

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

Analysis of SSH-relevant Topics
in Work Programme 2026-2027

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National Contact Points in Horizon Europe.

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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 2026-2027.

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 [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal](#). 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). In the last chapters, the SSH-relevant topics in Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area, in the Missions, the New European Bauhaus and the Horizontal activities are presented.

DISCLAIMER

This document includes information on open and forthcoming topics for 2026-27 as of January 2026.

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 [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\) Keywords](#) and the Social Sciences and Humanities categories used by the European Commission in the Monitoring reports on the [Integration of Social Sciences and Humanities in Horizon 2020](#). 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”).

Net4SocietyHE does not accept any responsibility or liability for the accuracy, content, completeness, legality, or reliability of the information contained in this document.

Cluster 1
Health



Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Single stage - 2026)

Deadline: 16 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-STAYHLTH-02 Behavioural interventions as primary prevention for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) among young people	The topic is focused on behavioural interventions for youth, defined as 12 to 25 years old, for the primary prevention of the top NCDs later in life, where “top NCDs” refers to the most prevalent NCDs. These interventions should be evidence-based and have an emphasis on empowerment and self-management (e.g. health literacy, health education, health promotion). Proposals should include the following aspects: • Ensure that gender-sensitive and intersectional approaches are integrated, addressing potential gender-specific barriers for groups at risk of discrimination, as well as cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. • Present a clear, evidence-based strategy showing how the interventions will be tailored, deployed, and assessed at individual, family, community, and societal levels, while considering social inequalities and lifestyle factors and ensuring a robust methodological framework for evaluating the effectiveness of interventions, with clearly defined indicators of success of the intervention (e.g. biometric markers, psychosocial wellbeing metrics, physical activity change, etc.). This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, organisations 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: Behavioural and Social studies, Gender studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-STAYHLTH-03 Building public trust and outreach in the life sciences	Proposals should address all the following activities: • Provide advisory support and training to life science stakeholders, in order to upskill them in science communication and risk communication. • Produce, publish and advertise to the relevant actors, guidance to engage citizens upstream in the development, co-production, and co-design of life sciences innovation. • Produce, publish, and advertise to the relevant public an accessible repository of tools for life science stakeholders on risk communication. • Design and run community engagement activities in the life sciences, in partnership with relevant local actors, such as science museums, R&I organisations, and/or community organisations. Main keywords: Communication studies, Social studies, Ethics, Education

HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-01 Towards a better understanding and anticipation of the impacts of climate change on health	Applicants should explicitly state in their proposal which of the following broad focus areas is targeted and the proposed work should address only this specific broad focus area: - Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and/or individual safety (e.g. injuries or fatalities), excluding mental health aspects: proposals should explore evidence on the complex interactions between climate change (e.g. changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events) and NCDs and individual safety, which often involve multiple climate exposure pathways and compound and cascading climatic events. - Mental health, considering interactions with brain health if relevant: in the broad focus area of mental health and psychosocial well-being, proposals should increase the evidence on the acute and long-term impacts of climate change and the understanding of new syndromes related to climate stress. - Infectious diseases, including vector-borne and non-vector-borne: proposals should increase the understanding of the factors driving climate-related burden from infectious diseases. Main keywords: Behavioural and Social studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-04 Towards climate resilient, prepared and carbon neutral populations and healthcare systems	Research activities under this topic should generate evidence on the opportunities and health co-benefits of mitigation in the health sector as well as foster the development of low-carbon medical technologies and digital solutions for the sector. Proposals should also support the design of effective, scalable, cost-effective and transferable interventions and frameworks that can be applied across a wide range of healthcare settings and/or in population, community and societal contexts and involving, when relevant, public and patient engagement. Proposals can consider both living and working environments. Proposals should take into consideration the broader socio-economic challenges faced by healthcare systems (e.g. funding challenges, workforce shortages, population ageing and increase of chronic diseases). 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, Sociology, Anthropology, Ethnography
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-02 Innovative interventions to prevent the harmful effects of using digital technologies on the mental health of children and young adults	Proposals should aim at generating robust scientific evidence on the impact of digital technologies, as well as developing and testing context-specific digital interventions that promote the positive and responsible use of them to improve mental health, avoiding the development or exacerbation of mental disorders. These innovative digital interventions should leverage multi-source data (e.g. sleep patterns, heart rate, stress levels, screen-time analytics, social media use, biological data, clinical data), and could include the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). When handling data and indicators, sex and gender identity-disaggregated data should be collected and analysed, incorporating intersectional factors where feasible. The applicants should address the following aspects: - Generate the neuro-biological and cognitive/behavioural evidence base on the correlation and impact of digital technologies on mental health, including brain development (both positive and negative). - Develop and test innovative digital interventions aiming for example at: counteracting addictive design patterns (e.g. on social media and gaming platforms), gaining insights into risk patterns and enabling

	early risk detection (e.g. detecting early warning signs of mental disorders or digital addiction), redirecting users towards healthy use and positive engagement with digital technologies, and/or reducing exposure to harmful content. Assess the changes in behaviour in children and young adults of the newly developed interventions, aiming at fostering their resilience and promoting responsible use and healthy digital habits. 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: Behavioural studies, Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-03 Advancing research on the prevention, diagnosis, and management of post-infection long-term conditions	Proposals should aim to develop innovative approaches for the prevention, diagnosis, and management of post-infection conditions. Proposals should identify effective supportive rehabilitation approaches, including physical therapy, cognitive interventions, and psychological support, to enhance patient recovery, mental health and quality of life and evaluate their effectiveness. Specific attention should be given to sex and gender, as women often experience post-infectious diseases differently due to hormonal and other biological factors, and social factors, which can affect their diagnosis, treatment, and recovery. Moreover, age, disability, race or ethnicity, socio-economic, lifestyle and behavioural factors should also be considered, and special emphasis should be placed on populations in a vulnerable situation and groups with pre-existing conditions to ensure equitable and inclusive healthcare solutions. 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, Gender studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-09 Multisectoral approach to tackle chronic non-communicable diseases: implementation research maximising collaboration and coordination with sectors and in settings beyond the healthcare system (GACD)	The aim of this topic is to fund implementation research focused on strategies to tackle the growing burden of NCDs through actions in sectors and settings outside the traditional health system and its facilities to attain equitable health-related outcomes or influence health determinants for people living in LMICs, and/or underserved populations in HICs. Applicants should explore the implementation of proposed intervention(s) for a selected study population(s) based in one or more LMICs, and/or underserved populations experiencing health disparities, including Indigenous populations, in HICs, considering the unique social, political, economic, and cultural context(s) in which the study will take place. Poverty, discrimination based on sex, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, disability, age, and other inequities are directly associated with reduced potential for equitable access to quality care. Proposals should consider relevant determinants of health (e.g. social, structural, commercial, economic) and discuss their potential impact on the effective implementation of the intervention(s). If there is a focus on a particular population (e.g. gender, race, ethnicity, etc.), then the reason for this should be justified.

	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, Economics, Gender studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-1.1 Understanding of sex and/or gender-specific mechanisms of cardiovascular diseases: determinants, risk factors and pathways	Proposals should identify and/or validate novel or existing sex and/or gender-specific health determinants, risk factors and pathways for cardiovascular disease(s) through the generation, integration and validation of data derived from relevant disciplines (e.g. molecular biology, behavioural science, nutrition, clinical, social and environmental epidemiology; exposure sciences; genetics and epigenetics, etc.). Disease progression and overall health status at different life stages, as well as hormonal influences, genetic factors, etc. and psychosocial, socioeconomic, cultural and behavioural factors should be considered in the proposed research. Other intersecting factors such as racial or ethnic origin, often amplify existing inequalities in health access and outcomes. Proposals should, where relevant, consider these to design effective and inclusive interventions. In the context of gender-specific research, 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: Gender studies, Behavioural studies, Cultural studies, Anthropology
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-1.5 Scaling up innovation in cardiovascular health	Proposals should include the following activities: • Develop a SRIA on CVDs and associated comorbidities aiming to improve personalised prevention, prediction and screening and to inform research funders and stakeholders, including relevant EU and national initiatives. The agenda will include stakeholder validation and adoption pathways • Integrate sex and gender-related variables, age, racial or ethnic origin, socio-economic, lifestyle and behavioural factors, genetic predisposition into research design, data collection and analysis, to ensure inclusive and generalisable findings enhancing the effectiveness of screening, diagnostic, and prevention strategies across diverse population groups. This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts and institutions, in order to meaningfully enhance the societal impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Gender studies

HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-CARE-03 Identifying and addressing low-value care in health and care systems	Research activities under this topic should adopt a patient-centred approach that considers the needs and preferences of patients and citizens. They should promote socially acceptable solutions, taking into account relevant ethical, social and legal aspects and foster dialogue and collaboration between policymakers, healthcare providers, healthcare professionals, and patients/citizens. Proposals should engage citizens and civil society organisations in the development of their actions to ensure acceptability of solutions. Proposed activities may examine the design and impact of healthcare payment systems, that could unintentionally incentivise low-value care and evaluate alternative financing models that better align incentives with patient outcomes and high-value care. Proposals should consider how gender norms and roles influence utilisation patterns, ensuring that strategies to reduce low-value care do not inadvertently exacerbate existing gender and social inequalities in healthcare access and outcomes. In addition, attention should be paid to intersectional factors that may further affect healthcare access and outcomes. If handling data and indicators, sex- and gender-disaggregated data should be collected and analysed, incorporating intersectional factors where feasible. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Law, Economics, Gender studies
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Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Single stage - 2027/1)

Deadline: 13 April 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-STAYHLTH-01 Addressing disabilities through the life course to support independent living and inclusion	Research actions under this topic should address at least three of the following areas: • Health related research addressing disabilities that stem from health conditions and health conditions associated to disabilities. Thus, research may look into finding the causes of the disease(s) leading to the disability and/or disease treatment with the purpose of supporting independent living. • Children with disabilities from the perinatal period, and/or young people with disabilities transitioning to adulthood, and/or older persons. Proposals should foster ways to improve autonomy and quality of life. • Access to habilitation and rehabilitation services, including psychological rehabilitation and innovative rehabilitation with assistive technologies when appropriate, to increase, maintain, substitute or improve functional capabilities of persons with disabilities or for, alleviation and compensation of impairments, activity limitations or participation restrictions contributing to increasing independence. • Prevention of disabilities through the life-course. Different aspects that could have an impact on persons with disabilities may be addressed, such as gender, age, socio-economic background, ethnicity, detection of risks factors leading to a loss of autonomy, the risk of overweight/obesity and related co-morbidities, hospitalisation, nutrition, high level of inactivity/sedentary lifestyle and related co-morbidities, physical activity/sports, screen-time dependency, smoking, drug use, alcohol use, stress, psychiatric and somatic diseases, loneliness and/or isolation, etc. • Conditions for a successful transition from institutions to living in the community, including different tools to achieve it, such as needs assessments, service provision, budget and resources, management plans, monitoring, quality control, etc. • Innovative solutions, care models and strategies for high quality person-centred, accessible and targeted social and healthcare services to prevent barriers and to support independent living, including if possible, self-care to empower persons with disabilities, as well as different choices of care across the life-course. This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, organisations 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-2027-01-ENVHLTH-02 Integrating climate-related exposures into the human exposome and characterising its changes in response to climate change	Research activities should be multiscale and multidisciplinary and account for the complexity and multifactorial nature of health determinants and the most pressing unmet medical needs in relation to environmental degradation and disrupted ecosystems. Proposals should include climate-relevant social determinants of health as part of their proposed activities. Research actions should study the role of socioeconomic (e.g. income, energy poverty, occupation), demographic (e.g. gender, race or ethnicity,

	age) and behavioural (e.g. public trust, risk perception) factors in determining patterns of exposure, using the exposome approach to generate knowledge on intersectional vulnerability and resilience to exposome-driven (including climate-driven) health impacts. Identify disproportionately affected populations and develop interventions to reduce disparities. When handling vulnerability data and indicators, sex-, gender-, race and ethnicity-disaggregated data should be collected and analysed, incorporating intersectional factors where feasible and relevant. 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, Demography, Behavioural studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-DISEASE-10 Prevention and management of chronic non-communicable diseases in children and young people (GACD)	Proposals focused on implementation research should explore implementation strategies on evidence-based interventions, adaptations of interventions and tailored interventions, or initiatives including (though not limited to) those focussed on one or more of the following: • Policy evaluation to tackle childhood- and/or youth-relevant social, economic, political, structural or commercial determinants of chronic NCD conditions. • Prevention of NCDs using children and/or young people targeted implementation strategies (e.g. educational strategies, vaccination strategies, promotion of behavioural and lifestyle changes). • Screening and diagnosis of NCDs (or risk factors) in children and/or young people (in particular use of digital tools). • Cost effective and patient-centred management of NCDs in children and/or young people. Applicants should provide rationale and explore the implementation of proposed intervention(s) for a selected study population(s) based in one or more LMICs, and/or underserved populations experiencing health disparities, including Indigenous populations, in HICs, considering the unique social, political, economic, and cultural context(s) in which the study will take place. Applicants should justify why any adaptation will not compromise the known effectiveness of the selected intervention(s). Proposals should consider relevant determinants of health (e.g. social, structural, commercial, economic) 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: Sociology, Anthropology, Economics

Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Two stage - 2027)

Deadline: 13 April 2026 (First stage) – 22 September 2027 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE-01-two-stage Innovative healthcare interventions for non-communicable diseases	Proposals should address the following aspects: • Take into account sex and gender differences in all relevant aspects throughout the research process, and consider stratification criteria such as age, disability, racial or ethnic origin, socio-economic status, genetic and epigenetic variations, etc., where relevant. • Engage all relevant stakeholders (especially patients and patients' representatives, caregivers, clinicians, counsellors, regulators, etc.) to design end-user optimised interventions • Present a thorough health-economic assessment and Real-World Data (RWD) analysis to enhance sustainability and scalability of novel interventions. 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, Social studies, Gender studies
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE-14-two-stage Clinical trials for advancing innovative interventions for neurodegenerative diseases	Proposals should engage all relevant stakeholders (especially patients and patients' representatives for the disease, caregivers, clinicians, counsellors, regulators, etc.) to design end-user optimised interventions, applying gender-sensitive and intersectional approaches. 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: Behavioural and Social studies, Gender studies

Call - Cluster 1 - Health (Single stage - 2027/2)

Deadline: 22 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-04 Virtual Human Twins (VHTs) for integrated clinical decision support in prevention and diagnosis	The proposals should generate evidence, including clinical validation, that the solutions deliver clinically meaningful decision support, addressing use case requirements. Document lessons-learned for broader application. Gather evidence via health economic and/or feasibility studies in real-world healthcare settings confirming cost-effectiveness vis-à-vis current practice (e.g. cost-effectiveness analysis). Produce an exploitation plan on regulatory compliance and intellectual property. Proposals should be multidisciplinary; solution design and development should be end-user-focused and draw on user and non-user input. This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and 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

Cluster 2

Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Societies

Call - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - 2026

Deadline: 23 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-01 Tackling gender-based violence against politically active women and LGBTIQ people	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU and national policymakers and relevant stakeholders get an enhanced understanding of the drivers of violence against women and LGBTIQ people who are politically active or political aspirants. • Enhanced prevention and early intervention through better understanding of the drivers and impacts of violence (short- and long-term) on women and LGBTIQ people engaged, or aspiring to engage, in online and offline political activities and how their participation evolves after experiencing violence and harassment. • Uptake of evidence-based policy recommendations by policymakers and relevant stakeholders on tackling gender-based violence alongside violence against politically active women and LGBTIQ people, promoting equal political participation and addressing harmful narratives. • Broader adherence to media guidelines on responsible, ethical, and safe portrayals of and reporting on gender-based violence in a political context, embedding gender-sensitive and intersectional reporting and incorporating successful practices with demonstrable, positive outcomes. • Promotion of an inclusive environment that encourages political participation of women, and LGBTIQ people, notably from underrepresented groups, through collaboration across key public, political and civil society actors. A multi-country approach using quantitative and qualitative data is key. Proposals should draw on a range of relevant disciplines (including SSH), and engage stakeholders, civil society organisations and individuals directly affected by the issues in the design and implementation of research activities. Main keywords: Gender studies, Political Science, Media studies, Literature, Cultural studies, Anthropology, Ethnology
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-02 Understanding the forms of local democracy in low-income and low-middle income countries	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU institutions and national decision-makers are equipped with science-based tools, toolkits, training models, monitoring frameworks, and recommendations to proactively promote inequality reduction, human rights and democracy, in order to lead to more resilient and inclusive democratic societies in low-income and low-middle income countries • EU institutions and national decision-makers are better able to proactively promote democratic values, principles and practices in low- and low-middle income countries grounded in a better understanding of the actors at local level including their capacity and needs when engaging in democratic practices. • EU institutions, national decision-makers, and civil society organisations can access and use (evidence-based) good practices for working in fragile contexts

