EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING

DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING No 22/2026

Amending the Joint Undertaking's Work Programme and Budget for the year 2026 (Amendment No 3)

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 of 13 July 2021 on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/1488, amended by the a Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 of 17 June 2024 as regards a EuroHPC Joint Undertaking initiative for start-ups in order to boost European leadership in trustworthy artificial intelligence, and as last amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2026/150 of 16 January 2026 introducing the AI Gigafactory and the Quantum Technology pillars (hereinafter, "the JU Regulation"),

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) 2025/0103 of 19 December 2025 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) 2021/694, (EU) 2021/695, (EU) 2021/697, (EU) 2021/1153, (EU) 2023/1525 and 2024/795, as regards incentivising defence-related investments in the EU budget to implement the ReArm Europe Plan.

Having regard to the Statutes of the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking annexed to the Regulation (thereinafter "Statutes"), and in particular to Articles 1(o), 7(5)(b), 9(4)(b) and (c) and 18 of thereof,

Having regard to Decision of the Governing Board of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking No 3/2020, approving the Financial Rules of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking[1],

Having regard to Decision of the Governing Board of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking No 54/2025 of 5 December 2025 adopting the Joint Undertaking's Work Programme and Budget for the year 2026,

Having regard to Decision of the Governing Board of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking No 06/2026 of 9 March 2026 adopting the amended Joint Undertaking's Work Programme and Budget for the year 2026 (Amendment No 1)

[1] Readopted by Decision of the Governing Board of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking No 17/2021, approving the re-adoption of Governing Board Decisions adopted under the framework of Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 and its updated Rules of Procedure in the view of Regulation (EU) 2021/1173.

Having regard to Decision of the Governing Board of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking No 15/2026 of 24 April 2026 adopting the amended Joint Undertaking's Work Programme and Budget for the year 2026 (Amendment No 2)

WHEREAS

(1) The annual Work Programme and budget need to be amended for the third time in 2026 to reflect the following changes:

- **To introduce a placeholder for the AI Gigafactories initiative**
- **To introduce a placeholder for Quantum Flagship calls**
- **To introduce a call for proposals on Quantum Enhanced Machine Learning (HE);**

(2) Furthermore, the budget is to be amended for the third time in 2026 to reflect the following changes:

- **To allocate the HE/DEP/CEF commitment appropriation for a total amount of EUR 659.5 Million to the AI Gigafactories (AIGFs) call including the reactivation of the 2025 credits allocated to this initiative. The remaining budget credits for up to EUR 1 Billion will be committed with the new 2027 credits.**
- **To allocate the HE commitment appropriations for an amount of EUR 119 Million for the Quantum Flagship calls mentioned above. With the addition of EUR 119 Million, the total budget credits allocated to the Quantum Flagship programme amount to EUR 132 Million.**
- **To increase EUR 250,000 to support the User Day 2026 (and Summit) event to be held in Dublin in September 2026.**
- **Adjusting (both activating and re-activating) the 2026 payment appropriations to ensure optimal resource utilisation including the new and unused credits from the previous years.**

(3) The Statutes of the EuroHPC JU confer on the Governing Board the powers to adopt the annual work programme and its annual budget including the staff establishment plan.

(4) The Executive Director of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking submitted the amended Work Programme to the Governing Board,

(5) The Governing Board discussed the following Decision at its 53rd meeting and

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The amended Annual Work Programme and Budget of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking for the year 2026 annexed to this decision is adopted.

Article 2

The Executive Director shall make the amended Annual Work Programme and Budget 2026 publicly available on the website of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, on 24 April 2026

For the Governing Board

Rafal Duczmal

The Chair

Annex: Work Programme 2026

WORK PROGRAMME and BUDGET

EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING (JU)

2026

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DRAFT ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME YEAR 2026

INTRODUCTION

The EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (hereinafter "EuroHPC JU" or "JU"), will contribute to the ambition of value creation in the Union with the overall mission to develop, deploy, extend and maintain in the Union an integrated world class supercomputing, and quantum computing infrastructure and to develop and support a highly competitive and innovative High Performance Computing (HPC) ecosystem, extreme scale, energy-efficient, environmentally sustainable and highly resilient HPC and data technologies.

In July 2021, Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 (EuroHPC JU Regulation) was adopted, repealing Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1488, and provides the basis of the Work Programmes of the Joint Undertaking. In July 2024, Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 set a new objective which is allow the Joint Undertaking to perform activities in the domains of acquiring and operating AI-optimised supercomputers or partitions of supercomputers to enable machine learning and training of general purpose AI models and provide SMEs and start-ups with the full range of additional activities necessary to develop and support the AI ecosystem.

In 2026 a Commission proposal to amend the Council Regulation will be adopted and will set another objective which will allow the Joint Undertaking to support the establishment of the AI Gigafactories and to reinforce the current mandate of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking on quantum technologies.

The Annual Work Programme 2026 contains the actions to be implemented in 2026 and the actions such as the AI Factory procurements that were agreed in work programme 2025. Calls to be launched in 2026 will be prepared by the JU and presented for adoption by the Governing Board by separate Governing Board Decisions. New calls linked to the Commission proposals on AI Gigafactories and Quantum technologies will be added, once the new Regulation is adopted, later in 2026.

General Conditions and restrictions:

For all activities implemented by the EuroHPC JU that are funded from the Horizon Europe (HE) budget, the Governing Board may decide to limit in the calls for proposals the eligibility of participants according to Horizon Europe Article 22(5).

For all activities implemented by the EuroHPC JU that are funded from the Digital Europe Programme (DEP) budget, the Governing Board may decide to limit in the calls for proposals or procurements the eligibility of participants according to Digital Europe Articles 12(6) and 18(4).

For all activities implemented by the EuroHPC JU that are funded from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) budget, the Governing Board may decide to limit in the calls for proposals or procurements the eligibility of participants according to Connecting Europe Facility Article 11(4). In line with the Defence Omnibus Regulation adopted at the end of 2025, CEF Funding will be allocated, in agreement with the Governing Board, to other pillars.

All actions with Union contribution below 100% are EU Synergy calls. Grants and procurements can be linked with another grant funded from any other EU funding programme including the Recovery and Resilience Fund, provided that there is no double funding and that such support does not cover the same cost. The grants under both calls will be managed as linked actions.

The Governing Board may decide to allocate a 'STEP Seal' to projects that are funded from Horizon Europe or the Digital Europe Programme. The STEP seal[2] is an EU quality label awarded to high-quality digital technologies and deep tech innovation projects contributing to the STEP objectives.

[2] For conditions see the STEP Regulation

Restrictions for the protection of European digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains*:*

The protection of European communication networks has been identified as an important security interest of the Union and its Member States[3]. In line with the Commission Recommendation on the cybersecurity of 5G networks of 2019[4] and the subsequent report on EU coordinated risk assessment of the cybersecurity of 5G networks of2019[5], the EU Toolbox on 5G cybersecurity[6], the second report on Member States' progress in implementing the EU toolbox on 5G cybersecurity of 2023[7], and the related Communication on the implementation of the 5G cybersecurity toolbox of 2023[8], the Commission together with the Member States has worked to jointly identify and assess cyberthreats and security risks for 5G networks[9]. The toolbox also recommends adding country-specific information (e.g. threat assessment from national security services, etc.). This work is an essential component of the Security Union Strategy and supports the protection of electronic communications networks and other critical infrastructures.

Entities assessed as "high-risk suppliers", are currently set out in the second report on Member States' progress in implementing the EU toolbox on 5G cybersecurity of 2023[10] and the related Communication on the implementation of the 5G cybersecurity toolbox of 2023[11].

In accordance with art 136 (2) of the Financial Regulation (2024/2509), this Work Programme has identified actions that fall under the AI Factories pillar, the Infrastructure pillar or the Connected and Federated pillar that concern strategic assets and interests, for which it sets out specific award procedures aimed at ensuring the protection of the integrity of digital infrastructure, communication and information systems, and related supply chains.

This entails the need to avoid the participation of high-risk supplier entities and the use of non-secure equipment and other goods, works and/or services in the deployment of key digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains to prevent technology transfer and the persistence of dependencies in materials, semiconductor components (including processors), computing resources, software tools and virtualisation technologies, and to preserve the integrity of the concerned systems, including from a cybersecurity perspective.

In order to protect the concerned strategic assets and interests of the Union or its Member States, it is therefore appropriate that the two following additional eligibility criteria apply to the actions listed below and identified in the Work Programme as "subject to restrictions for the protection of European digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains":

1. Entities that are assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment (and any entities they own or control) are not eligible to participate in any capacity, including as beneficiaries,

[3] European Council conclusions of 1 and 2 October 2020 (EUCO 13/20), point 11; Council Conclusions on the significance of 5G to the European Economy and the need to mitigate security risks linked to 5G, 14517/19.

[4] Commission Recommendation (EU) 2019/534 of 26 March 2019 Cybersecurity of 5G networks, L 88/42.

[5] NIS Cooperation Group, Report on EU coordinated risk assessment of the cybersecurity of 5G networks, 9 October 2019.

[6] NIS Cooperation Group, EU Toolbox on 5G Cybersecurity, 29 January 2020.

[7] NIS Cooperation Group, Second report on Member States' progress in implementing the EU Toolbox on 5G Cybersecurity, June 2023.

[8] Communication from the Commission: Implementation of the 5g cybersecurity Toolbox, Brussels, 15.6.2023 C(2023) 4049 final.

[9] Within the NIS framework NIS 1 + 2 [Directive - 2022/2555 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)]

[10] NIS Cooperation Group, Second report on Member States' progress in implementing the EU Toolbox on 5G Cybersecurity, June 2023.

[11] Communication from the Commission: Implementation of the 5G cybersecurity Toolbox, Brussels, 15.6.2023 C(2023) 4049 final

affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any).

The assessment is based on the following criteria:

- likelihood of interference from a non-associated third country, for example due to:
  - the characteristics of the entity's ownership or governance (e.g. state-owned or controlled, government/party involvement);
  - the characteristics of the entity's business and other conduct (e.g. a strong link to a third country government);
  - the characteristics of the respective third country (e.g. legislation or government practices likely to affect the implementation of the action, including an offensive cyber/intelligence policy, pressure regarding place of manufacturing or access to information).
- (cyber-)security practices, including throughout the entire supply chain.
- risks identified in relevant assessments of Member States and third countries as well as other EU institutions, bodies and agencies, if relevant.

2. Equipment and other goods, works and/or services related to 5G/6G mobile network communication equipment, and other technologies linked to the evolution of European communication networks must:
   - not be subject to security requirements by third country that could affect the implementation of the action (e.g. technology restrictions, national security classification limiting the use of the equipment, etc.).
   - comply with (cyber-)security guidance issued by the Commission, in particular communications on the 5G toolbox.
   - apply (cyber-)security requirements throughout the life cycle, including the selection and award procedure and criteria for purchases, the use, and related services, including installation, upgrading or maintenance;
   - ensure (cyber-)security by adequately protecting the availability, authenticity, integrity, and confidentiality of stored or transmitted or processed data or the functions or services offered by, or accessible via, that equipment.

Exceptions may be requested from the Governing Board and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the criteria provided for in the 5G cybersecurity toolbox, the security risks and availability of alternatives in the context of the action.

The Governing Board shall agree on the list of concerned actions in this Work programme that fall under the AI Factories pillar, the infrastructure pillar or the Connected and Federated pillar and that shall be identified as "subject to restrictions for the protection of European digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains".

Indicators to report against:

The Joint Undertaking has now been autonomous since 2020. The following Indicators are now well known and have been reported in the Annual Activity Reports. By 2031, the JU will track, on an annual basis, the following indicators:

- Number of supercomputers procured
- Number of AI Factories supercomputers procured
- Bi- annual ranking of EuroHPC supercomputers in the TOP 500 and the Green TOP 500

- Number of Quantum Computers procured
- Number of projects evaluated by EuroHPC that have been given access to EuroHPC systems

OPERATIONS

The key objective of the EuroHPC JU is to further deploy and provide access in the Union to a world leading service and data infrastructure with high-end supercomputers which are indispensable to run the most demanding and strategic applications, such as climate change, personalised medicine etc.

This action builds on the previous infrastructure activities undertaken by the EuroHPC JU since its creation in 2018. The Operational section of this Work Programme will be organised using the Pillars of activity as set out in Regulation.

Furthermore, on 9 July 2024, the Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 of 17 June 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as regards a EuroHPC initiative for start-ups to boost European leadership in trustworthy artificial intelligence came into force. This work programme will now include calls related to this new AI Pillar.

Pillars of Action

The 2026 Work Programme will follow the different pillars of actions as set out in the Regulation (2021/1173), amended by Regulation (2024/1732).

Since most actions are ongoing over more than one year, this work programme will summarise ongoing actions in each Pillar (if any) and then in a separate section introduce the Calls to be launched in 2026. Additionally, in 2026, EuroHPC JU will launch calls that were committed in 2025.

TABLE OF ACTIONS WITH BUDGET ALLOCATION

Calls to be launched or financed in 2026

Pillar	Actions	Programme	Type of action/ Funding rate	EU budget 2026	Total EU Contribution (EUR)	Total Budget (EUR)
AI Gigafactories (AIGFs)	**Procurement**	**DEP/CEF/ HE**	**EU up to 17% of the TCO** **PS up to 17% of the TCO**	**660 Million (credits from 2025 and 2026 budgets)**	**Total of 1 Billion (credits from 2025, 2026 and 2027 budgets)**	Total of up to *5,8 Billion* *(100% funding including private sector contributions)*
AI Factories	Procurements and Operational costs: AI-optimised and upgraded EuroHPC supercomputers [12]	DEP / CEF	EU 50% PS 50%	320 Million	Total of 1,013 Million until 2027	*Total of 2,025 Million*
	AI Factory Grants	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	58 Million	Total of 214.6 Million between 2024 and 2026	*Total of 429 Million*
	EuroHPC AI Factory Antennas	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	20 Million	Total of 55 Million between 2025 and 2026	Total of 110 Million
	Procurement for Peer Review Platform	DEP	EU 100%	1.8 Million	1.8 Million	Total of 1.8 Million
	Cooperation of AI Factories	HE	EU 50% PS 50%	0	Total of 12.5 Million (2025 Commitment Credits)	Total of 25 Million
Infrastructure	Procurements of Midrange	DEP	EU 35%	35 Million	35 Million	Total of 100 Million

[12] For information on procurements organised under the first AI Factory cut off, please see relevant section in this Work Programme

	supercomputers (Levente and Caspir)		PS 65% (CAPEX and OPEX)			
Technologies	Enhancing competitive European microprocessor technology for HPC	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	0	48.6 Million from 2024	Total of 97.3 Million (committed in 2024)
Applications	HPC Centres of Excellence and HPC Lighthouse Codes	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	22 Million	Total of 60 Million between 2024 and 2026	Total of 120 Million
Quantum	Quantum Prize	Horizon Europe	EU 100%	300,000	300,000	Total of 300,000
	Quantum Enhanced ML	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	0	3 Million from 2025	Total of 6 Million
	HPC/QC Middleware technologies	Horizon Europe	EU 50% PS 50%	0	20 Million from 2024	Total of 40 Million
Quantum Flagship	6 Quantum FPA/SGA2	Horizon Europe		119 Million		Total of 119 Million
	Grand Challenge on Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation (CSA)	Horizon Europe	EU 100%	2 Million		Total of 2 Million
	Standards for Quantum Technologies – Coordination and Support Action (CSA)	Horizon Europe	EU 100%	1 Million		Total of 1 Million

	Large-Scale Photonic Quantum Computing Platform Technologies (RIA)	Horizon Europe	EU 100%	10 Million		Total of 10 Million
International	CSA Collaboration HPC with third countries (e.g.: Latin America)	Horizon Europe	100%	0	3 Million from 2025	Total of 3 Million
Competences and Skills	National Competence Centres	DEP	EU 50% PS 50%	20 Million	20 Million	Total of 40 Million
	CSA NCC Coordination	DEP	EU 100%	2 Million	2 Million	Total of 2 Million
	EuroHPC Summit 2027	DEP	EU 100%	700,000	700,000	Total of 700,000
	User Days and Summit 2026	DEP	100%	600,000	600,000	Total of 600,000

AI GIGAFACTORIES PILLAR

The AI gigafactory pillar cover activities of the AI gigafactories. AI gigafactories are large-scale facilities combining high-performance computing, energy-efficient data centres, and AI-driven automation. These centres will provide world-class AI computing infrastructure to support European researchers, entrepreneurs, and industries, boosting Europe's industrial strength, fostering new AI solutions, and enhancing EU's technological autonomy.

