

Topic Preview 2026

Horizon Europe Work Programme

Cluster 2 “Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society”

Swiss Participation in Horizon Europe

Switzerland is an Associated Country to Horizon Europe and Swiss entities may participate as beneficiaries and coordinators. Call restrictions may apply.

1. Work Programmes, Calls, and Topics

Horizon Europe is divided into several Work Programmes, calls, and topics. The following tables give a preview of the open and forthcoming topics.

The 2026-2027 Work Programme of Cluster 2 “Culture, creativity and inclusive society” is divided into three destinations:

- Democracy and Governance (DEMOCRACY)
- Cultural Heritage and Cultural and Creative Industries (HERITAGE)
- Social and Economic Transformations (TRANSFO)

Note that the Work Programme is always the leading document and should always be checked, in case the information has been incorrectly transferred into the Funding and Tender Portal.

Destination: Democracy and Governance

Topic Identifier	Topic Title	Type of Action	Deadline	Budget per project (EUR million)	No. of Grants
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-01</u>	Tackling gender-based violence against politically active women and LGBTIQ people	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-02</u>	Understanding the forms of local democracy in low-income and low-middle income countries	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-03</u>	Government in transition – how governments change the way they work and prepare the civil service for the future	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	2
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-04</u>	Sustainable paths to media viability	IA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-05</u>	Research and Innovation Network for a Union of Equality	CSA	23.09.2026	4.00-4.50	1
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-06</u>	Governing global commons sustainably	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-07</u>	Supporting post-conflict democracy and reconstruction	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-08</u>	Electoral integrity in the digital context	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-09</u>	Citizenship education as part of lifelong learning	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	4
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-10</u>	Digital and media literacy as drivers for democratic and civic resilience	RIA	23.09.2026	3.50-4.00	3

Destination: Cultural Heritage and Cultural and Creative Industries

Topic Identifier	Topic Title	Type of Action	Deadline	Budget per project (EUR million)	No. of Grants
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-01</u>	“Artistic intelligence”: harnessing the power of the arts to address complex challenges, enhance soft skills and boost innovation and competitiveness	RIA	23.09.2026	4.50-5.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-02</u>	Boosting creative startups for disruptive innovation	IA	23.09.2026	5.00-6.00	2
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-03</u>	AI integration in CCSI work practice: catalysing innovation and competitiveness	IA	23.09.2026	4.00-5.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-04</u>	Towards a fair and transparent market for cultural and creative content in the era of generative AI	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-05</u>	Creative alliances: Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-3.75	4
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-06</u>	Safeguarding linguistic diversity in Europe	RIA	23.09.2026	5.00-5.75	2
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-07</u>	Preventing and fighting illicit trafficking of cultural goods	CSA	23.09.2026	4.50-5.00	1

Destination: Social and Economic Transformations

Topic Identifier	Topic Title	Type of Action	Deadline	Budget per project (EUR million)	No. of Grants
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-02-TRANSFO-01</u>	Co-funded European Partnership for Social Transformations and Resilience	Cofund Actions	13.10.2026	60.00	1
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-02</u>	Open topic: Strengthen Europe's social model and sustainable competitiveness through productivity	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-03</u>	Tackling child poverty and ensuring disadvantaged children's access to Early Childhood Education and Care	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-04</u>	The impact of the use of digital tools outside school and for communication on educational outcomes and mental health	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-05</u>	Contribution of basic skills to productivity, innovation, competitiveness and economic growth	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-06</u>	Making Europe a global magnet for talent - Attracting and retaining students, researchers and high-skilled workers from outside the EU	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-3.30	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-07</u>	Fostering competences for the green transition	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-08</u>	Strengthened implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and a focus on inclusion, integration, and health	RIA	23.09.2026	3.00-4.00	3
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-09</u>	Rethinking long-term care policy in the face of EU demographic shifts	RIA	23.09.2026	Around 3.75	4
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-10</u>	Fostering cooperation and integration between SSH and STEM research and innovation in the EU	CSA	23.09.2026	Around 3.50	1

2. More Information on Calls and Topics

Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal

The [Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal](#) is the online entry point for Horizon Europe applicants. The portal provides the full topic texts, updates, links to regulations etc.

Work Programme (PDF Version)

In addition to the Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal, the PDF version of the Work Programme, available in the section “Topic conditions and documents” of the topic, provides further information on the topic texts (introduction to the policy background, budget overview etc.).

3. Types of Actions

Type of Action (Abbr.)	Type of Action	Funding Rate	Conditions*	Comment
RIA	Research & Innovation Actions	100%	≥ 3 legal entities from ≥ 3 MS/AC**	Establish new knowledge and/or explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology
IA	Innovation Actions	70% (100% for public & non-profit bodies)	≥ 3 legal entities from ≥ 3 MS/AC**	Produce plans & arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services
CSA	Coordination and Support Actions	100%	≥ 1 legal entities from MS/AC	Contribute to the objectives of the Horizon Europe Programme, excluding research and innovation activities
PCP	Pre-Commercial Procurement	≥ 100%	≥ 1 MS/AC Public Procurer(s) [≥ 1 MS/AC private and/or NGO procurer(s)]	Enable a transnational buyers' group to reinforce the public procurement of R&I (possibly with first deployment of new solutions)
PPI	Public Procurement of Innovative Solutions	≥ 50%	≥ 1 MS/AC Public Procurer(s) [≥ 1 MS/AC private and/or NGO procurer(s)]	Enable a transnational buyers' group to reinforce the early deployment of innovative solutions by overcoming the fragmentation of demand

* MS: Member State; AC: Associated Country

** Each consortium has to include at least one Member State

4. Partnering Services

Provider	Platform
Euresearch	Overview of Partnering Platforms
European Commission	Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal
European Commission	CORDIS
Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)	Swiss EEN - Innosuisse
Net4Society	Cluster 2 Community Platform

5. Further Questions

Your Euresearch Office in the Region for questions on formal and administrative matters (proposal submission, eligibility criteria, budgeting, etc.)

[Office in your Region](#)

Your National Contact Point for questions concerning the scientific aspects of your proposal.

[Dr. Marco Cavallaro](#)