

HORIZON EUROPE AND CLUSTER 3 NOVELTIES



eNewsletter
NOVEMBER 2025



FUNDING
INFORMATION



NEWS AND
EVENTS



RELEVANT
INITIATIVES



SUCCESS STORIES
AND MORE



Funded by
the European Union

CONTENT:

- WHAT IS VERY USEFUL FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?
- WHICH NEWS AND EVENTS ARE ONGOING OR RELEVANT?
- DO I KNOW WHICH WEB PAGE IS USEFUL?

SEREN5 will end at the end of 2025, but please, stay updated in 2026 for new activities and services provided by Cluster 3 NCPs to support you in the 2026 Cluster 3 Calls for Proposal.

You can continue using the SeReMa Database to get new contacts and relations for your new proposals!



WHAT IS VERY USEFUL TO KNOW FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?

These are some useful information and material to support you in preparation of your proposals.

CLUSTER 3 – 2 CALLS FOR PROPOSALS ARE OPEN

Two of Cluster 3 calls are open!

Opening date: 12.6.2025

Deadline: 12.11.2025

Estimated total budget: 246, 55 mil. €

The call for proposals will fund:

- Fighting Crime and Terrorism
- Border Management
- Resilient Infrastructure
- Disaster-Resilient Societies
- Strengthened Security Research and Innovation
- Increased Cybersecurity

Call: HORIZON-CL3-2025-01 – Civil Security for Society – 19 topics, 156 mil.€ – [link](#)

Call: HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC – Increased cybersecurity – 6 topics, 95,5 mil. € – [link](#)

Check your database and invite security researchers, practitioners, stakeholders, regional and local authorities and **submit your proposal by 12 November**.

Are you preparing a project proposal for the upcoming Horizon Europe Cluster 3 calls with a deadline of November 12, 2025?

Would you like to receive valuable feedback directly from European Commission expert evaluators, including recommendations on how to improve your project at the last minute?

SEREN5 offers a free project idea check service for project proposals.

The service is intended for all applicants from the Czech Republic who are coordinators of a project in preparation or leaders of one of the work packages. A description of the service can be found [here](#).

For detailed information or assistance with preparing your project proposal, please contact your national contacts.

For more information you can find the published template on the web page of [SEREN5](#).

Getting ready to apply for EU funding in cluster 3 just now!

Available information you can simply check also [here](#).

Consider these interesting facts:

The **36 projects** have been selected from the 2024 Horizon Europe – Civil security for Society call, which opened in June 2024 and closed on 20 November 2024. In total, 433 proposals were submitted.

The selected projects received the highest marks in a peer evaluation run by the European Research Executive Agency with the help of independent experts. ([DEFENCEFOOD](#), [DETECTOR](#), [RESCUE](#), [CustomAI for Customs Efficiency](#) etc.)

[141 million € funds 36 new research projects](#) to build a safer Europe – The EU-funded projects aim to strengthen security, fight crime, improve disaster preparedness, and build more resilient infrastructure.

SEREN5 TRAINING FOR APPLICANTS

SEREN5 Training “**Horizon Europe project proposal (PartB) – Final Checklist before submission**” was a great opportunity how to be more familiar with the Cluster 3 calls requirements. The webinar was held online on Wednesday 15th October 2025.

The time is getting close to the Cluster 3 project proposal submission deadline of 12th November 2025.