	• EU institutions and national decision-makers understand the role of decentralization processes in low-income and low-middle income countries, and its impact on the quality of public services and on acceptance of democratic processes among citizens. Proposals should adopt a multidisciplinary approach, integrating SSH fields such as political science, public administration, economics, cultural studies, sociology, gender studies, geography. Main keywords: Political Science, Public Administration, Economics, Cultural studies, Sociology, Gender studies, Human geography
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-03 Government in transition – how governments change the way they work and prepare the civil service for the future	Proposals are expected to cover all three focus areas detailed below: 1. <u>New governance paradigm</u>: Focus on new governance approaches and reforms in response to declining public trust, from preparation for crisis to anticipatory governance, agile leadership, using an innovation portfolio approach to strategic planning, working with the innovation ecosystem in strategic decision-making, the impacts of digital technology (especially the role of AI, automation, the redefinition of tasks, related opportunities and threats), open government approaches, democratic participation and central communication strategies, information flows (including social media), and related civil service development governments undertake to stand the ground today and to prepare for tomorrow. 2. <u>Innovative approaches to public service and policy development</u>: Solving complex issues needs multidisciplinary (including from SSH disciplines) and innovative approaches to high-quality public service and effective administrative delivery, policy- and decision making, such as citizen participation, stakeholder engagement, systems thinking, role of technology/AI and interconnected data systems and experimentation (i.e. evidence-informed policymaking). 3. <u>New public employment management and civil service empowerment</u>: Enabling governments to explore possibilities and transforming the civil service through innovation and public intrapreneurship, HR policy, including a public administration health-check, and capacity building (e.g. upskilling, reskilling, future literacy), the organizational framework conditions (also sensitive to the needs of the next generation of civil servants) conducive to innovation and building resilience, and cooperation with other EU governments (data exchange, mutual support) while building a modern, future-ready civil service. Main keywords: Public Administration
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-04 Sustainable paths to media viability	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Reinforced digital transformation of the news media industry by facilitating the development of new business models, contributing to more resilient and inclusive democracies. • Citizens, particularly those facing systemic disadvantages, are empowered and better equipped to make informed decisions, and news media's role as contributor to a healthy, reinvigorated and fair democracy is enhanced. • Stronger engagement with emerging media creators (such as influencers and other online content producers) to promote transparency and accountability in their role in sharing information, and to foster reliance on trustworthy media sources. Proposals are encouraged to investigate the behavioural dimensions of news consumption, focusing on how reader habits, trust, and perceptions

	influence engagement with journalism. This may include examining the role of behavioural science in designing interventions (such as nudges, gamification, or educational tools) to counter misinformation and strengthen critical thinking among audiences. Proposals are also encouraged to explore the evolving trust dynamics between human-curated journalism and AI-driven news delivery, addressing how public perceptions of reliability, bias, and transparency differ across these sources. The participation in the consortia of research and academic actors from relevant disciplines, such as information science and media studies, as well as tech companies (e.g. ad-tech or other) to build workable prototypes, and SSH, is strongly encouraged. Main keywords: Media studies, Behavioural sciences
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-05 Research and Innovation Network for a Union of Equality	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers are made aware and are equipped with the knowledge and tools to integrate inclusive and intersectional perspectives into their policymaking, which strengthens their capacity to promote and protect democracy, fundamental rights, and EU values. • Researchers gain insights on how to translate their findings on intersectional inequalities and democracy into actionable, evidence-based recommendations, enabling them to effectively inform policy and practice at local, regional, national, and EU levels. • Innovative solutions developed under Horizon Europe and other EU-funding programmes empower equally all citizens, to participate in democratic processes and decision-making The network should ensure and support the translation of research findings (including from SSH disciplines) into actionable, evidence-based proposals, and to enable the development of practical and effective recommendations that drive positive change at different level of actions (local, national, supranational). Living labs and innovation hubs could be used to provide a collaborative environment for stakeholders to co-create and test solutions. Main keywords: Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-06 Governing global commons sustainably	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU institutions, Member States and decision-makers worldwide, relevant international organisations, civil society organisations and other societal actors have a better shared understanding of the systemic challenges and the underlying drivers and motivations that undermine managing global commons sustainably. • EU institutions, Member States and decision-makers worldwide, relevant international organisations, as well as academies of science, higher education institutions and research-performing organisations are better equipped with the tools needed to improve the science-policy interface in the area of foreign and security policies in general, and multilateral / national science advisory bodies in the field of foreign policy in particular with a recognition of the need to engage citizens in a more participatory and inclusive approach to research and policy-making. • Rules-based multilateralism is strengthened by the development of concepts, methods, processes, and information relevant for decision-making that foster the sustainable governance of global commons

	within the evolving geopolitical context, thereby informing also the EU's science diplomacy actions. Research should have a multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary systemic perspective, bringing together expertise across natural sciences and engineering as well as social sciences and humanities (including history, law, ethics, and other disciplines). Main keywords: Political Science, History, Law, Ethics
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-07 Supporting post-conflict democracy and reconstruction	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU national and local policymakers develop and implement effective strategies for sustainable peace and democratic reconstruction in post-conflict areas, promoting stability, inclusivity, equity, security, human rights, and strengthening integrity and anticorruption measures to ensure transparent, accountable, and ethical use of reconstruction aid. • EU and national policymakers inform their decision-making with evidence-based recommendations on international cooperation, EU democracy support, and civil society engagement in post-conflict reconstruction, leading to more effective, inclusive and sustainable reconstruction efforts. • Local civil society organisations and community groups, with a focus on persons and groups in a vulnerable situation in post-conflict countries, provide guidance and support to educators, media professionals, public administrators, and other stakeholders on promoting reconciliation, accountability, and sustainable peace. • Specialised service providers, including NGOs and community organisations, offer support services and programmes to veterans and the persons and groups in a vulnerable situation affected by the conflict reintegrating them into democratic societies, addressing their socio-economic and psychological needs and promoting successful reintegration into civilian life. Research should have an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on insights from SSH disciplines such as contemporary historiography, sociology, psychology, legal, political science and cultural studies, to examine the complex economic, social, psychological and institutional factors that influence post-conflict rebuilding efforts. Main keywords: History, Sociology, Psychology, Law, Political Science, Cultural studies
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-08 Electoral integrity in the digital context	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU, national and local policymakers possess the necessary knowledge to inform the development of election regulations, standards and tools that address the use of digital technologies in elections and political campaigns, ensuring their integrity, inclusiveness, accessibility, fairness, transparency, and security. • Organisations involved in electoral processes develop and implement guidelines for the responsible use of digital technologies in elections and political campaigns, aligned with EU and national regulations. • Enhanced transparency and accountability in AI-powered political campaigns, achieved through requirements for AI system audits, data disclosure, transparency regarding algorithms and sources of Large Language Models (LLMs), and responsible AI development.

	Research should have an interdisciplinary approach (including SSH disciplines), bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders, including – but not limited to – electoral authorities and other national authorities with responsibilities in electoral matters – notably those represented in the European Cooperation Network on elections – civil society organisations, new and traditional media and digital platforms. Main keywords: Political Science, Media studies
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-09 Citizenship education as part of lifelong learning	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers, educators, and other relevant actors have tools and recommendations to put in place more opportunities for lifelong civic and citizenship learning, in support of democracy and democratic participation, including by relying on the opportunities offered by digital means, notably civic tech. • Policymakers at local, regional, national and EU level have tools and recommendations for ensuring the participation of citizens in democratic life, whatever their background, especially those who face barriers to participation in democratic processes. Main keywords: Education
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-DEMOCRACY-10 Digital and media literacy as drivers for democratic and civic resilience	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU institutions and national decision-makers, have a better understanding of how to foster democratic resilience through media and digital literacy, equipping societies to adapt and thrive in the face of evolving technological, political, and societal challenges. • Citizens are empowered to navigate the digital landscape with discernment and critical thinking, actively engaging with media and other source of information, ensuring informed democratic participation. Main keywords: Media studies, Behavioural sciences
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-01 “Artistic intelligence”: harnessing the power of the arts to address complex challenges, enhance soft skills and boost innovation and competitiveness	Proposals should contribute to the first two expected outcomes, and either the one listed under Focus 1, or the one listed under Focus 2. • The potential of art-science and/or technology collaborations to address societal challenges and drive innovation is better understood. Guidance, toolkits, and actionable methodologies are developed to promote these collaborations, providing policymakers, professionals, and training organisations with clarity on intervention scope, applicability across various fields, and evaluation methods, metrics, or tools. • New and existing national, European or international networks for art-science-technology collaborations are established or strengthened, expanding opportunities for artists to engage with science and technology. Focus 1: Approaches, methodologies and model interventions for integrating arts and creative practices to enhance soft skills across public and private sectors are developed, tested and disseminated. Focus 2: The effectiveness of critical artists’ engagement in interdisciplinary teams is demonstrated alongside the assessment of the viability of research-intensive emerging technologies through at least three low technology readiness level (TRL) pilot demonstrators.

	Project consortia should include artists and creatives/representatives of creative industries. Through leveraging creativity, projects should boost EU productivity and competitiveness while improving artists and creative professionals' employment conditions and preserving the autonomy and freedom essential to artistic practice and democratic society. Main keywords: Arts, Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Business studies
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-02 Boosting creative startups for disruptive innovation	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Deepened knowledge of specific factors favouring the growth of creative startups, in particular those with potential for disruptive innovation and/or cross-sectorial innovation impacts, is made available and promoted to policymakers, investors, funding- and enterprise support bodies. • Effective methods to favour the growth of creative startups, in particular those with potential for disruptive innovation and/or cross-sectorial innovation impacts, are developed, tested and put in practice by industry, investors, funding- and enterprise support bodies, and relevant decision makers. • Examples of creative startups scaling up and/or engaging in disruptive innovation are made available, with a view to increase the visibility and recognition of the innovative power of Europe's creative startups. • In addition, proposals should contribute to at least one of the following expected outcomes, depending on the option chosen (a or b below): • The effectiveness of the methods developed is demonstrated by at least one creative startup supported via the action becoming a scaleup in a Member State or an Associated Country. • The effectiveness of the methods developed is demonstrated by at least one creative startup or scaleup supported via the action succeeding in bringing a disruptive innovation to the market. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-03 AI integration in CCSI work practice: catalysing innovation and competitiveness	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Insights, recommendations, strategies, guidelines, methods and tools supporting full AI integration in CCSI practices become available to CCSI, policymakers, and stakeholders. • Scenarios for co-created solutions tailored to CCSI needs, utilizing quality data and federated data sources, along with digital infrastructures, and inclusive cooperation processes, become available. • Generally made available AI-powered and ethically designed solutions, tools and services in several CCSI areas benefit creators, cultural professionals, and society, including persons with disabilities and other specific needs, fostering innovative creative expressions and improving creative business models while preserving and enhancing cultural diversity, and inclusion. • By mastering ethical and inclusive AI, CCSI are empowered drivers of culture, innovation, competitiveness and societal wellbeing. Consortia should include representatives of the cultural and creative sectors and industries and technology developers. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries

<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-04</u> Towards a fair and transparent market for cultural and creative content in the era of generative AI	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • An in-depth analysis of the socio-economic dimensions and impacts of generative AI on the cultural and creative sectors and related societal implications. Particular attention should be paid to rights and remuneration of creators, diversity of cultural expression, audience perception, consumption patterns, market dynamics, value chains, royalty allocation and the effectiveness of copyright infrastructure. • Scenarios, value chains, standards and robust, agile solutions to ensure transparency and trust in the generative AI supply chain are developed, aiming for a fair and transparent market for cultural and creative content. • Adaptive policy frameworks, recommendations, and solutions that embed cultural and ethical considerations in AI development for/with CCSI. These should ensure a fair and ethical market for cultural and creative content, products and services. Concrete solutions to address identified challenges and ensure equitable and sustainable creative economies, including agile mechanisms to ensure equitable value distribution, are proposed. • A systemic innovation framework for sustainable CCSI is developed and validated. It enables agile experimentation, design, and testing of future-proof business models, that support compliance with ethical standards, legal requirements, and resource-efficient practices adaptable to market and technological changes. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Economics, Business, Law, Ethics
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-05</u> Creative alliances: Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Deepened understanding and comprehensive evaluation of cultural policy models, creative industry ecosystems, and strategies for promoting creative industries across world regions, identifying good practices, success stories and replicable models. Innovative practices, policy approaches, shared challenges, and opportunities for cross-regional collaboration and global development of creative industries are identified. • International equal partnerships and collaborations are established to exchange cultural policy approaches, boost creative industries, and/or support collaborative production or co-creation, facilitating knowledge transfer and capacity building among participating actors. • Actionable strategies are available to policymakers, businesses, and stakeholders, for cross-regional collaborations that strengthen cultural ties, leverage creative industries, culture, and the arts as central to Global Europe, and support global culture- and creativity-driven innovation and resilience. The topic has two distinct but interconnected focuses; proposals should select one but may also consider complementarities and synergies with the other. Focus 1: Cultural and creative industries' innovation beyond borders Focus 2: International cultural relations for global resilience Research organisations, policy think-tanks, creative industries representatives, artist organisations/artists, tech communities, and cultural organisations from Europe and partner world regions are encouraged to participate.

	Proposals should involve CCSI representatives from the outset to ensure their central role. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-06 Safeguarding linguistic diversity in Europe	Projects should contribute to all the following expected outcomes: • Enhanced understanding, accompanied by documented good practices, showing what works to encourage multilingualism in society and what type of practices have led to safeguarding linguistic heritage, including lesser used, endangered and historically marginalised languages. • Rigorous policy-relevant evidence, strategies and policy recommendations for promoting multilingualism and safeguarding linguistic diversity are available to policy makers, and users are involved in their development, especially the younger generation. Non-linguistic benefits of language maintenance and revitalisation are well documented, communicated and understood by different stakeholders. • Citizens are empowered and engaged in the sustainable management of their own linguistic heritage and resources, with a focus on intergenerational dialogue and education activities, with particular attention to communities where oral transmission is the primary mode of language preservation. • Maps and visual presentations showing the linguistic diversity in Europe are available, including a variety of existing languages (regional and minority languages, indigenous languages, low resources languages etc.) and offering suited terminology and explanations. The proposals should comprise transdisciplinary collaborations (including SSH disciplines) in resolving this issue involving, for instance and not exhaustive, linguistics, heritage and museum studies, media studies, theatre studies, literary studies, socio-economic, socio-cultural and migration studies etc. Main keywords: Linguistics, Education, Media studies, Social studies, Cultural studies, Literature, Heritage and museum studies, Theatre studies
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-07 Preventing and fighting illicit trafficking of cultural goods	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Increased evidence collection and intelligence gathering, effective cross-border and cross-domain cooperation and uptake by the Law Enforcement Authorities (LEA) and experts of the consolidated tools and platforms within their operational systems and methodologies in accordance with the different user's requirements. • Capacity building and consolidated training ecosystem, developed with concrete, validated, actionable, interactive training materials tailored to the specific needs of different user groups across EU Member States and beyond. • European Union law enforcement, judiciary and other competent authorities and practitioners gain a better understanding and enhanced capabilities in addressing crimes related to cultural heritage thanks to the consolidations of existing solutions, standardized and tailored trainings and workshops and practical learning materials. • Actionable solutions to the threat to cultural heritage trafficking by illicit excavations crime that do not necessarily amount to organised crime but are still illegal activities that considerably endanger Europe's cultural heritage, as well as cultural heritage in third countries.

	• A robust and long-term sustainable support framework and plan which will ensure and make operational a long-term cooperation in the prevention and fight of illicit trafficking of cultural goods. Scientists and practitioners doing research in the field of Cultural Heritage (such as archaeologists, museologists, art historians or related fields) must have an essential role in the production of the outputs assuring that they efficiently take into account the real needs and problems of the field, as well as in ensuring scientific quality of information and data. Main keywords: Cultural heritage, Arts, Archaeology, History, Law
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-02 Open topic: Strengthen Europe's social model and sustainable competitiveness through productivity	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • The concept of sustainable competitiveness is analysed taking into account the shifts in geopolitics, global trade patterns, as well as changes in climate, the environment (including biodiversity loss), technology and demography. • Policymakers are provided with recommendations and innovative solutions, including a toolbox to boost Member States and Associated Countries (labour) productivity while ensuring high social and environmental standards and increasing competitiveness within planetary boundaries. Research (including by SSH disciplines) carried out should lead to recommendations to help Europe remain a world power through a high level of welfare, competitiveness and productivity, while analysing the tensions and opportunities created by the strengthening of the European social model and sustainable competitiveness through productivity. Proposals should look into possible opportunities and tensions between driving competitiveness, maintaining Europe's social model and high environmental and biodiversity standards. Main keywords: Social studies, Political Science, Economics
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-03 Tackling child poverty and ensuring disadvantaged children's access to Early Childhood Education and Care	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers gain insights into the cost of child poverty and the returns from securing access of disadvantaged children to quality Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) in the EU. • Policymakers receive operational advice on ways to reduce this cost and support participation of disadvantaged children in quality ECEC to close the gap with other children in the EU. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Education
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-04 The impact of the use of digital tools outside school and for communication on educational outcomes and mental health	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Provide policymakers, education practitioners and citizens with a solid understanding of how social media, video gaming and other leisure uses of digital tools relate to the educational outcomes of young people, including through their impact on well-being and mental health. • Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence about policies and practices aiming to inform and regulate young people's use of digital tools for non-educational purposes, such as smartphones, at school. • Develop actionable advice for policymakers and citizens about how to promote young people's healthy use of digital tools for leisure, both at school and outside school.

	• Describe and quantify the relationships of using digital tools for leisure and communication with students' motivation, study habits, attention span and concentration, time management, engagement, social integration and overall well-being. Proposals could apply interdisciplinary approaches (including from SSH disciplines), combining insights from economics, sociology, neurosciences, communication science (media psychology) and pedagogy. Main keywords: Communication studies, Education, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-05 Contribution of basic skills to productivity, innovation, competitiveness and economic growth	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Provide policymakers with a more detailed understanding of the contribution of basic skills on the economy in the short and medium term, with a focus on their contribution to productivity and innovation, to sustain EU competitiveness and growth. • Develop actionable advice about how, in a lifelong perspective, education and training systems can help foster basic skills. • Promote productivity, innovation, competitiveness and growth, including by reducing gender, disability and socioeconomic gaps in basic skills. Evidence of causal relationship between basic skills on the one hand and productivity, innovation, competitiveness and economic growth, on the other is still limited in Europe, both at microeconomic and macroeconomic levels, mostly due to scarce use of longitudinal data. This also applies to the interplay between the basic skills and other skills (such as socio-emotional skills) in promoting productivity, innovation, competitiveness and growth. There is also a need for better evidence (including from SSH disciplines) on which education and training policies and practices at all levels (school education, vocational education and training, higher education, adult education) can be effective in reducing gender, disability and socioeconomic disparities in basic skill acquisition and in subsequent labour market outcomes. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Education
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-06 Making Europe a global magnet for talent. Attracting and retaining students, researchers and high-skilled workers from outside the EU	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence on the factors that may influence students, researchers, and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to move to and remain in the EU. • Provide policymakers and higher education/research institutions with guidance on which policies and programmes could be effective in attracting talented students, researchers and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to the EU. • Develop actionable advice to policymakers and higher education/research institutions about how to retain talented students, researchers and high-skilled workers from non-EU countries to ensure a long-term positive impact on the EU economy's innovation and competitiveness. • Provide evidence-based policy insights/options to improve the coherence of migration pathways for skilled talent across the EU. Support the development of more flexible and attractive mobility schemes, reducing administrative barriers, increasing accessibility and enhancing retention mechanisms to enhance the EU's competitiveness in research, innovation, and cultural exchange.

