



HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

2021 – 2027



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CLUSTER 2:

Destination 1: Innovative Research on Democracy and Governance (2026)

10 topics

8 Research & Innovation Actions (RIA)

1 Innovation Actions (IA)

1 Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)



HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-01:

Tackling gender-based violence against politically active women and LGBTIQ people (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- Intersectional approach
- Multidisciplinary research combining quantitative and qualitative data
- Cooperation with previous or ongoing projects
- FAIR data principles

Expected outcomes

- **Enhanced understanding** of drivers and impacts of violence against politically active women and LGBTIQ people
- **Enhanced prevention and early intervention**, based on evidence on impacts and participation trajectories
- Uptake of **evidence-based policy recommendations** to tackle GBV, counter harmful narratives and promote equal participation
- Better adherence to **ethical, gender-sensitive and intersectional media guidelines**
- Stronger **inclusive political environments**, supporting participation of underrepresented groups

Scope

- Rising intersection between **politically motivated violence** and **gender-based violence (GBV)** targeting women and LGBTIQ people in public life, including political aspirants,
- Violence occurring **online and offline** (e.g., harassment, hate speech, disinformation, deepfakes, sexualised attacks)
- **Engagement of civil society, affected groups and men and boys** in prevention efforts

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-02:

Understanding the forms of local democracy in low-income and low-middle income countries (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- International cooperation particularly encouraged
- FAIR data principles

Expected outcomes

- Provide **science-based toolkits** and training models to help EU leaders proactively reduce inequality, protect **human rights** and **democracy**
- Promote **democratic values, principles and practices** in low- and low-middle income countries
- Access and use of **evidence-based good practices** for working in **fragile contexts**
- Better understanding of the role and impact of **decentralisation processes in low-income and low-middle income countries**
- Better understanding of **link between efficient delivery of public services and prodemocratic sentiment** in the countries; and/or **better tools** for civil society organisations, and other relevant actors to promote democratic practices

Scope

- **Increasing democratic backsliding** and human rights rollbacks globally, fueled by internal instability and **external interference** promoting non-democratic models
- Proposals should **gather evidence** on how actors in economic, political, and social ecosystems at the local level could foster democratic practices, increase citizens' trust, improve transparency of decision making, and promote respect for human rights.
- Proposals are encouraged to gather evidence on **different forms of democratic participation and governance at local level.**

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-03: Government in transition – how governments change the way they work and prepare the civil service for the future (RIA)

€ 8 million / 2 projects

- Cooperation with previous or ongoing projects

Expected outcomes

- Country government innovation **info sheets, trends, good practices and innovative solutions** for next-generation governance and future-informed public decision making in EU Member States and Associated Countries (MS/AC).
- **Policy recommendations** for EU and MS/AC level actions on new governance paradigms, and strategies for internal government innovation efforts.
- **Publication of lessons learned** to enlighten government officials and the public about internal innovation strategies and impactful solutions in national governments.
- A comprehensive **Massive Online Open Course** for government officials with relevant examples and cases.
- **Closer collaboration among MS/AC** (and other actors) to leverage national capabilities in innovative governance and maintain peer learning.

Scope

- **Enhancing government capacities to define strategies and develop complex public policies** in a swiftly evolving context is imperative.
- Proposals should cover the following three focus areas: **New governance paradigm; Innovative approaches to public service and policy development; and New public employment management and civil service empowerment.**

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-04: Sustainable paths to media viability (IA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- Cooperation with previous or ongoing projects
- FAIR data principles

Expected outcomes

- **Reinforced digital transformation** of the news media industry by facilitating the development of new business models, contributing to more resilient and inclusive democracies
- **Empower systemically disadvantaged citizens** by providing tools to help them make informed decisions and enhancing media's role in a fair, reinvigorated democracy
- Stronger **engagement with emerging media creators** (such as influencers and other online content producers) to promote transparency and accountability in their role in sharing information, and to foster reliance on trustworthy media sources.

