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# INTRODUCTION TO HORIZON EUROPE AND FP10 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



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# Horizon Europe

## The EU's key funding programme for research and innovation



Year 2021-2027



Budget of €93,7 Billion



The most open programme globally



It **tackles global challenges.**

Bring together the world's best talents, expertise and resources;



# Horizon Europe novelty

## Possible association of Category D countries



Not located in the direct vicinity of Europe



Good basis in Science, Technology and Innovation



Sharing key values and principles with the EU



Association to Pillar II of Horizon Europe to address global challenges



# Japan's profile

## Strong capacity in Science

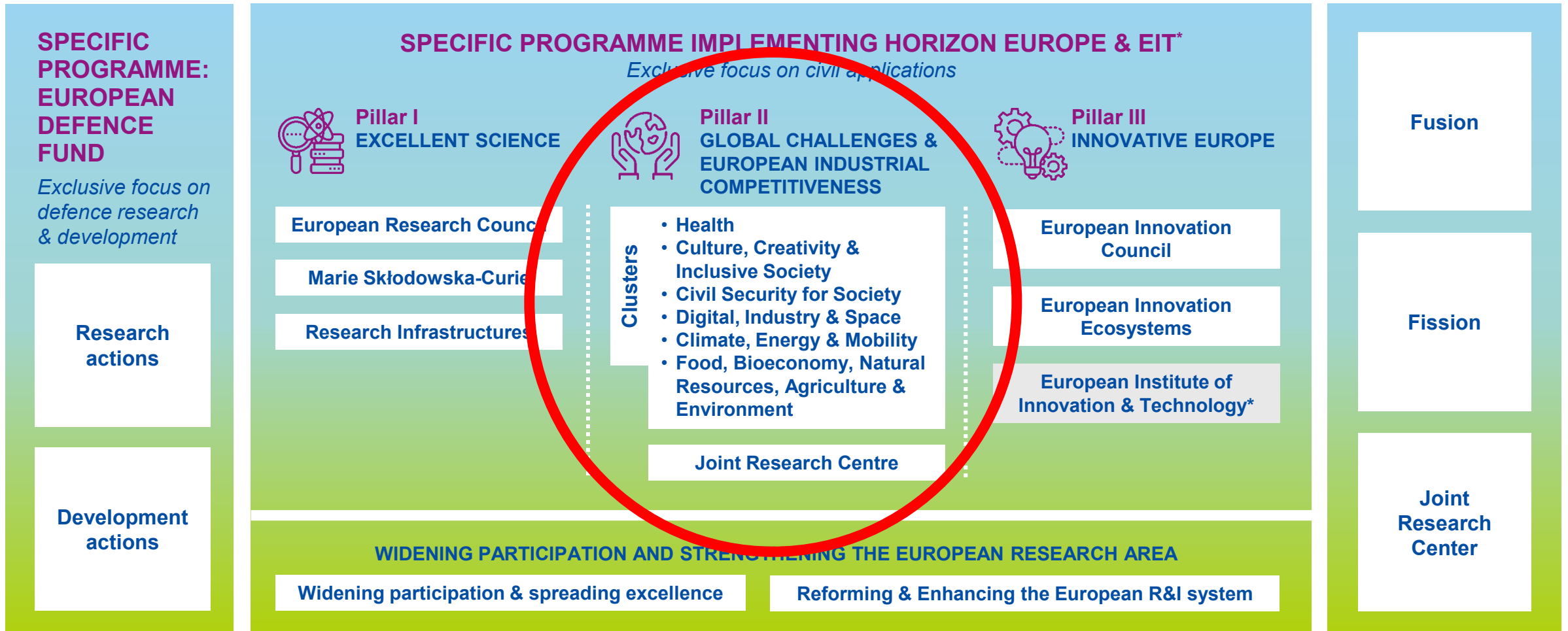
- R&D expenditure of 3,70% of GDP in 2023
- Ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in Innovation (Global Innovation index 2025)

## Sharing key values and principles

- Rules-based open market economy
- Fair and equitable management of intellectual property rights
- Respect of human rights
- Democratic institutions

