

# Opportunities for Researchers from the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in Horizon Europe

Analysis of SSH-relevant Topics in Work Programme 2025



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# Introduction

This document is designed to help potential proposers find SSH-related topics across the different parts of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025.

# Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe aims at fully integrating Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in each of its pillars. In particular, under the pillar 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness', SSH should be fully integrated across all clusters. SSH is therefore a cross-cutting issue and integrated in the whole Framework Programme. While SSH research aspects are particularly present in Cluster 2 'Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society', they are also present in all other clusters and in other parts of Horizon Europe.

Horizon Europe requires applicants to submit proposals and build consortia that transcend disciplinary and sectorial boundaries, bringing together scholars from SSH and from life and physical sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), as well as researchers and practitioners across these fields.

The SSH encompass a wide range of disciplines such as sociology and economics, psychology and political science, history and cultural sciences, law and ethics. Contributions from these research and activity fields are needed under Horizon Europe to generate new knowledge, support evidence-based policymaking, develop key competences and produce multidisciplinary solutions to both societal and technological issues.

### SSH-flagged topics across Horizon Europe

To assist SSH researchers in identifying funding opportunities, the European Commission (EC) has established a search engine within its online <a href="Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal">Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal</a>. Certain topics with substantial SSH aspects have been "flagged" by the EC as SSH-relevant, and the search engine offers the option to quickly search for the specific priority 'Social sciences and humanities'. It also allows for keyword and full-text search.

This document compiles the "SSH-flagged topics" on the basis of the analysis of SSH-relevant topics carried out by the thematic services and Unit D.3 Health & Societal Transitions of the EC Directorate-General for Research and Innovation. The document also includes a few additional topics that, while not flagged, may require the contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities researchers.

Researchers are strongly encouraged to screen the Work Programme themselves, in order not to lose out on research opportunities offered on their specific interest. In any case, all Work Programme parts need to be read in detail to be aware of the overall approach of the theme, the context and the full text of the topics, rules for participation, and other specific requirements. Of special importance are the "type of action" and the eligibility criteria connected to it. This and any other relevant information can be found in the specific Work Programme part and the specific call document. All relevant documents can be downloaded from the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal. The specific links are provided for each topic in the respective chapters.



### Structure of the document

The structure of this document is determined by the degree of anticipated SSH integration in the different Horizon Europe Programme parts. Instead of following the numerical order of the Horizon Europe Pillars (I. Excellent science, II. Global Challenges & European Industrial Competitiveness, III. Innovative Europe), the document starts with the part that includes "top down" topics and the greatest amount of SSH research dimensions: the thematic Clusters under the second Pillar. The document continues with the Excellent Science programming areas (mostly "bottom up" opportunities), followed by relevant topics located in the Innovative Europe programming area. In the last two chapters, the SSH-relevant topics in Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area and in the Missions are presented.

### **DISCLAIMER**

This document includes information on open and forthcoming topics for 2025 as of June 2025.

An important feature of this guide is a "main keywords" reference section that is included as part of each listed topic. This feature is a short-hand reference naming the type of social scientific or humanistic science-related research know-how, methodology, or disciplinary framing technique required for successful project implementation. These keywords are an adaptation of the <u>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Keywords</u> and the Social Sciences and Humanities categories used by the European Commission in the Monitoring reports on the <u>Integration of Social Sciences and Humanities in Horizon 2020</u>. The use of "main keywords" serves to help clarify how to locate one's research discipline in the context of a topic's research requirements.

Information on calls might be subject to change. To receive the latest information on calls, researchers/users of this guide need to consult the Funding & Tender opportunities Portal to inform themselves of any updates.

Net4SocietyHE has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided in this document. However, the information is provided "as is", without warranty of any kind, including the reference to keywords, as the writing of topics across Clusters varies to different degrees and this is reflected in how SSH research is referred to (e.g. (generic example) "this topic requires the involvement of SSH researchers and expertise" to "this topic requires the active involvement political scientists, legal scholars, and international relations experts").

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Cluster 1 **Health** 



# Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Single stage - 2025)

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Deduille. 10 September 2023	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-01 Testing safety and efficacy of phage therapy for the treatment of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections  Link	To ensure that the needs of patients living with chronic infections are adequately addressed and that there is public acceptability and confidence on innovative phage-based therapies, the involvement of patient and/or civil society representatives in all phases of the research and development process is strongly encouraged. For this, the topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Law
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-04 Leveraging artificial intelligence for pandemic preparedness and response  Link	<ul> <li>Research actions under this topic should include several of the following activities:</li> <li>Develop new, or improve existing Al-based tools, methods and technologies, geared towards greater safety, efficiency and impact of medical, societal or logistical countermeasures aiming at the prevention, containment or control of infectious disease epidemics or improved response management of health systems.</li> <li>Leverage the capacities of the existing and emerging data research infrastructures and the future European Health Data Space (EHDS) and the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) architectures and research environments, while comprehensively addressing cybersecurity, data privacy, trustworthiness, equity and data quality, interoperability and access modalities.</li> <li>Identify and address the current technical, operational, and social limitations related to the (cross-border) access to quality data and to the smooth implementation of Al-driven solutions in the societal and legal context of the EU and Associated Countries.</li> <li>Engage with end-users, policymakers, regulatory bodies and authorities, and other stakeholders in the development, improvement, testing and validation of trustworthy and ethical Al-based tools and technologies, to propose options for the validation and uptake of the novel Al tools in real-world settings taking into consideration aspects like training needs, responsible use, users' trust, energy consumption,</li> </ul>
	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Particular attention should be paid to detecting and mitigating gender, ethnicity and other biases, aiming to develop Al models that are fair, trustworthy, and beneficial for all.  Main keywords: Sociology, Social studies, Gender studies, Ethnology, Law, Ethics



HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-06 Implementation research addressing strategies to strengthen health systems for equitable high-quality care and health outcomes in the context of noncommunicable diseases (GACD) Applicants should explore the implementation of proposed intervention(s) for a selected study population(s) taking into account the unique social, political, economic, and cultural context(s) in which the study will take place.

Link

Poverty, racism, gender inequality, ethnic discrimination, and other inequities are directly associated with reduced potential for equitable access to quality care. Proposals should consider the social determinants of health and discuss their potential impact on the effective implementation of the intervention(s).

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Social studies, Economics, Ethnology, Gender studies

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-07 Tackling high-burden for patients and under-researched medical conditions Research actions under this topic should include the following activities, ensuring multidisciplinary approaches and a broad representation of stakeholders in the consortia:

Link

- Proposals should address the gaps in robust, scientific evidence for improved policies and practices to tackle such a medical condition and aim at identifying the pathophysiological mechanism(s) (e.g. genetic, cellular and molecular) and potential risk factors (e.g. psychological and environmental) of the medical condition through basic, pre-clinical and/or clinical research. These efforts should underpin the development of diagnostics, therapeutics, and/or preventive strategies for the condition.
- Sex and gender-related aspects, age, ethnicity, socio-economic, lifestyle and behavioural factors should be taken into consideration. In addition, the emotional and societal long-term effects of these chronic disorders for the affected individuals should be addressed.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Psychology, Social and Behavioural studies

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-CARE-01 End user-driven application of Generative Artificial Intelligence models in healthcare (GenAI4EU)

Research actions under this topic should include the following activities, ensuring multidisciplinary approaches and a broad representation of stakeholders in the consortia (e.g. industry, academia, healthcare professionals, patients):

Link

- Develop virtual assistant solutions based on new or optimised trustworthy and ethical Generative Al models, augmented by other Al tools to support healthcare professionals.
- Develop a regulatory strategy/interaction plan with regulators (including in the area of Health Technology Assessment) for generating evidence, where relevant, in a timely manner. Consider also the potential for future regulatory impact of the results and sustainability aspects.
- Develop or adapt existing methodologies for continuous assessment of the developed solutions. The methodologies should demonstrate technical robustness, healthcare utility and trustworthiness of the



Generative Al-based solutions, by adopting methods to systematically address and assess ELSI (Ethical, Legal and Societal Implications), including data privacy concerns and risk of discrimination/bias (not limited to sex, gender, age, disability, race or ethnicity, religion, belief, minority and vulnerable groups). The implications of Al--assisted decision-making and the effects on potential legal liability for healthcare professionals should be explored.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts and institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Ethics, Law, Sociology

# HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-TOOL-03 Leveraging multimodal data to advance Artificial Generative

Intelligence biomedical applicability research in (GenAl4EU)

Link

Research actions under this topic should include the following activities, ensuring multidisciplinary approaches and a broad representation of stakeholders in the consortia (e.g. industry, academia, healthcare professionals):

- Develop or revise existing methodologies to assess alignment with human values and the use cases of developed and/or repurposed Generative Al models, their applicability, performance, limitations and added value in biomedical research. These methodologies should demonstrate the technical, scientific, and potential future clinical utility, robustness and trustworthiness of the developed or repurposed Generative Al models, including:
  - Appropriate metrics for model intelligibility, robustness, alignment with ethical principles and approaches for ethical evaluation of Al trustworthiness.
  - Appropriate solutions to identify and mitigate potential bias and confounding of Generative Al models and include examples from different perspectives (e.g., representativeness of the data, bias of the trainer, bias of training and validation data, algorithmic discrimination and bias including gender bias etc.).
  - Methods to systematically address and assess ELSI (Ethical, Legal, and Societal Implications) aspects, including data privacy, risk of discrimination/bias (not limited to sex, gender, age, disability, race or ethnicity, religion, belief, minority and/or vulnerable groups).
  - Appropriate techniques to ensure explainability of the model in order to increase users' trust.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts and institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Ethics, Law, Sociology, Anthropology



# Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Two stage - 2025)

Deadline: 16 September 2025 (1st stage) – 16 April 2026 (2nd stage)

·	2023 (13t 3tage) 10 / tpm 2020 (21ta 3tage)
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-STAYHLTH-01- two-stage Improving the quality of life of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families	The objective of this topic is to explore new ways to improve the quality of life of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families and to reduce to the maximum possible the negative impact of the disability in their daily lives from different perspectives, such as medical, technological, digital or others.
Link	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Psychology, Social pedagogy, Anthropology
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-ENVHLTH-01- two-stage The impact of pollution on the development and progression of brain diseases and disorders  Link	Research activities under this topic should explore evidence on the causal link between exposure to different pollutants (focusing on specific pollutants or a combination thereof) and the development or progression of neurological, neurodegenerative or neurodevelopmental diseases or disorders. Proposals can consider occupational, living and/or social environments and include one or more vulnerable, sensitive or exposed population groups.
	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-ENVHLTH-02- two-stage Advancing knowledge on the impacts of micro- and nanoplastics on human health	Research activities under this topic should strengthen the evidence on the impacts of micro- and nanoplastics exposure on human health, considering living and working environments and different exposure routes (inhalation, ingestion and dermal exposure).
Link	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-DISEASE-02-two-stage Advancing innovative interventions for mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental disorders  Link	More innovative, safer and more effective therapeutic and relapse-preventing solutions based on active substances are required, as for example for mental disorders many available treatments show modest efficacy, non-negligible side effects, discontinuation problems and high relapse rates. Additionally, other non-invasive multidisciplinary and/or transdiagnostic approaches (e.g. neurostimulation, neuroimaging, digital, non-pharmaceutical, psychotherapy, psychosocial) should be further developed to complement the therapeutic and relapse prevention solutions.



The topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Gender studies

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-IND-03-two-stage

Facilitating the conduct of multinational clinical studies of orphan devices and/or of highly innovative ("breakthrough") devices

### Link

The proposals should demonstrate that they address the following activities for a device that is an orphan device or a highly innovative "breakthrough" device (or both), at any point of the pre-or post-market stage, including the development stage, with the overall purpose to generate data in support of CE marking under the Regulations on medical devices (MDR) or *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices (IVDR):

- Present a sound clinical study feasibility plan, including an appropriate patient selection and realistic recruitment plans at different sites, justified by scientific publications or preliminary results. Proposals should adopt a gender-sensitive and intersectional approach, considering individual characteristics such as gender, sex, race, ethnicity, disability and age. Additionally, socioeconomic, lifestyle and behavioural factors should be taken into account. For this, the topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
- Demonstrate potential clinical benefit for patients and healthcare providers, including quality of life and consideration of patientreported outcomes when relevant.
- Involve patients, patient organisations, carers and healthcare professionals in the design of the clinical studies.
- Identify, collect and record relevant good practices and experiences related to the design, conduct, sample handling, data analysis and results reporting of multinational clinical studies. In addition, provide appropriate recommendations and lessons learned.
- For multinational clinical studies, authorisation for the study approval by more than one national competent authority may be necessary. Develop a regulatory strategy and interaction plan for generating appropriate evidence as well as engaging with regulators and other relevant bodies (e.g., European Medicines Agency (EMA), EMA expert panels, national regulators, Health Technology Assessment bodies, etc.) in a timely manner. Consider also the potential for future regulatory impact of the results.

Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Law; Gender studies



# Cluster 2 **Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Societies**



# Call - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - 2025

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Deddine: 10 September 2025	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-01 Advisory support and network to counter disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI)	The aim of this action is to bring to society the benefits from previously EU-funded research (including SSH research) dealing with disinformation and FIMI in the field of democracy and governance be it in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe or other relevant programmes (such as Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values, Digital Europe, and Global Europe).
Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers, practitioners in relevant sectors, civil society organisations and other societal actors have an increased understanding of the validity of theoretical models, the possibilities to implement recommendations, toolkits, methodologies and other solutions to prevent and counter FIMI and related disinformation actions.</li> <li>Practitioners in relevant sectors, civil society organisations and other societal actors involved in the design and implementation of measures to prevent and counter FIMI, including disinformation in different sectors have access to a network and tailor-made advisory support.</li> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers are equipped with science-based tools and evidence-based policy recommendations to proactively conceive, implement, and innovate measures to prevent and counter FIMI and related disinformation actions, and other actions instigated by third countries.</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Political Science, Communication
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-02 Fostering the consolidation of European science diplomacy  Link	The Coordination and Support Action will contribute to consolidating the European science diplomacy landscape both in research and in practice. In particular, it should provide, once operational, a mapping of all relevant players, which is still lacking at this point, and establish a European Science Diplomacy Platform. The added value of such a platform is that it can serve as a "do tank", bringing together scientists (including from SSH disciplines) and diplomats alike and delivering concrete support for policy needs.
	<ul> <li>The project should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>EU and national policymakers as well as researchers obtain a taxonomy of European science diplomacy which maps the relevant players, including from academia, policymaking, diplomacy, civil society, and business, and have an overview of the science diplomacy ecosystems in the EU and the existing capacities, infrastructures, networks (including diaspora and alumni networks), training activities, strategies, and publications at EU and national level. This should also include a mapping of science diplomacy strategies of third countries to inform EU responses.</li> <li>Design and launch a European Science Diplomacy Platform as a community of research and practice providing an impartial space for interaction and resources for institutional capacity building, knowledge sharing and scaling up of best practices, involving the key players in European science diplomacy, from both the EU and national levels, liaising also with European scientists in the diaspora</li> </ul>



	and alumni of European mobility schemes, and creating links with
	<ul> <li>existing platforms.</li> <li>Building on the activities of existing mechanisms such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), ERC, COST, EURAXESS, the European Universities initiative, the European Diplomatic Academy, and relevant programmes at national level, schemes, competence frameworks and curricula for training, capacity-building, and mutual learning in European science diplomacy, are developed, paying particular attention to the needs of science counsellors and other diplomats dealing with matters that rely heavily on scientific expertise.</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Science communication, Education, Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-03 Preparing the EU for future enlargement: challenges and opportunities <u>Link</u>	The proposed research should improve on the one hand, the EU Member States' understanding of the history, political and economic situation of the candidate countries and potential candidates, through socio-historical research, combined with a legal and economic approach (including expertise from relevant SSH disciplines). And, on the other hand, it should support EU citizens and civil society to gain a better understanding on challenges and opportunities related to potential future enlargements of the EU.
	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policymakers and public administrations in each Member State, candidate country, potential candidate country, and at EU institutional level, are provided with thematic insights on lessons learned from previous enlargement processes for the development of future policies with particular attention to democracy, rule of law and governance related topics.</li> <li>Societal awareness of the enlargement process is increased both within the Union and in the candidate country(ies), or potential candidate country(ies), through a deeper understanding of the political, social and economic consequences of enlargement versus non-enlargement of the EU.</li> <li>EU authorities and public authorities in Member States benefit from better use of existing interactive tools to better inform and promote educational opportunities on enlargement process for citizens in the Union and in the enlargement countries.</li> <li>Public's at large involvement in enlargement is enhanced through transparent and participatory processes, leveraging digital tools for broader engagement.</li> <li>Main keywords: History, Political Science, Public administration, Socialogy, Anthropology, Economics, Law</li> </ul>
	, 3,
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-04 Open strategic autonomy, economic and research security in EU foreign policy <u>Link</u>	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>EU institutions, national decision-makers, and practitioners in various relevant fields dispose of consolidated concepts, workable definitions and a robust evidence base for policymaking, regarding open strategic autonomy and economic security - including research security.</li> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers gain a better understanding of how the open strategic autonomy and economic security - including research security - can benefit the EU and its Member States, associated countries, Neighbourhood, and</li> </ul>



	developing countries, and of the impacts of potentially divergent EU and Member States' related policies.  • EU institutions and national decision-makers are provided with policy recommendations on how to enhance open strategic autonomy and economic security – including research security – without harming economic and societal actors in the EU, associated countries, Neighbourhood and developing countries or the geopolitical influence of the EU.  • EU institutions, national decision-makers and researchers (including from SSH disciplines) have a deeper understanding of the drivers of open strategic autonomy and economic security – including research security – in key policy fields and what its historical evolution has been.  Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, History
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-05 Countering and preventing radicalisation, extremism, hate speech and polarisation  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>EU and national decision makers, researchers (including from SSH disciplines), practitioners, educators, and media organisations are equipped to deliver effective prevention and counter measures on radicalisation, extremism, hate speech, and polarisation, by gaining a comprehensive understanding of the linkages between social and economic inequality, polarisation, radicalisation, and hatred, and by implementing effective recommendations, tools, narratives, methodologies, and other innovative solutions.</li> <li>EU institutions and national policymakers gain insights into radicalisation, extremism, and hate speech, including their impact on young people and how youth perceive and engage with information on these phenomena, whether online or offline.</li> <li>EU institutions, national decision-makers, and civil society organisations acquire a thorough understanding of the mechanisms driving successful extremist, radical, and hate campaigns, as well as the diverse political environments and their modes of interaction and communication, extending beyond social media and online platforms.</li> <li>Main keywords: Political Science, Economics, Sociology, Media studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-06 Towards a European research hub on contemporary antisemitism and Jewish life and culture  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>A network of practitioners, including researchers in the field of contemporary antisemitism and research on Jewish life, is established and developed, providing a dynamic space for academic conversations, as well as training and career opportunities.</li> <li>Research gaps and relevant research centres to further develop research on contemporary antisemitism and Jewish life in Europe are identified, with a particular focus on regions previously underrepresented in the study of contemporary antisemitism and Jewish life</li> <li>Discussion and formulation of methodological standards in the field are facilitated, fostering high quality empirical work.</li> <li>Strategic planning for the field on a Europe-wide level, including a concrete and credible action plan to grow this network into a sustainable research institution, is provided.</li> <li>Links between research and policymaking within and for Jewish communities as part of the wider process of nurturing Jewish life in Europe are deepened.</li> <li>Main keywords: Political Science, History, Education, Social studies</li> </ul>



HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-07 The autocratic appeal: nature, drivers and strategies  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policymakers, public authorities and citizens at large are equipped with updated and exploitable scientific knowledge (including through SSH disciplines and fields) and understanding of the increasing autocratic tendencies, also in established democracies, including digital authoritarianism and erosion of human rights, as well as of the factors contributing to the rise of these tendencies (including the spread of disinformation in the public sphere, public disparagement of the rule of law, excessive use of police force, demonization of political opposition).</li> <li>Public authorities, journalists and publics alike are provided with methods and tools capable of a) early warning and characterisation of autocratic tendencies, their drivers and strategies; and b) identifying tactics for resisting and combating them.</li> <li>Relevant actors (democratic governments, media, civil society organisations) are enabled to take more informed decisions when engaging and dealing with autocracies.</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Political Science, Law, Media studies
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-08 Economic inequalities and their impact on democracy  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Enhanced understanding of the interplay between economic inequalities and attitudes towards democracies, achieved by adopting an intersectional perspective across local, national, and transnational levels and acknowledging varying territorial contexts.</li> <li>Deeper insights into economic inequalities, including citizens' own perceptions of such inequalities, across diverse demographic groups, and their impact on public participation, the shaping of attitudes for instance towards women's and minorities' rights, as well as trust in democratic processes.</li> <li>Enhanced policymakers' awareness through evidence-based policy recommendations on the relationship between economic inequalities and attitudes towards democracy, bridging research and policy by presenting data and potential solutions to foster informed discussion and adoption of targeted measures.</li> <li>Existing data are used effectively, and new data avenues are explored to better understand and address the impacts of economic inequalities across diverse demographic groups as well as citizen's own perceptions of these inequalities, on democratic participation and trust in democratic institutions.</li> <li>Novel and intersectional approaches to enhance understanding of and participation in democratic processes among economically vulnerable populations, including low- or no-income individuals, and those (at risk of) experiencing downward mobility from the middle class, integrating factors associated with social mobility and individual characteristics such as age, sex, gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion, or belief, and disability.</li> <li>Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Demography, Social studies, Gender studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-09 Fighting against disinformation while ensuring the right to freedom of expression <u>Link</u>	Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:  • EU institutions, national decision-makers, practitioners in relevant sectors, civil society organisations and other societal actors are better equipped to confront and prevent different forms of mis- and disinformation and information manipulation, while protecting and respecting the freedom of expression and academic freedom.



