

Partner Search Form
Horizon Europe
Health

FOR CONSORTIUM SEARCH

Date 08/09/2026

Deadline 08/10/2026 (stage 1)

CONTACT

Organisation	Boğaziçi University (Boğaziçi Üniversitesi)	Department	Institute of Biomedical Engineering (BME) / Center for Targeted Therapy Technologies (CT ³)
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Country	Türkiye (Horizon Europe associated country)	PIC	999882500 https://bogazici.edu.tr

Organisation type

Research organisation type	☒ Research Organisation ☒ University ☐ Company ☐ Other	Is your company a Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (SME*)? Number of employees: > 1 700 staff (442 full-time faculty, 267 research assistants); 16 173 students (2024-25)	☐ YES ☒ NO
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Your enterprise is an SME if:

- it is engaged in **economic activity**
- it has **less than 250 employees**
- it has either an **annual turnover not exceeding €50M**, or an **balance sheet total not exceeding €43M**
- it is **autonomous**

For the definition of SMEs, look at: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

Short introduction of key areas of institute's research:

Boğaziçi University (BU), Istanbul, is a public research university with roots dating to 1863, located in Türkiye — a Horizon Europe associated country. Key facts: Research University status since 2017; 162 laboratories and 28 research & application centres; all six Faculty of Engineering undergraduate programmes ABET-accredited; 511 partnership agreements with universities worldwide; member of EUA, IAU, SEFI, UNIMED, BSUN and the Utrecht Network; member of NeurotechEU, the European University of Brain and Technology (nine universities across NL, ES, SE, DE, RO, FR, IS, AT and TR). EU Framework Programme record: 82 signed FP7 / Horizon 2020 / Horizon Europe grants, ≈ EUR 18.5 M net EU contribution, 38 % as coordinator; c. 75 international and 150 national projects currently running.

Units offered to the Network

Institute of Biomedical Engineering (BME) — Türkiye's first biomedical engineering institute (1982), graduate-only (MSc/PhD), 14 full-time and 5 part-time faculty. Research in biomaterials, biomechanics, biomedical instrumentation, biophotonics, clinical engineering, medical imaging and neuroengineering; graduate courses on medical-device and implant design and on medical-device regulation and standards.

Center for Targeted Therapy Technologies (CT³) — national thematic research infrastructure (Law No. 6550, established September 2024) at the Kandilli Deep Tech Base: cleanroom Medical Device Development Unit; GLP-certified Testing & Analysis Unit (December 2025); Industrial Services Testing & Analysis Unit (biocompatibility); Experimental Animal Imaging Unit; research platforms in nanomedicine, biomaterials, cell & protein technologies and implantable devices.

Innovation and incubation layer — Technology Transfer Office (IP protection, licensing, spin-off creation), BÜDOTEK technopark and incubation facilities, Kandilli Science & Technology Center. BU/CT³ coordinates DIGI4AGE, a European Digital Innovation Hub under the Digital Europe Programme (EU STEP Seal, Regulation (EU) 2024/795), delivering test-before-invest, digital-maturity assessment, skills & training, ecosystem-building and access-to-finance services to health SMEs and start-ups through open calls. BU also coordinates the ENLIGHT-AI Twinning action on unbiased AI for neurodegenerative disease.

Translation track record — BU-originated IP has produced clinical-stage, investor-backed companies in both modalities the FSTP targets: **GlakoLens** (sensor-embedded contact lens for 24-hour continuous intraocular-pressure monitoring in glaucoma; matured from TRL2 to TRL7 with first-in-human studies on patents exclusively licensed from BU; GlakoLens A.Ş., Istanbul, and GlakoLens S.r.l., Salerno, IT) and **RS Research** (co-founded by Prof. Rana Sanyal, BU Chemistry; Sagitta® polymeric drug-delivery platform for tumour-selective chemotherapy and theranostics; lead candidate RS-0139 in Phase 2; > USD 20 M raised from strategic pharma, venture capital and non-dilutive sources; Istanbul and Lausanne, CH).

Former participation in an FP European project?