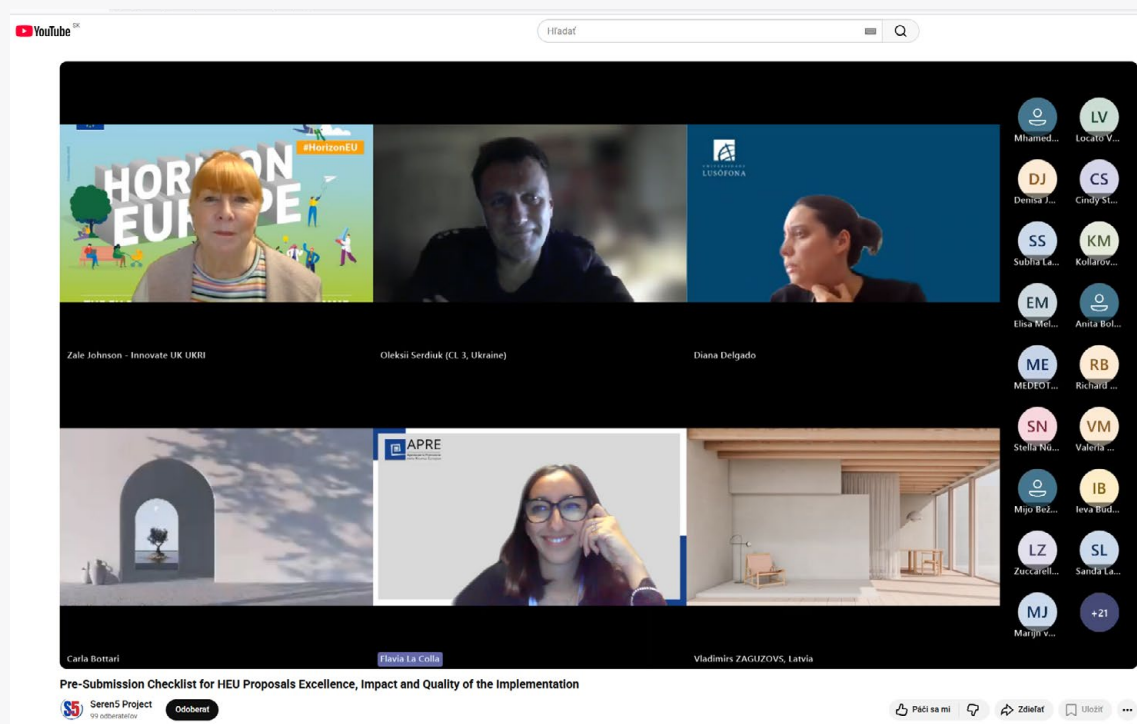
Have you carried out a final check of the required elements of your proposal?

To assist with the final check, SEREN5 organised an on-line training event that can “safely” guide you through a checklist of items for your Horizon Europe project proposal.

This training not only informed those stakeholders submitting a proposal in 2025, but also those who are considering participation in 2026/27, and can use the checklist in advance of putting together a proposal.

If this is something for you then a 2-hour training session recording is available.

The presentation is shared by the Trainer Ms. Zale Johnson and here the link to the recording: [Pre-Submission Checklist for HEU Proposals Excellence, Impact and Quality of the Implementation – YouTube](#)



Dear Zale, Thank you very much!

➤ Additionally you can still watch SEREN5 trainings for stakeholders:

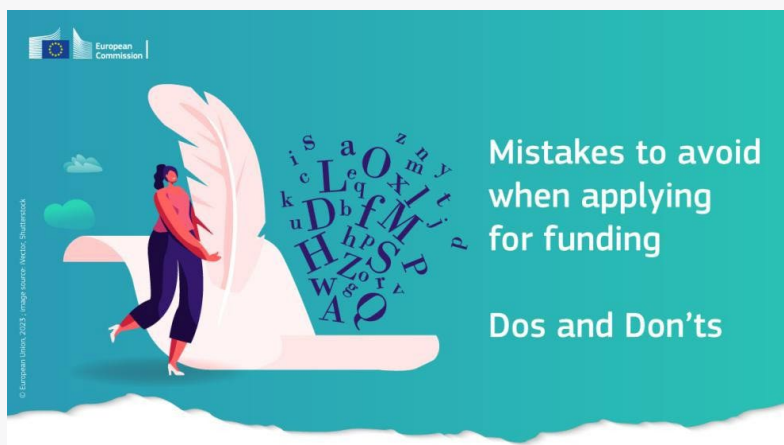
[Considerations when preparing and constructing a project proposal](#) – 27th & 28th June 2023 – (min: 36:05)

[Approaches to Consortium Building](#) – 28th June 2023 – (min: 1:50:40)

SEREN5 Training [“Horizon Europe Security Appraisal Process”](#) – 22.10.2024

Trainings are prepared in cooperation with our colleague Zale Johnson – Horizon Europe UK National Contact Point for Civil Security for Society.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN APPLYING FOR HORIZON EUROPE FUNDING



Before starting your application, carefully read the [Horizon Europe Work Programme](#) applicable to the call you are interested in, to understand the objectives and guidelines of the specific call for proposals.

Take the time to carefully review and understand the evaluation criteria for the specific call

Check whether the call/topic you are applying for is a '[lump sum](#)' call or an 'actual costs' call

[EU policy objectives](#) to put your proposal into perspective.

