HORIZON EUROPE WIDERA CALLS 2027

ERA IN HORIZON EUROPE - Brochure

ERA_Opportunities_2027.pdf and also F&T Portal

Call
Enhancing the European R&I system (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05)

ERA Structural Policy

Open: 8 Dec. 2026
Deadline: 11 Mar. 2027

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01

Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights

Enabling open science via sharing and reuse of data, including through the European Open Science Cloud

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02
Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers

Making research careers more attractive and sustainable, and support mobility

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-03

Pillar III: Science comes to town 2029

Enhancing trust in science through citizen participation, engagement and science communication

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-04

Pillar III: Promoting public engagement in R&I and scientific literacy

Enhancing trust in science through citizen participation, engagement and science communication

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-05

Pillar IV: Upgrading the EU's independent knowledge on China's Science, Technology and Innovation system

Implementing the Global Approach to R&I cooperation

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02
Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers

Impact:
"Improved research careers and mobility, based on the European framework for research careers, fostering knowledge flows and career interoperability across sectors and countries"

ERA Structural Policy :
"Making research careers more attractive and sustainable, and support mobility"

Selected Expected outcomes (in brief):
- Creation of talent ecosystems, as integrated networks where RPO (incl.HES) and private organisations, in particular industrial actors and research-intensive businesses
- Implementation of organisational changes by participating organisations to mainstream the principles of the European framework for research careers and of the European Charter for Researchers, with spillover effects on other R&I staff
- Attractive careers for a substantial number of researchers and other R&I staff, incld. attracting international talents and European diaspora scientists.

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CSA
LS funding approach
3 years
2 000 000,00 €/project
Expected: 15 projects to be funded

Pillar II – Ecosystem for ERA

Type	CSA
Focus	Building and reinforcing networks and partnerships to foster broad uptake of ERA policies/practices
Activity type	Exchange of knowledge and practice, networking and cooperative actions
Expected impact	Sustainable ecosystems established around ERA priorities
Policy areas	▪ Research ethics and integrity ▪ Environmentally sustainable science ▪ Knowledge valorisation ▪ Open science ▪ Research careers
2026 call	HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-03: Strengthening ecosystems for open, ethical, and sustainable ERA HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-04: Piloting innovative approaches to support academic startups and spinoffs
2027 call	HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02:Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers

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See: Horizon Europe WIDERA Info-day - ERA Calls -11 December 2025

European Commission

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02
Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers

SCOPE:

- Creating 'talent ecosystems' - cohesive and interdependent systems that promote attractive and sustainable careers for researchers, particularly for early-career researchers, tailored to the needs of the research labour market.

- Creating conditions for:
  - interoperable careers for researchers
  - continuous and multidirectional talent circulation across sectors within the ecosystem

Ensure long-term sustainability of talent ecosystems and cooperation benefitting researchers and other R&I staff within and beyond the consortium

PROPOSAL

choose the thematic area
- Area 1. Clean Transition: Energy and transport
- Area 2. Health
- Area 3. Biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy
- Area 4. Digital and AI technologies
- Area 5. Space

specify the precise thematic scope in the selected thematic area/could be also comprehensive in scope

CONSORTIUM (balanced):

Eligibility:

- at east three independent legal entities: Each established in a different Member State or Associated Country; and two of which are established in a Member State.

Composition:

- education and training providers, employers of researchers, especially from the non-academic sector
  - Universities
  - Research and technology organisations and
  - infrastructures
  - SMEs/Industry
  - Government entities
  - Civil society organisations
- AP participation is encouraged
- additional partners to extend the scope of the talents ecosystems

Participating organisations:

- must hold HR Excellence in Research Award or,
- commit to applying and implementing the new Charter for Researchers and (i.e., start the process towards the Award) within the grant duration, where relevant to researcher employment.

SEE FULL TEXT in the CALL!

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02
Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers

ACTIVITIES (e.g.):

- mapping challenges
- developing action plans to align the organisations with the Charter for Researchers
- upskilling (incl. on the basis of ResearchComp and RM Comp), and involving the non-academic sector in the design and implementation of training programmes for researchers and other R&I staff
- establishing career development and mentoring services
- developing services for the well-being of researchers and other R&I staff
- creating conditions for interoperable careers between countries and sectors
- supporting incoming mobile researchers
- networking and relationship-building to connect talent ecosystem partners
- outreach activities to attract international researchers to the ecosystem

SEE FULL TEXT in the CALL!

- Building on relevant ERA Talent Platform initiatives, incl., EURAXESS, RESAVER, ReICO, ResearchComp and RM Comp , ensuring complementarity, interoperability, user signposting and coherent communication.
- Build on outcomes of existing projects under HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03 and those to be funded under this call.

SEE FULL TEXT in the CALL!

- Align training with business, industry and labour market needs, while also ensuring that latest research findings are included in the curricula of early-career researchers.