The creation of multi-site gigafactories across multiple countries will connect the EuroHPC network of AI factories and ensure seamless integration, user support and knowledge sharing across the European AI ecosystem.

CALL FOR TENDERS FOR THE SELECTION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GIGAFACTORY CONSORTIA AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AI GIGAFACTORIES

The EuroHPC JU is launching a Call for Tenders to select the highest ranked AI Gigafactories (hereinafter, "AIGFs") following their evaluation and to jointly procure AI compute access time with Participating States from those AIGFs, in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 of 13 July 2021 as last amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2026/150 of 16 January 2026.

The overall objective of the Call will be for the selection of Artificial Intelligence Gigafactory (AIGF) Consortia, which will establish and operate the AIGFs and from which the Contracting Parties will acquire AI compute access time.

More in detail, the specific objectives of this Call are as follows:

- **Selection of AIGF Consortia**: Following a rigorous evaluation of the tenders by the EuroHPC JU with the support of independent experts, the Governing Board will make an award decision, establishing a ranked list of successful AIGF Consortia.
- **Procurement of Compute Capacity**: To establish a framework for the joint acquisition of a guaranteed share of AI compute access time from the selected AIGF Consortia, formalized through the signature of Hosting Agreements with the successful AIGF Consortia.

The total Union contribution will be **EUR 1 Billion (committing EuroHPC credits from 2025, 2026 and 2027)**. According to Article 12b(5) of the EuroHPC Regulation, the Union's financial contribution (without VAT) to the AIGF shall cover a pre-agreed guaranteed purchase of AI compute access time to the AIGF, limited in purchase costs to up to 17% of the CAPEX of the overall computing infrastructure of the AIGF.

A full call text will be added to this Work Programme when it is agreed by the Governing Board.

AI FACTORIES PILLAR

Ongoing activities and calls in 2026:

EuroHPC JU's AI Factories strategy will continue to be implemented in 2026. The deployment of the AI Factories and services, and AI Antennas, will continue in 2026. See table below:

AI Factory / System	Call	Procurement goal	Procurement Launch date (or exp)
L-AIF (LU) / MeluXina AI	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised system	14/04/2025
MIMER (SE)	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	23/05/2025
LUMI-AI (FI)	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	24/05/2025
BSC-AI (ES) / MN5 Upgrade	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	01/06/2025
HammerHAI (DE)	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	14/04/2025
IT4LIA (IT)	AIF 1st cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	06/10/2025
BRAIN++ (BG)	AIF 2nd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Oct-25*
AI:AT (AT)	AIF 2nd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Nov-25*

PIAST AIF (PL)	AIF 2nd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Nov-25*
SLAIF (SL)	AIF 2nd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Oct-25*
CZAIF (CZ)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*
1HealthAI (ES)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*
GAIA (PL)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*
ROAI (RO)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*
LitAI (LT)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*
NLAIF (NL)	AIF 3rd cut-off	AI optimised supercomputer	*Q2 2026*

For information on procurement procedures and budget, please check relevant GB decisions 70 /2024 and 07/2025; and 46/2025

Cooperation of Artificial Intelligence Factories and Factories Antennas

This call and associated budget were originally approved in Work Programme 2025 and has been updated by the Governing Board in February 2026 to reflect the scope of activities and updated budget.

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 12.5 million would allow the outcomes of this action to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 25 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action
Admissibility conditions	The conditions are described in the General Annex A of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027. The page limit of the application is **70** pages.
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in the General Annex B of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.

	A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the Horizon Europe Programme Guide.
Award criteria	The criteria are described in of the General Annex D of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.
Documents	The documents are described in General Annex E of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.
Procedure	The procedure is described in General Annex F of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027. The granting authority can fund a maximum of one project.
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements	As an exception from General Annex G of the Horizon Europe Work Programme, the EU-funding rate for eligible costs in grants awarded by the JU for this topic will be up to **50%** of the eligible costs. The rules are described in General Annex G of the of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.

Overview:

To provide consistent end-user service, the EuroHPC AI Factories and AI Factories Antennas (hereinafter collectively referred to as AIF+As) must be coordinated and cooperate along specific lines to be interoperable technically and procedurally. Networking and sharing of experiences, data and, best practices are necessary to avoid duplication of efforts, to harmonise the approaches, and help create a unified approach to AI development across Europe by promoting trustworthiness and compliance.

The central objective of this Action is to maximize the impact of the AIF+As' supercomputing resources, data and services across Europe, being responsible for the cooperation and exchange of services, assets and best practices of the AIF+As, in particular facilitating the sharing of data, applications, knowledge, information, and training.

In order to accomplish these objectives, the selected consortium will also establish effective cooperations with other relevant European HPC, data, and AI initiatives, such as the EuroHPC Federation Platform, the AI Gigafactories, the European AI Office, the Apply AI Strategy, the AI-on-Demand Platform (AIoD), the Distributed Open Marketplace for Europe (DOME), the Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs), the Common European Data Spaces, the Simpl middleware platform, the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), EU Data Labs, OpenWebSearch.EU, EU Cloud services, the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs), the HPC Centres of Excellence (CoEs) and Lighthouse Codes, the HPC National Competence Centres (NCCs), the European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud, or the Alliance for Language Technologies (ALT-EDIC).

Scope:

A. General coordination and networking

Proposals should aim at coordinating and promoting networking and collaboration of the AIF+As. They are expected to establish a communication platform, facilitate dialogue, enable asset sharing, promote the objectives of the AIF+As, and organize outreach events and workshops on topics of interest to the AIF+As and their communities.

The Action will support and enhance the alignment of AIF+As through targeted activities, building common standards of service to provide a harmonised experience to users. The activities should leverage on synergies and complementarity of the AIF+As. It is expected to identify solutions and tools available from the AIF+As network to support and assist AIF+As in addressing requests and needs of their constituencies.

The Action should:

- Assist the development of the AIF+As and coordinate their collaboration, ensuring a seamless user experience across all facilities. Coordinate the joint activities and exchange of best practices across the AIF+As, including the sharing of assets and knowledge to prevent duplication of efforts and speed up developments, and support projects spanning across two or more AIF+As or federating/distributed learning and inference when applicable.
- Attract new European user communities and support the engagement of startups, industry, and SMEs in AIF+As activities, while maximizing visibility and outreach to these groups.
- Promote joint training offerings and the exchange of training materials and courses. Support talent detection, attraction, and development, and enhance mobility of HPC/AI specialists between communities, academia, public, and private sectors.
- Implement and coordinate technology transfer activities at the European level and for the Digital Single Market, and promote the adoption of developed methods and technologies by AIF+As users and the wider European HPC/AI communities.
- Develop a comprehensive AIF service directory, detailing all services offered by AIF+As, including both HPC and cloud-based solutions, as well as associated support services, and advise and support AIF+As with the development of sustainability.
- Support an Annual European AI Factories event connecting all the AI community in Europe, in collaboration with the EuroHPC JU, and promote the networking of AIF+As users, especially for different users' profiles and sectors, to foster innovation.
- Identify and collect meaningful qualitative and quantitative common KPIs for AIF+As to measure the impact of this initiative on the European HPC and AI ecosystems.

B. Networking of AIF Data Labs

Data Labs contribute to the objectives of the European Data Union Strategy by scaling up access to data for AI. They create the link between data holders, Common European Data Spaces[1], domain-specific data ecosystems, and the AIF+As and the AI innovation ecosystem. Their role is to facilitate the availability and use of high-quality data under appropriate technical, governance, and regulatory conditions in close collaboration with relevant EU initiatives. AIF Data Labs are operational components within the AIF+As that will provide AI developers with access to technical infrastructure, data management tools, and large datasets required for the development, testing, and validation of AI models.

Each Data Lab will offer a consistent set of services, including data discovery, standardisation, cleaning, enrichment, and synthetic data generation, as well as guidance on data governance and compliance with EU legislation. Data Labs will also play a key role in supporting legal and regulatory compliance by providing services such as pseudonymisation and anonymisation of datasets, the use of secure processing environments, and legal assistance on the use of data.

Data Labs will be implemented across a set of priority sectors aligned with those identified by the Apply AI Strategy as having high potential for the development and deployment of trustworthy and impactful AI solutions. These include healthcare and life sciences, manufacturing and robotics, public administration, cybersecurity and internal security, culture and languages, scientific research, and climate and environmental modelling.

The Action should:

- Support the networking and federation of Data Labs across AIF+As into a common European framework, with a strong emphasis on the use of the Simpl open-source middleware as the core interoperability platform between the different data facilities involved in each Data Lab. This framework should ensure interoperability, secure data exchange, and federated access across the AIF+As, while connecting Data Labs to the corresponding Common European Data Spaces[2], and AI flagship initiatives in line with European priorities.
- Enable efficient data use across sectors and borders, ensure regulatory and technical alignment, and promote the reuse of shared tools and resources.
- Integrate Data Labs activities with AIF+As, ensuring that AI developers can seamlessly use datasets and tools provided by the Data Labs in model development and testing.
- Enable the exchange and reuse of data management and processing tools, including for data discovery, cleaning, enrichment, and synthetic data generation.
- Develop legal and regulatory compliance-enabling services within Data Labs, including mechanisms for pseudonymisation and anonymisation, the provision of secure and compliant data processing environments, and guidance on the lawful use and sharing of data.

C. Provision of EU open web data

Proposals should develop, deploy and operate across AIF+As a European federated web data service to ensure sovereignty in the open web data (OWD) independently of external sources.

The Action should:

- Develop services and best practices around open web data for training and fine-tuning of AI models, AI applications, and AI-based search.
- Deploy and operate a web data service, encompassing general/focused crawling to generate multi-modal raw data (text, image, audio, video) covering all EU languages, metadata creation, indexing, searching, and use case partitioning into domain-specific data pools.
- Collaborate with existing EU initiatives providing web data services.
- Integrate the EU open web service into the AIF Data Labs ecosystem.

Expected Outcome:

Upon completion of the Action, the European HPC and AI ecosystems will be strengthened through an effective network of AI Factories supporting the adoption and use of HPC in the development of trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) by startups and SMEs, but also by the private and public sector in general, taking into account the specific needs of the local and national ecosystems. The coordinated network will facilitate synergies and assets reutilisation, support, training, staff exchange, knowledge transfer between, AIF+As, as well as prevent duplication of efforts.

The Action will ensure the network of AIF+As will be embedded in an enhanced European AI/ HPC ecosystem with strong links to other European HPC, AI, and data initiatives (see above).

Moreover, the Action will result in:

- Contribution to the realisation of the EuroHPC overall and specific objectives.
- A common governance baseline across AIF+As to ensure the full interoperability and the collective compliance or the network of AIF+As.
- Seamless user experience across AIF+As, with users receiving a consistent offer of core services.
- Effective coordination and exchange of best practices and information among the network of AIF+As.
- Establishment of a network of AIF Data Labs in 7-8 strategic domains, including a common framework for data access and data management.
- Easy access across AIF+As to up-to-date, rich, high-quality open web data compliant with EU regulations and values.
- Curated access to services and facilities offered by AIF+As.
- Maximised visibility and outreach of AIF+As, in particular to AI startups, SMEs and industry.
- Improved coordination and increased availability of training activities across AIF+As and within the European HPC ecosystem.
- Contribution to the attraction of HPC/AI talent and development of a distributed pool of experts in Europe.

The JU considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 12.5 million and a duration of 3 years would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately, with the following indicative EU budget distribution per subtopic:

- General coordination and networking: EUR 2.5 million
- Networking of AIF Data Labs: EUR 7.5 million
- Provision of EU open web data: EUR 2.5 million

Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting another duration or other amounts. Only one proposal, covering all three subtopics in the scope, will be selected.

[1] Including the Simpl platform supporting data access and interoperability among European data spaces.
[2] Including EOSC to facilitate research data access across the EU.

INFRASTRUCTURE PILLAR

Ongoing activities

EuroHPC JU's Infrastructure strategy will continue to be implemented in 2026. The following systems will be procured in 2026:

- The Greek mid-range supercomputer Daedalus will be installed in 2026.
- The Lisa/Leonardo upgrade is being procured and will be inaugurated in 2026.
- Procurement of two additional quantum computers in the Netherlands and Luxembourg will begin in 2026.
- Procurements for the Levente and CASPiR Mid-Range systems will be launched in 2026
- The EuroHPC JU second exascale supercomputer, Alice Recoque, to be in France, will be operational in2027.
- The Arrhenius mid-range supercomputer, based in Sweden, will be operational in 2026.

- EuroHPC JU will update its access procedures for users of EuroHPC systems in line with the amended access policy adopted in 2026 to include quantum computing.

Ongoing Procurements of exascale, quantum mid-range and industrial systems:

AI Factory / System	Call	Procurement goal	Expected Procurement Launch date	Expected Contract date
LEVENTE (HU)	Mid-range 2021	General purpose supercomputer with emphasis on AI applications	2026	Q2 2026
CASPIr (IE)	Mid-range 2021	General purpose supercomputer able to support traditional scientific and AI applications	2026	Q2 2026
Alice Recoque (FR)	Exascale 2022	Exascale level supercomputer able to support traditional scientific and AI applications	09/09/2024	Q4 2025
INNOVATE (IT)	Call for an Industrial System	Industrial level supercomputer	Nov-25	Q2 2026

For information on procurement procedure and budget, please check relevant GB decisions

Relaunch of Procurement for Peer Review Platform

Objective:

To date, EuroHPC JU has procured nine supercomputers hosted and operated by respective Hosting Entities:

- MeluXina, hosted by LuxProvide in Bissen, Luxembourg
- Vega, hosted by IZUM in Maribor, Slovenia
- Karolina, hosted by IT4Innovations in Ostrava, Czech Republic
- Discoverer, hosted by the consortium Petascale Supercomputer Bulgaria in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Deucalion, hosted by MACC in Minho, Portugal
- LUMI, hosted by CSC in Kajaani, Finland
- Leonardo, hosted by CINECA in Bologna, Italy and
- MareNostrum 5 (MN5), hosted by BSC in Barcelona, Spain
- Jupiter, hosted at JRZ in Germany

EuroHPC JU implements an international peer-review process for the distribution of the European Union's share of the access time to the above-mentioned supercomputers (hereinafter, "Peer-Review Process"). This is a process that ensures open, fair, and unbiased access to EuroHPC Supercomputers. This Peer-Review Process is also applicable to future EuroHPC supercomputers that will become operational in the coming years.