	Proposals should apply rigorous quantitative methods for their analysis of the abovementioned factors, policies and programmes and could complement them with qualitative research methods and relevant research from SSH disciplines. Proposals should also address the gender and disability dimensions of attracting and retaining talent. Main keywords: Education, Sociology, Anthropology, Gender studies, Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-07 Fostering competences for the green transition	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Provide policymakers, education and training institutions, and social partners with a solid understanding of which competences young people and workers need to support the EU economy towards the green transition to reach carbon neutrality and protect natural ecosystems. • Develop actionable advice to policymakers and education and training institutions about which education and training programmes and policy measures can promote the acquisition of those competences by young people and workers in a lifelong perspective, including the gender and disability dimensions. • Provide policymakers with guidance on how to address the interconnection between fostering the competences for the green transition and those for the digital transition. Main keywords: Education, Sociology, Gender Studies
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-08 Strengthened implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and a focus on inclusion, integration, and health	Projects should contribute to either the first and second (combined), or the third and fourth (combined) of the following expected outcomes: • Improved implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum through evidence-based insights in asylum and migration management, age assessment of minors, and resettlement frameworks, ensuring fair and efficient migration governance. • Insight into legal pathways addressing both EU Member States' needs and potential offers of circular and permanent migration schemes in selected partner countries. • Enhanced health equity for migrants, including refugees by integrating robust health data into national systems, addressing governance barriers, and tackling intersectional inequities in healthcare access, identifying data/indicators on basic needs in health and sanitation, including as compared to adequate treatment. • Comprehensive evaluation of long-term social inclusion and integration strategies, providing evidence-based policy recommendations for labour market access, housing, education, health (including mental health), recognition of qualifications and validation of skills, youth participation, and social, political, and cultural inclusion. Main keywords: Sociology, Law, Political Science
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-09 Rethinking long-term care policy in the face of EU demographic shifts	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Evaluate the effectiveness and resilience of existing long term-care (LTC) policies at national and regional levels. • Provide policy makers with scientific knowledge and data for evidence-informed policies to address the rising demand for affordable, accessible and high-quality long-term care, with the focus

	on efficient use of resources, including human, financial and technological. • Propose new policy solutions to address rising long-term care needs and to ensure smooth (in)formal care transitions, including from the perspective of active and healthy ageing policies and the development of integrated care service provision at local level. Main keywords: Demography, Sociology, Social innovation, Economics
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-10 Fostering cooperation and integration between SSH and STEM research and innovation in the EU	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Greater integration of SSH and STEM research and innovation in R&I initiatives funded at EU level, national and/or regional level, as well as in R&I policies by promoting dialogue, mutual learning and strategic cooperation among research funders and policy makers in the EU. • Developing and maintaining a new, common, comprehensive 'Monitoring and Impact Evaluation Framework' for SSH integration in current and future EU R&I initiatives. Proposals are expected to create an SSH-STEM Action, that focusses on SSH-STEM monitoring, SSH-STEM facilitation and SSH-STEM promotion, at European level. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Call - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - 2027

Deadline: 23 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-01 Advisory support and network for countering and preventing radicalisation, extremism, hate speech and polarisation	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Political, societal, educational stakeholders, and researchers have an improved understanding of theoretical models and provided pathways for implementing solutions to combat extremism, radicalisation, hate speech and polarisation. • Public authorities, law enforcement agencies, local authorities, NGOs, and community actors are more engaged in implementing and adapting solutions addressing radicalisation, extremism, hate speech, and polarisation in their respective contexts. • EU institutions, national policymakers and judicial bodies can draw on an enhanced evidence-base for their decision-making through scientific, political, and legal assessments of research results in real-life contexts, enabling replication of methods, legislative changes, and innovation. • Improved understanding of the root causes of hate and polarisation, of methodologies to combat online hate ecosystems and of the role of traditional media in shaping public opinion, including the correlation between media consumption and polarisation, to inform strategies for protecting victims and addressing hate crimes and speech. European research (including research by SSH disciplines) should combine a clear understanding of the mechanisms that play a fundamental role in the circulation of online hate speech, radicalisation, extremism, and polarisation with the development of strategies to prevent and counter these phenomena. Main keywords: Political Science, Sociology, Education, Media studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-02 Women's, LGBTIQ and minority rights in a context of autocracy, conflict and geopolitical shifts	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers, public administrations, human rights organisations, and civil society actors have strengthened mechanisms to protect groups in a vulnerable situation (such as women, LGBTIQ people, persons with disabilities and minorities) in contexts of autocracy, conflict, and geopolitical instability. • Researchers and data collection bodies benefit from robust methodologies to systematically document and analyse the impact of democratic backsliding, conflict, and geopolitical shifts on the rights of these specific groups in a vulnerable situation. • Civil society organisations and grassroots movements have enhanced their resilience and advocacy strategies, thanks to the identification of best practices and innovative approaches to counter repression, expand civic space, and promote inclusive governance, including in authoritarian or conflict settings. Proposals should take an interdisciplinary approach, combining SSH disciplines with insights from computer science and data analytics. Main keywords: Gender studies, Political Science, Law

<u>HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-03</u> Student and family engagement for developing a culture of democratic/civic participation	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators will be provided with an evidence base, toolkits, and recommendations on the types of collaboration mechanisms with families that are most effective in supporting schools' efforts to provide citizenship education. • Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators will have a deeper understanding of the effectiveness of student councils and other student participatory mechanisms on influencing school decision-making and on student civic engagement. • Policymakers, education and training institutions, and educators will have a deeper understanding of the impact of family involvement in citizenship education in schools. • Educators have frameworks, guidance, and tools for evaluating social-emotional learning, including values and attitudes, as part of citizenship education. Main keywords: Sociology, Behavioural studies, Education
<u>HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-04</u> Addressing the impact of artificial intelligence, cyberviolence, and deepfakes on equality, democracy and inclusive societies	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: Enhanced understanding of the impact of AI-driven technologies, including AI-generated deepfakes and automated content generation on equality, political participation, democratic processes, public trust, and social cohesion, with evidence-based insights into their role in mitigating or exacerbating disparities. • Uptake of evidence-based policy frameworks for responsible, trustworthy, and transparent AI governance, integrating ethical, legal, and societal considerations to safeguard fundamental rights, mitigate risks of disinformation, and ensure fair and safe AI deployment, in line with the obligations set out in the EU Regulation on artificial intelligence. • Increased public awareness and media literacy to empower citizens to identify and critically assess disinformation, use of deepfakes for malicious purpose, and online harm, alongside the uptake of evidence-based tools for preventing, detecting, and mitigating these harms. • Strengthened capacity of academic institutions to conduct societally relevant AI research and drive the development of trustworthy, ethical AI models, enabled by increased academia-industry collaboration and better access to e.g., computing infrastructure, high-quality datasets, collaborative tools, and funding. A key focus should be interdisciplinary research on AI's role in societal resilience, countering misinformation and disinformation, enhancing civic engagement, and supporting marginalised communities. Proposals should explore inclusive and innovative tools and methodologies for detecting and mitigating deepfakes, disinformation, and cyberviolence facilitated through AI, designed for broad adoption by policymakers, technology developers, media organisations, and the general public. Effectively addressing these multifaceted challenges demands to combine data-driven analysis, drawing on expertise from a wide range of fields, including both academic disciplines (e.g., computer science, and SSH disciplines such as communication and media sciences, ethics, law, political science, sociology, psychology, and gender studies) and the applied perspectives of those involved in shaping and steering AI technologies in practice. Main keywords: Communication and Media studies, Ethics, Law, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, Gender studies

HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-05 Development aid and democratic governance	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU and national policymakers and development aid agencies are better equipped to deal with the complexities and challenges of the relations between the EU and low- and middle-income countries and increase their intelligence to develop EU strategies and policies that promote a more inclusive and equitable multilateralism. • Organisations for development cooperation have enhanced capacity and solutions to support democratic institutions and address key global challenges, such as climate action, democracy and rule of law, human rights and gender equality. • Strengthened multilateral partnerships between the EU as a donor of development aid and low- and middle-income countries in the field of development cooperation. Key areas of investigation include the impact of development aid on democratic institutions, the reduction of socio-economic and gender inequalities, and the identification of funding gaps for democratic governance initiatives, as well as the consequences of declining democratic trends on the effectiveness of global development strategies and the achievement of sustainable development goals. Main keywords: Political Science, Economics, Sociology, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-06 Identifying user-focused solutions to support news media freedom	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Key data gaps affecting the news media sectors at European level are addressed and all relevant stakeholders dispose of an updated and comprehensive knowledge base. • Users' consumption patterns of news are identified (online and offline). • News media organisations and journalists are equipped with better knowledge and tools to adapt to digital transformation, to reach new audiences and to ensure a more resilient public sphere, especially for news sectors that are of particular relevance for democracy. Consortia should bring together academia (including from SSH disciplines), civil society organisations and multiple news sectors representatives (including influencers and other content creators). Main keywords: Media studies, Marketing, Business studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-07 The role of private companies in democracy	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU and national policymakers have a better understanding of corporate influence on democratic processes and outcomes, including activities through service providers in the EU internal market, enabling them to develop strategies to mitigate negative effects and promote a more just and inclusive society. • EU and national policymakers have access to evidence-based recommendations and develop more effective policies and regulations for promoting responsible corporate behaviour, rules on integrity and transparency, preventing corruption and protecting democratic values. • Civil society organizations and citizens have a greater understanding of the complex relationships between private companies and democratic governance, enabling them to hold corporations and policymakers accountable for their actions. Research is needed (including by SSH disciplines) to explore the complex relationships between private companies, lobbying groups and democratic

	processes, to develop tools to assess democratic impact of corporate practices, and to identify strategies to promote responsible corporate behaviour, to uphold transparency and democratic accountability of business practices and to ensure that private companies serve the needs of democracy and the public good. Main keywords: Business, Economics, Political science, Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-08 Global Human Rights and EU values	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU and national policymakers promote and protect human rights and gender equality globally by developing and implementing effective mechanisms for investigating and prosecuting international crimes, and cooperation frameworks with third countries to ensure humanitarian assistance, security, and respect for international law. • Organisations in the EU Enlargement, Neighbourhood and low- and lower middle-income countries empower groups in a vulnerable situation and excluded or marginalized individuals, including, by promoting and protecting human rights and gender equality, providing essential services, and advocating for policy changes that advance equality and social justice, through enhanced capacity, awareness, strengthened partnerships, and effective reporting of human rights abuses. • EU and national policymakers integrate human rights considerations into trade policies and practices, ensuring that trade agreements, supply chains, and labour standards promote human dignity, equality, fairness and well-being, and prevent human rights abuses. There is a need for research (including by SSH disciplines) to better understand these complex relationships and to identify innovative approaches to promoting and protecting human rights and gender equality. Main keywords: Political Science, Law, Gender studies, Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-01 Towards a consolidated culture and creativity driven European innovation ecosystem	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • The number and impact of CCI-driven innovations in Europe are increased thanks to a wide uptake of evidence-based measures stemming from EU-funded research. These results are followed up with appropriate assessments and Key Performance Indicators. • Innovation driven by the cultural and creative industries continues to be boosted beyond project funding through a long-term economically sustainable ecosystem. • A vision of European CCIs as an essential engine of sustainable innovation and competitiveness is broadly established, making CCIs a natural part of European, national, regional and local innovation efforts. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Industries, Social innovation, Business studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-02 AI4Creatives Support Platform: embracing a fair AI revolution	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • The cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI) have access to a dedicated European virtual AI support platform. This hub will facilitate collaboration among a strong and open network of CCSI networks, professionals, researchers, AI tech companies, creative startups, ethical

	AI experts, rights management infrastructures, other industries with a shared interest in the field of AI for culture and creativity and a focus on research and innovation. • The AI4Creatives Support Platform provides easy access to shared services, expertise, capacity building, training, and tools needed to design, develop and adopt AI solutions tailored to cultural and creative processes and needs, enhancing innovation and competitiveness. • Filling a gap, the platform enables the development and sharing of AI applications that adhere to EU values, principles and regulations, implementing transparency, ethical standards, promoting cultural diversity, addressing biases, and ensuring equitable access to culture and creativity. This topic addresses the pressing need to coordinate, support, disseminate and capitalise on relevant outcomes from Horizon Europe Cluster 2-funded projects aimed to equip CCSI to leverage the digital transformation. Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Law, Education, Ethics
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-03 Crafting routes to a circular economy	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • The cultural dimension of circular economy is better understood. Cultural factors and the potential of cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI) are leveraged to foster circular economy in the EU • Scalable, sustainable and inclusive business models are developed with users and stakeholders, leveraging circular practices from CCSI for economic and environmental benefits (e.g. nature protection, reducing waste, increasing resource efficiency, promoting sustainable consumption and re-use patterns). • Circular solution toolkit: A practical toolkit enables businesses in various sectors to apply CCSI-inspired frugal innovation principles, promoting circularity, sustainability and inclusion. • Evidence-based recommendations and guidelines are available to policymakers to support the transition towards circular practices in CCSI and across other industries and to integrate frugal innovation in circular economy strategies. They emphasize local adaptations of global strategies, allowing for customized approaches that respect and enhance local cultures, heritage and economies. • Skills Enhancement: Training modules on frugal innovation, circular design, and circular economy practices inspired by crafts, local heritage and other CCSI are available to professionals in various industries. Proposals may address one or more of the following four focuses and may combine them with others as appropriate to their objectives. <u>Focus 1. Crafts-led innovation for circular economy</u> <u>Focus 2 Evaluating adaptive reuse of built cultural heritage</u> <u>Focus 3. Food heritage and gastronomic innovation for circular futures</u> <u>Focus 4. Designing circularity: creative pathways and open innovation</u> Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Business studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics, Social innovation
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-04 Culture, heritage and creative industries for health and well-being	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Deepened knowledge of the potential positive effects of cultural experiences on health and well-being is developed and made available

	to relevant stakeholders, along with validated scalable and replicable practices to reinforce these effects. • Key industrial, health, cultural, educational and/or civil society actors are aware of validated systemic approaches to make cultural experiences improve health and well-being and are engaged in producing or supporting such cultural experiences. • Competitive European cultural and creative sectors and industries systematically contribute to improve health and well-being. Main keywords: Cultural heritage, Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Sociology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-05 Re-imagining the creative economy: the interplay between the cultural and creative sectors and industries and the social economy	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Evidence-based policy frameworks and guidelines promoting the convergence of creative and social economy models. • Case studies, indicators, and evaluation methods to measure the social and economic impact of CCSI in social economy frameworks. These tools are provided for policymakers and stakeholders, with areas for improvement identified. • Hybrid CCSI business models that incorporate social economy principles, balancing profitability and social responsibility, showcasing scalable examples across different regions and sectors. • Workforce development strategies addressing precarious employment in creative sectors, including alternative employment structures, skill-sharing, and professional development, and enhancing socio-economic diversity and mobility in creative industries, using gender-sensitive and intersectional approaches to address inequalities. Key areas of focus are expected to be addressed through inter-, multi- and trans-disciplinary approaches (taking into account – among others – contributions by SSH disciplines), including cross-sectoral cooperation and stakeholder involvement: 1. Sustainable Growth and Quality Employment 2. Innovation, local development and social impact 3. Policy and comparative studies Main keywords: Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, Economics, Sociology, Political Science, Business studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-06 Future-proofing sustainable cultural tourism	Projects should contribute to the first expected outcome, plus those under either Focus 1 or Focus 2, depending on the chosen focus • Evidence-based policy recommendations and solutions for integrating cultural tourism into strategies for regenerative sustainability, environmental protection (for example, from degradation or biodiversity loss), digital transformation, social inclusion and gender equality at all levels of government. As a result, cultural tourism becomes a stronger driver of regenerative sustainable development, increases workforce numbers and skills, and improves working conditions. Research impact is maximised through coordinated dissemination and policy co-creation, facilitating implementation of research-based solutions by policymakers and stakeholders. <u>Focus 1: Transformative AI integration and strategic foresight for cultural tourism resilience</u> • A comprehensive analytical framework for ethical AI integration in sustainable cultural tourism balancing sustainable competitiveness with cultural authenticity and inclusivity.

