Funding Opportunities in Telecommunications: Networks, Cloud, Security, Quantum and NTN

This document collects open and upcoming funding calls in telecommunications and related fields: cybersecurity, private and mission-critical networks, quantum technology, satellite networks, AI, wireless and cloud. It was prepared by the RESTART Foundation working group “Opportunity Scouting and Project Proposal Development”.

Last updated: 18 November 2026.

The information is taken from the official call pages and documents, which always prevail. Deadlines and conditions can change, so please check the official page (linked in each row) before applying.

How this document is organised

- **Sections:** calls are grouped by type of funding. Sections 1 to 3 cover Horizon Europe (research and innovation actions, innovation actions, coordination and support actions), Section 4 cascade funding from EU projects, Section 5 other EU programmes (Digital Europe, EuroHPC and others), Section 6 ESA, and Sections 7 and 8 Italian national and regional calls. Section 9 lists other instruments, such as tenders, compute access and vouchers. Section 10 lists calls expected in 2027 that do not have dates yet.
- **Themes:** each call is tagged with one or more of these themes: cybersecurity; private and mission-critical networks; quantum technology; non-terrestrial networks; AI and telecommunications; wireless communication (including ISAC); cloud, edge and fog computing. The first theme is the main one.
- **Deadlines and funding:** deadlines are at 17:00 Brussels time unless stated otherwise. “Opens …” in a description gives the opening date of a call that is not open yet. “Max. funding per project” is the indicative EU contribution per project; the topic total is the budget for the whole topic.
- **Labels:** the overview table and Section 10 use short labels for the type of funding: EU-RIA (Research and Innovation Actions), EU-IA (Innovation Actions), EU-CSA (Coordination and Support Actions), EU-FSTP (cascade funding), EU-OTHER (other EU programmes), ESA, IT-NAT (Italian national) and IT-REG (Italian regional).
- **Eligibility:** when a call limits who can take part, the Eligibility column lists the countries. Associated Countries are non-EU countries that take part in Horizon Europe on the same terms as EU Member States (for example Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). EuroHPC Participating States are the member countries of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking. In Digital Europe calls, Art. 12(5) and 12(6) limit participation for security reasons; the eligible countries are listed in the call document.

1. EU-RIA: Research and Innovation Actions

Research and innovation actions under Horizon Europe (Work Programme 2026-2027) and the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking. Source: EU Funding & Tenders Portal.

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Quantum technology; AI and telecommunications	EuroHPC JU (Horizon Europe)	**HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-QML-07-01** *Quantum Machine Learning*	Quantum computing integrated in data pre-processing pipelines and learning workflows; reliable and scalable QML models and algorithms for large-scale problems; validated quantum-enhanced AI methods; noise-aware QML for NISQ hardware; demonstrators and proofs of concept. Proposals may address multiple research directions in QML.	RIA	€2.00-3.00 M (topic total €6.00 M)	2	EU Member States, Associated Countries, EuroHPC Participating States	**28 Jan 2027**	EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 (call HORIZON-CL4-2027-04)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-03** *New approaches for decentralized, federated and sustainable AI data processing*	Research on distributed, decentralised and federated architectures (beyond federated learning) to overcome the EU's AI compute bottlenecks, throughout the AI model lifecycle (data collection, training, fine-tuning, deployment) along the compute continuum (edge, cloud, HPC), including innovative computing paradigms (neuromorphic, quantum); model compression and new scaling mechanisms; data quality tools and advanced cryptographic protection such as post-quantum cryptography; tools to measure, monitor and improve end-to-end energy efficiency. Must showcase results in at least two complementary use cases in different domains. TRL 3 to 6-7. Opens 17 Nov 2026.	RIA	about €17.50 M (topic total €35.00 M)	2	EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Canada, Israel, South Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom	**18 Mar 2027**	EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 (call HORIZON-CL4-2027-04)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11** *EU Frontier AI Initiative: safe and computationally efficient frontier AI*	Frontier AI models with state-of-the-art, multimodal performance; methods to reduce computational demands and costs (e.g. compression, distillation); AI safety, including safe-by-design approaches and AI agents as safety evaluators. Opens 17 Nov 2026.	RIA	about €44.00 M (topic total €44.00 M)	1	EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Canada, Israel, South Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom; extension to Japan noted on the topic page	**18 Mar 2027**	EU Portal
Non-terrestrial networks	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 Space (Space Partnership)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-33** *Digital enablers and building blocks for collaborative EO and Satellite telecommunications*	R&I on next-generation EO and SatCom payloads, technologies and processing (ground and space) and on the security of SatCom and EO services: end-to-end SatCom mission capabilities (robustness, energy-efficient connectivity) and building blocks common to EO and SatCom allowing in-orbit reconfigurability. TRL 4-5. Lump sum. Opens 09 Mar 2027.	RIA	€1.50-3.00 M (topic total €4.00 M)	2	EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Switzerland	**02 Sep 2027**	EU Portal