EuroHPC JU has relied until now on the peer-review platform that has been developed and maintained by the Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (hereinafter, 'PRACE'). Currently this platform hosts all data regarding EuroHPC's Access calls during the past two years. As this platform has been developed to support the specific peer-review process implemented by PRACE, EuroHPC JU wishes to procure and evolve its own private

platform, tailor-made for the requirements, the specific processes, and peer-review workflows implemented for the Joint Undertaking.

In particular, this procurement will:

- Procure the license of an existing, operational peer-review platform software.
- Deploy an instance of the platform to be operationally supported by the contractor for the period of the procurement contract.
- Migrate data from the existing PRACE portal to the new instance, ensuring service continuation and undisrupted execution of the peer-review processes.
- Evolve the platform code to match its functionality with the requirements of the EuroHPC processes especially in regard to new requirements stemming from HPC applications domains like Generative AI, Machine Learning etc.
- Procure the necessary services for hosting and operational support of the service.
- Ensure support and maintenance services based on specific SLAs that will ensure quick resolution of operational issues, bug fixes and implementation of new features, following the evolution of the EuroHPC peer-review processes as defined in the current and future versions of the Access Policy.

Nature of the Procedure:

The subject of this call for tenders is "Development, Hosting and Support of the EuroHPC JU Access Calls peer-review platform".

- Legal basis:

This call for tenders is governed by the provisions of the EU Financial Regulation.

EuroHPC JU will award the contract resulting from this call for tenders through an open procedure pursuant to Article 164(1) (a) of the EU Financial Regulation. Period of execution of the tasks:

The contract will last a period of 36 months with the possibility of being renewed twice for an additional period of 12 months per renewable. The maximum contract duration including the renewables shall be no longer than 60 months.

- Price and Terms of Payment

The maximum price payable under this contract is set at EUR 1.8 Million.

The first contract with a duration of three years will have a maximum price of EUR 1.2 Million to be paid as follows:

- EUR 600,000 for the first year of the contract. Payment covers software licence, system deployment, data migration, operational costs, support and evolution of the software for this year.
- EUR 300,000 for the second year of the contract, covering operational costs, support and evolution of the software for this year.
- EUR 300,000 for the third year of the contract, covering operational costs, support and evolution of the software for this year.
- In case EuroHPC wishes to renew the contract the price is payable as follows:
- EUR 300,000 for each year of contract renewal, up to two years, covering operational costs, support and evolution of the software

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF THE "DEVELOPMENT, HOSTING AND SUPPORT OF THE EUROHPC JU ACCESS CALLS PEER-REVIEW PLATFORM" (PROCUREMENT 2024)

Expected EuroHPC JU contribution per project	The EuroHPC JU estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 1.8 Million would allow for this procurement
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the EU contributions to the topic is up to EUR 1.8 Million from the Digital Europe Programme
Type of Action	Procurement
Eligibility conditions	The eligibility conditions are those established in EU Financial Regulation and Regulation 2021/1173

CONNECTED AND FEDERATED SUPERCOMPUTERS PILLAR

Ongoing activities:

The procurement on Federating Supercomputers services has been completed and deployed. The Hyperconnectivity procurement and services will be fully deployed in 2026.

TECHNOLOGY PILLAR

Calls in 2026

Enhancing competitive European microprocessor technology for HPC

(This call was originally placed in Work Programme 2024.)

The support for a sustainable and competitive exascale HPC ecosystem in Europe requires further action on the technology supply to develop extreme scale, power-efficient and highly resilient HPC and data technologies, contributing to the European digital autonomy and independent access to critical technology. This action should ensure complementarity to the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) for developing a large-scale European initiative for High Performance Computing (HPC) ecosystem based on RISC-V.

Proposals should be based on worldwide state-of-the-art processor developments which are a credible alternative to existing non-EU solutions for processors (and accelerators). Proposals are expected to be industry driven and deliver by the end of the project competitive solutions/systems proven in operational environments.

The objective is to provide scalable and customisable high-performance multi-core and multi-cluster processors implementations delivering competitive power-performance-area metrics. Expected work should build and rely on existing EU achievements and initiatives like for example the European Processor Initiative. The proposed action should cover the design and testing of and development of a high-end processors and integration in pilot systems in view of their roll-out, uptake and use in world-class competitive supercomputers.

The proposed work should target KPIs that will outperform non-EU solutions. A key aspect is to ensure that all the IP necessary to produce the solutions remains in the EU, effectively creating an independent European source of critical technology.

Indicative Budget:

An indicative budget will be allocated from the Horizon Europe of EUR 48.6 Million

An EU contribution of EUR 48.6 Million (50% of total funding) will be matched by a PS contribution of EUR 48.6 Million (50% of total funding).

Specific conditions	
Expected EuroHPC JU contribution per project	The EuroHPC JU estimates that an EU contribution of 48.6 Million matched by a MS contribution of EUR 48.6 Million which was allocated in WP and Budget 2024

Indicative budget	The total indicative EU budget for the topic is EUR 48.6 Million. The total contribution will be EUR 97.3 Million.
Type of Action	Grant, Horizon Europe.
Eligibility conditions	In accordance with article 22.5 of the Horizon Europe Programme, and in order to achieve the expected outcomes, and safeguard the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy, and security, it is important to avoid a situation of technological dependency on a non-EU source, in a global context that requires the EU to take action to build on its strengths, and to carefully assess and address any strategic weaknesses, vulnerabilities and high-risk dependencies which put at risk the attainment of its ambitions. Therefore, participation is limited to legal entities established in Member States that are members of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking or Participating States Norway and Iceland. Proposals including entities established in countries outside the scope specified in the call/topic/action will be ineligible.

APPLICATIONS PILLAR

Ongoing Activities:

The Call on HPC Centres of Excellence and HPC Lighthouse Codes (RIA) which was launched in 2025 and will be evaluated in 2026.

QUANTUM PILLAR

In this section, the Work Programme will cover aspects of EuroHPC JU's quantum computing activities (based on Regulation 2021/1173) and the quantum technologies pillar (based on Regulation 2026/150) Activities will address the full quantum ecosystem and the application domains of quantum computing and simulation, quantum communication, and quantum sensing and metrology, ensuring the security and resilience of the quantum supply chain and its enabling technologies

For Quantum computing procurements, please look at the Infrastructure section of this Work Programme

Ongoing Activities:

The Quantum Grand Challenge will be evaluated in 2026, and the Commission will launch the second phase of the Grand Challenge in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB).

The European Quantum Excellence Centres (QECs) in applications for science and industry, were launched in 2023, with the evaluations taking place in 2024, and will be operational between 2025 and 2028.

The EuroHPC Inducement Prize for Quantum Computing and Simulation Applications, which appears in Work Programme 2023 will be launched in 2026, once the EuroHPC Quantum Computers are operational.

Transfer of Six FPA/SGA2 to EuroHPC JU:

In 2026, the Commission will transfer the management of the six SGA2 linked to six existing FPAs with a total budget Union contribution of EUR 119 Million from Horizon Europe. The call will cover the following topics:

Quantum Communication – Call for the 2nd SGA for the QSNP FPA (QKD)
Quantum Computing – Call for the 2nd SGA for the OpenSuperQPlus FPA (superconducting)
Quantum Computing & Simulation – Call for the 2nd SGA for the PASQuanS2 FPA
Quantum Computing – Call for the 2nd SGA for the FPA on trapped-ions
Quantum Experimental Pilot Lines – Call for the 2nd SGA for the Qu-Pilot FPA
Quantum Testing Infrastructure – Call for the 2nd SGA for the Qu-Test FPA

A full call explanation of the process to sign these SGAs will be added to this Work Programme when it is agreed by the Governing Board.

Calls

EuroHPC Inducement Prize for Quantum Computing and Simulation Applications

In its Communication "2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade" (COM(2021) 118 final), the Commission has set 2025 as the target date by which the EU should have its first computer with quantum acceleration, paving the way for being at the cutting edge of quantum capabilities by 2030. With these goals in mind, and with quantum computers becoming available in the EuroHPC supercomputing infrastructure for experimentation and testing, a dedicated effort is now needed to accelerate the discovery of the applications making the case for a quantum computing architecture, rather than a classical HPC or other classical parallel computing architecture, for certain use cases.

With this prize the EU intends to incentivise young researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs to develop an application demonstrating a path towards quantum advantage, addressing a concrete problem. The call will identify specific challenge(s) to be solved by a quantum computer, possibly ranked by difficulty.

Scope:

Participants will first develop and implement in a EuroHPC supercomputer the solution to the specific challenge to be solved. This will constitute the reference benchmark to assess the quantum advantage. Then the participants will develop the quantum application on a EuroHPC quantum computer and demonstrate the validity of the results.

The call will be implemented in two stages: In a first step, applicants will be selected on the basis of a reference implementation, the anticipated quantum advantage, potential impact and other criteria. Successful applicants will be awarded access to EuroHPC quantum computers to develop and verify the proposed implementation. The prize will subsequently be awarded in a second selection process and after independent validation of the reported results.

Participants should be citizens of any of the EuroHPC Participating States and perform their work in any of the Participating States. The prize will be granted to individuals, not to institutions or companies, and the results will be made available as open source / public domain.

Expected outcomes:

In principle, the solutions shall:

- Solve a concrete computing challenge.
- Provide a practical quantum application.
- Contribute to the benchmarking of quantum computers and simulators for practical applications.

Available budget

The prize budget is 300 000 EUR (indicative). The first three ranked solutions will share the prize, with amounts depending on the challenge addressed.

HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-NGC-04: Grand Challenge on Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 0.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 2.00 million.
Type of Action	Coordination and Support Actions
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The eligibility conditions are those established in the EuroHPC JU Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as last amended by Council Regulation 2026/150. In accordance with Article 22.5 of the HE Regulation, the Governing Board has decided that in order to achieve the expected outcomes, and safeguard the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy, or security participation is limited to legal entities established in Member States, Norway and Iceland. Proposals including entities established in countries outside the scope specified in the action will be ineligible. For the duly justified and exceptional reasons listed in the paragraph above, in order to guarantee the protection of the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States, entities established in an eligible country listed above, but which are directly or indirectly controlled by a non-eligible country or by a non-eligible country entity, may not participate in the action unless it can be demonstrated, by means of guarantees approved by the eligible country of establishment, that their participation to the action would not negatively impact the Union's strategic, assets, interests, autonomy, or security. The consortium may exceptionally be composed of a single legal entity (mono-beneficiary grant) which is an SME.
Award criteria	The criteria are described in General Annex D. The following exceptions apply: The following modifications to the general award criteria apply: 1. Excellence: • credibility of the technical approach for road-mapping and benchmarking; • adequacy of performance metrics and methodology (e.g. drift rate, SWaP-C, environmental resilience) • early end-user engagement to define requirements.

	2. Impact: • enhancing the EU stance around quantum inertial navigation from different angles[13]; • expected contribution to EU technological sovereignty (including mitigation of non-EU supply-chain dependencies) and to societal, industrial and economic benefits; • credibility of the path to commercialisation and investor-readiness. 3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation: • credibility of the work plan, resources and risk management for a mono-beneficiary CSA; • capacity to deliver the specified outputs (technical & financial roadmap, validation/benchmarking reports, viability assessment); • appropriateness of the team and access to facilities for validation/benchmarking of existing prototypes.

Expected Outcome: This topic is the first phase of a two-phase competitive structure supported by Horizon Europe, implemented via a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) in close collaboration with the European Investment Bank (EIB).

- Phase 1 (this topic): A CSA focused on readiness-analysis in terms of exploitation and investments, benchmarking the commercial viability of quantum enabled navigation systems. The aim is to deliver concrete outputs that improve the conditions for use of the supported projects through credible technical, industrialisation and financial roadmaps, validated against investor requirements (e.g. EIB, InvestEU). Activities also include analyses of investor-readiness and supply-chain sovereignty.
- Phase 2: For further information, see the indirectly managed action "HORIZON-CL4 Quantum Top-Up to InvestEU: Grand Challenge Phase 2" in the Cluster 4 part of the Horizon Europe 2026/2027 Work Programme. This CSA is designed to allow the best possible application in Phase 2 and the current CSA results may therefore inform applications by beneficiaries to investment support managed by the EIB under InvestEU (separate procedures).

Under Phase 1 projects are expected to establish a comprehensive technical and financial roadmap that demonstrates the potential of the proposed Q-INS solutions, and at least deliver evidence-based design and benchmarking packages for reduced-scale systems (such as documentation, test/benchmark reports and evidence of pre-existing or externally financed prototypes) in one of the following two categories:

- **Category 1 (cold-atoms Q-INS)**: Q-INS based on cold-atom interferometry (or other technology of at least equivalent performance) featuring long-term navigation accuracy (<10 m/hour) due to reduced drift with respect to commercial Inertial Measurement Units (IMUs). End-user requirements together with documented benchmark evidence from existing or externally financed prototypes will be collected for demonstrations in maritime or aviation applications.
- **Category 2** (**Chip-scale Q-INS**): Low C-SWAP Q-INS measuring acceleration, rotation rate, and/or magnetic field, aimed at the implementation of chip-scale sensors based on defect centres and vacancies in crystals or

[13] https://qt.eu/media/pdf/Strategic-Reseach-and-Industry-Agenda-2030.pdf

on warm atomic vapours (including nuclear magnetic resonance), for applications e.g. in small satellites, UAVs, and autonomous transport.

Proposals should target systems that are already sufficiently mature to enable credible benchmarking and industrial road-mapping. Specific expected outcomes include:

- A detailed technical roadmap, including system architecture, integration strategy, performance milestones, risk assessments and industrialisation plan for scalable production
- The industrialisation plan should be validated in conjunction with the EIB requirements, including commercialization timelines, and should include at least the following:
  - Detailed Q-INS architecture based on quantum sensing techniques hybridised with classical IMUs,
  - Compliance assessment for SWaP-C requirements, environmental resilience, and real-world integration,
  - An assessment of dependencies on non-EU suppliers of critical components and proposal of effective mitigation measures in view of a sovereign supply chain,
  - Potential list of end-users to capture system requirements and use-case constraints
- A comprehensive financial roadmap and viability assessment covering business models, market analyses, commercialization pathways, revenue projections and investment criteria
- Documented lab-validation/benchmarking of an existing or externally financed prototype (no EU funding of R&I or prototype development in this CSA), with preliminary benchmark results.
- An application strategy identifying target sectors (maritime, aviation, space, autonomous systems) and quantifiable advantages over classical IMUs.

Scope: The Grand Challenge on Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation aims to advance the development of quantum-enabled navigation systems for use in GNSS-denied or contested environments. Q-INS combines quantum sensors with classical inertial measurement subsystems to deliver reliable, resilient, and sovereign positioning capabilities. The topic supports the EU's ambition to strengthen technological sovereignty in strategic navigation infrastructures, aligned with the objectives of the STEP and the Digital Decade.

Under this topic (Phase 1), projects are expected to deliver a comprehensive technical, industrialisation, and financial roadmap, including criteria for investment readiness, bankability, risk assessment, and scalability, thereby laying the groundwork for future investments via EU financial instruments under InvestEU, which benefits from a dedicated top-up from Horizon Europe for this purpose[14].

Under Phase 1, Expressions of Interest from potential end-user partners are strongly encouraged. Tailored advisory services from EIB Advisory may support financial structuring to prepare for Phase 2.