Scope

- Severe **economic pressure on journalistic newsrooms**, as social media and "infotainment" platforms force quality journalism to compete with unverified, low-quality, or malicious sources
- Innovation projects should focus on **concrete ways to help journalistic content serve democracy**
- Proposals are encouraged to **investigate the behavioural dimensions of news consumption**, focusing on how reader habits, trust, and perceptions influence engagement with journalism; and to **explore the evolving trust dynamics between human-curated journalism and AI-driven news delivery**

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-05: Research and Innovation Network for a Union of Equality (CSA)

€ 4.5 million / 1 project

- Recommended duration: 4 years.
- Cooperation with previous/ongoing project(s)

Expected outcomes

- Policymakers are made aware and are equipped with the knowledge and tools to integrate inclusive and intersectional perspectives into their policymaking, which strengthens their capacity to promote and protect democracy, fundamental rights, and EU values.
- Researchers gain insights on how to translate their findings on intersectional inequalities and democracy into actionable, evidence-based recommendations, enabling them to effectively inform policy and practice at local, regional, national, and EU levels.
- Innovative solutions developed under Horizon Europe and other EU-funding programmes empower equally all citizens, to participate in democratic processes and decision-making.

Scope

- The proposed network should bring together academics, public bodies & civil society to collaborate and promote the advancement of inclusive, equal, and resilient democratic societies
- **Key activities:** Develop an online platform for evidence-based tools; Host an annual forum for stakeholders, Foresight activities

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-06: Governing global commons sustainably (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- Engagement with international partners is encouraged
- Collaboration with other projects is encouraged

Expected outcomes

- **Enhanced understanding** of the systemic challenges and the underlying drivers and motivations.
- **Improved science-policy interface vis-à-vis foreign and security policy**, including better engaged citizens and a more participatory and inclusive approach.
- **Strengthened rules-based multilateralism** by the development of concepts, methods, processes, and information relevant for decision-making that foster the sustainable governance of global commons, also informing the EU's science diplomacy actions.

Scope

- The aim of the call is to **develop multi- and interdisciplinary concepts and solutions for governing global commons sustainably**. A review of the effectiveness of existing legal instruments and the implementation of new instruments is needed,
- They should perform a comprehensive **mapping of actors' motivations and values on societal, corporate and state level**. Research is also needed on how the current governance of global commons affects intergenerational justice and human rights, including gender equality and the impact on different social groups, and how civil society can be better involved.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-07: Supporting post-conflict democracy and reconstruction (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- International cooperation encouraged
- Multidisciplinary and actor-based approach
- Engage citizens and civil society organisations
- Clustering and collaboration with previous/ongoing projects

Expected outcomes

- Effective strategies for **sustainable peace and democratic reconstruction** in post-conflict zones, strengthening **integrity, stability** and **anticorruption** measures to ensure transparent, accountable, and ethical use of reconstruction aid
- Evidence-based **recommendations on international cooperation, EU democracy support, and civil society engagement** in post-conflict reconstruction
- **Local civil society organisations and community groups** provide guidance and support to educators, media professionals, public administrators, and other stakeholders on promoting reconciliation, accountability, and sustainable peace
- Specialised service providers, including NGOs and community organisations, offer **support services and programmes to veterans and the persons and groups in a vulnerable situation** affected by the conflict

Scope

- The destruction of **infrastructure, institutions, and social fabric** in post-conflict areas risks prolonged instability, human suffering, and the total decline of **democratic governance**. Understanding the complex relationships between **democracy, inequality, and international cooperation** is essential for long-term **reconciliation and accountability**.
- Research needs to analyse the **causes and consequences of conflicts**, examining the role of historical narratives and cultural sensibilities, and gathering evidence on key factors such as ethnic violence, inequalities, and conflict legacies, to inform the development of **effective prevention, resolution, and reconciliation strategies**

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-08: Electoral integrity in the digital context (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

- Cooperation with previous or ongoing projects
- FAIR data principles.

