Public Consultation - EU funding for competitiveness

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

In 2025, the European Commission will put forward a comprehensive proposal for the next long-term budget – the multiannual financial framework (MFF). This includes EU funding providing financial support to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries, including research and technology organisations, small and medium /sized businesses, startups and scale-ups, educational and research institutions, industry clusters, and many others.

Today, EU funding in support of competitiveness is spread over too many overlapping programmes, many of which fund the same thing but with different requirements and difficulties in combining funding effectively, which hinders access to EU funding and limits the impact that the funding can have.

As highlighted in President von der Leyen's Commission's <u>Political Guidelines</u>, as well as in the <u>Competitive</u> <u>ness Compass</u>, the Commission will work on a simpler, more focused and impactful MFF that reflects the European strategic priorities (with the ambition of being an "investment-focused Commission"),

The guidelines also announced the creation of a European Competitiveness Fund, as part of the proposal for the next MFF. As set out in the Competitiveness Compass, this investment capacity should channel investment in strategic technologies along the entire investment journey, from research, through scale-up, industrial deployment, to manufacturing – using the power of the EU budget to de-risk and mobilise private investment for our common goals.

The Commission's proposal for the next MFF will be focused on the things that matter most, in areas where the EU can achieve more than Member States acting alone. This requires a careful assessment both of what has worked well in the past and what could be improved in the future. The next MFF will draw lessons from the current budget – notably in terms of simplicity and flexibility, speed and strategic focus. As an integral part of the process, the Commission is launching a series of public consultations to gather views from all interested parties on the future EU budget. This consultation covers EU funding in support of EU competitiveness. The decision to cluster issues serves to support the preparatory work and does not pre-empt the architecture of future programmes. This questionnaire consists of 3 parts:

Part 1 collects some information about you Part 2 contains questions related to EU funding for competitiveness. Part 3 comprises 2 closing questions.

Your feedback will inform the analysis of the impact assessment for the European Competitiveness Fund. You can save your replies as a draft and finish later. Please be concise in those questions with a free text box for additional comments. If you want, you can also upload a document with your views at the end of the survey.

About you

*Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- *I am giving my contribution as
 - Academic/research institution
 - Business association
 - Company/business
 - Consumer organisation
 - EU citizen
 - Environmental organisation
 - Non-EU citizen

- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

Lola

*Surname

Marchandy

* Email (this won't be published)

lola.marchandy@epha.org

*Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

European Publich Health Alliance

*Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

18941013532-08

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.

Afghanistan

- Djibouti
- 🔍 Libya
- Saint Martin

- Åland Islands
- Dominica
- Liechtenstein
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon

Albania	Dominican Republic	Lithuania	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Algeria	Ecuador	Luxembourg	Samoa
American Samoa	a [©] Egypt	Macau	San Marino
Andorra	El Salvador	Madagascar	São Tomé and
Annala		Malawi	Príncipe
Angola	Equatorial Guine		Saudi Arabia
Anguilla	Eritrea	Malaysia	Senegal
Antarctica	Estonia	Maldives	Serbia
Antigua and	Eswatini	Mali	Seychelles
Barbuda			
Argentina	Ethiopia	Malta	Sierra Leone
Armenia	Falkland Islands	Marshall Islands	
Aruba	Faroe Islands	Martinique	Sint Maarten
Australia	Fiji	Mauritania	Slovakia
Austria	Finland	Mauritius	Slovenia
Azerbaijan	France	Mayotte	Solomon Islands
Bahamas	French Guiana	Mexico	Somalia
Bahrain	French Polynes	a [©] Micronesia	South Africa
Bangladesh	French Souther	n [©] Moldova	South Georgia
	and Antarctic		and the South
	Lands		Sandwich
			Islands
Barbados	Gabon	Monaco	South Korea
Belarus	Georgia	Mongolia	South Sudan
Belgium	Germany	Montenegro	Spain
Belize	Ghana	Montserrat	Sri Lanka
Benin	Gibraltar	Morocco	Sudan
Bermuda	Greece	Mozambique	Suriname
Bhutan	Greenland	Myanmar/Burma	\mathfrak{a}° Svalbard and
		,	Jan Mayen
Bolivia	Grenada	Namibia	© Sweden

Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba	۲	Guadeloupe	0	Nauru	0	Switzerland
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	Guam	0	Nepal	0	Syria
Botswana	\bigcirc	Guatemala	۲	Netherlands	۲	Taiwan
Bouvet Island	۲	Guernsey	۲	New Caledonia	۲	Tajikistan
Brazil	۲	Guinea	۲	New Zealand	۲	Tanzania
British Indian Ocean Territory	0	Guinea-Bissau	٢	Nicaragua	٢	Thailand
British Virgin Islands	0	Guyana	٢	Niger	٢	The Gambia
Brunei	۲	Haiti	0	Nigeria	0	Timor-Leste
Bulgaria	0	Heard Island and McDonald Islands		Niue	۲	Togo
Burkina Faso	0	Honduras	0	Norfolk Island	0	Tokelau
Burundi	۲	Hong Kong	0	Northern	0	Tonga
				Mariana Islands		
Cambodia	0	Hungary	0	North Korea	0	Trinidad and
	_		_		_	Tobago
Cameroon	0	Iceland	0	North Macedonia	0	Tunisia
Canada	0	India	0	Norway	0	Türkiye
Cape Verde	0	Indonesia	0	Oman	0	Turkmenistan
Cayman Islands	0	Iran	0	Pakistan	0	Turks and
-	_		_		_	Caicos Islands
Central African Republic	0	Iraq	0	Palau	0	Tuvalu
Chad	۲	Ireland	۲	Palestine	۲	Uganda
Chile	۲	Isle of Man	0	Panama	0	Ukraine
China	\bigcirc	Israel	۲	Papua New	۲	United Arab
				Guinea		Emirates
Christmas Island	0	Italy	0	Paraguay	0	United Kingdom
Clipperton	0	Jamaica	0	Peru	0	United States

Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Japan	Philippines	United States Minor Outlying Islands
Colombia	Jersey	Pitcairn Islands	Uruguay
Comoros	Jordan	Poland	US Virgin Islands
Congo	Kazakhstan	Portugal	Uzbekistan
Cook Islands	Kenya	Puerto Rico	Vanuatu
Costa Rica	Kiribati	Qatar	Vatican City
Côte d'Ivoire	Kosovo	Réunion	Venezuela
Croatia	Kuwait	Romania	Vietnam
Cuba	Kyrgyzstan	Russia	Wallis and
			Futuna
Curaçao	Laos	Rwanda	Western Sahara
Cyprus	Latvia	Saint Barthélem	y [©] Yemen
Czechia	Lebanon	Saint Helena	Zambia
		Ascension and	
		Tristan da Cunh	а
Democratic	Lesotho	Saint Kitts and	Zimbabwe
Republic of the		Nevis	
Congo	0		
Denmark	Liberia	Saint Lucia	

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. Fo r the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association, 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published. Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

*Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the personal data protection provisions

Since 2021 have you applied for EU funding managed directly or indirectly by the European Commission?

Maximum 1 selection(s)

Yes

No

Which funds have you applied for?

- Horizon Europe
- Digital Europe
- Innovation Fund
- InvestEU
- LIFE
- Connecting Europe Facility
- European Defence Fund
- European Defence Industry Reinforcement Trhough Common Procurement Act (EDIRPA)
- Act in support of Ammunition programme (ASAP)
- IRIS²
- European Space Programme (including Cassini Initiative)
- Euratom Research and Training Programme

ITER

EU4Health

Other

If other: please indicate which fund

Was one or more of your application(s) successful? (Did you receive funding for

your project?)

Maximum 1 selection(s)

- Yes
- 🗖 No

For which programme(s)/fund(s)?

- Horizon Europe
- Digital Europe
- Innovation Fund
- InvestEU
- LIFE
- Connecting Europe Facility
- European Defence Fund
- European Defence Industry Reinforcement Through Common Procurement Act (EDIRPA)
- Act in support of Ammunition programme (ASAP)
- IRIS²
- European Space Programme (including Cassini initiative)
- Euratom Research and Training Programme
- ITER
- EU4Health
- Other

How would you describe your experience?

	Very positive	Positive	Negative	Very negative	No opinion	
Identifying the funding opportunity	0	0	۲	0	0	

The relevance and clarity of the calls	0	0	۲	0	0
The duration of the procedure	0	0	0	۲	0
The application procedure	0	۲	0	0	0
The evaluation of your proposal	0	۲	0	0	0
The implementation of the project	0	0	۲	0	0
The disbursement of the funding	0	0	۲	0	0

Please describe what you consider to be the key challenges in this procedure

500 character(s) maximum

Huge time investment with low proposal success rate. Cumbersome application process that can be simplified with sometimes unclear descriptions of the template sections. Once funded, the process for amendment is rigid and complex to respond adequately to changing circumstances. Often a mismatch between outputs and policy expectations. Due to uncertainty, it's difficult to align the hiring process with funding applications. Reporting process can be streamlined, reporting frequency can be reduced.

Part 2. EU funding on Competitiveness

The Commission has preliminarily identified the following challenges linked to competitiveness. How important are these challenges in your view?