Projects funded under this action are expected to span approximately six months, with an EU contribution up to EUR 0.5 million.

HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-STAND-05: Standards for Quantum Technologies – Coordination and Support Action (CSA)

Specific conditions

[14] HORIZON-CL4 Indirectly managed action "Quantum Top-Up to InvestEU: Grand Challenge Phase 2"

Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 1.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 1.00 million.
Type of Action	Coordination and Support Actions
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The eligibility conditions are those established in the EuroHPCJU Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as last amended by Council Regulation 2026/150. In accordance with Article 22.5 of the HE Regulation, the Governing Board has decided that in order to achieve the expected outcomes, and safeguard the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy, or security participation is limited to legal entities established in Member States, Norway and Iceland and countries associated to Horizon Europe. Proposals including entities established in countries outside the scope specified in the action will be ineligible. For the duly justified and exceptional reasons listed in the paragraph above, in order to guarantee the protection of the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States, entities established in an eligible country listed above, but which are directly or indirectly controlled by a non-eligible country or by a non-eligible country entity, may not participate in the action unless it can be demonstrated, by means of guarantees approved by the eligible country of establishment, that their participation to the action would not negatively impact the Union's strategic, assets, interests, autonomy, or security.
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) [15].

Expected Outcome: This action will support and accelerate the development and adoption of European and international standards for quantum technologies, enhancing interoperability quality/reliability assurance, and trust in quantum systems. It will strengthen Europe's leadership in the global quantum standardisation landscape and ensure that European industrial and research priorities are well represented and integrated into emerging standards.

Expected outcomes include:

- Delivery of concrete, EU-relevant pre-normative standards and technical specifications across quantum computing, communication, and sensing.
- Substantial contribution of European stakeholders, notably SMEs and start-ups in international standardisation bodies (e.g., ISO/IEC, ITU-T, ETSI), with alignment to EU industrial strategies.

[15] This decision is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- Promotion of cross-sectoral interoperability through standardised interfaces, control protocols, reliability in operating conditions and benchmarking methodologies, reducing market fragmentation and technical barriers.
- Creation of practical support tools such as user guidelines, training modules, and best practices to accelerate the uptake and implementation of quantum standards.

Scope: The CSA will coordinate and support standardisation activities for quantum technologies in areas such as quantum computing, communication, sensing, and control. Proposals should include:

- Build on the roadmaps of European standardisation organisations to (i) standardise results from quantum projects funded under Horizon Europe, the Digital Europe Programme, and EuroHPC JU in line with stakeholder priorities, and (ii) foster an active industrial standardisation community to promote engagement and uptake within the European quantum industry.
- Enabling broad stakeholder participation in international standardisation activities (e.g. ISO/IEC, ITU-T, ETSI), promoting EU priorities.
- Support interoperability and integration of quantum systems through standardisation of interfaces, protocols, and benchmarking methodologies.
- Develop explanatory documentation and training material to facilitate adoption and implementation of the developed standards.
- Drafting and developing concrete standards or technical specifications, in cooperation with relevant standardisation bodies, in areas such as:
    - Hardware-software interfaces in quantum computing,
    - Quantum sensing protocols and metrology methods,
    - Control electronics and device modularity for quantum systems,
    - Performance and benchmarking methodologies.
- Supporting the participation of quantum stakeholders in European and international standardisation organisations (e.g. CEN-CENELEC, ETSI, ISO/IEC, ITU-T)
- Coordination with existing European and international standardisation organisations to ensure alignment and avoid duplication.
- Development of support materials such as user guides, training modules, and best practices for the standards developed.
- Organisation of workshops and consultations with quantum stakeholders (including SMEs, start-ups, and large industry) to ensure inclusivity and consensus building.

The proposal must present a clear plan for stakeholder engagement, deliverables, and budget justification, including person-days per task and daily rates. A single proposal is expected. European standardisation organisations (ESOs) are encouraged to lead or be key partners in the consortium.

Without prejudice to the eligibility conditions applicable to beneficiaries and affiliated entities, the action should, where relevant, liaise with stakeholders and standardisation initiatives from like-minded third countries, including in OECD and other international fora, on a non-funded basis, in order to promote EU priorities and ensure alignment of European contributions to global quantum technology standards.

HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-PQC-06: Large-Scale Photonic Quantum Computing Platform Technologies (RIA)

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 10.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.00 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Actions
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The eligibility conditions are those established in the EuroHPC JU Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as last amended by Council Regulation 2026/150. In accordance with Article 22.5 of the HE Regulation, the Governing Board has decided that in order to achieve the expected outcomes, and safeguard the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy, or security participation is limited to legal entities established in Member States, Norway and Iceland and the following associated countries: Canada, Israel, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. In addition, entities established in third countries which may become associated to Horizon Europe during 2026 and 2027 may be eligible to participate in this topic if the third country is identified for this topic as an eligible country in the List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe at the time of submission of the application[16]. In any case, the association agreement to the Programme must apply by the time of the signature of the grant agreement. Proposals including entities established in countries outside the scope specified in the action will be ineligible. For the duly justified and exceptional reasons listed in the paragraph above, in order to guarantee the protection of the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States, entities established in an eligible country listed above, but which are directly or indirectly controlled by a non-eligible country or by a non-eligible country entity, may not participate in the action unless it can be demonstrated, by means of guarantees approved by the eligible country of establishment, that their participation to the action would not negatively impact the Union's strategic, assets, interests, autonomy, or security.
Technology Readiness Level	Activities are expected to start at TRL 4 and achieve TRL 7 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.

Expected Outcome: This action will establish a strategic European initiative to develop scalable, modular, and interoperable photonic quantum computing platforms. Proposals for this topic are expected to address and provide credible solutions to at least **two major technical roadblocks** currently limiting the advancement of photonic quantum computing such as:

[16] See the List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe available at https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf.

- The lack of deterministic, high-efficiency photonic entanglement and loss-tolerant architectures suitable for fault-tolerant scaling
- The absence of a standardised, integrated control stack combining photonic hardware, firmware, and system software with reliable benchmarking across platforms

Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes:

- By 2028, demonstration of a photonic NISQ processor with ≥100 photonic qubits, integrating deterministic single-photon sources, low-loss waveguides, on-chip detectors, and a firmware stack (scheduler, controller, compiler), validated via hardware-agnostic benchmarks and hybrid photonic-HPC applications demonstrating classical-quantum crossover
- By 2030, delivery of a full-stack, high-connectivity photonic quantum computer, with modular scalability, integrated on-chip and fibre-based interconnects, and high-fidelity gates (e.g. error rates $\leq 10^{-3}$) with an indicative target of 1 000 photonic qubits, laying the groundwork for prototype demonstrations of quantum utility on industrially relevant workloads.
- System-level interoperability and standardisation, with published interface specifications across photonic quantum hardware and software stacks including packaging, APIs, compiler interfaces, and cloud protocols compatible with telecom wavelengths
- Validation of entanglement distribution across modules through standardised protocols and field-demonstration of interconnected photonic quantum processors
- Acceleration of industrialisation and commercialisation, including a roadmap for pilot manufacturing lines, quality assurance protocols, and development of a sovereign European supply chain for photonic quantum technologies
- Demonstration of project results through a **concrete use case provided by a major end-user** partner within the consortium, validating the platform's relevance and performance under real operational constraints.

Scope: Proposals for this topic are expected to be **led by a startup** with demonstrated expertise in photonic quantum computing. The startup should collaborate with relevant academic, industrial, and RTO partners to ensure both technological depth and market orientation. The consortium should also include **at least one major end-user** whose operational needs will shape the platform design, and whose infrastructure will host the field demonstration of the project's results.

Proposals should implement a coordinated, durable R&I programme that integrates hardware, software, system architecture, and application-level use cases. Activities should include:

- Platform development advancing open, scalable photonic quantum processors with semiconductor and/or glass-based photonic chips, integrated control electronics, firmware, and robust error mitigation and correction schemes
- System integration realising modular quantum nodes with photonic interconnects and validating scalable architectures under realistic noise, loss, and control constraints
- Software stack co-design integrating low-level firmware, compilers, hybrid algorithms, and network APIs to demonstrate application-level quantum advantage and HPC interoperability

Proposals are expected to build upon prior Quantum Flagship results and demonstrate capacity to contribute actively to the governance and strategic coordination of the EU quantum computing ecosystem, including synergies with STEP, Chips JU, IPCEI projects and EuroHPC.

Call – Quantum Enhanced Machine Learning

HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-QML-07

Overview of this call

Proposals are invited against the following Destinations and topic(s):

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million) 2025	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)[17]	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
Opening: *TBD* Deadline(s): *TBD*				
HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-QML-07-01: Quantum Machine Learning	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)	6.00	2.00 to 3.00	2
Overall indicative budget		6.00		

General conditions relating to this call

The combination of quantum computing and artificial intelligence has the potential to drive significant advances in numerous domains. Strategic research, the resolution of key scientific and technological challenges, and strong cross-disciplinary collaboration will be essential to unlock the full potential of these technologies for the benefit of society and to strengthen European competitiveness in both fields.

Recent progress in quantum computing suggests that quantum-enhanced AI approaches may outperform purely classical techniques. Quantum-enhanced AI primarily targets computationally intensive subroutines, such as optimization, sampling, and high-dimensional data processing, where quantum methods may offer tangible advantages.

One promising direction involves integrating quantum processors with high-performance computing (HPC) systems to form hybrid environments. In these architectures, quantum algorithms address specific computational bottlenecks, while classical AI pipelines provide robustness, scalability, and mature tooling. Another emerging line of research explores the use of quantum-generated data to improve machine learning (ML) models, potentially reducing data requirements and enhancing modelling accuracy, computational efficiency, and training speed.

Quantum computing is rapidly establishing itself as a key technological frontier for next-generation AI. Quantum computers have the potential to accelerate tasks that currently limit AI performance and scalability. Quantum-

[18] Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom, and all countries that automatically eligible for funding under Horizon Europe as provided in list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf (V3.5 – 20.08.2025).

enhanced optimization, quantum machine learning (QML), and hybrid quantum-classical methods may enable more efficient training of complex models, improved handling of high-dimensional problems, and enable new insights from data sets that are infeasible to process classically. Early demonstrations already indicate potential speedups in combinatorial optimization, sampling, and physical system simulations, capabilities increasingly relevant for advanced AI research.

Despite this promise, significant challenges remain, as contemporary quantum hardware is limited by noise, restricted qubit numbers, and short coherence times. Realizing practical benefits will require innovative quantum algorithms, robust error-mitigation techniques, and new architectures that seamlessly integrate quantum processing units (QPUs) into established AI workflows and pipelines.

Quantum Machine Learning (QML) is emerging as a transformative research domain at the intersection of quantum technologies and artificial intelligence. With rapid hardware evolution and improved hybrid-computing capabilities, new opportunities arise to design learning algorithms, data representations, and computational models that leverage quantum principles for enhanced performance.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON- JU-EUROHPC-2026-QML-07-01: Quantum Machine Learning

Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR 2.00 and 3.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 6.00 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Admissibility conditions	The conditions are described in the General Annex A of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in the General Annex B of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027. A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the Horizon Europe Programme Guide. In order to achieve the expected outcomes, and safeguard the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy, and security, participation in this topic is limited to legal entities established in Member States, associated countries to Horizon Europe and EuroHPC JU Participating States. Proposals including legal entities which are not established in these countries[18] will be ineligible.

[18] Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom, and all countries that automatically

	This decision has been taken on the grounds that, in the area of research covered by this topic, EU open strategic autonomy is particularly at stake. It is important to avoid a situation of technological dependency on a non-EU source, in a global context that requires the EU to take action to build on its strengths, and to carefully assess and address any strategic weaknesses, vulnerabilities and high-risk dependencies which put at risk the attainment of its ambitions.
Financial and operational capacity and exclusion:	The criteria are described in the General Annex C of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.
Award criteria	The general criteria are described in the General Annex D of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2027-2027.
Documents	The documents are described in General Annex E of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027.
Procedure	The procedure is described in General Annex F of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027. Eligible proposals submitted under this topic and exceeding all the evaluation thresholds will be awarded a STEP Seal [https://strategic-technologies.europa.eu/about/step-seal_en].
Technology Readiness Level	The rules are described in General Annex B of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026 – 2027. Activities are expected to start at TRL 3/4 and to achieve TRL 5/6 by the end of the project
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements:	The rules are described in General Annex G of the of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027. The following exceptions apply: As an exception from General Annex G of the Horizon Europe Work Programme, the EU-funding rate for eligible costs in grants awarded by the JU for this topic will be up to **50%** of the eligible costs.
How to submit an application	Proposals must be submitted via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal. Applicants are encouraged to refer to the **Horizon Europe Programme Guide** for detailed instructions.
Exceptional page limits to proposals/applications	Proposals should have an indicative length of **70** pages.

Expected Outcome:

eligible for funding under Horizon Europe as provided in list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf (V3.5 – 20.08.2025).

- **Integration of quantum computing into data pre-processing pipelines and learning workflows** for data-heavy or computationally intensive tasks, demonstrating clear improvements in processing speed, computational complexity, modelling accuracy, and reduced sample requirements at scales achievable with NISQ-era devices,
- **Reliable and scalable Quantum Machine Learning (QML) models and algorithms,** integrated with existing AI frameworks and pipelines, enabling faster data processing, improved prediction accuracy, and enhanced computational capabilities,
- **Validated quantum-enhanced AI methods** demonstrating measurable improvements over classical baselines in terms of speed, accuracy, data efficiency, complexity, or scalability, supported by rigorous benchmarking and complexity analysis,
- **Robust, noise-aware QML techniques suitable for NISQ hardware**, including error-mitigation strategies and algorithmic adaptations that improve reliability, performance, and reproducibility on real quantum processors,
- **Demonstrators or proof-of-concept applications** showcasing the relevance of QML for real-world challenges (e.g. climate and environmental modelling, Earth observation, healthcare and life sciences, materials discovery, finance, robotics, manufacturing, and cybersecurity),
- **Strengthened European leadership** and technological sovereignty in quantum computing and trustworthy AI, supported by cross-sector collaboration, knowledge transfer, and contributions to emerging standards, benchmarks and best practices.
- **Enhanced collaboration** across quantum computing, machine learning and application domains, fostering a coordinated European QML research and innovation community.

Scope:

Proposals are expected to address multiple **key research directions** in Quantum Machine Learning (QML), targeting both scientific excellence and industrial relevance. Proposals should clearly outline how to contribute to the development, validation and demonstration of quantum-enhanced AI approaches, with clear pathways towards practical applications. The proposed work should strengthen Europe's scientific and technological capabilities in quantum computing and accelerate the industrial uptake of quantum-enhanced AI solutions.

Activities may include, but are not limited to

- design and analysis of quantum, quantum-inspired or hybrid QML algorithms,
- performance modelling, complexity analysis and benchmarking of quantum-enhanced AI methods,
- development of error-mitigation and noise-aware strategies tailored to QML workloads,

Proposals should advance scalable QML algorithms capable of addressing large-scale, computationally intensive problems, this includes approaches that

- can manage massive data volumes and complex computational tasks,
- enable faster data processing and improved predictive performance in relevant application domains (e.g. hydrologic research, climate modelling, terrain classification from satellite remote sensing, drug discovery, and image-based medical diagnosis).