	• Methodological frameworks and tools for AI-assisted foresight in cultural tourism enabling policymakers, civil society and stakeholders to anticipate changes and adapt strategies proactively. Focus 2: Cultural tourism as a catalyst for sustainable local development • Evidence-based, community-centric models and strategies for sustainable cultural tourism in emerging and less-developed destinations, adaptable to diverse contexts within and beyond the EU. • An international collaborative network for small business and civil society in cultural tourism, focused on cross-border partnerships, regenerative practices and equitable benefit-sharing. This network will connect stakeholders with researchers, policymakers, expertise, and resources to co-create culturally respectful, regenerative cultural tourism models and improve workforce conditions in underserved regions. Main keywords: Cultural studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics, Gender studies, Ethics, Cultural heritage
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-07 Societal impact of cultural heritage	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Enhanced understanding of the societal impact of cultural heritage; Good practices and case studies to enable positive societal impact described and documented, for the context of the research area chosen. • Capacity building and knowledge dissemination among practitioners and policymakers. • Produce and disseminate policy recommendations, guidance, and toolkits, supporting policymakers, in the context of the research area chosen as appropriate. Research projects should choose one of the following areas: A. Cultural participation and access to cultural heritage B. Gender roles and identities C. Cultural heritage, cohesion and security Proposals should adopt a multidisciplinary approach (involving, for instance and not exhaustively, heritage and museum studies, cultural anthropology, ethnology, media studies, theatre studies, literary studies, musicology etc.) to assess and demonstrate how cultural heritage initiatives contribute to societal well-being, community empowerment, inclusion, and sustainable development while identification of needs for further research in the field should be promoted. Main keywords: Heritage and museum studies, Cultural Anthropology, Ethnology, Media studies, Theatre studies, Literature, Musicology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-08 Safeguarding & transmission of intangible cultural heritage	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Enhanced understanding of the state of play of the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), in the context set by the 2003 UNESCO Convention, and an overview of successful methods for documenting and ensuring the transmission of ICH, including digital, audio-visual, and advanced technologies. • Recognition of the significance and value of ICH in different social, cultural and economic contexts, and with attention to biodiversity preservation and links between ICH and the natural environment. • Empowered communities take ownership and responsibility for safeguarding their ICH, with a focus on how inter-generational

	transmission is ensured, and on youth involvement and informal education. • Innovative policy solutions are available, for the safeguarding of ICH and for mobilising ICH as a resource for fostering social and economic innovation, biodiversity protection and restoration. The proposals should comprise transdisciplinary scientific collaborations involving, for instance and not exhaustive, heritage and museum studies, cultural anthropology, ethnology, media studies, theatre studies, literary studies, musicology etc. Available results of existing research on intangible cultural heritage should be taken into consideration, while identification of needs for further research in the field should be promoted. Main keywords: Heritage and museum studies, Cultural Anthropology, Ethnology, Media studies, Theatre studies, Literature, Musicology, Linguistics, Cultural Studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-01 Impact of access to nature-positive environments in promoting social cohesion and reducing inequalities in urban and peri-urban settings	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers and civil society organisations will have robust evidence on whether inclusive management of (peri-)urban environmental commons fosters climate and societal resilience, social inclusion, wellbeing and community participation, and whether lack of access to biodiverse green and/or blue spaces exacerbates existing social inequalities (e.g. poverty, marginalisation, and low community wellbeing among vulnerable groups) and people's sense of inequality and insecurity. • Development of strategies and innovative solutions to quantify and integrate the distributional aspects of access to quality green and/or blue spaces into integrated spatial planning, accounting for non-market values when making decisions about long-term land use and (peri-)urban development with the aim of supporting nature restoration/preservation in the face of competing pressures and on-going change both in Europe and outside, while achieving a fair and equitable relationship between social groups and the environment. Proposals are expected to adopt a gender-sensitive and intersectional approach to analyse differential access to nature-positive environments across population groups. Particular attention should be paid to identifying the structural and systemic drivers of these disparities, as well as assessing the social, economic and health-related impacts of unequal access on individuals and communities. Interdisciplinary approaches (including from SSH disciplines), combining insights from sociology, anthropology, law, environmental philosophy and systems science, are encouraged. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Law, Philosophy, Systems science, Gender Studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-02 Impact of in-kind benefits on income distribution and on vulnerable populations	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policy makers get a mapping of in-kind benefits across Member States and a comprehensive measurement framework. • Policy makers gain insights on the availability of in-kind services, on potential gaps in their provision, and on reasons for non-take up.

	• Policy makers gain insights into the redistributive role of in-kind benefits and on the segregation of different social groups, through SSH research. • Policy makers receive operational advice to make informed policy choices which reduce inequality and strengthen fairness and cohesion. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-03 Rethinking sustainable competitiveness beyond traditional perspectives: role and contribution of the Social Economy	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Social enterprises, traditional firms and investors will benefit from a better understanding of the sustainable competitiveness factors of the social economy in Europe through knowledge development and know-how on innovative products and services, improving quality and productivity, and increasing adaptability, social inclusion and sustainable, environmentally friendly (for example biodiversity-enhancing) practices. • Citizens and traditional private sector will benefit from the increased contribution of the social economy to the EU's sustainable competitiveness and shared prosperity goals. The research will inform policy makers and private sector on best practice, policy and regulatory reforms aimed at enhancing the social economy's contribution to the EU's competitiveness and prosperity goals. • The social economy's principles for sustainable competitiveness are promoted, through the development of practical and innovative solutions. Activities may involve interdisciplinary research, stakeholder engagement, and policy analysis. Researchers may need to draw on expertise from different fields (economics, sociology, environmental science, public administration) to develop a comprehensive understanding of the social economy's role in promoting sustainable competitiveness, in line with the EU Green Deal and in the Kunming Montreal Agreement. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Public Administration, Business studies
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-04 The impact of EU labour mobility on the Member States of the EU	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Policymakers gain insights into the economic and social effects of worker mobility across the EU, including effects on wages, fiscal budgets, and social systems for both sending and receiving regions. • The benefits of mobility are maximised through actionable recommendations, which consider challenges such as demographic changes, regional effects, digitalisation and, to a suitable extent, further developments such as the green transition or adaptation to climate change (including its potential impact on the economic development and the attractiveness of regions) or the green transition and discussions around the accession of further countries to the EU and wider geopolitical instabilities. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Demography
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-05 The effective use of artificial intelligence in learning environments in pre-primary and primary education	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Provide policymakers and educators and parents with a solid understanding of the potential benefits, opportunities and challenges stemming from the use of artificial intelligence tools in learning

	environments in pre-primary and primary education, including with regard to their ethical dimension. • Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence on the impact of use of artificial intelligence tools in learning environments on educational performance and youth well-being. • Develop actionable advice to educators about how they can make an effective use of artificial intelligence tools in their work, including for the assessment of learning outcomes. The research (including through SSH disciplines) could explore how AI can enhance curricula, improve teaching methods, and personalise learning through adaptive technologies. Main keywords: Education, Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-06 Closing the learning gap: uncovering causes and effective policy interventions for declining youth skills in mathematics, reading, and science	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Provide policymakers with a solid understanding of the structural causes for the decline in young people's skills levels in mathematics, reading and science, including low and top levels of achievement, observed in the EU over the past 15 years. • Generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence about which teaching practices, programmes and policy actions can be effective to reverse that decline, including the role of curricula, structural aspects of education and training systems, physical and digital learning environments, and innovative teaching and learning methods (including their accessibility). • Develop actionable advice to inform policy measures, programmes, future evaluations and actions for education and training systems in the field of basic skills. Interdisciplinary approaches, combining insights from economics, sociology, psychology, neurosciences and education sciences, and more generally, the social sciences and humanities (SSH), are encouraged. Main keywords: Education, Economics, Sociology, Psychology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-07 Persons with disabilities: opportunities for labour inclusion and social protection through the life course	Projects should contribute to two of the following expected outcomes: • Provide implementable, quality, disaggregated and evidence-based data to policymakers and research and innovation stakeholders to bridge the employment gap between persons with disabilities and persons without disabilities. • Deliver scalable and replicable inclusive person-centred interventions addressing the situation of persons with disabilities in relation to the labour market in a manner that they are transferable to the new contexts of work, studying and comparing their impacts. • Develop innovative policy approaches in the area of social protection for persons with disabilities to compensate the cost associated to disabilities, removing barriers for their participation and encourage them to engage in employment in the open labour market, while at the same time guaranteeing them an adequate level of social protection. Research (including through SSH disciplines) should address the disadvantages and barriers faced for increasing inclusion in the labour market of persons with disabilities, collect data on proved effective measures to improve the situation, and provide a thorough analysis of the

	impact and efficacy of existing policy measures, such as positive discrimination provisions, quotas, employment targets and others. Main keywords: Education, Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Sciences, Social innovation
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-08 Scaling and deploying innovations in migration management	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Enhanced impact of EU-funded migration research by identifying and scaling up promising innovations, methodologies, and tools from relevant Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects. • A policy innovation ecosystem: Foster collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to adapt, scale, and deploy validated models, ensuring their scalability, sustainability, and practical application in diverse EU, national and local contexts. Applicants are encouraged to engage key stakeholders - including policymakers, migration practitioners, researchers (including from SSH disciplines), the private sector; groups or individuals that represent the interests of refugees and migrants and the civil society - to ensure that identified innovations align with real-world needs and implementation pathways and taking into account the political, legal, and cultural specificities of each Member State. Main keywords: Sociology, Political Science, Law, Cultural studies, Social innovation

Call - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - 2027 - Two-stage

Deadline: 04 May 2027 (First stage) - 30 September 2027 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-DEMOCRACY-09-two-stage Open topic on reinvigorating and shielding European democracy	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • EU institutions and national decision-makers, civil society organisations and other societal actors and citizens at large are better equipped, with new data, knowledge and methods, to confront threats and challenges of democracies as well as to enhance their inclusiveness and participatory elan. • Strengthened citizens' long-lasting engagement in the democratic life, including but going beyond electoral processes, and increased trust in democratic institutions. Proposals should address existing, upcoming or unforeseen challenges and/or creative or disruptive solutions for protecting European democracy, enhancing citizens' trust and political participation, expanding inclusiveness and fairness of democratic institutions and practices and supporting and protecting civil society. Proposals are encouraged to investigate the opportunities offered by digital and other new technological solutions, notably from the civic tech sector. Main keywords: Political Science, Sociology
HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-HERITAGE-09-two-stage Open topic: Impact-driven research on realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative industries	Projects should contribute to the following expected outcome: • New groundbreaking findings and methods are developed, verified and put into practice that significantly contribute to realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts or/and cultural and creative industries (CCIs) as drivers of sustainable innovation and/or a European sense of belonging. Applicants are invited to design the best possible and groundbreaking research and innovation to achieve that the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and/or cultural and creative industries as drivers of sustainable innovation and/or a European sense of belonging is realised. Applicants are free to choose the focus that best addresses the expected outcome; it can be limited to certain areas or issues or be broader. However, research under this topic should have an impact-driven focus and move beyond descriptive studies towards transformative, actionable knowledge. Main keywords: Cultural heritage, Arts, Cultural and Creative Industries
HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-TRANSFO-09-two-stage Improving socio-economic outcomes for persons with dementia and informal caregivers	Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Persons with dementia experience improved social, mental and socio-economic outcomes through the development and implementation of person-centred interventions that enhance autonomy, inclusion, and quality of life.

	• Informal caregivers benefit from reduced emotional, financial, and physical burden thanks to evidence-based support measures, policies, and services that improve their well-being and economic resilience. • Support networks, long-term care and healthcare systems provide more integrated and accessible care for people with dementia and their caregivers through strengthened coordination between healthcare providers, long-term care and social services, and community organisations. • Researchers (including from SSH disciplines) and policymakers have access to improved, gender-sensitive data on dementia care to inform policies (in particular national strategies and EU aging policy), optimise resource allocation, and enhance the effectiveness of care models. Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Economics, Gender studies
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Cluster 3

Civil Security for Society

Call - Civil Security for Society - 2026

Deadline: 05 November 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-01 Improving capabilities of law enforcement to counter climate-related challenges	Project results are expected to contribute to some or all of the following expected outcomes: • Police Authorities in Europe are equipped with specialised skills and technologies to counter an increase in illegal activities related to climate change and the emergence of new (opportunistic) criminal patterns; • Improved understanding by policymakers of the effects of climate change on law enforcement with a view of developing related effective European policies; • improved knowledge of the impacts of climate change phenomena on social dynamics which can raise demands from public authorities to keep public order, moving beyond traditional perspectives about crime and terrorism. Technological and societal angles should be addressed in a balanced way. 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, Criminology, Anthropology, Education, Public Administration
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-04 Crime prevention approaches, online and off-line, tackling the nexus between addictions and crime	Successful proposals are expected to analyse the specific nexus between addictions and crime, with the aim of developing related modern methodologies and tools for prevention of not only addictions but also crimes related to them, both offline and online, while respecting the fundamental rights of the communities concerned and using of non-stigmatising language. Activities proposed within this topic should address the issue from various angles, combining both social research with technological development and applications in a logical manner. Therefore, 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. Also, incorporating a gender-sensitive approach will allow to better understand the relationships between addiction, crime, and gender, leading to more effective interventions that address the specific needs of men, women, and marginalized groups. Main keywords: Psychology, Criminology, Gender studies, Communication studies Media Studies

HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-05 Enhancing the security of citizens against terrorism and lone-actor violence in confined spaces such as schools	Citizens in European schools and other confined spaces (e.g., places of worship, public administration and other buildings accessible to the public) increasingly face various forms of terrorism and lone-actor violence. This topic aims at providing such places with solutions for ensuring civil security (of pupils, school staff, administrative workers, citizens at large) via exploring various societal and technological means of preventing such threats, with full respect of fundamental rights, such as rights to privacy and the protection of personal data. Based on a thorough analysis of the phenomenon under consideration in the European context, proposals should look into methodologies of catching and tackling early signs of terrorist threats, isolation and radicalisation, taking into account the social and cultural factors that may influence an individual's vulnerability to radicalisation, such as gender roles and stereotypes. Proposals are invited from consortia involving Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners, Civil Society Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations, and the appropriate balance of IT specialists, psychologists, sociologists, etc. Activities proposed within this topic should address the issue from various angles, combining both social research with technological development and applications in a logical manner. Therefore, 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: Psychology, Sociology, Criminology, Law, Anthropology, Cultural Studies
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-01 Designing new ways of risk awareness and enhanced disaster preparedness	Building on the whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach, this topic should contribute to enhancing risk awareness and disaster preparedness through the development of innovative tools, methodologies, and frameworks. A key focus should be on integrating diverse societal and resilience perspectives considering people in a vulnerable situation, ensuring inclusive participation in risk communication strategies, and leveraging accessible advanced technologies and processes to improve public understanding of hazards and vulnerabilities (such as gender, disabilities and others social factors and capabilities). Efforts should aim at designing and validating novel approaches to risk perception, communication, including digital platforms, immersive technologies, and participatory tools that foster citizen engagement and behavioural change, as well as wildlife protection. Behavioural insights should inform the projects on effective methods in population's preparedness including the risk communication. Special attention should be given to marginalized or vulnerable groups in a vulnerable situation ensure equitable access to risk information and preparedness resources. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Communication studies, Media studies, Gender Studies

HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-02 Multi-hazard approach and cumulative / cascading impacts	A holistic, systemic, and cross-cutting approach should be applied to disaster risk management, taking into consideration climate change trends, environmental degradation, and vulnerabilities such as gender, age, disabilities and others social factors. The topic should lead to the creation of comprehensive Risk and Resilience Metrics, integrating physical, economic, and social dimensions to support decision-makers in designing effective prevention and adaptation strategies. Main keywords: Anthropology, Sociology, Economics, Gender Studies, Political Science
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Call - Civil Security for Society - 2027

Deadline: 04 November 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-02 Community policing in diverse societies in Europe	This topic addresses challenges of community policing in increasingly diverse and sometimes also fragile societies, including the integration of returnees from conflict zones, migrants, as well as marginalized communities including LGBTIQ individuals and various ethnic and religious groups. Activities proposed within this topic should address the issue from various angles, combining social sciences with technological development and applications in a logical manner. Therefore, 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, Gender studies, Ethnology, Religious studies
HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-03 Open topic on enhanced prevention, detection and deterrence of societal issues related to various forms of crime	Project results are expected to contribute to some or all of the following expected outcomes: • Improved, modern, uniform and validated tools, skills or methodologies as well as innovative training curricula are available for security practitioners to prevent, detect and deter criminal or terrorist offences under consideration, taking into account all applicable legislation and fundamental rights; • Enhanced understanding of the cultural and societal aspects of crime or terrorism/radicalisation offences under consideration as well as on the key challenges related to combating them; • Evidence-based support is available to policymakers on shaping and tuning of regulation related to crime or terrorism/radicalisation offences under consideration; • Enhanced perception by citizens that Europe is an area of freedom, justice, security and respect of privacy and human rights, thanks to, e.g., innovative awareness-raising campaigns explaining to citizens the key and evolving mechanisms of crime or terrorism/radicalisation offences under consideration, and how to protect against them. Activities proposed within this topic should address, in a balanced way, both technological and societal dimensions of the issue under consideration. 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: Cultural and Social studies, Criminology
HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-05 Effective and evidence-based responses to the increased availability and use of synthetic drugs and stimulants in Europe	Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes: • Evidence base is improved for effective prevention, treatment and harm reduction of synthetic drugs and stimulants in Europe; • Relevant European security practitioners, notably Police Authorities, Civil Society Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations, are equipped with skills, tools and technology aimed at reducing the violence and offences associated with use and marketing of these substances, as well as at combatting drug trafficking from its origin to destination (i.e., through the entire supply chain); • Increased understanding of relevant European security practitioners and policymakers regarding the influence of external drivers of change of societal, technological, legal, economic and ethical nature to the availability and use of different types of synthetic drugs and drug markets. Activities proposed within this topic should address, in a balanced way, both technological and societal dimensions of the issue under consideration. Main keywords: Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Sociology, Economics, Law, Ethics, Gender Studies
HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-DRS-02 Societal resilience, engagement of the younger generations and digital innovation for disaster resilience	This topic focuses on enhancing societal resilience by actively engaging younger generations in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery through digital innovation, education, and community involvement. Projects should develop tailored innovative solutions that integrate digital tools, gamification, and interactive learning methods to improve disaster awareness, risk perception, and response capabilities among younger generations. These initiatives should empower younger generations, to become active contributors to resilience-building efforts, equipping them with the knowledge and leadership skills. Particular attention should be given to the behaviour of children, young people, and other groups in a vulnerable situation before, during, and after climate-related disasters and health emergencies. Projects should conduct a stakeholder or market analysis and a roadmap or plan for uptake of the developed methodologies, findings, and technologies to the industry, the research and innovation community, and/or the relevant authorities. Main keywords: Behavioural studies, Economics, Education, Social Innovation

