



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe Work programme 2025

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European
Commission



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

This presentation:

- ✓ Global approach and Openness
- ✓ Access to EU funding
- ✓ Targeted international cooperation actions
- ✓ Safeguarding EU interests
- ✓ Novelties



International Cooperation in R&I

Global approach to Research and Innovation

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE GLOBAL APPROACH TO RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (R&I)?

To preserve openness in research and innovation international cooperation while promoting a level playing field and reciprocity underpinned by fundamental values.

To strengthen multilateral partnerships to deliver new solutions to green, digital, health and innovation challenges.



HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED?

Modulating bilateral cooperation in line with European interests and values and EU's open strategic autonomy.

Accelerating sustainable and inclusive development, and the transition to resilient, knowledge-based societies and economies in low and middle-income countries.

Using a *Team Europe* approach, with actions by the EU, its financial institutions and Member States.





International Cooperation in R&I

Global approach to Research and Innovation

Guiding principles:

- ✓ Commitment to openness
- ✓ Values & Principles
- ✓ Pursuit of a level playing field and reciprocity
- ✓ Pool global efforts to tackle global challenges

HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on
defence research
& development*

Research
actions

Development
actions

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications



Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation
Council

European Innovation
Ecosystems

European Institute of
Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint
Research
Center

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



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Openness

- ✓ Horizon Europe 'by-default' open to almost all countries
 - Any consortium can include 3rd country partners
- ✓ Non-discriminatory: researchers and innovators of any nationality can apply for grants (MSCA, ERC...)
- ✓ Association to the programme:
 - 19 Countries associated to HE: **Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom**
 - Provisional application of Association: Egypt, **Morocco, Korea, Switzerland**

[list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf](#)

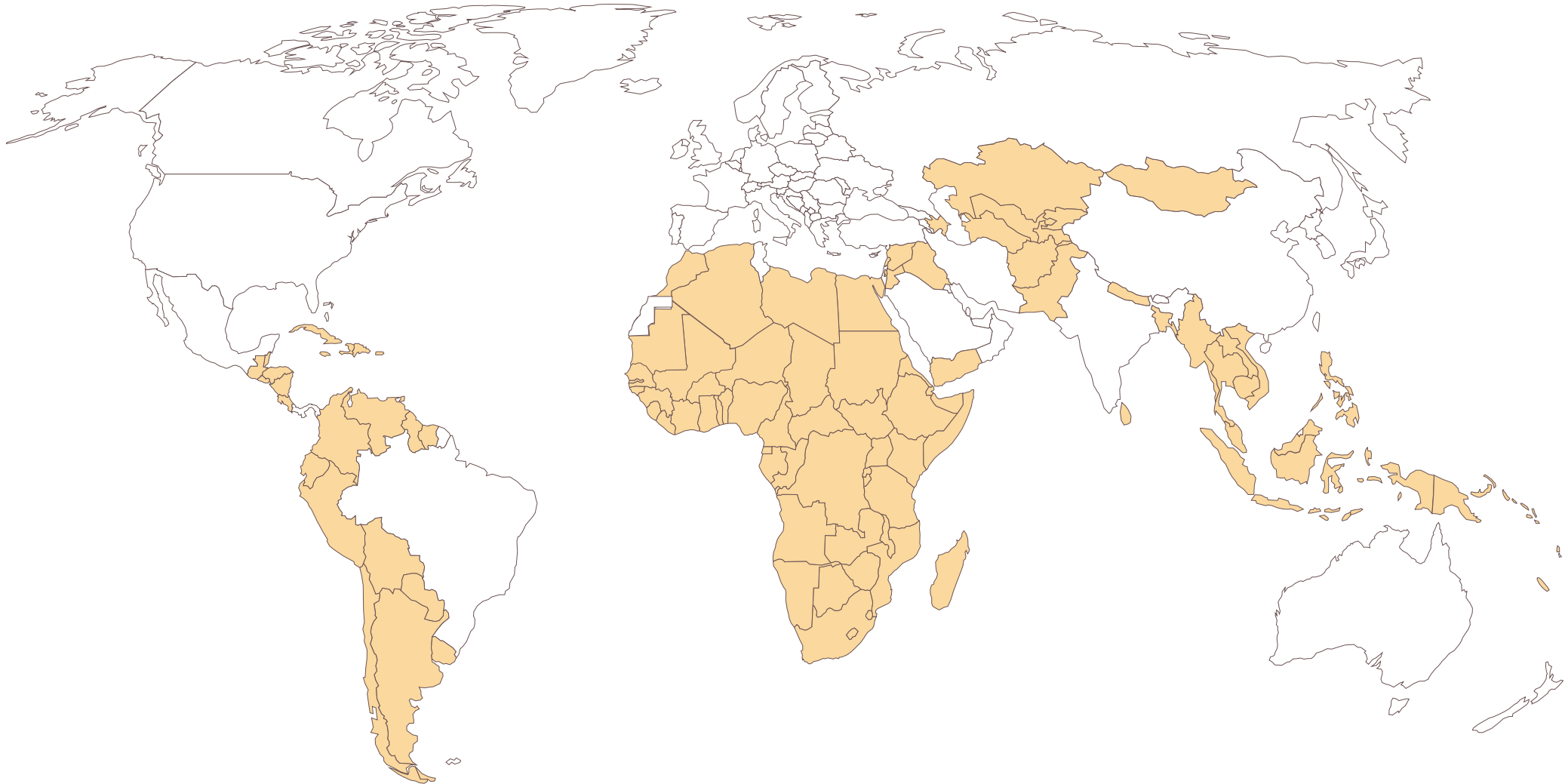


International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Access to Horizon Europe funding