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cybersecurity; AI and telecommunications	Horizon Europe, Cluster 3 (call HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC, managed by ECCC)	**HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC-01** *Artificial Intelligence for Cybersecurity applications*	AI-driven real-time cyber threat detection, including novel machine learning techniques to detect anomalies, malicious activity and AI-powered threats; adaptive AI that learns from new threats while staying robust and explainable; AI-enhanced SOC / Cyber Hub frameworks integrating predictive analytics, automation and threat intelligence; attention to adversarial AI risks and AI Act compliance. Expected to drastically reduce reaction time for system recovery. Lump sum. Opens 02 Mar 2027.	RIA	€4.00-5.00 M (topic total €24.80 M)	5	EU Member States and Associated Countries	**15 Sep 2027**	EU Portal
Cybersecurity; Quantum technology	Horizon Europe, Cluster 3 (call HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC, managed by ECCC)	**HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC-03** *Secure PQC implementations, Cryptanalysis and Post-quantum Digital Trust*	PQC implementations resistant to implementation attacks (side-channel, fault, combined), with automated evaluation tools, countermeasure guidelines and formal verification tools giving machine-readable evidence; quantum hardness of mathematical problem classes, new quantum algorithms, resistance to quantum and AI-based attacks; post-quantum schemes and protocols for privacy-friendly applications (signatures, KEMs, verification protocols) and post-quantum digital trust. Lump sum. Opens 02 Mar 2027.	RIA	€3.00-4.00 M (topic total €19.00 M)	3	EU Member States and Associated Countries	**15 Sep 2027**	EU Portal
Quantum technology; Cybersecurity	Horizon Europe, Cluster 3 (call HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC, managed by ECCC)	**HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC-04** *New primitives and protocols for functionalities of future hybrid classical-hybrid and quantum networks*	Research on new primitives and protocols beyond QKD for security and trust in future hybrid classical-quantum and quantum networks, analysed against the best classical-only counterpart; fundamental aspects and limits of quantum information processing tasks; a roadmap for quantum cryptography and network functionalities. Consortia should include quantum scientists and PQC researchers in a balanced manner. Lump sum. Opens 02 Mar 2027.	RIA	about €4.00 M (topic total €4.00 M)	1	EU Member States and Associated Countries	**15 Sep 2027**	EU Portal

2. EU-IA: Innovation Actions

Innovation actions under Horizon Europe (Work Programme 2026-2027). Source: EU Funding & Tenders Portal.

