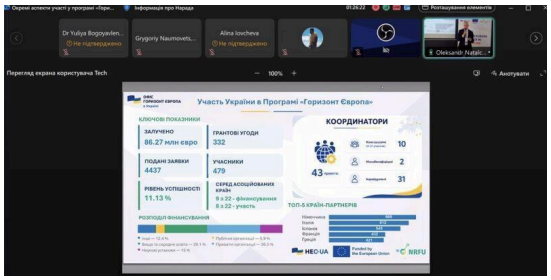
WIDE AcrossEU | Newsletter # 10

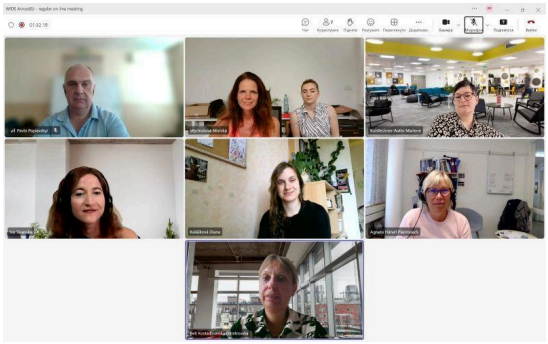
Meet WIDE AcrossEU

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Events

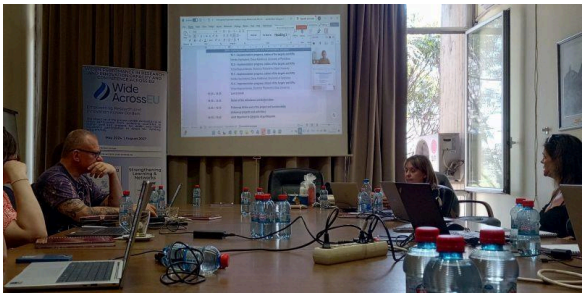


On 19 August 2026, an information event “Selected Aspects of Participation in the Horizon Europe Programme” took place, organized by the Horizon Europe Office in Ukraine. The event brought together representatives of the research community, higher education institutions, and research organizations. It provided a platform for discussing current opportunities for Ukrainian researchers to participate in the Horizon Europe Programme. During the event, participants learned about the specifics of using the EU Funding & Tenders Portal, preparing and implementing projects, funding opportunities for businesses, as well as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) component, and European Defence Fund. Participation in such events is an important element in strengthening international cooperation and expanding the opportunities to engage in the European research area within the framework of Horizon Europe.



Before partners meeting on set, the WIDE_AcrossEU team on August 31, 2026, checked the milestones and deliverables, progress with presentation at conferences (ICERI, EARMA), project proposals consultancy, discussed project team meeting and conference in Skopje, job-shadowing in Ohrid and online, detailed external trainings schedules and outcomes.

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International events within the WIDE AcrossEU project took place in Skopje and Ohrid, North Macedonia, September 15-18, 2026, uniting representatives from universities, research organizations, authorities, business, civil society, NCPs and EU-level institutions across Europe. The program began on September 15, 2026, at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, where a project partner coordination meeting was held. The meeting focused on analysing the current status of project WPs' implementation and the achievement of target KPIs. The participants reviewed progress on tasks related to acquiring professional skills in international project management,
preparing new project proposals, and leveraging R&D funding opportunities through partner collaboration and network development.The team discussed the importance of the sustainable use of the project's outcomes, the further dissemination of the results, and the fostering of synergy
among partners.



On September 16, 2026, a Job-shadowing program began in Ohrid, North Macedonia, in a hybrid format, organized by
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje / Универзитет „Св. Кирил и Методиј“ во Скопје. The entire program focused on sharing professional experience in managing international R&D
support services at the University of Lapland and Umeå universitet. The inspiring mentors Dr. Pamela Lesser, Senior Specialist Harri Malinen, Senior Specialist Marlene Kohllechner-Autto from the University of Lapland, Finland, Assoc. Prof. Agneta Plamboeck from Umeå universitet, Sweden, was working with mentees from Widening countries. Within the session “Funding Opportunity Identification and Proposal Support” participants explored approaches to identifying relevant calls and funding schemes, as well as steps towards preparing project proposals. The session “Post-Award Project Management and Support” addressed post-award support, including project management and practical tools to support effective project implementation after funding has been secured. On September 17, 2026, the Job-shadowing session “Observation of a Proposal Preparation Meeting” continued with practical tasks, group sessions, coaching, facilitation, and teamwork aimed at preparing a joint project application for a HorizonEurope call, using the templates and tools prepared by mentors from RDI support services to co-create a new joint project. Working sessions enabled participants to share firsthand insights into the proposal development process, formulate a project idea and prepare an application for a European funding calls. Thus, the entire program provided participants with an opportunity to observe good practices and working methods employed by RDI support professionals at HEIs. In particular, participants gained valuable insight into the approaches, tools, and procedures used by the University of Lapland's and Umeå universitet's RDI Support Services.



