challenges Call

- Four new topics and challenge guides published.
- Adapted application template will be released.
- Impact criterion updated: assess **proof of principle realism**.
- Carefully read relevant **challenge guides**.

EIC Transition Call

- **Seal of Excellence** extended to **all eligible proposals**, including consortia.
- Projects from **Joint Undertakings (JU)** now eligible, except FSTP grants.
- Cover page includes table for **linked projects**.

Chapter 1 – Excellence

- Instructions made more **precise and direct**.

Chapter 2 – Impact

- Added guidance on **validating business solutions**.
- In 2.3: Mention **private capital plans** post-project.

Chapter 3 – Implementation

- New table: **Patent families**.
- Describe team of main **exploitation partner**.
- More detail on **KPIs, milestones, risks**.

Other

- Justify **high personnel costs** in budget comments.

MSCA Calls

Doctoral Networks

- Removed AI robustness references.
- Multiple updates added in April 2025 version.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Removed AI robustness references.
- Data Management Plan requirements simplified.
- Formatting checks clarified.
- Fixed links in Open Science section 1.2.
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If you want to know more contact us at pre-award@ist-id.pt