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications; Wireless communication (incl. ISAC)	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 (call HORIZON-CL4-2027-04)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08** *Demand-side 3C pilot demonstrators on converged Telco-Edge-Cloud Infrastructure*	Up to two demand-side pilots validating the open orchestration platform of the WP2025 supply-side large-scale pilot across the telco-edge-cloud continuum (e.g. 6G, AI storage/compute, networking, security, ISAC): one on mobility (transport, logistics, automotive), one on another vertical (e.g. energy, smart communities, industrial virtual worlds, health, agrifood, manufacturing). Consortium of demand-side (user) and supply-side partners; reuse of open-source frameworks and Open Internet Stack components; resistance to emerging quantum threats (e.g. via post-quantum cryptography); mobility and service continuity across inter-domain and multi-cloud deployments; a robust data governance model with interoperability with Common European Data Spaces and alignment with Gaia-X principles. TRL 6-8. Opens 17 Nov 2026.	IA	about €19.00 M (topic total €38.00 M)	2	EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Canada, Israel, South Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom	**18 Mar 2027**	EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 (call HORIZON-CL4-2027-04)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-09** *Energy efficiency and sustainability of AI data processing in Data Centres*	Direct on-chip cooling and thermal management; prototypes of novel backup power systems (e.g. graphene-enhanced batteries); whole-data-centre optimisation for energy-efficient AI (intelligent and carbon-aware workload scheduling, power capping, AI model optimisation, materials research); integration of data centres into energy systems and the wider region, including heat capture and reuse; plus an open pilot demonstration site integrating the outcomes of the other projects. At least two use cases per project. TRL 6-7 to 8. Opens 17 Nov 2026.	IA	about €10.00 M (topic total €39.00 M)	4	Entities controlled by China not eligible (General Annex B)	**18 Mar 2027**	EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Horizon Europe, Cluster 5 (call HORIZON-CL5-2027-02)	**HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-24** *Large scale operational validation and upscaling of state-of-the-art (Generative) AI tools and models powering a next generation digital energy system*	Validation and upscaling of open-source, locally deployable (Generative) AI tools and models for grid monitoring, balancing, forecasting and consumer empowerment, at a demo site and on an operational grid; an AI development environment within the digital spine of the energy system, including its digital twin; machine learning at edge nodes and federated learning at swarm level (model scale-down, incremental and reinforcement learning, agent-based architectures); a governance framework for the AI-powered digital spine. Builds on the Cluster 4 cloud-edge continuum and AI data processing work; alignment with the Common European Energy Data Space; use of European AI factories where possible. TRL 7-8. Opens 03 Dec 2026.	IA	about €10.00 M (topic total €20.00 M)	2	Entities controlled by China not eligible (General Annex B)	**31 Mar 2027**	EU Portal
Non-terrestrial networks	Horizon Europe, Cluster 4 Space (Space Partnership)	**HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-34** *Preparing demonstration missions for collaborative EO and Satellite telecommunication*	Preparation of an end-to-end demonstrator for collaborative EO and SatCom. SatCom: end-to-end mission capabilities, secure SatCom services, satellites as network nodes, digital ground infrastructure. EO: equipment, applications and services, data processing and fusion. Common building blocks: on-board processing, payload hardware, system security, hybrid RF/optical ground stations; reuse of existing EU technologies. Proposals state their main R&I area. TRL 7-8. Lump sum. Opens 09 Mar 2027.	IA	€5.00-10.00 M (topic total €26.00 M)	4	EU Member States, Norway, Iceland only	**02 Sep 2027**	EU Portal

