



# SPARTE Summer school

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

## Preparing European projects

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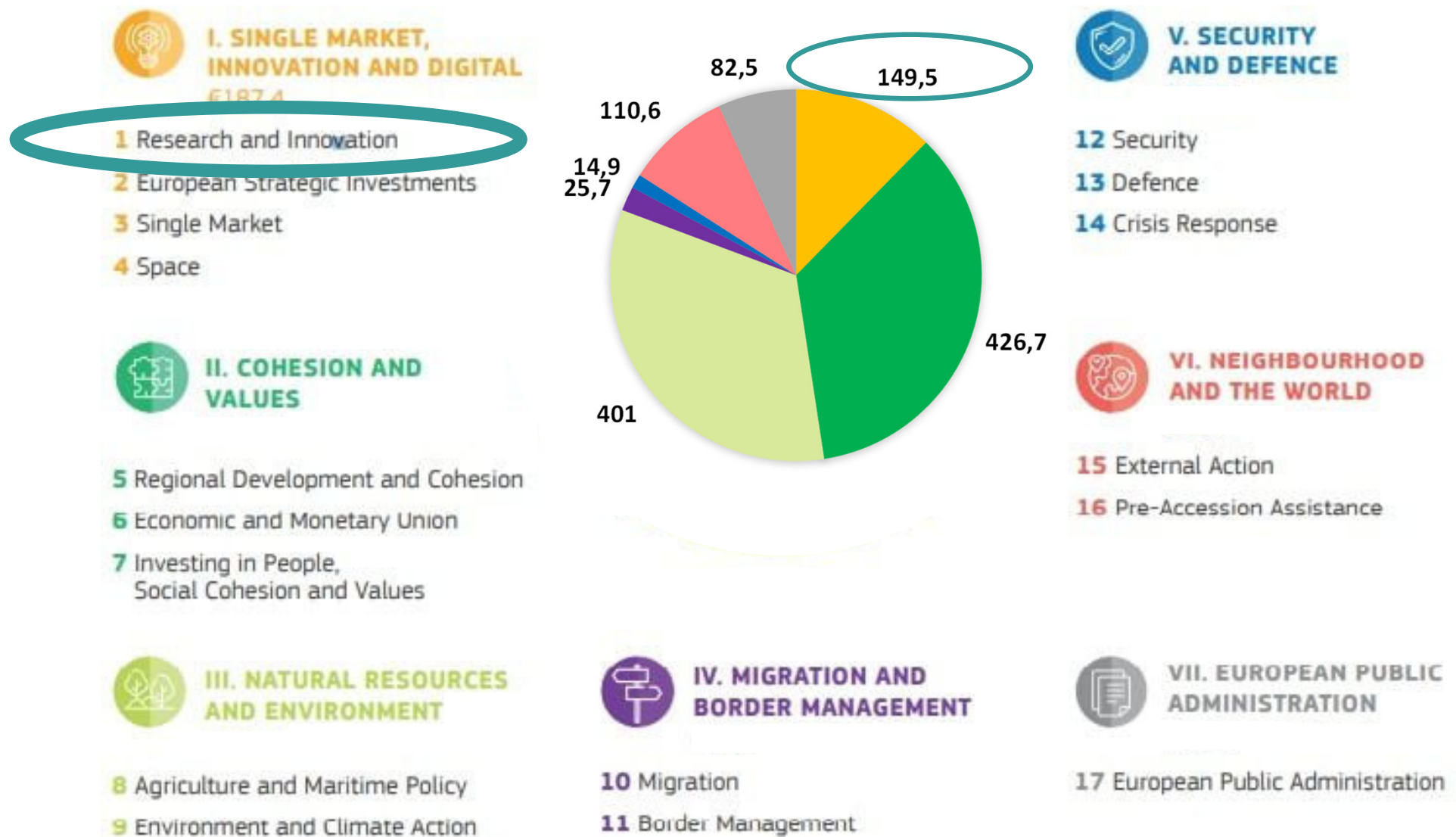