	<ul> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers have a better understanding of the categories of stakeholders opposing policies and initiatives aimed at combating disinformation and information manipulation, including understanding the drivers behind their narratives, and are better equipped to engage with them.</li> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers understand how digital media shapes public opinion and regulate it without compromising citizens' rights to information, media freedom, privacy and data protection, and protection from harm.</li> <li>In addition, projects should contribute to at least one of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Media, education and security practitioners are increasingly knowledgeable about tools and legal remedies to counteract the narratives of those opposing policies and initiatives designed to combat disinformation, and to recognise and counter their drivers.</li> <li>EU institutions and national decision-makers have a better understanding of the role of independent media and the role and importance of "media dissemination hubs" and professional "mediators" who facilitate citizens' access to professionally produced content and analyse the crucial aspect of access to information (such as availability, accessibility, affordability, comprehensibility, transparency, inclusivity, privacy and data protection, and security).</li> <li>Main keywords: Media studies, Political Science, Law</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-10 The role of civic and citizenship education for strengthening civic and democratic participation and support for common European values  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators have a better understanding of the impactful learning, teaching and assessment of citizenship education (underpinned by SSH research and evidence), including formal or formal and non-formal learning.</li> <li>Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators gain a sound understanding of the impact of citizenship education related formal or non-formal learning on young people's (aged 15-29) civic and democratic engagement (through different forms of community and political engagement), including young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, and considering gender-specific barriers and opportunities.</li> <li>Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators gain a sound understanding of effective collaborative mechanisms between different actors in formal and/or non-formal education sectors in delivering effective citizenship education.</li> <li>Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators are more aware of and can roll out competence-based, transformational (fostering critical thinking and personal development) and action-oriented (fostering active civic engagement and democratic participation) pedagogical approaches to citizenship education, including innovative learning methodologies.</li> <li>Main keywords: Education, Political Science, Sociology, Gender studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-11 Independence of the judiciary as an aspect of rule of law compliance  Link	Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:  • EU authorities and public authorities in the Member States have access to comparative research information on the independence, impartiality and integrity of judicial institutions across the EU to ensure the rights to an effective remedy and fair trial and to strengthen accountability in the broad sense.



	<ul> <li>Policymakers and judicial authorities have a better understanding of the functioning of the safeguards for judicial independence in each other's justice systems, also strengthening judicial cooperation between the Member States.</li> <li>Policymakers and public administrations in Member States are provided with research on the implementation at national level of international and EU rules and standards to better assess their impact on judicial independence.</li> <li>The EU's capacity to proactively promote rule of law, fundamental human rights and democracy is strengthened with a better understanding of the functioning of the safeguards for judicial independence in the Member States, including their context, current legal practice, the statutory framework, leading court cases and major relevant developments with up to date, reliable and comparable information.</li> <li>Main keywords: Law, Political Science</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-DEMOCRACY-12 Community of democracy practitioners and	Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:  • The networking and capacity-building work of the European network
researchers	set up under HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-02-01 is strengthened and augmented.
<u>Link</u>	Research and innovation communities in the field of democracy and civic deliberation and participation and citizenship education are less
	fragmented and better networked across Europe.  • Researchers in democracy, including rule of law; practitioners in civic
	participation and deliberation; communication experts; and public authorities and governments have access to research results, innovative
	methodologies, and tools in the field of democracy and civic deliberation and participation and citizenship education through networking events, accessible platforms, databases, knowledge repositories, advice and capacity building on enhancing diversity and inclusion, civic participation, civic and citizenship education and innovative and experimental deliberation processes at all governance levels.
	<ul> <li>Public authorities and governments practice democratic innovation, by applying research results, innovative methodologies, and tools in the field of democracy and civic deliberation and participation and citizenship education which have been distilled by the network into useful "how-tos" and trainings for policymakers, public authorities, and</li> </ul>
	governments.  • Policymakers and research funding organisations are provided with
	proposals for future research agendas in the field of democracy.
	Main keywords: Political Science, Social studies, Public Administration
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-03 A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage — Innovative use cases  Link	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:  • Findings from thorough end-to-end testing based on real use cases contribute to a seamlessly working, user-friendly, inclusive and powerful European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH).  • By documenting and communicating the use cases deployed, a wide collection of innovative uses of the ECCCH is elaborated, which contributes to exemplify and illustrate its benefits and attract new users and user groups.
	By identifying and implementing improvements and engaging with users, significant contributions are made for the ECCCH to be widely used by



European cultural heritage professionals and researchers, enabling new ways to interact, cooperate and co-create, thus supporting the generation of new knowledge and opening of new research paradigms.
Main keywords: Cultural heritage, Sociology
<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to at least three of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policy makers, Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) and other stakeholders gain insights into the impact of Al, including, but not limited to, generative Al, on artists, creatives, cultural professionals, creative businesses and on the market for cultural and creative goods and services, as well as on the future of creative work.</li> <li>Policy makers, research (including SSH disciplines), education, industry, and society benefit from robust, evidence-based policy recommendations and concrete solutions promoting a mutually beneficial interplay between CCI and Al. These policy recommendations and solutions aim for a fairer marketplace that fosters transparency, fairness, non-discrimination, diversity, and accountability by design, while respecting artistic freedom.</li> <li>Policy makers, the CCI, and stakeholders are provided with case studies and evidence-based policy recommendations to harness the CCI' potential for Al innovation and promote human-centric, unbiased Al applications.</li> <li>Frameworks, protocols, and tools for managing intellectual property and personality rights in Al development, training, and use, addressing unauthorised data use and legal breaches, are available to CCI and public authorities.</li> <li>Mechanisms or platforms, such as CCI-led competence centres or hubs, are proposed to facilitate interaction among artists, creatives, Al specialists, cultural institutions, and creative businesses. These will facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experiences on Al-powered innovations and aim to develop new solutions that serve the needs of the CCI and society at large, ultimately enhancing creativity-driven innovation.</li> </ul>
Main keywords: Cultural and Creative industries, Arts, Law
<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>A deepened understanding is developed and made available to researchers (including from SSH disciplines), policy-makers and industry professionals of the possible key long-term impacts on culture when citizens spend ever more time and experience an ever-larger share of life events in virtual worlds, including benefits and risks in relation to human wellbeing, European values, social cohesion and cultural and linguistic diversity.</li> <li>Research and knowledge-based measures with a long-term view are developed and put in practice that guide development towards realising the opportunities linked to the virtualisation of life while mitigating the most important threats.</li> <li>Significant contributions are made towards making Europe a global leader in virtual worlds that contribute to wellbeing, social cohesion and resilience in addition to competitiveness and growth.</li> <li>Main keywords: Cultural studies, Communication, Anthropology, Sociology, Philosophy</li> </ul>



HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-06 Europe as a global powerhouse of design for sustainable competitiveness  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Enhanced and updated understanding of the European design sector and design professionals, including its cross-sectoral relevance for innovation and key strengths, opportunities and challenges, is made available to scientists, policy makers, designers, private companies and other key stakeholders.</li> <li>Methods, techniques and applications based on research and knowledge that enable the European design sector and design professionals to stay at the forefront of design for sustainable competitiveness are developed and put into practice.</li> <li>Significant contributions are made to boost Europe as a global powerhouse of design for sustainable competitiveness.</li> </ul> Main keywords: Design, Cultural and Creative industries, Business, Marketing
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-07 Cultural Strategies for Peace: culture and creativity as catalysts for conflict prevention and post-conflict reconciliation	Addressing the innovative role of culture in conflict prevention, security, preparedness, resilience, and post conflict reconciliation calls for a fully interdisciplinary approach, drawing from a rich variety of disciplines.
Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Organisations active in diplomacy, culture, research (including SSH disciplines), and education gain insights into the strategic importance of culture, including cultural heritage and the arts, in the contemporary geopolitical context. They understand better how culture can be manipulated, instrumentalised, and even destroyed, to fuel conflict, and how culture, the arts, and tangible and intangible cultural heritage contribute to conflict prevention, reconciliation, preparedness, security and sustainable peace.</li> <li>Public authorities, international organisations, NGOs, and society benefit from the empirical knowledge base derived from extensive case study collection, analysis, and evaluation, and from the identification of patterns and best practices, offering adaptable models for integrating culture into sustainable peacebuilding, conflict prevention, preparedness and post-conflict reconciliation.</li> <li>Policymakers receive evidence-based recommendations and guidelines for innovative, sustainable peacebuilding strategies working with culture and aligned with EU principles and values.</li> <li>Mechanisms fostering ongoing collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers are established, to ensure sustained progress in culture for security, foreign policy, and sustainable peace, and to support continuous advancement and integration of knowledge beyond the projects' conclusion.</li> <li>Main keywords: Cultural studies, Cultural heritage, Arts, Political Science, Peace</li> </ul>
	studies, Social studies
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-08 Bridging historical past and future potential through conservation, preservation, and adaptive use of Europe's contentious and dissonant heritage  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Dialogues between academics, local authorities and communities are strengthened by a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda identifying trends, drivers, gaps and opportunities and highlight the added value for further research in this area.</li> <li>Academic researchers and practitioners (including from SSH disciplines) collaborate to apply tangible research findings in real-world contexts, addressing challenges posed by contested heritage, threatened by neglect, deterioration or abandonment.</li> </ul>



<ul> <li>Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) and local authorities have access to innovative solutions to revitalise and reconsider contested cultural heritage to ensure its preservation, conservation, and adaptability for use while engaging future generations in tackling complex historical challenges.</li> <li>Policy makers and public authorities are equipped with actionable recommendations to tackle the lack of awareness on contested heritage, with a focus on education and sustainable cultural tourism as key areas for action.</li> </ul>
Proposals should establish a collaborative and multidisciplinary network of professionals. It could rely on expertise from given disciplines and fields, such as: anthropology, history, heritage science (focused on conservation and exhibition and museum curation), media and intercultural communication, political science and science education. Researchers and experts with thematic expertise in the field(s) of memory studies, war and conflict, decolonisation, post-totalitarian regimes, and/or intersectionality could bring an added value. The integration of cultural and creative industries and local authorities could contribute to ensure the real-world

applications of this research network.

# Main keywords: History, Cultural and Creative industries, Cultural heritage

# HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-09 Impacts of culture and the arts on health and well-being

Link

The objective of this topic is to reinforce and mainstream the fostering of cross-sectorial cooperation among cultural, health, social, youth, education and humanitarian/ relief sectors as well as researchers and academia of Member State and Associated countries. The proposals should include cultural and creative sectors at large and consider both the active and the receptive nature of cultural participation.

Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:

- Policy makers at European, national, regional and local level from the health, culture, social care, relief/ humanitarian, youth and education sectors are aware of the impacts of arts and culture on health, wellbeing and social cohesion and are equipped with policy recommendations and with practical guides on to implement crosssectorial policies and programmes in this field;
- Stakeholders from the health, culture, social care, relief/ humanitarian, youth and education sectors are aware impacts of arts and culture on health, well-being and social cohesion and are equipped with tools to implement cross-sectorial projects in this field;
- Research gaps in this field are documented and explained, and further the R&I implementation science (including in SSH disciplines) by presenting new scalable and replicable best practices;
- Policy-makers working in international relations/ cooperation are provided with recommendations for promoting EU priorities, culture and fundamental values abroad through the angle of cooperation in the areas of culture, health and well-being.

# Main keywords: Cultural and Creative industries, Arts, Sociology

# HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-01 Tackling gender-based violence in different social and economic spheres

<u>Link</u>

Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:

 Collect data and analyse the prevalence and impact of gender-based violence (GBV), including tech-facilitated GBV, in different socioeconomic contexts and legislative frameworks, and provide policymakers at regional, national and EU level with recommendations to address it.



	Support employers, policymakers, practitioners, and civil society organisations in their work on the prevention, protection, prosecution, and provision of services in addressing GBV, including through promoting best practice sharing, mutual learning and education material focused on consent.  Main keywords: Gender studies, Law, Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-02 Historical and regional analyses of industrial transitions and their lessons for ensuring a fair green transition  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Provide policymakers with an analysis of past and present industrial transformations and what successful policies and measures were used to combat their negative externalities.</li> <li>Improve the understanding on the mechanisms of regional responses (e.g. geographic mobility of labour) and provide policymakers with a set of recommendations for seizing the opportunities and smoothing the risks of the developments. Analyse and evaluate forms of collaborative and participatory approaches to the management and governance of transition processes, including through social dialogue and collective bargaining.</li> <li>To ensure Europe will benefit from current transitions, proposals should</li> </ul>
	employ a whole ecosystem approach and draw from a rich variety of (SSH) disciplines including history, sociology, economics, and geography. Proposals may focus on policies which favoured local job creation, upskilling, labour mobility, and business model diversification.  Main keywords: History, Sociology, Economics, Human geography, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-03 Working time reduction: barriers, challenges, benefits and policy implications  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to at least three out of the four expected outcomes:</li> <li>Deepen the understanding available to policy makers, employers, trade unions and other stakeholders regarding the impacts and implementation of the working time reduction, including its implications on social, economic or environmental outcomes in the society.</li> <li>Provide policymakers with recommendations on the feasibility of implementing working time reduction across all types of economic activity and occupations while promoting positive macroeconomic outcomes;</li> <li>Provide relevant stakeholders (e.g. social partners, SMEs, large companies and public authorities) with recommendations and data on the enablers and barriers to successful implementation of working time reduction, including at employer and employee level.</li> <li>Improved understanding of the potential of working time reduction to increase employment and inclusion in the labour market by activating underrepresented groups, including women, the elderly, workers with disabilities and others.</li> </ul>
	Applicants are encouraged to employ a variety of SSH research methods, including quantitative micro-economic analysis or behavioural and other experimental research methods.
	Main keywords: Economics, Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-05 Improving fairness in the economy through a	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:



better understanding of undeclared and underdeclared work  Link	<ul> <li>Policymakers and social partners have insights into the scope and/or characteristics of un(der)declared work or actors involved in un(der)declared work.</li> <li>Policymakers receive actionable advice on policy measures effective in reducing the prevalence of un(der)declared work and/or its adverse social consequences.</li> <li>Main keywords: Economics, Social and Behavioural studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-06 Evaluation and use of evidence in education policy and practice <u>Link</u>	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>New analysis and evaluation of education policy measures.</li> <li>Support use of SSH research evidence by education and training policy makers and practitioners.</li> <li>Enhanced culture of research and evaluation in education policymaking and among practitioners. Better understanding of the types of expertise and institutional settings that are more effective at informing education policies and practices with evidence.</li> <li>The action must enhance interdisciplinary collaborations among researchers in education and engage diverse educational research disciplines from social sciences, the arts and humanities.</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Education
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-07 Impact of the learning environment and the use of digital tools in everyday life on key skills and competence development  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Provide analyses of the impact of digital tools in everyday life on wellbeing and how children learn.</li> <li>Provide analyses and evidence-based recommendations on how to provide opportunities for high quality education that uses digital technologies in ways that support the wellbeing of the school community (students, teachers and school leaders).</li> <li>Proposals are encouraged to use mixed methods approaches, and deepen inter- and transdisciplinary research in education (including from SSH disciplines), involving multiple perspectives, with the aim to improve learning and educational settings.</li> <li>Main keywords: Education, Social and Behavioural studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-08 Improving mental health outcomes for people in education, training and work  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Deliver scalable and replicable integrated person-centred interventions on mental health included blended ones, in a manner that they are transferable to the new contexts in education, training and work, and studying and comparing their impacts;</li> <li>Deliver integrated person-centred interventions to all segments of population and age groups, with a particular focus for the youth with mental health conditions to improve their education, training and work trajectories, in order to ensure all these people's inclusion into society;</li> <li>Provide relevant authorities, policy makers, key stakeholders and practitioners with viable tools to make evidence-based informed decisions for implementation to benefit mental health outcomes in education, training and work. This includes effectiveness studies as well as the delivery of data, including health economics data of the developed intervention(s) to further advance this policy area; and</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>Provide quality evidence-based data to policy makers and research and innovation stakeholders to bridge the gap between mental health outcomes and related socio-economic transition.</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Education, Social and Behavioural studies, Economics
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-09 Good practices for increased autonomy of persons with disabilities, including physical, mental, intellectual and sensory disabilities  Link	Projects should contribute to some of the following expected outcomes (minimum three outcomes):  Develop innovative evidence-based policy approaches to promote the autonomy of persons with disabilities of any age and any origin of the disability or impairment.  Develop practices that facilitate the full inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in different areas of life, including education, family life, employment, living arrangements, leisure, arts, culture and sport on equal basis with others.  Address the seamless use of accessible and assistive technology, including digital technologies and artificial intelligence, in the community and related services and infrastructure. If possible, identify specific measures and tools for different addressed areas of lives of persons with disabilities, such as education, recruitment, hiring, return to work, and independent life.  Identify and compare the usefulness of different options for policies and measures aiming to increase the autonomy and quality of life of persons with disabilities, as well as the quality of life and well-being of their families, using a person-centred approach, taking into account the individual needs of persons with disabilities and ensuring their full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on equal basis with others.  Identify relevant actors to achieve effective results (public actors, civil society organizations, private sector, social economy actors, etc.) and explore their roles and interaction, with a view to assessing integration among different social, support and essential services (including e.g. transport or housing) necessary to promote autonomy and inclusion in the community.  The proposals may focus on a specific disability or address several of them. Research (including from SSH disciplines) should address barriers and solutions with regard to specific disabilities to increase inclusiveness, decision-making and autonomy, taking into account the integrated and person-centred support provided by famili
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-10 Intergenerational fairness in the context of demographic change in the EU  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Enhance the understanding and engagement on intergenerational fairness among policy makers, researchers and citizens on future trends and drivers of intergenerational fairness in the EU through quantitative and qualitative analyses;</li> <li>Provide policy makers with scientific knowledge (including knowledge generated through SSH) and data for evidence-informed policies to address the drivers of intergenerational inequalities, tailoring interventions to diverse demographic groups, ensuring inclusivity across gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status;</li> <li>Develop an action plan to inform policy making, including a set of</li> </ul>
	viable policies to adapt the European economic and social model to reduce intergenerational imbalances and help prevent them in the



	future, taking into account cross-policy synergies in terms of factors influencing intergenerational fairness.
	Main keywords: Demography, Sociology, Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-11 Migration and climate change: building resilience and enhancing sustainability  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Strengthen EU and national migration governance by developing a dynamic knowledge database and an exchange platform, for enhanced collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, promoting the integration of environment and climate change migration considerations into EU and national policies.</li> <li>Develop a strategic roadmap that outlines key research (including in SSH disciplines) and policy priorities addressing climate change and migration and supports implementation measures.</li> <li>Develop policy recommendations to improve the EU's understanding and preparedness, and to enhance collaboration between the EU and third countries within the frameworks of relevant EU policies.</li> <li>Main keywords: Social studies, Political Science</li> </ul>