- ✓ Automatically eligible for EU funding (“Beneficiaries”)
 - Low- and middle-income countries (see [list](#)).
 - Countries associated to Horizon Europe
- ✓ Non-associated third countries not eligible for EU funding
 - Exceptions on a case-by-case basis + specified in topic calls
 - Come with their own funding
- ✓ Co-funding mechanisms
 - E.g. Monaco, China, Switzerland, India... ([Guide CFM](#) on F&T Portal)

Third countries automatically eligible to receive Horizon Europe funding*



- Countries listed as low and middle income by the World Bank are automatically eligible to receive EU funding under Horizon Europe even without being associated to the programme.
- **Disclaimer:** please note that entities subject to EU restrictive measures (sanctions) under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and entities covered by Commission Guidelines No 2013/C 205/0510 are NOT eligible to participate in any capacity
- Under H2020 these countries received EUR 292 million in funding, or 0.4% of the funding.



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Access to Horizon Europe funding

- ✓ Consortia submitting a proposal must include as beneficiaries (ie receiving EU funding) at LEAST* three legal entities independent from one another and each established in a different country as follows:
 - ✓ - at least one in an EU Member State
 - ✓ - at least 2 other independent legal entities, each established in a different MS or Associated Country

* Unless otherwise provided for in the specific call conditions



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Current participation in HE

Country/Territory Name	Thematic Priority (pillars and clusters)	Signed Grants	Participation
	Total	19	50
Kazakhstan	Culture, creativity and inclusive society	1	1
Kazakhstan	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	11	14
Kyrgyzstan	Food, Bioeconomy Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment	1	1
Kyrgyzstan	Health	1	1
Kyrgyzstan	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	5	7
Tajikistan	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	3	3
Turkmenistan	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	2	2
Uzbekistan	Civil Security for Society	1	1
Uzbekistan	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	7	19
Uzbekistan	Reforming and enhancing the European R&I System	1	1



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Targeted international cooperation actions

Flagging of call topics specifically relevant for international cooperation in the work programmes, e.g. in

- Strategic thematic areas (topics)
- Geographical areas (countries/regions)
- Multilateral initiatives
- Collaboration with key partners



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Targeted international cooperation actions relevant for Central Asian states

- All topics in Cluster 1 “Health” and Cluster 6 “Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- Specific targets:
 - Cluster 5 “Climate, Energy and Mobility” – 5 topics (climate data, modelling, batteries)
 - Cluster 4 “Digital Industry and Space” – 4 topics (batteries and CRM)
 - Cluster 3 “Civil Security for Society” – 2 topics (disaster resilience)



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Safeguarding EU interests

Article 22.5

- For actions related to Union strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security, the work programme may provide that the participation can be limited to legal entities established only in Member States or to legal entities established in specified associated or other third countries in addition to Member States.
- For duly justified and exceptional reasons, in order to guarantee the protection of the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States, the work programme may also exclude the participation of legal entities established in the Union or in associated countries directly or indirectly controlled by non-associated third countries or by legal entities of non-associated third countries from individual calls for proposals, or make their participation subject to conditions set out in the work programme.



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Safeguarding EU interests

Article 22.6

- Additional eligibility criteria based on specific policy requirements or the nature and objectives of the action, including the number and the type of legal entity and the place of establishment.

Articles 39.6 and 40.4

- Provisions on exploitation, dissemination and right to object to transfer of ownership and licenses to non-associated third-country entities in line with EU interest



Global approach to research & innovation International cooperation in Horizon Europe

Countries under sanctions

Work Programme 2025 has prohibition provision in the General Annexes to the WP

- Legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government controlled territories of Ukraine, are not eligible to participate in any capacity in HE.
- Exceptions on case-by-case basis

See also [EU Sanctions Map](#) and Annex B of the [General Annexes](#)



Global approach to research & innovation

International cooperation in Horizon Europe

New initiatives

Choose Europe initiative

Competitiveness Compass



Global approach to research & innovation

International cooperation in Horizon Europe

Conclusion

- HE is fully open to applicants from 3rd countries with very few exceptions.
- Current Work programme 2025 is well balanced as far as targeted international participation is concerned
- Interested researchers and research entities from associated and non-associated countries are encouraged to seek partners and apply.



Thank you!

For more info:

- Commission Communication on the Global Approach to research and innovation: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2465
- Horizon Europe: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en
- Commission's website on international R&I cooperation: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/international-cooperation_en
- Work Programme 2025 [Horizon Europe work programmes - European Commission](#)
- Choose Europe [Choose Europe: advance your research career in the EU](#)
- Competitiveness Compass [Competitiveness compass - European Commission](#)

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