# Preparing European projects

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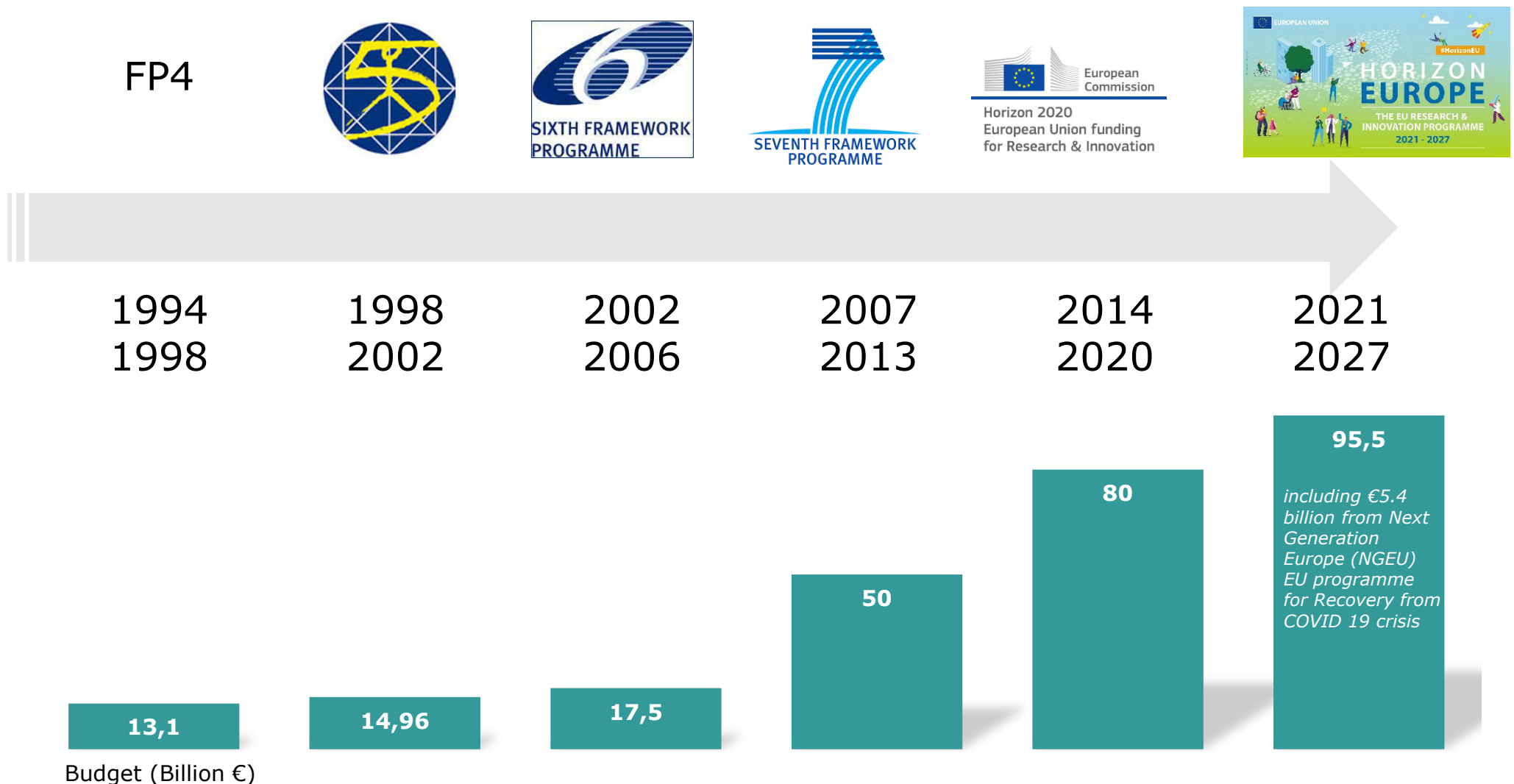
- ▶ **Introduction to Horizon Europe**
- ▶ Focus on MSCA Post-doctoral fellowships:  
where to start and tips
- ▶ Other individual funding opportunities

# A bit of context: EU's 2021-2027 long-term budget (1,2 trillion €)



Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/2021-2027/spending>

# Funding research and innovation at European-level: the framework programmes



# Horizon Europe: objectives and impact

## Key impact pathway

### Objectives



fuel EU's **scientific and technological excellence** and the strengthen the European Research Area (ERA)