# Call - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - 2025 - Two-stage

Deadline: 16 September 2025 (1st stage) - 17 March 2026 (2nd stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2025-02-HERITAGE-02- two-stage Innovative approaches to intangible cultural heritage for societal resilience  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to the following expected outcome:</li> <li>Policymakers are provided with a multi-dimensional overview and assessment of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) role in contemporary societal challenges and European social, economic, and cultural dynamics. A comprehensive analysis of ICH's potential for societal resilience and its contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation becomes available.</li> <li>Additionally, proposals should contribute to at least two of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policymakers (at all levels), public authorities and stakeholders have access to an array of innovative practices, strategies, and tools for incorporating ICH in community resilience planning, for ICH innovative safeguarding and for expanding community engagement with ICH practice, safeguarding, and communication. This includes awareness of gender dynamics in ICH practices.</li> <li>Innovative policies aimed at preserving ICH amid disasters, conflicts, migration, and population displacements are supported by data and knowledge.</li> <li>New methodological approaches and tools using digital technologies for documenting, communicating, and transmitting ICH become available. Community engagement with ICH, particularly among youth, crucial for sustainable and intergenerational transmission of living cultural practices, is broadened. The alliance between communities and researchers is strengthened. The involvement of education and heritage preservation institutions and agencies is enhanced.</li> <li>The sustainable use of ICH as source of inspiration for creative designs and practices, to spur sustainable development and provide a valuable resource to communities, e.g. for attracting cultural tourism, is enhanced. Measures to prevent overuse, inappropriate use, and depletion are strengthened.</li> <li>A future research agenda is devised for sustainable ICH practices respecting cultural diversity, human rights, and gender equality; cultural aspects of societal resilience will</li></ul>
HORIZON-CL2-2025-02-TRANSFO-04- two-stage Gender differences in career trajectories of parents and their implications for gender equality and family well-being  Link	<ul> <li>Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</li> <li>Policymakers, social partners, and other relevant stakeholders have better understanding of gender differences in career trajectories of parents and their consequences for gender inequalities in the labour market and within households.</li> <li>Policymakers, social partners, and other relevant stakeholders have better understanding of links between parental career- and childcare-related decisions, family well-being, and different policy/institutional settings.</li> </ul>



well-being.  Main keywords: Gender studies, Economics, Sociology
Providing policymakers with effective policy options that help reduce gender gaps in labour market outcomes of parents and support family



Cluster 3

**Civil Security for Society** 



# **Call - Civil Security for Society**

Deadline: 12 November 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-02 Open topic on prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of crime and terrorism through an enhanced understanding of the related societal issues	Proposals are welcome to address new, upcoming or unforeseen challenges and/or creative or disruptive solutions for improving the prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of crime or terrorism/radicalisation through an enhanced understanding of the related societal issues.
Link	Activities proposed within this topic should address both technological and societal dimensions of the tackled challenge in a balanced way. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Political Science, Law, Criminology
HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-INFRA-02 Open topic for role of the human factor for the resilience of critical infrastructures <u>Link</u>	Proposals are invited to address new challenges, and/or develop innovative solutions or strengthen capabilities to tackle existing challenges taking into account the human factor, for the benefit of resilience of critical infrastructures. The emphasis of the proposals should be on the human dependant abilities of critical infrastructure to cope with an adverse event, including their capacity to prepare for the crisis, absorb the impact, reduce the recovery time, and adapt by reducing future exposure and vulnerabilities.
	Activities proposed within this topic should address both technological and societal dimensions of the tackled challenge in a balanced way. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of related research and innovation activities.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-01 Open topic on citizen and regional and/or local authorities' engagement in enhanced disaster risk awareness, including education, and preparedness  Link	Proposals are welcome to address new, upcoming or unforeseen challenges and/or creative or disruptive solutions and technology, including the use of Al, for improving disaster preparedness, risk awareness by citizens and regional and/or local authorities, and for reinforcing the cooperation among scientific / technical communities and policy-makers / regional and/or local authorities for an enhanced sharing of knowledge and uptake of research outputs.
	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of related research and innovation activities.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies



### HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-02

Open topic on Improving disaster risk management and governance to ensure self-sufficiency and sustainability of operations in support of enhanced resilience Proposals are welcome to address new, upcoming or unforeseen challenges and/or creative or disruptive solutions for an enhanced understanding of impacts of disasters and crises linked to natural or human-made causes on risk governance and improved resilience of emergency systems.

### Link

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of related research and innovation activities.

# Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies

### HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-03

Open topic on testing / validating tools, technologies and data used in cross-border prevention, preparedness and responses to climate extreme and geological events and chemical, biological or radiological emergency threats

used in cross-border prevention, preparedness and responses to climate / geological / accidental fire disasters and chemical, biological or radiological emergency threats (including medical countermeasures) by different practitioner's sectors in view of demonstrating their interoperability in real-case situations, with focus on the use of Al and ML tools, miniaturized sensors for threat detection and victim identification, and communication (including cross-border emergency communications).

proposals are welcome to testing / validate tools, technologies and data

# Link

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of related research and innovation activities.

Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies



Cluster 4

**Digital, Industry and Space** 



# **Call - INDUSTRY**

Deadline: 23 September 2025

Beddinie: 25 September 2025	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN-TRANSITION-01 Integrated approaches for remanufacturing (Made in Europe Partnership)  Link	Proposals should address new sets of skills required for remanufacturing implementation at the European level.
	Proposals should consider where relevant the EU regulatory framework, notably the Ecodesign for Sustainable Product Regulation and the EU waste/sectoral legislation.
	Proposals should include a business case and exploitation strategy, as outlined in the introduction to this Destination.
	To address the requirements above related to business models and to relevant skills (and where applicable to design), appropriate contributions from Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) are indispensable. Where appropriate social partners or social innovation may be considered.
	Main keywords: Law, Business, Education
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN-TRANSITION-02 Physical and cognitive augmentation in advanced manufacturing (Made in Europe Partnership)  Link	Proposals should take into account Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) contributions regarding human-related barriers for the uptake of augmentation technologies in industrial environments, such as ergonomics, user experience, comfort, trust, feeling of safety, knowledge sharing and liability in modern production facilities. Proposals should specifically address gender, age, disability and other anthropometric and ergonomic considerations, and impacts across diverse demographic groups. Social partners (e.g. trade unions) may also be considered. Optionally, proposals may include test and experimentation environments such as living labs for validation.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN- TRANSITION-33 Integrated use of renewable energy carriers in industrial sites (Processes4Planet	Proposals under this topic should propose new ways to adapt the workplaces and organisation of site management to ensure that the solutions can be widely implemented.
partnership) <u>Link</u>	A strategy for skills development to master the challenges of such integrated systems should be included associating social partners. Attention should be given to using results from existing initiatives that have developed education and skills development concepts in this area.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Business, Education
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN-TRANSITION-39 Towards human-centric, sustainable and resilient energy-intensive industries (Processes4Planet and Clean Steel partnerships)  Link	<ul> <li>Coordination and support activities should address the following:</li> <li>Prepare an overview of the state of the preconditions for adding the Industry 5.0 perspective to energy intensive industries - this includes human-centric, gender-specific, resilience and sustainability aspects;</li> <li>Map technologies (e.g., industrial wearable, human digital twin, extended reality) integrating individual competences and increasing usability, specifically applicable to energy intensive industries sectors and processes. For example, technologies i) supporting the co-design</li> </ul>



	of processes and workplaces, enhancing the remote monitoring experience and creating new capabilities for operating; ii) supporting new forms of human-machine interaction by providing real-time feedback on personal performance and holistic intuitive workplaces interfaces; or iii) co-designed in accordance with user expectations and the integration of workplace experience;  • Explore through a practical assessment how the process automation technologies currently in use in Process Industries are making use of innovative the industry 5.0 technologies (the practical assessment is expected to cover several companies and at least five industry sectors);  • Develop an Industry 5.0 framework and engage with a wide range of stakeholders including labour authorities and ongoing relevant sectoral social dialogues at European level. This should include empower employees in a participatory approach for adding the industry 5.0 dimension to the industrial processes including the reduction of risk and health issues;  • Proposals should specifically address gender, age, and disability considerations, recognising potential variations in technological adoption and impact across diverse demographic groups.  Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01- MATERIALS-45	This action will accelerate R&I in the area of advanced materials by bringing together at EU level experience, knowledge and resources, from
Materials Commons for Europe	existing and new national digital infrastructures for advanced materials design and development.
<u>Link</u>	Proposals should involve appropriate expertise in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), in particular to achieve a user-centred design that facilitates access across different sectors, and by different communities with different characteristics.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01- MATERIALS-52 Accelerate the uptake of life-cycle assessment (LCA) for Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) chemicals and materials and resulting products	<ul> <li>Proposals should leverage the experience of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) researchers in refining models related to child labour, employment conditions, and other socio-economic factors within LCA;</li> <li>The improved/advanced tools and methods should consider evaluating the economic and social dimension of sustainability at product level based on a functional unit.</li> </ul>
<u>Link</u>	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-HUMAN-62 Artificial Intelligence for knowledge valorisation  Link	The action will provide an AI -powered valorisation toolbox, which will take into account EU policy and regulations on AI-ethics, as well as social sciences and humanities aspects, and can be used by researchers and innovators to identify the opportunities for valorisation as well as for guiding them towards market and societal uptake. This may include using AI for assessing feasibility under conditions, investigating legal frameworks that may be relevant to the uptake of the solutions, providing guidance on supporting instruments and funding mechanisms, supporting matching with investors, providing knowledge on the sector, investigating institutional and cultural aspects, citizens and consumer preferences. The use of AI may also focus on the efficient use of intellectual assets to raise awareness and guide R&I actors for the smart management of intellectual assets.



	Main keywords: Business, Sociology, Law, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01- HUMAN-63 Value creation pilots for scaling up innovative solutions	The aim of this topic is to strengthen EU capacity to respond to complex and urgent challenges through research and innovation, increase industrial and economic competitiveness and make transdisciplinary research deliver for society. This entails testing the effectiveness of at least 10 transdisciplinary valorisation pilots to "be ready" for scale up across Europe.  Main keywords: Business, Economics, Education
HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01- HUMAN-65 System innovation experimentation for Industry 5.0  Link	Proposals should elaborate on an Industry 5.0-driven methodology framework via system innovation experimentation in different industrial ecosystems in European Regional Innovation Valleys and other regions, to support deployment of Industry 5.0 innovations or methods at regional / local industrial ecosystems level:  a) offer innovative approaches to accelerate industrial transformation at regional/local level while tackling the new emerging challenges such as skills gap or attracting the best talent.  b) experiment to develop incentives towards longer-term industry 5.0 transformation.  Proposals should involve appropriate expertise in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), in particular in systems thinking or complexity science and their practical implementation as part of system innovation or transformation initiatives.  Main keywords: Economics, Business, Sociology, Social innovation, Education



# **Call - DIGITAL - CNECT**

Deadline: 02 October 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2025-03-HUMAN-14 Core technologies for virtual worlds (Virtual Worlds and Photonics Partnerships)  Link	The proposals should include a focus on human perception and experience, from subjective, objective, and functional perspectives, and take into account EU values such as inclusivity, privacy, security and safety of users and the protection of their personal data, as well as diversity. Solutions should guarantee the privacy and rights of individuals and companies and ensure secure and trustworthy interactions to deliver and enhance uptake of suitable, accurate, ethical and safe solutions.  Proposals should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and SSH experts, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Psychology
HORIZON-CL4-2025-03-HUMAN-15 GenAl4EU Generative Al for Virtual Worlds: Advanced technologies for better performance and hyper personalised and immersive experience (Al/Data/Robotics & Virtual Worlds Partnerships) Link	Innovation actions proposals are expected to address:  Generative AI — Realistic and innovative Virtual Worlds for a better immersion:  Proposals should use Generative AI to build on the users' expectations to create either safe and inclusive virtual spaces, realistic environments, or creative and beyond reality ones.  Generative AI — Smart digital assistance for a safe and inclusive navigation in Virtual Worlds:  Proposals should develop smart people-centered and accessible digital assistants and 3D chatbots (AI-enhanced communicating 3D avatars), to for example, enhance training and education, remove language barriers or language disorders through instant translation, including sign languages, remove barriers to persons with disabilities, offer sentiment analysis and behavioural decision support systems, enable users to adapt to various interlocutors from various cultures, languages and backgrounds, contributing to navigate in inclusive and safe Virtual Worlds, while offering users new adapted learning modalities.  Proposals should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and SSH experts, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Psychology, Linguistics
HORIZON-CL4-2025-03-HUMAN-17 Specific support for the Virtual Worlds Partnership and the Web 4.0 initiative (Virtual Worlds Partnership)	The selected proposal should provide specific support for the coming European Virtual Worlds Partnership.  The selected proposal should:  Develop and implement outreach programmes aiming at better understanding and awareness of Virtual Worlds including acceptability and trustworthiness, informing about potentialities of Virtual Worlds but also ensuring that public expectations are realistic to avoid backlash in the adoption. Such activities should target in



particular the business community, with a particular focus on SMEs, as well as public administrators, citizens and civil society at large.

- Identify ethical, legal, societal and economic aspects of virtual worlds and actions on how to tackle possible issues. Particular attention should be paid to gender, racial, and other biases as well as mitigation measures.
- Support to standardisation in view of boosting virtual worlds industry, creating, and guaranteeing trustworthy and ethical Virtual Worlds, by bringing stakeholders together and, when needed, organise European representation in existing or new standardisation working groups in support of the Commission regulatory framework.

Proposals should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and SSH experts, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Sociology, Ethics, Law, Economics

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### **Call - DIGITAL - HADEA**

Deadline: 02 October 2025

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Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2025-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-04 Assessment methodologies for General Purpose Al capabilities and risks (Al/Data/Robotics Partnership)  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should cover one or more of the following research areas:</li> <li>Innovative methods for proactively identifying and forecasting emergent capabilities in GPAI models and systems. This encompasses the identification of capabilities with both beneficial and potentially detrimental uses.</li> <li>Assessment of GPAI capabilities with a significant economic impact or potential for misuse. This includes assessing capabilities that drive beneficial innovation and societal good, as well as evaluating potential risks in areas such as chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) hazards or cybersecurity threats.</li> <li>Developing assessment techniques that illuminate the underlying mechanisms of emergent capabilities in AI systems, emphasising interpretability and explainability.</li> <li>This topic strongly encourages the formation of interdisciplinary teams combining the necessary technical expertise. Such a collaborative approach will ensure that assessments accurately capture real-world use cases, including capabilities elicitation techniques, and that the developed frameworks, methodologies and tools are responsive to the concerns of all relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Economics, Social and Behavioural studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL4-2025-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING-05 Soft Robotics for Advanced physical capabilities (AI/Data/Robotics Partnership)	Topic with minor SSH dimension
<u>Link</u>	



### Call - INDUSTRY - Two-stage

Deadline: 23 September 2025 (1st stage) - 14 April 2026 (2nd stage)

Deddine: 25 September 2025 (13t Stage) 14 April 2020 (2nd Stage)	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2025-05-TWIN- TRANSITION-11-two-stage Enhanced logistics and operations of construction sites	Proposals should address human-centric and Social Science and Humanities (SSH) aspects of technologies or tools that are developed. Take into consideration potential social innovation mechanisms that can facilitate the market uptake of the developed tools.
<u>Link</u>	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Social innovation, Business
HORIZON-CL4-2025-05-TWIN- TRANSITION-35-two-stage Developing and embedding upcycling technologies into viable business (Processes4Planet partnership)	Proposals are expected to identify the likely impacts of the upcycling solutions with respect to economic and job creation potential, as well as environmental footprint referring to the full set of planetary boundaries including freshwater intake aspects;
Link	Proposals should include techno-economic and life-cycle assessment of the overall process (including of the carbon footprint) and demonstrate the economic viability of the approach. This can be combined with an analysis of the effect of regulatory changes and demand side stimulation measures. Additionally, a strategy for skills development should be presented associating social partners where relevant. Particular attention should be given to the cooperation with existing initiatives having developed education- and skills activities and outcomes in this area.
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Law
HORIZON-CL4-2025-05-MATERIALS-42- two-stage Innovative Advanced Materials (IAMs) for product monitoring, smart maintenance and repair strategies in the construction sector (Innovative	Proposals should involve appropriate expertise in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), particularly regarding the acceptance of innovative construction materials for housing for maximized user experience and comfort. This may involve a perception analysis of these materials, resulting functionalities and the development of optimization strategies.
Advanced Materials for Europe partnership)	Main keywords: Behavioural studies, Business
Link  HORIZON-CL4-2025-05-MATERIALS-51- two-stage Development of safe and sustainable by design alternatives to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)  Link	<ul> <li>Multidisciplinary research activities should address:</li> <li>The selection of the PFAS alternatives to be developed should be justified with a technological and socio-economic analysis, also considering potential impacts on health and reproductive health;</li> <li>Proposals should involve appropriate expertise in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), e.g. with communities of citizens to engage in product reliability and consumer rights. At least, an analysis of how the introduction of such alternatives is positively or negatively considered by users and the general population, disruptive (or not) for the established social norms or behavioural patterns, should be conducted;</li> </ul>
	Main keywords: Economics, Social and Behavioural studies



Cluster 5

**Climate, Energy and Mobility** 



### **Cluster 5 Call 02-2025**

Deadline: 02 September 2025

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Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2-11 Support to the SET Plan community  Link	Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:  • The societal and economic effects of the clean energy transition are addressed through the consideration of interests, needs and concerns of end users and actors across the value chain of the respective technology sectors.
	As appropriate, societal needs and interests should be considered in the activities of the fora, so that inequalities and employment issues are addressed.
	If relevant, this topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Economics
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3-03 Novel approaches to geothermal resources development <u>Link</u>	In order to enhance the benefits of the technology, proposals are expected to develop understandings of how the utilisation of geothermal resources aligns with the cultural values and contextual settings at local to regional level and increase the responsiveness of geothermal energy to diverse societal interests and concerns. To achieve that, an inclusive, early and continuous societal engagement should be enhanced.
	In particular, this topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise (applied to social innovation), in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3-04 Development of hydropower technologies and water management schemes allowing for win-win situation of flexible hydropower and biodiversity improvement — Societal Readiness Pilot  Link	Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes, to the benefit of hydropower operators and technology providers:  Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups, citizens and civil society at large involved in or potentially affected by the R&I development, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake and building trust in results and outcomes.
	Societal needs and the participation of local communities in decision processes in view of trust building should be considered.
	This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:  • Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening



consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
<ul> <li>This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.</li> </ul>
Main keywords: Sociology, Social studies, Anthropology

### Cluster 5 Call 04-2025

Deadline: 04 September 2025

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Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D5-01 Efficient wireless stationary bidirectional charging solutions for road Light Duty Vehicles (2ZERO Partnership) — Societal Readiness Pilot  Link	<ul> <li>Project results are expected to contribute the following outcomes:</li> <li>Enhanced social acceptance of automatic park and charge functionalities with increased comfort and complete cost/benefit assessment at system-level for acceptable costs;</li> <li>Deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the R&amp;I development (e.g. employing synthetic population models and tools), thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake and building trust in results and outcomes.</li> <li>Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.</li> <li>This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D5-16	Project's results are expected to contribute to all the following expected
Support of the new EU renewable and low carbon fuel ecosystem for waterborne transport  Link	EU Fuel producers, fuel infrastructure developers and bunkering facilities will jointly benefit from the creation of relevant business models that will accelerate the deployment of renewable and low carbon fuels for waterborne transport.
	Projects must address all of the following aspects:



•	Creation of an analytical financial tool which allows users to model
	a project and understand the economic rational of a business case
	and identify those assumptions, drivers and barriers which are critical
	to ensuring that the underlying projects are financially and
	economically viable.