Build a strong and multidisciplinary consortium

And very important in proposal – **Address the project's pathway towards impact!**

Contact your nearest [National Contact Point](#) (NCP) for support

And more advices you can find in this EÚ web page:

Take your time to carefully read the call's requirements to ensure you meet the eligibility rules and try to your best and take in mind to be eligible and beneficiary applying for cluster 3 calls under European Research Executive Agency recommendations including **Resources available and links to webinars.**

https://rea.ec.europa.eu/news/common-mistakes-avoid-when-applying-horizon-eu-rope-funding-2023-02-09_en

EUROPEAN COMPETITIVENESS FUND

An ambitious budget for a stronger Europe: 2028 – 2034

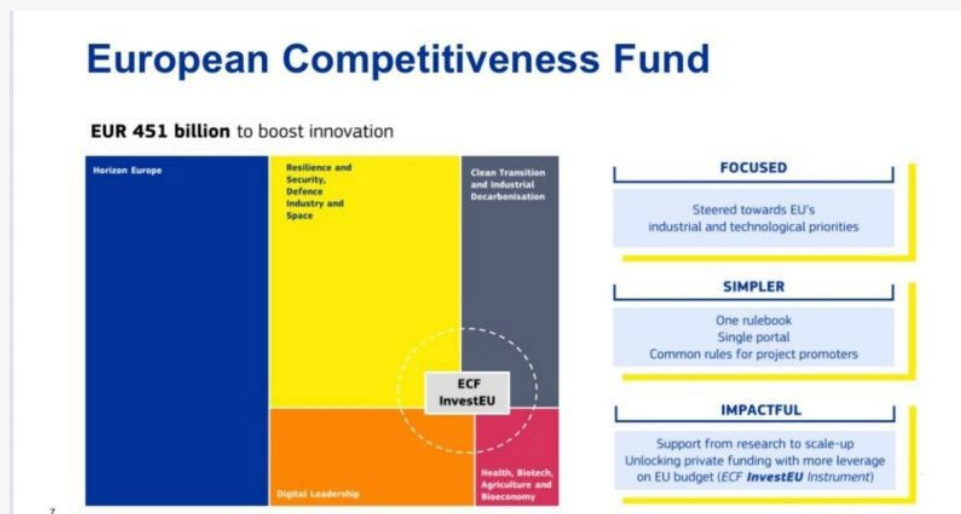
On July 16, the European Commission proposed a bold new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2028–2034, as well as a factsheet the future Horizon Europe.

Horizon Europe will continue — with a proposed budget of **175 billion €**.

A new European Competitiveness Fund (€409 billion) will invest in:

- Clean & digital transitions
- Health, biotech & bioeconomy
- Defence & space
- Scaling up EU industrial innovation

EUR 6 435 000 000 for collaborative research and innovation activities under Chapter VII 'Resilience and Security, Defence Industry and Space' of the European Competitiveness Fund.



Nicolas Bessot Nicolas Bessot – DG Migration & Home Affairs chez European Commission Head of Unit Innovation and Security Research. “ This week MFF Commission proposals have achieved two objectives that are close to my heart and for which my team and I have worked intensively in the last 3 years.

1 – **Increase the place of innovation** in security, border and migration management policies, and make it an integral part of the Commission’s policy thinking, design and implementation.

I appreciate the progress made when I see the strong policy language on innovation in the Commission’s Protect EU security strategy of 1/04/2025, and in this week’s Commission MFF proposals for the successors of Home Affairs Funds (where innovation uptake is referred to in the specific objectives of the three funds).

2 – Increase the place of security in the EU-funding instruments related to research and innovation.

In that regard, this week’s Commission proposal for a new Competitiveness Fund and next Horizon Europe programme is a major step forward. **Security is proposed as a core component of the funds policy priorities, along with resilience, defence industry and space.** (linkedin)

If adopted, such funds will allow effective support to the entire investment journey **from the idea to the market, and strengthen the EU security industry’s competitiveness.** In my view, this resembles strongly the suggested « Securing Europe Facility » proposed by the Niinisto Report.

When I see the 2024 Political Guidelines of President von der Leyen, the recent Niinisto and Draghi reports, the evaluations of Horizon Europe, and H2020, and the 2025 study assessing the results of 20 years of EU-funded security research, it certainly couldn’t be otherwise.”



Giannis Skiadaresis Giannis Skiadaresis, Area Coordinator for Disaster Resilient Societies, DG HOME, European Commission:

“After years of dedication and relentless work, I’m incredibly proud that we succeeded

having Resilience & Security recognized as a key policy window in the new European Competitiveness Fund and the successor of Horizon Europe!”

Having it included in the Commission’s proposal is a huge milestone—a true testament to persistence and purpose from our team. (linkedin)

Now, the ball is in the co-legislators’ court. Let’s hope they seize this moment to truly strengthen Europe’s resilience and security against future threats and disasters.”

[For more information.](#)

EU FUNDING & ME

New EC mobile app “EU funding & me”

For detailed information or assistance with preparing a project proposal, please contact your national contacts.

The European Commission has launched a new mobile app, “EU funding & me,” which facilitates access to information about EU funding via smartphones and tablets.