#### Science & technology



tackle policy priorities, including **green and digital transitions** and Sustainable Development Goals

#### Society



boost Europe's **innovation uptake, competitiveness and jobs**

#### Economy

1. Creating high-quality new knowledge
2. Strengthening human capital in R&I
3. Fostering diffusion of knowledge and Open Science

Scientific Impact



4. Addressing EU policy priorities & global challenges through R&I
5. Delivering benefits & impact via R&I missions
6. Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society

Societal Impact



7. Generating innovation-based growth
8. Creating more and better jobs
9. Leveraging investments in R&I

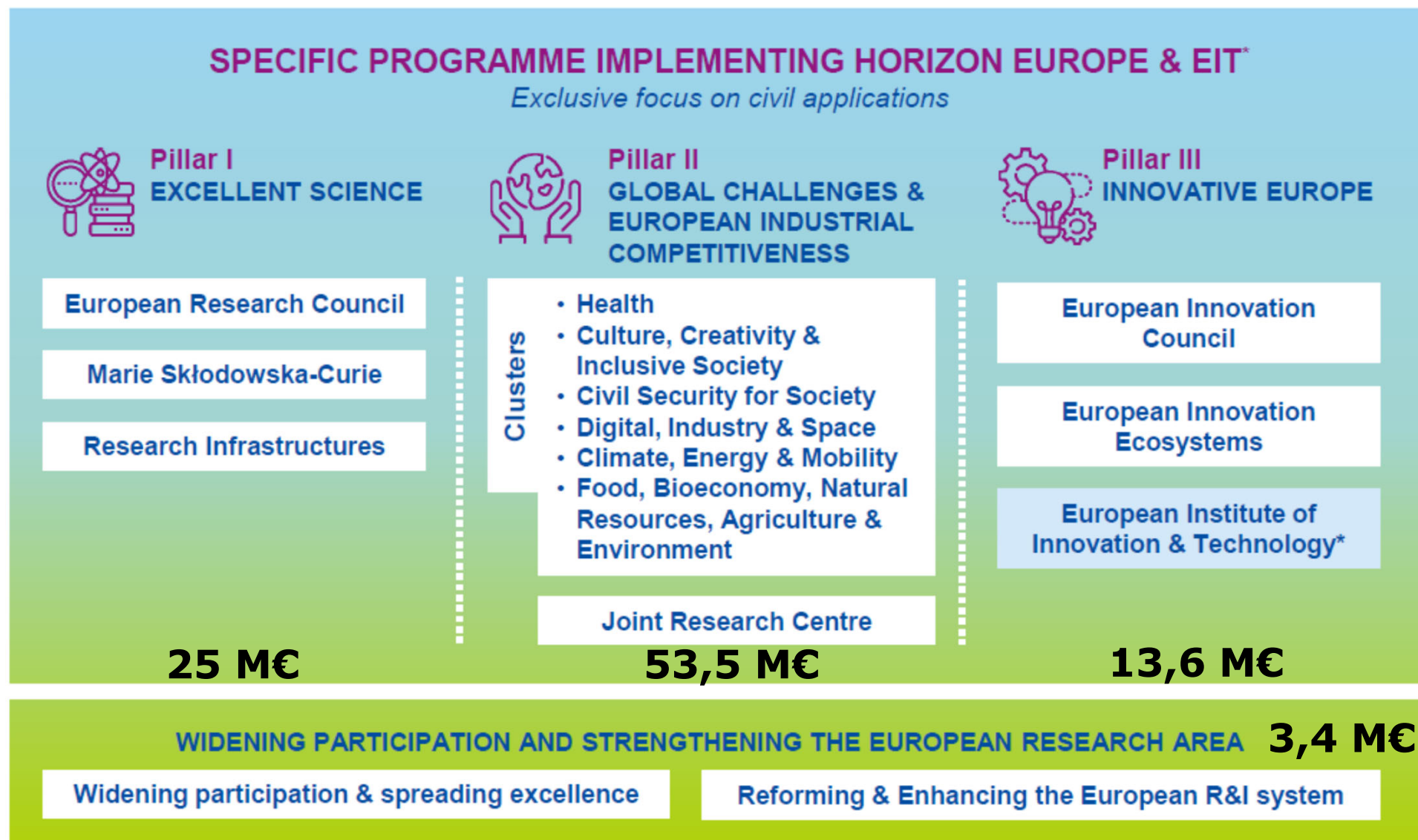
Economic Impact



Source: <https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls>



# Horizon Europe: the three pillars



# Pillar I – Excellent science



- ▶ European Research Council: Frontier research
  - ▶ **Starting Grant** (StG): 2 to 7 years of experience since completion of PhD.
  - ▶ **Consolidator Grant** (CoG): 7 to 12 years of experience since completion of PhD.
  - ▶ **Advanced Grant** (AdG): excellent scientific track record of recognized achievements in the last 10 years.
  - ▶ **Synergy Grant** (SyG): 2 to 4 researchers.
- ▶ Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions: knowledge and skills through mobility and training
  - ▶ **Doctoral networks** (DN) – *ex-ITNs*
  - ▶ **Post-doctoral fellowships** (PF) – *ex-IF*
  - ▶ **Staff exchanges** (SE) – *ex-RISE*
  - ▶ **COFUND**
  - ▶ MSCA and citizens

# Pillar II – Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness



## ► Clusters:

- cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral, cross-policy and cross-border **collaborative projects** towards the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- cover activities from a broad range of Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs), including lower TRLs

## ► Missions: a portfolio of actions across disciplines in 5 areas:

- Adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation
- Cancer
- Healthy oceans, seas, coastal & inland waters
- Climate neutral & smart cities
- Soil health & food

