

EIC Newsflash: Unveiling the New Framework Highlights



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INNOVATORS HUB
EIC Opportunities & Events



Six Strategic Goals for the EIC – European Innovation Council



Europe's most ambitious innovation initiative

Budget

€10 billion

Unique

combines research & accelerator for SMEs, startups, scaleups

Largest deep-tech innovator in Europe

Over €3 billion

Enhances the European Innovation Ecosystems

Partnerships with ERC, EIT regions...

Annual Work Programmes (separate from Horizon Europe main WP)

- First WP (2021) adopted 18 March 2021, €1.5 billion
- Second WP (2022) adopted 7 February 2022, €1.7 billion
- **Third Work Programme (2023) adopted 7 December 2022, €1.7 billion**
- 2024 Work Programme adopted 12 December 2023, €1.2 billion

EIC PATHFINDER

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DONATA PEČIUKĖNIENĖ, EIC & EIE NCP,
Research Council of Lithuania



- For **consortia**
- **TRL 1-4** (Early stage research on breakthrough technologies)
- Grants up to €3 to 4 million



- For **consortia & single researchers / companies**
- **TRL 3-6** (Proof of concept to validation)
- Grants up to €2.5 million



- For **individual companies**
- **TRL 6-9** (Development & scale up)
- **Blended finance**
 - grants up to €2.5 million
 - equity up to €15 million

What is the EIC Pathfinder?

The EIC Pathfinder

- funds **research** to develop the **scientific basis** to underpin breakthrough technologies
- supports the **earliest stages** of scientific, technological or deep-tech R&D
- aims to build on new, **cutting-edge directions in science and technology** to disrupt a field and a market or create new opportunities
- realises innovative technological solutions to identify, develop and scale up **breakthrough technologies** and **disruptive innovations** in Europe

Technological readiness levels

EIC Pathfinder

TRL1 - basic principles observed

TRL2 - technology concept formulated

TRL3 - experimental proof of concept

TRL4 - technology validated in lab

TRL5 - technology validated in relevant environment

TRL6 - technology demonstrated in relevant environment

TRL7 - system prototype demonstration in operational environment

TRL8 - system complete and qualified

TRL9 - actual system proven in operational environment



FUNDING SCHEMES

EIC Pathfinder

OPEN

to support projects in any field of science, technology or application without predefined thematic priorities ('bottom up')

EIC Pathfinder

CHALLENGES

to support coherent portfolios of projects within predefined thematic areas with the aim to achieve specific objectives for each Challenge



1. Solar-to-X devices for the decentralized prosumption of renewable fuels, chemicals and materials as climate change mitigation pathway
2. Towards cement and concrete as a carbon sink
3. Nature inspired alternatives for food packaging and films for agriculture
4. Nanoelectronics for energy-efficient smart edge devices
5. Strengthening the sustainability and resilience of EU space infrastructure

Some examples of EIC Pathfinder projects

- [ArtPlac](#) Pathfinder aims to revolutionize newborn treatment by developing an artificial placenta that provides lung and kidney support, reducing invasive treatments and complications, with the potential to significantly improve the survival and long-term health of up to 1.2 million newborns annually.
- [EVA](#) Pathfinder project seeks to disrupt 3D printing by developing a technology that wirelessly controls the mechanical, magnetic, and electrical properties of printed structures, potentially transforming passive composites into active mechanisms. This innovation holds promise for diverse applications in biotechnology, wastewater treatment, robotics, security, and data storage, with collaboration with industry advisors such as Siemens to ensure feasibility and transferability.
- [3D-BrAIIn](#) Pathfinder project is pioneering the development of bio-digital twin models of the human brain using cutting-edge technologies, including 3D cortical organoid cultures, high-resolution electrophysiological recordings, and automated machine learning algorithms. Led by a consortium of scientists, the project aims to create a personalised, precise, and predictive model to revolutionize personalized precision medicine for central nervous system disorders, offering a groundbreaking approach to understanding and treating these conditions.



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Why should you apply?

- You should apply if you are looking for support from EIC Pathfinder to realise **an ambitious vision for radically new technology**, with potential to create new markets and/or to address global challenges.
- EIC Pathfinder supports **early stage development of such future technologies** (e.g. various activities at low **Technology Readiness Levels 1-4**), based on high-risk/high-gain science-towards-technology breakthrough research (including 'deep-tech').
- This research must provide the **foundations of the technology** you are envisioning.



