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The changing European research funding landscape

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FP10 in a nutshell

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing Horizon Europe
- Proposal for a Council Decision on establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe



FP10 context

- On 16 July 2025, the European Commission published its proposals for Horizon Europe, the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, and the Specific Programme implementing it.
- The Commission's proposal foresees a budget of EUR 175 billion in current prices for the Framework Programme for the period 2028–2034.
- The Commission proposes close links with the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), particularly through collaborative research and innovation activities supporting the ECF policy windows.
- In the European Parliament, the proposals are being examined by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE). Christian Ehler (EPP, DE) is the rapporteur for the Framework Programme, while René Repasi (S&D, DE) is the rapporteur for the Specific Programme.

FP10 – mix of continuation and novelty

What shall stay?

- Stand-alone Framework programme
- Pillar structure (reorganized; dedicated ERA pillar included)
- Collaborative R&I addressing societal challenges
- Scientific excellence and key instruments (ERC, MSCA, EIC)
- Widening (new distinction between widening and transition countries)

What shall change?

- Links between FP10 and ECF
- Larger thematic clusters in Pillar 2
- Lower number of European Partnerships and their tripartite character
- Simplification: fewer topics and faster procedures
- More stress on dual-use, possible openness to defence research

Where are we in the negotiations – what has been achieved so far?

- The Competitiveness Council (Research) has held four policy debates.
- During the Danish and Cyprus Presidencies, the Research Working Party discussed several compromise versions of the text.
- Discussions at COREPER meetings during May and June 2026.
- Competitiveness Council (Research) meeting on 26 June 2026 and the adoption of **Partial General Approach**.
- 10 November 2026 – The European Parliament's **ITRE Committee adopted its negotiating positions on FP10** (including the Specific Programme) and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).

Where are we in the negotiations – what will come next?

- **23–26 November 2026 (*expected*)** – Confirmation of the European Parliament's negotiating mandates during the plenary session, subject to parliamentary procedures.
- **December 2026 (*tentative*)** – Possible launch of trilogue negotiations between the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission.
- **2027** – Continued interinstitutional negotiations on FP10 and the ECF, alongside negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the financial allocations for individual EU programmes.
- **1 January 2028** – Planned launch of FP10 and the ECF for the 2028–2034 programming period.

FP10 Budget (2028–2034)

- **European Commission (July 2025):** Proposes a budget of **€175 billion**.
- **Irish Presidency NegoBox (October 2026):** Proposes a reduced budget of **€158.2 billion**.
- **European Parliament – ITRE Committee (November 2026):** Calls for a budget of **€200 billion**.
- **European Council (November 2026):** Proposes a budget of **€158.2 billion.**

26–27 November 2026: Special European Council meeting to discuss the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

FP10 and European Partnerships negotiations – timeline

Legislative Preparation for Horizon Europe 2028-2034	
16 July 2025	European Commission proposal for the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-2034. EC proposes EUR 409 billion for the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), including EUR 175 billion for Horizon Europe 2028-2034 (FP10).
3 March 2026	European Parliament: draft reports on Horizon Europe 2028-2034 published (Christian Ehler, lead rapporteur, Regulation); First Committee opinions tabled until 9 April 2026.
16 June 2026	Council agrees its partial negotiating position on the ECF.
26 June 2026	Council agrees its partial general approach on Horizon Europe 2028-2034 (= Council negotiating mandate); budget items remain open pending the MFF.
15-16 October 2026	European Council: MFF 2028-2034. Budget agreement targeted by the end of 2026; considered ambitious.
9-10 November 2026	ITRE committee vote on the Horizon Europe Regulation and the ECF (postponed from 10 September).
23-26 November 2026	European Parliament: first-reading vote (provisional; session 23-26 November, ECF report indicated for the same session). Adopts the European Parliament negotiating mandate and opens the way to trilogues.
Late 2026 - 2027	Trilogues (European Parliament, Council of the European Union, European Commission); pace set by the MFF settlement.
2027	Adoption of the Horizon Europe 2028-2034 package and of the MFF (aiming for mid-2027; official target before the end of 2027); first work programmes from autumn 2027.
1 January 2028	Start of Horizon Europe 2028-2034 (FP10)

European Partnership Portfolio Building Timeline	
April 2025	Commission publishes call for the Expert Group on the Design and Selection of Directional Initiatives (E03996).
15-16 April 2026	ERAC plenary (Cyprus): first exchange on the strategic approach to European Partnerships under Horizon Europe 2028-2034.
March-June 2026	Consultations of Commission services and Member States / Associated Countries on the portfolio building approach and thematic priorities (~1,000 thematic suggestions from 15 services and 30 MS/ACs).
16 June 2026	Call for Evidence on future Joint Undertakings and Art. 185 initiatives under Horizon Europe 2028-2034.
10 July - 16 October 2026	Public consultation on the Single Basic Act (Joint Undertakings), Article 185 and the thematic priorities of the partnership portfolio; summary around 8 weeks after closure.
12-13 October 2026	ERAC plenary (Dublin): state of play on European Partnerships; emerging portfolio configuration; options for collecting expressions of interest and commitments.
End of 2026	Convergence with Member States and associated countries on the partnership portfolio (indicative timetable); further technical discussions with PKH and strategic guidance from ERAC, if needed.
Early 2027	Commission proposal for the Single Basic Act (plus possible separate legal acts for Article 185 initiatives).
2027	Preparatory work towards the selection of partnerships (consortia, SRIAs, indicative commitments) - subject to the final legal framework.
2028	Launch of the new European Partnerships, together with the start of Horizon Europe 2028-2034 (FP10).

FP10: view on trilogues

Negotiations are not concluded and changes are likely during trilogues

Potential issues can include:

- Budget
- Governance of FP10 including links between FP10 and ECF
- Dual-use and defence research
- European Partnerships and their implementation
- Widening
- EIT and KICs
- Continuation of missions / moonshots
- International cooperation vs. strategic autonomy

FP10 and ECF: links

European Commission's proposal

- **Pillar II of FP10** closely aligned with the four strategic policy windows of the ECF.
- **Joint strategic programming and priority-setting** for collaborative R&I supporting EU competitiveness.
- **Seamless investment pathway** from research and innovation to industrial scale-up and deployment.

Council's position

- Maintains a close and seamless FP10–ECF link, with a strong role for Member States in strategic priority-setting (ERAC).

ITRE´s position

- Collaborative R&I under **Horizon Europe's own work programmes**
- Dedicated **Competitiveness and Society Windows** in Pillar II
- Stronger role for independent experts in defining R&I priorities
- ECF supporting deployment and scale-up, including through **Horizon Europe Pathway actions**

F10 policy take-aways: dilemmas for a changing landscape

Is Horizon Europe merely a funding source?

What do „synergies“ actually mean?

Impacts of the shift toward a top-down approach

Thank you for your attention

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