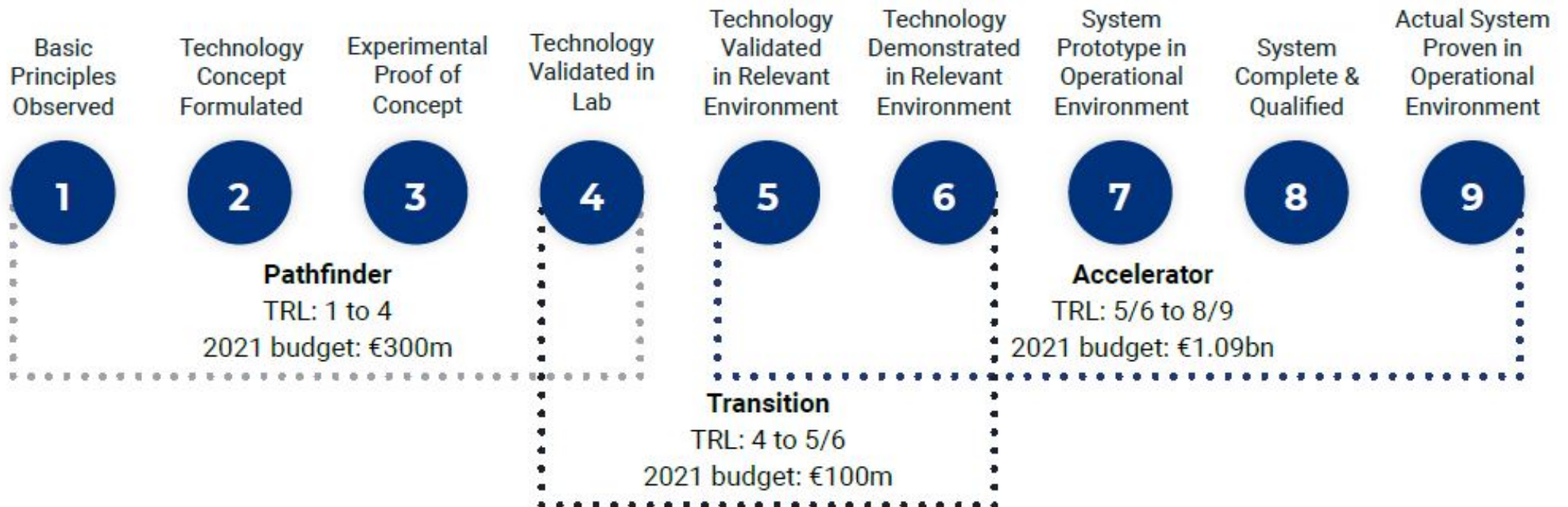




# Pillar III: Innovative Europe



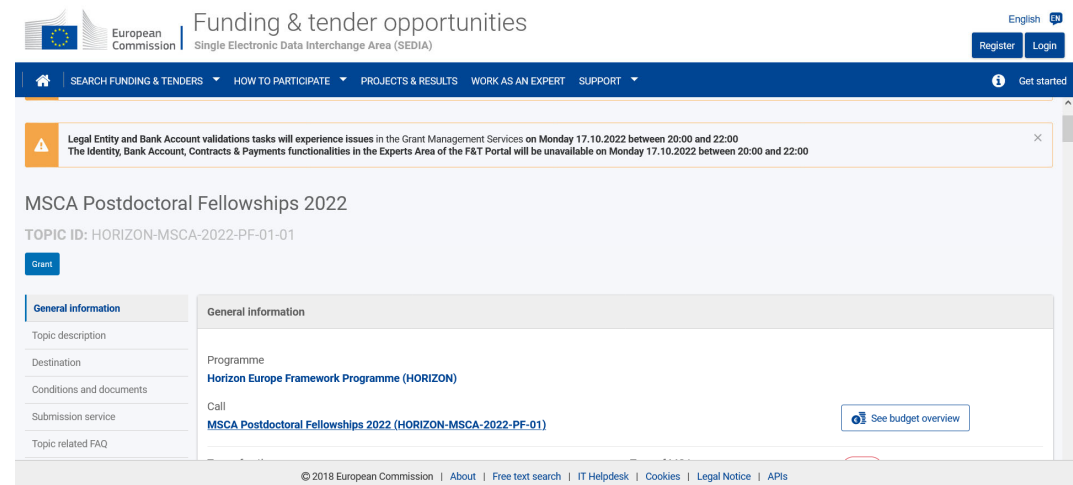
- ▶ support to innovations with breakthrough and market creating potential:
  - ▶ **Pathfinder** R&I grants (*ex-FET-Open*), from early technology to proof of concept
  - ▶ **Transition** R&I grants, from proof of concept to pre-commercial
  - ▶ **Accelerator** grants & investment for single SMEs & start ups, from pre-commercial to market & scale up



# How does it work?

- ▶ Yearly calls for proposals
- ▶ Work programmes listing the call topics every two years:
  - ▶ 1 work programme per funding type (Pillar I & III)
  - ▶ 1 work programme per cluster (Pillar II)