#### Main keywords: Business, Economics

#### HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-01

Advancing remote operations to enable the sustainable and smart mobility of people and goods based on operational and societal needs (CCAM Partnership) – Societal Readiness Pilot

#### Link

Project results are expected to contribute the following outcomes:

- Identification and description of at least two economically viable business cases for remote operations complementing the ODD of CCAM solutions, analysing the economic costs and benefits, market potential, and scalability factors, and providing a clear value proposition for public or private stakeholders for each use case;
- Understanding the human factors of the entire system (including the
  in-vehicle and remote perspective), as well as legal requirements and
  working conditions for remote operators, addressing cognitive load,
  fatigue and stress, ergonomic considerations, and the identification
  of essential skills. Establishment of key conditions for job quality,
  safety, up-to-date competences and acceptance of working
  conditions in diverse cultural contexts;
- Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns
  of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the
  R&I development, considering gender and other social categories,
  and thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake,
  and building trust in results and outcomes;
- Policy and governance recommendations in view of establishing new or updating existing legislation to cover remote operations, e.g., through clear descriptions of stakeholder roles and responsibilities that may vary for different types of remote operations.

The dimensions of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) — reflection, inclusion, anticipation, and responsiveness — should guide the exploration of the technological components of the system-of-system to achieve societal readiness, involving relevant Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines (e.g., psychology, geography, Science and Technology Studies, sociology, ethics).

#### This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:

- Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
- This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.

Main keywords: Economics, Business, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Human geography, Ethics, Anthropology



#### HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-02

Preparing for large-scale CCAM demonstrations (CCAM Partnership) – Societal Readiness Pilot

#### Link

Project results are expected to contribute of the following outcomes:

Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the R&I development, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake, and building trust in results and outcomes.

#### This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:

- Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
- This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.

#### Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology

#### HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-11

Innovative air mobility and services for sustainable and smart urban, peri-urban transport –

Societal Readiness pilot

#### <u>Link</u>

Project results are expected to contribute the following outcomes:

Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns
of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the
R&I development, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial
societal uptake, and building trust in results and outcomes.

The proposal is expected to develop the conditions and guidelines for a sustainable, smart, safe and resilient ecosystem for urban air mobility and services, focusing on the urban logistics sector, where drones could be more easily demonstrated and accepted than for passenger mobility.

#### This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:

- Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
- This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.

#### Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Urban planning, Business

#### HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-12

Safe Human-Technology Interaction (HTI) in the vehicle systems of the coming decade – Societal Readiness Pilot Project results are expected to contribute the following outcomes:

Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the R&I development, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake, and building trust in results and outcomes.

#### This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:

#### Link



Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
<ul> <li>This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant social sciences and humanities (SSH) expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.</li> </ul>
Main keywords: Sociology, Psycholog

### Cluster 5 Call 05-2025 (Two-stage)

Deadline: 04 September 2025 (1st stage) - 31 March 2026 (2nd stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2025-05-Two-Stage-D1-05 Adaptation to Climate Change: Effectiveness and Limits  Link	The actions should generate assessments of the effectiveness and limits of adaptation options based on quantitative and qualitative evidence (privileging scientific literature but systematically integrating insights from grey literature and including diverse group's perspectives and knowledge), methodologically sound (replicable and with new metrics and indicators informed with uncertainty) and comprehensive in the criteria considered (such as economic, technological, legal, institutional, sociocultural, geophysical, environmental and cross-cutting aspects that determine soft limits).  Cross-cutting criteria to be included are the contribution of the adaptation solutions to mitigation, their ability to reduce cascading, compound effects and risks transmission, the degree of use of nature-based solutions (NBS), together with the feasibility, the ambition level, and their contribution to equity and justice. Other relevant aspects that should be considered are the exogenous factors, the gender, age and intersectional dimensions, the governance and the barriers and enablers.  This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Main keywords: Economics, Law, Cultural studies, Gender studies



### **Cluster 5 Call 06-2025**

Deadline: 24 September 2025

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Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2025-06-D1-04 The attribution to climate change, and improved forecasting of extreme and slow-onset climate- and weather-related events and their impacts  Link	Actions should address the following aspects:  Advance the understanding of the interplay between natural variability and anthropogenic climate change both in the recent past (since the instrumental data is available) and in the near- and midterm future (2025-2060), as well as the interplay between climate and non-climate drivers of impacts, and socially differentiated vulnerability patterns;  In the context of attribution, focus on extreme and slow-onset events and their interactions (including cascading and compound events) and impacts (on human systems and ecosystems), locally implemented responses and their limits (response capacities), with due consideration of vulnerable regions;
	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology
HORIZON-CL5-2025-06-D1-06 Fostering equity and justice in climate policies —	Project results are expected to contribute the following expected outcomes:
Societal Readiness Pilot <u>Link</u>	<ul> <li>Social science perspectives on justice and equity are better incorporated into policy narratives, scenarios, and models, improving their societal relevance and ensuring that climate action strategies are more reflective of the needs, values and concerns of diverse societal groups, building trust in results and outcomes, and increasing their uptake potential.</li> </ul>
	Actions should advance more comprehensive and interdisciplinary understanding of climate justice in the context of the European and global mitigation and adaptation policies, promoting awareness, consistency and co-production approaches. They should take into consideration socioeconomic, territorial and development disparities that exist between and within countries, regions and across various segments of the population. Actions should address multiple dimensions of justice, diverse spatial and temporal scales (e.g., intergenerational justice), and explore the role of a broad range of social, political, economic, and cultural contexts and factors. These include both collective (such as values, power structures, institutional and legal frameworks, political economy, development models, climate elites) and individual (such as age, gender, and intersectionality) features.
	<ul> <li>This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:</li> <li>Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They</li> </ul>



entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.
<ul> <li>This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities. Consortia should mobilise a variety of SSH research backgrounds, in particular equity, poverty, and gender experts.</li> </ul>
Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Gender studies, Anthropology

### Cluster 5 Call 01-2026

Deadline: 20 January 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2-09 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Societal Readiness Pilot  Link	The action is expected to analyse the way Societal Readiness is addressed and integrated in piloted projects and help in designing an efficient, clear, and impactful way of applying a Societal Readiness approach in future EU funded R&I projects with a true interdisciplinary collaboration.  The proposed action requires the effective contribution of relevant SSH disciplines including the involvement of SSH experts to proficiently support the monitoring and evaluation of Societal Readiness pilot-projects in Cluster 5 work programme 2025.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-04 Integration of human driving behaviour in the validation of CCAM systems (CCAM Partnership) Link	Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes:  Validated human behavioural models representing the variety of human driving behaviour in safety-relevant scenarios, shared through a common repository and to be used:  to define pass criteria/ assessment criteria for CCAM systems in type approval schemes, consumer testing campaigns and industrial development processes;  to design safe, human-like behaviour of CCAM systems that can be anticipated easily by all road users and is acceptable to both CCAM vehicle occupants and all road users.  Application of such human behavioural models in the virtual safety validation of CCAM systems to realistically represent the behaviour of human-driven vehicles in closed loop simulations of mixed traffic, thereby reflecting the variety of human driving behaviour, including behaviour in complex real-world and emergency conditions.  Proposals are encouraged to also explore additional fields of application of validated driver behaviour models, while the integration of relevant expertise from social sciences and humanities (SSH) is expected.  Main keywords: Behavioural studies



HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-13	Proposals submitted under this topic should address the following aspects:
Safety of Cyclists, Pedestrians and Users of	Provide an extensive analysis of the safety needs, as well as tailored
Micromobility Devices	safety measures for cyclists and each type of micromobility mode (e.g.
	shared e-scooters versus owned e-bikes), while taking into account the
	trip purpose (e.g. recreational ride versus delivery of goods), and the
<u>Link</u>	socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the users;
	Assess the actual and perceived safety risk of pedestrians and cyclists
	due to the emergence of micromobility modes that operate at higher
	speeds and that have increased in size and weight;
	Special focus should be paid to supporting the safety of user groups with
	particular vulnerability including people with disabilities (physical, mental,
	cognitive, developmental, intellectual, sensory, etc).
	This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and
	humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts and
	institutions, as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, to produce
	meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the
	related research activities, with a focus on human-technology interaction,
	responsiveness of safety solutions and how this varies across different
	population groups, and behavioural norms.
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	Main keywords: Behavioural studies

### Cluster 5 Call 02-2026

Deadline: 17 February 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3-01 Large-scale production of liquid advanced biofuels and renewable fuels of non-biological origin  Link	The plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results should include a strong investment and business case and sound exploitation strategy. The exploitation plan should include plans for scalability, commercialisation, and deployment. It is expected to provide information and assessment about the economic viability of the commercial plant, the permitting procedures, a full value chain-based business plan and identified funding sources such as private equity, loans, loans guarantee, grants, or public financing for CAPEX and OPEX, as well as take-off agreements for the fuel uptake.
	Main keywords: Business, Economics
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3-20 Innovative tools and services to manage and empower energy communities <u>Link</u>	Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes:  • Enhance the integration of energy communities in European energy grids and increase the renewable energy share and use of flexibility by providing transparent and efficient market-based cost sharing mechanisms;
	The project should identify the barriers for network operators (e.g. legal,



The developed solutions have to be tested within, at least, three energy communities from different European countries, preferably in regions with different socio-economic development contexts and different resource availabilities. Technical and social characteristics should be used in the project to validate the developed solutions' credibility.

In particular, this topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

#### Main keywords: Business, Economics, Sociology

#### HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3-22

Underground Thermal Energy Storage in dense urban areas

#### Link

Proposals should consider the integration in the existing energy grids and interaction with other urban uses of the subsurface (e.g., subways, underground utilities, buildings), including energy geostructures of buildings, tunnels, slabs, energy sheet pile walls, etc., with potential geothermal heating, cooling, and sinks or storage opportunities.

The consortium should assess the current regulatory context and provide recommendations linked to the proposed solutions for shaping future needs (e.g., regulatory, standardisation, permitting). In addition, appropriate local community engagement initiatives as well as expectations and experiences of underground thermal storage infrastructures (and to what extent it varies in dense urban areas) should be explored.

This topic requires citizens engagement and dialogue and the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities and ensure the translation of innovation into real-life outputs.

#### Main keywords: Urban planning, Law

#### HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4-02

Smarter buildings as part of the energy system for increased efficiency and flexibility –

Societal Readiness Pilot

#### Link

Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes:

 Improved responsiveness by the relevant stakeholders to the needs and concerns of users from a diversity of social groups, including vulnerable and disadvantaged ones, involved in or potentially affected by the smart buildings, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake and building trust in outcomes.

#### Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Ensure that the proposed solutions are user-friendly and provide the expected indoor environmental quality, as well as user satisfaction and occupant comfort
- Investigate the cost-effectiveness and replicability of the proposed solutions.

#### This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:

 Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2025 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening



	<ul> <li>consideration and responsiveness of research and innovation activities to societal needs and concerns.</li> <li>This topic requires effective contribution of the relevant SSH expertise, including the involvement of SSH experts in the consortium, to meaningfully support Societal Readiness. Specifically, SSH expertise is expected to facilitate the socio-technological interface and enable the design of project objectives with Societal Readiness related activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Economics</li> </ul>
HODIZON CLE 2024 02 D4 02	Duran and a superior of the state of the state of the state of
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4-03 Innovative pathways for low carbon and climate resilient building stock and built environment (Built4People Partnership)  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals are expected to address the following:</li> <li>Investigate the use of innovative tools and methods which facilitate the adaptation of the buildings stock to changing user needs, while positively contributing to occupants' comfort and health;</li> <li>Ensure the active involvement of all relevant public and private stakeholders of the whole renovation and construction value chain, which must include among others: municipalities, citizens (including vulnerable groups) and civil society organisations and the building and construction sector professions;</li> </ul>
	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise (including social innovation), in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Social innovation, Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4-04	Proposals are expected to address the following:
Innovative approaches for the deployment of Positive Energy Districts	<ul> <li>Develop supportive local planning frameworks for the design and realisation of PEDs;</li> </ul>
<u>Link</u>	<ul> <li>Ensure the active involvement of all relevant public and private stakeholders, including citizens, through co-creation processes and community engagement activities.</li> </ul>
	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise (including social innovation), in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Urban planning, Social innovation



Cluster 6

# Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment



### Cluster 6 Call 01-2025

Deadline: 17 September 2025

Dedamie: 17 September 2023	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-06 Assessing and modelling socio-economic impacts of nature restoration  Link	R&I activities are expected to:  conduct sector-specific assessments to measure the comprehensive economic and social (including employment) impacts and benefits of nature restoration, including their territorial and social distribution, encompassing both the financial effect of economic activities and the non-market benefits (including climate mitigation and adaptation, health and well-being benefits) derived from ecosystem services including provisioning, regulating and cultural services as well as nature's contribution to people;  employ a multidisciplinary approach combining at least expertise in economics, ecology, social sciences, geography, sustainability and environmental science as well as system and complexity science to capture the full range of impacts and benefits;  develop and validate modelling approaches, that can build on existing environmental and socio-economic models, to analyse the economic, social and employment impacts and benefits of nature restoration, including their territorial and social distribution, integrating also biodiversity, ecosystem services and nature's contribution to people good quality of life including food security;  enable understanding of the incremental progress in nature restoration between the 2030 and 2050 target years to guide public and private stakeholders in their continued actions through quantification of socio-economic benefits and impacts of individual measures;  improve the understanding of the possibilities and limitations of tools for socio-economic assessments of nature restoration, particularly with regard to the non-market benefits.  This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines, including economics, socio-economics, geography and sociology. It is essential to involve SSH experts and institutions, as well as incorporate relevant gender expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Human geography
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-07 Integrated and coordinated approaches for coral reefs and associated ecosystems (mangroves and seagrass beds) conservation, restoration, and climate mitigation and adaptation  Link	Proposals should support natural capital valuation for cost/benefit analysis of measures of conservation and restoration for coral reefs and associated ecosystems and the services and benefits they provide (food, cultural & social values, nature-based solutions for coastal resilience, protection against extreme events, climate adaptation, etc.) and how they affect fishing, shipping, local tourism or other programmes for sustainability, such as offshore wind.  This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts.
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology



#### HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-08

Strengthening pathways to alternative socio-economic models for continuous improvement of biodiversity

#### Link

Actions are expected to:

- analyse existing models: evaluate and prioritise existing alternative socio-economic models related to biodiversity protection and restoration, identifying best practices and assessing their impacts;
- analyse barriers;
- identify gaps and build capacity;
- advance valuation methods: Build on previous research, notably incentive mechanisms and natural capital valuation methods (both monetary and non-monetary), to make progress towards standardised, widely accepted indicators;
- develop and pilot strategies: using collaborative and participatory approaches, develop and pilot strategies, scenario methods, market and non-market measures, instruments, and approaches to scale-up the implementation of alternative socio-economic model.
- co-design pathways;
- investigate economic models: analyse how traditional economic models contribute to biodiversity loss, climate change and other socioeconomic challenges, as well as the interactions between these challenges. Identify pragmatic actions and strategies to address these issues, considering the root causes of unsustainable practises, power imbalances and justice concerns.

Proposals should involve contributions from the social sciences (including economics, sociology and educational science) and humanities (SSH) disciplines.

#### Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Education

#### HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-09

Understanding the perceptions of and improving communication on the biodiversity crisis and nature restoration benefits to sustain citizen engagement and democratic governance

#### <u>Link</u>

R&I activities are expected to:

- conduct comprehensive research to better understand civil society's
  plurality of perceptions and understanding of the biodiversity crisis, its
  underlying conflicts and links with climate change, identifying key
  concerns and perspectives. The analysis should identify and quantify
  the relevance of stakeholder groups and population segments (e.g.
  based on gender, age, disability, socio-economic status, ethnic and/or
  cultural origins, etc. and their intersections) sharing similar perceptions
  and interests;
- address various cases such as stakeholders depending on nature and ecosystems for their professional activities, rural communities living in both protected and not protected areas, urban communities having limited contacts with nature, etc.;
- analyse the perception of various stakeholders towards the EU commitment to protect and restore ecosystems;
- drawing on experiences of citizen engagement around the climate transition and biodiversity crisis – pilot citizen engagement (casestudies) around ecosystem protection and restoration possibly with nature-based solutions;
- develop approaches for each identified group to enhance the communication and dissemination of knowledge regarding the biodiversity crisis and its implications, including on climate. These strategies should aim to improve the groups' understanding of the benefits of nature restoration and empower them to make informed decisions.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines, including gender studies, and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as



	the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-10 Supporting the implementation of nature restoration measures for sustainable farming systems  Link	Proposals should:  • quantify the costs and benefits of restoration measures on farm productivity (referring to the ratio input/output) over short, medium, and long-term. Additionally, evaluate the impact of taking action versus non-action on the provision of ecosystem services, such as climate, water, soil health, pollination, nutrients, natural pest control, erosion prevention, etc., along with their associated economic impact at farm level;
	<ul> <li>develop and assess possible science-based targets for satisfactory levels of restoration for biodiversity in agricultural ecosystems;</li> <li>generate evidence to support and improve incentive schemes, including rewarding mechanisms for actions taken and results achieved in nature restoration/conservation on farmland, while considering synergies and trade-offs;</li> <li>assess and compare the potential of various farming approaches to contribute to ecosystem restoration. While considering all types and sizes of farming systems (conventional, organic, agroecological, etc.), prioritise those that are clearly defined to ensure compliance with legislation.</li> </ul>
	Proposals should adopt a transdisciplinary approach, engaging with relevant experts and stakeholders from farming, biodiversity and ecosystems, as well as from social sciences and humanities (SSH).
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-01 Novel circular business models to enable the just transition to a sustainable and circular economy	Proposals should develop and demonstrate at large scale innovative business models to facilitate product reliability/durability, reusability, reparability, refurbishment, repurpose and remanufacture, including the preparation stage, as well as product-as-a-service business models.
<u>Link</u>	Proposals should assess and quantify, including monetisation, when possible, the environmental, social and economic impacts of these novel business models on relevant stakeholders, i.e., consumers, social partners, private companies with a focus on SMEs, municipalities and regions
	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Business, Economics, Sociology, Social innovation
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-04 Development and testing of Extended Producer Responsibility schemes (EPR) within the priority Circular Economy Action Plan value chains	<ul> <li>R&amp;I activities in proposals should:</li> <li>develop, test and demonstrate operational solutions for large scale implementation of EPR schemes that consider the eco-modulation of EPR fees for one or more of the following product value chains: construction products, ICT products, furniture, mattresses, and carpets;</li> </ul>
<u>Link</u>	



	<ul> <li>develop and test novel circular business models and solutions linked to EPR schemes for the above-mentioned product value chains, supported by ecodesign requirements;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>assess the economic, environmental and social cost-benefits of the implementation of EPR schemes for the relevant stakeholders, especially for consumer and producers (with a focus on SMEs);</li> </ul>
	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines, namely economics and sociology, and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Business, Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-05 Consumption patterns and environmental awareness as enablers of transition to circular economy  Link	Proposals should address the gaps in public awareness about the environmental impacts of the mainstream consumption patterns and between prevalent consumer knowledge/awareness and actual behaviour. Proposals should make use of social innovation and should analyse and identify the economic, social, behavioural, psychological, technical and legal barriers and levers for the uptake of circular and sustainable products, solutions and services. The analysis should address relevant aspects of fairness, equality, diversity, inclusion, and gender.
	This topic also requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Economics, Demography, Social and Behavioural studies, Social innovation
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-07 Demonstration, deployment and upscaling of circular systemic solutions in cities and regions (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative)	Proposals are expected to implement and demonstrate circular systemic solutions for the deployment and upscaling of the circular economy in cities and regions. The main objective is to stimulate social innovation through new circular innovative technologies, novel governance and business models in order to contribute to climate mitigation and help reduce pressures on natural resources, whilst increasing Europe's competitiveness.
Link	Proposals should monitor and evaluate the implementation and the impacts of their circular systemic solutions through the project lifespan. This should include the identification, analysis, and when feasible, quantification of the economic, social and environmental benefits and other results. By doing so, proposals could take into consideration various social variables (e.g. gender, age, socio-economic status). In this case, proposals should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines.
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Social innovation
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-10 Support to the EU Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Initiative: scoping action  Link	The action will provide scientifically robust assessment of the social, economic and environmental benefits and risks of biotechnologies and biomanufacturing and deliver recommendations in form of a consolidated EU vision and research and innovation agenda, on future trends and main innovation avenues.
	This topic should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines.



	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01- ZEROPOLLUTION-01 Innovative and advanced monitoring and modelling systems for revised air quality policies  Link	Topic with minor SSH dimension
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01- ZEROPOLLUTION-03 Environmental biotechnology applications in service of remediation of polluted ecosystems  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should:</li> <li>identify and assess the economic, social and safety risks and benefits of the remediation activities in the selected case-studies, in particular in terms of circular economy and of the reduction of the risks for human health resulting from exposure to the contaminants (e.g., vulnerable populations, integrating the gender dimension).</li> <li>include a task in the project to deliver the overall environmental, economic, social and safety risk assessment for the developed integrated bio-based and nature-based solutions.</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines, including citizen social science approach and gender studies, especially for the risk assessment on human health.</li> <li>Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Gender studies, Citizen Social Science</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01- ZEROPOLLUTION-06 Provide digital solutions tailored to small and medium-sized farms to monitor and sustainably manage agricultural inputs and natural resources  Link	Proposals should:  critically analyse the potential and limitations of R&I results from relevant past and ongoing projects, and the requirements of further development to meet farmers' needs (including cost-benefit analysis),  identify barriers and enablers for translation of R&I results into practical and commercial tools for small- and medium-sized farmers, and for the uptake by these end-users, as well as characterise remaining knowledge, training and/or advice gaps, and needs for policy feedback;  provide innovations based on digital and data-based solutions (e.g. loT, remote sensing, sensors, (generative) artificial intelligence, data visualization techniques) and tailored to the needs of small- and medium-sized farmers, carefully considering the specific barriers and enablers for adoption in each context (e.g. skills of end users, access to and understanding of digital tools, availability of local data, investment need, connectivity, gender role perceptions and expectations, diverse pedo-climatic and socio-economic conditions across the EU and Associated Countries, etc.) and proposing how to overcome these difficulties and foster the enablers.  This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines, especially in the field of behavioural sciences and adoption of technologies.  Main keywords: Behavioural sciences, Economics



### Cluster 6 Call 02-2025

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Deddille. 10 September 2025	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03	Proposals should:
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03 Overcoming the barriers for scaling up circular water management in agriculture  Link	<ul> <li>test different strategies and technologies for irrigation or for other agricultural purposes (including drinking water for livestock), using alternative water sources (considering the most feasible sources according to the specific conditions of availability, climate, soil, socioeconomics, environment) in the long-term in real-life contexts across the EU and Associated Countries (where relevant) at a larger scale beyond small experimental sites, covering the whole water cycle in agriculture;</li> <li>identify and test different business models regarding financial viability and long-term economic sustainability (including cost-benefit analysis or agro-economic modelling) for the adoption of alternative water sources, considering different scenarios, pedo-climatic conditions and socio-economic contexts;</li> <li>identify societal, behavioural and regulatory challenges still hampering upscaling of alternative water sources' uptake for irrigation and development of suitable solutions to increase the uptake in practice;</li> <li>develop, test and make recommendations for improved and targeted incentives and policies at regional, national and European level to reduce financial, social and economic barriers for adoption and acceptance of circular water management in agriculture by farmers and consumers.</li> </ul>
	This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines, especially in the field of societal and behavioural sciences, and of adoption and acceptance processes.  Main keywords: Economics, Business, Law, Sociology, Psychology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05	Proposals should:
Developing innovative phytosanitary measures for plant health - focus on systems approach for pest risk management  Link	<ul> <li>develop innovative climate and environmental-friendly measures for a highly efficacious pest risk management to be implemented across the value chain to meet the phytosanitary requirements in a variety of socio-economic contexts;</li> <li>evaluate risk reduction, cost-effectiveness, scalability, and sustainability, of each proposed innovative measures;</li> <li>design and validate protocols targeting systems approaches, considering the whole value chain;</li> <li>assess the combined effect of all measures and their interactions across the value chain, including cost-effectiveness, scalability, and overall sustainability (economic, social and environmental aspects);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>support capacity building and training of the actors within the value chain, enabling the large-scale adoption of safe, innovative, costeffective measures.</li> <li>Proposals must implement the 'multi-actor approach' including a range of actors to ensure that knowledge and needs from various sectors such as research, plant health services, farming/forestry sectors, advisory services,</li> </ul>



	and other relevant actors of the value chain are brought together. This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines.
	Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Business
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-06 Improving grassland management in European livestock farming systems Link	Proposals should address all the following activities and should cover various farming systems/approaches, one of which should be organic farming:  • develop and operationalise methodologies to measure, monitor, benchmark and assess the performance of grassland farming systems in different contexts in terms of the delivery of ecosystem services, biodiversity restoration, reducing emissions of greenhouse gas (GHG) and air pollutants, and social aspects such as profitability for farmers and co-benefits for other stakeholders. This should include analysis of synergies and trade-offs between the above elements in the short- to medium- and long-terms.  • develop new knowledge, innovative solutions/practices, and manageable strategies for creating, maintaining and restoring grasslands systems that are productive, cost-effective, sustainable, environmentally sound, and resilient to a changing climate. These strategies should include assessment of innovations in the social, environmental and economic domains, such as market uptake by value chain actors and consumers through, for instance, standards and labelling;  • develop farm- and landscape level decision tools and strategies to support farmers in managing grasslands sustainably, to improve forage productivity and quality and livestock production, and the delivery of other ecosystem services, based on documented cases or in-situ demonstrators;  • perform economic cost-benefit analysis of applying the R&I solutions developed during the project and explore the potential of financing or incentive tools specific to the sustainable management of grassland farming systems, including lower-polluting and lower-GHG-emitting grazing livestock systems, and where relevant, restoration of degraded grasslands habitats.  In order to enhance the societal and long-term impact of the activities beyond the life cycle of the project, proposals should apply social
	innovation and citizen engagement and include a strong involvement of citizens/civil society, together with academia/research, industry/SMEs/start-ups and government/public authorities.  This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines.  Main keywords: Economics, Social innovation, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-10 Diversifying aquaculture production with emphasis on low-trophic species  Link	Aspects of sustainability, including circularity and zero waste, in particular in relation to the achievement of good environmental status, should also be addressed following a life cycle approach and potentially applying Environmental Footprint methods as described in Recommendation (EU) 2021/2279. Issues of fair pricing as well as regional particularities should also be addressed. Research could include aspects of feeding, breeding but also health and welfare issues as well as economic issues and issues of consumers' acceptance. Regulatory aspects and legal barriers regarding the approval of novel feed ingredients or the licencing of new aquaculture farms should also be considered.



	This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines
	Main keywords: Economics, Law, Political Science
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-12 Nutrition and Mental Health Link	The proposals should address the following activities:  establish the specific food groups, beverages, macro and micronutrients needed in a daily diet (from food sources or to be integrated to the daily diet) to prevent the development of mental health disorders in Europe and explore the need to characterise and supplement a healthy diet with specific macro and micronutrients in children, adults, and older population affected by specific diseases related to mental health disorders through interviews and literature review;  establish, through a mapping of the most recent research and innovation projects, the 3-axis 'diet-gut microbiome-host-health' interplay to elucidate some molecular mechanisms and the causal relationship between changes in the gut microbiome and some mental health disorders (including the establishment of possible relevant biomarkers as necessary);  provide recommendations and develop specific communication materials for prevention campaigns, in line with international and national health and dietary advice and related policies, for national authorities and for nutritional professionals, to communicate the link between healthy diets and mental health, as well as the need to supplement a healthy diet with macro- and micronutrients and/or adapt dietary patterns to prevent mental health disorders to patients; provide recommendations on how established deficiencies or excess intake of macro and micronutrients could be addressed, in line with international and national health and dietary advice and related policies, including means to increase or decrease nutrients in the diet, in particular in vulnerable groups.
	Main keywords: Psychology, Sociology, Law, Communication
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-13 Raising citizen awareness on alternative proteins derived from biotechnology  Link	<ul> <li>The proposal should address the following activities:</li> <li>establish a collaborative science-based information programme to enable citizens understanding of the dietary shift towards alternative proteins produced from biotechnology by launching a survey on citizens consumption patterns and dietary choices;</li> <li>improve the transfer of scientific knowledge at different levels (different actors and different territorial/geographical areas and socio-economic groups) with a collection of data on the perception, behaviours and understanding of citizens of alternative protein sources derived from different biotechnological applications;</li> <li>produce technical and dissemination material based on scientific evidence and knowledge, encompassing the technical and hygienic processing conditions for the production of alternative proteins through biotechnology and eventual consumption;</li> <li>provide recommendations for updating and improving educational curricula in schools and in other educational institutes as appropriate and in accordance with any applicable national, regional and local</li> </ul>



	include the use of diverse communication media (e.g., social media, radio, TV, newspapers) to effectively disseminate information and engage with a broad audience.
	The proposal should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines.
	Main keywords: Psychology, Education, Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-17 Nutrition in emergency situations - Ready- to-use Supplementary Food (RUSF) and Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) <u>Link</u>	Proposals should foresee a space for mentoring and accelerating innovative business concepts, including social innovation and upscaling in view of African or European food business entrepreneurs and start-ups with special consideration of women and the diaspora using cascading funding opportunities.
	Main keywords: Business, Social innovation, Sociology, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-01 The ocean-climate-biodiversity nexus and marine carbon dioxide removal (mCDR)  Link	Actions should aim at developing innovative approaches to address only one of the following options:  Option A: Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement (OAE): biogeochemical and physiological responses and impacts on marine ecosystems  The project is expected to:  • elucidate many unknowns that remain about the efficacy, effectiveness, feasibility, covering both technological readiness and lead time until full potential effectiveness, effectiveness to increase net carbon uptake, effectiveness to reduce ocean warming, ocean acidification, scalability, duration of effects, termination effects, Energy Return on Energy Invested (EROEI), environmental and ecological risk (intended, unintended, undesirable consequences at scale), co-benefits, disbenefits, risks, cost effectiveness, externalities, trade-offs, and competing interests,  • cover the desirability, ethical considerations, social and political considerations and governability from an international perspective, conducting comprehensive and responsible research to inform decision making under climate inertia about OAE and its potential application;  The research carried out should also include SSH perspectives and gender, and the research on desirability, benefits and disbenefits should also be done in relation to desirability for whom, benefits and disbenefits for whom, adding a comprehensive justice perspective on the call, including intergenerational aspects.  Main keywords: Economics, Social and Behavioural studies, Gender
	studies, Ethics
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-02 The ocean-climate-biodiversity-people nexus: uncovering safe operating space for safeguarding the integrity and health of the global ocean	Actions should aim at developing innovative approaches to address only one of the following options:  C. Ocean integrity and health: Ocean Acidification (OA), Planetary Boundaries and SDG14.3.1  The project is expected to:
<u>Link</u>	<ul> <li>improve our understanding of trends, variability, drivers, and impacts (ecological, ecosystem services and human) of ocean acidification, in a context of multiple ocean stressors;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>better incorporate complex interactions between natural systems (e.g., climate-ocean coupling, shifting food webs), social systems (e.g., anthropogenic activities, marine pollution, overfishing), and their social, economic, and ecological impacts;</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>use models, forecasts, and predictions as tools to facilitate management strategies and design decision-support tools for prioritising the development of climate adaptation strategies, develop innovative tools to monitor and mitigate changing ocean chemistry locally, explore the potential opportunities and risks associated with the research findings, aligned with policy governance, including the different spatial-temporal scales that are ecologically and socio-economically relevant and politically applicable, propose actionable innovative solutions and policy recommendations.</li> <li>The research carried out should also include SSH perspectives and gender, and the research on desirability, benefits and disbenefits should also be done in relation to desirability for whom, benefits and disbenefits for whom, adding a comprehensive justice perspective on the call, including intergenerational.</li> <li>Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Gender studies</li> </ul>
	,
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-03 Understanding and managing medium and longer-term challenges and opportunities for agriculture stemming from shifting climatic zones and changing agroecological environments	Topic with minor SSH dimension
Link	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-01 Adapting to and mitigating demographic trends in rural areas through evidence-based planning and innovative solutions  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should address the following:</li> <li>advance the understanding of the causes and social (including but not limiting to gender and intersectional differentiations), economic and environmental impacts (including but not limiting to consequences related to land abandonment or land use changes also considering the green transition) of demographic trends;</li> <li>focus on how to support rural communities through evidence-based strategies that includes planning, monitoring of fluctuations, and propose appropriate actions to respond to population changes;</li> <li>find innovative solutions to mitigate and adapt to a changing population in rural areas. Particular attention should be paid to rural areas that are highly exposed to climate change effects.</li> <li>This topic must involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies.</li> <li>Main keywords: Demography, Economics, Gender studies</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-	Proposals should address the following:
02 Exploring and improving access to housing in rural areas and developing the houses and villages of the future  Link	<ul> <li>analyse the real estate and rental markets (including short-term and long-term rentals) in rural areas and evaluate housing quality and housing poverty; the analysis should include an evaluation of the demand and supply side and an identification of the stakeholders;</li> <li>contribute to increase data availability, making use also of digital technologies, in relation to type of settlement structures and buildings and include and in-depth analysis of the abandoned or in state of collapse units, showcasing best practise to recover and reuse buildings when socially, economically and environmentally sustainable;</li> </ul>



- increase the understanding of the access to affordable, quality housing and social housing in rural areas considering also financial aspects such as access to finance and price affordability, as well as social aspects such as gender, age, ethnicity, or disability;
- provide recommendations to policy makers on how to regulate the real estate and rental markets and to promote sustainable, nearly-zero emitting housing renovation or construction where needed to benefit rural communities, including people in a vulnerable situation, and ensure affordable and accessible housing;
- run participatory processes involving rural stakeholders to design sustainable houses and villages of the future, paying particular attention to affordability and replicability of innovative solutions (including intergenerational, multiuse, and reuse approaches) as well as to the adaptation to and mitigation of climate change. Solutions should include innovations in terms of improved renovations, insulation, energy and water efficiency and use and reuse of local materials, circularity of materials, as well as of reducing pollution (including air pollution) and soil sealing in rural areas.

This topic must involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies.

Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Human geography, Gender studies

### HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-

Innovative solutions for resilient and climateadapted coastal communities in the Atlantic

Link

Proposals should address the following:

- engage with Atlantic coastal communities to understand their unique challenges, concerns, current strategies for adaptation to climate change, and traditional environmental knowledge, and to gather valuable insights into the specific needs and priorities of these communities in the context of coastal resilience;
- work towards enhancing coastal resilience in the Atlantic by building and testing a comprehensive toolbox of scientific outputs and traditional knowledge addressing the community needs for increased coastal resilience, building on the work undertaken by OKEANO project;
- to improve the production, access, and use of the knowledge responding to local community needs, and to support and complement the activities of the living labs, proposals should develop an interface enabling communities to choose a tailor-made mix of coastal resilience solutions uniquely responding to their needs, in a way that increases societal buy-in and acceptance of the solutions while avoiding maladaptation risks;
- the toolbox and interface should be tested and piloted in living labs based on a systematic user co-creation approach in real life communities and settings;
- to empower local coastal communities to make evidence-based decisions in response to environmental change within their territories, proposals should promote innovation and enhance human capacity through the establishment of learning spaces, knowledge exchange, training, participatory process of visioning and skills development, based on the contents of the toolbox. Attention should be given to securing the long-term sustainability of these activities.

They should also integrate SSH disciplines, including gender studies and citizen social science where relevant.