Many current QML methods remain closely inspired by classical algorithms and therefore do not yet achieve genuine quantum advantage, requiring further developments in

- quantum-native learning models,
- efficient quantum kernels and quantum feature mappings,

- algorithms demonstrating provable or empirical advantages over classical approaches.

Proposals may also include formal complexity analyses, identification of problem classes that can benefit from quantum acceleration.

Developments should address multiple of the following **key research directions**:

a) Quantum Supervised Learning (QSL):

Quantum Supervised Learning investigates how quantum algorithms can accelerate or improve the training of supervised learning models, offering novel opportunities to explore quantum–classical learning theories and enabling industry to shorten development cycles and enhance performance in data-intensive domains such as finance, healthcare, and Earth observation. Integrating QSL into existing pipelines may help overcome computational bottlenecks and enable more efficient processing of high-dimensional data

- Proposals should explore quantum algorithms and quantum subroutines that can be integrated into classical AI pipelines to mitigate computational bottlenecks, improve efficiency in high-dimensional or large-scale settings, and deliver measurable performance gains. Activities should include the development and validation of such methods, with demonstrations in relevant academic or industrial use cases.

b) Quantum Convolutional Neural Networks (QCNNs)

Quantum Convolutional Neural Networks combine the conceptual strengths of classical convolutional architectures with the computational advantages of quantum processing, offering a promising testbed for exploring expressivity and efficiency in hybrid models and providing industry with a practical pathway to near-term quantum advantage by using QPUs during training while retaining classical inference for scalability and compatibility with existing AI systems

- Proposals should explore development and evaluation of hybrid QCNN architectures that leverage quantum processing for training, investigate their expressivity, performance and robustness, and demonstrate their applicability to industrial challenges such as pattern recognition, vision-based analytics or complex classification tasks.

Learning with Quantum Models

Quantum models integrate quantum computation directly into both training and inference through parametrised quantum circuits and quantum kernels, enabling advances in understanding quantum data representations, feature expressivity and generalisation theory, while offering industry benefits such as reduced model complexity, faster training cycles and lower data requirements - particularly in data-scarce or high-value domains (e.g. drug discovery, autonomous systems, materials engineering)

- Proposals should explore the design and evaluation of quantum-native learning models using such circuits and kernels, exploring methods for dimensionality reduction, accelerated training and sample efficiency, as well as extensions toward quantum-enhanced generative models, including diffusion models in applied case studies.

Quantum Reinforcement Learning (QRL)

Quantum Reinforcement Learning investigates how quantum computing can improve the efficiency and scalability of reinforcement learning, offering researchers opportunities to rethink RL fundamentals in high-dimensional or continuous state spaces and providing industry with the potential for faster policy training and more effective exploration strategies (e.g. in robotic, logistics optimisation and adaptive control)

- Proposals should explore developing quantum or hybrid quantum-classical approaches for reinforcement learning, including quantum-accelerated optimisation for policy search, enhanced exploration mechanisms,

and, at more advanced stages, the implementation of quantum agents capable of performing computation during both training and inference.

Quantum Unsupervised Learning

Quantum unsupervised learning explores quantum algorithms capable of detecting latent structures, clusters and patterns in unlabelled data, offering new theoretical insights into quantum-enhanced data analysis and providing industry with potential benefits such as polynomial speedups in tasks like anomaly detection, customer segmentation and predictive maintenance, particularly for complex or high-dimensional datasets where classical methods become computationally prohibitive

- Proposals should explore advancing quantum algorithms for unsupervised learning, including quantum spectral clustering and related techniques, demonstrating empirical speedups and validating performance on high-dimensional or complex datasets relevant to industrial or research applications.

Quantum AI for Algorithmic Discovery

Quantum AI for algorithmic discovery combines quantum computing with classical machine learning to design new algorithms and computational strategies, enabling researchers to explore vast algorithmic search spaces and develop fundamentally new quantum or hybrid approaches, while offering industry a pathway to automated discovery of optimised algorithms for simulation, optimisation and data-driven modelling (e.g. advanced manufacturing, chemical engineering, cybersecurity and energy systems)

- Proposals should explore integrating quantum computing with classical AI techniques to automate the discovery and optimisation of algorithms, computational strategies and model architectures, delivering methods, prototypes or benchmarks that reinforce Europe's leadership in quantum-enhanced AI development.

Collaboration between academia, research infrastructures, industry, SMEs and actors across the European quantum ecosystem is strongly encouraged to ensure wide applicability, rapid technological uptake and sustainable long-term impact. Proposals should demonstrate how the collaborative approach and resulting innovations will contribute to strengthening Europe's leadership in quantum technologies and in trustworthy, high-performance artificial intelligence.

The proposal must also outline a clear IP plan and licensing strategy under the European Union Public Licence (EUPL-1.2) to safeguard openness and promoting European industrial uptake enabling first exploitation within EU- and Participating States.

Requirements:

i. Proposals shall take into consideration the state of art of QML and its different key research directions.

ii. All developed software will be made available to the user communities under the European Union Public Licence (EUPL), as the preferred default licence for new software components, or other OSI-approved licences compatible with the EUPL

iii. Proposals are expected to leverage on the code.europa.eu repository and provide relevant software, including necessary supporting data and documentation, via the platform if compatible with the repository's policy.

iv. Selected consortia are expected to provide systematic feedback to European and international standardisation efforts, including collaboration with CEN/CENELEC, JTC 22 and other relevant working groups;

v. Selected consortia are expected to closely align with the Quantum Flagship's Strategic Research and Industry Agenda, and strong collaboration and complementarity with Horizon Europe and EuroHPC quantum projects.

COMPETENCES AND SKILLS PILLAR

Ongoing activities:

In 2026, EuroHPC JU will evaluate the third National Competence for High Performance Computing call and the associated CSA which was launched in 2025.

In 2026, the renewed EuroHPC Masters call will begin a new phase in the development of a training programme at Master's level.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PILLAR

The EuroHPC JU Regulation gives a mandate to EuroHPC JU to implement cooperation and collaboration with third countries advancing work on HPC applications in domains of common interest. This includes facilitating access for researchers to EuroHPC JU resources and the co-development of HPC applications. EuroHPC JU will align its activities with the European Commission strategy on EU Digital Partnerships in order advance cooperation on digital issues with like-minded third countries.

Ongoing Activities

- In 2022 EuroHPC JU launched the call on collaboration on HPC with Japan.
- In 2023, EuroHPC JU launched a call for collaboration on HPC with India.
- In 2024, EuroHPC JU launched a call on collaboration on Quantum with Japan.
- In 2025, EuroHPC JU launched a call on the International Collaboration on AI Factories and HPC-AI.
- In 2025, EuroHPC JU launched a call to support the EuroHPC International Summer School
- In 2026, EuroHPC JU will launch a call on collaboration with Latin America. This call was postponed from 2025. The JU also signed a Contribution Agreement with the European Commission to provide scientific support to a named beneficiary project coordinated by Barcelona Supercomputing Centre on deployment of HPC cooperation with Latin America and Caribbean stakeholders.

ADMINISTRATION 2026

Communication and stakeholder engagement

In 2026, EuroHPC JU will continue disseminating the results of EU funded HPC activities implemented by the JU.

- **Online Dissemination of EuroHPC JU Activities and Opportunities**

In 2026, EuroHPC JU will continue upgrading its online presence thanks to an improved website. The website acts as a single gateway to information on EuroHPC JU activities, calls, opportunities and to request access EuroHPC supercomputers. It will also add features to support EuroHPC JU public and private members to provide funding information.

- **Organisation of workshops to support and promote operational EuroHPC JU activities**

EuroHPC JU will organise a number of workshops to engage with stakeholders in the HPC, AI and Quantum communities to promote operational activities. It will continue to promote the newly created AI Factories and AI Factory Antennas and attend conferences such as Web Summit to promote training and access to startups and other private sector users.

EuroHPC JU will host regular monthly online and in-person meetings of the EuroHPC Hosting Entities. Up to two in person meetings may take place and be hosted, with support from the JU, in a Hosting Entity.

EuroHPC JU will fund travel and an accommodation allowance (one or two nights per meeting per expert) for up to two in person RIAG and INFRAG meetings in 2025 in Luxembourg, Brussels and/or during the annual EuroHPC Summit or the annual User Days meeting.

EuroHPC JU will fund travel and an accommodation allowance (one or two nights per meeting per expert) for one in person meetings of the User Forum Coordination Group and one User Forum meeting in 2026 in Luxembourg, Brussels and/or during the annual EuroHPC Summit or the annual User Days meeting.

- **EuroHPC Summit 2026**

The EuroHPC Summit 2026 will take place in Cyprus on 10-12 March 2026, during the Cypriot EU Presidency. The organisation of this event started in 2025 and will base itself on the best practice and experience of past EuroHPC Summits. An estimated budget of EUR 700,000 has been allocated from DEP operational activities in the 2025 WP.

The event will gather key European HPC stakeholders, from providers to scientific and industrial users, to policy makers. As in previous years, a particular attention will be given to the students of the EUMaster4HPC, the newly deployed HPC, AI Factory/Antenna and Quantum infrastructure and to the R&I projects of the JU.

The Summit will be an important moment to showcase the latest achievements and opportunities in the European supercomputing ecosystem, and to discuss and reflect on the current and future challenges in HPC, quantum computing and AI. The event will also provide a great opportunity for attendees to network and connect with European HPC, quantum and AI communities.

- **EuroHPC Summit 2027**

The EuroHPC Summit 2027 will be organised, during the Lithuanian EU Presidency. A budget of EUR 700,000 will be allocated from DEP operational activities, to be committed already in 2026.

- **User Days 2026**

Following the successful User Days event organised in 2023, 2024 and 2025, User Days 2026 will be organised in September 2026 in Ireland and will be hosted by the Irish Presidency in order to disseminate results of projects that have had access to EuroHPC JU systems. A budget of EUR 600,000 will be allocated from DEP operational activities.

- **Other Conferences in 2026**

    - **SCA/HPAC Asia 2026**

EuroHPC JU will be present for the first time at this major non-European conference. It will take place in January 2026 in Osaka, Japan. It will be an opportunity for EuroHPC JU to showcase its international work in the field of HPC applications and AI/HPC. Budget will be allocated from the JU's administrative title.

    - **ISC High Performance 2026**

The EuroHPC JU will participate again in the event ISC 2026 as exhibitor. It will also support the ISC organisers to promote TOP 500 list communication activities. The event will take place in June 2026 in Hamburg, Germany. ISC is the largest forum in Europe for high performance computing, high performance data analytics and AI/machine learning and brings together vendors, public institutions, and startups. It is also one of the two moments in the year where the TOP 500 and Top Green 500 ranking lists to benchmark HPC systems are communicated to the HPC community.

The event is a great opportunity for the EuroHPC JU to showcase AI Factories and Antennas, Quantum and HPC supercomputers and R&I projects. ISC 2026 is also critical for the JU to consolidate its public image while increasing its network and its European user base. Budget will be allocated from the JU's administrative title.

    - **Supercomputing Conference (SC26)**

EuroHPC JU aims to promote its activities and achievements at SC26, the largest annual international HPC fora. SC26 will take place in the United States in November 2026. Should the EuroHPC JU participate as an exhibitor, budget will be allocated from the administrative title.

- **Web Summit 2026**

EuroHPC JU will participate in Web Summit in Lisbon in November 2026 to promote AI Factory services and access to European Start-Up and Scale-Ups communities who need AI compute power. Should the EuroHPC JU participate as an exhibitor, budget will be allocated from the administrative title.

Other Communication activities

EuroHPC JU will also ensure the following activities:

- Regular in-person meetings between key EuroHPC stakeholders (Governing Board, RIAG, INFRAG, User Forum Coordination Group (UFCG), User Forum, AI Factories and Antennas, the Hosting Entities, R&I partners) to ensure efficient and coordinated collaboration, develop synergies and reach potential new EuroHPC users.
- Inauguration of new supercomputers and Quantum Computers.
- Inauguration of 'AI Factories' and 'AI Antennas'.

- Interactive publications of EuroHPC JU reports and studies such as the Annual Activity Report, the User Days Report and Book of Proceedings to promote the impact of EuroHPC Activities
- Online webinars are delivered several times in the year to ensure regular communication with new users and audiences on EuroHPC JU services.

Legal and Internal Control

EuroHPC JU is dependent on excellent legal support in order to do its work. It will procure, where necessary, external legal counsel to support it in implementing its operational activities. Furthermore, Internal Control activities remain a priority.

Strategy and plans for the organisational management and internal control systems

The Internal Control Principles as adopted by the EuroHPC JU Governing Board remain applicable for the Joint Undertaking. The JU Internal Control Strategy was adopted in 2023 and is fully implemented. Specific controls and the related monitoring indicators are regularly revised and have been adapted in the last years where necessary to the JU's work environment. The continuous self-assessment by the staff and the management has been performed since 2023 and will continue in 2026, focussing on the new tasks, processes and related risks. The risk management system is in place and implemented according to the adopted guidelines. Risks are identified, continuously monitored and mitigation measures are applied where necessary. This approach will continue in 2026.

In the frame of organisational continuous development and profiting of the recent EuroHPC JU re-organisation, the quality management will continue to be improved by implementing results from internal control assessments and a staff survey performed in 2024. The objective of the quality management is to ensure efficiency in EuroHPC JU activities and a well-functioning internal control system, enabling adequate monitoring of objectives and achievements.

Financial procedures

The financial procedures and the workflows in place follow the financial rules, the general control framework applicable in the Commission and the various funding programmes' rules and guidance.

Monitoring arrangements, including through the Union representation in the Governing Board, as well as reporting arrangements, will ensure that the JU can meet the accountability requirements both to the European Commission, and to the Budgetary Authority.

With regard to ICT tools applied to support its financial procedures, since its autonomy in 2020, as from 1 January 2026, the JU has transitioned towards the new accounting and financial European Commission tool SUMMA, which has replaced ABAC.

In grant management, reporting and validation of costs for H2020 and Horizon Europe grants are done via the Commission IT tools (SyGMa and COMPASS). Experts reports and validation of costs are supported by the EC IT tools (EMI/EPS and COMPASS). For the management of business trips, the JU uses the corporate tool MIPS, functionally connected to ABAC.

Ex-ante and ex-post controls

In 2024 EuroHPC JU adopted and implemented the Control Strategy for EU-funded programmes 2024-2033, in order to set up an efficient and effective control system, applying a balanced and integrated composition of ex—ante and

ex-post controls, regularly revised to ensure an adequate coverage across activities and to endorse the declaration of assurance of the Executive Director in the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR).

Ex-ante controls:

Ex-ante controls are essential to prevent errors and irregularities before the authorisation of operations, to mitigate the risks of non-achievement of the objective and safeguard the EU and Participating States budget. An ex-ante control can take the form of checking grant agreements, initiating, checking and verifying invoices and cost claims, carrying out desk reviews (performed by EuroHPC JU project, finance and legal officers); mid-term reviews carried out by external experts and ad-hoc technical reviews (when deemed necessary).

During 2026, the Administration and Finance Unit and the operational units will continue to work closely together in their day-to-day activities of initiation, verification and validation of invoices and cost claims, creation of commitments, recovery orders, validation of financial and technical reports and following up on other financial and administrative aspects of the projects. Ex-ante controls will follow a risk-based monitoring approach, which will contribute to further reducing the risk of failing projects and/or loss of funding in the final stage of the EuroHPC JU programme.

These activities will be conducted in a timely manner that will be monitored through the defined set of KPIs the time to pay, the budget implementation and work programme execution.