The app is linked to the Funding & Tenders portal and allows users to search for calls for proposals, track the status of their proposals and projects, and communicate directly with project officers.

Other features include personalized alerts, search saving, calendar integration, and easy information sharing.

For more information and download links, see: EU Funding & Me

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/news/30392?utm_source=chatgpt.com

EUROPEAN R&I DAYS 2025



More than 3000 participants, 20 different panels, share ideas and turn ambitions into actions

To make Europe the best place for innovation-participate on 16- 17 September 2025 on the event organised by EC.

From the [Opening](#) / Beyond the Horizon: future funding for R&I and other valuable panel discussions such as:

European R&I Days 2025: [Dual-use research and innovation](#): **opportunities and challenges**

Invited speakers at this panel try to share practical experience. And present their challenges of dual use importance, focus more on dual use in reality.



The other evident issue was: European R&I Days 2025: [AI-powered research](#): a competitiveness opportunity for Europe and also

European R&I Days 2025: [Securing Europe's place at the forefront of scientific discovery](#)

And a lot of time was also spent in debates on European R&I Days 2025: Building the Resource for [AI Science in Europe](#) (RAISE)

SEREN5 CLUSTER 3 NCPS

The SeREN5 Cluster3 NCPs are always at the beneficiaries' side to help them to:

- o Simplify their access to Horizon Europe (HE) calls under the Civil Security for Society cluster
- o Raise the average quality of submitted proposals with customized advice and support

The SEREN5 Cluster3 NCPs is a dynamic team coming from different European organisations, with long-lasting experience as NCP. They gather together their expertise to create a positive impact for players / stakeholders active in this economic and scientific domain.

One of the organisations member of the SEREN5 network is **hub.brussels, the Brussels-based business agency**. This latter hosts the Horizon Europe [NCPs for the Brussels Capital Region](#) and covers all the Horizon Europe clusters.

To stick to SEREN5 purposes and keep playing its pivotal role both in the SeREN5 dynamics, hub.brussels recently appointed Mrs. Aïda YASSINE in the role of NCP Cluster 3, with an official nomination.

Mrs. Yassine has a background in economic intelligence and strategic communication, 12 years of experience gained mainly as an NCP for Horizon Europe, as a strategy consultant and as a project manager for EU-funded projects in the fields of civil protection, environment and climate.

Within the framework of SeREN5, NCPs Cluster3 and Brussels-based beneficiaries can then count on Mrs.Yassine, who is seconded by Mrs Barbara ANDREANI, Enterprise Europe Brussels advisor in the Cluster3 related topics & innovation support, active in SeREN5 since October 2024.

Hub.brussels contacts for SEREN5:

Mrs. Aïda YASSINE ayassine@hub.brussels

Mrs. Mrs Barbara ANDREANI bandreani@hub.brussels



Which news and events are ongoing or relevant?

EARTO RECOMMENDATIONS

[EARTO Recommendations](#) on EC Proposals for a European Competitiveness Fund and Horizon Europe was published on 10 October 2025 and others publications are available.

CERIS EVENTS

CERIS - Community for European Research and Innovation for Security

And why CERIS events are so important for us as NCPs?

They are composed as the thematic workshops which are open to the security research community. They are **chaired** by European Commission representatives and cover key features of the civil security for society research programme comes from the main objectives of the CERIS:

- analyse identified **capability needs and gaps** in the corresponding areas
- identify **solutions** available to address the gaps
- translate capability gaps and potential solutions into **research needs**
- identify **funding opportunities and synergies** between different funding instruments
- identify **standardisation** research-related needs
- integrate the **views of citizens**

Forthcoming events:

6 November 2025 – Critical infrastructure resilience – exploitation workshop – Training and workshops

19 November 2025 – Joint CERIS and EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security Annual Event 2025: “Shaping responsible solutions for internal security” – Conferences and summits

2 December 2025 - Drugs trade and its impact on other crimes – Conferences and summits

For more information about [CERIS](#) community.

The main by [CERIS events](#) and European Commission.

SEREMA PLATFORM

Do not forget to invite your stakeholders, professionals, SMEs, research and scientific communities or public and private organization with important interest on security research to register in our database to increase possibility to establish international and cross sectorial consortia in security research and innovation ideas.

Read also our [SEREN5 Beginners' Guide](#) – 5. SEREN5 Tools and Services.

All potential applicants are welcome to participate in this SEREN5 platform.





Do I know which web page is useful?

Visit [SEREN5 website](#) and [Funding and Tenders Portal](#) to get relevant information.

Get involved in European Research and [Horizon Europe](#).



Follow us and discover our news and Cluster 3 and SEREN5 actions!

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