Basic information

2025/0543(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Horizon Europe framework programme for research and innovation 2028–2034 Repealing Regulation 2021/695 2018/0224(COD) **Subject** 3.50.02.01 EC, EU framework programme 3.50.04 Innovation **Legislative priorities** Joint Declaration 2026	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	EHLER Christian (EPP)	06/11/2025
	Shadow rapporteur GÁLVEZ Lina (S&D) RECHAGNEUX Julie (PfE) ZALEWSKA Anna (ECR) IJABS Ivars (Renew) NIINISTÖ Ville (Greens/EFA) PAPPAS Nikos (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
SEDE Security and Defence	MAVRIDES Costas (S&D)	19/11/2025
CONT Budgetary Control	CHASTEL Olivier (Renew)	15/01/2026
REGI Regional Development	STURDZA Şerban Dimitrie (ECR)	26/01/2026
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	RUISSEN Bert-Jan (ECR)	05/01/2026

	CULT Culture and Education	FARRENG Laurence (Renew)	19/11/2025

Committee for budgetary assessment	Rapporteur for budgetary assessment	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	SOUSA SILVA Hélder (EPP)	13/01/2026

Council of the European Union	
European Commission	

Commission DG	Commissioner
Research and Innovation	ZAHARIEVA Ekaterina

European Economic and Social Committee

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/07/2025	Legislative proposal published	COM(2025)0543	Summary
23/10/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
10/11/2026	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
10/11/2026	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations with report adopted in committee		
13/11/2026	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A10-0299/2026	

Technical information

Procedure reference	2025/0543(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	Repealing Regulation 2021/695 2018/0224(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 58 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 182-p1 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 173-p3 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 322-p1 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 182-p5 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 188-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Committee dossier	ITRE/10/03673

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE785.237	13/03/2026	
Committee opinion	CONT	PE784.221	31/03/2026	
Committee opinion	REGI	PE782.392	07/04/2026	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE782.309	08/04/2026	
Committee opinion	SEDE	PE782.488	09/04/2026	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE786.953	10/04/2026	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE786.960	10/04/2026	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE786.961	10/04/2026	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE786.968	10/04/2026	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE782.406	16/04/2026	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE782.453	25/06/2026	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0299/2026	13/11/2026	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2025)0543	16/07/2025	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	DE_BUNDESRAT	COM(2025)0543	28/10/2025	
Contribution	ES_PARLIAMENT	COM(2025)0543	31/10/2025	
Contribution	CZ_SENATE	COM(2025)0543	05/12/2025	
Contribution	DE_BUNDESRAT	COM(2025)0543	10/12/2025	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	52026AA0002 OJ OJ C 13.01.2026	11/12/2025	
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES2760/2025	22/01/2026	

CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0026/2026	07/05/2026	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Parliament	Briefing	02/12/2025
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency

Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/10/2026	Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences Lappeenrannan-Lahden teknillinen yliopisto LUT Oulun yliopisto Satakunnan ammattikorkeakoulu Savonia-ammattikorkeakoulu oy Sivistysala ry Turku University of Applied Sciences Ltd Turun yliopisto Åbo Akademi University Centria University of Applied Sciences Karelia University of Applied Sciences Oulu University of Applied Sciences Novia University of Applied Sciences Häme University of Applied Sciences Tampere University of Applied Sciences Diakonia University of Applied Sciences
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	30/09/2026	European Association Automotive Suppliers
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	09/09/2026	Turun yliopisto
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	03/09/2026	Confederation of Finnish Industries EK
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/08/2026	Åbo Akademi University Arene ry Unifi
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	30/06/2026	UK Government
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	24/06/2026	Science Europe
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	23/06/2026	JIC (Jihomoravské inovační centrum)
FARRENG Laurence	Rapporteur for opinion	CULT	11/06/2026	Fondation des Sciences du Patrimoine
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/06/2026	Oulun yliopisto
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	10/06/2026	International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	10/06/2026	International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	10/06/2026	Lappeenrannan-Lahden teknillinen yliopisto LUT
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	09/06/2026	BUSINESSEUROPE
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/06/2026	BUSINESSEUROPE
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/06/2026	28DIGITAL IVZW
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	29/05/2026	Comité régional des pêches maritimes et des élevages marins de La Réunion
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/05/2026	Business Finland
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/05/2026	Unifi
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/05/2026	EEA EFTA Countries
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/05/2026	European Technology Platform for organic food and farming
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/05/2026	Bitkom e.V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/05/2026	Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique Helmholtz Zentrum München Deutsches Forschungszentrum für Gesundheit und Umwelt GmbH Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften National Research Council of Italy Wissenschaftsgemeinschaft Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz e. V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/05/2026	Hochschulrektorenkonferenz Universities UK Universities Australia American Council on Education Universities Canada Universities New Zealand
HETMAN Krzysztof	Shadow rapporteur	REGI	11/05/2026	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements EU Regional Group
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/05/2026	Deutsche Meeresstiftung
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/05/2026	Association européenne des consultants en innovation (EAIC
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/05/2026	COIMBRA GROUP Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research EU-LIFE European University Association League of European Research Universities The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities Young European Research Universities Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/05/2026	Centre for European Policy Studies Fondazione per la Scuola Fundación "la Caixa" Novo Nordisk Foundation Philanthropy Europe Association
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/05/2026	Centre for European Policy Studies Fundación "la Caixa" Novo Nordisk Foundation Philanthropy Europe Association Wellcome Trust
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/04/2026	Ambassadeur du Maroc auprès de l'Union

EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	24/04/2026	Johnson & Johnson
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	23/04/2026	Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	22/04/2026	Africa Europe Science Collaboration Platform
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/04/2026	Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/04/2026	Vaeridion GmbH
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/04/2026	TECNALIA Research & Innovation
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/04/2026	Young European Research Universities Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	16/04/2026	INPACT! Scientists–Innovators Europe
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	16/04/2026	Nesta
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	09/04/2026	European Organization for Nuclear Research
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	07/04/2026	Technische Universität Dortmund
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	01/04/2026	Rolls-Royce
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	31/03/2026	VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd
IJABS Ivars	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/03/2026	Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	30/03/2026	Netherlands House for Education and Research (Neth-ER)
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	26/03/2026	Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/03/2026	European Association for the Applied Sciences in Higher Education
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/03/2026	Représentation permanente de la Hongrie auprès du Conseil européen
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	25/03/2026	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
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EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	24/03/2026	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	23/03/2026	WindEurope
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	23/03/2026	Marie Curie Alumni Association
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/03/2026	Joint European Disruptive Initiative
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/03/2026	Vereniging Hogescholen
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/03/2026	European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	19/03/2026	Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	18/03/2026	Swiss Mission to the EU
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2026	G6
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2026	SAFRAN
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2026	Canadian Mission to the EU

NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2026	Neogames Finland
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EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/03/2026	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2026	The Research Council of Norway
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2026	Novo Nordisk Foundation
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2026	BUSINESSEUROPE CEFIC - European Chemical Industry Council COIMBRA GROUP Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research EU-LIFE European Association of Research and Technology Organisations European University Association League of European Research Universities Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills SMEunited aisbl SwissCore, Contact Office for European Research, Innovation and Education The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities Universities of Applied Sciences for Europe European Alliance of Social Sciences and Humanities
IJABS Ivars	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2026	Orgalim – Europe's Technology Industries
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2026	Netherlands House for Education and Research (Neth-ER)
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	09/03/2026	Joint European Disruptive Initiative
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2026	UniLion
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2026	DG RTD
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2026	BUSINESSEUROPE
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2026	Turku University of Applied Sciences Ltd
LAKOS Eszter	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	SEDE	03/03/2026	Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research
STROLENBERG Anna	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	03/03/2026	TP Organics
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/03/2026	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Hochschulrektorenkonferenz Wissenschaft
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	03/03/2026	Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/03/2026	Technische Universität München
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2026	Government of Norway
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/02/2026	European Technology Platform for organic food and farming
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/02/2026	Suomen akatemia
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	25/02/2026	Siemens AG
IJABS Ivars	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/02/2026	EARTO

RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	24/02/2026	Marie Curie Alumni Association
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	23/02/2026	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2026	Wellcome Trust
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	19/02/2026	Hochschulrektorenkonferenz
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/02/2026	Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research TNO
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/02/2026	Orgalim – Europe's Technology Industries
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/02/2026	Infineon Technologies AG
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	16/02/2026	Mission of Israel to the EU
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	16/02/2026	European Patent Organisation
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/02/2026	WindEurope
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	10/02/2026	Tuscan Organisation of Universities and Research for Europe
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	10/02/2026	WindEurope
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2026	European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2026	European Regions Research and Innovation Network
LAKOS Eszter	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	SEDE	05/02/2026	ASD-Eurospace
LAKOS Eszter	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	SEDE	05/02/2026	University of Lorraine
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/02/2026	University sector
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/02/2026	Informal Group of RTD Liaison Offices
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/02/2026	Mediapro
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/02/2026	Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/02/2026	Novo Nordisk Foundation
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/02/2026	Commissariat à l'Energie atomique et aux énergies alternatives Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. European Defence Research & Innovation Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/02/2026	DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevoelkerung)
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/02/2026	European Leadership Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/02/2026	Siemens AG
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	02/02/2026	Aalto University / Aalto-korkeakoulusäätiö
IJABS Ivars	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	30/01/2026	EUA, Coimbra Group, EU-LIFE, The Guild, LERU, YERUN
WALSH Maria	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	29/01/2026	Enterprise Ireland
LAKOS Eszter	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	SEDE	29/01/2026	Norwegian University of Science and Technology

LAKOS Eszter	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	SEDE	28/01/2026	European Organisation for Security
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/01/2026	European Council for Automotive R&D
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/01/2026	Alstom
STROLENBERG Anna	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	27/01/2026	Wageningen University
NIINISTÖ Ville	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/01/2026	Confederation of Finnish Industries EK
RUISSEN Bert-Jan	Rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	26/01/2026	Copa Cogeca
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	20/01/2026	Canadian Mission to the EU
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	09/01/2026	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst European University Association Scholars at Risk Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	08/01/2026	Orgalim – Europe's Technology Industries
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	08/01/2026	Alliance4Europe gGmbH
RECHAGNEUX Julie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/12/2025	newcleo
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	08/12/2025	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/12/2025	Ghent University
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	01/12/2025	COIMBRA GROUP Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research EU-LIFE European University Association League of European Research Universities The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities Young European Research Universities Network
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/11/2025	Miller International Knowledge
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/11/2025	Suomen Akateemisten Naisten Liitto - Finlands Kvinnliga Akademikers Förbund ry.
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/11/2025	Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	18/11/2025	Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	14/11/2025	28DIGITAL IVZW
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/11/2025	Wissenschaftsgemeinschaft Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz e. V.
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/11/2025	Photonics21 Association
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/11/2025	Technische Universiteit Delft
EHLER Christian	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/11/2025	The Norwegian Research Council
GÁLVEZ Lina	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	22/10/2025	UK Mission to the European Union

Other Members

Transparency

Name	Date	Interest representatives
VEROUGSTRAETE Yvan	15/10/2026	European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine
LØKKEGAARD Morten	21/04/2026	Videnskabernes Selskab
LØKKEGAARD Morten	01/04/2026	Central Denmark EU Office
ZIJLSTRA Auke	26/03/2026	Netherlands House for Education and Research (Neth-ER)
ZIJLSTRA Auke	19/03/2026	Vereniging Hogescholen
EHLER Christian	04/11/2025	Vereniging Universiteiten van Nederland Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad
EHLER Christian	03/11/2025	Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
EHLER Christian	20/10/2025	Marie Curie Alumni Association
EHLER Christian	20/10/2025	European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
EHLER Christian	16/10/2025	DIGITALEUROPE
EHLER Christian	08/10/2025	Technische Universiteit Delft
EHLER Christian	08/10/2025	Helsinki EU Office
EHLER Christian	02/10/2025	International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers
EHLER Christian	02/10/2025	European Regions Research and Innovation Network
EHLER Christian	01/10/2025	Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren e.V.
EHLER Christian	25/09/2025	ZVEI e.V. - Verband der Elektro- und Digitalindustrie
EHLER Christian	22/09/2025	Rolls-Royce
EHLER Christian	17/09/2025	Bundesarbeitskreis der EU-ReferentInnen
EHLER Christian	16/09/2025	Eindhoven University of Technology
EHLER Christian	05/09/2025	European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities
EHLER Christian	04/09/2025	SESAR 3 JU
EHLER Christian	03/09/2025	Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking
EHLER Christian	28/08/2025	Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren e.V. Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften National Research Council of Italy Wissenschaftsgemeinschaft Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz e. V.
EHLER Christian	27/08/2025	COIMBRA GROUP Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research European University Association Ghent University League of European Research Universities Norwegian University of Science and Technology The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities Young European Research Universities Network FOREU4ALL
EHLER Christian	27/08/2025	Scholars at Risk Network
EHLER Christian	26/08/2025	BUSINESSEUROPE European Association of Research and Technology Organisations European Chemical Industry Council Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. Infineon Technologies AG Orgalim – Europe's Technology Industries Robert Bosch GmbH

EHLER Christian	26/08/2025	Informal Group of RTD Liaison Offices

Horizon Europe framework programme for research and innovation 2028–2034

2025/0543(COD) - 16/07/2025 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to establish Horizon Europe, the framework programme for research and innovation, for the period 2028-2034, and to set its rules for participation and dissemination.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: on 16 July 2025, the Commission unveiled its proposal for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-2034, a budget of nearly EUR 2 trillion between 2028 and 2034 designed to strengthen Europe's sovereignty, competitiveness and resilience.