Ex-post controls

The Ex-post audit process represents a significant element of the financial lifecycle of the EuroHPC JU. Ex-post controls are defined as the controls executed to verify financial and operational aspects of finalised budgetary transactions in accordance with Article 22 of the JU Financial Rules. The main objectives of the ex-post audits performed on EuroHPC JU participants are:

- To ensure the legality and regularity of the validation of cost claims performed by the EuroHPC JU's management.
- To provide an adequate indication on the effectiveness of the related ex-ante controls.
- To provide the basis for corrective and recovery activities, if necessary

For EuroHPC JU grant projects, the audits take place in accordance with the corporate H2020, HE and DEP ex-post audit strategy. For EuroHPC JU projects funded under the H2020 and the HE programmes, ex-post audits are carried out since 2022 by the Common Audit Service of the European Commission, and as such will continue in 2026. For projects funded under the DEP programme, ex-post audits started only in 2025, and they are carried out centrally by the Commission's Executive Agency HADEA. As with former years, the related audit results, contribute to the Executive Director declaration of assurance in the 2026 CAAR.

The control objective of the JU is to ensure, that the error rate and the residual error rate, which represents the level of error in payments made before and after corrective measures, does not exceed 2% of the total expense incurred since the beginning of the programmes implemented by EuroHPC JU.

In 2026, as with former years, focus will be put on the following:

- In cooperation with CAS, launch of H2020 and Horizon Europe audits (based on analytical risk-assessment profile review of the beneficiaries.
- In cooperation with CAS, and in line with CAS Working Arrangements, ensure monitoring of timely completion of the audits.
- In cooperation with the CAS, implement the results of the ex-post audits on its beneficiaries.
- Provide adequate reporting through the budget discharge process.

As regards with the Horizon Europe (HE) programme, a new version of the Control Strategy for Horizon Europe was adopted in September 2023. The HE Control Strategy is characterised by a risk-based approach and details how the HE controls system will maintain a balance between economy, effectiveness and efficiency in the achievement of the HE programme goals.

Antifraud Strategy

The Governing Board of EuroHPC JU adopted the first Antifraud Strategy in 2023, covering the period 2023-2025. The JU antifraud strategy is aligned with the global Antifraud Strategy (AFS) of the Commission and the Common Anti-Fraud Strategy in the Research & Innovation Family (RAFS). In 2026, the new JU antifraud strategy will be adopted for the period 2026-2028, in line with guidance provided by the European Commission (DG R&I and OLAF). EuroHPC JU continuously carries out fraud risk assessment, selection and implementation of mitigation measures at all steps of the lifecycle of JU's projects.

As part of the HE Control Strategy, the Commission has establishing guidelines for risk based ex-ante controls in grant management, which include specific guidance and measures for preventing and detecting fraud and irregularities, applicable also for the EuroHPC JU. In addition, the JU applies the Commission HE ex-ante anti-fraud checks. The related IT tools, for instance, for detecting plagiarism and double funding in H2020 and HE projects continue to be used by the EuroHPC JU.

For the prevention and detection of potential conflicts of interest, the EuroHPC JU continues to apply the multiple existing processes concerning e.g. the Members of the EuroHPC JU's Governing Board, experts of evaluation procedures, panels for procurement and recruitments.

An overview of the EuroHPC JU Antifraud Strategy and related documents, including the guidance for whistle blowers, is provided on the EuroHPC JU website with direct links to OLAF. The section will be updated with new information pertaining to the HE Control Strategy, where necessary.

Audits

European Court of Auditors (ECA)

As regards European Court of Auditors (ECA) audits, in 2026 the EuroHPC JU will continue to:

- Liaise with the independent auditor to audit EuroHPC JU accounts for 2025 as required by the Financial Rules of the EuroHPC JU.
- Follow up and implement any recommendation made in the previous ECA reports on the EuroHPC JU annual accounts.
- Provide the necessary information and support for ECA audit in 2025 and 2026 accounts;
- Assist and support ECA in their new horizontal audit for the JUs for 2026 (topic is still to be announced);
- Support the ECA team in their field or remote missions for EuroHPC JU projects selected (on a sample basis) for an ex-post financial review, including follow-up with EuroHPC JU beneficiaries and with the CAS.

Internal audit service (IAS) of the Commission

Internal audits are carried out by the Internal Audit Service (IAS) of the European Commission in liaison with Internal Control and Audit Manager. For all internal audit related issues, the EuroHPC JU relies on the assurance provided by the Internal Audit Service of the Commission and will no longer conduct internal audits.

The focus in 2026 will be to:

- Ensure that the agreed action plans regarding the past audits are properly and timely implemented by the Joint Undertaking and provide assistance to the IAS in the follow up procedure.
  Provide input and assistance to the IAS in establishing the Strategic Internal Audit Plan for next years and carrying out new audits.

Corporate IT and Office activities

EuroHPC JU will continue to benefit from the shared IT services, provided on the basis of the Framework Contract signed between the Joint Undertakings and the framework contractor. The JU will also cooperate with the network of JUs in sharing expertise between IT JU professionals in the context of the back-office arrangement, mainly in the following areas: Inter-JU IT governance, Management of ICT tools, services and contracts EC applications, tools and services, EC FWCs Other tools and services (TBC), and Security and compliance management.

Aligned with the maturity of the organisation, an assessment of corporate IT needs will be performed, together with a revised IT strategy, during 2026.

Following the entry into force of the Cybersecurity Regulation, laying down measures for a high common level of cybersecurity at the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Union, which entered into force on 7 January 2024, the JU will take measures in collaboration with other JUs, to comply with the requirements imposed by the regulation.

The JU will also work towards optimising the office space to make sure it caters for the needs of a fully staffed JU.

Finance, audit and budgetary discharge

The 2026 budget structure remains unchanged, compared to the existing structure previously approved in 2025 by the Governing Board.

BUDGET 2026

1. Revenue

The 2026 budget presented below includes revenues allocated under Horizon 2020 and the Multi-Annual Programmes 2021-2027 which are Digital Europe Programme, Horizon Europe and Connected Europe Facility.

The revenue commitment appropriations include new 2026 budget credits for a total amount of EUR 642 Million including EUR 149 Million of Participating States contributions. In addition, it is proposed to increase the new credits for a total amount of EUR 683 Million (HE/DEP/CEF) and the reactivated credits for a total amount of EUR 118 Million (HE/DEP/CEF). The total revenue budget of the JU in 2026 budget, is EUR 1.5 Billion.

In this budget 2026, the UK contribution to the JU for the Horizon Europe activities is included (EUR 46 Million).

Table 1 Revenue Commitment Appropriations

REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	2026		
				VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
1. Fees and Charges						
2. EU Contribution with EFTA included	623,398,655	712,461,300	506,163,595	682,534,999	117,602,306	800,137,305
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	3,447,160	9,557,690	13,070,000			-
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	2,279,982	-	-			-
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Operations (Title 3)	617,652,201	702,630,234	492,993,595	682,534,999	117,602,306	800,137,305
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Operations (Title 3)	19,312	273,376	100,000		-	-
3. Third Country Contribution	-	-	-			-
4. Other Contributions	270,850,000	375,309,162	148,704,300	-	-	-
4.1 Participating States	270,850,000	375,309,162	148,704,300	-	-	-
Contribution to the procurement MN5, Leonardo & Lumi	-	-	-			-
PT contribution to procurement of petascale	-	-	-			-
Contribution to the call of the high-end (exascale) supercomputers	270,850,000	-	-			-
Contribution to the call of the quantum/upgrade computers - RFF Funds		18,309,162	-			-
Contribution to the call of the quantum computers			-			-
Contribution to the call of the AI-optimised or upgraded supercomputer		357,000,000	148,704,300			-
4.2 Private Members		-	-			-
4.3 Miscellaneous Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-
of which Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Operations (Title 3)	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Operations (Title 3)	-	-	-			-
Total REVENUE	894,248,655	1,087,770,462	654,867,895	682,534,999	117,602,306	800,137,305
Contribution Agreements (Title 4) R0			3,000,000			-

Note: Including 2026 EU commitment credits related to AI Gigafactories and Quantum Pillars
Additional reactivation of the unused appropriations from the previous years

Table 2 Revenue Payment Appropriations

REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	2026		
				VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
1. Fees and Charges						
2. EU Contribution with EFTA included	566,961,110	395,318,813	1,005,302,429	32,600,001	- 24,934,404	7,665,597
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	8,092,878	9,432,271	13,070,000	-	-	-
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	2,035,108	-	-			-
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Operations (Title 3)	456,344,323	349,579,980	946,692,527	32,600,001	- 24,934,404	7,665,597
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Operations (Title 3)	100,488,802	36,306,563	45,539,902			-
3. Third Country Contribution	-	-	-			-
of which EEA/EFTA		-	-			-
supplementing Title 1 & 2		-	-			-
supplementing Title 3		-	-			-
of which Non-EEA		-	-			-
4. Other Contributions	152,385,387	26,211,327	98,735,809	-	4,989,500	4,989,500
4.1 Participating States	152,140,159	26,211,327	98,735,809	-	4,989,500	4,989,500
Contribution to the procurement MN5, Leonardo & Lumi	79,176,821	2,183,617	23,682,305			-
PT contribution to procurement of petascale	1,791,701		-			-
Contribution to the call of the high-end (exascale) supercomputers	37,130,136	24,027,710	53,525,374			-
Contribution to the call of the quantum/upgrade computers - RFF Funds			15,498,031			-
Contribution to the call of the quantum computers	34,041,500		6,030,100		4,989,500	4,989,500
Contribution to the call of the AI-optimised or upgraded supercomputer			-			-
4.2 Private Members	-	-				
4.3 Miscellaneous Revenues	245,228	-	-	-	-	-
of which Administrative (Title 1 and Title 2)	235,000	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
of which Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Operations (Title 3)	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
of which old Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Operations (Title 3)	10,228	-	-			-
Total REVENUE	719,346,498	421,530,140	1,104,038,239	32,600,001	- 19,944,904	12,655,097
Contribution Agreements (Title 4) R0			1,004,980			-

Note: Optimising the 2026 payment appropriations: fresh and unused from the previous years

2. Expenditure

The overall administrative budget for 2026 remains well below the maximum ceiling foreseen under the EuroHPCJU Regulation of EUR 92 Million for the entire 2021-2027 Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

Table 3 Expenditure Commitment Appropriations

EXPENDITURES (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	Internal Budget Transfers	2026		
					VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
Title 1. Staff Expenditure	**6,069,752**	**7,029,587**	**9,070,000**	-	-	-	-
11 Salaries & Allowances	**5,253,704**	**6,310,080**	**7,890,000**		-	-	-
1100 - Temporary Agents	3,692,857	4,004,558	4,500,000				-
1110 - Contractual Agents	1,419,432	1,959,985	3,000,000				-
1120 - Interim, Trainees & SNEs	141,415	345,537	390,000				-
12 Expenditure relating to recruitment	**20,574**	**11,500**	**10,000**				-
13 Missions and travel expenses	**362,000**	**300,000**	**300,000**				-
14 Socio-medical and training	**237,273**	**230,084**	**640,000**		-	-	-
1400 - CAS & EU School transports	87,440	99,679	350,000				-
1410 - Trainings	89,075	96,162	150,000				-
1420 - Social measures for Staff	60,758	34,244	140,000				-
1500 - HR administrative services	**196,200**	**177,923**	**230,000**				-
Title 2. Building, Equipment and Operating Costs	**3,435,127**	**2,528,103**	**4,000,000**	-	-	-	-
20 Buildings and associated costs	**70,000**	**129,649**	**300,000**				-
21 Information Technology	**526,351**	**597,833**	**950,000**				-
22 Movable property	**32,192**	**14,720**	**200,000**				-
23 Current administrative expenditure	**155,540**	**155,610**	**230,000**				-
24 External consultancy & auditing	**382,906**	**166,693**	**200,000**				-
25 Internal Meetings	**74,825**	**70,000**	**80,000**				-
26 Legal services	**424,782**	**25,000**	**150,000**				-
27 Comm, Information & Events	**232,096**	**256,933**	**390,000**				-
28 Experts and associated costs	**1,536,434**	**1,111,665**	**1,500,000**				-
Total ADMIN (Tilte 1 and 2)	**9,504,879**	**9,557,690**	**13,070,000**	-	-	-	-

EXPENDITURES (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	2026		
				VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
Total ADMIN (Tilte 1 and 2)	**9,504,879**	**9,557,690**	**13,070,000**	-	-	-
Title 3. Operational Expenditure						
30 Grants, HPC Operations, R&I Activities	**272,806,099**	**272,952,559**	**134,804,057**	**119,000,000**	**5,100,000**	**124,100,000**
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Calls	**126,917**	**273,376**	**100,000**	-	-	-
EuroHPC-2019-1	126,917	273,376	100,000			-
Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Calls	**272,679,183**	**272,679,183**	**134,704,057**	**119,000,000**	**5,100,000**	**124,100,000**
c. Federation Pillar	-	-				-
d. Technologies Pillar	8,000,000	8,000,000				-
e. Applications Pillar	18,051,401	18,051,401	22,343,107		100,000	100,000
f. Competences & Skills Pillar	7,724	7,724	22,000,000			-
fa. Quantum Pillar			13,000,000	119,000,000		119,000,000
g. International Cooperation Pillar	5,500,000	5,500,000				-
h. AI pillar	241,120,058	241,120,058	77,360,950		5,000,000	5,000,000
31 HPC Infrastructure Activities		**805,260,214**	**506,993,838**	**563,534,999**	**112,502,306**	**676,037,305**
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488		-		-	-	-
Regulation (EU) 2021/1173	**88,151,714**	**805,260,214**	**506,993,838**	**563,534,999**	**112,502,306**	**676,037,305**
AI-GIGA Factories				563,534,999	95,966,828	659,501,827
AI-optimised or upgraded EuroHPC supercomputers (TCO)		780,867,030	469,203,016		16,255,478	16,255,478
High-end (Exascale) supercomputers (TCO)	-	5,000,000	-			-
Mid-range supercompters (TCO)	-	-	34,920,822			-
Hyperconnectivity for HPC Resources call & Federation Call	-	-	-			-
Upgrading EuroHPC supercomputers (TCO)	-	18,309,162	-			-
Quantum computers		-	20,000		30,000	30,000
Access and allocation of EuroHPC computing resources and services	1,800,000	132,000	1,800,000			-
Industrial HPC supercomputer		-	-			-
EuroHPC Summits	700,000	700,000	700,000		250,000	250,000
User Forum Events & other Activities	-	252,022	350,000			-
De-prioritised calls from previous years	85,651,714	-	-			-
Total OPERATIONAL (Title 3)	**272,806,099**	**1,078,212,772**	**641,797,895**	**682,534,999**	**117,602,306**	**800,137,305**
Total EXPENDITURE	**282,310,978**	**1,087,770,462**	**654,867,895**	**682,534,999**	**117,602,306**	**800,137,305**
Title 4: Contribution agreements with the European Commission						
4010 – Operational activities under contribution agreements			2,455,187			
4110 – Administrative support to operational agreements			544,813			
Total Title 4			**3,000,000**	-	-	-