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cybersecurity; Cloud, edge and fog computing	Horizon Europe, Cluster 3 (call HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC, managed by ECCC)	**HORIZON-CL3-2027-02-CS-ECCC-02** *Secure Computing Continuum (IoT, Edge, Cloud, Data spaces)*	Security across the computing continuum, from IoT devices to cloud and data spaces, with privacy as a core element: robust zero-trust architectures; lightweight cryptographic techniques, including combined with or based on post-quantum cryptography; security protocols, identity and access management and cross-domain authentication; portable PQC acceleration through SW/HW secure co-design; AI-driven anomaly detection and intrusion prevention. Improved interoperability and cross-layer security across providers of the multi-provider edge-cloud continuum. Lump sum. Opens 02 Mar 2027.	IA	€3.00-4.00 M (topic total €24.00 M)	5	EU Member States and Associated Countries	**15 Sep 2027**	EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing	Horizon Europe, Cluster 5 (call HORIZON-CL5-2027-05)	**HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-06** *Thermal energy optimisation and waste heat recovery of high energy demand IT rooms in buildings or small edge data centres*	Cost-effective thermal management and recovery and re-use of excess heat (optionally with heat storage or upgrade) in existing IT rooms and small edge data centres (roughly 100-500 kW, outside the scope of the Energy Efficiency Directive), taking into account the building's thermal envelope (simulation, digital twins) and integrated with building automation and management systems, with self-assessment and self-optimisation; business cases for re-use of excess heat in the building, in local district heating and cooling networks or at nearby sites; open access to performance data and best practices. Demonstrators in a cold-climate and a warm-climate country. Synergies with HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-09 encouraged. TRL 6-7. Lump sum. Opens 05 May 2027.	IA	€5.25 M (topic total €15.75 M)	3	EU Member States and Associated Countries (General Annex B)	**15 Sep 2027**	EU Portal
Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); Non-terrestrial networks; Cybersecurity	Horizon Europe, Cluster 5 (call HORIZON-CL5-2027-06)	**HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-D6-11** *Enhancing Resilience and Accuracy in Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Systems and e-conspicuity solutions*	Fallback positioning, navigation and timing for aviation, including drones, where GNSS signals are weak, jammed or spoofed: PNT integrating 5G networks and AI-enhanced signal processing as a GNSS backup in contested environments; post-quantum cryptographic measures; integration with IoT sensors, communication signals and other sensing for redundant navigation at low altitude; mobile communication performance requirements for e-conspicuity (collision avoidance of drones and manned aircraft in U-space); policy and regulatory analysis (privacy, spectrum management, international harmonisation). TRL 6-7. Lump sum. Opens 03 Jun 2027.	IA	€5.00 M (topic total €5.00 M)	1	Entities controlled by China not eligible (General Annex B)	**07 Oct 2027**	EU Portal

3. EU-CSA: Coordination and Support Actions

No open coordination and support action on these themes at the moment.

4. EU-FSTP: Cascade funding (open calls of EU-funded projects)

No open call at the moment.

5. EU-OTHER: other EU programmes

Calls of the Digital Europe Programme managed by the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11 (total budget €96 M). Source: EU Funding & Tenders Portal and ECCC.