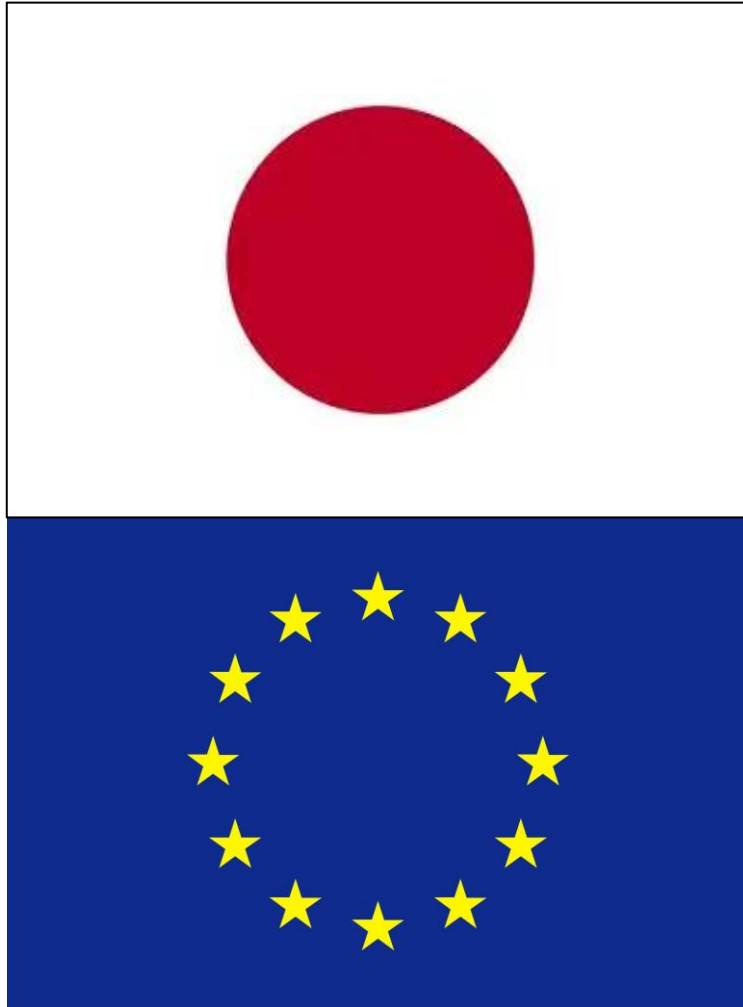
# HORIZON EUROPE

# EURATOM



\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

# Association process



- Launch of negotiations 29 November 2024
- Conclusion of negotiations 22 December 2025
- Ongoing adoption procedure
- **Transitional arrangement allowing Japanese participation from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 from WP 2026-2027 onwards**
- Signing of the agreement foreseen mid-2026