  - ▶ Listing general objectives and information on the calls for proposals (budget, timeline, evaluation criteria)
- ▶ Everything is available on the EU funding and tenders portal which includes one dedicated page per call:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>



# Preparing European projects

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- ▶ Introduction to Horizon Europe
- ▶ **Focus on MSCA Post-doctoral fellowships: where to start and tips**
- ▶ Other individual funding opportunities



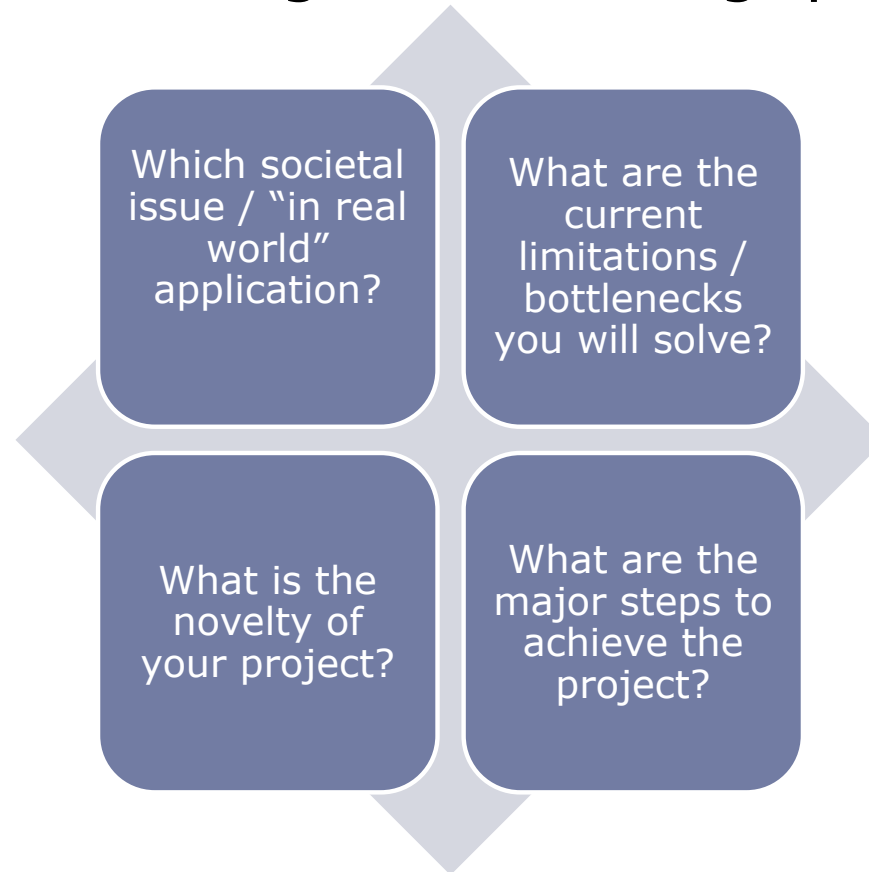
# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Post-doctoral fellowships (PF)