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cybersecurity; AI and telecommunications	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-CYBERAI** *Cybersecure tools, technologies and services relying on AI*	Develop and deploy AI-based (incl. generative AI) systems and tools for national and competent authorities (Cyber Hubs, CSIRTs) covering threat detection, vulnerability management and incident recovery, and more effective creation and analysis of Cyber Threat Intelligence. Each activity must include at least one listed focus area (e.g. anomaly detection, real-time incident response, automated vulnerability scanning). Tools tested and validated in relevant conditions; secure AI solutions for NIS sectors.	Simple grant	€3.00-5.00 M (topic total €15.00 M); EU rate 50%	4	Restricted under Art. 12(5); eligible countries in section 6 of the call document	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal
Cybersecurity; AI and telecommunications	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-AI4SME** *Strengthening cybersecurity capacities of European SMEs with cybersecure AI-powered solutions*	Market uptake and dissemination of innovative AI-powered cybersecurity solutions, notably in SMEs: develop and deploy AI-powered products, tools and services for European SMEs and automate fundamental cybersecurity processes in small organisations.	SME support action	€3.00-5.00 M (topic total €20.00 M); EU rate 50% (75% for SMEs)	5	Restricted under Art. 12(5); eligible countries in section 6 of the call document	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal
Cybersecurity; Private and mission-critical networks	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-DUALUSE** *Dual-use technologies*	Cooperation between civil and defence spheres on dual-use projects, producing working prototypes, ready-to-market products and operational infrastructures. Expected outcomes include a European-level early warning system for cyber and hybrid threats, unified threat detection using AI, zero-trust architecture and digital twins, and harmonised cybersecurity standards for dual-use technologies.	Simple grant	€3.00-5.00 M (topic total €10.00 M); EU rate 50%	3	Restricted under Art. 12(5); eligible countries in section 6 of the call document	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-EULEG** *Strengthening EU cybersecurity capacities and capabilities in line with legislative requirements*	Support to the European cybersecurity ecosystem in implementing legislative obligations; outcomes may include guidelines, standardised processes or manuals, and pilot projects to test Cyber Resilience Act compliance (one or more to be covered).	Simple grant	€3.00-5.00 M (topic total €20.00 M); EU rate 50%	5	Restricted under Art. 12(5); eligible countries in section 6 of the call document	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal
Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-NCC** *Enhancing the NCC Network*	Support to the operation of National Coordination Centres, which choose their activities from a list given in the topic. The ECCC Work Programme also lists entities in consortium with NCCs, including academia and research organisations, among the beneficiaries; check the call document.	Simple grant	€2.00-3.00 M (topic total €11.00 M); EU rate 50%	4	Only National Coordination Centres recognised by the Commission; Art. 12(5) restrictions	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal
Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-COORDPREP** *Coordinated preparedness testing and other preparedness actions*	Two actions of the Cyber Solidarity Act (Cybersecurity Emergency Mechanism): coordinated preparedness testing of entities in highly critical sectors (scenarios may cover networks, applications, virtualisation, cloud) and other preparedness actions (exercises, training, vulnerability monitoring). Mainly for national competent authorities and CSIRTs, also sectoral CSIRTs, SOCs / Cyber Hubs, ISACs, NIS2 and DORA entities.	Simple grant	€1.50 M (topic total €15.00 M); EU rate 50%	10	Restricted under Art. 12(5); eligible countries in section 6 of the call document	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal
Cybersecurity; Private and mission-critical networks	Digital Europe, ECCC (call DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11)	**DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-REGCABH** *Regional Cable Hubs*	Progressive establishment of Regional Cable Hubs, one per EU sea basin, to improve threat detection and operational security of submarine cables by aggregating data and security information in cooperative cross-border structures. Each Hub involves a consortium of authorities from at least two Member States of the sea basin.	Simple grant	€2.50 M (topic total €5.00 M); EU rate 70%	2	Authorities of at least 2 Member States; Art. 12(5) restrictions	**14 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EU Portal

For these calls the eligible countries are listed in section 6 of the call document. The funding rates come from the ECCC Digital Europe Cybersecurity Work Programme 2025-2027.

6. ESA

Calls for proposals of the ESA ARTES programme. Source: ESA-STAR and the ESA “How to apply” page.

Theme	Framework	Call / Topic ID	Summary of requested activity	Type	Max. funding per project	Max. no. of funded projects	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Non-terrestrial networks; Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); Quantum technology; Cybersecurity	ESA ARTES 4.0	**esa-star action 4-40017** *ARTES 4.0 Technology and Product Developments Activity: Standard Call for Proposals*	Industry-initiated proposals co-funded by ESA under ARTES 4.0. Applicants contact their national delegate to confirm eligibility and funding availability and to obtain support or endorsement (for Italy: ASI). Research institutions and universities usually take part as partners of industry.	Co-funded development	not stated	not stated	Entities of ESA Member, Associate and Cooperating States subscribed to the relevant programme	**31 Dec 2026** (to be confirmed on esa-star)	ESA ARTES

The closing date is the one shown on esa-star, where the call has been open since 31 January 2024. esa-star requires registration; please check the date there before applying.

7. IT-NAT: National (Italy)

No open call at the moment. The MIMIT voucher for cloud computing and cybersecurity services is listed in Section 9.

8. IT-REG: Regional (Italy)

No open call at the moment.

9. Other instruments

Instruments that are not research grants but may interest the sector: tenders, compute access, vouchers and grants for universities. Research organisations can often take part as partners, users or suppliers. Sorted by deadline.

