



RESEARCHERSnewsletter.

upcoming events, current tenders, new announcements

April 2026

In this newsletter, you will find **EU-information** on...

- **UPCOMING** events.
- **CURRENT** funding & tenders.
- **NEW** announcements.

Please note: "(ENG)" or "(GER)" = language of the website/event is English or German

UPCOMING events.

➤ **ECRIN | INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL TRIALS DAY (ICTD) 2026**

The *ICTD* conference **Stronger Together: Advanced Therapy Clinical Trials Without Borders** brings together patients, health policy actors, health authorities, clinical researchers, health professionals, citizens from Europe and beyond to discuss issues related to multinational clinical studies.

There will be a **keynote speech on challenges in ATMP clinical trials**, followed by a **case study on conducting trials across borders**. The main part of the day will cover perspectives from key stakeholders, including patients, regulators, sponsors and investigators. The event will conclude with a **discussion on solutions**, featuring a reflection on European efforts and a panel session.

Participation is free of charge. Registration is necessary. On-site participation is full.

When: **May 20th 2026**,

Where: Empire Hall, Prague **and** online

More information can be found [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **'BMFTR' & 'FiF' | SO WHAT DOES "GENDER DIMENSION IN RESEARCH" ACTUALLY MEAN? - AN OVERVIEW ACROSS DISCIPLINES** (ENG)

"In this online event, organised by the *Contact Point Women into EU Research (FiF)*, participants will receive an **overview of gender aspects** in Horizon Europe, examples from various disciplines on how to take gender aspects into account and useful **information for proposal-writing for projects in Horizon Europe**. The workshop is aimed at scientists and researchers, but also at people with a multiplier role, such as those who advise on writing applications."

Participation is free of charge. Registration is necessary.

When: **June 9th 2026**, 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Where: online

More information can be found [here](#) (ENG).

- **‘KoWi’ & UNIVERSITY KASSEL | INFO EVENT ON THE ERC STARTING GRANTS AND CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS** (ENG)

The content covers general information on **funding opportunities**, including international and EU programmes. It also highlights events and initiatives **aimed at promoting early-career researchers**. *Participation is free of charge. Registration is necessary until June 8th.*
When: June 11th 2026, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Where: online
Further information can be seen [here](#) (ENG).
 - **‘KoWi’ & UNIVERSITY KASSEL | INFO EVENT ON THE MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS** (ENG)

The *Postdoctoral Fellowships* aim to support postdoctoral researchers through personalized research projects that build complementary professional skills, with a strong focus on international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral mobility. The information event provides an overview of **funding scope, eligibility criteria**, and the application process, along with an **opportunity for discussion**. *Participation is free of charge. Registration is necessary until May 3rd.*
When: May 6th 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Where: online
Further information may be accessed [here](#) (ENG).
 - **‘KoWi’ AND SAFIR | RESEARCH IN EUROPE** (ENG)

“The info day "Research in Europe" provides a concise overview of academic career und connected funding opportunities in Germany and the EU. Gain first-hand **insights into diverse career paths, suitable funding programmes and get tips for successful applications**. Major funding organisations will present their programmes and be available to answer your individual questions at information booths during our Research Career Forums.“
Participation is free of charge. Registration is necessary.
When: May 5th 2026, 09:00 a.m. – 04:15 p.m.
Where: University of Münster
More information can be found [here](#) (ENG).
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CURRENT funding & tenders.

- **EUREKA | BIOTECH CALL 2026**

The call supports **international biotech collaboration** projects, focusing on small, well-balanced consortia with clear innovation and implementation plans, while each country funds its own partners. It targets a broad range of biotech areas, including **medical, industrial, agricultural, and data-driven applications**, with the aim of advancing innovative solutions and fostering cross-border cooperation. Participants from Germany can receive a grant of **up to 500.000,- €**.
The **application deadline** is **September 25th 2026**.
Further information can be found [here](#) (ENG).
- **EC & DIGITAL | APPLY AI: PILOTING AI-BASED IMAGE SCREENING IN MEDICAL CENTRES**

This call for proposals seeks to fund projects involving replicable, scalable, cloud-based systems utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) for the **analysis of medical imaging data** in the healthcare sector. The systems are **to be validated through one or more proof-of-concept studies** using a large number of patient test cases in real-world healthcare facilities, and a plan for obtaining regulatory approval for the applications is to be developed.
The calls are set to **open on April 21st 2026**. The **application deadline** is **October 1st 2026**.
More information may be found [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **HORIZON EUROPE | LUKE JOINT CALL**

The call aims to support European–Ukrainian research collaborations in **key fields relevant to reconstruction** through transnational, multidisciplinary projects in basic and applied research, development, and innovation. Consortia must include **at least three eligible institutions from three participating countries**, including at least one partner from Ukraine.