- ▶ Who can apply?
  - ▶ Researchers holding a PhD
  - ▶ Having maximum **8 years of experience in research since completion of PhD**
  - ▶ Complying with the mobility criteria: not having spent 1 year in the country of the hosting institution over the 3 years preceding the call
  - ▶ **Any field of research**
- ▶ When?
  - ▶ Typically one call per year, deadline in September
- ▶ Evaluation criteria:
  - ▶ excellence (50%),
  - ▶ **impact (30%)**
  - ▶ **quality of the implementation (20%)**
- ▶ Indicative success rate: 11,1% to 15,9%



# Post-doctoral fellowship: where to start?

- ▶ Before starting to write anything, « pitch » your project by answering the following questions:



- ▶ On average, reviewers spend **4 hours** evaluating a proposal, so make sure that your **abstract** fully answers these 4 questions



# Check the available information

- ▶ EU portal:
  - ▶ One page per call with relevant budget, templates and guidelines to be **carefully read**
  - ▶ Evaluation criteria
  - ▶ Success rate and threshold of previous calls
  - ▶ FAQs
  - ▶ Etc.
- ▶ Cordis:
  - ▶ List of funded projects, including abstracts and PIs
  - ▶ Available search for funded projects by keywords, downloadable in booklets

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'scintillators' on the EU Horizon 2020 portal. The search bar at the top contains the word 'scintillators'. Below the search bar, there are filters and a list of 190 results. The first three results are highlighted:

- EUROfusion Implementation of activities described in the Roadmap to Fusion during Horizon 2020 through a Joint programme of the members of the EUROfusion consortium**  
ID: 633053  
From: 1 January 2014 to: 31 December 2022  
Coordinated in: Germany  
Programme: H2020-Euratom  
Last update: 11 September 2017
- ASCIMAT Increasing the scientific excellence and innovation capacity in Advanced Scintillation Materials of the Institute of Physics from the Czech Academy of Sciences**  
ID: 690599  
From: 1 January 2016 to: 31 December 2019  
The overall aim of the ASCIMAT project is to boost the scientific excellence and technology-transfer capacity in advanced scintillating materials of the Institute of Physics from the Czech Academy of Sciences (FZU) by creating a network with the high-quality Twinning partners...
- STRING Structured scintillators for medical imaging**  
ID: 32836  
From: 1 September 2008 to: 28 February 2010  
It is the aim of the STRING project to significantly increase the performance and reduce the price of PET scanners by an innovative concept in which the scintillator crystals are replaced by scintillator stacks consisting of a fast scintillator incorporating multifunctional ca...

Each result includes a 'PROJECT' label, a 'HORIZON 2020' logo, and an 'Add to my booklet' button.



