

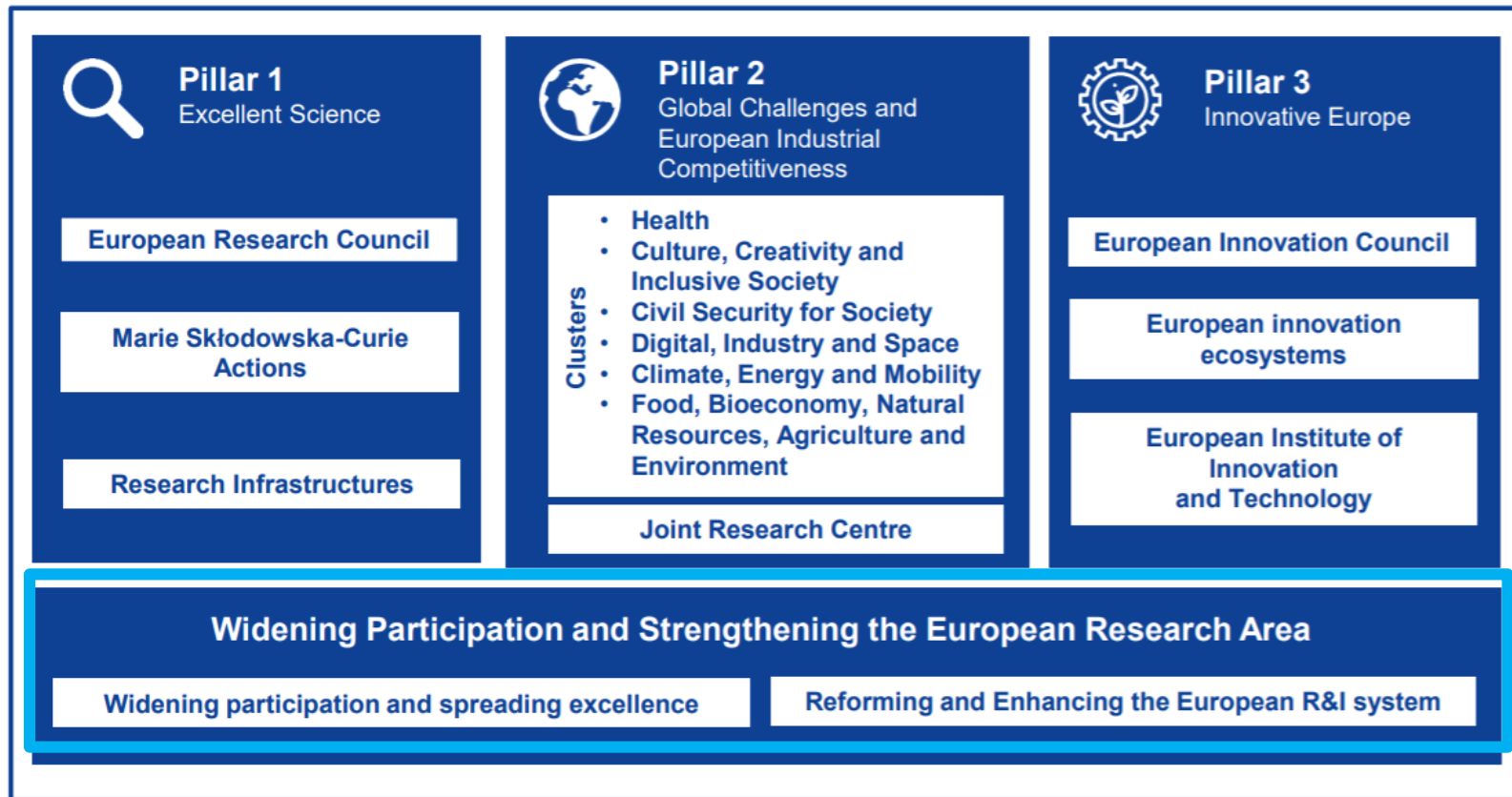
# Widening Participation and Strengthening the ERA