Cluster 4

Digital, Industry and Space

Call INDUSTRY - CL4-2026-01

Deadline: 21 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-41 Enhancing industry-academia knowledge exchange in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)	This action aims to leverage the strengths of social sciences, humanities and arts (SSH) to address companies' specific needs, fostering a dynamic and productive industry-academia co-creation for knowledge valorisation. This action will implement SSH-industry co-creation (for example hackathons, team-based approaches, targeted mentorship and exchange programmes etc) focussing on specific challenges from industry and SMEs including, but not limited to understanding the socio-technical implications of new technologies and innovations, broadening the perspectives of companies' strategic actions, creating a deeper understanding of customer needs, legal requirements and pathways to the market, strengthening the integration of social, economic and cultural inequality considerations into industry practices and innovation processes, developing new ideas and innovations and contributing to organisational development, sustainability and long-term profitability. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-44 Attracting management talent for capacity building for Technology Infrastructures staff members	Proposals are expected to develop and provide schemes to attract management talent (including but not limited to organisational sciences) to technology infrastructures in EU member states. These management talent schemes should be aimed at attracting talents that will study the technology infrastructures needs, in terms of competencies, skills, organizations, and business models, to deliver more efficiently their services to industry, especially to SMEs, startups and scaleups. Proposals should propose ways to enhance skills and career profiles of technical staff working in technology infrastructures to address evolving needs such as research security, data management, quality assurance, etc., as well as further professionalising the training of managerial and leadership staff in technology infrastructures. They should help also to promote entrepreneurial skills for technology infrastructures staff in training curricula to fully capture the potential of technology infrastructures as centres of deep-tech innovation ecosystem. Main keywords: Business studies, Economics

Call INDUSTRY - CL4-2027-01

Deadline: 02 February 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-42 Unlocking the potential of academic intellectual assets for industry, SMEs and startups	This action will contribute to overcoming the innovation paradox by maximising the impact of public spending in R&I through improved knowledge valorisation practices, and facilitating the uptake of green and digital technologies by start-ups, spinoffs, and innovative SMEs. By unlocking the untapped potential of intellectual assets within universities and public research organisations, and leveraging the creativity of students, researchers, and innovators, the action seeks to improve value creation opportunities deriving from these assets and bolster the competitiveness of European industry. The action should explore strategies and implement pilots for actively involving students and researchers (including those in social sciences and humanities) in valorising academic IP and intellectual assets. These should include hackathons, workshops and larger-scale “summer camp” programmes, and foresee the involvement of interested industry partners than can be potential adopters. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Call DIGITAL - CL4-2027-04

Deadline: 18 March 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN-01 Advanced and Innovative hardware components for Virtual Worlds (Virtual Worlds Partnership) UPDATED	Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes: • Innovative and advanced XR hardware, advanced headsets, screens, wearables and haptic components, sensors and actuators, advanced chips for a deeper and closer-to-reality immersion, stimulating all human senses. Proposals will integrate various components in fully tested devices, demonstrating the usefulness and efficiency of their system in illustrative scenarios in the industrial and societal contexts. Proposals should focus on performant, reliable, miniaturised, interoperable advanced and innovative technologies, with inclusivity, energy consumption and energy efficiency at the centre of concerns. 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, Psychology
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN-02 Create a thriving and competitive Virtual Worlds and Web 4.0 ecosystem (Virtual Worlds Partnership) NEW	The CSA will develop and implement outreach programmes aiming at better understanding and raising awareness to create acceptance and trustworthiness of Virtual Worlds solutions. The CSA will also support standardisation efforts to support the uptake of interoperable, open, trustworthy and ethical Virtual Worlds solution, by mobilising and bringing stakeholders together and, when needed, organising 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, Psychology, Ethics
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN-07 Facilitate the engagement of European stakeholders in international digital standardization NEW	Proposals under this topic should provide for: • Promotion of the relevance and benefits of digital standardisation, especially for strengthening the competitiveness of EU industry, driving sustainability, achieving tech sovereignty, and promoting EU values. The proposal shall build synergies with other similar EU- and national-funded initiatives. It shall also include actions, including development of tools and materials, to promote education and skills on standardisation. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Education

Cluster 5

Climate, Energy and Mobility

Call BATTERIES and ENERGY - CL5-2026-03

Deadline: 31 March 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-22 AI-driven forecasting algorithms for Grid and Consumer friendly Energy Sharing – Societal Readiness pilot	Projects are expected to contribute to all the following expected outcomes: • Develop and test AI-driven forecasting algorithms that use machine learning processes to optimise the value of collective self-consumption through energy sharing for communities and citizens • Upscale AI tools and models for grid balancing and forecasting to ensure consumer participation in a distributed energy system. • Analysis of social interactions using advanced methods like game-theoretic models to highlight the role of active consumers and communities in energy systems. • Deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the R&I development of the technology, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake and building trust in results and outcomes. • Improvement of operation and maintenance of the grid and distributed assets. <u>This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:</u> • Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal Readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2026-2027 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of R&I 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: Social and Behavioural studies

Call ENERGY - CL5-2026-04 (Two-stage)

Deadline: 31 March 2026 (First Stage), 20 October 2026 (Second Stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-04-Two-Stage-D3-02 Next generation of renewable energy technologies	The proposal is expected to address high-risk and high return technology developments for game changing renewable energy technologies. The proposal is expected also to present a comparison with current commercial renewable energy technologies and/or solutions to show its advantages in terms of expected economic performance, environmental impact (notably on biodiversity and pollution), energy security, competitiveness and industrial independence. Selected projects are expected to consider the drivers behind social acceptance and trust-building of the technological solution and assess the best way to promote local involvement as part of ensuring a just transition (gender, cultural and socio-economic factors should be accounted for). An analysis of policy approaches that are encompassing (policy mixes), adaptive (policy learning) and context sensitive (working for different places, levels and/or sectors) should also be performed in order to support the deployment of the future new technology. 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: Social and Behavioural studies

Call CLIMATE - CL5-2026-07

Deadline: 15 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-03 Economics of climate change and cost of inaction	Actions should develop and enhance models, methods, and tools to improve the understanding of future socio-economic costs of climate inaction (for the purpose of this topic defined as insufficient, or delayed action), advancing novel approaches and frameworks to address the limitations in existing methodologies, integrating latest scientific evidence, diverse data sources and applicable to various conditions and contexts. Actions should emphasise treatment of uncertainty, ethics, inequality and justice in the economic analysis of climate change. They should explore approaches more compatible with planetary boundaries, going beyond traditional welfare and cost-effectiveness models. This topic requires interdisciplinary collaboration between physical scientists, economists and other relevant SSH disciplines. Actions should include a process of co-design with stakeholders (e.g., representatives of governments, public administrations, such as civil protection competent authorities, or the private sector) to support uptake of the results. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Public Administration, Ethics
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-04 Fighting disinformation and effectively communicating on climate change	Actions are expected to advance the understanding of the sources, channels, types, and influence of misinformation and disinformation on the public perception and assimilation of climate change-related information. The role of AI should also be investigated. Actions should identify, develop, and test strategies for the public and private sectors to detect, monitor and counteract mis/disinformation about climate and climate policy. Such tools and products should be made available for policymakers, companies and the general public to incentivise and equip society to critically assess climate change-related information online and offline. Research is expected to explore how to bridge the gap from climate knowledge and awareness to behavioural change, taking into consideration various factors that shape perceptions across different segments of the society. This research requires a multi-faceted, interdisciplinary approach drawing on insights from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities (SSH) including behavioural sciences and gender, media studies, and communication theory. Participation of the private sector, in particular SME, is also strongly encouraged. Main keywords: Communication studies, Media studies, Behavioural studies, Gender studies

Call BATTERIES and ENERGY - CL5-2026-09

Deadline: 15 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-01 Researching the technical, social & economic factors impacting the energy performance of Smart Buildings (Built4People Partnership)	Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Research and quantify how existing and novel smart building solutions meet the needs of different social and economic groups (based on their gender, age, educational and financial status, etc.); • Identify major barriers and enablers for the use of smart building solutions among different socio-demographic and socio-economic groups, and research how it impacts the energy performance of buildings; • Validate of findings in at least three different categories of existing buildings (e.g. private residential, social housing, commercial building, office building, etc.), each one in a different Member State or Associated Country. • Develop actionable recommendations tailored to key stakeholders (such as equipment providers, architects, building owners and facility managers) to support the design, deployment and operation of inclusive, user-centric smart building solutions. 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, Economics, Demography

Call BATTERIES and MOBILITY - CL5-2026-10

Deadline: 08 October 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-01 Flagship-pilot: large-scale demonstrations of CCAM (CCAM Partnership)	The proposed action is expected to demonstrate different CCAM solutions and technologies in all the following domains: • Individual mobility within mixed traffic environments, encompassing urban, suburban, motorway, and rural settings, with a focus on the seamless integration of automated and conventional vehicles. • Shared mobility and public transport operations in urban, regional and rural areas, for end-to-end journeys aiming to enhance safety, accessibility, equity, and sustainability, including improving business cases for mobility providers. • Freight transport for hub-to-hub, corridors, and logistics hubs on public roads and confined areas, integrating logistics, fleet and terminal operators. Where relevant, intersecting social factors, such as gender, age, social origin and income level should be considered. This topic requires the effective contribution of 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: Sociology, Economics
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-02 Geopolitical competition and socioeconomic resilience in CCAM: an innovation and policy roadmap for EU leadership (CCAM Partnership)	Proposed actions are expected to address all of the following aspects: • Conduct a comprehensive geopolitical and economic analysis of CCAM to map Europe's strategic position in global competition. Identify vulnerabilities, dependencies and opportunities in business models, supply chains, critical raw materials, technological capabilities, digital and physical infrastructure, validation processes, safety benchmarks, and pricing strategies, supported by AI -driven analytics and innovation mapping tools. • Develop novel, stakeholder-driven participatory future scenarios to explore plausible geopolitical, technological, and economic developments affecting CCAM, and define associated transition pathways toward desirable European futures that ensure resilience, strategic autonomy, and competitiveness. • Assess the socioeconomic impacts of different CCAM deployment pathways, focusing on economic, employment, and social equity dimensions. • Develop robust policy recommendations, governance models, and business strategies informed by institutional diagnostics and tested under diverse future conditions through scenario-based stress testing to reinforce Europe's leadership and economic resilience in CCAM. 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: Sociology, Economics, Business
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Call ENERGY - CL5-2026-11

Deadline: 01 December 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-05 Demonstration of solid biofuel supply and conversion to high efficiency CHP from fully sustainable regional value chains	Proposals are expected to cover long-term scenarios for base load operation within the energy system network ensuring socio-economic and environmental sustainability and in particular the exclusion of negative impacts on other regional bio-based value chains and biomass uses in line with the provisions of the Renewable Energy Directive (also on cascading use), biodiversity, water balance, air quality and soil carbon stocks and other bioeconomy sectors which should be assessed by a comprehensive life cycle analysis. 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, SSH research should look specifically at how synergies can be enhanced to achieve the topic's objective in respect of socioeconomic sustainability. A gender-sensitive and intersectional approach can inform the development of inclusive solutions in solid biofuel supply and CHP, by identifying specific needs, developing solutions that address these needs, and monitoring their impacts on diverse groups. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-06 Resource assessment for deep sedimentary and basement reservoirs	Advanced methods, technologies and conceptual models, for different geological settings, to identify suitable conditions for geothermal resource exploitation, tackling the issue of data scarcity and leveraging the information available. The proposals are expected to contribute to the assessment of environmental and social impacts and to unlock geothermal resources marked by low natural permeability at depths between 2000-6000m. To ensure trust building and communities' support, partners are expected to practice inclusive societal engagement, which is early, continuous, and sensitive to the technical specificities (e.g. impact on biodiversity, water balance, pollution, land occupation, visual impact, noise as well as geo-mechanical changes (e.g. seismicity) and underground changes (e.g. disturbance of non-targeted aquifers)) that could affect local communities and ecosystems. 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: Social and Behavioural studies

HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-14 Improved system design for innovative PV applications (EUPI-PV Partnership)	Achieving societal acceptance and sustainability in agriPV development requires clarity in permitting procedures, promoting energy justice principles, mitigating agronomic risks, and balancing economic development with environmental conservation (notably biodiversity). These dimensions need to be addressed holistically with the involvement of policymakers, industry stakeholders, and local communities working towards a just and equitable deployment of agriPV. 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: Social and Behavioural studies
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Call CLIMATE - CL5-2027-01

Deadline: 04 March 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-09 Assessing the performance of policy instruments to inform climate change mitigation action <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic is expected to assess the performance of EU policies and measures for reducing GHG emissions. This would include gaining insights into factors that influence behavioural change and acceptance of policies, taking into account gender-specific aspects. Actions should consider economic, social, distributional and other effects of mitigation action, including trade-offs and co-benefits such as vis-à-vis climate resilience. Actions should go beyond traditional decomposition analysis and employ state-of-the-art econometric techniques. Actions should assess the impact of national policies on Member State level and how such policies interact with EU-wide policies and measures. They should also identify and highlight examples of national policies and measures that have successfully reduced GHG emissions and brought other environmental, social and economic benefits. This topic requires interdisciplinary collaboration between political scientists, economists and other relevant Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Actions are also strongly encouraged to include a process of mutual learning and co-creation with stakeholders (e.g., representatives of governments, public administrations, NGOs and academia) to meet end-user needs and support the uptake of results. Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-10 Understanding and avoiding maladaptation to climate change <i>Forthcoming</i>	Actions should address the following aspects: • Advance the understanding and identification of drivers that lead to maladaptation for a wide range of systems, socio-economic and environmental conditions. The analysis should be comprehensive and consider an integrated and systemic approach (including insights from Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) to maladaptation causes and drivers of very diverse nature, such as trade-offs and feedbacks with other priorities and sectors, poor decision making and implementation practices and the inherent uncertainty and other features of the adaptation process). The analysis should also integrate the perspectives of public and private stakeholders and end-users, apply intersectional approach and include data disaggregated by gender, where relevant and feasible. • Map and analyse evidence to identify and validate effective adaptation practices that prevent maladaptation and help to identify maladaptive ones. • Strengthen the methodological and analytical toolbox for complex climate risk and adaptation assessments to increase public understanding and policy awareness of maladaptation risks, and to advance both qualitative and quantitative understanding of the most important complex risk feedbacks. • Study and propose corrective responses for the identified maladaptation cases and provide systematised prevention guidelines and best practice examples to avoid maladaptive outcomes. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics

HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-13 Next generation scenarios for informing climate and sustainability transitions <i>Forthcoming</i>	Actions should improve Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs) or propose alternative approaches to address key challenges and gaps in current climate scenario frameworks. Proposals are expected to address only one of the following priority areas, which should be clearly indicated: <u>Area A: Integration of climate impacts and adaptation dimension</u> <u>Area B: Improved scenario frameworks</u> Update baseline scenarios and expand scenario narratives to better address multi-scale, cross-sectoral issues and the needs of downstream assessments. Scenarios should capture a wider range of plausible futures to reflect changing socio-economic and environmental conditions (including a broader range of economic growth assumptions), technological advancements, evolving policy landscape and disruptive events. This includes extension of Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP) and Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) scenario framework, or development of alternatives. <u>Area C: Improved policy representation</u> Enhance the granularity and diversity of policy (both mitigation and adaptation) representation in scenarios with more focus on implementation aspects to bridge the gap between modelled pathways and real-world action. Address social, geopolitical, economic and technological factors, considering interactions between industrial, trade, climate and other environmental policies (e.g. air pollution). Actions should promote transdisciplinary collaboration and co-design with stakeholders to integrate diverse perspectives and needs. They should develop and test new approaches, including communication, to improve uptake of results by various audiences. The topic therefore requires inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, to produce meaningful and significant effects to enhance the societal impact of related research activities. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
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Call MOBILITY - CL5-2027-03

Deadline: 14 April 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-06 Fire prevention and mitigation for EVs in confined areas (2ZERO Partnership)	Proposed actions are expected to address the following aspects: • Social awareness for a transparent, informed public perception of the safety level of all EV categories, also with the development of a European based platform for dissemination and information with direct involvement of main stakeholders. 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, Psychology

Call MOBILITY - CL5-2027-06

Deadline: 07 October 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-D6-04 Holistic solutions for CCAM integration in critical scenarios (CCAM Partnership)	This call adopts a holistic approach, investigating critical cases not only from technological/infrastructure or vehicle-related perspectives (e.g., edge cases for automated vehicles) but also from the viewpoint of the user, customer, service provider, authority, city, etc. In particular, the focus is on how the CCAM system addresses and mitigates potential negative consequences of such events, including safety risks, emissions, loss of trust, and similar impacts. Proposed actions are expected to address all of the following aspects: • Development of a clustered list of critical scenarios, impacted entities, role and relation of all stakeholders, the estimated impact and the optimal kind of CCAM-based countermeasure. • Development and testing of tools and services for the detection of critical situations and edge cases. • Development and testing of CCAM-based countermeasure solutions. In general, customer/user understanding and trust in the CCAM system is crucial in the adoption of a new service. In building trust, it is vital to take into consideration the user perspective and investigate how critical cases can be managed in a way that is effective for the improvement of customer perception. • Validation and evaluation of solutions in terms of resulting risk reduction and potential negative impacts of critical cases. Solutions will need to be targeted against the scenarios identified and the stakeholders affected and would aim to either eliminate the risk to the service resilience or reduce its likelihood and impact as far as reasonably practicable.. 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: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-D6-08 Enhancing Mobility for All: affordable, reliable, and accessible multimodal transport for inclusive rural and urban connectivity – Societal Readiness pilot	Proposals should address all of the following outcomes: • Strategies, best practices and innovative solutions are made available to local authorities and actors to improve the availability, accessibility, and affordability of rural-urban transport and provide rural and urban populations in a vulnerable situation with better access to services and opportunities; • Integrated multimodal solutions, which ensure seamless transitions between rural and urban transport modes improving first- and last-mile connectivity, are piloted and related implementation plans are developed for/by local authorities and transport operators; • Responsiveness to a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social group 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.