In the thematic area **‘Medizin- und Gesundheitsforschung: Telemedizin, biomedizinische Forschung’**, the focus is on **introducing telemedicine solutions for remote treatment** and advancing **innovative research on cellular signaling pathways** for biomedical applications.

The project is funded with **200.000,- €**, for **up to 2 years**. (For German participants with the ‘BMFTR’)

The **application deadline** is **May 15th 2026**.

Further information can be found [here](#) (ENG).

NEW announcements.

➤ **EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY | PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY GUIDANCE**

The *Accelerating Clinical Trials in the EU (ACT EU)* initiative has issued a **draft guidance on conducting clinical trials during public health emergencies**, aiming to ensure they can be initiated, adapted, and continued efficiently under the current EU regulatory framework. It **proposes harmonised procedures to accelerate trial approvals and modifications**, while encouraging sponsors to seek scientific advice for robust study design. The guidance also addresses practical challenges such as transferring participants between sites, while maintaining participant safety and high scientific standards.

The consultation is **open until April 30th 2026**.

Further information can be found [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **HORIZON EUROPE & DESCA | UPDATED MODEL CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT PUBLISHED**

The *DESCA (Development of the Simplified Consortium Agreement)* working group has published an updated model consortium agreement for collaborative projects in *Horizon Europe*.

The version *DESCA HE 2.1* incorporates feedback from practitioners and aligns the model with the changes introduced in version *DESCA AP 2.0*. This includes, in particular, a separate subsection on **liability claims relating to auxiliary persons**. The application of the model syndicated loan agreement is also facilitated by editorial revisions and explanatory notes.

Further information can be seen [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **EC | “EU INC.” – PROPOSED EUROPEAN CORPORATE FRAMEWORK**

The *European Commission* has proposed a regulation introducing an optional *EU-wide* company form (“*EU Inc.*”) to **simplify and accelerate the cross-border creation and scaling of innovative businesses** as part of its start-up and scale-up strategy. It also issued recommendations for standardized definitions of innovative companies, start-ups, and scale-ups to ensure more consistent access to public funding across Europe. Notably, **non-profit research institutions may hold more than 25% of shares in start-ups without affecting their eligibility** for certain funding schemes.

More information may be seen [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **HNN 3.0 | Q&A INFO SHEETS ABOUT HEALTH CLUSTER TENDERS 2026 AND IHI’S CALL 12**

The website offers an **overview of the tenders** included in the *Horizon Europe* Health Cluster and *IHI’s* Call 12. Additionally, **recorded information seminars** will be made available, along with a compiled overview of all questions and corresponding answers related to the calls.

Further information can be found [here](#) (ENG).

➤ **NCP HEALTH | UPDATED CANCER MISSION FLYER FOR HORIZON EUROPE TENDERS**

In this brochure, you will find information on calls for proposals and on other **cancer-related funding opportunities** within the *Horizon Europe* program, as well as explanations of the political background and implementation of the *Cancer Mission*.

The brochure can be seen [here](#) (GER).

➤ **EPRS | ACADEMIC FREEDOM MONITOR 2025**

The *European Parliamentary Research Service* has published the annual *Academic Freedom Monitor 2025*. It highlights several key findings, including a **significant decline in academic freedom over the past decade** in several *EU* member states. It also notes that geopolitical tensions have increased foreign influence, raising concerns about the unintended transfer or use of European knowledge and technologies. The report identifies the main risks within *EU* member states as threats to academic freedom and institutional autonomy, and points to a **lack of clear and transparent European guidelines for establishing stable partnerships** with private and non-traditional public actors that respect these principles. The policy options outlined in the previous *Academic Freedom Monitor* remain relevant and have been further expanded.

The report may be seen [here](#) (ENG).

Please consult the **monthly Funding Options and Job Openings** ([see webpage](#)) for further awards, grants, and scholarship opportunities.

We look forward to assisting you.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to interested colleagues and friends.

Kind regards,
on behalf of Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schild
ViceDean for Research

Dr. Angela Clement, Dr. Susanne Hahn und Dr. Tsanan Heimann
Research Advisors

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