Theme	Framework	Call / Instrument	What it is	Type	Amount	No. of awards	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	EuroHPC JU	**EUROHPC-2026-CEI-AIGF-01** *AI Gigafactories, Lot 2 (large-scale)*	Call for tenders (procedure EUROHPC/2026/OP/0008) to select 3 consortia, each deploying a large-scale AI Gigafactory, from which the contracting parties buy AI compute access time under a framework contract. Earlier drafts and submitted tenders must be resubmitted through the new submission links (notice of 6 Nov 2026). Lot 1 (medium-scale) is listed further down.	Procurement	€6 bn (estimated value of the lot; call total €10 bn)	3	Consortia or SPVs	**03 Dec 2026**, 17:00 CET	EuroHPC JU EU Portal
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	EuroHPC JU	**AI for Science and Collaborative EU Projects** *access call*	Access to EuroHPC AI and HPC systems for AI research.	Compute in kind	compute time	n/a	Scientific and public-sector users; industrial users in EU-funded R&I projects	**11 Dec 2026**, 10:00 CET (next cut-off)	EuroHPC JU

Theme	Framework	Call / Instrument	What it is	Type	Amount	No. of awards	Eligibility	Deadline	Official call link
No theme match (innovation capacity of universities; deep tech)	EIT (Horizon Europe)	**EIT Higher Education Initiative** *Call for Proposals 2026*	Projects that build innovation, entrepreneurship and intellectual-property capacity in higher education institutions, improve knowledge and technology transfer, and strengthen links with companies, investors and the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities; focus on STEM and deep-tech and manufacturing innovation. Projects last 18 months. Applicants are higher education institutions acting as institutions; this is not a research call, and it is listed here for universities in the sector.	Grant	up to €1.25 M per project (call total €40 M)	not stated	at least 5 funded partners: at least 3 higher education institutions from 3 Horizon Europe-eligible countries (at least 1 EU Member State) and at least 2 business or industry partners	**13 Jan 2027**, 17:00 CET	EIT HEI
Cybersecurity; Cloud, edge and fog computing	IT-NAT (MIMIT)	**Voucher cloud computing e cybersecurity**	Voucher for the purchase of cloud computing and cybersecurity services from MIMIT-listed suppliers, granted in chronological order until funds run out (€150 M).	Voucher	50% of costs, max €20,000; min. spend €4,000	n/a	SMEs and self-employed in Italy	open since 10 Nov 2026; **20 Jan 2027**, 12:00, or earlier if funds run out	MIMIT
Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	EuroHPC JU	**EUROHPC-2026-CEI-AIGF-01** *AI Gigafactories, Lot 1 (medium-scale)*	Call for tenders (procedure EUROHPC/2026/OP/0008) to select 4 consortia, each deploying a medium-scale AI Gigafactory, from which the contracting parties buy AI compute access time under a framework contract. Earlier drafts and submitted tenders must be resubmitted through the new submission links (notice of 6 Nov 2026). Deadline extended from 03 Dec 2026. Lot 2 (large-scale) is listed above.	Procurement	€4 bn (estimated value of the lot; call total €10 bn)	4	Consortia or SPVs	**04 Feb 2027**, 17:00 CET	EuroHPC JU EU Portal

10. Calls expected in 2027 (no official dates yet)

10.1 SNS JU Work Programme 2027 (draft)

Topics from the draft orientation paper for the SNS JU Work Programme 2027 (SNS JU and 6G-IA, version of 23 July 2026). The Work Programme has not been published yet, so topics, budgets and dates may change. Budgets are indicative; SNS calls usually fund one project per topic, except the Long-term (Low-TRL) topic, which funds three.