Table 4 Expenditure Payment Appropriations

EXPENDITURES (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	2026		
				VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
Title 1. Staff Expenditure	**6,319,540**	**6,938,571**	**9,070,000**	-	-	-
11 Salaries & Allowances	**5,284,839**	**6,281,857**	**7,890,000**	-	-	-
1100 - Temporary Agents	3,692,857	4,004,558	4,500,000			
1110 - Contractual Agents	1,450,567	1,959,985	3,000,000			
1120 - Interim, Trainees & SNEs	141,415	317,314	390,000			
12 Expenditure relating to recruitment	**20,574**	**16,911**	**10,000**			
13 Missions and travel expenses	**413,159**	**241,767**	**300,000**			
14 Socio-medical and training	**237,273**	**229,824**	**640,000**	-	-	-
1400 - CAS & EU School transports	87,440	95,571	350,000			
1410 - Trainings	89,075	100,479	150,000			
1420 - Social measures for Staff	60,758	33,774	140,000			
15 - HR administrative services	**363,694**	**168,212**	**230,000**			-
Title 2. Building, Equipment and Operating Costs	**3,940,446**	**2,493,700**	**4,000,000**	-	-	-
20 Buildings and associated costs	**81,055**	**38,673**	**300,000**			
21 Information Technology	**549,252**	**579,035**	**950,000**			
22 Movable property	**32,192**	**14,720**	**200,000**			
23 Current administrative expenditure	**196,098**	**287,215**	**230,000**			
24 External consultancy & auditing	**388,182**	**337,968**	**200,000**			
25 Internal Meetings	**95,279**	**66,857**	**80,000**			
26 Legal services	**619,117**	**28,591**	**150,000**			
27 Comm, Information & Events	**226,096**	**242,121**	**390,000**			
28 Experts and associated costs	**1,753,174**	**898,520**	**1,500,000**			
Total ADMIN (Tilte 1 and 2)	**10,259,987**	**9,432,271**	**13,070,000**	-	-	-

EXPENDITURES (EUR)	Executed Budget 2024	Executed Budget 2025	Current Budget 2026 (VOBU + REACT credits)	2026		
				VOBU Credits	REACT Credits	Proposed Budget (VOBU + REACT credits)
Total ADMIN (Tilte 1 and 2)	**10,259,987**	**9,432,271**	**13,070,000**	-	-	-
Title 3. Operational Expenditure						
30 Grants, HPC Operations, R&I Activities	**353,986,587**	**197,301,657**	**365,916,674**	**2,600,001**	**3,214,047**	**5,814,048**
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Calls	**55,669,252**	**32,768,290**	**42,070,711**	-	-	-
EuroHPC-2019-1	5,941,249	16,000,000	299,999			-
EuroHPC-2019-2	3,993,504	67,544	-			-
EuroHPC-2019-3	515,000		-			-
EuroHPC-2020 -1	9,239,771		9,732,680			-
EuroHPC-2020 -2	9,033,956	4,726,652	3,498,797			-
EuroHPC-2020 -3	10,419,282		2,008,426			-
Opex Grants	16,526,489	11,974,094	26,530,809			-
Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Calls	**298,317,335**	**164,533,367**	**323,845,963**	**2,600,001**	**3,214,047**	**5,814,048**
c. Federation Pillar	4,000,000		2,000,000			-
d. Technology Pillar	171,028,014	32,544,892	52,326,609	5,814,048		5,814,048
e. Applications Pillar	58,500,673	11,806,512	60,553,885			-
f. Competences & Skills Pillar	48,788,648	9,860,242	27,790,103	- 3,214,047	3,214,047	-
fa. Quantum Pillar			10,400,000		-	-
g. International Cooperation Pillar	16,000,000	3,999,618	8,599,051			-
h. AI Pillar		106,322,103	162,176,315			-
31 HPC Infrastructure Activities	**355,099,924**	**214,796,212**	**725,051,565**	**30,000,000**	**- 23,158,951**	**6,841,049**
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488	**125,901,300**	**5,721,889**	**27,151,496**	-	-	-
LUMI - PreExscale	4,433,829	3,538,272	8,422,109			-
LEONARDO - PreExscale	17,487,903	2,183,617	1,843,760			-
MN5 - PreExscale Supercomputer	102,187,868	-	16,885,627			-
Deucalion & Meluxina - Petascale	1,791,701	-	-			-
Regulation (EU) 2021/1173	**229,198,624**	**209,074,323**	**697,900,069**	**30,000,000**	**- 23,158,951**	**6,841,049**
AI-GIGA Factories						-
AI-optimised or upgraded EuroHPC supercomputers (TCO)		25,019,162	404,559,799			-
High-end (Exascale) supercomputers (TCO)	133,219,302	138,179,431	174,321,198			-
Mid-range supercompters (TCO)	-	2,251,412	39,562,303		1,851,549	1,851,549
Hyperconnectivity for HPC Resources call & Federation Call	10,775,084	1,999,700	33,999,940	30,000,000	- 30,000,000	-
Upgrading EuroHPC supercomputers (TCO)	4,153,875	20,498,885	17,549,089			-
Quantum computers	55,641,500	14,296,211	25,082,824		4,989,500	4,989,500
Access and allocation of EuroHPC computing resources and services	1,000,000	336,900	540,000			-
Industrial HPC supercomputer	3,400,000		1,219,615			-
EuroHPC Summits	700,000	668,547	700,000			-
User Forum Events & other Activities		5,824,076	365,300			-
De-prioritised calls from previous years	20,308,863	-	-			-
Total OPERATIONAL (Title 3)	**709,086,511**	**412,097,869**	**1,090,968,239**	**32,600,001**	**- 19,944,904**	**12,655,097**
Total EXPENDITURE	**719,346,498**	**421,530,140**	**1,104,038,239**	**32,600,001**	**- 19,944,904**	**12,655,097**
Title 4: Contribution agreements with the European Commission						
4010 – Operational activities under contribution agreements			811,962			
4110 – Administrative support to operational agreements			193,019			
Total Title 4			**1,004,980**	-	-	-

Tables 5a and 5b Cash Flow Operational Budget – Title III – EuroHPC grants (Chapter 30)

Table 5a – Cashflow overview Chapter 30 under DEP, HE and CEF

Item	Type of payment*	Funding Programme	VOBU Credits (EUR)	REACT Credits (EUR)	Total VOBU + REACT Credits (EUR)
c. Federation Pillar			2,000,000.00	-	2,000,000.00
101139786 - EPICURE	IP	DEP	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
d. Technology Pillar			47,740,656.76	10,400,000.00	58,140,656.76
101202459 - DARE SGA 1	PP	HE	28,457,622.46	10,400,000.00	38,857,622.46
101177590 - SEANERGYS		HE	4,777,334.23		4,777,334.23
101175702 - NET4EXA		HE	2,691,652.07		2,691,652.07
HPC/QC Middleware technologies		HE	11,814,048.00		11,814,048.00
e. Applications Pillar			60,553,884.66	-	60,553,884.66
101093441 - SPACE		HE	781,621.06		781,621.06
101093038 - CHEESE-2P		HE	735,774.58		735,774.58
101093054 - ESIWACE3		HE	794,283.70		794,283.70
101093290 - BIOEXCEL-3		HE	653,380.24		653,380.24
101093374 - MAX		HE	771,184.19		771,184.19
101093457 - HIDALGO2		HE	468,379.70		468,379.70
101144014 - EoCoE-III		HE	299,939.37		299,939.37
101172493 - DEALII-X		HE	196,989.00		196,989.00
101172576 - MICROCARD-2		HE	249,965.00		249,965.00
101194491 - QUEX		HE	2,500,000.00		2,500,000.00
101194322 - QEC4QEA		HE	3,000,000.00		3,000,000.00
HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-COE-LH-01		HE	32,433,190.72		32,433,190.72
HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-QGC-02-01		HE	6,200,000.00		6,200,000.00
Development of new benchmarks for HPC, Quantum		HE	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
Quantum Enhanced ML		HE	6,400,000.00		6,400,000.00
Late interest payments PA available		HE	100,000.00		100,000.00
101182737 - MINERVA		DEP	2,969,177.11		2,969,177.11
f. Compentences & Skills Pillar			24,576,055.95	3,214,047	27,790,102.95
101101903 - EUROCC 2	PP/IP	DEP	181,844.23	2,914,085.88	3,095,930.11
101102047 - CASTIEL 2		DEP		299,961.13	299,961.13
101136267 - HPC SPECTRA		DEP	426,964.02		426,964.02
101136896 - HPCTRAIN		DEP	1,000,000.00		1,000,000.00
101163317 - FFPLUS		DEP	1,499,984.39		1,499,984.39
101196394 - EVITA		DEP	1,199,984.90		1,199,984.90
101191697 - EUROCC4SEE		DEP	1,650,615.51		1,650,615.51
DIGITAL-JU-EUROHPC-2025-NCC-01		DEP	12,000,000.00		12,000,000.00
DIGITAL-JU-EUROHPC-2025-NCC-01-02		DEP	1,600,000.00		1,600,000.00
101256784 - EUMaster4HPC-2		DEP	5,016,662.90		5,016,662.90
fa. Quantum Pillar			10,400,000.00	-	10,400,000.00
Grand Challenge on Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation (CSA)		HE	1,600,000.00		1,600,000.00
Standards for Quantum Technologies – Coordination and Support Action (CSA)		HE	800,000.00		800,000.00
Large-Scale Photonic Quantum Computing Platform Technologies (RIA)		HE	8,000,000.00		8,000,000.00
g. International Cooperation Pillar			8,599,051.45	-	8,599,051.45
101136269 - HANAMI	PP/IP	HE	500,000.00		500,000.00
101196247 - GANANA		HE	499,952.25		499,952.25
101241875 - Q-NEKO		HE	3,199,999.20		3,199,999.20
101260370 - EuroTPC		HE	1,199,100.00		1,199,100.00
HORIZON-EUROHPC-JU-2025-IHPCSS-03		HE	800,000.00		800,000.00
Collaboration HPC with third countries		HE	2,400,000.00		2,400,000.00
h. AI Pillar			162,176,315.24	-	162,176,315.24
101239559 - EXALAI		HE	512,000.00		512,000.00
101234399 - BSC AI FACTORY		HE	2,100,000.00		2,100,000.00
101234224 - IT4LIA		HE	1,500,000.00		1,500,000.00
101234208 - LAIF SERVICE CENTER		HE	1,804,778.60		1,804,778.60
101239031 - LUMI-IQ		HE	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
101234366 - L-AIF Luxembourg		HE	700,000.00		700,000.00
101234349 - MIMER		HE	979,237.50		979,237.50
101234027 - HAMMERHAI		HE	591,685.38		591,685.38
101234269 - Pharos		HE	1,500,000.00		1,500,000.00
NLAIF (NL)		HE	8,776,091.50		8,776,091.50
CZAI (CZ)		HE	7,997,220.00		7,997,220.00
1HealthAI (ES)		HE	9,600,000.00		9,600,000.00
LitAI (LT)		HE	11,999,980.00		11,999,980.00
ROAI (RO)		HE	3,200,000.00		3,200,000.00
GAIA (PL)		HE	5,000,000.00		5,000,000.00
1HealthAI (ES) - AI experimental		HE	1,600,000.00		1,600,000.00
101262576 - HEARTS		HE	3,999,800.00		3,999,800.00
101262604 - AIFA-LAT		HE	3,120,996.02		3,120,996.02
101263007 - Pharos-CY		HE	2,400,000.00		2,400,000.00
101263091 - AIF IRL-Antenna		HE	3,999,875.00		3,999,875.00
101263128 - VEZILKA		HE	2,490,176.00		2,490,176.00
101263138 - SKAIAT		HE	2,865,862.00		2,865,862.00
101263203 - BE-AIFA		HE	4,000,000.00		4,000,000.00
101263239 - UKAIFA		HE	4,000,000.00		4,000,000.00
101263244 - HunAIFA		HE	4,000,000.00		4,000,000.00
101263254 - AIFA-ICE		HE	3,999,064.01		3,999,064.01
101263280 - SAIFA		HE	1,544,803.20		1,544,803.20
101263950 - CALYPSO		HE	4,000,000.00		4,000,000.00
101265001 - FAIMA		HE	3,614,000.00		3,614,000.00
101260391 - AI2F		HE	11,982,584.80		11,982,584.80
101254461 - SLAIF		HE	4,672,000.00		4,672,000.00
101253078 - AI:AT		HE	2,499,999.91		2,499,999.91
AI factories activities		HE	19,126,161.32		19,126,161.32
Networking of AI Factories		HE	20,000,000.00		20,000,000.00
Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Total PA			316,045,964.06	13,614,047.00	329,660,011.06

* FP - Final Payments, IP - Interim Payments, PP - Pre-financing

Table 5b – Cashflow overview Chapter 30 (Grants) under Horizon2020

Item	Type of payment*	VOBU Credits (EUR)	REACT Credits (EUR)	Total C1 + C2 Credits (EUR)
eProcessor			199,999	**199,999**
EuroHPC-2019-1		**0**	**199,999**	**199,999**
Late interest payments PA available			100,000	**100,000**
Total late interest		**0**	**100,000**	**100,000**
LUMI - OPEX	**IP/FP**	10,000,000		**10,000,000**
LEONARDO - OPEX		10,000,000		**10,000,000**
MN5 - OPEX		6,530,809		**6,530,809**
Opex Grants		**26,530,809**	**0**	**26,530,809**
Eupex_EuroHPC-2020-01a	**IP/FP**		5,465,472	**5,465,472**
The European Pilot_EuroHPC-2020-01a			3,667,208	**3,667,208**
HPCQS_EuroHPC-2020-01b			600,000	**600,000**
H2020-JTI-EuroHPC-2020-01		**0**	**9,732,680**	**9,732,680**
EPI EuroHPC-2020-02	**IP/FP**		3,498,797	**3,498,797**
H2020-JTI-EuroHPC-2020-02		**0**	**3,498,797**	**3,498,797**
EU Masters4HPC_EuroHPC-2020-03 -	**IP/FP**		2,008,426	**2,008,426**
H2020-JTI-EuroHPC-2020-03		**0**	**2,008,426**	**2,008,426**
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Total PA (H2020)		**26,530,809**	**15,539,902**	**42,070,711**

* FP - Final Payments, IP - Interim Payments, PP - Pre-financing

Tables 5c and 5d Cash Flow Operational Budget – Title III – EuroHPC Infrastructure activities (Chapter 31)