	- Development of options for behavioural change towards healthier, safer and more sustainable mobility and lifestyles in rural and urban populations in a vulnerable situation. <u>This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:</u> - Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal Readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2026-2027 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 designing inclusive transport systems that consider accessibility, equity, and digital literacy. Proposals should consider citizens engagement and dialogue, for seeking wider input and support. Main keywords: Urban planning, Social and Behavioural studies
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Call ENERGY - CL5-2027-07

Deadline: 01 December 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-32 Delivery of industrial CCUS clusters – Societal Readiness pilot	Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes: 1. Near-to-market solutions for the safe integration and use of CCUS technologies in the energy- and carbon-intensive industry; 2. A pipeline of projects that have the potential for commercial scale-up. 3. Deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of diverse social groups involved in or potentially affected by the R&I development of the technology, thereby increasing the potential for beneficial societal uptake and building trust in results and outcomes. <u>This topic is a Societal-Readiness pilot:</u> - Proposals should follow the instructions applying to the Societal Readiness pilot, as described in the introduction of the Horizon Europe Main Work Programme 2026-2027 for Climate, Energy and Mobility. They entail the use of an interdisciplinary approach to deepening consideration and responsiveness of R&I 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

Cluster 6

Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Call CL6-2026-01

Deadline: 17 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-04 Ensuring continuous effectiveness of protected areas in conserving habitats and species while facing intensifying drivers of biodiversity loss	Proposals should: - analyse trends over time of the effects of drivers of biodiversity loss and their possible cumulative impacts. Direct drivers (changing use of sea and land, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, pollution and invasive alien species) and indirect drivers should be considered, including socio-economic related ones; - involve public authorities and/or entities which manage protected areas, and civil society organisations to ensure that the processes and outcomes of the R&I align with the needs, including for policy implementation, and values and expectations of society. 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, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-05 Advancing integrated scenarios and prediction models for informing transition to a nature positive society NO SSH-FLAG	Proposals should: - design and develop components of a European integrated prediction and scenario framework to forecast how natural ecosystems respond to a wide range of human-induced ecosystem interactions including climate change, pollution, socio-economic transitions such as conflicts, pressures, and policy interventions. These frameworks should link ecosystem functions with key economic sectors, such as agriculture and fisheries, and test their resilience and tipping points under multiple plausible futures; - make use of long-term monitoring data across biodiversity, land use, climate, and socio-economic variables to improve reliability and real-world relevance. They should also quantify uncertainty in model projections and ensure scenarios incorporate dynamic feedback loops between ecosystems and socio-economic systems, and identify risk distributions relevant to frontline socio-ecological communities; - test and assess the suitability of the IPBES Nature Futures Framework for European application and align modelling approaches with international efforts and assessments under IPBES and IPCC. Scenario development should involve relevant stakeholders—including public authorities, economic sectors, and civil society—in co-creating narratives and ensuring policy applicability. Socio-economic transitions and equity and justice considerations concerning trade-offs and distributional impacts across regions and communities (i.e. across biodiversity, climate, food, water, air, health, energy and the economy) should be explicitly addressed in scenario assessments. Proposals are encouraged to address livelihood and distributional impacts linked to each nature-positive pathway. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-04 Demonstrating and deploying innovative collection, sorting-for-reuse and repair systems for textiles at city/region level (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative topic)	Proposals should: • develop, test and validate innovative solutions that accelerate the adoption of textile reuse and repair practices by local/regional authorities and their operators (e.g. public collection points, retailer take-back schemes); • involve citizens, local (e.g. upcycling) businesses and social enterprises in the development and implementation of local repair & reuse strategies and practices; Proposals should also evaluate the feasibility, effectiveness and impact of the demonstrated solutions using robust evaluation methods (including lifecycle assessments such as product environmental footprint, where relevant) and present data and evidence about the economic, environmental and social costs and benefits of the developed solutions. The 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: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-07 Advancing the European bio-based innovation enabled by biotechnology and biomanufacturing concepts	Proposals should involve SMEs – both as project beneficiaries and as external actors – and offer opportunities to newcomers (to Horizon Europe Cluster 6). Proposals should also engage with the civil society stakeholders such as NGOs and consumer organisations to seek stakeholder involvement and acceptance, thus advancing scale-up and facilitating future market uptake. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities. International cooperation is encouraged. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-08 Supporting pre-normative research for standardization of the bio-based products	Proposals should address the following activities: • aiming at overall high sustainability and environmental benefits, and considering the economic feasibility, for high quality of final products, select a bio-based sector/industry to develop or improve knowledge, technology, product, process, service or solution related to Ecodesign applicable to the chosen sector; • identify specific gaps in standardization research pipeline, for bio-based products, followed by pre-normative R&D tasks, aiming at high socio-economic and positive environmental impact, allowing the development and deployment of safe and sustainable, circular bio-based value chains/products, with reduced pressure on biological resources and ecosystems, leading to the consistent improvement of their environmental footprint; • engage with relevant stakeholders from bio-based industry and standardisation bodies, as well as policy makers and authorities at national and European level, creating community of practice, aiming at transparency and inclusiveness, for subsequent market uptake of innovative and competitive solutions with minimised impact on the environment.

	This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-09 Balancing food security, bioeconomy, climate and biodiversity objectives to unlock sustainable value chains	Proposals should: • explore natural capital accounting methods integrating economics and nature into agricultural accounts, and their potential to support economic valuation, pricing and integration in decision-making of environmental services provided by farmers; • analyse existing and develop new innovative business models and value chains from which farmers can derive fair value and new income beyond food and feed production; • conduct interdisciplinary research from farm to macro levels, encompassing economic, social, biodiversity and climate impacts, • provide recommendations for the design of policies and sustainable business models and value chains. The recommendations should anticipate trade-offs and align bioeconomy, climate and biodiversity goals while safeguarding food security and ensuring that farmers can diversify and receive fair incomes. They should also respond to evolving consumer demand. This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-10 Bio-based innovation in society: supporting the sustainable way of living	Proposals should address the following activities: • develop the innovative user-friendly bio-based products and/or services, underpinned by biotechnology and biomanufacturing approaches, to support the more sustainable applications with a clear societal benefit, such as less resource-intensive consumer goods, to reduce environmental and climate pressures. Foresee the necessary links with the digital technologies and tools (e.g., bioinformatics, AI, etc.); • assess the potential of new socio-economic models for circular and bio-based systems, integrating aspects of environmental justice, gender equality, diversity and social inclusion, as well as relevant international global best practice, via e.g. societal dialogue/innovation, social impact assessment, involvement and inputs from the social sciences and humanities (SSH); • include research and innovation activities to understand and increase the level of current public perception and acceptance, including the benefits / risks, addressing the consumer perspective, market acceptance and understanding of the bio-based innovation, as well as delivering higher understanding of consumption patterns and social demands; This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Gender studies

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-02 Bioremediation of Ukraine's ecosystems contaminated by conflicts NO SSH-FLAG	Proposals should evaluate potential (positive and negative) impacts on the population, especially on groups in vulnerable situations, and ensure transparent engagement with and information to stakeholders and civil society on solutions proposed. Proposals should make use of social sciences and humanities (SSH) to assess the impacts on the population. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology
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Call CL6-2026-02

Deadline: 14 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-08 Advancing basic knowledge and developing tools for sustainable management of key migratory fish species	Proposals should: • develop tools and practices to reduce anthropogenic mortality factors for these species and in all key lifetime aquatic habitats and to avoid fragmented non-coordinated management across sectors and countries; • generate new knowledge on the interplay between climatic and non-climatic pressures, particularly related to fisheries of marine species, or in relation to infrastructure impeding connectivity (e.g. hydropower, pumping stations, flood control) and pollution for the diadromous species; • assess the impact of emerging pressures on the migratory species of interest; • assess the ecosystem services and the resulting societal goods and benefits provided by long-ranging migrating and/or transboundary land-sea-connecting species; • incorporate relevant stakeholders and end-users from the design phase through development and implementation, ensuring that outputs can be readily applied by them. Proposals should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities disciplines. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-09 Sustainable and healthy diets for cardiovascular diseases prevention with the support of digital applications	Proposals should address the following activities: • Develop and test nutrition approaches based on microbiome profiles of different populations (based on gender, age, genetic background). Identify the effects of sustainable and healthy diets on the cardiovascular system using AI and digital tools by considering different groups of the population (based on gender, children, adults and older population); • develop and provide user friendly digital solutions for authorities, national institutes, and healthcare and nutritional professionals which also consider the cost and the benefits also for the end-users; Proposals should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines. Experts in behavioural sciences and psychology, for instance, might help

	better understanding the perception and uptake of digital solutions, the diet consumption aspect and the eating habits of different demographic groups. Main keywords: Behavioural sciences, Psychology
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-10 Sustainable and healthy diets based on health status and socio-economic risk factors of ageing population	Proposals should address all the following activities: - map data on the older population in Europe based on their gender, frailty, social (loneliness, disabilities, etc) and economic vulnerabilities (low income, etc); - develop and provide to Member States and Associated Countries a healthy and affordable diet programme (e.g. guidance, recommendation, etc) for the older population (including those in care homes) affected by malnutrition or at a high risk to develop malnutrition; Proposals should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines. The support of experts in economic and psychological disciplines for older population is relevant for the scope of the proposals. Main keywords: Economics, Psychology, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CLIMATE-01 Towards more effective, fair and coherent policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation in agriculture and forestry	Proposals should: - making use inter alia of advanced technological potentials for accelerated evidence synthesis, take stock of existing analyses and evidence on the performance of sectoral and horizontal instruments affecting climate-change mitigation and adaptation in the agricultural and forestry sectors, also in terms of the distribution of costs and benefits within and across sectors and societies; - design and carry out research to fill gaps in the understanding of the above questions, covering a broad range of policy instruments across relevant outcomes and include compound effects on other policy objectives as well as spill-overs from climate-relevant policies with a different (primary) objective, including biodiversity and nature protection; This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-COMMUNITIES-01 Boosting sustainable competitiveness in rural areas through innovation	Proposals should: - improve the understanding of the drivers and obstacles of sustainable competitiveness in the contexts of societal and market failures in rural areas, and propose indicators to measure competitiveness that incorporate social and environmental performance; - support startups and/or businesses led by young rural entrepreneurs to design, prototype and test sustainable digital, technological, nature-based and/or social solutions to improve access to services and/or create business opportunities in diverse rural settings; - improve access to digital and hybrid education and training for rural communities to acquire new skills and support entrepreneurial mind-sets, in particular among young people, as well as link university graduates with young rural entrepreneurs to share knowledge and possibly create new collaborations.

	Proposals must consider gender in all aspects of project design and implementation, particularly in data analysis, support for start-ups and businesses, the development of solutions, as well as the provision of education and training opportunities. This topic requires the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines (e.g., economics, business and administration, education science, gender studies) and the involvement of SSH experts. Main keywords: Economics, Business studies, Education, Gender studies
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Call CL6-2026-03

Deadline: 15 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-02 Improving analytical capacity and understanding of social drivers in agriculture to better assess social sustainability in the sector	Proposals should: • identify the social impacts of agriculture on farmers (e.g., employment, demography, migration, distributional aspects, procedural justice, inclusiveness, health and well-being, social integration, gender equality, etc.), by considering various type of agricultural activities and farming methods (including organic farming) at various geographical scales, from local, national, EU to global levels; • map, assess and address gaps in data, indicators, and modelling approaches currently lacking social perspective by considering various type of agricultural activities and farming methods (including organic farming) to improve the assessment of social performance including determinants, synergies, trade-offs and benefits; • advance access, harmonize and improve interoperability of evidence/data available from observational, qualitative or case-study approaches to complement quantitative research methods. Examine networking structures to reach all relevant actors, interactions and relations, both work- and life-related; • test, demonstrate and pilot promising new/improved indicators, models, tools and approaches to assess social performance; • identify and address challenges for the EU, Member States and regions to deploy social sustainability principles in the agricultural sector and provide policy recommendations to overcome them. • provide recommendations on how to improve the social sustainability of the agricultural sector and ensure a just transition; • widely disseminate and share knowledge and solutions to policymakers, farmers, businesses and other relevant end-users in order to facilitate their uptake. New interdisciplinary knowledge combining economic and social sciences offer a new perspective on agricultural sciences in which social elements could be the starting point for sustainability evaluations of agricultural systems. To this purpose, proposals should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines, such as sociology, psychology, demography, behavioural science and education. Main keywords: Sociology, Psychology, Demography, Behavioural studies, Education.
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-08 Boosting data availability and AI solutions in food for consumers and food service professionals	Proposals should: • develop and deploy human-centric, generative AI solutions for consumers and food service professionals to support them in the processes of food purchasing, preservation and preparation, with a view to increase dietary health, sustainability (lower greenhouse gas emissions, energy & water footprint; lower food waste, and packaging waste) and productivity. • support innovators working on generative AI solutions in food. The support should include: Encourage participation of SMEs and start-ups, such as through high-impact innovation platforms;

	engage with a broad range of stakeholders (e.g. consumers, retailers, caterers, equipment manufacturers) to ensure that the solutions developed are practical and widely adopted. This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-10 Embracing innovation in agriculture by peer-to-peer learning via on farm-demonstrations and cost-benefit analysis	Proposals should: - develop objective benchmarking criteria to select agricultural innovations, considering factors such as their impact, ease of implementation, scalability and applicability across different agricultural systems; - develop and apply a standardised methodology to assess the economic, environmental (including biodiversity effects), and social impacts of adopting these innovations, with focus on the analysis of the costs and benefits for the practitioners; - screen and select promising practice-oriented innovative solutions developed by research and innovation projects in the area of agriculture to be tested on-farm and by farmers, on the basis of the objective benchmarking criteria; - test, validate and showcase the innovative solutions in real conditions directly on- farms across different geographic realities in real conditions, and thoroughly analyse their costs and benefits for the practitioners. This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Economics

Call CL6-2026-01-Two stage

Deadline: 16 April 2026 (First stage), 23 September 2026 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-01-two-stage Living labs for co-creating solutions for the restoration of ecosystems	Project results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes: • social, economic and environmental co-benefits and trade-offs of nature restoration activities are demonstrated, including for climate action. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines to enhance the societal impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-03-two-stage Unlocking the potential of citizen action for nature protection and restoration	Successful proposals are expected to: • explore innovative approaches that could apply to nature conservation and restoration activities; • develop and test new ways to restore and conserve nature that can be directly implemented by citizens at small scale; • engage with diverse local communities and/or indigenous people and consider gender and disability-sensitive and inclusive approaches to ensure equal participation and benefits for all; • assess the possible contribution of citizens to overall biodiversity objectives and design and test social incentives that encourage citizens to take an active role in nature conservation and restoration. This topic should actively engage citizens and support bottom-up and participatory approaches. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines (e.g. gender and intersectional expertise, education and behavioural sciences) 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: Gender studies, Education, Behavioral studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-04-two-stage Mainstreaming and scaling-up evidence-based Nature-Based Solutions towards a nature positive and climate-resilient economy NO SSH-FLAG	Proposals should: • facilitate effective collaboration and knowledge transfer among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, public authorities as well as SSH disciplines to support evidence-based decision-making, making use of relevant existing platforms and, where possible, expanding beyond the European context; • assess environmental, social and economic impacts of NbS, building on existing knowledge and frameworks, and analyse the mechanisms to scale these solutions. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-01-two-stage	Proposals should integrate systemic socio-ecological approaches and involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines (e.g., economics, politics, sociology, psychology, gender studies).

