

ERA Factsheet

No.3

Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – key information on the ERA call 2024

Are you looking for funding opportunities for supporting the professionalisation of research management, for implementing inclusive gender equality plans or for capacity building on intellectual property as an open science enabler? All this and more is covered by the ERA call 2024,

which aims to build a stronger and more dynamic European Research Area (ERA). The call Enhancing the European R&I system – ERA call for short – is the annual call of the Horizon Europe programme component Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I System – ERA part for short.

Basic information on the ERA call 2024¹

Strengthening the European Research Area lies at the heart of the ERA part. More precisely, the ERA call 2024 is strongly guided by the new ERA priorities and the [ERA Policy Agenda](#), as outlined in the [Pact for Research and Innovation](#). Each topic is assigned to one of the following three (out of four) ERA priorities: prioritise investments and

reforms, improve access to excellence and deepen the ERA. In addition, most call topics are dedicated to supporting the implementation of specific ERA Policy Agenda actions. The call descriptions provide links to the respective ERA Policy Agenda actions.



Call opening: **6 December 2023**
 Call closing: **12 March 2024 (5 p.m. CET)**
 Overall indicated budget: **23.5 million EUR**
 Number of topics: **9**
 Indicative number of projects expected to be funded: **15**

Main Sources: Information on the call topics can be found in the [work programme 2023-2024](#) Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (destination Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system) and in the [Funding & Tenders Portal](#).



More information on the ERA part is available in the [ERA Factsheet No. 1](#), “Reforming and Enhancing the European Research and Innovation System in Horizon Europe – the ERA part briefly explained”.

If you would like to learn more about the ERA Policy Agenda, the [ERA Policy Brief No.1](#), “[The European Research Area Policy Agenda No.1](#)” will provide you with further details.

Overview of the ERA call topics 2024 ²

Topic titles including core tasks ³	Budgets in EUR million
PRIORITISING INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS	
<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-01: Programme level collaboration between national R&I policy-makers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Align national and regional research funding programmes on agreed priorities. → Implement joint calls for transnational R&I projects as well other joint activities. → Pool resources and ensure complementarity between activities and policies with those of the Framework Programme and relevant European Partnerships and EU missions. 	<p>Per topic: 6.00</p> <p>Per project: 2.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 3 projects</p>
IMPROVING ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE	
<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-03: Support for the professionalisation of research management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Create joint virtual and non-virtual training programmes, networking programmes and curricula for research managers and prepare the road to certification and accreditation. → Further develop and implement a methodology to identify, train and ‘professionalise’ individuals who are essential support for the ‘research enterprise’ dimension. → Improve accessibility for research management staff from regions of lower R&I intensity. 	<p>Per topic: 1.00</p> <p>Per project: 1.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>

<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-04: Strengthening researchers’ skills for better careers – leveraging the European Competence Framework for Researchers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Support research performing organisations in adapting and reinforcing formal and targeted training for researchers based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the European Competence Framework for Researchers (ResearchComp) to foster transversal skills (put a specific emphasis on science communication and making research careers attractive). • Promote and support networking and exchange of best practices. • Foster strategic partnerships with ecosystem actors. 	<p>Per topic: 0.50</p> <p>Per project: 0.50</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: OPEN SCIENCE	
<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-07: Capacity building on Intellectual Property (IP) management to support open science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Support education and training in adequate IP management which is an important enabler of open science. → Build capacity in research organisations and their staff, support and equip researchers at all stages with the knowledge they need about adequate IP management. 	<p>Per topic: 2.00</p> <p>Per project: 2.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>
<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-08: Global cooperation in not-for-profit open access publishing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Gather, share and improve good practices with regard to the non-technological aspects of service provision and with regard to business models. → Implement practices that will strengthen high-quality publishing services at the global scale. → Develop training materials and organize virtual trainings for not-for-profit publishing service providers and their editors. 	<p>Per topic: 2.50</p> <p>Per project: 2.50</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>
<p>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-09: Support to the development and implementation of policies and practices for reproducibility of scientific results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Build expertise and support research organisations to develop and implement policies and interventions, coordinate efforts between stakeholders. → Support the development of training materials and training programmes, mutual learning and exchange of practices and tools and awareness raising. → Put in place mechanisms to monitor the effects of policies and practices implemented. 	<p>Per topic: 2.00</p> <p>Per project: 2.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>

^{1,2} Please note that the Commission is considering to cancel the topic “[HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-05: Experimentation and exchange of good practices for value creation](#)”, that is why the topic is not included here. The next amendment of the Work Programme will propose to re-introduce the topic with an updated description to be funded under a call in 2024.