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# WIDENING AND ERA (WIDERA)



# WP 2021-22: OBJECTIVES

- Underpin geographical diversity and build the necessary capacity to allow successful participation in the R&I process
- Foster brain circulation across ERA through mobility of researchers and innovators, to address current imbalances
- Improve research management capacities
- Deepen the ERA
- Reinforce the interaction between education and research by dissemination and exploitation of research results
- Strengthen collaborative links across EU and open up European R&I networks

# WIDENING PART

# WIDENING - RATIONALE

- significant disparities of R&I performance within the EU
- certain countries have low participation in the EU Framework Programmes because of:
  - insufficient national R&D investments
  - lack of synergies between national research systems and EU research landscape
  - system learning effects
  - reduced access to international networks
  - problems with information, communication and training

# WIDENING INSTRUMENTS

- Support to Widening countries in H2020 (2014-2020) – for the 1st time in EU FP
- Widening countries must be coordinators
  - three basic instruments: TEAMING, TWINNING and ERA Chairs, complemented by COST programme, Policy Support Facility (PSF) and Widening Fellowships (MSCA)
- Continuation in HE (2021-2027) - new elements and instruments
- Specific package of measures Advancing Europe:
  - horizontal part Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence
  - targeted measures across Horizon Europe (Hop On, matchmaking, proposal review)

- **Coordinated and Support Actions (CSA) – research and innovation costs are eligible in Widening instruments**

„coordination and support action“ means an action contributing to the objectives of the Programme, excluding research and innovation activities, **except when undertaken under the component "widening participation and spreading excellence" of the part "Widening Participation and strengthening the ERA"; ...**

*Regulation establishing HE, Article 2 – Definitions, paragraph (25h)*

# ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

## Low R&I performing or Widening countries

- in H2020: Composite Indicator of Research Excellence - (publications, top institutions, patents and ERC grants) with a corrective threshold of 70% of the EU average: 27 (15 EU MS + 12 AC)
- **in HE: named in the Regulation establishing the Framework Programme (EIS - modest and moderate innovators): currently 15 EU MS (13 NMS + PT and EL), 9 EU Outermost Regions) + x AC**
  - ORs: FR - Martinique, Mayotte, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Saint-Martin; PT - Madeira and the Azores; ES Canary Islands



# DESTINATION 1 - ACCESS

## Destination 1: Improved access to excellence

### 2021 calls

|  |             |              |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-02-01: Twinning Western Balkans                             | 20. 4. 2021 | 22. 9. 2021  |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03-01: Twinning   | 15. 6. 2021 | 21. 12. 2021 |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-05-01: European Excellence Initiative (EEI)                 | 9. 6. 2021  | 4. 11. 2021  |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-06-01: Support for R&I policy making in the Western Balkans | 4. 5. 2021  | 22. 9. 2021  |

# TWINNING WESTERN BALKANS

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-02-01

- Type of project: CSA
- Coordinators solely from Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Kosovo
- Opening: 20 April 2021; Deadline: 22 September 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 21; EU budget per project: M€ 0,8 – 1,5
- **A research component not exceeding 30% of the total HE grant may include preparatory research project (dedicated WP) - at least 70% of the research activities must take place at the premises of the coordinator**
- Project duration: up to 3 years
- **Expected no. of projects: 14**
- **Czech institutions can be advanced partners 😊 - be proactive**

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03-01

- Type of project: CSA
- Opening: 15 June 2021; Deadline: 21 December 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 149; EU budget per project: M€ 0,8 – 1,5
- **A research component not exceeding 30% of the total HE grant may include preparatory research project (dedicated WP) - at least 70% of the research activities must take place at the premises of the coordinator**
- Project duration: up to 3 years
- **Expected no. of projects: 100**

# NEW - EEI 1

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-05-01 (European Excellence Initiative)