Expected outcomes

- Provide policymakers with the necessary knowledge to inform the development of **election regulations, standards and tools** that address the use of digital technologies in elections and political campaigns
- Enable organisations involved in electoral processes to develop and implement **guidelines for the responsible use of digital technologies in elections and political campaigns**, aligned with EU and national regulations
- Enhanced **transparency and accountability in AI-powered political campaigns**, achieved through requirements for AI system audits, data disclosure, transparency regarding algorithms and sources of Large Language Models (LLMs), and responsible AI development

Scope

- Digital transformation has created new avenues for engagement, but also poses significant risks to **democratic processes** through disinformation and foreign interference
- Social media and **AI-powered tools** are increasingly used to artificially amplify falsehoods, manipulate public discourse, and influence **voter behaviour**
- To address these challenges, it is essential to **examine the effects of digital technologies on public opinion and governance**, and **investigate the development of ethical AI, transparent political advertising, and tools to counter misinformation, disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI)**.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-09: Citizenship education as part of lifelong learning (RIA)

€ 16 million / 4 projects

- Proposals should seek collaboration with the European Partnership on Social Transformations and Resilience

Expected outcomes

- Tools and recommendations on lifelong civic and citizenship learning for educators, including opportunities offered by civic tech.
- Tools and recommendations to ensure the participation of citizens in democratic life, especially those who face barriers to participation in democratic processes, for policymakers at local, regional, national and EU level.

Scope

- Look at how vocational education and training - including apprenticeships, or adult education programmes - can raise civic knowledge, political awareness, and attachment to democratic values.
- Investigate how involvement in these programmes is linked to increased civic participation.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-10: Digital and media literacy as drivers for democratic and civic resilience (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Clustering and cooperation with other selected projects under this topic and other relevant projects are strongly encouraged.

Expected outcomes

- Equip societies to adapt and thrive in the face of evolving technological, political, and societal challenges.
- Empower citizens to navigate the digital landscape with discernment and critical thinking, engage actively with media and other source of information, ensuring informed democratic participation.

Scope

- Examine the factors that influence digital literacy, information-seeking habits, and online engagement, with a focus on improving citizen's' participation. Investigate how algorithms amplify emotive content.
- Explore the critical role digital and media literacy can play in fostering societal resilience and information integrity.



CLUSTER 2:

Destination 2: Cultural Heritage and CCIS (2026)

7 topics

2 Innovation Actions (IA)

4 Research & Innovation Actions (RIA)

1 Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)



HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-01: RIA

“Artistic intelligence”: harnessing the power of the arts to address complex challenges, enhance soft skills and boost innovation and competitiveness



~3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Better understanding of **Art-Science-Tech innovation potential**; guidance, toolkits, methodologies
- Strengthened Art-Science-Tech networks; expanded artist opportunities in science-technology engagement
- **AND one focus** to be chosen:
 - Approaches and methods for integrating arts and creativity to **enhance soft skills** across sectors
 - **3 low-TRL pilots on emerging technologies** developed by interdisciplinary teams including artists

Scope

- Artistic research fosters **inter-** and **transdisciplinary thinking** and **creativity-driven innovation** across policy areas. EU initiatives (SciArt, S+T+ARTS) show art-science-tech collaborations enhance scientific progress, bring human-centred perspectives to emerging technologies, make complex concepts accessible.
- Need to consolidate understanding of transformative potential, develop evaluation methods, **distill insights for policy application**.
- Consortia must include artists/creatives. Financial support to third parties up to €60,000 available.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-02: IA

Boosting creative startups for disruptive innovation

€ 12.0
million

~2 projects

Expected outcomes

- Deepened **knowledge of specific factors favouring the growth of creative startups**, in particular those with potential for **disruptive innovation**
- Effective **methods to favour the growth of creative startups** are developed and put in practice
- Depending on the option chosen, **at least one creative startup** supported via the action:
 - a) **becoming a scaleup** or
 - b) succeeding in **bringing a disruptive innovation to the market**

Scope

- The CCIs count a high rate of startups, and those are among the early adopters of new technologies
- However, few European creative startups scale up and contribute to disruptive innovation
- To better support European creative startups to grow into scaleups and multiply their potential as high-impact disruptive innovators, additional measures are needed
- These measures should build on and improve existing knowledge and support systems

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-03: IA

AI integration in CCSI work practice: catalysing innovation and competitiveness

€ 15.0
million

~3 projects

Expected outcomes (all required)