³ Please note that the full topic description is indispensable for the preparation of the application. For the full topic description (including additional specific conditions), please consult the WIDERA Work Programme 2023-2024 or the respective call topic page in the Funding & Tenders Portal.

Topic titles including core tasks	Budgets in EUR million
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: GENDER	
<p><u>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-10</u>: Policy coordination to support all aspects of inclusive Gender Equality Plans and policies in the ERA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Develop a sustainable network of national representatives from EU Member States (at least 23) and Associated Countries. → Develop knowledge and build capacities on inclusive gender equality plans and policies including mutual learning. → Contribute to policy making and promote an inclusive and gender-responsive culture-change. 	<p>Per topic: 3.50</p> <p>Per project: 3.50</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>
<p><u>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-11</u>: Support to the implementation of inclusive gender equality plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Advanced organisations will mentor less advanced organisations on best practices, processes, monitoring and actions to undertake in the inclusive gender equality plans. • Address new areas, implement specific actions addressing intersectionality and diversity. • Organise activities such as on-site visits, training, capacity building. 	<p>Per topic: 3.00</p> <p>Per project: 0.50 - 1.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 4 projects</p>
DEEPENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: ETHICS	
<p><u>HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-01-12</u>: Next generation AI and Human Behaviour: promoting an ethical approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Review the current landscape, select three exemplary areas of research. → Establish specialized, inclusive networks of expertise. → Develop operational guidelines for AI systems that build on the study of human cognition and behaviour. → Develop a toolbox for international cooperation in AI research and development. → Produce innovative training material, train - among others - Horizon Europe Ethics Experts. 	<p>Per topic: 3.00</p> <p>Per project: 3.00</p> <p>Funding for up to 1 project</p>

Basic information regarding proposals

Proposals

Relevant documents and information as well as access to the submission system are available on the respective [call page](#) in the Funding & Tenders Portal. Proposals are submitted online in a single-step process. They are [pre-structured](#) and consist of an A-part (online forms) and a B-part (the actual proposal, 30 pages long). Proposals must strictly

follow the predefined proposal structure. A successful proposal addresses all aspects of the topic description – the expected outcome as well as the scope. Applicants should also address relevant expected impacts as listed on page 74-75 of the WIDERA work programme. Applicants should try to meet the evaluation criteria to the greatest possible extent.

Composition of the consortium

Proposals for a CSA may be submitted by one or more legal entities established in a Member State, countries associated to Horizon Europe (Associated Countries), or – in exceptional cases and if provided for in the specific call conditions – a third country. Due to the nature of this programme part, it is generally recommended to build a consortium even if one legal entity would formally suffice.

Depending on the topic, actors from the research, education and innovation system, from civil society or from the business sector are addressed. Please keep in mind that some call topics define specific requirements, e.g., the participation of a specified stakeholder organisation. Participation as coordinating or partner organisation is equally open to entities from EU Member States and from Associated Countries.

Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)

The type of action (project type) is defined in the topic. The ERA call 2024 comprises Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) only. Depending on the topic, the purpose of a

CSA is dissemination, raising awareness and communication activities, mutual learning exercises, networking coordination, policy dialogues, studies, and other support services.

Funding rates

The maximum Horizon Europe **funding rate** is 100% of eligible direct costs for Coordination and Support Actions plus a 25% flat rate of the total eligible direct costs for indirect costs, excluding eligible direct costs for subcontracting and financial support to third parties.

Evaluation

The **evaluation** is carried out by independent experts. It is based on the three award criteria Excellence, Impact and Implementation. These criteria are reflected in the structure of proposal section B. The criteria are equally weighted and can **score** a maximum of 5 points each. The threshold value for the individual criteria is 3 points, the overall threshold is 10 points.

Information and advice

The WIDERA National Contact Points provide free and confidential advice on all questions related to the ERA part and the application process. They also offer proposal checks. Early contact is recommended. Find the WIDERA NCP of your country in the [NCP database](#).



ERA call page in the
Funding & Tenders Portal

Task leader:



Task co-leader:



NCP_WIDERA.NET is the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points. Visit us on www.ncpwideranet.eu, register for our newsletter and follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn to stay up to date on ERA and WIDENING.

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