# Horizon Europe Pillar 2

## What changes with Association?



Receive funding directly from the programme



Consortium Coordinator



Access to (almost) all calls under Pillar II

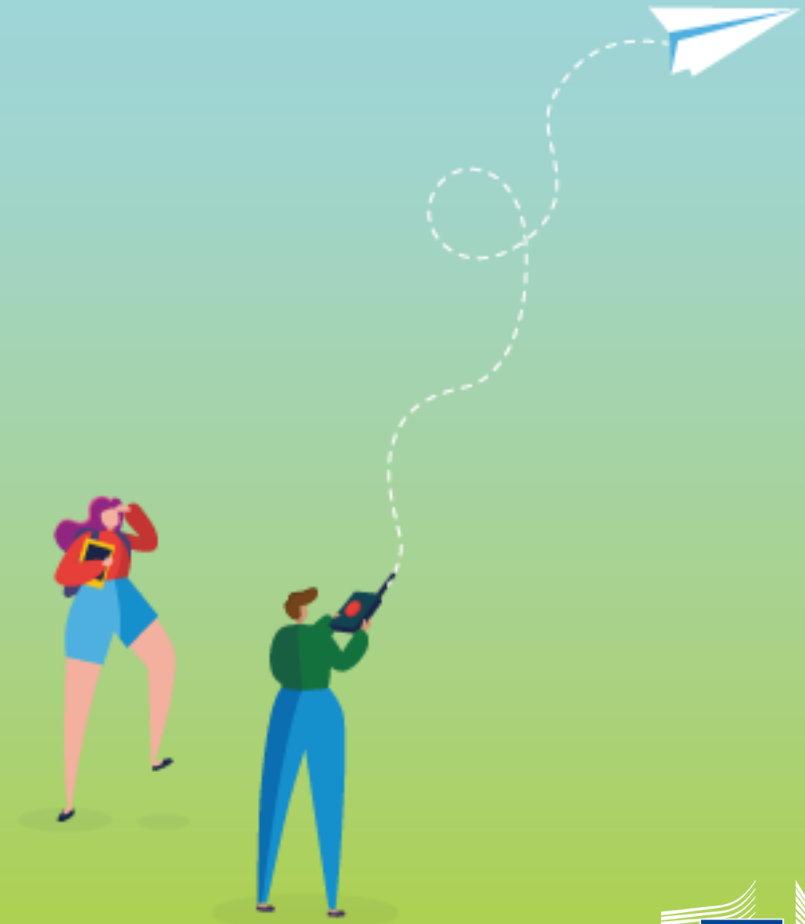


Observer status in the Programme Committees as part of Horizon Europe Governance

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HORIZON EUROPE

# WORK PROGRAMME 2026/2027





# Main Work Programme 2026/2027

- **Last work programme under Horizon Europe 2021-2027**
- In line with the **Strategic Plan 2025-2027 key strategic orientations:**
  - Green transition
  - Digital transition
  - A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe
- In line with the **European Commission priorities (2024-2029):**
  - Sustainable prosperity and competitiveness
  - Security and defence
  - Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model
  - Sustaining our quality of life
  - Protecting our democracy, upholding our values
  - A global Europe



# A continued effort towards simplification

- Increased transparency
- Less prescriptive topic descriptions and fewer topics
- Increased use of lump sum funding (~ 50%)
- Use of topics with two stage evaluations
- Reduced complexity of the proposal



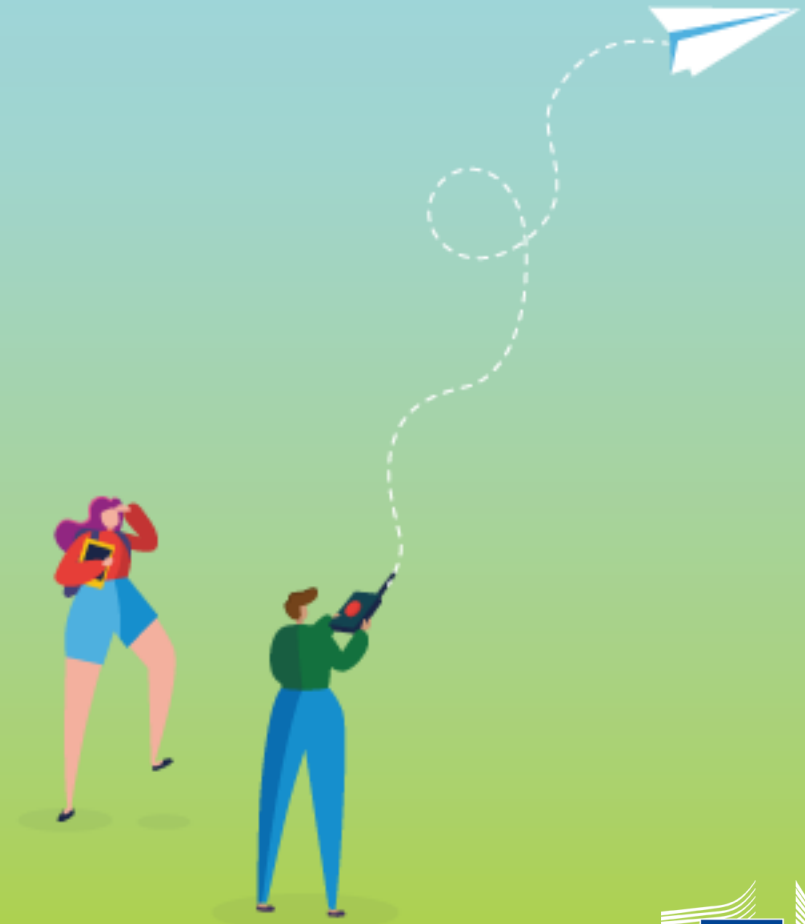
# Novelties

- **Introduction of ‘horizontal calls’** for tackling key policy priorities in a more consistent, cross-cluster and multidisciplinary way:
  - ‘The Clean Industrial Deal’
  - ‘AI in Science’
- **Increased emphasis on knowledge valorisation** to increase the societal and policy uptake of project results (e.g. proof-of-market topic)
- **Choose Europe for Science initiative** aiming to promote research careers in Europe and building on the MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2025 pilot

