WIDE AcrossEU | Newsletter # 7

Meet WIDE AcrossEU

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Hashtags #WIDE_AcrossEU #HorizonEU #European_Union #EUResearch

Events

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, MSCA, provides fellowships to researchers to support them in continuing their scientific work in European host institutions.
Towards widening opportunities, on October 13, 2025, a webinar "Enhanced collaboration with the Ukrainian higher education sector through MSCA4Ukraine fellowships" was held as part of the MSCA initiative. The event brought together representatives of universities, academic institutions, and MSCA4Ukraine fellows to discuss practical strategies for supporting displaced Ukrainian researchers and fostering long-term academic cooperation. During the webinar, speakers emphasised the importance of maintaining academic ties, developing joint research projects, co-supervising PhD students, and preparing reintegration plans for fellows returning to Ukrainian institutions. The event underscored the role of international academic solidarity in sustaining Ukraine's research and innovation potential.

On October 16, 2025, the ForEU4All team, an initiative of the European University Alliances - a collaborative and supportive platform - shared best practices and results, and disclosed activities that need to be undertaken to strengthen cooperation. This meeting was also related to possibilities of creating new alliances, which is on top theme for WIDE AcrossEU, and to the prospects for enhancing the knowledge, skills, and effectiveness of the partners.

Networking events are fruitful when all active people come together, regardless of their location. Workshop «Intro to Science Diplomacy» with the participation of the Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine was held on 21-22.10.2025. Researchers from the University of Applied Sciences in Wittenborg (UVIC-UCC, Netherlands), the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), CONNECT-UK, the Polonium Foundation, RAICEX, DNA-UK, and members of the European scientific diaspora shared their visions and created opportunities to move forward together.

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The "WIDE AcrossEU Information and Networking Event" is about WIDERA and MSCA calls, successful MSCA projects, and exploring how the WIDE AcrossEU project can support research collaboration and project proposal preparation. On October 30, 2025, partners were inspired by keynote speakers from the Technology Centre Prague, the University of Lapland, and the University of Pardubice, and were given the opportunity to share project ideas, research fields, and collaboration interests. Twinning and Excellence Hubs, MSCA Doctoral Networks, and MSCA Staff Exchanges, the PARTY project, and support from the WIDE AcrossEU project Team - the space where success stories meet opportunities

Invest time and catch the opportunities! Webinar “Developing and Implementing Monitoring Tools for R&D Projects”, organised by the National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU) and Science Europe on the 25th of November, 2025, is one of the joint series Building Capacity in the Ukrainian R&I Ecosystem. The session focused on developing and implementing effective monitoring tools for R&D projects, and explored practical approaches to tracking progress, evaluating results, and assessing project impact. International experts shared their experience with monitoring instruments used across leading research organisations, and offered valuable insights for strengthening transparency and efficiency in project management.

IP LET Forum 2025, which aimed at strengthening the intellectual property and innovation ecosystem, took place in Ukraine on November 27, 2025. The team and researchers had the opportunity to join a key platform dedicated to advancing intellectual property, legal education, and technology transfer in Ukraine. The Forum programme brings together policymakers, researchers, educators, innovators, and IP professionals to discuss modern challenges and opportunities in the IP landscape. It was focused on building a resilient innovation ecosystem, supporting integration into the European research space, and promoting effective IP management for universities, businesses, and startups. The Forum became an important step in strengthening capacity in research, innovation, and knowledge transfer.

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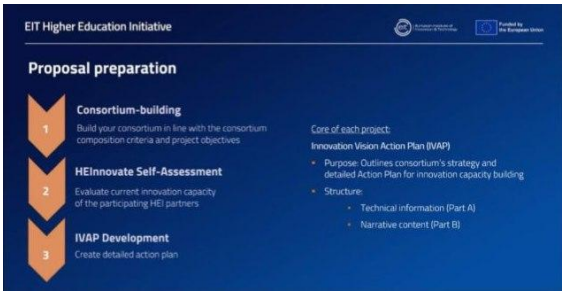
The task was solved on December 4, 2025 #WIDE_AcrossEU team had an opportunity to join a webinar designed to strengthen research practices and support alignment with European standards, “3 Training Sessions on Open Access, Dissemination & Exploitation, and FAIR RDM”. The first part, “OpenAIRE: Open Access for Beginner Researchers,” was based on the module on open access publishing, overcoming the challenges. The second part, “Dissemination and Exploitation from a Horizon Perspective,” focused on communication and dissemination strategies, including exploitation, as well as compliance with Horizon Europe requirements. The third part, “FAIR Research Data Management: A Practical Introduction,” was based on the module related to research data management. These sessions provided practical insights into open science, dissemination, and responsible research data management, empowering researchers to enhance visibility, impact, and compliance in their projects.

The Europa Media portal organised a series of webinars from December 8 to 12, 2025. The topics were more than insightful: "Filling the Detailed Budget Table for Lump Sum Proposals", "Horizon Europe Periodic Reporting Made Simple", "Understanding Key Impact Pathways in Horizon Europe", "Demystifying the Audit Process in Horizon Europe", "Expanding Open Science in Horizon Europe". All the #WIDE_AcrossEU partners had the opportunity to be inspired by the successful cases of budgeting, reporting, impact pathways, audits, and open science in Horizon Europe, presented by the experienced team, and to improve skills valuable to our project.



This December opened up new opportunities for further development of the startup ecosystem. Information Session #1 on the EIT Higher Education Initiative Call for Proposals 2025 provides institutions and partners with an overview of the call’s objectives, requirements, focus areas, eligibility, timeline, and opportunities to strengthen innovation, entrepreneurship, capacity building, consortium formation, and impact on December 15, 2025.

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Opened calls for project proposals

1. **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026**

- **Opens on 09th of April 2026**
- **For European Postdoctoral Fellowships, secondments cannot exceed half of the requested duration of the action (excluding from the duration of the action any additional period for a non-academic placement) and should be in line with the project objectives, adding significant value and impact to the fellowship.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 09th of September 2026**

2. **Developing methods to assess the presence, functions and sensitivity of groundwater ecosystems**

- **Opens on 17th April of 2026**
- **The European Environment Agency (EEA)'s report on Europe's state of water (2024) highlighted that 77% of groundwater, which supplies two thirds of the EU's drinking water, is in good chemical status. For groundwater not reaching good chemical status, the report identified nitrates, pesticides and pharmaceuticals among main issues. However, less is known about contaminants of emerging concern, such as perfluorinated substances (e.g. PFAS), microplastics and antimicrobial resistance.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 17th of September 2026**

3. **MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026**

- **Opens on 28th of May 2026**
- **MSCA Doctoral Networks will implement doctoral programmes, by partnerships of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond. MSCA Doctoral Networks are indeed open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 24th of November 2026**

4. **MSCA Staff Exchanges 2026**

- **Opens on 16th of December 2025**
- **Staff members gain enhanced research and transferable skills, stronger entrepreneurial mind-sets, and broader international networks.**
- **Participating organisations strengthen international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration, develop innovative cooperation models, and increase their research and innovation (R&I) capacity.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 16th of April 2026**

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5. **Twinning**
   - **Opened on 8th of January 2026**
   - **For Widening countries**
   - **Twinning enhances research quality, reputation and innovation capacity of the coordinating institution by building sustainable collaboration with at least two leading EU institutions.**
   - **The action establishes long-term, structured collaboration through joint R&I strategies, staff exchanges, training, workshops and networking activities, raising the research profile of both the institution and its staff while contributing to closing the EU research and innovation gap.**
   - **Single stage call**
   - **Deadline: 9th of April 2026**

Other opportunities

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/

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