☒ YES ☐ NO

Project title / Acronym:

Project title / Acronym:

Activities performed:

Institutional record: 82 signed grants across FP7 (47), Horizon 2020 (22) and Horizon Europe (13); ≈ EUR 18.5 M net EU contribution, 37.8 % as coordinator. Most relevant to this topic:

1) DIGI4AGE — The Digital Health Innovation Hub for Healthy Living and Aging. Digital Europe Programme, DIGITAL-2025-EDIH-AC-08 (HADEA), Grant Agreement No. 101300776, signed April 2026, 36 months, 8 partners. Coordinator: Boğaziçi University / CT³. Awarded the EU STEP Seal.

2) ENLIGHT-AI — Twinning for Excellence in the Application of Unbiased Artificial Intelligence for the Investigation, Diagnosis and Treatment of Neurodegenerative Diseases. Horizon Europe, HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02 (Twinning). Coordinator: Boğaziçi University. Partners: Radboudumc (NL), KU Leuven (BE), ITA – Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón (ES), MEXT (TR). Status: approved.

3) TACTIX — Twinning Approach for Computational MRI Technology and Innovation Excellence in Türkiye. Horizon Europe WIDERA Twinning, Grant Agreement No. 101159624, 06/2024–05/2027. Coordinator: Boğaziçi University. Partners: Fraunhofer MEVIS (DE), Amsterdam UMC (NL).

4) LifeLU — Understanding the Language of Life. ERC Consolidator Grant, 11/2023–10/2028, hosted and coordinated by Boğaziçi University: NLP / machine learning on protein sequences — directly relevant to the FSTP scope 'AI/ML for drug discovery'.

5) NeurotechEU — European University of Brain and Technology. Erasmus+ European Universities Initiative, 11/2024–10/2027, participant.

Activities performed:

DIGI4AGE — overall coordination and hub management; leadership of WP4 Skills & Training, WP6 Hub Operations and WP7 Dissemination & Communication; design and operation of open, competitive and transparent SME service calls (eligibility, evaluation, conflict-of-interest and confidentiality rules); test-before-invest, digital-maturity assessment, technical mentoring, ecosystem brokerage and investment-readiness services; consortium management across academia, industry, a technopark, a health-industry cluster and the public health authority; reporting to HADEA.

ENLIGHT-AI — coordination and scientific leadership; capacity building, staff exchange, joint training and research-management upskilling with Radboudumc, KU Leuven and ITA; methods for bias, robustness and clinical validation of AI in neurodegenerative disease.

TACTIX — coordination; joint research, summer schools, workshops and research visits with Fraunhofer MEVIS and Amsterdam UMC on computational MRI and multiple-sclerosis imaging.

Institutional profile and legal & administrative data sheet (PIC, signatories, GEP, ethics) available on request.

Expertise / Commitment offered

Description of your expertise:

Boğaziçi University offers the applicant consortium a Türkiye-based public academic-incubator node combining (i) an operating EU-funded innovation-hub service layer, (ii) GLP-certified translational infrastructure, (iii) a proven academic-IP-to-clinic pathway, and (iv) an active partner base in ten European countries. Responsibilities BU is ready to assume as work-package / task contributions,

mapped to the topic's Objectives and to the applicant-consortium capability blocks (a)–(d):

Objective 1 – Network governance and partner map [blocks (a), (d)]: Turkish node of the EU incubator partner map and integration plan; onboarding of a second EDIH (smarTHEALTH, Greece) and of the İTÜ MedTech Programme as a second Turkish incubator; participation in the Network Coordination Forum; liaison with the İstanbul Provincial Directorate of Health (Ministry of Health, DIGI4AGE partner) and with TÜBİTAK as national contact point.

Objective 2 – Selection & monitoring (FSTP) [block (a)]: task lead / co-lead for call dissemination and deal-flow generation in Türkiye, the Black Sea region (BSUN) and the EDIH network; contribution to FSTP call design — eligibility and award criteria, expert nomination, conflict-of-interest and confidentiality rules — transferred from DIGI4AGE's open-call practice; milestone-based monitoring and reporting support for sub-projects hosted in Türkiye.