Deploying circular systemic solutions through living labs in cities and regions (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative topic)	Proposals should support the validation, testing and optimisation of innovative, circular systemic solutions in selected cities/regions (the 'demonstrators'), along with relevant governance models and business plans. Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-02-two-stage Open topic: Using the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative to strengthen urban manufacturing in support of the Clean Industrial Deal	Proposals should implement and demonstrate circular systemic solutions that help urban manufacturers overcome key barriers and challenges in their clean and circular transition and in adapting to new requirements aiming to mitigate environmental degradation, climate change and biodiversity loss. The topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related activities. Topic with minor SSH dimension? (see also the same topic in 2027)

Call CL6-2026-02-Two stage

Deadline: 14 April 2026 (First stage), 15 September 2026 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-01-two-stage Open topic: Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural sector by enhancing the efficient and sustainable use of agricultural production factors	Proposals should address the following activities: • develop prototypes of innovations and farming practices that can improve the efficient and sustainable use of agricultural production factors or provide sustainable alternatives, and test them in a large-scale operational environment; • provide cost-effective and sustainable business models of these innovations or farming practices, and assess their environmental (including biodiversity restoration), social and economic impacts to facilitate the deployment and the commercialisation on the European market; • identify possible barriers and enablers for the adoption, the upscaling or large-scale deployment of these innovations and propose solutions; This topic should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and SSH experts, especially in the field of behavioural sciences and adoption/uptake of technologies and practices. Main keywords: Behavioural sciences
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-02-two-stage Open topic: Boosting organic farming for a competitive, sustainable and resilient farming sector	Proposals should increase knowledge and develop safe, viable and cost-effective innovations to tackle agronomic, sustainability (social, biodiversity, climate, economic), value chain development and/or market-related challenges of organic production. They should demonstrate the contribution of these innovations to facilitating the uptake and implementation of organic production methods by relevant stakeholders, among which farmers. This should include activities to increase networking and knowledge and best practice exchange among farmers (both among organic farmers and with farmers implementing other approaches) and with other relevant actors. This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics

Call CL6-2027-01

Deadline: 22 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-04 Living Labs for the eradication and/or management of invasive alien species	Successful proposals should: • provide data and experience usable for decision-makers, to assess socio-economic impacts of invasive alien species, side-effects of the management, the cost of inaction and the benefits of eradication or effective management, with effective contribution from social sciences and humanities; • address challenges with scaling up and transferability of solutions. A gender-sensitive and inclusive approach should be integrated, examining how invasive alien species affect individuals' livelihoods and well-being differently. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH discipline to enhance the societal impact of the research activities. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-05 Accelerating the transition to a nature positive economy: Integrating biodiversity into the private sector NO SSH sentence	Proposals should: • support decision-making for a nature positive economy by addressing knowledge and practice gaps, advancing transparent and standardised biodiversity metrics, improving accessibility of assessment methods and data, integrating economic risks related to biodiversity loss into corporate strategies and reporting; • improve the knowledge on effective biodiversity incentives including through fiscal reforms and phasing out harmful subsidies to support the development of policies and financial strategies for nature positive investments; • pilot innovative financial mechanisms and valuation approaches in real-world business contexts, including instruments for mobilising private finance such as nature credits, to strengthen the business case for biodiversity protection, restoration and sustainable use, including through Nature-based Solutions; • carry out demonstration actions to help integrate research into policy and practice and to demonstrate operational pathways for long term transformative change and for the acceleration of nature positive economy. Proposals should create synergies with and build on results of other relevant EU-funded projects on biodiversity, economics and finance, and ensure cooperation with the European partnership Biodiversa+. Main keywords: Economics, Finance
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-06 Living labs driving transformative change via knowledge integration and inclusive governance	Proposals should: • establish living labs as real-world testing environments to experiment with policy solutions, stakeholder engagement, and new economic models, while strengthening collective capacities and well-being, and identifying and overcoming barriers that limit participation in living labs;

	• develop inclusive, intersectional and adaptive governance strategies that foster systemic transformative change, based on both biodiversity and socio-economic metrics and emphasising equity and sustainability. In particular, actions are expected to analyse the legal, financial and institutional barriers to inclusive governance in Europe, including the assessment of political and economic obstacles and of active strategies by actors and develop proposals to pilot and test innovative policy instruments, such as citizens' assemblies, participatory budgeting and, if and when relevant, nature credits as proposed in the Nature Credits Roadmap, to foster transformative change. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines to collect and validate both technical and socio-economic data. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Law
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-07 Health of ecosystems and wild species, predictions and impacts on human health, in the face of existing and emerging stressors, from a One Health approach	Proposals should: • propose benchmark protocols to ensure comparability between research communities (including social sciences and humanities) and define common indicators describing the risks (e.g. loss of ecosystem services, exposure to pollutants and pathogens) and benefits (e.g. dilution effect, exposure to beneficial microorganisms, etc.) of the interlinkages of wild species and ecosystem health, domestic animal and plant health and human health. This includes the integration of ecosystem and wildlife health in the exposome approach; • assess the impacts of the degradation of ecosystem and wildlife health on human health, including a cost-benefit analysis of nature restoration and conservation projects in terms of human health benefits and the costs of inaction. This should include disability and intersectional aspects and the groups in the most vulnerable situations in society (e.g. low-income communities, youth, older people, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ people, people with racial or religious minority background). Based on this, provide actionable policy recommendations for policymakers and authorities in establishing a One Health policy framework. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH discipline in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Economics, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-01 Enhancing ecodesign and circularity of consumer electronics	Proposals should: • develop, test and demonstrate new or improved ecodesign of consumer electronics, including design for durability, reusability, reparability, disassembly, separability, recyclability, uptake of recycled content; • remanufacturing or recycling with use of solutions and technologies such as active disassembly/debonding materials and adhesives, and design solutions targeting critical and strategic raw materials; • assess and provide recommendations for mechanisms and incentives to address the trade-offs with costs and innovation limitations and to reward design for circularity and product durability and test and demonstrate new business models such as leasing and product-service-systems, to the extent that they reinforce positive design changes.

	Consumer benefits are at the centre of this topic, and it is vital that the consumer perspective is duly reflected in all activities. The topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related activities. Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-04 Capacity building for extending product lifecycles through repair and refurbishment	Proposals should: • develop and test innovative, modular and scalable training programs for professionals, consumers, local partners, social economy actors and educators, focusing on the repair and refurbishment of one or more of the following product categories: electronics (including household appliances), furniture, textiles and footwear; • develop and test new services for repair and refurbishment, as well as strategies for their uptake, considering the potential to reduce biodiversity impacts, support climate change adaptation and mitigation, and promote sustainable consumption patterns. The focus should be on making them accessible and affordable to all consumers, including those with disabilities or with limited access, financial resources or technical expertise. To achieve this, the strategies should investigate various approaches: such as affordable, accessible and convenient repair services, community-based repair initiatives, and knowledge and expertise sharing mechanisms and digital platforms; • evaluate the feasibility, effectiveness and impact of these new services and strategies using robust evaluation methods (including lifecycle assessments such as Product Environmental Footprint, where relevant) and present data and evidence about the economic, environmental and social costs and benefits of the developed strategies. 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: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-05 Innovative circular solutions for end-of-life footwear through collection, sorting and recycling	Proposals should: • assess the technical, environmental, economic and social challenges and benefits linked to the transition of the footwear industry towards circularity, particularly in the collection, sorting and recycling of post-consumer footwear waste; • explore and develop innovative business models that enable the transition towards a circular and sustainable footwear value chain, promote the uptake of design for preparing for reuse and recycling, enable the development of take-back solutions and stimulate informed consumer choices and sustainable consumption patterns. 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: Economics, Sociology

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-09 Increasing the circularity of bio-based sector: upcycling and recycling for higher value and environmental benefits	Proposals should address the following activities: • develop and deploy/scale-up safe and sustainable, circular and bio-based materials, products, processes and value chains; • develop innovative new, or upgraded existing, circular solutions to tackle complex bio-waste streams and create markets for bio-waste materials by transforming them into valuable secondary resources, while fostering urban/rural/coastal industrial symbiosis, providing data and digital tools and promoting a more efficient use of bio-based resources; • provide recommendations for the development of bio-based product value chains, based on the identified and analysed needs of stakeholders in terms of national and European regulations and standards, financial incentives, professional trainings, etc. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities. This can cover the educational aspect, to facilitate knowledge promotion within different target groups (e.g. students, industry, society). Main keywords: Education, Law, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01 Replacing hazardous substances in biocidal products	Projects should include social sciences and humanities (SSH) in testing the safety of the developed substances on humans, especially including the analysis of groups in vulnerable situations, and the diversity in terms of sex, disability, age, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender, etc. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-02 Developing effective air quality planning strategies through innovative multi-scale modelling NO SSH sentence	Population groups in vulnerable situations are disproportionately affected by air pollution. Proposals should consider the vulnerability dimension (e.g. for children, older people, women, people with lower socio-economic status, people with underlying health conditions) when approaching different scale analyses and provide recommendations on whether and how links could be made with data on social and spatial inequalities related to air pollution exposure and benefits of mitigation measures in developing inclusive air quality plans and in urban planning. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology

Call CL6-2027-02

Deadline: 23 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-01 Increasing the resilience of agriculture in water and nutrient-scarce environments through digital innovations	Proposals should: • create sets of high-quality AI training data to support the development of DSS with the objective to improve water and nutrient resilience of different farming systems, and make them publicly available, considering legal clarity, sustainable access, transparent documentation and metadata, harmonised and standardised protocols; • identify potential barriers and enablers for translation of these R&I developments into practical and commercial digital tools and for the adoption by end-users (especially related to trust and transparency, and the needs of persons with disabilities such as accessibility of the information), as well as characterise remaining knowledge, training and/or advice gaps, and needs for policy feedback. 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: Law, Sociology, Anthropology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-06 Unleashing the potential of sustainable small-scale aquatic food production and recreational fisheries for prosperous local communities	Selected proposals should advance knowledge and develop tools, including Nature-based Solutions, for managing and further developing small-scale aquatic food production. They should include, where relevant, both aspects of natural science and technical know-how to improve small-scale aquatic food production as well as issues related to social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines, to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities. In the frame of SSH, cultural elements such as local traditions related to aquatic food production and consumption could be included. Selected proposals should develop innovative methodologies to assess environmental and socio-economic contributions of relevant small-scale actors to the prosperity of local communities within the broader aquatic food system, taking into account a gender sensitive approach and the specific needs of groups in vulnerable situations. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Economics
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-01 Governance, sustainable development and international politics of a future ice-free Arctic	Actions should conduct trans- and multi-disciplinary research, include aspects of gender, SSH, equality and inclusion, and intergenerational concerns, and strengthen the inclusion of different knowledge systems (Indigenous Knowledge, Local Knowledge and Science) in broadening our understanding the multifaceted governance, sustainable development and international politics of an ice-free Arctic. Main keywords: Anthropology, Gender studies

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-02 Strengthening evidence-based policies for the resilience of European agriculture and forestry and related supply chains against crises and systemic risks	Proposals should: • improve analytical capacity on the assessment and measurement of the propagation of shocks and short-, medium- and long-term impacts (social, economic, environmental including biodiversity) of those (interacting) systemic risks and crises on the agricultural or forestry sectors and on agri-food or forest-based supply chains and their agents, at different scales (local to global) and considering the vulnerability of different groups (e.g. age, gender or other social factors); • explore a range of effective socio-economic and technological (e.g., advanced digital technologies) options and identify leverage points to further develop integrated prevention, preparedness, management, adaptation and transformation strategies and pathways that encompass different temporal (short to long term) and spatial (global to local) scales to improve the resilience at each critical stage of the agri-food or forest-based supply chains; • analyse those options with regard to societal and institutional preconditions, the costs and benefits, at different levels, of action versus non-action, as well as coherence, synergies and trade-offs with competitiveness, health and sustainability objectives. Proposals should support collaborative and interdisciplinary work, involving the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines in combination with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Main keywords: Sociology, Economics, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-04 Unlocking a safe operating space for Antarctica and the Southern Ocean	Proposals should develop mechanisms to distinguish human-induced environmental changes from natural ones and develop strategies to protect the fragile environment of the Southern Ocean from human activities and climate change, as well as comprehensively establish the efficacy of Southern Ocean conservation measures for preserving evolutionary potential and those properties that best anticipate change. Topic with minor SSH dimension?
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES-01 Strengthening rural communities' resilience to shocks	Proposals should: • assess the different types of shocks (understood as sudden disruptions) that can impact the livelihoods, well-being, gender-based differences, and resilience of rural communities. These shocks may include critical infrastructure disruptions (e.g., energy shortages, transportation disruptions, communication failures) as well as economic (e.g., job losses, financial and economic crises, market instability), socio-cultural and demographic (e.g., social conflicts, health crises, migration), and environmental phenomena (e.g., natural disasters, climate change, extreme weather events, ecosystem disruptions); • measure rural communities resilience with appropriate indicators by evaluating the initial impact of shocks and the capacity for recovery; • foster inclusive, participatory, and anticipatory governance by actively engaging women, youth, and people in a vulnerable situation in the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction and management plans, thereby strengthening local governance and ensuring their needs and perspectives are fully integrated into planning and decision-making;

	• identify and mobilise local resources to strengthen community-based adaptation and resilience and support the co-design of solutions that help anticipate, prepare for, and recover from environmental and socio-economic shocks; This topic is interdisciplinary and includes the involvement of diverse areas of expertise, including territorial planning, disaster risk management, emergency response, and participatory governance. This topic requires the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts. Main keywords: Economics, Social and Cultural studies, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES-02 Empowering local urban food systems entrepreneurship and innovation	Proposals should: • develop and pilot decentralised local capacities and ecosystems, such as food innovation incubators, accelerators and hubs, which support high-impact and sustainable urban food solutions. • integrate tailored mentorship programs to stimulate entrepreneurship and start-ups in urban food systems and facilitate participatory co-creation of place-based collaborative sustainable and climate smart business models, utilising the networks and solutions developed through the local capacities; • leverage these pilot implementations to accelerate urban food system transformation and scalability, ensuring market uptake, scaling and replication across diverse EU contexts, while measuring the impact on all dimensions of sustainability by relevant indicators; This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Proposals should integrate the gender dimension where applicable. Consideration of other social categories besides gender (disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnic and/or cultural origin, sexual orientation, etc.), and their intersections, should be also ensured. Main keywords: Business studies, Anthropology, Gender studies

Call CL6-2027-03

Deadline: 11 May 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-01 Strengthening the resilience of European farmers through improved capacity in coping with risks and crises	Proposals should target one or more risks and crises (e.g., sanitary, environmental, economic, geopolitical, ecological, demographic, technological) that are causing, or likely to cause, significant socio-economic impacts directly or indirectly affecting EU farmers, considering among others potential compound and amplifier effects under climate change and biodiversity loss. Proposals should: • improve understanding of farmers' individual and collective options, strategies, incentives, behaviour and decision-making regarding uncertainties, risk and crisis management; • assess the anticipation, robustness and adaptation capacities of farms, costs and benefits of action vs. non-action, and the interactions between risk management, crisis management and the adoption of preventive practices on farms, at landscape level and/or along agri-food supply chains; • propose inclusive solutions, improve and develop integrated risk and crisis management strategies, at farm and landscape level and/or along the agri-food supply chain, to improve the resilience of farming systems; • propose criteria and measures to improve fair risk sharing along the agri-food supply chain and for derisking, to mitigate economic risks for farmers; • test the proposed strategies and/or measures, using an experimental approach. Proposals are encouraged to build for this purpose on existing participatory infrastructures (e.g., demonstration sites, living labs, etc); • support inclusive and accessible capacity building, training, and education on risk and crisis management for farmers and other relevant agri-food supply chain operators ("risk literacy"); This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines Main keywords: Social and Behavioural studies, Economics, Demography
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-02 Improving analytical capacity for sustainable competitiveness of the agricultural sector	Proposals should: • address analytical gaps on competitiveness to better account for their various drivers, inputs (including land, labour, capital), components (e.g., costs, price, innovation capacity, investment capacity, market share, market position, resilience, knowledge, skills, productivity, product quality, differentiation) and impacts (economic, environmental and social). Consider various value chains and farming systems in different regions, one of which should be organic farming. This activity should integrate knowledge from different disciplines (e.g., economics, management, agronomy, environmental sciences);

	• improve the capacity to analyse agriculture-related policies supporting and recognising sustainable practices (such as supporting climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development goals) across the value chain (e.g., due diligence, deforestation-free products) and in trade agreements, in particular their capacity to support competitiveness and resilience objectives, and to mitigate leakage effects; • provide evidence on the social, economic and environmental drivers of competitiveness, synergies, trade-offs between the sustainability dimensions, at and between different stages of the value chain (including farm-level, producer organisations, upstream and downstream operators etc.) as well as spatial (local to global) and time scales (short to long term). Proposals are encouraged to consider different lengths of value chains (e.g., short, mid-tier, global), business strategies (e.g., economies of scale, specialisation and agglomeration vs economies of scope) and marketing strategies (e.g., quality differentiation); • identify, improve and/or develop adequate indicators and metrics, and collect the necessary data, to improve the measurement of performance, sustainability, resilience, productivity and competitiveness in analytical tools; • provide recommendations and propose levers to anticipate trade-offs and conciliate competitiveness, resilience and sustainability objectives in business strategies and policies and support the long-term prosperity of the agricultural sector. This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Economics, Management, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-03 International dimension of the circular bio-based economy: seeking win-win opportunities	Proposals should: • analyse bottlenecks and opportunities (in terms of measurable socio-economic and environmental impacts) of the international cooperation in sustainable and fair/just bio-based circular innovation, identifying key interested players active in this area; • develop an inclusive and transparent networking approach to support stakeholder engagement and international dialogue, considering the role of the governance actors, propose suitable trust-building measures (e.g., co-creation, sharing of best practice, mutual learning); This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-04 AI supporting informed advice for farmers and foresters to improve competitiveness and sustainability	Proposals should involve advisors, farmers and foresters from across Europe in the co-development, testing, validation and piloting of the AI-based solutions; and improve end users' awareness, understanding, competences and skills on the use, benefits, and risks of the developed AI-based solutions in view of improving the competitiveness and sustainability of EU agriculture and forestry. This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines. By integrating relevant SSH expertise (e.g., legal expertise, gender expertise, education and behavioural sciences),

	the successful proposal aims to produce meaningful results that enhance the societal impact of related research activities, engaging advisors (e.g., including Advisory Networks), farmers, foresters, and other rural actors. Main keywords: Law, Gender studies, Education, Behavioural sciences
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Call CL6-2027-01-Two stage

Deadline: 08 April 2027 (First stage), 16 September 2027 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-01-two-stage Deploying circular systemic solutions through living labs in cities and regions (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative topic)	Proposals should integrate systemic socio-ecological approaches and involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines (e.g., economics, politics, sociology, psychology, gender studies). Proposals should support the validation, testing and optimisation of innovative, circular systemic solutions in selected cities/regions (the 'demonstrators'), along with relevant governance models and business plans. Main keywords: Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, Gender studies
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-02-two-stage Open topic: Using the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative to strengthen urban manufacturing in support of the Clean Industrial Deal	Proposals should implement and demonstrate circular systemic solutions that help urban manufacturers overcome key barriers and challenges in their clean and circular transition and in adapting to new requirements aiming to mitigate environmental degradation, climate change and biodiversity loss. The topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related activities. Topic with minor SSH dimension? (see also the same topic in 2026)

Call CL6-2027-02-Two stage

Deadline: 08 April 2027 (First stage), 14 September 2027 (Second stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-02-two-stage Optimising the water-nutrient-energy nexus for sustainable and climate smart agriculture in Africa (FNSSA) NO SSH sentence	Proposals should: • assess needs and opportunities (economic, environmental and social) for sustainable water, nutrient and energy management in agriculture for food and/or non-food uses; • improve existing and develop new knowledge, practices and tools for on farm sustainable management of agricultural resources at the nexus of water, nutrient and energy inputs and outputs; • evaluate the impact of the proposed practices and tools in terms of water, energy and nutrient balances but also their economic feasibility, environmental/climate footprint and social effects; • enable sustainable, circular, climate-smart and biodiversity friendly practices at farm level while considering the characteristic of both local and regional levels in at least two different African agro-ecosystems. Proposals should adopt an inclusive approach that respects and integrates local knowledge and practices alongside technological and scientific expertise, where indigenous insights are enriched by innovative approaches and new technologies through mutual learning. Main keywords: Economics, Sociology, Anthropology

Excellent science

European Research Council

European Research Council (ERC)

Applications in any field of science are eligible for ERC funding and the ERC welcomes research proposals of an interdisciplinary nature.

