

Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society

Destination
“Effective management of EU borders”

CALL
BORDER MANAGEMENT (BM)
2025



Destination “Effective management of EU borders”

- **Expected impact of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2024-2029:**
 - “Facilitating legitimate movement of passengers and goods into the EU, while preventing illicit acts.”
- **Specific impacts include:**
 - Improved security (as well as better cost- and energy- efficient management) of EU land and air borders, as well as sea borders and maritime environment, infrastructures and activities, as well as for the EU external civilian security, against accidents, natural disasters and security challenges such as illegal trafficking, piracy and potential terrorist attacks, cyber and hybrid threats;
 - Improved border crossing experience for travellers and border authorities staff (including customs, coast and border guards), while maintaining security and monitoring of movements across air, land and sea EU external borders, supporting the Schengen area, reducing illegal movements of people and goods across those borders and protecting fundamental rights of travellers, both EU citizens and Third Country Nationals;
 - Improved customs and supply chain security through better prevention, detection, deterrence and fight of illegal activities involving flows of goods across EU external border crossing points and through the supply chain, as well as through better interoperability, minimising disruption to trade flows.

Destination “Effective management of EU borders”

This destination will support the European Commission efforts towards:

- a wider EU Port Strategy focusing on security and a new European action plan against drug trafficking;
- boosting security research for stronger common borders / more secure and more fluid borders.

Capability areas to address may include:

- monitoring, preparedness and reaction in border management tasks, managing irregular or illegal activities involving people or goods across external borders of the EU;
- safeguarding human rights, and ensuring legal compliance, in efficient border management;
- integrated and continuous border surveillance, situational awareness (including but not limiting to maritime situational awareness) and analysis support;
- safety, user experience and performance of practitioners' staff in border management;
- security, privacy and usability of identity and (travel) documents;
- facilitating travel of bona fide passengers across external borders of the EU;
- data analysis on documents, biometrics, or cargo compliant with GDPR³⁰ and EU Artificial Intelligence Act³¹ and compatible with sandboxes approaches;
- detection of dangerous, illicit and illegal goods and materials trafficked through external borders of the EU and the supply chain;
- prevention and disruption of such trafficking.

Overview

Code	Topic	mEUR	mEUR per grant	Type of Action
2025-BM-01-01	Open topic on efficient border surveillance and maritime Security	10	3.33	IA 6-7
2025-BM-01-02	Open topic on secured and facilitated crossing of external borders	9	3	RIA 5
2025-BM-01-03	Open topic on better customs and supply chain security	9	3	IA 6-7

Destination

“Effective management of EU borders” (Border Management – BM)

TOPICS CALL 2025



HORIZON-CL3-2025-BM-01-01:

Open topic on efficient border surveillance and maritime Security

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved security of EU external borders, or of maritime environment, infrastructures and activities, against natural, accidental or incidental disasters; challenges such as illegal trafficking (covering air, maritime, underwater, land/surface), irregular migration or exceptional situations of mass arrivals at external borders, illegal exploitation of natural resources, piracy and potential terrorist attacks, cyber and hybrid threats;
- Sustained and improved surveillance, real-time situational awareness, and reaction capabilities to cope with potential critical situations at the EU external borders;
- Improved decision-making processes and capabilities for assessing, confirming and responding to distress situations at sea and land, allowing a better and faster response.

HORIZON-CL3-2025-BM-01-02:

Open topic on secured and facilitated crossing of external borders

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved border crossing experience for travellers and border authorities' staff (including customs, coast and border guards), while maintaining security and monitoring of movements across EU external borders, supporting the Schengen area, reducing illegal movements of people and goods across those borders and protecting fundamental rights of travellers, both EU citizens and Third Country Nationals.

HORIZON-CL3-2025-BM-01-03:

Open topic on better customs and supply chain security

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved customs and supply chain security through better prevention, detection, deterrence, anti-tampering and/or fight of illegal activities involving flows of goods across EU external borders and through the supply chain, and/or through better interoperability, minimising disruption to trade flows.

More Information and resources



[ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy](#)



[Community for European Research and Innovation for Security \(CERIS\)](#)



[Security Research Event](#)



[National Contact points for EU security research](#)



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[Eu-LISA on EU research](#)



[EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security](#)



[Horizon Europe Cluster 3 “Civil Security for Society” \(2025 published Work Programme\)](#)

[&](#)



[Cluster 3 Info Day and brokerage event 2025](#)

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Thank you!

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#EUsecurityResearch

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