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On September 18, 2026, the international conference “Towards Advanced Pathways to Synergies in European R&I” took place at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. The event focused on strengthening the European Research and Innovation Area, the role of universities in EU programmes and international partnerships. The conference opened with welcoming remarks from Prof. Dr. Biljana Angelova, Rector of the host university, and Prof. Dr. Eric Leroy du Cardonnoy from Université de Caen Normandie. During “Capacity and Competence Pathway”, Prof. Dr. Dimitar Trajanov presented the VEZILKA AI Factory Antenna project supported by Horizon Europe. The panel “Accessing R&I Funding Opportunities – WIDE AcrossEU Project”, moderated by Beti Kostadinovska, brought together Monika Vejchodova, Marlene Kohllechner-Autto, Simone Wenkel, Yuliya Bogoyavlenska and Prof. Dr. Violeta Cvetkoska. The discussion focused on experience in implementing Horizon Europe projects and opportunities for their sustainability. The session “Aligning Policies and Maximizing Impact in R&I” addressed institutional, regional and European research and innovation policies, smart specialization, research infrastructures and EU funding opportunities. Speakers included Prof. Dr. Zoran T. Popovski, Unna Löppönen, Prof. Dr. Anastas Mishev, Petra Fedorová and Niklas Johansson. The panel “Industry–Academia Collaboration in EU Projects and Beyond”, moderated by Prof. Dr. Ivana Janeska Stamenkovska, featured Prof. Dr. Ivan Chorbev, Prof. Dr. Petr Doležel, Prof. Dr. Vladimir Atanasovski and Prof. Dr. Blagoja Samakoski. Participants discussed university–industry cooperation and effective partnerships in R&I projects. The conference, consortium meeting and job-shadowing activities enabled partners to exchange experience, present their achievements and strengthen international cooperation.



To continue activities, partners are widening cooperation with NCPs. Horizon Europe Office in Ukraine continues to unite academia, business, government, authorities, and civil society towards creating a sustainable future and ecosystems. Event on the dissemination of information “Ukraine in the Horizon Europe Framework Programme: Achievements, Systemic Challenges and Ways to Overcome Them” held in hybrid format on August 25, 2026. The sessions covered the role of the Horizon Europe Programme in Ukraine’s recovery and integration into the European Research Area, as well as Ukraine’s results within the Horizon Europe Programme. Small steps, impactful results.

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The next webinar in the series on “Building Capacity in the Ukrainian R&I Ecosystem”, organised by the National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU) and Science Europe, was held on September 25, 2026. The topic “Financial Management of Research Projects: From Grant Application to Successful Implementation” was devoted to balancing oversight and autonomy, budget rigidity vs. flexibility, aligning authority with accountability and preventing double funding without administrative overhead. International partners made valuable contributions to participants' R&D management skills, and the WIDE_AcrossEU team members were among them.



Event of the European Commission on the European Research Area! “Talent Ecosystems: Building sustainable research careers”, the all-day online event, disclosed the showcasing project progress and synergies, feedback on policy, and the increasing impact of future grants on September 29, 2026. The project management team set prospects and is already moving forward towards new opportunities, as usual.

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Opened calls for project proposals

1. **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03:**

- **Opened on 05th of May 2026**
- **This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 01th of December 2026**

2. **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01:**

- **Opened on 05th of May 2026**
- **Proposals are encouraged to exploit synergies with successful proposals from the topic 'HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01: Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus' to avoid duplication and exploit opportunities for increased impact.**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 01th of December 2026**

3. **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02:**

- **Opened on 05th of May 2026**
- **Increased investment in projects for the transformation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) may be hindered due to a discrepancy between the demand and supply of capital in terms of size, diversity, returns, and risk. Small-scale NEB-aligned projects typically encounter large, short-term oriented, and highly risk-averse investment funds, which seek investment opportunities able to absorb large amounts of funding, driven by present legislation**
- **Single stage call**
- **Deadline: 01th of December 2026**

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Other opportunities

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

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