- **Insights, guidelines, methods and tools** supporting full AI integration in CCI practices
- **Scenarios for CCI-tailored and co-created solutions** using quality data, federated data sources, digital infrastructures, inclusive cooperation
- **Ethical AI-powered solutions** and tools that benefit creators, cultural professionals, and society
- CCI empowered as drivers of innovation, competitiveness and societal wellbeing through ethical and inclusive AI mastery

Scope

- Despite AI's transformative potential and increasing use by CCI, **comprehensive understanding is lacking of enabling frameworks and what's missing** in terms of data, standards, infrastructures, computing power, tools, knowledge, and capacity for CCI to fully embrace AI opportunities.
- Proposals should **assess CCI AI readiness, investigate barriers, develop tailored scalable tools, and pilot innovative solutions** (in one or both options: value chain innovation, or accessibility and inclusion)

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-04: RIA

Towards a fair and transparent market for cultural and creative content in the era of generative AI

€ 12.0
million

~3 projects

Expected outcomes

- **Deep socio-economic analysis** of generative AI impacts on CCI: creators' rights, value chains, consumption patterns, market dynamics
- Scenarios, standards and agile **solutions for transparent, trustworthy generative AI supply chains**: from provenance detection, to rights management to long-term preservation of AI-generated works
- **Adaptive policy frameworks** embedding ethical considerations in AI developments relevant for CCI and their market
- **Systemic innovation framework** enabling agile experimentation for sustainable, future-proof CCI

Scope

- Gen. AI's impact on CCI is complex and multifaceted. While offering new possibilities, it raises concerns about copyright, manipulation, revenue models and employment.
- Novel frameworks and solutions for managing AI-generated cultural and creative content and establishing business models, infrastructures and policies for a fair market are needed.
- **Transparency is key**; challenges include access to quality data, content accuracy, identification of copyright holders and rightsholders, and ensuring fair compensation.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-05: RIA

Creative alliances: Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation

€ 15.0
million

~4 projects

Expected outcomes

- **Comprehensive evaluation** of cultural policy models, CCI ecosystems and promotion strategies worldwide; identification of opportunities for cross-regional collaboration and global CCI development
- **International partnerships** established for knowledge exchange, and/or for boosting CCIs and facilitating collaborative productions across world regions
- **Actionable strategies** for cross-regional collaborations to leverage creative innovation for resilience and Global Europe.

Scope

International partnerships strengthen cultural and creative innovation while supporting sustainable development and global relations. Proposals should examine innovative approaches that benefit partners while enhancing Europe's global standing.

Focus 1: CCI innovation beyond borders – pilot projects for cross-regional CCI cooperation

Focus 2: International cultural relations for global resilience – testing innovative forms of ICR, cultural diplomacy, intercultural dialogue, and mutual understanding

Priority regions: Africa, Far East, South-East Asia, Latin America

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-06: RIA

Safeguarding linguistic diversity in Europe

€ 11.5
million

~2 projects

Expected outcomes

- Enhanced understanding of **how to encourage multilingualism in society**;
- Strategies and policy recommendations for promoting multilingualism and **safeguarding linguistic diversity**;
- Citizens empowered and engaged in the sustainable management of their own linguistic heritage;
- Maps and visual presentations showing the linguistic diversity in Europe.

Scope

- Linguistic diversity as a fundamental part of Europe's cultural heritage, and of cultural diversity;
- Knowledge and culture are lost when languages are lost;
- Aim: document and map the situation of linguistic diversity in Europe;
- Consider existing frameworks, initiatives and working terminology established by the Council of Europe and UNESCO.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-07: CSA

Preventing and fighting illicit trafficking of cultural goods



1 project

Expected outcomes

- **Cross border and cross domain** cooperation with **uptake** by Law Enforcement Authorities and experts
- Increased **evidence collection** and **intelligence** with **actionable solutions**
- **Consolidation** of existing solutions, tools and platform with operational systems and methodologies
- Capacity building, practical learning materials and trainings
- A robust and long-term **operational sustainable plan**