Objective 3 – Growth catalyst [blocks (b), (c)]: entries in the infrastructure-access catalogue — CT³ cleanroom medical-device development, GLP-certified testing, biocompatibility, experimental animal imaging, wet-lab and prototyping capacity, plus co-working and lab space through Teknopark İstanbul; regulatory-navigation mentoring for medical devices and IVDs (EU MDR/IVDR, CE marking, clinical-evidence strategy, ISO 13485, ISO 14971, IEC 62304) and for university IP, licensing and spin-off formation; technical mentoring in biosensors, implantable devices, medical imaging, neuroengineering and clinical AI (bias, robustness, validation — ENLIGHT-AI); test-before-invest environments and investment-readiness coaching from DIGI4AGE.

Objective 4 – Sustaining network growth [blocks (b), (d)]: co-development of training modules on (pre)clinical validation, regulatory readiness and business development, building on DIGI4AGE WP4 and BME graduate curricula; KPI design, impact measurement and lessons-learned reporting; hosting of the alumni network for Turkish and regional cohorts; talent pipeline through BME MSc/PhD programmes and the NeurotechEU alliance.

Pan-European partner base BU can mobilise [block (d)]: Radboudumc (NL), KU Leuven (BE), ITA (ES) — ENLIGHT-AI; Fraunhofer MEVIS (DE), Amsterdam UMC (NL) — TACTIX; NeurotechEU universities — Radboud University (NL), Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche (ES), Karolinska Institutet (SE), University of Bonn (DE), UMF Cluj-Napoca (RO), Université de Lille (FR), Reykjavik University (IS), Medical University of Innsbruck (AT); smarTHEALTH EDIH / FORTH (GR); the EU-wide EDIH network; İTÜ Çekirdek's AZ LAB programme with AstraZeneca, a member of this topic's pre-identified industry consortium.

Added value for the proposal: extends the Network's catchment into a large, young and under-served early-stage health ecosystem in an associated country — additional TRL3–5 FSTP deal flow and a wider incubator partner map (Objective 1) beyond the likely Western-European core — through a public partner that already runs an EU public-private hub with STEP Seal recognition and has taken two university technologies to the clinic.

Keywords specifying your expertise:

Healthcare incubation & acceleration; European Digital Innovation Hub (EDIH); FSTP / cascade-funding call management; test-before-invest; mentoring & investment readiness; medical-device regulatory strategy (EU MDR/IVDR, CE marking, ISO 13485, ISO 14971, IEC 62304); GLP-certified testing & biocompatibility; cleanroom medical-device prototyping; translational research

Commitment offered:

infrastructure; trustworthy AI & digital health; biosensors, implantable devices, medical imaging, neuroengineering; university IP licensing & spin-off creation; skills & training; pan-European academic network (NeurotechEU, Twinning partners); Türkiye & Black Sea ecosystem access

☒ Research ☒ Demonstration ☒ Training
☒ Technology ☒ Dissemination ☒ Other: incubation / acceleration; FSTP deal-flow

Interested in participation in project types:

☒ Research & Innovation Action ☐ Innovation Action ☐ SME Instrument

Work Programme research areas: indicate your interest

Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU) — 13th Call for Proposals, two-stage.

Primary interest: health innovation ecosystems and incubation/acceleration; financial support to third parties (cascade funding) for early-stage healthcare companies; medical devices, diagnostics and digital health; regulatory science and market access; AI and data-driven health technologies; active and healthy ageing.

Related programme experience: Horizon Europe Cluster 1 (Health); HORIZON-WIDERA (Twinning); Digital Europe Programme (EDIH).

Call topic(s):

HORIZON-JU-IHI-2026-13-01 — IHI European HealthCare Incubator Network

Topic 1: 'A network to boost the next wave of European innovations in healthcare'.

Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA). Two-stage submission and evaluation; only the consortium ranked first at stage 1 is invited to stage 2.

Stage 1 (short proposal) deadline: 08 October 2026. Stage 2 (full proposal) deadline: 21 April 2027.