Funding body	Theme	Framework	Topic (working title)	Summary of requested activity	Type	Indicative budget / max. per project	Indicative no. of projects	Deadline	Official call link
EU-RIA	Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); AI and telecommunications; Cloud, edge and fog computing	Stream B	**Flagship Project**	Architectural blueprint for a fully converged communication-sensing-computing platform (AI-native, cloud-edge orchestration, microelectronics, quantum), bridging SNS JU to the next EU funding framework (FP10).	RIA	€20.00 M (TRL 4)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	AI and telecommunications; Quantum technology; Wireless communication (incl. ISAC)	Stream B	**Long-term (Low-TRL) R&I Actions**	Three projects selected from five candidate areas: Cross-Domain AI-Native Autonomous Networks, Electromagnetic Continuum innovations, Neuromorphic Communications, Post-Shannon Communications, Quantum Internet.	RIA	€5.00 M/project (€15.00 M total) (TRL 3-4)	3	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); AI and telecommunications	Stream B	**Wireless Communications**	Enhanced physical/link-layer and multiple-access techniques, scalable XL-MIMO, energy-efficient RAN, integrated sensing-communication-computing, and AI-native RAN intelligence for 6G.	RIA	€12.00 M (TRL 5-6)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Stream B	**Optical Connectivity for Massive AI**	Advanced optical networking (DC interconnects, optical circuit switching, multiband/multifiber transmission) for distributed, energy-efficient AI data-centre workloads and 6G optical access/xhaul.	RIA	€12.00 M (TRL 6)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	Cybersecurity; Private and mission-critical networks; Non-terrestrial networks	Stream B	**Security & Resilience by Design for Sovereign 6G Digital Fabrics**	Secure-by-design and resilient-by-design architectures protecting Europe's link-to-cloud communication infrastructure (fibre, radio, NTN, submarine cables) against cyber, physical and quantum-era threats.	RIA	€12.00 M (TRL 6)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	AI and telecommunications; Wireless communication (incl. ISAC)	Stream B	**EU-Taiwan Cooperation on AI-enhanced RAN**	Joint EU-Taiwan R&I on AI-native RAN (AI-and-RAN, AI-on-RAN for ISAC, AI-for-RAN management).	RIA	€7.00 M EC-funded (+ matching TW funding) (TRL 6)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	Wireless communication (incl. ISAC)	Stream C	**Front-End Module (FEM) for 6G, Phase 3**	Realisation and over-the-air demonstration at TRL 7 of an FR3-band Front-End-Module built on EU microelectronics, following SNS JU / Chips JU phases 1-2.	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 6 to 7)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-RIA	Quantum technology; Cybersecurity	Stream C	**Quantum Enhanced Connectivity**	Extends QKD trials beyond point-to-point / lab scale towards metro-scale, multi-node, standards-based quantum-safe networking integrated with classical network management, building on EuroQCI testbeds.	RIA	€15.00 M (TRL 4-5)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)

Funding body	Theme	Framework	Topic (working title)	Summary of requested activity	Type	Indicative budget / max. per project	Indicative no. of projects	Deadline	Official call link
EU-IA	Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); Cloud, edge and fog computing	Stream D	**Network-Native Media Services**	End-to-end 6G architecture and large-scale validation for real-time immersive media (holographic communication, XR, immersive events).	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 7-8)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	Private and mission-critical networks; Wireless communication (incl. ISAC)	Stream D	**Smart Industry**	Large-scale trial validating 6G for Industry 5.0: deterministic connectivity, ISAC for worker/asset safety, AI control loops, programmable industrial APIs (>100 devices in real control loops).	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 7-8)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	Non-terrestrial networks	Stream D	**Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN)**	End-to-end in-orbit demonstration of 3GPP-based TN/NTN unification, covering D2D and broadband vertical use cases, multi-tenancy and business-model validation.	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 6-7)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	AI and telecommunications; Cloud, edge and fog computing	Stream D	**Telco AI Platform**	Sovereign, vendor-agnostic European telco edge-AI platform validated across multiple operators and hardware, building on EURO-3C, IPCEI-CIS, Sylva and CAMARA.	IA	€20.00 M (TRL 7-8)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	AI and telecommunications	Stream D	**End-to-end AI-native Smart Networks and Services**	Integrated pilots for agentic-AI autonomous network/service management, AI-native optimisation across the 6G protocol stack, and open European telecom foundation models.	IA	€12.00 M (TRL 6-7)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	Wireless communication (incl. ISAC); Private and mission-critical networks	Stream D	**ISAC for public policies**	ISAC pilots for UAV detection/tracking and remote healthcare/patient monitoring, validating a shared sensing-communication platform with public authorities.	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 7-8)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)
EU-IA	Cybersecurity; Quantum technology; Private and mission-critical networks	Stream D	**Quantum Safe Security**	Integration and validation of PQC/QKD quantum-safe security (crypto-agility, Zero-Trust identity) in vertical 5G/6G trials (PPDR, finance, health, transport, NTN).	IA	€15.00 M (TRL 7-8)	1 (indicative)	*TBD*	Draft only (SNS JU orientation paper)