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# PARTICIPATING IN HORIZON EUROPE

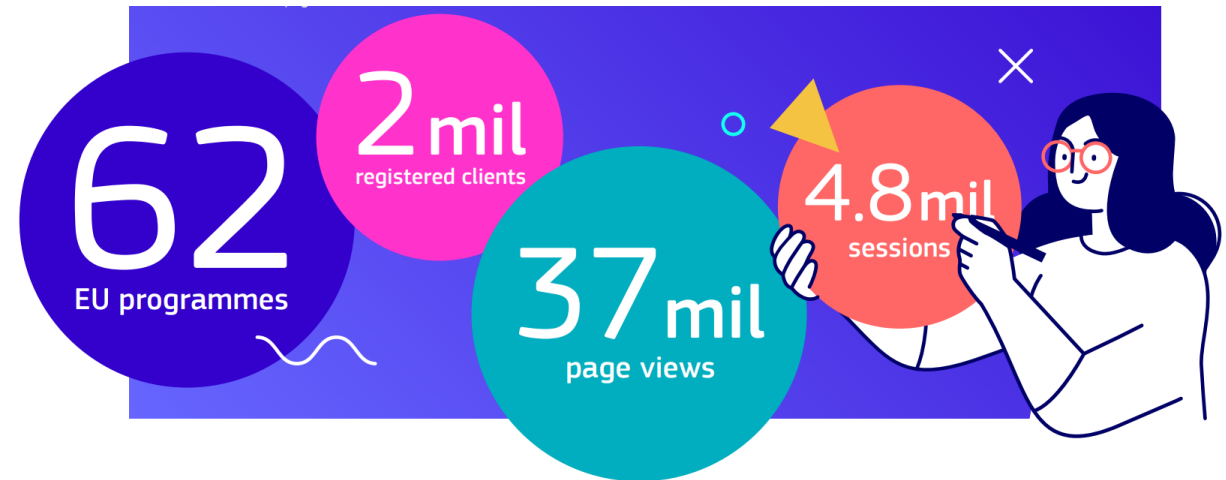


# How to search for Horizon Europe opportunities?

✓ The [Funding & tenders \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eu-funding-portal/) (F&T) portal is a one stop shop for EU funding opportunities including Horizon Europe Programme, including for finding partners

✓ Features and functions:

- Searching for calls for proposals
- Registering your organisation
- Searching for partners
- Data and statistics
- Support and guidance (NCPs)
- Proposal and project management





# Key principles to submit a proposal



Your proposed work must be within the scope of a work programme topic.



You need to demonstrate that your idea is ambitious and goes beyond the state of the art.



Your scientific methodology must take into account interdisciplinary, gender dimension and open science practices.



You should show how your project could contribute to the outcomes and impacts described in the work programme (the pathway to impact).