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Proposal evaluation and results

EIC Pathfinder

You will be informed about the outcome of the evaluation within 5 months from the call deadline (indicative) and, if your proposal is selected for funding, you can expect your grant agreement to be signed by 8 months after the call deadline (indicative).

The main changes in 2024 WP compared to the 2023 WP

The 2024 Work Programme reflects modifications and enhancements compared to the 2023 version, incorporating feedback from the EIC Board, adapting to a reduced budget following the conclusion of the Next Generation EU budget, and incorporating lessons learned from previous implementation and feedback.

EIC Pathfinder:

- ◆ The rebuttal pilot has been removed from the EIC pathfinder evaluation process.
- ◆ The specific rules on Intellectual Property have been updated following the recommendations of the EIC Board.

PATHFINDER CALLS 2024 – SUMMARY TABLE

	Pathfinder Open	Pathfinder Challenges
Total budget	€136 million in 2024	€120 million in 2024
Proposals (indicative)	Up to €3 million	Up to €4 million
Funding rate	100% of eligible costs	100% of eligible costs
Opening	3 January 2024	20 June 2024
Deadline	7 March 2024	16 October 2024
Length of proposal	20-page proposal (part B)	30-page proposal (part B)
Applicants	<p>Consortia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> min. 3 partners from 3 different Member States /Associated Countries (of which at least 1 partner in a Member State) 	<p>Consortia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If 2 partners: from different MS/AC, Min. 3 partners from 3 different MS/AC (of which at least 1 partner in a MS) <p>Single legal entities in a MS/AC</p>

EIC TRANSITION



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Pathfinder

- For **consortia**
- **TRL 1-4** (Early stage research on breakthrough technologies)
- Grants up to €3 to 4 million

Transition

- For **consortia & single researchers /companies**
- **TRL 3-6** (Proof of concept to validation and develop business and market readiness)
- Grants up to **€2.5 million**

- For **individual companies**
- **TRL 5-9** (Development & scale up)
- **Blended finance**
 - grants up to €2.5 million
 - equity up to €15 million

Accelerator

EIC TRANSITION

Who can apply?

* **Single applicants** (SMEs, spin-offs, start-ups, research organisations, universities)

* or **small consortia** (min 2, max 5 eligible entities)

What for?

To validate and demonstrate **technology** in application-relevant environment and to **develop business and market readiness** (TRL 3-6)

For further development of **project results** stemming from:

- **EIC Pathfinder** projects
- **ERC Proof of Concept projects** funded by Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe
- **Horizon Europe Pillar II projects** fulfilling the eligibility criteria (TRL)
- European Defence Fund (EDF) projects
- Horizon 2020 Societal challenges
- Leadership in Industrial Technologies

Eligible projects for EIC Transition

EIC Transition

List of eligible projects: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/eic-transition_en#list-of-eligible-projects and CORDIS database

NB! This is not the final list. For specification, contact adviser from your country.

Applicants can be **part** or **not part** of the eligible project

If applicant(s) were:

- ✓ **part of the eligible project** -> need to confirm in the proposal that you are the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) owner/holder
- ✓ **not part of the eligible project** -> the coordinator need to include in the proposal a commitment letter from the relevant owner(s) of the result(s)
- ✓ In all cases it is necessary to **specify in the application the grant project which generated the result**

What is the EIC Transition?

EIC Transition

- funds innovation activities that **go beyond the experimental proof of principle in laboratory**
- supports **both the maturation and validation of novel technology** (from the lab to the relevant application environments) as well as explorations and **development of a sustainable business case and business model** towards commercialisation into high potential markets
- Expected outcomes: **effective technology** and **potential market readiness**

Technological readiness levels

EIC Transition

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**EIC
Transition**

Submission of the proposal, evaluation and results

EIC Transition

- **Submission** via **Funding and Tenders portal (B part max 22 pages)**
- **Application evaluation** by EIC expert evaluators (results indicatively within 9 weeks after the deadline)
 - If successful** -> invited for an interview (organised appr. betw. 12-14 weeks)
- **Interview** - assessed by a panel of maximum 6 EIC Jury members (result within 4 weeks)