10.2 Digital Europe

Topics planned for 2027 in the Digital Europe Work Programme 2025-2027 (amendment of March 2026) and in the ECCC Digital Europe Cybersecurity Work Programme 2025-2027 (July 2026). No call has been published yet; the ECCC expects to open its 2027 calls in the second and fourth quarter of the year. Budgets are the 2027 allocations.

Funding body	Theme	Framework	Topic (working title)	Summary of requested activity	Type	Indicative budget / max. per project	Indicative no. of projects	Deadline	Official call link
EU-OTHER	Cloud, edge and fog computing; AI and telecommunications	Digital Europe	**Reference deployments of European cloud-edge services**	Digital Europe WP 2025-2027, amendment of March 2026, fourth set of calls (common deadline in 2027). Next phase of cross-border Telco Edge reference deployments (federation, cloud-native 5G, security, interoperability). Lump sum grant, 36 months; for private organisations with proven expertise in Telco Edge developments; call restricted under Art. 12(6).	Lump sum grant	€9.00 M (topic total)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	Digital Europe WP
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity; AI and telecommunications	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Cybersecure tools, technologies and services relying on AI**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.1, 2027 allocation (next round of DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-CYBERAI). AI-based systems and tools for cybersecurity (threat and vulnerability detection, threat mitigation, incident recovery, data analysis and sharing) for national and competent authorities, Cyber Hubs and CSIRTs. EU rate 50%; beneficiaries include research and academia. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€15.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity; Quantum technology	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Migration of Cyber Hubs to PQC**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.5, new in 2027. Deployment of PQC systems, tools and services in National and Cross-Border Cyber Hubs: testing PQC in secure communication between Hubs (TLS, VPNs, digital signatures), crypto-agile and hybrid solutions with backward compatibility. Proposals are expected from individual Cyber Hubs and can include providers of PQC solutions and other stakeholders. EU rate 50%. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€4.00 M (grants of €1.00-2.00 M)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Uptake of innovative cybersecurity solutions for SMEs**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.6, 2027 allocation. Tools and services that help SMEs comply with EU cybersecurity legislation (e.g. Cyber Resilience Act), report incidents and recover: a cyber toolkit as a service, support and incident response capabilities for SMEs. EU rate 50% (75% for SMEs); beneficiaries include research and academia. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	SME support action	€15.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Strengthening EU cybersecurity capacities & capabilities in line with legislative requirements**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.14, 2027 allocation (next round of DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-EULEG). Support to the implementation of EU cybersecurity legislation. EU rate 50%; beneficiaries: all stakeholders. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€12.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity; Private and mission-critical networks	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Regional Cable Hubs**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.12, 2027 allocation (next round of DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-REGCABH). Regional Cable Hubs for the security of submarine cables; competent public authorities from at least two Member States of the sea basin, other entities may join where necessary. EU rate 70%. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€6.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Enhancing the NCC Network**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.13, 2027 allocation (next round of DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-NCC). Operation of National Coordination Centres. EU rate 50%. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€17.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme

Funding body	Theme	Framework	Topic (working title)	Summary of requested activity	Type	Indicative budget / max. per project	Indicative no. of projects	Deadline	Official call link
EU-OTHER	Cybersecurity	Digital Europe, ECCC	**Coordinated preparedness testing and other preparedness actions**	ECCC Work Programme topic 2.10, 2027 allocation (next round of DIGITAL-ECCC-2027-DEPLOY-CYBER-11-COORDPREP). Coordinated preparedness testing and other preparedness actions under the Cyber Solidarity Act; mainly public bodies acting as competent authorities or CSIRTs. EU rate 50%. Restricted under Art. 12(5).	Simple grant	€15.00 M (2027 allocation)	not stated	*TBD (2027)*	ECCC Work Programme