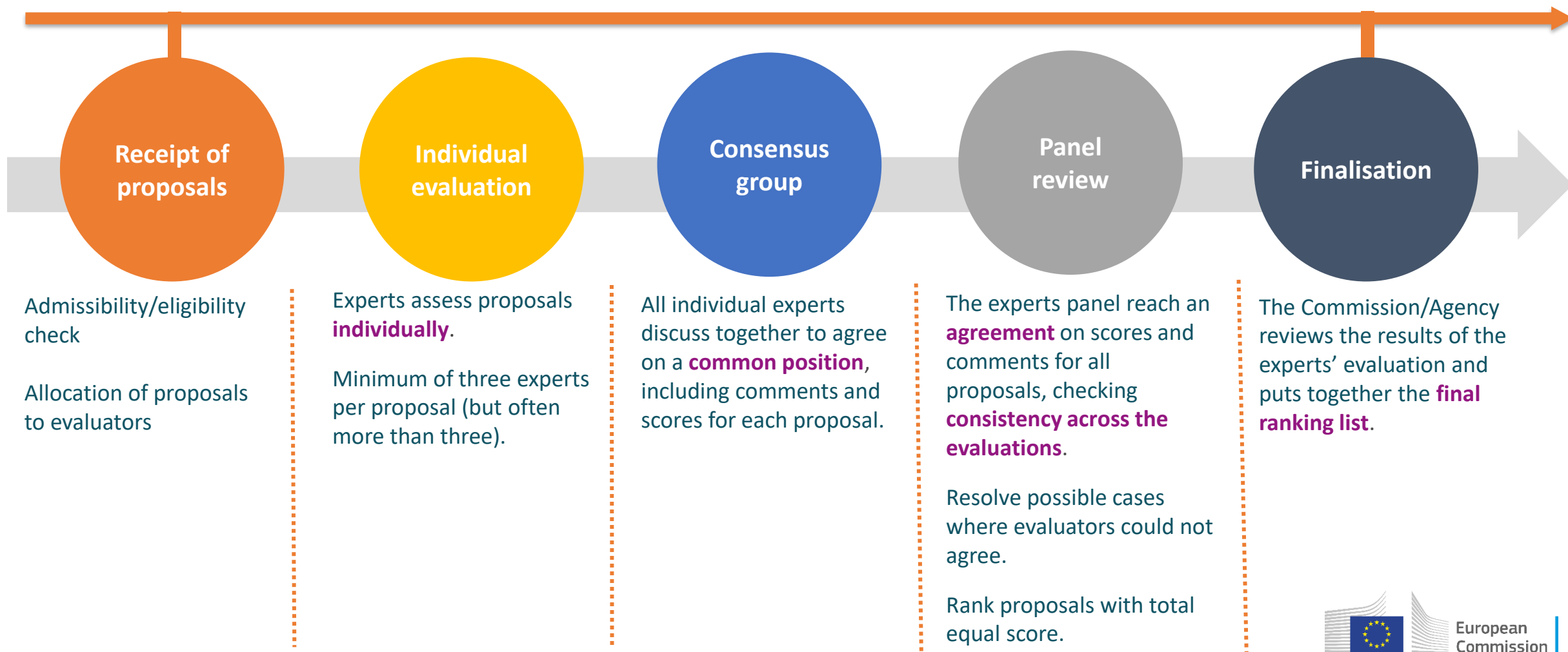
You should describe the planned measures to maximise the impact of your project ('plan for the dissemination and exploitation including communication activities').



You should demonstrate the quality of your work plan, resources and participants.



# Standard evaluation process



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HORIZON EUROPE

# OUR NEXT FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME HORIZON EUROPE 2028-2034





# Commission proposal Horizon Europe 2028-2034

- **The proposal for the next Framework Programme** for research and innovation – Horizon Europe – adopted on 16 July 2025 as part of the package for the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2028 – 2034.
- It is a proposal for a **strong, self-standing programme**, fully aligned with our Union’s key priorities for the coming decade: **to strengthen Europe’s competitiveness.**
- proposed budget of **EUR 175 billion**
- FP10 combines **continuity and key novelties.**

# The structure of the new Horizon Europe



<sup>1</sup> Consistent with activities under the European Competitiveness Fund



# Novelties & continuity

## Novelties

**Further  
Simplification**

**Synergy with  
ECF**

**Dual use by  
design**

## Continuity

**Structure**

**Association**

**Consortium  
approach**



# International Cooperation - Association

Approach to 3<sup>rd</sup> country association similar to Horizon Europe.

## Main novelties:

- Association may be “full or partial” and consistent with the objectives of Horizon Europe
- Scope of association to consider not only benefit but also risk to the Union
- Association also extended to European Micro-States



## What is maintained:

- Association open to EEA/EFTA Countries; Acceding, candidate and potential candidate countries; ENP countries; other third countries – conditional to specific rules of Horizon Europe
- Reciprocity
- Automatic Correction Mechanism
- **For defence activities under EIC** – eligibility for funding limited to entities from ECF Associated Countries to defence activities

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# Thank You