The main changes in 2024 WP compared to the 2023 WP

EIC Transition:

- ◆ There are **no challenge topics** under the Transition call. **Open topics call only!**
- ◆ The eligibility of the EIC Transition Open has been extended to results stemming from **Horizon 2020 Societal challenges** and **Leadership in Industrial Technologies** and from **Horizon Europe Pillar II projects** fulfilling the eligibility criteria
- ◆ The EIC Transition has a **single deadline – 18 September 2024**

TRANSITION CALL 2024 - SUMMARY TABLE

	Transition Open
Total budget in 2024	€ 94 million
Proposals (indicative)	From € 0.5 to € 2.5 million
Duration of the project	1-3 years
Funding rate and form	100% of eligible costs, lump sum
Opening	18 April 2024
Deadline	18 September 2024
Length of proposal	Max 22-page proposal (part B)
Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single applicants (SMEs, spin-offs, start-ups, research organisations, universities)• or small consortia (min 2, max 5 eligible entities)

EIC ACCELERATOR



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EIROPA
#NKP

MARIJA PLOTNIECE, EIC, EIE & EIT NCP
Latvian Council of Science

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Accelerator

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EIC ACCELERATOR

Who can apply?

- * **Single applicants** (SMEs, spin-offs, start-ups)
- * **Natural persons or legal entities** willing to set up an SMEs or a mid-cap
- * **Small mid-caps** (fewer than 499 employees) in need of rapid scale up of the TRL 9 activity.
Mid-caps can apply for investment only.

What for?

Develop and **scaleup** innovations with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones **(TRL 5-9)**

- Applicants may submit **only one application to the EIC Accelerator**. Additional applications can be submitted after receiving the results of the original submission.

The EIC welcomes applications from innovators in all EU Member States and countries associated to the [Horizon Europe](#) programme.

It particularly welcomes applications from startups and SMEs with female CEOs.

What is the EIC Accelerator?

EIC Accelerator

- **Innovation Support:** Aids SMEs and startups in scaling up 'deep tech' innovations that can disrupt or create new markets.
- **Funding and Services:** Provides financial support between EUR 0.5 to 17.5 million and Business Acceleration Services for long-term, high-risk innovations.
- **Focus on Advanced Development:** Supports technologies that are past initial development stages, aiming to catalyze further investment for scaling up.

Technological readiness levels

EIC Accelerator

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**EIC
Accelerator**

Submission of the proposal, evaluation and results

EIC Accelerator

➤ Step 1 - write your Short Proposal

- Submit a 5-page summary, a pitch-deck (up to 10 slides), and a 3-minute video pitch.
- **No deadlines**, submit any time.
- Evaluations are on a first come, first served basis, with feedback usually **within 4 weeks**.

Successful applicants are invited to prepare a full proposal (3 out of 4 Go`s)

➤ Step 2 - prepare your Full Proposal

- If short proposal is successful, prepare a **detailed proposal on the Funding and Tenders portal**, following specific templates and guidelines. This includes defining the type of funding, a new pitch deck, and additional documents.
- *Deadline: 12 months from receiving a GO.*
- *Evaluation within 6 weeks. (3 Go`s -> consensus meeting, 4 Go`s -> interview)*

Next Cut-Offs: 13 March 2024 & 3 October 2024

Submission of the proposal, evaluation and results

EIC Accelerator

- **Step 3 – pitch your Innovation**
 - Successful full proposals are invited for **face-to-face interviews** with the EIC jury. This is the final step in the selection process.
- **Seal of Excellence:**
 - Applications that meet criteria but are not funded receive a Seal of Excellence for alternative funding opportunities.

The main changes in 2024 WP compared to the 2023 WP

EIC Accelerator:

- ◆ Under the EIC Accelerator program, each legal entity is **restricted to a maximum of three unsuccessful attempts at any application stage** (including Short Proposal, Full Proposal, and various support forms like Challenge or Open) throughout the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.
 - This new rule overrides earlier resubmission guidelines and does not consider the entity's application history prior to its implementation.
 - Entities are encouraged to reapply only if they have substantially enhanced their proposals, taking into account the feedback received from their prior applications.