Scope

- Building on existing proven expertise develop a mature and highly integrated market ready ecosystem based on LEA systems, operational interfaces, developed among LEAs and relevant stakeholders to ensure effective and measurable impact
- Strengthen collaboration between relevant stakeholders to boost capacity in cataloguing and provenance
- Improve data quality & data governance between the different players and access to interoperable critical databases
- Open source intelligence and interpolation of diverse datasets to provide evidence



CLUSTER 2:

Destination 3: Social and Economic Transformations (2026)

10 topics

- 1 Programme Co-fund Action
- 8 Research & Innovation Actions (RIA)
- 1 Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)



HORIZON-CL2-2026-02-TRANSFO-02: Open topic: Strengthen Europe's social model and sustainable competitiveness through productivity (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- The concept of sustainable competitiveness is analysed taking into account the shifts in geopolitics, global trade patterns, as well as changes in climate, the environment (including biodiversity loss¹⁶⁸), technology and demography.
- Policymakers are provided with recommendations and innovative solutions, including a toolbox to boost Member States and Associated Countries (labour) productivity while ensuring high social and environmental standards and increasing competitiveness within planetary boundaries.

Scope

- The Draghi report highlights Europe's declining competitiveness, productivity, and growth compared to global rivals, attributing it to challenges like demographic shifts, technology, climate change, and geopolitical instability. A competitive economy requires sustained productivity to drive growth, income, and welfare—but Europe must adapt its economic and social models to these pressures to avoid stagnation.
- The European social model underpins the EU's current productivity and competitiveness, but failing to modernise it risks rising poverty, weaker human capital, and reduced well-being. Research must propose ways to balance competitiveness, social protections, and environmental standards, fostering collaboration across projects to ensure Europe remains a sustainable global leader with an inclusive welfare state.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-03: Tackling child poverty and ensuring disadvantaged children's access to Early Childhood Education and Care (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Policymakers gain insights into the cost of child poverty and the returns from securing access of disadvantaged children to quality Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) in the EU.
- Policymakers receive operational advice on ways to reduce this cost and support participation of disadvantaged children in quality ECEC to close the gap with other children in the EU.

Scope

- Past studies researched the cost of child poverty, and the returns yielded by and ways to secure disadvantaged children's participation to ECEC, yet their relevance to the current EU context is limited (i.e. most of them were conducted outside of the EU or they are now outdated).
- Producing EU-specific insights on these issues is the aim of this topic

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-08: Strengthened implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and a focus on inclusion, integration, and health

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Improve implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum by providing evidence-based insights on asylum and migration management, age assessment of minors, and resettlement frameworks to support fair and efficient governance.
- Offer policymakers and institutions guidance on legal pathways, circular and permanent migration schemes, and effective retention strategies for migrants.
- Enhance health equity for migrants and refugees by integrating robust health data, addressing governance barriers, and identifying intersectional inequities, while providing evidence-based recommendations for long-term social inclusion, including labour market access, education, housing, and cultural participation.

Scope

- Analyse the EU Pact's mechanisms, national institutional contexts, and migration management frameworks, identifying best practices and challenges for implementation.
- Map and evaluate health data integration and social inclusion strategies for migrants, considering intersectional factors, privacy standards, and long-term integration outcomes, using quantitative and qualitative methods in cooperation with stakeholders and migrants themselves.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-09: Rethinking long-term care policy in the face of EU demographic shifts

€ 15 million / 4 projects

Expected outcomes

- Evaluate the effectiveness and resilience of existing long-term care (LTC) policies at national and regional levels, identifying strengths and gaps in meeting current and projected needs.
- Provide policymakers with robust scientific evidence and data to support evidence-informed policies addressing rising LTC demand, focusing on efficient use of human, financial, and technological resources.
- Propose innovative policy solutions to ensure smooth formal and informal care transitions, support active and healthy ageing, and develop integrated care services at local levels.