Creating urban co-creation spaces for driving sustainable food system transformation  Link  Link		Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Citizen Social Science, Gender studies
Humanities (SSH) disciplines.  Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies	O4 Creating urban co-creation spaces for driving sustainable food system transformation	<ul> <li>create innovative hands-on living labs and co-creation spaces that actively engage all parts of society to enhance skills and capacity building toward healthy, affordable and environment- and climate-friendly diets; and apply randomized controlled trials, for different age groups (especially young people and the elderly), socio-economic groups and their different needs;</li> <li>promote and establish sustainable / regenerative community gardens and indoor and open field small-scale urban agriculture for skills building and network creation and share best practices from other areas/cities not covered by the proposals;</li> <li>enhance participation of vulnerable groups, such as young people (including those not in education or employment), elderly people, migrants, homelessness people, ethnic minorities, pregnant women, and persons with disabilities, in living labs and community gardens to strengthen inclusion as well as intercultural and intergenerational cohesion;</li> <li>enhance attractiveness of safe, healthy, environment-friendly food, for instance by making use of social media and partnering up with different actors (e.g., chefs, nutritionists and dieticians, food scientists and technologists, food industry, start-ups R&amp;D, social/solidarity economy actors, etc.);</li> <li>involve local and regional governance mechanisms to enable structural change, for instance by developing and implementing effective participatory and inclusive processes which enable and stimulate an extensive dialogue on food system transformation and involve diverse stakeholders (e.g., citizens, farmers, consumers, civil society organizations, research institutions, businesses, and public authorities at the local or regional levels);</li> <li>This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines.</li> </ul>



### Cluster 6 Call 03-2025

Deadline: 24 September 2025

Deadille. 24 September 2023			
Topic	SSH aspects		
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-01 Improving analytical capacity and understanding of the bargaining power and interactions of farmers with the operators of the value chains  Link	Proposals should:  • provide an analytical framework and tools capturing the complexity and heterogeneity of EU value chain structures;  • the framework should include a consolidated conceptualisation such that it can be adapted to represent the diversity of cases within and between sectors;  • apply the developed analytical framework and tools to empirically model production costs, price formation, price transmission, risk, cost and economic value distributions, and profit margins along selected value chains, and to characterise sources of market failures and occurrence of unfair trading practices. Proposals should consider different economic contexts (e.g., high/low prices, different patterns of price volatilities, etc.);  • develop and/or improve adequate indicators and collect the necessary data to improve the assessment of farmers bargaining power with upstream and downstream operators of value chains in analytical tools and models;  • explore, characterise, and analyse the interactions between value chain operators and the characteristics of value chains affecting farmers' bargaining and decision-making power, in particular on the type of farm business and structural changes (e.g., farm size, legal form, etc.).  • explore existing and/or propose new policy and business solutions and tools to reinforce farmers bargaining power in value chains. Identify good practices (governance, awareness raising, etc.) for their successful implementation and uptake  This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines.  Main keywords: Economics, Business		
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE- 02 Upscaling innovative payments to support farmers in the delivery of agri-environment- climate public goods  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should:</li> <li>develop and/or improve, test, pilot and evaluate payment for environmental services schemes with result-based and/or collective and/or spatially coordinated approaches in real-life conditions considering a diversity of farming contexts;</li> <li>put a special focus on mobilising private funding (e.g., value chain approaches, market-based instruments, crowdfunding, bottom-up approaches, etc.) and assessing the social and economic implications of the schemes with the perspective of long-term implementation and financial viability under different scenarios and socio-economic contexts;</li> <li>based on an analysis of the role of agriculture and food value chains in supporting and valorising farmers' provision of environmental services, develop and/or improve approaches supporting a just and fair remuneration of farmers for these services;</li> </ul>		



- develop and/or improve and apply robust and cost-effective monitoring of the environmental services provided by farmers;
  - identify barriers and enablers for the implementation and upscaling
    of payment for environmental services schemes with result-based
    and/or collective and/or spatially coordinated approaches and
    propose effective solutions to address them;
  - support capacity building, training, reskilling, and education, in particular on the technical, financial, legal and administrative implications of contractual arrangements, enabling farmers and other involved practitioners, including the private sector, to implement the proposed solutions.

This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines.

#### Main keywords: Economics, Business, Social innovation

### HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-03

Boosting the attractiveness of agriculture and the connection between the farming community and society

#### Link

Proposals should:

- improve understanding of the socio-economic and other factors and conditions influencing attractiveness of farming as an economic activity and profession, and how farmers see and project themselves in the future of farming;
- examine the factors that influence the decision to become or to leave the profession of farm worker or farm owner in diverse regions across Europe, incorporating storytelling and narrative techniques;
- explore and analyse how farmers' interactions vary within the farming community and with the broad society based on different factors (e.g. historical, sectorial, territorial, farm size, age, education, gender, etc) and how those factors influence their social and economic roles;
- explore and assess the perception of and communication on farming across society at large according to different societal actors (individuals or groups that play a significant role in shaping and influencing societal norms, values, and institutions) and economic actors (individuals, businesses, or organizations that participate in economic activities, such as production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services) across the EU with different perspectives (e.g. historical, sectorial, territorial, size, age, education, gender, etc); map existing agricultural education and training programmes across Europe and provide recommendations, based on the evidence collected, on how they can be designed to appeal to a diverse range of individuals;
- improve societal perception of farming through the mobilisation of and cooperation between cultural and creative industries (CCls);
- map, assess, promote existing and propose new solutions, good practices, initiatives, approaches, that aim at improving the attractiveness of farming sector and the connection between the farming community and society, and widely disseminate to policymakers, farmers, businesses and other relevant actors.

Proposals should support collaborative and interdisciplinary work. Thus, proposals should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines, such as sociology, geography, demography, communication, behavioural science, anthropology or education. Proposals may involve digital media, traditional media, arts, marketing, cultural disciplines (and beyond) to contribute to improving attractiveness of the farming sector. Participatory foresight methods are encouraged.



	Main keywords: Sociology, Human geography, Behavioural studies, Demography, Communication, Anthropology, History, Education, Arts, Cultural and Creative Industries
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE- 04 Operationalisation of bioeconomy sustainability principles Link	<ul> <li>Successful proposals are expected to:         <ul> <li>develop or improve the sustainability assessment of bio-based and food value chains, both from land and aquatic systems and their related value webs to increase transparency for businesses and consumers, enabling better informed choices;</li> <li>analyse the performance of bioeconomy innovation ecosystems with regard to social, economic, and environmental sustainability, and demonstrate their long-term feasibility (e.g. with regard to infrastructure, climate adaptation, biodiversity and ecosystem protection and restoration);</li> <li>identify and address challenges for the EU, Member States and regions (e.g. public authorities) to deploy sustainability principles and providing policy recommendations to overcome them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines, including gender studies.</li> <li>Main keywords: Sociology, Behavioural studies, Economics, Gender studies, Social innovation</li> </ul>
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE- 08 Effective environmental observing systems and associated governance Link	Proposed activities should identify technical, as well as socio-economic, cultural, geo-political, or other barriers on usability, accessibility (including at international level), effectivity, interoperability and exploitation of environmental observing systems, and propose and support the implementation of innovative, efficient and pragmatic solutions to overcome them. Towards this end, the inclusion of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines is encouraged.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE- 11 Enhancing sustainability and resilience of agriculture, forestry and rural development through digital twins  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should:</li> <li>develop a public web-based platform allowing users to visit the 3D model of the village twins remotely, including through the use of immersive technologies (e.g. Virtual Reality). By integrating various technologies, the platform should allow the user to access information on selected elements of the cultural, historical and/or natural heritage of the village for promotional purposes while establishing a mechanism for residents to provide feedback on existing and proposed initiatives of village development;</li> <li>assess the potential of the investigated digital technologies in promoting forms of collaborative, open and citizen-centric governance;</li> <li>measure and assess the costs and benefits of the implementation of digital twins in the rural areas and sectors of application, including enablers and barriers to their uptake and acceptance by the target groups, adequacy and availability of existing public/private funding opportunities, incentives, and new business models supporting their</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>development beyond project duration;</li> <li>provide research, business and policy recommendations supporting the successful deployment of the developed digital twins in rural areas and relevant key sectors;</li> </ul>



 support training and capacity building for local administrations and rural actors in order to share best practices, develop skills, create and maintain a rural innovation ecosystem enabling them to benefit from the innovations developed for the digital transition in rural areas.

Proposals must integrate the gender dimension in the implementation of the activities (e.g. to address gender-specific needs affecting design and testing of the developed technologies, when investigating benefits and limitations, gathering and analysing disaggregated data, in the development of training and communication material as well as research and policy recommendations).

This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines. By integrating relevant SSH expertise (e.g. gender expertise), the successful proposal aims to produce meaningful results that enhance the societal impact of related research activities, while delivering locally-based solutions, engaging residents, rural actors and leading to behavioural changes.

#### Main keywords: Gender studies, Social and Behavioural studies

### HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-

14

Preparing farmers, their workforce and advisors to the future of agriculture by providing the relevant knowledge, skills and competences at the right time and place

Link

#### Proposals should:

- develop, improve and apply methodology to assess and foresee what knowledge, skills and competences farmers, their workforce and advisors currently have and need/will need in the future to improve competitiveness, sustainability and resilience of agriculture in light of the evolving context. This should enable the identification of potential gaps and opportunities for upskilling and reskilling, new LLL activities and methods, and serve as a baseline for future assessments of the actions aimed at enhancing the knowledge, skills and competences.
- map, assess and explore how farmers, their workforce and advisors are and should acquire knowledge, skills and competences (e.g., methods and tools, timing, frequency and place, incentives, etc.), as well as who is and who should be providing them in order for LLL to be practice-oriented, attractive, effective, timely and up-to-date; take into account also how the 27 Member States designed their CAP interventions related to LLL.
- investigate how to widely and effectively disseminate new practiceoriented knowledge and innovations, resulting from e.g. diverse research and innovation projects, among farmers, their workforce and advisors; in particular analyse what approaches/tools, communication materials and channels are preferred, trusted and used by farmers, their workforce and advisors; based on the analysis provide toolbox and guidelines;
- map, assess and compare agricultural LLL, including education and training systems, across the EU and beyond, explore and assess best practices on how to embed the knowledge collected within the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) structures to provide valuable input for LLL, including education and training systems, and provide recommendations for improving LLL, including educational and training systems, in view of making them more effective in supporting the transition to competitive, sustainable and resilient agriculture;
- co-create, pilot, test, and share new, interactive, effective approaches and tools (e.g., exploring the potential of generative Al and social innovation), to stimulate LLL, increase knowledge flows within AKIS and enable farmers, their workforce and advisors to quick, easy and



affordable access to impartial and relevant knowledge, skills and competences supporting their decision-making;
This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines.
Main keywords: Education



### Cluster 6 Call 01-2025 - Two stage

Deadline: 04 September 2025 (1st stage), 18 February 2026 (2nd stage)

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Topic	SSH aspects	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-01-two-stage Living labs co-creating innovative solutions for forests and freshwater ecosystems restoration  Link	Proposals should:  set up at least three living labs to work together on ecosystem restoration, covering forests and freshwater ecosystems;  establish a detailed work plan of the activities to be undertaken in a transdisciplinary way, ensuring the co-design, co-development, and co-implementation of locally adapted innovative solutions;  conduct participatory and transdisciplinary research and innovation in living labs with the objective of finding practical solutions to ecosystem restoration, while considering relevant drivers of biodiversity loss, in particular climate change and invasive alien species, and related pressures. Proposed strategies and solutions should be adapted to the different environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts in which the living labs are operating and should consider the cultural and natural heritage. Action oriented and collaborative approach combining local expertise in economics, ecology and locally created sustainable innovations to capture the full range of knowledge in addition to scientific knowledge should be sought. Gender dimension should be integrated;  monitor and carry out an assessment of the innovative practices for ecosystem restoration and their effectiveness, including the conditions for non-deterioration. This should include a demonstration of the economic viability of the proposed innovative solutions for the endusers and appropriate business models and actions possibly involving local authorities, business communities, SMEs, investors, entrepreneurs should be developed, including with co-funding schemes;  Main keywords: Economics, Business, Social innovation	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01- ZEROPOLLUTION-01-two-stage Substances of concern and emerging pollutants from bio-based industries and products: mapping and replacement  Link	<ul> <li>The proposals should:</li> <li>Evaluate the exposure of targeted end users to the substances, including integrating the gender dimension (sex and gender analysis) and vulnerable groups;</li> <li>include a task for the project to perform a full risk assessment of the substances emitted from the selected bio-based materials and products, also assessing the impacts on affected ecosystems and the risk for biodiversity loss;</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines, including citizen social science and gender studies, especially in the task on risk assessment.</li> <li>Main keywords: Citizen Social Science, Gender studies</li> </ul>	



### Cluster 6 Call 02-2025 - Two stage

Deadline: 04 September 2025 (1st stage), 18 February 2026 (2nd stage)

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Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-04-two-stage Research and innovation for food waste prevention and reduction at household level through measurement, monitoring and new technologies  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should contribute to the following aspects:</li> <li>develop and validate new tools and methods, and/or further test existing methods (including those developed by previous EU-funded projects), to measure and estimate food waste at household level,</li> <li>these new tools and methods should be applied across a large enough sample of diverse type of products and target groups (in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status, ethnic and/or cultural origins, etc.),</li> <li>in addition to measurement, the direct and indirect drivers and root causes of food waste at household level should be thoroughly investigated. Particular attention should be paid to the identification of consumer behaviours (food consumption and disposal patterns) and other factors that influence food waste at household level, to assess the potential for a reduction strategy based on change in consumer behaviours.</li> </ul>
	This topic should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines.  Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-01-two- stage Strengthening the resilience of water systems and water sector to climate and global socio-economic change impacts	Appropriate climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and tools, such as, tools for resilient urban and rural planning to manage runoff, reduce flood risk and ensure the safety of citizens and water infrastructures, should then be developed to strengthen the resilience of the water sector.
<u>Link</u>	The economic foundation of the current water management systems, including water pricing and trade policies, in the context of changing climate should be reviewed to provide elements for a new economic framework helping to better structure the cost of building/operating/monitoring the water infrastructures, increase demand for innovative solutions and strengthen private investments for large scale deployment of these solutions in the water sector.
	Due to the strong socio-economic dimension of water management, the integration of SSH, including gender studies, and Citizen Social Science approach expertise are also needed to ensure the proposed climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies are socially accepted and no one is left behind.
	Main keywords: Urban and rural planning, Economics, Gender studies, Citizen Social science



**Excellent science** 

## **European Research Council**



### **European Research Council (ERC)**

The ERC's frontier research grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities.

The fundamental activity of the ERC, via its main frontier research grants is to provide attractive, long-term funding to support excellent investigators and their research teams to pursue ground-breaking and ambitious research.

Research funded by the ERC is expected to lead to advances at the frontiers of knowledge and to set a clear and inspirational target for frontier research across Europe.

The ERC puts particular emphasis on the frontiers of science, scholarship, and engineering. It welcomes proposals of an interdisciplinary nature, which cross the boundaries between different fields of research, pioneering proposals addressing new and emerging fields of research, or proposals introducing unconventional, innovative approaches and scientific inventions. ERC funding may also enable new ways of working in the scientific world, with the potential to create breakthrough results and facilitate commercial and social innovation potential of funded research.

#### Indicative summary of calls from the 2025 budget

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2025-StG	ERC-2025-CoG	ERC-2025-AdG	ERC-2025-SyG
Call deadline	15/10/2024 CLOSED	14/01/2025 CLOSED	28/08/2025	06/11/2024 CLOSED

### **ERC - Advanced Grants**

Deadline: 28 August 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
ERC-2025-ADG	ERC Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal
ERC - Advanced Grant	Investigators at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognised track record of
<u>Link</u>	research achievements. Principal Investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their research proposal.
	Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities



## Excellent science MSCA - Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Actions



#### Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

The MSCA are **open to all domains of research and innovation**, chosen freely by the applicants in a fully bottom-up manner, addressed under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. All MSCA will complement top-down collaborative research activities, notably contributing to the EU Missions.

#### The different MSCA in a nutshell

The MSCA Doctoral Networks aim to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit. The MSCA Doctoral Networks will raise the attractiveness and excellence of doctoral training in Europe. They will equip researchers with the right combination of research-related and transferable competences and provide them with enhanced career perspectives in both the academic and non-academic sectors through international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility combined with an innovation-oriented mind-set.

The goal of **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships** is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD, wishing to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to excellent researchers of any nationality, including researchers wishing to reintegrate in Europe, researchers who are displaced by conflict as well as researchers with high potential aiming for a career restart in research. The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the non-academic sector.

**MSCA Staff Exchanges** promote innovative international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff and sharing knowledge and ideas at all stages of the innovation chain. The scheme fosters a shared culture of research and innovation that welcomes and rewards creativity and entrepreneurship and helps turn ideas into innovative products, services or processes. It is open to research, technical, administrative and managerial staff.

**MSCA COFUND** co-finances new or existing doctoral programmes and postdoctoral fellowship schemes at national, regional or international level with the aim to spread the best practices of the MSCA including international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary research training, as well as international and cross-sectoral mobility of researchers at all stages of their career.

**MSCA and Citizens**, through the European Researchers' Night, aims to bring research and researchers closer to the public at large, to increase awareness of research and innovation activities and to boost public recognition of science and research education. It will also show the role of the researcher for the society and economy, as well as the impact of researchers' work on citizens' daily lives, and aim at raising young people's interest for research and scientific careers.



#### Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025

Deadline: 25 November 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01 MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025 Link	MSCA Doctoral Networks will implement doctoral programmes, by partnerships of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond. MSCA Doctoral Networks are indeed open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

### **Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025**

Deadline: 10 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF-01-01 MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 Link	Fellowships will be provided to excellent researchers undertaking international mobility. Applications will be made jointly by the researcher and a beneficiary in the academic or non-academic sector.  Postdoctoral Fellowships either can take place in Europe (i.e. in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country) or in a Third Country not associated to Horizon Europe.
	Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

#### **Call - MSCA Staff Exchanges 2025**

Deadline: 08 October 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-SE-01-01 MSCA Staff Exchanges 2025 Link	MSCA Staff Exchanges involve organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors (including SMEs) from across the globe.  Support is provided for international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility of R&I staff leading to knowledge transfer between participating organisations.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities



## Call - MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes 2025

Deadline: 24 June 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-COFUND-01-01 MSCA COFUND 2025 Link	Applicants submit proposals for new or existing doctoral or postdoctoral programmes with an impact on the enhancement of human resources in R&I at regional, national or international level. Proposed programmes can cover any research disciplines ("bottom-up"), but exceptionally can also focus on specific disciplines, notably when they are based on national or regional Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3 strategies).  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

#### **Call - MSCA and Citizens 2025**

Deadline: 22 October 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-CITIZENS-01-01	Proposals should cover both the organisation of the European
European Researchers' Night and	Researchers' Night and the implementation of the Researchers at
Researchers at Schools 2026-2027	Schools initiative
Link	The European Researchers' Night targets the general public, addressing and attracting people regardless of the level of their scientific background, with a special focus on young people and their families, pupils and students, and notably those who do not have easy access to, and thus are less inclined to engage in STEAM fields (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) or research activities. The Researchers at Schools initiative brings school classes to research facilities and researchers to schools or other pedagogical and educational centres. This allows researchers to interact with pupils on societal challenges and on the key role of research to address them. Pupils will thus also learn directly about research projects and initiatives
	related to EU main priorities.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities



### Call - MSCA4Ukraine Fellowships 2025

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-MSCA4UA-01- 01 MSCA4Ukraine Fellowships 2025	The objective of the grant is to provide support in the form of fellowships to displaced researchers from Ukraine to continue or resume their research activities at host organisations established in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries.
	Support to individual researchers should be open to all domains of research and innovation and aligned with the general objectives and principles of the MSCA, including scientific excellence, skills and career development, inter-sectoral mobility, equal opportunities and inclusiveness, attractive working conditions, work/life balance, while fostering open science, innovation and entrepreneurship.
	Support will include training activities that should respond to well-identified needs in various research and innovation areas, with appropriate references to inter- and multidisciplinary fields. They should be primarily focused on developing new scientific knowledge through original research on personalised projects. Complementary training should also be provided to develop key transferable skills and competences common to all fields, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and promote and (where appropriate) reward Open Science practices.
	Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities



Innovative Europe

## **European Innovation Ecosystems**



### Call - Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2026.1)

Deadline: 20 January 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-EIE-2026-01-CONNECT-02 Expanding Investment Ecosystems  Link	The action supports co-designed programmes of activities, of at least two (2) years, proposed by business acceleration service providers and/or investor networks and clubs, and/or innovation hubs located in less developed innovation ecosystems ('emerging' and 'moderate') and more developed ones ('strong innovators' and innovation leaders'), to facilitate the entry of foreign funders from 'strong innovators' and innovation leaders' regions to less developed innovation ecosystems through activities, including at least five of the examples below:  • market orientation/introduction programmes for foreign investors, including establishment of central points of information for foreign investors providing them with knowledge on the ecosystem's establishment conditions, incentives, tax and local legislation;  • market orientation/introduction programmes of developed markets for local startups and funds, including establishment of central point of information providing them with knowledge on the ecosystem's establishment conditions, incentives, tax and local legislation;  • assistance to foreign investors during the whole process of investment, from the pre-entry stage until the exit, by ensuring support in administrative, legal, linguistic and cultural issues;  • roadshow to leading innovation hubs to showcase the potential of the local ecosystem, its promising start-ups and active local investors;  • organisation of European international business forums, conferences and events to attract and connect foreign investors with local investors;  • establishing cooperation with public and private buyers of innovative solutions and with the innovative companies they are buying from; peermatching of investors and business angles and other networking activities to encourage joint ventures;  • a repository of best practices of market entry facilitation for foreign investors;  • a repository of best practices of market entry facilitation for startups from 'emerging" or 'moderate' innovator regions to markets of foreign 'strong'
	Main keywords: Business, Economics, Law



Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area



### **Call - European Excellence Initiative (EEI)**

Deadline: 20 November 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-01-ACCESS-01 European Excellence Initiative (EEI)  Link	The European Excellence Initiative in its widening dimension aims to raise excellence in science and in knowledge valorisation of Europe's universities through cooperation. The action will engage with universities and empower them further to be actors of change in R&I. Cooperation of universities will be supported to create critical R&I mass and pursue specific objectives that contribute to accelerating key R&I areas of own choice with strategic relevance for the European Union.  The European Excellence Initiative in its widening dimension is, in terms of scope, open to any network or alliance of higher education institutions, such as — but not limited to — European Universities alliances selected under Erasmus+. In case of participation in this call such alliances may be represented by limited number of their members and may include entities outside the alliance for specific themes to pursue the objectives of this call especially in view of industrial co-operation and/or outreach to regional innovation ecosystems. Under this call the centre of gravity of the action is in Widening countries.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

### **Call - Hop-on facility**

Deadline: 04 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-03-ACCESS- 01 Hop-on facility	The Hop-on Facility integrates one additional beneficiary from a Widening country to an <u>ongoing project under Pillar 2</u> or the EIC pathfinder scheme who contributes a relevant task, work package or another visible and distinguishable activity.
Link	Applications must demonstrate the R&I added value of the new beneficiary for the eligible already selected action. The proposal should include a detailed description of the profile of the new beneficiary and its R&I role and complementarity in the existing project.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities



# Call - Support for R&I policy making in the EU enlargement countries

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-04-ACCESS-01 Support for R&I policy making in the EU enlargement countries  Link	Activities from this call will strengthen and foster the development of the human capital base in the region, they will promote the establishment of open, inclusive and responsible national research and innovation ecosystems, support institutional reform through the development of inclusive gender equality plans in line with Horizon Europe and the ERA objectives, as well as support evidence-based policy making.  The actions should also aim to support the implementation of people-to-people cooperation projects with and within enlargement countries, supporting partnerships between higher education institutions as well as creative professionals and industries and European incubation networks for creativity-driven innovation.
	Main keywords: Political Science, Education



### Call - Enhancing the European R&I system

Deadline: 18 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-01 Rolling out the ERA Policy Agenda results  Link	This action aims at increased uptake by broad communities of R&I stakeholders of results developed in different ERA policy areas, including open science, research assessment, research careers, knowledge valorisation, and research management. Applicants are invited to select one of the areas outlined below.  Area 1: Strengthen uptake of solutions for the reproducibility of scientific results  Area 2: Advance reforms to research assessment  Area 3: Establish communities of practice to strengthen research careers  Area 4: Establish a European network of knowledge valorisation intermediaries  Area 5: Upgrade services of Knowledge and Technology Transfer professionals in universities and research performing organisations  Area 6: Strengthen capacities and recognition for research management
	Main keywords: Education, Communication
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-03 Research and innovation to provide evidence that support reforms of research assessment <u>Link</u>	The action aims to provide the evidence needed for the practical implementation of research assessment reforms. It will gather and evaluate existing evidence and carry out additional research activities to support the implementation of the commitments of the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment, in line with the 10 principles for reforms. The action consists of three parts, all of which must be addressed:
	<ul> <li>Review existing literature, data and evidence on research assessment practices and evaluate their validity and robustness for implementing the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Identify gaps in knowledge and prioritise areas that require further research activities to support reforms of research assessment in line with the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment.</li> </ul>
	Implement research activities in the prioritised areas.
	This action may require the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Education, Implementation studies



HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-04	Proposals are expected to address the following:
Investigating and addressing career barriers faced by underrepresented and marginalised researchers  Link	<ul> <li>Investigate the specific barriers faced by researchers from at least three underrepresented and marginalised groups at different stages of their careers, starting from the gender perspective and considering other discrimination grounds. This should build on existing research, as well as on other relevant sources, and be based on quantitative and qualitative data, including personal testimonies that should be gathered by the project in at least 10 Member States and Associated Countries.</li> <li>Develop tools (e.g., toolkits, guidance, training and dissemination materials) and deliver evidence-informed recommendations on how to design and implement inclusive, intersectional, and humancentred gender equality plans and shape policies in the ERA at the level of higher education and research performing organisations, research funding organisations, and national and EU research and innovation policy makers. Proposals should develop interventions such as mentorship programmes, intersectional diversity training, policy changes, cultural competency initiatives, or structural reforms.</li> <li>Main keywords: Education, Gender studies, Anthropology</li> </ul>
HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-06-ERA-07 Science comes to town 2027 Link	The action supports a small group of cities to co-organise and host a joint 1-year programme "Science comes to town 2027", with a robust concept and brand, that focuses on connecting citizens and scientists in the participating cities and beyond. Various events and activities should be organised, such as lectures, workshops, exhibitions, competitions or prizes, in the spirit of the European Capital of Culture or the European Green Capital, highlighting the contribution of science to society and the results of R&I projects supported by national/regional/EU funds, including the Horizon Europe programme.  Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities





# **Call - Supporting the implementation of the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission**

Deadline: 24 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA-03 Demonstrating solutions to help hotspots in coastal regions to adapt to climate change  Link	As coastal areas will likely need to undergo significant transformations to become climate-resilient (i.e. transformational adaptation is needed), proposals should integrate stakeholder and citizen engagement. In other words, the solutions put forward in the proposals are expected to be codesigned with regional and local stakeholders and tailored to their needs. To achieve this, the proposals should consider socio-economic impacts (including on vulnerable groups), social acceptability and expected population response to the proposed coastal adaptation measures and solutions. When assessing socio-economic impacts, tradeoffs and co-benefits should be considered to ensure coherent and systemic approaches. Thus, this topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Main keywords: Sociology, Economics
HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA-04 Testing and demonstrating innovative solutions to improve resilience to extreme heat, including addressing health impacts  Link	The goal of this topic is to accelerate the implementation of solutions that increase resilience to extreme heat and protect the health and well-being of the citizens, particularly in the built environment.  Associated challenges, such as institutional and political bottlenecks, multilevel governance challenges, and the politics and justice dimensions of implementing innovative solutions all fall within the remit of this topic. As a result, this topic requires the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Main keywords: Political Science, Urban planning
HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA-05 Better understanding incentives for private sector financing of adaptation solutions  Link	<ul> <li>The proposal should address the following aspects:</li> <li>Developing calculations and the most appropriate methodologies for calculating the economic rationale for financing adaptation solutions, aimed at convincing the private sector to finance them. This could include, but is not limited to, the following: (i) calculations of the risks/losses caused by climate change; (ii) calculations of the economic benefits of the adaptation solutions across different time horizons (e.g. with new or retained revenues/contributions that the implementation of the adaptation solution could generate, avoided costs/losses, cost of inaction, lower insurance costs, attribution and monetisation of co-benefits (including social and environmental co-benefits)); and (iii) calculations of the overall cost/benefit.</li> <li>Identifying how to overcome in innovative ways the main barriers to the financing of climate adaptation solutions by the private sector</li> </ul>



(both from the investor and investee point of view) and how to improve the economic rationale and developing and test innovative ways to economically incentivise (in non-financial ways) the private sector to finance them. This could include an increased and improved range of investment concepts or strategies, financing mechanisms and/or business models, etc. These innovative ways may need to be different for the different climate risks and key community systems.

• Testing the above by developing minimum 8 case studies, in 3 different Member States / Associated Countries. The case studies should work on adaptation solutions that require financing but have not yet found financing. Each case study should explicitly encompass a calculation of the economic rationale for financing (as per above) and, where in this calculation all benefits taken together do not exceed the cost and hence this is not a sufficient incentive, propose and test innovative ways to economically incentivise (in non-financial ways) the private sector to finance the proposed adaptation solutions.

To reasonably achieve the expected outcomes, the project consortia should include participation of relevant private sector actors from the business and financial sectors and their commitment to further contribute to the deployment of the solutions identified in the cases studies or to support the development of the business plan for the climate resilience investments beyond the duration of the project.

Due to its nature, this topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Economics, Business, Finance

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## Call - Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission

Deadline: 16 September 2025

Deadilile. 10 September 2025	
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER-03 Innovative surgery as the cornerstone of affordable multi-modal therapeutic interventions benefitting cancer patients with locally advanced or metastatic disease  Link	<ul> <li>Proposals should address the following:</li> <li>The chosen surgery-centred treatment intervention(s) should be adapted to the needs of the target population and the specificities of healthcare provision at local, regional, or national level, duly reflecting the (cultural) diversity and available resources across Member States and Associated Countries. Data should be disaggregated by sex, gender, age and other relevant variables, such as by measures of socio-economic status or ethnicity;</li> <li>The primary and secondary endpoints of the clinical trial(s) should support overall survival, patient-reported outcomes and quality of life issues. Such endpoints should be defined together with patients and their caregivers through research that stimulates social innovation and supports end-user engagement using participative research models;</li> <li>Affordability of the chosen surgery-centred treatment intervention(s) should be demonstrated via a cost-effectiveness analysis.</li> <li>Include an appropriate mix of stakeholders from various disciplines and sectors, such as physicians, academia, patients and their caregivers, patient representatives, SMEs, insurance companies, engineers, physicists, charities, foundations, research and innovation organisations, civil society, regional as well as national health authorities;</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise in the successful proposal, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Ethics</li> </ul>
HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER-04 Investigator-initiated multinational early- stage innovative clinical trials for paediatric cancer  Link	Proposals should design and conduct innovative investigator-initiated multinational early-stage clinical trials to accelerate the development of safe, effective, targeted cancer treatments for children and/or adolescents with cancer. Focus should be on cancers with poor prognosis at any stage of the disease and for any type. Trials should take into account socio-economic and biological stratification. All data should be disaggregated by sex, gender, age and other relevant variables.  This topic requires the effective contribution of Social Science and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise in the successful proposal, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.  Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology



HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER-05	Proposals should address the following:
Pragmatic clinical trials to enhance the quality of life of older cancer patients (65 years and older) through nutrition  Link	<ul> <li>The chosen nutritional care-centred intervention(s) should be adapted to the needs of older cancer patients and to the specificities of the provision of care at local, regional, or national level, duly reflecting the (cultural) diversity across Member States and Associated Countries. Furthermore, affordability and accessibility should be considered;</li> <li>The primary and secondary endpoints of the pragmatic clinical trial(s) should support overall survival, patient-reported outcomes and quality of life issues. Such endpoints should be defined together with older patients and their caregivers through research that stimulates social innovation and supports end-user engagement using participative research models;</li> <li>Include an appropriate mix of stakeholders from various disciplines and</li> </ul>
	sectors, such as physicians, academia, patients and their caregivers, patient representatives, dietitians, nutritionists, behavioural scientists, SMEs, insurance companies, charities and foundations, research organisations, civil society, regional and national health authorities;
	This topic requires the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise in the successful proposal, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Behavioural studies

## Call - Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission

Deadline: 04 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-04-CIT-02 Innovative, Al-based solutions for urban planning and management <u>Link</u>	Creation of multidisciplinary communities, bringing together IT developers, urban planners, designers, local authorities, and other relevant actors. This will facilitate future activities for adaptation, enhancement and integration of existing and future Al-based applications and solutions, including Digital Twins, applied in different urban domains (e.g. infrastructure planning, including nature-based solutions, urban logistics, network and traffic management, climate neutrality, safe and inclusive streets, health and wellbeing urban space, etc.).  Main keywords: Urban planning, Design



# Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission

Deadline: 30 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-01 Living Labs for soil remediation and green redevelopment of brownfields  Link	<ul> <li>Establish an interdisciplinary, participatory, and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop and co-implement locally adapted solutions for the common soil health challenge(s), taking into account relevant drivers and pressures. Proposed solutions should be adapted to the different environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts in which the living labs are operating.</li> <li>Propose and assess innovative solutions for soil remediation and potential green redevelopment plans for the sites (brownfields) involved in the living labs that would enhance soil health and related ecosystem services. This should include a demonstration of the viability (technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental) of the solutions.</li> <li>Propose strategies (e.g., financial, organisational) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the established living labs beyond the Horizon Europe funding. Strategies should include the identification of possible business models and actions, involving a mix of public or private funding schemes, financial instruments, cooperation with local authorities, engagement of social economy entities, social enterprises, business communities, SMEs, as well as attracting investors and entrepreneurs.</li> <li>An effective contribution of social sciences and humanities and the arts (SSHA) is expected to foster social innovation, knowledge transfer and socio-cultural and behavioural change.</li> <li>Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Social innovation, Economics, Business</li> </ul>
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-02 Social, economic and cultural drivers, and costs of land degradation  Link	<ul> <li>Proposed activities should:</li> <li>Identify the social, economic, cultural, political, and regulatory factors that drive soil management and degradation and are key in the development of strategies, policies and integrated approaches for sustainable land management across different land uses. The analysis should include, among other factors, those related to gender, education, inequalities, and access to land.</li> <li>Review existing socio-economic methods and models for assessing land degradation costs and conduct pan-European assessments of the socio-economic costs of different aspects of land degradation (e.g. soil organic carbon losses, soil erosion, biodiversity decline, nutrient loss, soil contamination, soil sealing, and land subsidence) across all relevant land use types. Such assessments should be based on the integration of soil bio-physico-chemical indicators with socio-economic methods and models.</li> <li>Carry out cost-benefit analyses of soil conservation measures and sustainable land management approaches by building on other EU funded projects or initiatives.</li> </ul>



Evaluate the socio-economic impacts of EU Green Deal policies related to land degradation (scenario analysis) and the socio-economic costs and benefits of their implementation.  In carrying out the activities, consortia should work in an interdisciplinary way bringing together environmental sciences and social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines (including economics, political Science, sociology, history, geography, cultural anthropology, behavioural sciences).  Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Sociology, History, Human geography, Cultural Anthropology, Behavioural sciences, Law  HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-06 Quantifying the impact of farming practices on soil health in arable lands  Link  HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-09  Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities  Link  Proposed activities should:  * Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional level that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.  Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.  • Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.  Proposals should bring together expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakehol		
way bringing together environmental sciences and social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines (including economics, political science, sociology, history, geography, cultural anthropology, behavioural sciences).  Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Sociology, History, Human geography, Cultural Anthropology, Behavioural sciences, Law  HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-06 Quantifying the impact of farming practices on soil health in arable lands Link  HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-09 Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities Link  Proposed activities should:  Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional level that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.  Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.  Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.  Proposals should bring together expertise on environmental and soil sciences, as well as transdisciplinary expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakeholders in the design of Territorial Management Agreements should be representative of the local community and stakeholders and be inclusive. Thus, proposals must incorporate gender perspectives a		to land degradation (scenario analysis) and the socio-economic costs
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-06 Quantifying the impact of farming practices on soil health in arable lands  Link  HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-09 Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities Link  Proposed activities should:  Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional evel that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.  Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.  Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.  Proposals should bring together expertise on environmental and soil sciences, as well as transdisciplinary expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakeholders in the design of Territorial Management Agreements should be representative of the local community and stakeholders and be inclusive. Thus, proposals must incorporate gender perspectives and give attention to the inclusion of people in vulnerable situations.		way bringing together environmental sciences and social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines (including economics, political science, sociology,
Topic with minor SSH dimension		
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-09 Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities Link  Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional level that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.  Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.  Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.  Proposals should bring together expertise on environmental and soil sciences, as well as transdisciplinary expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakeholders in the design of Territorial Management Agreements should be representative of the local community and stakeholders and be inclusive. Thus, proposals must incorporate gender perspectives and give attention to the inclusion of people in vulnerable situations.	Quantifying the impact of farming	Topic with minor SSH dimension
Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities  Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional level that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.  • Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.  • Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.  Proposals should bring together expertise on environmental and soil sciences, as well as transdisciplinary expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakeholders in the design of Territorial Management Agreements should be representative of the local community and stakeholders and be inclusive. Thus, proposals must incorporate gender perspectives and give attention to the inclusion of people in vulnerable situations.	<u>Link</u>	
,	Citizen engagement for sustainable land management through local and regional authorities	<ul> <li>Provide training and technical support to public authorities to design and run inclusive and effective participatory processes at local and regional level that lead to the adoption of Territorial Management Agreements to foster sustainable land management and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.</li> <li>Launch the implementation of at least 40 Territorial Management Agreements, one per local or regional authority involved, and provide guidelines and resources to sustain and monitor their implementation in the long term.</li> <li>Organise capacity-building activities for representatives of local and regional authorities including training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing activities to promote the adoption of solutions for the restoration of soil health at their level of governance.</li> <li>Proposals should bring together expertise on environmental and soil sciences, as well as transdisciplinary expertise on spatial planning and social sciences and humanities (SSH), including gender studies, to design and organise training and successful capacity building activities for local and regional authorities and support them in the implementation of effective participatory processes. The engagement of citizen and stakeholders in the design of Territorial Management Agreements should be representative of the local community and stakeholders and be inclusive. Thus, proposals must incorporate gender perspectives and give attention to the inclusion of people in vulnerable situations.</li> <li>Main keywords: Social studies, Gender studies, Human geography,</li> </ul>
Urban planning		Urban planning



# Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission (Two stage)

Deadline: 05 September 2025 (1st stage) - 18 February 2026 (2nd stage)

·	1 2020 (2010)
Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-01-two-stage Living labs to enhance soil health in Continental, Boreal and Alpine biogeographical regions  Link	<ul> <li>Establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop, and co-implement locally adapted solutions for the common shared soil health challenge(s) taking into account relevant soil health drivers and pressures. Proposed solutions should be adapted to the different environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts in which the living labs are operating.</li> <li>Monitor and evaluate the effects of the proposed solutions on soil health and associated ecosystem services, demonstrating their viability technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental - scalability and transferability to diverse contexts.</li> <li>Propose strategies (e.g., financial, organisational) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the established living labs beyond the Horizon Europe funding. Strategies should include the identification of possible business models and actions involving a mix of public or private funding schemes, financial instruments, cooperation with local authorities, engagement of social economy entities, social enterprises, business communities, SMEs, as well as attracting investors and entrepreneurs.</li> </ul>
	(SSHA) is expected to foster social innovation, knowledge transfer and socio-cultural and behavioural change.  Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Social innovation, Economics, Business
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-02-two-stage Broadening the living labs approach for soil health in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)  Link	<ul> <li>Support the set-up of at least 12 participatory initiatives in real-life sites in at least 5 to 6 countries in each region (Africa or LAC). The participatory initiatives should co-design, co-develop and co-implement with all relevant actors, locally adapted solutions and holistic approaches to key soil health challenge(s) related with one or more of the Mission Soil specific objectives. The initiatives should cover a diversity of environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts across the regions (Africa or LAC) and the proposed solutions should be adapted to these contexts. The initiatives should integrate knowledge and expertise from SSH disciplines.</li> <li>Support the participatory initiatives to monitor and assess the progress on soil health and socio-economic resilience derived from the implementation of the solutions. For this, adequate indicators (new or existing) should be used, and a baseline established.</li> <li>Ensure long-term ambition, continuity, and sustainability of the established mechanism beyond the Horizon Europe funding, including through attracting other funding and identifying possible business models and actions involving local authorities, social economy entities</li> </ul>



and social enterprises business communities, SMEs, investors, entrepreneurs and philanthropic organisations.