- Type of project: CSA
- Opening: 9 June 2021; Deadline: 4 November 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 30; EU budget per project: M€ 1,5 – 2
- Entities who already benefit from the European Universities initiative pilot funding of Horizon 2020 can participate, but are excluded from receiving funding through this action.
- Project duration: *not specified*
- **Expected no. of projects: 15**
- **Guidance document for this call is in preparation**

- Capacity building to strengthen networks of HEIs and cooperation with surrounding ecosystems (including non-university research centres, businesses, societal actors or other non-academic entities)
- Mobilisation of local and regional government's investments in HE education sector
- Inclusion of research activities in strategically relevant domains with a centre of gravity in widening countries
- Preparing the networks towards the full roll-out of the European Universities initiative in the years to come (pending the evaluation of European Universities pilot)
- At least 2 organisations from HE sector in a Widening country (or different WCs), by linking it with at least 2 internationally-leading institutions from 2 different MS or AC

# SUPPORT TO R&I POLICY IN WBC

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-06-01

- Type of project: CSA
- Opening: 4 May 2021; Deadline: 22 September 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 5; EU Budget per project: M€ 4 – 5
- Support to the [WB Steering Platforms for R&I](#) and Education and Training (incl. support to the annual Ministerial meeting) – contact: [ZSI Austria](#)
- Project duration: up to 3 years
- **Expected no. of projects: 1**

# DESTINATION 1 - ACCESS

## Destination 1: Improved access to excellence

### 2022 calls

|  |             |                           |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-01-01-two-stage: Teaming for Excellence | 11. 5. 2021 | 9. 9. 2021<br>20. 4. 2022 |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01: Excellence Hubs                  | 3. 11. 2021 | 15. 3. 2022               |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-HOPON-01-01: Hop On Facility                   | 4. 1. 2022  | 20. 4. a 10. 11.<br>2022  |

# TEAMING FOR EXCELLENCE

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-01-01

- Type of project: CSA (**one single project – 2 phases abolished**), **BUT: 2-stage evaluation**
- Opening: 11 May 2021; Deadline: 9 September 2021 (1st stage), 20 April 2022 (2nd stage)
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 180; EU budget per project: M€ 8 – 15
- complementary funding equal to EU contribution needed
- **EU Synergy grant (joint evaluation of both project parts funded under Horizon Europe and under any chosen complementary funding source)**
- **A minor research component can be accepted not exceeding 10% of the total HE grant that may include a preparatory research project**
- Project duration: up to 6 years
- **Expected no. of projects: 12**



# NEW – EXCELLENCE HUBS 1

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01

- Type of project: CSA
- Opening: 3 November 2021; Deadline: 15 March 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 50; EU budget per project: M€ 3 – 5
- Dedicated innovation component; regions as R&I actors are addressed
- Research component should be developed by joint pilot research projects
- Project duration: *not specified*
- **Expected no. of projects: 10**

# EXCELLENCE HUBS 2

- Aim: to strengthen regional innovation excellence in placed based innovation ecosystems by cross-border collaboration on a common strategy and/or alongside value adding chains
- At least two different place based R&I ecosystems in at least two different WCs
- Each ecosystem needs to include four different categories of actors:
  - a) academic institutions (universities and/or non-university research centres or labs),
  - b) business entities (active established firms with relevant revenues),
  - c) public authorities or authorised agencies,
  - d) societal actors (civil society organisations, associations, citizens, end users, media...)
- Applicants can choose between a more regional orientation e.g. proven by a common denominator in their RIS3 or a more global orientation towards EU policy priorities such as the green or digital transition

# NEW – HOP ON FACILITY

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-HOPON-01-01

- Type of project: RIA
- Opening: 4 January 2022; Deadlines: 20 April 2022 and 10 November 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 40; EU budget per project: M€ 0,2 – 0,5
- Proposal must be submitted by the co-ordinator of a consortium funded under HE Pillar 2 with a valid grant agreement without any participant from a Widening country
- Proposal must include the accession of one additional partner from a Widening country
- **Expected no. of projects: 80**