IHI JU contribution up to EUR 35 000 000; indicative duration 60 months; at least 75% of IHI JU funding to be passed on as FSTP to TRL3–5 early-stage healthcare companies.

Do you have other partners for this topic (which partners/country)?

Yes. Boğaziçi University can bring a ready Turkish–Greek cluster and introduce further European partners (all indicative; no commitment is made on their behalf):

Türkiye — DIGI4AGE EDIH consortium (mobilisable through BU as coordinator): BU Center for Targeted Therapy Technologies (CT³), Teknopark İstanbul, İstanbul Health Industry Cluster Association (İSEK), MESS (Turkish Employers' Association of Metal Industries), İstanbul Provincial Directorate of Health (Ministry of Health), Radius Computer & Software, Biyomod Biomedical.

Türkiye — İTÜ MedTech Programme / İTÜ Çekirdek (incubation centre of İstanbul Technical University with İTÜ ARI Teknokent; est. 2011; 5 000+ start-ups and 12 000+ entrepreneurs supported; 75 000+ applications from 35+ countries; 120+ corporate and 80+ investor partners). Health vertical covering medical devices, biotechnology and drug development, digital health, AI and remote patient monitoring; eight modular training tracks; prototyping laboratories; runs the AZ LAB programme with AstraZeneca. Status: available as second Turkish incubator node; MoU with DIGI4AGE partners signed.

Greece — smartheALTH EDIH (FORTH / Institute of Computer Science). Status: in discussion; joint session with DIGI4AGE held July 2026.

NL / BE / ES — ENLIGHT-AI Twinning partners: Radboudumc, KU Leuven, ITA — Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón — AI methodology, clinical validation, training.
DE / NL — TACTIX Twinning partners: Fraunhofer MEVIS, Amsterdam UMC — medical imaging and computational methods.
NeurotechEU alliance (NL, ES, SE, DE, RO, FR, IS, AT): Radboud University, Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche, Karolinska Institutet, University of Bonn, UMF Cluj-Napoca, Université de Lille, Reykjavik University, Medical University of Innsbruck — reachable through BU for talent, training and academic spin-off deal flow.

Profile of partner sought

Role	☒ technology development ☒ dissemination	☒ research ☒ demonstration	☒ training ☒ other: Network coordination / FSTP management
Country /region	Any EU Member State or Horizon Europe associated country. Priority: the coordinating incubator / consortium already forming for this topic, plus healthcare incubators, clusters, science parks and EDIHs in FR, BE, PL, NL, DK, DE, ES, IT and the Nordics.		
Expertise required	Boğaziçi University is seeking to join an applicant consortium forming for HORIZON-JU-IHI-2026-13-01 as its Turkish academic-incubator node — not to coordinate. Partners sought: 1) Lead applicant / Network coordinator — a public or private healthcare incubator, cluster or foundation with documented operational and financial capacity to manage FSTP (cascade funding) at the scale of EUR 26 M+. 2) Healthcare incubators, clusters, science parks and EDIHs completing the EU incubator partner map and integration plan (Objective 1). 3) Partners with venture-capital, corporate-venture and business-angel networks for investor readiness, the funding & collaboration map and the 'industry quality seal' (Objectives 3–4). 4) Partners covering regulatory navigation (EMA, national competent authorities, MDR/IVDR), health economics and reimbursement strategy. 5) Partners with CRM / portfolio-management, data-room and KPI-dashboard tooling for FSTP portfolio monitoring. What Boğaziçi University contributes in return: Objective 1 — Turkish node, a second EDIH (smartHEALTH, GR) and a ten-country academic partner base. Objective 2 — FSTP deal flow and call-design experience from an operating EDIH. Objective 3 — GLP-certified testing, cleanroom medical-device development, biocompatibility and in-vivo imaging infrastructure; regulatory, IP and technical mentoring. Objective 4 — training modules, KPI and impact measurement, alumni hosting. Full mapping in 'Description of your expertise' above. Supporting documents available on request: institutional profile, legal & administrative data sheet, DIGI4AGE service catalogue. We welcome an online meeting to agree concrete work-package contributions.		

I agree with the publication of my contact data: ☒ YES ☐ NO