

FUND RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION. FUND THE FUTURE

Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) are essential to Europe's future.

As EU institutions negotiate Europe's next seven-year budget, the funding for Horizon Europe 2028-2034 is being decided. At a time when Member States face significant challenges, it is all the more important to reaffirm the central role of RD&I for our common future.

Science, technology and innovation give Europe the knowledge and solutions to address our shared challenges. Investing in research, technology development and innovation means investing in Europe's capacity to deliver on all its major priorities, from the green and digital transitions to agriculture, health, security and resilience, while ultimately improving the quality of life and prosperity of European citizens. It also creates opportunities for the new generations of researchers and innovators to develop their talent, pursue new ideas and build their careers in Europe.

A strong Horizon Europe is not a cost, but a necessary investment. Europe cannot aim for greater sovereignty, resilience and technological independence while underinvesting in research, development and innovation.

Horizon Europe has demonstrated its unique added value - complementary to countries' national policies and investments - through enabling cross-border RD&I collaborations and excellence-based competition at a scale no national programme could achieve alone. The European Commission estimated that every €1 of EU funding invested through Horizon Europe is projected to generate up to €11 in additional GDP by 2045[1].

We, the European RD&I community, call on European leaders to commit at least €200 billion to Horizon Europe 2028-2034, with protected and predictable funding that enables researchers from academia, research performing organisations, industry and innovators to pursue ambitious ideas and sustain collaborations over time.

Invest in research, development and innovation today for a stronger Europe tomorrow

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Sign the statement here: https://eu-life.eu/fund-rdi-fund-future

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[1] *European Commission (2025). Horizon Europe: Research and Innovation at the Heart of Competitiveness. Communication from the Commission, COM(2025) 189 final, Brussels, 30 April 2025*

This call is initiated by AERG, ALLEA, BusinessEurope, CESAER, Coimbra Group, EARTO, EASN, EASSH, ECMI, EERA, EGU, EMS, EPS, EPSO, EUA, EUCASS, EU-LIFE, Eurodoc, EuroTech, The Guild, ICORSA, ISE, LERU, MCAA, Orgalim, ResearchMatters, Science Europe, YAE and YERUN, and it belongs to the entire European RD&I community. ***Add your name, strengthen our collective voice, and send a clear message to European leaders: Europe must invest in science to invest in its future.***