	Very important	Important Moderately important		Not important	No opinion
The innovation and technological gap for the EU in strategic technologies, with respect to key competitors globally	• • •		©	©	
Underinvestment in research and innovation	• • •		O	O	
Disparities in innovation and industrial capacity across Member States	0	0	O	0	۲
Lack of fertilisation between civil and military research and development	O	O	O	0	۲
Insufficient innovation and manufacturing capacity for strategic technologies	0	0	0	0	۲
Insufficient focus of EU funding on EU strategic priorities	O	۲	©	0	0

Lack of coherence between EU, national and regional policies for competitiveness	0	۲	0	0	۲
Climate resilience and costs associated with decarbonisation	۲	0	0	0	O
Excessive dependence of the EU on non-EU countries for critical inputs, raw materials and strategic technologies	0	0	۲	0	۲
Access to finance for small businesses and for scale-up companies from research to manufacturing	0	0	0	0	۲
Attracting world class researchers, skilled workers and entrepreneurs from abroad	0	0	0	0	۲
Incapacity to translate innovation into marketable technologies, and failure to integrate these technologies into the EU's industrial base	0	0	۲	O	۲
Mismatch between skills and labour market demands	۲	0	0	O	0
Digitalisation and diffusion of advanced technologies in key sectors	0	۲	0	0	0
Insufficient private investment, including by institutional investors	0	0	0	O	۲
Challenges related to the effective protection of EU funds against fraud, corruption and other illegal activity	0	0	O	0	۲
Other (please specify below)	۲	۲	۲	0	0

If other: please specify below

500 character(s) maximum

Strenghtening healthcare systems and preparing them for future crisis

Which development stages for technologies and products should be supported by the next MFF to support EU competitiveness?

	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	Don't know/not applicable
Fundamental research	۲	0	\odot	\bigcirc	0

Applied research	۲	0	0	0	0
Early-stage development of technologies	0	۲	O	O	0
Scaling up	0	0	0	0	۲
Industrial deployment	0	0	0	0	۲
Manufacturing capacities	0	0	0		۲
Other (please specify below)	0	0	۲	۲	0

To what extent does the current EU budget contribute to addressing the following challenges?

	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all
Attracting world class researchers, skilled workers and entrepreneurs from abroad	0	0	0	0
Facilitating collaboration between research and industry	0	0	\odot	0
Translation of innovation into marketable technologies, and integration of these technologies into the EU's industrial base	0	0	0	0
Disparities in innovation and industrial capacity and resources across Member States	0	0	0	0
Providing world class technological and research infrastructure across the EU	0	0	0	0
Reducing excessive dependencies in critical inputs, raw materials and strategic technologies	0	0	0	۲
Fertilisation between civil and military research and development	0	0	0	۲
Ensuring continuity in EU funding across the stages from research to manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Demand-side public initiatives for innovation and strategic technologies (e.g. procurement, standards)	0	0	0	0
Decarbonisation and environmental sustainability of strategic sectors	0	0	0	0
Digitalisation and diffusion of advanced technologies in key sectors	0	0	0	0
Support for small businesses and for scale up companies from research to manufacturing	0	0	0	۲
Insufficient mobilisation of private financing (e.g. by de-risking private investment)	0	0	0	0

Other (please specify below)	0	0	\odot	\odot	
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The Commission has identified a number of possible measures for EU funding to better support EU competitiveness. To what extent do you think such measures could have a positive impact?

	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	Don't know/ not applicable
Applying common rules, timelines and eligibility criteria to all relevant EU funds	۲	O	0	O	0
Increased focus of funding on key current and future strategic priorities	۲	O	0	O	O
Reducing the number of EU funding programmes	0	0	0	۲	0
Continuity in EU funding from research to manufacturing	۲	O	0	O	0
Aligning industrial and research policies and investment at EU and national levels	0	0	0	O	۲
Increase international collaboration with like- minded non-EU partners	0	0	0	O	۲
Targeted tools and measures to limit EU dependencies in strategic key sectors	0	0	0	0	۲
Strengthen business advisory support services (e.g. coaching, mentoring, training) for successful applicants	0	0	0	0	۲
User-friendly IT tools	۲	0	0	0	0
Better feedback to applicants	۲	0	0	0	0
Introduce more flexibility into resource allocation to react to crises and emerging needs	۲	0	0	0	0
Place greater focus on achieving results, including via performance-based funding (such as financing not linked to costs)	O	۲	0	0	0
Preventing and combat fraud and corruption better as well as other illegal activities targeting EU funds	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify below)	0	۲	0	0	۲

If you would like to add further information – within the scope of this questionnaire – feel free to do so here.

To ensure competitiveness, the EU should ensure that ambitious investments supporting public health and health systems are made. Health is an investment and should be considered as such, not as a cost. Studies have shown that every euro invested in health generates, on average, an economic return of 14 euros. Urgently addressing current challenges, including noncommunicable diseases, cross-border health threats, and health workforce shortages should remain a top priority for the next financial cycle. Particularly, investing in health systems is paramount to support wellbeing and healthy societies. This includes preparing but also adapting health systems to the increasing demand of care due to climate change and other global health threats. Regarding the workforce, the focus should be on addressing training needs and improving working conditions. In addition, health civil society organisations should be supported financially in a sustainable way, through a strong EU4Health programme, to be able to support its implementation.

Attach any relevant documents to support your replies

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

da3a604b-64b8-49ab-8d43-a95e981fcff8/2023_epha_strengthening-public-health-across-the-european-union-compressed__1_pdf

Contact

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