# DESTINATION 2 - TALENTS

## Destination 2: Attracting and mobilising the best talents

### 2022 calls

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01-01: ERA Chairs      | 8. 6. 2021  | 15. 3. 2022 |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-02-01: ERA Fellowships | 15. 4. 2021 | 15. 9. 2021 |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-03-01: ERA Talents     | 1. 12. 2021 | 12. 4. 2022 |
| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-04-01: ERA Fellowships | 14. 4. 2022 | 15. 9. 2022 |

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01-01

- Type of project: CSA
- Opening: 8 June 2021; Deadline: 15 March 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 80; EU budget per project: M€ 1,5 – 2,5
- **Coordinator can opt between two modes / forms**
  - a joint application with the legal entity currently employing the future ERA Chair (partner institutions can be located in any country (including countries outside the EU) except the country of the coordinator)
  - proposal submission as a single applicant (with identified future ERA Chair holder)
- Research costs eligible up to 10% of the EU contribution
- Project duration: up to 5 years
- **Expected no. of projects: 32**

# NEW - ERA FELLOWSHIPS

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-02-01 (part of Fostering Balanced Brain Circulation – BBC)

- Type of project: TMA (Training and Mobility Action)
- Opening: 15 April 2021; Deadline: 15 September 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 8; EU budget per project: n/a
- **Builds on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2021 action (HORIZON-MSCA-PF-2021) – Widening Fellowships in H2020 (MSCA-IF-EF)**
- Target group are host organisations located in Widening Countries
- **Expected no. of projects: 50**

# NEW - ERA TALENTS

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-03-01 (part of Fostering Balanced Brain Circulation – BBC)

- Type of project: TMA (Training and Mobility Action)
- Opening: 1 December 2021; Deadline: 12 April 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 24; EU budget per project: n/a
- **Attract more R&I talents of diverse expertise to entities in WCs**
- *The topic is subject to the conclusions of a study organised by the EC that will map the brain drain problem across ERA, analyse its causes and identify the most appropriate solutions towards increased attractiveness for talents in WCs*
- **Expected no. of projects: n/a**

# NEW - ERA FELLOWSHIPS

## HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-04-01 (part of Fostering Balanced Brain Circulation – BBC)

- Type of project: TMA (Training and Mobility Action)
- Opening: 14 April 2022; Deadline: 15 September 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 8; EU budget per project: n/a
- **Builds on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022 action (HORIZON-MSCA-PF-2022)**
- Target group are host organisations located in Widening Countries
- **Expected no. of projects: 50**



# PLANNED WORKSHOPS

## Preliminary timetable:

May 2021:                      Teaming for Excellence

June 2021:                    European Excellence Initiative

August 2021:                TWINNING

September 2021:          ERA Chairs

October 2021:              Excellence Hubs

# ERA PART

# ERA - RATIONALE

**Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system - calls structured around 4 strands corresponding to the four objectives set out in the new ERA Communication (09/2020):**

1. Prioritise investments and reforms
  2. Improve access to excellence
  3. Translate R&I results into the economy
  4. Deepening the ERA
- The principle of excellence, meaning that the best researchers with the best ideas that respond best to the societal challenges obtain funding, remains the cornerstone for all investments under the ERA
  - More or less continuation of H2020 SwafS

# DESTINATION 3 – EU R&I SYSTEM

## Destination 3: Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system

### 2021 calls

| HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01                  |  | total no. of calls – 19 | total budget – M€ 55 | 8. 6. 2021 | 23. 9. 2021 |
|---|--|-------------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. Prioritizing investments and reforms     |  | 1 call                  |                      |            |             |
| 2. Improving access to excellence           |  | 1 call                  |                      |            |             |
| 3. Translating R&I results into the economy |  | 4 calls                 |                      |            |             |
| 4. Deepening the ERA                        |  | 13 calls                |                      |            |             |