This new MFF will significantly improve the EU's ability to implement fundamental policies while tackling new and emerging issues.

To remain competitive, resilient, and united, **Europe must prioritise research and innovation**. This imperative is underlined in the Draghi report on the future of the EU's competitiveness, which places innovation at the heart of Europe's ability to return to productivity growth. Europe must increase its investment in innovation and address its weaknesses, starting with the barriers that stand in the way of bringing innovation to market.

In response to these challenges, the Commission is presenting a **simplified and refocused** Horizon Europe programme aimed at strengthening the EU's scientific and technological bases, boost the circulation and uptake of knowledge, technologies and innovation, and leveraging EU funding instruments to achieve maximum added value, in order to have a catalytic effect on new public and private investments in Member States.

CONTENT: this proposal establishes the **tenth Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe**, a key instrument to deliver the policy ambitions set out in the Commission's proposal for the next long-term EU budget (2028-2034) and the policy priorities for 2024-2029.

The Commission proposes to **double the budget** of the Horizon Europe research and innovation framework programme to **EUR 175 billion**.

Programme objectives

The new programme aims to promote science, protect the fundamental values of independence and openness, enhance Europe's excellent knowledge base, and boost the EU's competitiveness. It will support cutting-edge research and innovation, attract and encourage research talent, foster international collaboration, and build links between science and society. Its architecture is designed to improve coherence and performance.

The proposed programme is based on four pillars:

- **Pillar I, Excellent Science (EUR 44 billion)** aims to strengthen the EU's scientific base, attract top talent, promote research excellence in Europe and provide the best scientific evidence for EU policies. In this context, i) the European Research Council (ERC) will be expanded to increase its capacity to support frontier research, with a focus on funding excellent researchers and their teams; ii) the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions will continue to support research training and career development.

- **Pillar II, Competitiveness and Society (EUR 75.8 billion)** aims to support collaborative research and innovation in areas with high societal impact. It targets EU competitiveness in areas such as the clean transition, digital leadership, defence, industry and space, in close cooperation with the European Competitiveness Fund. It will also address global societal challenges and introduce EU missions, as well as the new European Bauhaus mechanism. Partnerships will remain a key instrument of the programme. They will be simplified and streamlined in their operation and organisation and can take different forms: public-public-private to public-public or public-private.

- **Pillar III, Innovation (EUR 38.7 billion)** aims to support innovation in Europe, with a focus on promoting the development of new products, services and business models. The European Innovation Council (EIC) will be expanded and will support innovative start-ups and SMEs, with a focus on promoting disruptive innovation and entrepreneurship. It will provide an unprecedented opportunity to support high-tech, dual-use and defence start-ups, including those deemed strategic and essential to the interests of the Union and its Member States, which are unable to access sufficient capital on the market.

- **Pillar IV, European Research Area (EUR 16.2 billion)** aims to support the development of a unified European Research Area (ERA), with a focus on promoting excellence and impact, including a reformed enlargement component. This component will support the development and operation of research and technology infrastructure, including, for the first time, support for capital expenditure.

The programme's implementation will be **streamlined**. This includes providing simplified support, reducing the number of topics, and shortening the time between call closing and grant signing.

Moonshot projects

Horizon Europe, closely linked to the European Competitiveness Fund, would have the capacity to develop **ambitious projects with a strong science component**, stimulating value creation and strategic autonomy at EU level. These projects would move from research to demonstration and

deployment in the real world. They would be supported by joint funding from the EU (Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund), national, public and private sources.

These ‘moonshot’ projects would boost progress in areas such as: i) the European Organisation for Nuclear Research’s (CERN) future circular collider; ii) clean aviation; iii) quantum computing; iv) next-generation AI; v) critical data sovereignty; vi) automated transport and mobility; vii) regenerative therapies; viii) fusion energy; ix) space economy; x) zero water pollution; and xi) ocean observation.