The main changes in 2024 WP compared to the 2023 WP

EIC Accelerator:


- ◆ **Grant Only:** a one-time **LUMP SUM** grant for each legal entity during Horizon Europe (2021–2027).
- ◆ **Blended Finance:** a combination of direct equity or quasi-equity (like convertible loans) and a lump sum grant.
- ◆ **Equity-Only:** for non-bankable SMEs, including startups that previously received grant support, provided via an investment agreement.

EIC ACCELERATOR CALLS 2024 – SUMMARY TABLE


	Accelerator Open	Accelerator Challenges
Total budget	€375 million in 2024	€300 million in 2024
Proposals (indicative)	grant (2.5M (70% eligible costs) + investment (min. 0.5M and up to 15M)	
Opening	3 Jan 2024	3 Jan 2024
Full application deadline	13 March 2024 3 October 2024	13 March 2024 3 October 2024
Topics	Open topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Centric Generative AI • Virtual worlds and augmented interaction, including support to Industry 5.0 • Enabling the smart edge & quantum technology components • Food from precision fermentation and algae • Monoclonal antibody-based therapeutics for emerging viruses • Renewable energy sources and their whole value chain
Applicants	Single legal entities	

Upcoming events in January 2024



 innovation | EU financing


 Monday 15 January 2024, 09:00 - 17:15 (CET)

 Live streaming available

[Live streaming link](#)

#EUeic



 EU financing | innovation

 Tuesday 16 January 2024, 08:30 - 13:15 (CET)

[Live streaming link](#)

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If you have any further questions about the EIC programme,
please contact us based on your country:

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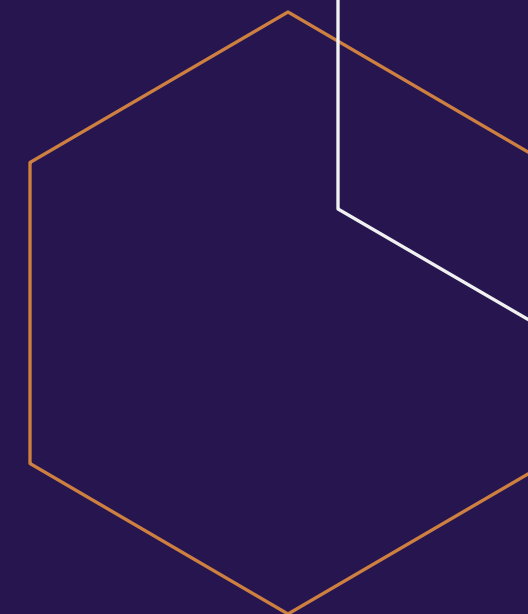
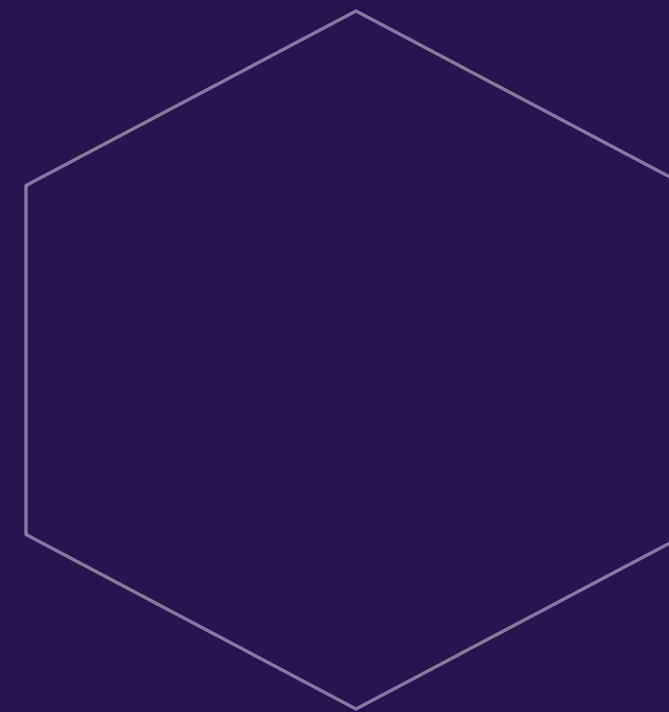
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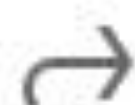
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Baltic Innovators Hub: EIC Opportunities & Events in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

Private Listed



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Thank you!

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Agency of Latvia



Latvijas Zinātnes
padome



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