Proposals should include expertise in human centred design, capacity to operate at regional level and deep understanding of the different

Proposals should include expertise in human centred design, capacity to operate at regional level and deep understanding of the different environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts as well as existing soil health needs and management practices in Africa or LAC. An effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines is essential to implement strong participatory initiatives, foster social innovation and enhance social, cultural and behavioural change.

Main keywords: Anthropology, Regional studies, Social innovation, Economics, Business

## Call - Joint Call between the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Cancer Mission

Deadline: 04 September 2025

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2025-06-CIT-CANCER-01 Increasing walking and cycling: to reap health benefits, emission reductions and integrate active mobility and micromobility devices, with smart technologies and infrastructure  Link	Proposals are therefore expected to  1) improve the quality, safety, quantity, accessibility, continuity and attractiveness of walking and cycling infrastructure by providing an updated state of the art of the uptake of walking and cycling policies, programmes and projects in urban, transport, research, and health strategies and plans as well as of their socio-economic, environmental and health benefits resulting from their demonstrated potential in emission reduction.  2) improve integration and modal share of active mobility:  • Looking at the integration of walking and cycling policies and projects in urban development, transport-research and health strategies and plans through a comparative analysis across at least 10 EU cities, selected by taking into account geographical balance, size and population as well as different levels in the uptake of active mobility.  • Demonstrating in new and/or existing living labs innovative solutions to increase the modal share of active mobility, including through testing tactical urbanism measures in real-life urban spaces.  • Test behavioural change regarding the uptake of walking and cycling among different populations through implementation research. Identify and address specific bottlenecks and barriers that prevent the uptake of behavioural change.  4) coordination/exchange/capacity building for increasing the uptake of active mobility by supporting further coordination, exchange of experience and best practices, including training and capacity building activities, as well as co-creation and citizens engagement activities, taking into account the different levels of experience and development of walking and cycling strategies across Europe.



This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
Main keywords: Urban planning, Behavioural studies

### **Call - Cross-cutting activities**

Deadline: 31 March 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-02 Understanding and overcoming barriers to the scale-up of innovations supporting EU Missions	This call aims to identify and address the barriers preventing the scaling and deployment of innovative technologies and non-technological innovations that support the five EU Missions in achieving their objectives. The analysis should notably consider how the risk perception and risk management strategies of diverse stakeholder groups affects the scalability of
Forthcoming	innovations in the context of EU Missions. By integrating insights from Social Sciences, and Humanities, projects will explore socio-technical, economic, cultural, and regulatory challenges to unlock the full potential of existing, performant but underutilised solutions.
	Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Economics, Law

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# Call - A research agenda for a beautiful, inclusive and sustainable transformation of neighbourhoods

Deadline: 12 November 2025

The impact of common space on neighbourhood communities  Link  Link  States or Associated Countries, collecting data and drawing covidence, to better understand:  The medium and long-term impacts of common spaces on communities cohesion, social interactions, active civic participation, resilience diversity, as well as sense of security and belonging. This include identifying if and to what extent these impacts vary neighbourhoods with different characteristics, for example, in term of social infrastructure, economy, housing ownership pattern services, etc.  How the design and maintenance of common spaces (including the process, for example relying on participatory approaches), the degradation of the bordering built environment, and the preservation of cultural heritage, influences the above identified effects of common space.  How the integration of the three core NEB values in the design of common spaces impacts the above identified effects of common space.  How the different groups of people (such as women, children, youth older adults, people with disabilities, underrepresented, vulnerable and marginalised groups, LGBTIQA+) make use of and experience common spaces.  How variations in the use of common spaces in different periods of the year influence community cohesion, social interactions, and cive participation.  Based on the research evidence, provide recommendations for publications and other stakeholders involved in the regeneration of common spaces in neighbourhoods.  This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanitie (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well of the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and the in		
PARTICIPATION-01 The impact of common space on neighbourhood communities  Link  States or Associated Countries, collecting data and drawing cevidence, to better understand:  The medium and long-term impacts of common spaces on communities of the medium and long-term impacts of common spaces on communities of the medium and long-term impacts of common spaces on communities of the space of social interactions, active civic participation, resilience diversity, as well as sense of security and belonging. This include identifying if and to what extent these impacts vary neighbourhoods with different characteristics, for example, in term of social infrastructure, economy, housing ownership pattern services, etc.  How the design and maintenance of common spaces (including the process, for example relying on participatory approaches), the degradation of the bordering built environment, and the preservation of cultural heritage, influences the above identified effects of common space.  How the integration of the three core NEB values in the design common spaces impacts the above identified effects of common space.  How the different groups of people (such as women, children, your older adults, people with disabilities, underrepresented, vulnerable and marginalised groups, LCBTIQA+) make use of and experience common spaces.  How variations in the use of common spaces in different periods of the year influence community cohesion, social interactions, and civing participation.  Based on the research evidence, provide recommendations for publications and other stakeholders involved in the regeneration of the year influence community cohesion, social sciences and humanitie (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well of the inclusion of relevant SSH expertse, in order to produce meaningful and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well of the inclusion of relevant SSH expertse, in order to produce meaningful and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well of the inclusion of r	Topic	SSH aspects
activities.	PARTICIPATION-01 The impact of common space on neighbourhood communities	<ul> <li>Study a range of common space projects in at least three EU Member States or Associated Countries, collecting data and drawing on evidence, to better understand:         <ul> <li>The medium and long-term impacts of common spaces on community cohesion, social interactions, active civic participation, resilience, diversity, as well as sense of security and belonging. This includes identifying if and to what extent these impacts vary in neighbourhoods with different characteristics, for example, in terms of social infrastructure, economy, housing ownership patterns, services, etc.</li> <li>How the design and maintenance of common spaces (including the process, for example relying on participatory approaches), the degradation of the bordering built environment, and the preservation of cultural heritage, influences the above identified effects of common space.</li> <li>How the integration of the three core NEB values in the design of common spaces impacts the above identified effects of common space.</li> <li>How the different groups of people (such as women, children, youth, older adults, people with disabilities, underrepresented, vulnerable and marginalised groups, LGBTIQA+) make use of and experience common spaces.</li> <li>How variations in the use of common spaces in different periods of the year influence community cohesion, social interactions, and civic participation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Based on the research evidence, provide recommendations for public administrations and other stakeholders involved in the regeneration of common spaces in neighbourhoods.</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Urban pl</li></ul>



#### HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-PARTICIPATION-02

Fostering and maintaining the social fabric for the green transition in neighbourhoods

Link

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Study the conditions under which cultural participation may reinforce the social fabric and civic engagement in neighbourhoods and contribute to the green transition:
  - Review existing evidence and collect relevant data in a systematic, comparable way (at least in relation to some territories or dimensions) and identifying trends, gaps and correlations.
  - Explore the wider benefits of cultural participation for individuals and communities (including those feeling left behind, all risk groups vulnerable and/or marginalised, etc.). Where possible, establish correlations, causal links, detailed descriptions, etc., depending on the proposed methodology.
  - Provide a comprehensive analysis of relevant variables, such as socio-demographic characteristics, context-specific aspects, the presence (or absence) of meeting spaces / social infrastructure, digital literacy, local innovation capacity, polarisation, wellbeing and mental health, safety and crime, loneliness, etc.
- Propose at least three methods or strategies to foster and maintain the social fabric of neighbourhoods and support their green transition. These strategies, approaches or methodologies have to be guided by evidence. They are demonstrated and monitored in at least three neighbourhoods in different Member States or Associated Countries to analyse their effectiveness and their potential for sustained effects in time, in particular as regards community and civic engagement (in particular of the most marginalised and underrepresented).
- Based on the research evidence, propose recommendations for public authorities and not-for-profit organisations on how to facilitate cultural participation, including the skills, competencies and partnerships needed for their implementation.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities

#### Main keywords: Sociology, Cultural studies, Anthropology

#### HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-PARTICIPATION-03

Beautiful, sustainable and inclusive street furniture for the transformation of neighbourhoods

Link

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop and demonstrate innovative designs for sets of street furniture which:
  - Contribute to a functional common space throughout the year that includes relevant features such as resilience to vandalism and weather, protection from the effects of climate change, consideration of local specificities (such as coastal areas), and low maintenance cost.
  - Strengthen the aesthetic and cultural integrity of the history of the common space and the neighbourhoods.
  - Meet the needs of different population groups throughout time (through modular and adaptive designs, and considering age, gender, mobility, etc.) by improving comfort, safety, accessibility, social interaction and well-being.
- Apply participatory methods while co-designing and prototyping innovative street furniture.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as



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	the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.
	Main keywords: Design, Cultural and Creative industries
HORIZON-NEB-2025-01- PARTICIPATION-04 Network of neighbourhoods for innovative policies on gentrification  Link	Proposals are expected to address all of the following:  Create a bottom-up network of neighbourhoods with a (potential) risk of gentrification, to facilitate peer exchange among all relevant stakeholders. Proposals should aim for the participation of at least 15 neighbourhoods located in urban, peri-urban and rural areas from different Member States and Associated Countries.  Map neighbourhoods' needs, challenges, trends and opportunities to inform policies and interventions that mitigate the negative consequences of gentrification and of integrating the New European Bauhaus values and principles.  Identify, document, and disseminate current knowledge, evidence, policy design, tools, and best practices for tackling gentrification and translate the results into useful tools that address the identified needs, challenges and opportunities.  Support local decision makers in better understanding  The main drivers of gentrification (such as overtourism, interim use and short term rental markets).  The effect of housing market speculation, rental agreements and (lack of) housing policies (e.g. fiscal measures, funding instruments, legislative measures) on gentrification.  The effects of gentrification on different socio-demographic groups, as well as on local identities and cultural heritage.  The interplay between urban, peri-urban and rural gentrification.  Address the issue of gentrification in the participating neighbourhoods through at least one of the following actions:  Develop or revise local policies (such as those on social/economic/urban development, housing, planning, mobility, green transition) to mitigate the negative consequences of gentrification.  Develop neighbourhood regeneration strategies that include measures to mitigate the negative consequences of gentrification.  This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful an
HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-REGEN-01	Main keywords: Urban planning, Sociology, Demography, Economics  Proposals are expected to address the following:
Applying regenerative design to the built environment in neighbourhoods  Link	<ul> <li>Analyse in depth the success factors, challenges, and impacts of at least 10 existing examples of regenerative designs applied to constructed or renovated buildings. The selected buildings are expected to:         <ul> <li>Be located in contexts as diverse as possible (geographical, environmental, climate, social or economic).</li> <li>Generate renewable energy to meet the buildings' energy demand.</li> <li>Have used collaborative, inclusive approaches to engage local communities and inhabitants.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>Have overcome legislative and regulatory barriers, if any, thanks to active collaboration with different levels of government and public authorities.</li> <li>Develop and demonstrate at least one innovative solution (tool or technology) that facilitate the application of regenerative design to the built environment. The solution(s) is (are) expected to transform the construction and renovation processes at all stages, by adopting a lifecycle perspective, encouraging the use of natural resources, materials, products, processes and by considering the impact on people and nature. Proposers should reflect on the role of local/indigenous crafts and knowledge in the construction and renovation processes.</li> <li>Demonstrate the innovative solution(s) in at least three neighbourhoods from urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least three Member States or Associated Countries.</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Design, Urban planning, Human geography</li> </ul>
HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-REGEN-03 Sufficiency measures in the built	Proposals are expected to address the following:
environment	<ul> <li>Test and validate an approach to map and quantify vacant and under- utilised spaces with high sufficiency potential in the built environment.</li> </ul>
Link	<ul> <li>Test and validate at least two sufficiency measures that optimise, repurpose, or expand the use and functionality of space. Proposals are expected to test the proposed sufficiency measures in at least three neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least three Member States or Associated Countries.</li> <li>Quantify the potential for the proposed sufficiency measures to contribute to an absolute reduction in demand for floor space and resources (including, as a minimum, energy, raw materials, land, and water) in the built environment.</li> <li>Propose and validate solutions to overcome non-technical barriers in the built environment towards sufficiency measures (e.g. regulatory barriers or acceptance).</li> <li>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</li> <li>Main keywords: Urban planning, Sociology, Law</li> </ul>
HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-REGEN-04	Proposals are expected to address the following:
Innovative approaches for sustainable, inclusive and beautiful social and affordable housing  Link	<ul> <li>Develop innovative approaches for the construction of new buildings and the renovation or retrofitting of existing buildings in the social and affordable housing sector. These innovative approaches must relate to how construction and renovation services are defined, procured, delivered, financed and/or managed.</li> <li>Define and implement in two social and affordable housing projects two ambitious packages of measures that comprise building technologies and construction methods already on the market. One package of measures must be applied to a new construction and the other to a building renovation or retrofitting. They will address all of the following:</li> </ul>



- Use existing building technologies and construction methods that improve the efficiency and speed of construction and renovation or retrofitting.
  - O Use environmentally sustainable practices, such as nature-based solutions or carbon-storing materials to reduce energy consumption, carbon footprint, pollution, and resource use throughout the building's life cycle while also possibly increasing buildings' resilience and adaptability to natural, including climate change-induced, and human-made hazards.
  - Ensure that social and affordable housing is aesthetically pleasing and contributes positively to the landscape of the place where it is located, while also respecting local context and the architectural heritage.
  - Improve the well-being, inclusion and general living conditions of all inhabitants.
  - For renovations or retrofitting only: minimise and mitigate, where possible, disruptions for residents and improve accessibility of buildings.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

#### Main keywords: Sociology, Urban planning, Design

HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-BUSINESS-01 Renovating the built environment through design for adaptability and disassembly

Link

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop at least two renovation processes, methods, and/or techniques based on design for adaptability and disassembly that enable the future adaptation and repurposing of buildings, common spaces, and infrastructures with minimal usage disruption.
- Demonstrate the developed solutions in at least two pilots in at least two Member States or Associated Countries. At least one of the pilots must target a building and at least one of the pilots must target a common space and/or an infrastructure.
- Assess the barriers (including economic, environmental, cultural, social (including related to human capital and skills), and regulatory) to the market uptake of the developed solutions compared to conventional renovation processes, methods, and techniques, and propose solutions to overcome them.
- Quantify, wherever feasible, the environmental, economic (including reduced resource consumption costs), social (including the response to changing neighbourhood needs), cultural (including the regeneration of cultural meanings and heritage in neighbourhoods), financial and regulatory impacts of the processes, methods, and techniques, while considering the specificities of the local context.
- Use and build on indicators provided in the European framework for sustainable buildings 'Level(s)'

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Design, Sociology, Economics, Law



HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-BUSINESS-02 Bottom-up social entrepreneurship for the co-creation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus

<u>Link</u>

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Deliver at least 3 bottom-up social entrepreneurship pilots in at least 3
   Member States or Associated Countries to explore how bottom-up social
   entrepreneurship can shape and contribute to the co-creation of
   neighbourhoods in line with the values of the New European Bauhaus.
- Analyse for each pilot the local social, cultural, economic, financial, regulatory, and legal barriers and drivers and how they can shape the market uptake and competitiveness of bottom-up social enterprises and initiatives.
- Assess for each pilot the business case and the potential for bottom-up social entrepreneurship to create impact and attract (impact) investment opportunities.
- Demonstrate how cooperations between inhabitants and civil society actors can foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences and build their capacity to engage in bottom-up social entrepreneurship. These cooperations should take into consideration place-based specificities and be grounded in strong public-private partnerships including grassroots neighbourhoods associations, public authorities, local businesses, and the social economy, etc.
- Demonstrate how bottom-up social entrepreneurship can increase the quality of life and well-being of inhabitants, strengthen social cohesion, and foster a shared sense of belonging in neighbourhoods.
- Assess how the above may impact future co-creation and decisionmaking in the development of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Main keywords: Sociology, Business, Economics, Law

HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-BUSINESS-03
Reverse local construction supply chains for

the beautiful re-assembly of reclaimed construction products

Link

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Explore at least one innovative approach, method, or technique to reassemble construction products in ways that increase their embedded economic and environmental value and the aesthetic value of buildings and building ensembles by exploring existing aesthetic and cultural standards in the built environment.
- The proposed innovative solution(s) should consider the reassembled construction products' environmental footprint and the availability of reclaimed construction materials and components at neighbourhood, local or regional level.
- Validate how the proposed innovative solution(s) create new value, revenue streams and business opportunities, building, wherever possible, upon existing research on related business models in the field.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, private owners, material suppliers, etc.) and disciplines (such as architecture, urban design, design, arts, (civil) engineering, economics, finance, business, etc.).

Main keywords: Urban design, Design, Arts, Economics, Finance, Business