Table 5c – Cashflow overview Chapter 31 under DEP, HE and CEF

Item	Type of payment *	Funding	Type of Procurement **	VOBU Credits (EUR)		REACT Credits (EUR)	
				EU	PS***	EU	PS
b. Infrastructure Pillar				170,680,301.59	22,090,442.00	2,756,849.49	40,581,462.37
High-end /Exascale supercomputers				**120,795,824.68**	**22,090,442.00**	**0.00**	**31,434,931.82**
Jupiter - CAPEX	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC	18,071,916.68			31,434,931.82
Jules Verne - CAPEX				102,723,908.00	22,090,442.00		
Midrange supercomputers				**39,562,302.78**	**0.00**	**1,851,549.49**	**0.00**
Deadalus Greece - CAPEX	PP/IP	DEP	JOINT	10,560,922.76		1,851,549.49	
Deadalus Greece - OPEX				1,851,549.49			
Arrhenius Sweden -CAPEX				15,853,250.00			
CASPir Ireland - CAPEX				3,062,500.00			
LEVENTE Hungary -CAPEX				2,679,837.20			
CASPir Ireland - OPEX				3,410,130.00			
LEVENTE Hungary -OPEX				2,144,113.34			
Upgrading EuroHPC supercomputers				**8,402,558.75**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**9,146,530.55**
Upgrade Leonardo - CAPEX	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC	8,367,033.75			9,146,530.55
Upgrade Leonardo - OPEX		DEP					
Upgrade Discoverer+ - OPEX		DEP		35,525.00			
Industrial supercomputers				**1,219,615.38**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Industrial computer - CAPEX	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC	1,219,615.38			
Other Activities				**700,000.00**	**0.00**	**905,300.00**	**0.00**
ACCESS IT PLATFORM PROJECT	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC			540,000.00	
EUROHPC SUMMIT 2025		DEP		700,000.00			
EUROHPC USER DAY 2025		DEP				365,300.00	
h. AI Pillar				**274,741,507.35**	**0.00**	**129,818,291.16**	**0.00**
CAPEX				**266,945,425.45**	**0.00**	**128,418,291.16**	**0.00**
HammerHAI (DE)	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC	37,400,000.00			
BSC AIF (ES)		DEP		82,253,900.63			
L-AIF (LU)		DEP		19,200,000.00			
MIMER (SE)		DEP		7,142,400.00			
IT4LIA (IT)		DEP				69,600,000	
IT4LIA (IT)		CEF				29,227,917	
LUMI AI (FI)		DEP		93,072,000.00			
SLAIF (SL)		DEP		5,197,124.82		12,831,675.18	
PIAST AIF (PL)		DEP		15,000,000.00			
AI: (AT)		DEP		7,680,000.00			
BRAIN++ (BG)		DEP				16,758,699.36	
OPEX				**7,796,081.90**	**0.00**	**1,400,000.00**	**0.00**
HammerHAI	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC				
BSC AIF				3,081,131.90		1,400,000.00	
L-AIF (LU)				4,714,950.00			
h. AI Gigafactories				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIGF		HE	EHPC				
AIGF		DEP					
AIGF		CEF					
c. Federation Pillar				**30,000,000.00**	**0.00**	**3,999,940.00**	**0.00**
Hyperconnectivity Procurement	PP/IP	CEF2	EHPC	30,000,000.00			
Federation Procurement						3,999,940.00	
Quantum computers				**4,332,500.00**	**891,100.00**	**8,368,724.26**	**16,480,000.00**
EUROHPC-2022-CEI-QC-01 - CAPEX/OPEX	PP/IP	DEP	EHPC				
EuroQCS Poland					575,000.00	1,995,800.00	4,989,500.00
LUMI-Q Czech Republic				59,600.00		823,000.00	
EuroQCS France				316,100.00	316,100.00	1,320,400.00	3,301,000.00
Euro-Q-EXA Germany				97,200.00			1,838,000.00
EuroQCS Italy				2,447,500.00		150,000.00	4,546,500.00
EuroQCS Spain				1,412,100.00		1,375,800.00	1,805,000.00
101159808 - EUROQHPC-I						1,355,807.94	
EUROHPC-2022-CEI-QC-01 - CAPEX/OPEX							
Meluxina-Q - TCO						745,904.85	
EuroQCS Netherland - TCO						602,011.47	
			Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 Total PA	479,754,308.94	22,981,542.00	144,943,804.91	57,061,462.37

* FP - Final Payments, IP - Interim Payments, PP - Pre-financing

** Joint Procurement: Participation States contributions are managed by NFA, not entered in EuroHPC budget

*** Participating States contributions entered in EuroHPC Budget

Table 5d – Cashflow overview Chapter 31 under Horizon2020

Item	Type of payment*	VOBU Credits (EUR)		C2 Credits (EUR)	
		EU	PS	EU	PS
LUMI - PreExscale	IP	2,547,311	5,874,798		
LEONARDO - PreExscale	IP	921,880	921,880		
MN5 - PreExscale	IP		16,885,627		
Regulation (EU) 2018/1488 Total PA		3,469,191	23,682,305	0	0

* FP - Final Payments, IP - Interim Payments, PP - Pre-financing

Table 7: Reactivation of the unused appropriation Budget in 2025 (Operational) - Title 3

Budget to be Reactivated (Operational)	Commitment Appropriations (CA)	Payment Appropriations (PA)
Reactivation of Available Credits from the previous year	117,602,306	- 19,944,904
Credits (VOBU 2025)	90,000,000	4,989,500
Credits (REACT 2025)	27,602,306	
Credits (VOBU 2023)		- 24,934,404

Table 7.1: Reactivation of the unused appropriation Budget in 2025 (Operational) - Title 3

Operational Budget Structure (REACT Credits)	Commitment Appropriations to be reactivated	Payment Appropriations to be reactivated
E.3000		
E.3010	5,100,000	
E.3020		3,214,047
E.3030		
E.3100		
E.3110	37,265,197	
E.3120	15,237,108	6,841,049
E.3130	60,000,000	- 30,000,000
Grand Total	117,602,306	- 19,944,904

3. Budget structure and details

a) Title 1: Staff Expenditure

Chapter 11 – Salaries and Allowances

This chapter covers the expenditure for salaries, social security, pension contributions and other related allowances of staff. It covers the remuneration cost of establishment plan posts (temporary staff) and external personnel (contract staff, Seconded National Experts, interim agents and trainees), in accordance with the Staff Regulations.

Chapter 12 – Expenditure relating to recruitment

This chapter covers the expenditure regarding the recruitment process of new staff and the associated administrative costs.

Chapter 13 – Mission and travel expenses

This chapter covers travel agency fees and the reimbursements of costs of staff having to go on mission / travel for business. It covers travel expenses, daily subsistence allowances and ancillary or exceptional expenditure incurred by staff, whilst on mission, in the interest of the service. As part of its duties the JU staff will have to travel to various conferences, meetings and workshops related to the activities of the Joint Undertaking and to the actions funded.

Chapter 14 – Socio-medical expenditure and professional development

This chapter covers the JU contribution to the costs of the Comité des Activités Sociales, (e.g. the "crèche", the "garderie/centre d'études", the school bus), the medical service, the policy linked to financial assistance to disabled persons, the complementary health insurance, contribution of the home office (as per European Commission guidelines), and other related activities. It also covers the cost for professional development, training programmes and HR related events.

Chapter 15 – HR administrative services

This chapter covers costs of all SLAs and working arrangements with other EU bodies for HR matters, together with specialised external HR legal costs, when required.

b) Title 2: Building, Equipment and Operating Costs

Chapter 20 – Building and associated costs

This Chapter covers costs related to the infrastructure including e.g. office overheads and insurance, cleaning and maintenance, security and surveillance (where not covered by the SLA with DG HR) and others. The office premises are provided by the JU hosting country.

Chapter 21 – Information Technology

This Chapter covers costs related to the purchase of computer equipment, video conference equipment, the cost of software and also software package maintenance, user support, and others. It includes the procurement and maintenance of programme packages and software licenses necessary for the effective operation of the JU, the expenditure on services contracts for analysis, programming and technical assistance necessary for the JU, the cost of external services contracts to manage and maintain the data and systems, training and other support activities.

Chapter 22 – Movable property and associated costs

This Chapter covers the necessary resources to cover the costs of the organisation of the office e.g. office furniture needs.

Chapter 23 – Current administrative expenditure

This Chapter covers the costs of miscellaneous services related to the agreements signed with other Commission offices/services e.g. the CdT (translations) DG BUDG (ABAC, SUMMA & treasury), BOA for Accounting Services, S.G. (HAN), EFSA (EUAN SSO), and others.

It also covers of office supplies, stationery, badges, office material and other consumables necessary for the operation of the office. It also includes all correspondence, postage, delivery services costs and telecommunication costs (fixed, mobile telephony).

Chapter 24 – External administrative consultancy and auditing

This chapter covers the costs for external audit, external consultancies linked to administrative matters & outsourced support.

Chapter 25 – Internal meetings

This Chapter covers any expenditure linked to formal and internal events and meetings. It covers necessary catering costs and any additional costs regarding the organisation.

Chapter 26 – Legal services

This Chapter covers the costs for legal assistance, data protection and other legal obligations.

Chapter 27 – Communication, Information & Events

This Chapter covers the costs regarding Communication activities, events organization, dissemination and publication activities in connection with operational activities. It will also cover the costs of internal communication expenses.

Chapter 28 – Experts and associated costs

This Chapter covers the fees for the work done by experts, travel expenses and daily allowances if applicable. It also includes the reimbursement of expenses (travel and accommodation) for experts invited by the Euro HPC to meetings/events. (e.g. INFRAG/RIAG members and other experts).

c) Title 3: Operational Expenditure

The main purpose of the Joint Undertaking is the indirect implementation of EU budget in the field of High-Performance Computing. Detailed description of the operational activities undertaken in 2021 are presented in the Work Programme below.

Chapter 30 – Grants, R&I Activities

This appropriation related to all expenses linked to the EuroHPC JU R&I activities.

Table 5a above sets out contributions made to HPC R&I activities established under Regulation 2018/1488 and Regulation 2021/1173.

Chapter 31 – HPC Infrastructure Activities

This appropriation relates to the ongoing procurement in exascale, the mid-range systems, the quantum systems, upgrades, AI factories and the industrial supercomputers.

Supercomputer maintenance is also foreseen to be paid annually from 2022.

d) Title 4: Contribution agreements with the European Commission

The main purpose of this Title 4 is to allow the Joint Undertaking to implement contribution agreements with the European Commission in order to manage non-core tasks of the JU but activities which complement the JU's mandate. Budgetary credits will be external assigned revenue (R0s).

Chapter 40, item 4010 – Operational activities under contribution agreements

Chapter 41, item 4110 – Administrative support to operational agreements

HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2026, the JU should remain fully staffed with only standard turnover rates.

In 2024, the JU finalised its HR strategy, focusing on 7 pillars (talent selection, professional growth, collaboration, efficiency, leadership development, employee wellbeing and safe & respectful workplace. The HR Strategy included an action plan, which will continue to be implemented in 2026.

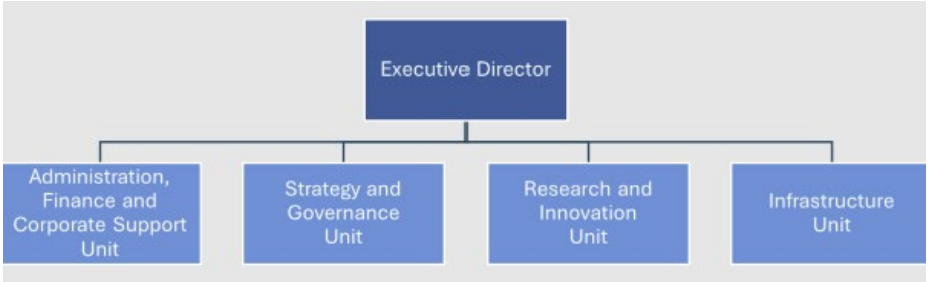
Following the Staff Engagement Survey carried out in 2024, follow-up actions are being carried out during 2025 and 2026. As customary within EU decentralised bodies, the EuroHPC JU will perform its next Staff Engagement Survey in 2026, so every two years.

Internal communication will be further strengthened in the area of Human Resources, in particular by means of continuous development of the intranet pages and dedicated info sessions.

The JU will continue to participate in the working groups in the context of the Shared Back-Office Arrangement (BOA) in various administrative and HR areas, as well as with other relevant working groups, agencies and institutions at the level of EUAN (EU Agencies network).

Official organigramme of the JU

The organigramme below presents the current organisational structure of the JU, up to the Head of Unit level.



Priorities for the 2026 recruitments

Apart from the very few remaining vacant posts being filled-in, reserve lists for the most standard job profiles of the EuroHPC JU will be foreseen, in order to be able to recruit faster when staff leaves the organisation, reducing the risk of long gaps and reinforcing business continuity.

Human resources planning for the period of 2021-2027

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Establishment plan posts Temporary Agents (TA)	4	22	27	27	27	27	27
Contract Agents (CA)	11	25	27	27	27	27	27
Seconded National Experts (SNE)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Staff	**16**	**47**	**54**	**54**	**54**	**54**	**54**

Breakdown of Temporary Staff by grade in 2024 and 2025

Temporary Agents (TA) by grade	2025 TA posts	Filled-in posts as of 31/12/2025	2026 TA posts
AD 16			
AD 15	1	1	1
AD 14			
AD 13			
AD 12	1	1	1
AD 11	1	1	1
AD 10	1	0	2
AD 9	4	5	5
AD 8	6	6	7
AD 7	7	6	7
AD 6	4	5	1
AD 5			
Total (ADs)	**25**	**25**	**25**
AST 5			1
AST 4	2	2	1
Total (ASTs)	**2**	**2**	**2**

Total TA	**27**	**27**	**27**

Breakdown of external staff by Function Group in 2025 and 2026

The JU remains within the planned maximum full-time equivalents (FTEs) in terms of contract agents, as foreseen in the Legislative Financial Statement (LFS) - 27, with the addition of up to 3 FTEs temporarily allocated to the EuroHPC JU linked to the increase of the budget delegated under Horizon Europe and also to support the EU-LAC Contribution Agreement.

Contract Agents (CA) Staff	**2025 approved FTEs**	**Filled-in posts as of 31/12/2025**	**2026 approved FTEs**
Function Group IV	22	17	20
Function Group III	4	7	7
Function Group II	1	0	0
Total CA staff	**27**	**24**	**27**

The 2026 approved function groups in terms of Contract Agents is aligned with the European Commission's indicative financial fiche for the Draft 2026 budget of the Joint Undertaking, except for one FG II who retired in 2025 and who has been replaced already in 2025 by a FG III due to a change in responsibilities.

ANNEX: WORK PROGRAMME 2024 and 2025- STATUS of CALLS

Action		Funding Rate	EU	Total	Status
Enhancing competitive European microprocessor technology for HPC	HE	EU 50% PS 50%	48.6 Million	97.3 Million	~~2025~~ **Postponed to 2026**
AI Factories Sovereign Cloud and edge-cloud bridges	CEF	100%	Total of 29 Million, out of which 10 Million from 2025	A total of 119 Million over a three-year period starting in 2025	**CEF Credits (29 Million) repurposed for the deployment of AI Factories (GB Decision 06/2026)**
~~**Enabling Universal Access and Integration of Quantum Resources**~~	~~HE~~	~~EU 50%~~ ~~PS 50%~~	~~10 Million~~	~~20 Million~~	~~2025~~ **Call taken over by Quantum Challenge**
HPC/QC Middleware technologies	HE	EU 50% PS 50%	20 Million	40 Million	2025 **Postponed to 2026**
Quantum application prizes	HE	EU 100%	300,000	300,000	**2026**
Development of new benchmarks for HPC, Quantum Computing, and AI	HE	EU50% PS 50%	2.5 Million	5 Million	2025 **Confirmed**
~~**HPC for AI Software Ecosystem**~~	~~HE~~	~~EU50%~~ ~~PS 50%~~	~~8 Million~~	~~16 Million~~	~~2025~~ **Cancelled**
~~**Centres of Excellence**~~	~~HE~~	~~EU50%~~ ~~PS 50%~~	~~10 Million~~	~~20 Million~~	~~2025~~ **Call taken over by Centres of Excellence call**

~~**HPC Applications**~~	~~HE~~	~~EU50%~~ ~~PS 50%~~	~~10 Million~~	~~20 Million~~	~~2025~~ **Call taken over by Centres of Excellence call**
~~**Continuous integration and deployment platform (CI/CD)**~~	~~DEP~~	~~EU50%~~ ~~PS 50%~~	~~5 Million~~	~~10 Million~~	~~2025~~ **Cancelled**