Scope

- Analyse projected LTC needs and supply until 2070, including workforce, service types, and public funding requirements, using robust quantitative and qualitative methods, while considering cost of non-action.
- Identify and assess innovative policy mixes, including digitalisation and AI-based solutions, social innovation, and measures to improve workforce attractiveness, integrating gender-sensitive and intersectional perspectives and cooperating with relevant stakeholders and research infrastructures.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-10: Fostering cooperation and integration between SSH and STEM research and innovation in the EU

€ 3.5 million / 1 projects

Expected outcomes

- Promote greater integration of SSH and STEM research and innovation in EU, national, and regional R&I initiatives, enhancing dialogue, mutual learning, and strategic cooperation among research funders and policymakers.
- Develop and maintain a comprehensive Monitoring and Impact Evaluation Framework for SSH-STEM integration, facilitating knowledge exploitation, supporting cooperation among projects and stakeholders, and informing R&I policies.
- Provide evidence-based guidance to improve the quality, depth, and strategic relevance of SSH-STEM cooperation, including through training, best practice sharing, and policy feedback mechanisms.

Scope

- Design and implement monitoring strategies using robust, open-data driven approaches to track SSH-STEM collaboration across EU-funded projects, with yearly reporting on methodology, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.
- Facilitate and promote SSH-STEM cooperation through guidelines, annual events, stakeholder support, and evaluation metrics, ensuring balanced representation of SSH disciplines, inclusivity, and a gender-sensitive, intersectional approach in research and innovation policies.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-04: The impact of the use of digital tools outside school and for communication on educational outcomes and mental health (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Provide policymakers, education practitioners and citizens with a solid understanding of how social media, video gaming and other leisure uses of digital tools relate to the educational outcomes of young people, including through their impact on well-being and mental health.
- Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence about policies and practices aiming to inform and regulate young people's use of digital tools for non-educational purposes, such as smartphones, at school..
- **Scope**
 - Use patterns of digital devices among primary, secondary and tertiary students.
 - Leisure use of digital devices at and outside school.
 - Analysis of 'digital distraction'.
 - Different uses of digital devices: social media, gaming, chatting.
 - Well-being, mental health, motivation, learning habits.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-05: Long-term contribution of basic skills to productivity, innovation, competitiveness and economic growth (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Provide policymakers with a more detailed understanding of the contribution of basic skills on the economy in the short and medium term, with a focus on their contribution to productivity and innovation, to sustain EU competitiveness and growth.
- Develop actionable advice about how, in a lifelong perspective, education and training systems can help foster basic skills.
- Promote productivity, innovation, competitiveness and growth, including by reducing gender, disability and socioeconomic gaps in basic skills.

Scope

- Five basic skill: maths, literacy, science, digital and citizenship.
- Analysis of causal links between skills and growth.
- School, vocational and adult education.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-06: Making Europe a global magnet for talent - Attracting and retaining students, researchers and high-skilled workers from outside the EU (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence on the factors that may influence students, researchers, and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to move to and remain in the EU.
- Provide policymakers and higher education/research institutions with guidance on which policies and programmes could be effective in attracting talented students, researchers and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to the EU.
- Develop actionable advice to policymakers and higher education/research institutions about how to retain talented students, researchers and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to ensure a long-term positive impact on the EU economy's innovation and competitiveness.
- **Scope**
 - Global competition for talent
 - Mobilising professional potential of humanitarian migrants.
 - Students, researchers, professionals.

HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-07: Fostering competences for the green transition (RIA)

€ 12 million / 3 projects

Expected outcomes

- Provide policymakers, education and training institutions, and social partners with a solid understanding of which competences young people and workers need to support the EU economy towards the green transition to reach carbon neutrality and protect natural ecosystems.
- Develop actionable advice to policymakers and education and training institutions about which education and training programmes and policy measures can promote the acquisition of those competences by young people and workers in a lifelong perspective, including the gender and disability dimensions.
- Provide policymakers with guidance on how to address the interconnection between fostering the competences for the green transition and those for the digital transition.

Scope

- Agriculture, automotive, energy, construction, climate adaptation.
- Attitudes towards green transition.
- Upskilling and reskilling.
- Gender dimension of skills.



OPENING OF CALLS

12 May 2026



DEADLINE TO APPLY
!!! 23 September 2026 !!!
17:00 Brussels time



Link to recorded presentation and Q&A session:

<https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/sAkccFozu9ewhdngHMM5P/overview>





Thank you!

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