# Proposal preparation

## ► 3 parts to be submitted:

ONLINE

### PART A – Administrative forms

- **General information**

*Acronym, title, duration, evaluation panel, « descriptors » and keywords, abstract, déclarations*

- **Participants**

*HI name/PIC, departement(s) / laboratories involved, supervisor and researcher information, HI role in the project, publications & achievements, Gender Equality Plan (GEP)*

- **Budget**

*Calculated automatically based on the project duration and country information. Family allowance eligibility to indicate.*

- **Ethics and security**

*Ethics questionnaire, auto-evaluation, security questions*

*Get help from  
hosting institution*

PDF TO  
UPLOAD

### PART B1 – Scientific project - 10 pages

- **Section 1 : Excellence**
- **Section 2 : Impact**
- **Section 3 : Implementation**

} 10 pages

PDF TO  
UPLOAD

### PART B2 - Annexes – No page limit

- **Section 4 – Researcher's CV**
- **Section 5 – Participating organisations**
- **Section 6 and 7 – Additional Ethics and security information**
- **Section 5 – Letters of commitment**

Source: <https://cdn2.euraxess.org>

# Comply with critical requirements

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- ▶ Eligibility criteria: minimum number of participants and location, level of experience, etc.
- ▶ Mandatory proposal layout including margins, font size, page limitations, etc.
- ▶ Closure date and submission time
- ▶ Pay attention to non-scientific aspects (**50% of the evaluation!**)



# Pay attention to non-scientific aspects

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- ▶ **Impact:**
  - ▶ expected scientific / economic / technological and societal benefits of your project
- ▶ **Open science and research data management:**
  - ▶ open science practices and (FAIR - Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable data) research data management
- ▶ **Dissemination, outreach & exploitation:**
  - ▶ dissemination approaches in particular beyond the scientific community, exploitation plan
- ▶ **Gender / diversity:**
  - ▶ take into account gender and diversity in the research dimension / the consortium bodies
- ▶ **Environmental aspects and Green charter:**
  - ▶ sustainable implementation of research activities
- ▶ **Risk assessment:**
  - ▶ list main critical managerial, scientific and technical risks with corresponding mitigation measures

# Preparing European projects

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- ▶ **Other individual funding opportunities**





# European Research Council Starting grant (StG)

- ▶ Who can apply?
  - ▶ Researchers holding a PhD
  - ▶ Having **2-7 years of experience** since completion of PhD
  - ▶ By any type of host institution in a Member state / Associated country
  - ▶ Early-career scientists having already produced excellent supervised work, ready to work independently and show potential to be a research leader
  - ▶ Any field of research
- ▶ When?
  - ▶ Typically one call per year, deadline in October
- ▶ For which funding?
  - ▶ Up to 1,5 M€ for maximum 5 years
- ▶ Evaluation criteria: excellence only
- ▶ Indicative success rate: 16% in 2022



# But also...

- ▶ Horizon Europe individual grants
- ▶ Public funding linked to ERC projects
  - ▶ Jobs in ERC teams through **Euraxess** - <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/> - the unique pan-European initiative delivering information and support services to professional researchers
  - ▶ Visiting Research Fellowships via regional or national funding : Some [European countries](#) (mainly Italy and Eastern European countries) fund research visits to ERC projects in order to develop researchers' potential before they apply for their first ERC grant.
  - ▶ International Arrangement funding: International agreements with funding agencies and science ministries in [China, South Africa, the United States and some other countries](#) support early-career researchers to temporarily join ERC teams in Europe.
  - ▶ Mentoring Initiative : boost existing support programmes available via local offices in some [EU Member States and Associated Countries](#) by helping to identify international experts to provide coaching and advice to ERC applicants
- ▶ Human Frontier Science Programme
  - ▶ Long-Term Fellowships (LTF): for applicants with a PhD on a biological topic. Novel and frontier project focussing on life sciences
  - ▶ Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships (CDF): for applicants who hold a doctoral degree from a non-biological discipline
- ▶ Foundations: Impulscience (Fondation Bettencourt Schueller), Humboldt foundation, etc.
- ▶ National (ANR JCJC & T-ERC, etc.) and regional (Amorçage Europe) grants



# More information

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- ▶ EU Portal <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>
- ▶ Community Research and Development Information Service - CORDIS <https://cordis.europa.eu/>
- ▶ European Research Council – ERC <https://erc.europa.eu>
- ▶ Marie Skłodowska-Curie – MSCA <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu>
- ▶ National Contact Points (NCPs) main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance in each country: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>
- ▶ Grants office / European department in your institution

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# Thank you for your attention!

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