# ERA CALLS 2021

## 1. Prioritizing investments and reforms (1 call)

### **HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-09: Support for policy makers – Programme level collaboration between national R&I programmes**

- Type of project: CSA (ERA Net)
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 5; EU budget per project: M€ 2 - 3
- Project duration: not specified but has to be appropriate to the ambition and complexity of the proposed topic
- Expected no. of projects: 2

# ERA CALLS 2021

## 2. Improving access to excellence (1 call)

### **HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-20: Europe-wide training and networking scheme for research managers**

**Aim:** improve training and skills development of research management staff, develop better R&I management capacity and guidance for researchers across the entire ERA, and pave the way towards institutional acknowledgement of the research management profession

- Type of project: CSA
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 3; EU budget per project: M€ 1,5
- Project duration: not specified
- **Expected no. of projects: 2**

# ERA CALLS 2021

## 3. Translating R&I results into the economy (4 calls)

**HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-30:** Implementation of a new macro-economic modelling concept

type of project: RIA, 1 project – M€ 1, duration: n/a

**HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-31:** Innowwide Bridging Facility - support to innovative European and African SMEs in conducting Viability Assessment Projects (VAPs) in Europe and Africa

type of project: CSA, 1 project – M€ 1,5 duration: n/a

**HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-32:** Standardisation Booster for fostering exploitation of FP-funded research results (increase participation of research performers in standardisation activities)

type of project: CSA, 1 project – M€ 2, duration: n/a

**HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-33:** R&I intensive IP management: Scenarios for the future

type of project: CSA, 1 project – M€ 1, duration: n/a

# ERA CALLS 2021

## 4. Deepening the ERA - 13 calls on the following topics:

- ✓ Open science (5 calls): impact of open science policies; FAIR data; open access publishing; rewarding the practice of open science
- ✓ Higher education institutions and researchers (1 call): increase the awareness of HEIs and research organisations to conventional and non-conventional threats
- ✓ Citizen science (2 calls): capacity-building and brokering network to make citizen science an integral part of the ERA; supporting and giving recognition to citizen science in the ERA
- ✓ Science education (1 call): Developing a STE(A)M roadmap for Science Education in HE
- ✓ Gender equality (2 calls): Centre of excellence on inclusive gender equality in R&I; implementation of the ERA gender equality and inclusiveness objectives within EU MS
- ✓ Ethics and integrity (2 calls): research ethics and integrity in response to crisis - coronavirus pandemic and beyond; Ensuring reliability and trust in quality of Research Ethics expertise in the context of new/emerging technologies



# DESTINATION 3 – EU R&I SYSTEM

## Destination 3: Reforming and enhancing the EU research and innovation system

### 2022 calls

| HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01                  |  | total no. of calls – 16 | total budget – M€ 64 | 19. 1. 2022 | 20. 4. 2022 |
|---|--|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Prioritizing investments and reforms     |  | 1 call                  |                      |             |             |
| 2. Improving access to excellence           |  | no call                 |                      |             |             |
| 3. Translating R&I results into the economy |  | 3 calls                 |                      |             |             |
| 4. Deepening the ERA                        |  | 12 calls                |                      |             |             |

# INFORMATION DAY ON ERA CALLS

**Save the date:**

**Tuesday 15 June 2021 (online or on site 😊)**

**Invitation:**

<https://www.h2020.cz/cs/eit-jrc-horizontalni-aktivita-euratom/sireni-excelence-a-podpora-ucasti/informace/novinky/informacni-webinar-k-vyzvam-era-2021-2022>

**Registration:**

[http://geform.tc.cz/InfoDen\\_HorizontEvropa\\_PosilovaniERA\\_online](http://geform.tc.cz/InfoDen_HorizontEvropa_PosilovaniERA_online)



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