Indicative summary of calls from the 2026 budget

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2026-StG	ERC-2026-CoG	ERC-2026-AdG	ERC-2026-SyG
Call deadline	14/10/2025 CLOSED	13/01/2026 CLOSED	27/08/2026	5/11/2025 CLOSED

ERC - Advanced Grants

Deadline: 27 August 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
ERC-2026-ADG ERC - Advanced Grant <i>Forthcoming</i>	The objective of the Advanced Grant is to support excellent Principal Investigators that are established research leaders. An ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigator is expected to be an active researcher with a track record of significant research achievements. 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.

MSCA actions

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 academic¹⁴ 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, inter-sectoral 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 Choose Europe for Science co-funded programmes additionally aim to address brain drain and precarity of researchers' careers in order to make Europe more attractive to the most promising young talents.

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

Deadline: 24 November 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01-01 MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026	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

Deadline: 23 November 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01-01 MSCA Doctoral Networks 2027 <i>Forthcoming</i>	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

Deadline: 09 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01-01 MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026	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

Deadline: 08 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01-01 MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027	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

Deadline: 16 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01-01 MSCA Staff Exchanges 2026	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

Deadline: 15 April 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01-01 MSCA Staff Exchanges 2027 <i>Forthcoming</i>	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 programme

Deadline: 08 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01-01 MSCA COFUND 2026	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. These programmes will be co-funded by MSCA COFUND. 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

Deadline: 06 April 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01-01 MSCA COFUND 2027 <i>Forthcoming</i>	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. These programmes will be co-funded by MSCA COFUND. 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 Choose Europe for Science

Deadline: 06 April 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02-01 MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027 <i>Forthcoming</i>	Applicants submit proposals for talent recruitment programmes that will provide researchers holding a doctoral degree with excellent research and academic opportunities, potentially coupled with management activities, to lead them to concrete and attractive career prospects. This will have an impact on the enhancement of human resources in R&I at institutional, regional, national or international level. Proposed programmes can cover any research disciplines. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Call - MSCA and Citizens

Deadline: 08 June 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01-01 MSCA and Citizens 2027	Proposals should cover both the organisation of the European Researchers' Night and the implementation of the Researchers at Schools initiative. The European Researchers' Night takes place every year, on the last Friday of September. It supports events that can last up to two days: they can start on Friday and continue the following day. Pre-events, prior to the main event, and related post-events, such as wrap-up meetings or small-scale follow-up events, can also be organised. It is the occasion for a Europe-wide public and media event for the promotion of research careers. 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 learn directly about research projects. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Excellent science

Research Infrastructures

Call - Research Infrastructures 2026

Deadline: 16 June 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-DEV-01-04 Strengthening the human capital managing research infrastructures, including in international context <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic aims at the training of staff managing research infrastructures, the adequate supply of skilled human resources, and strengthening and sustaining specific education curricula and courses with due attention to widening and candidate countries as well as to evolving research infrastructure environments. The complexity of research infrastructures and the exploitation of their full potential require adequate skills for their managers. Research infrastructures are built and operated at the cutting edge of what is technologically feasible, involving a high associated risk that needs to be managed. Proposals should build on existing curricula such as those developed under the Rltrainplus project and strengthen and continue professionalising the training offer including through sustained and recognised executive master's in management of research infrastructures The proposed action should address training topics such as the socioeconomic impact of research infrastructures, scientific capabilities and capacity, engagement with academic users and industry (including understanding the needs of startups and scaleups), in-depth guidance on State Aid rules, and the long-term financial and environmental sustainability of the infrastructure's activities. Main keywords: Business studies, Economics

Call - Research Infrastructures 2027

Deadline: 15 June 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-EOSC-02 Strengthening the potential of the EOSC for knowledge valorisation and industry-academia collaboration (EOSC Partnership) <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic aims to support increasing and exploiting the potential of EOSC as a driver of innovation and a platform for researchers to develop new technologies and solutions that can be brought to the market. A key element in this effort is to clarify the legal conditions to valorise knowledge resources, including resources provided in the EOSC Federation. Proposals under this topic should include the following activities: • Analyse opportunities and barriers emerging from the provisions of the EU's current legal framework on intellectual property and relevant types of licenses that set the legal conditions for researchers to valorise knowledge resources in EOSC Federation. • Gather requirements and needs, develop and analyse potential business models and access schemes for innovators and start-ups in Europe to access and use resources available in the EOSC Federation. • Develop a number of case studies of identified EOSC stakeholders valorising their results and/or establishing collaboration links with the private sector. • Map out and evaluate the possibilities of relevant types of licenses for knowledge resources to facilitate knowledge valorisation and engage in open innovation and industry-academia collaboration. • Organise workshops, webinars and awareness-raising campaigns, and develop guiding material targeted at EOSC users and communities contributing to EOSC on how to facilitate and engage in knowledge valorisation and industry-academia collaboration based on the knowledge resources of EOSC Federation. • Develop recommendations and best practices, based also on the case studies, for further development of the EOSC Federation to facilitate knowledge valorisation and industry-academia collaboration. Main keywords: Law, Business studies



Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Call - Twinning

Deadline: 09 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02-WIDENING-01 Twinning	Twining actions aim to enhance networking activities between the research institutions and research infrastructures of the Widening countries acting as co-ordinators by linking it with at least two internationally leading research institutions from two different Member States or Associated Countries Twining proposals should clearly outline the strategy for stepping up and stimulating scientific excellence and innovation capacity <u>in a defined area of research and innovation</u> as well as the scientific excellence of the partners involved. This strategy should include arrangements for formulating joint research and innovation activities and projects in the scientific area of choice and describe how Twining will take this research to a new level. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Call - Hop-on facility

Deadline: 24 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03-WIDENING-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. 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 - Research Management Facility

Deadline: 24 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-04-WIDENING-01 Research Management Facility	This action aims at creating a research management facility to provide support services including trainings to research institutions and their staff in Widening countries that want to establish or upgrade existing capacities and competencies in research management. The project should establish a facility inviting research performing organisations from Widening countries to support them in assessing their needs for excellent research management capacities, and develop implementation plans to improve their institutional and human capacities. Proposals are expected to cover at least the following activities: • Support the assessment of institutional needs in research management, administration and training in close collaboration with the research performing institutions that express interest in their expertise; • Support the development of a tailor-made implementation plans to establish or upgrade research management capacities at institutional level; • Facilitate peer exchange and best practice sharing between Widening countries and more experienced institutions to support sustainable capacity building; • Deliver training modules for research managers in Widening countries to strengthen their skills and professional competences, in line with the European Competence Framework for Research Managers ; • Facilitate networking opportunities for research managers from Widening countries at European and international levels, to strengthen peer exchange, promote best practice sharing, and enhance their integration into the broader research management ecosystem. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities, Business studies, Education

Call - Enhancing the European R&I system

Deadline: 12 March 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-01 Pillar I: Accelerating open access and research assessment reforms in ERA	This topic aims to foster effective and sustainable structural institutional changes within R&I organisations in alignment with the ERA priorities Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed <u>Area 1: Supporting the transition of scholarly societies to non-profit open access publishing models</u> Area 1 supports the transition of journals/books/monographs of national and/or European scholarly societies into non-profit open access publishing models without author fees. At least two thirds of the funding should be allocated as cascading grants to calls for pilot actions, targeting scholarly societies in all six Frascati fields of science and technology. At least one third of the grants should be distributed to scholarly societies in the Humanities/Arts and Social Sciences. Consortia should comprise, e.g., scholarly societies, research performing and funding organisations, libraries, non-profit scholarly publishers, and other research-relevant organisations, among others. <u>Area 2: Sustainable institutional reforms to improve research assessment systems</u> Area 2 aims to support institutional changes, raise awareness, and assess the level of progress made in terms of reforming research assessment, in line with the ARRA. Project activities should involve actors such as higher education institutions, research performing and funding organisations, research evaluation agencies, accreditation and quality assurance agencies, notably those engaged in the CoARA approach. Main keywords: Education, Social Sciences and Humanities
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-02 Pillar I: Building institutional capacities for ethical, equitable, open, and inclusive ERA	This topic aims to foster effective and sustainable structural institutional changes within R&I organisations in alignment with the ERA priorities. Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed. <u>Area 1: Capacity booster for ethics and integrity: addressing digital transition and ensuring digital inclusion for all</u> Area 1 aims to promote research ethics and integrity principles while preventing breaches in an increasingly digitalised world by developing ethical guidelines in the EU and beyond to foster institutional change. <u>Area 2: Mutual learning and mentoring for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of inclusive gender equality plans</u> Area 2 will support the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of inclusive GEPs through a peer-mentoring scheme, matching organisations and teams with a strong track record in developing and implementing inclusive GEPs with those that need guidance, particularly from – but not limited to – countries classified as emerging or moderate innovators by the EU Innovation Scoreboard. <u>Area 3: Address equity and inclusion in capacities for open science</u>

	Area 3 aims to generate actionable recommendations and toolkits in order to support capacities for open science by prioritising an equitable contribution to, and benefits from, open science through policy and institutional practice. <u>Area 4: Improving quality, efficiency and equity in peer-review for scientific publishing</u> Proposals should cover disciplines from at least two of the six Frascati fields of science and technology as well as consider the emerging challenge of AI in peer-review. Main keywords: Ethics, Gender studies, Education
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-03 Pillar II: Strengthening ecosystems for open, ethical, and sustainable ERA	This topic aims to promote the adoption of ERA policies and practices, contributing to sustainable ecosystems established around ERA priorities through enhanced cooperation, coordination and alignment. Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed <u>Area 1: Equitable, sustainable, and ethical research</u> Area 1 promotes research ethics and integrity principles in an increasingly digitalised world to prevent breaches and address barriers to implementing ethical guidelines in the EU and beyond. The objectives are twofold: first, to reinforce an ecosystem that supports a long-lasting approach to benefit sharing, also accounting for the growing prevalence of AI; and second, to address imbalances in research, especially in high-risk or highly contingent settings, by incorporating due diligence and beneficence for research participants and local communities. <u>Area 2: Global cooperation for the uptake of open science practices</u> Area 2 supports efforts to ensure that open science practices and skills are rewarded and taught, becoming the 'new normal'. The main goal is to foster a global ecosystem that promotes cooperation and alignment on open science practices. It will facilitate the development of standards, tools, and services that empower researchers to find, access, re-use, and combine research findings, especially through EOSC. <u>Area 3: Environmentally sustainable science</u> Area 3 contributes toward reducing environmental footprint of research. Main keywords: Ethics
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-04 Pillar II: Piloting innovative approaches to support academic startups and spinoffs	The objective of this topic is to strengthen ecosystems for knowledge valorisation and innovation by supporting academic startups and spinoffs to benefit from end-user feedback and links to industry and society. The topic supports the objectives of the Startup and Scaleup Strategy by fostering the market uptake of innovative solutions. Academic startups and spinoffs need access to excellent support services to commercialise their research and bring their innovations to market. Beyond technology validation, there is a need to test the desirability of their products and services with a broader public, learn from citizens' feedback, and adapt and improve their value propositions to improve their prospects for collaborating with industrial partners, attracting investors, and growing locally and internationally. A variety of organisations – such as science parks, technology parks, living labs, hubs, and practitioners in citizen engagement for knowledge valorisation – engage societal actors in experimentation practices that aim to support, at an early stage, the market uptake and growth of university spinoffs and startups. To be effective, such practices need to

	align with the fast pace of innovation and integrate skills and methods from different areas, drawing also from the social sciences and humanities, and the arts and design. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities, Arts, Design, Business studies
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-05 Pillar III: Fostering citizen engagement for more responsible and democratic R&I	This topic aims to connect R&I with citizens and other stakeholders by fostering greater citizen engagement, participation, and science communication. Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed <u>Area 1: Citizen science for enhancing democratic governance</u> Area 1 aims to improve framework conditions and provide adequate standards and working modalities with a view to improving the links between citizen science and democratic governance. <u>Area 2: Guiding principles for inclusive engagement in R&I</u> Area 2 aims to develop common ERA approaches for public engagement in R&I and science communication to make the R&I ecosystem more participatory, trustworthy, democratic, open and responsible and improving its capacity to tackle societal challenges. Main keywords: Sociology, Ethics, Communication studies
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-06 Pillar III: European Citizens' Hackathon Championship	This topic focuses on connecting R&I with citizens and other stakeholders in order to upscale knowledge valorisation, while also contributing to increased trust in science and alignment of R&I with society's needs, expectations and values. It aims to accelerate knowledge valorisation through citizen engagement by driving the co-creation of innovative solutions that address citizens' needs, in joint teams of researchers and citizens, thereby supporting their market uptake. Main keywords: Sociology
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-07 Pillar III: Science comes to town 2028	This topic supports a small group of cities in organising and hosting a joint 1-year programme "Science comes to town 2028". The programme should have a robust concept and brand focusing on connecting citizens and science while involving all relevant stakeholders (e.g., researchers, research funders, policymakers, publishers, citizens, civil society organisations, and business community). Applicants should experiment with novel formats that are inclusive and participatory and engage diverse age and social groups at local, regional, and European levels. In project activities, particular attention should be paid to promoting inclusive gender equality and addressing gender-specific challenges. Special emphasis should be placed on exploring and supporting citizen science to promote both science education and multiple forms of public engagement with science. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA-08 Pillar IV: Advancing Knowledge for ERA	This topic aims to generate new information and knowledge contributing to strengthening the evidence base for advancing the ERA. Applicants should propose diverse R&I activities that can support the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ERA policies and practices.

	Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed, choosing from the six areas outlined below. <u>Area 1: Assessing reproducibility in research by direct replication of scientific findings</u> <u>Area 2: Ethics of emerging technologies with high socio-economic impact: space exploration/exploitation</u> <u>Area 3: Mapping and promoting inclusive gender equality and policies in R&D intensive firms</u> <u>Area 4: Advancing gender-responsive R&I through budgeting, expenditure tracking, and evaluation of the sex and/or gender analysis in R&I content</u> <u>Area 5: Assessing trends and effects of research careers in the private sector and of inter-sectoral research careers</u> <u>Area 6: Mapping international research careers and talent flows</u> Main keywords: Gender studies, Ethics, Education
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Call - ERA Chairs and Research Managers

Deadline: 14 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01 ERA Chairs <i>Forthcoming</i>	Research organisations or research infrastructures in Widening countries seeking to establish an ERA Chair should submit a proposal with a prospective ERA Chair holder - an outstanding researcher or innovator <u>in any scientific domain</u>. The research institution will act as the sole applicant (mono-beneficiary), and ERA Chair holders may be from any country, but may not already have a contractual relationship with the coordinating entity. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02 ERA Research Managers <i>Forthcoming</i>	Research organisations in Widening countries seeking to establish an ERA Research Manager should submit a proposal aimed at establishing or upgrading research management capacities in the institution and ensuring that the conditions are in place to foster excellent research management aligned with ERA priorities. The research institution will act as the sole applicant (mono-beneficiary), and the ERA Research Manager may be from any country but may not already have a contractual relationship with the research institution. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

Call - Enhancing the European R&I system

Deadline: 11 Mar 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01 Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic aims to support RPOs across the EU to work strategically on rights retention policies to boost open access and reuse of scientific information. Proposals should enable RPOs to adopt and/or expand their policies on open access and rights retention tailored to specific national legal and policy contexts. They should also consider related issues such as research assessment and its reform, the costs of providing open access, and different disciplinary practices and needs, among others. Main keywords: Law
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02 Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers <i>Forthcoming</i>	The topic supports consortia in creating 'talent ecosystems' where both training providers and employers of researchers, especially from the non-academic sector, cooperate closely to promote attractive and sustainable careers for researchers, in particular for early-career researchers. Cooperation between actors should focus on ensuring, on the one hand, that a large pool of researchers, and where relevant other R&I staff, benefits from attractive working and employment conditions as a result of the implementation of the European Charter for Researchers at organisational level; on the other hand, making sure that researchers and other R&I staff are trained according to the needs of businesses, industry, and, more generally, to the needs of the labour market. Main keywords: Education, Business studies, Economics
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-03 Pillar III: Science comes to town 2029 <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic supports a small group of cities in organising and hosting a joint 1-year programme "Science comes to town 2029". The programme should have a robust concept and brand focusing on connecting citizens and science while involving all relevant stakeholders (e.g., researchers, research funders, policymakers, publishers, citizens, civil society organisations, and business community). Applicants should experiment with novel formats that are inclusive and participatory and engage diverse age and social groups at local, regional, and European levels. In project activities, particular attention should be paid to promoting inclusive gender equality and addressing gender-specific challenges. Special emphasis should be placed on exploring and supporting citizen science to promote both science education and multiple forms of public engagement with science. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-04 Pillar III: Promoting public engagement in R&I and scientific literacy <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic aims to promote the adoption of ERA policies and practices delivering innovative approaches for enhancing science-society links and promoting scientific literacy. Applicants should select and clearly identify one area being addressed, choosing from the two areas outlined below <u>Area 1: Youth, science and democracy</u> Area 1 promotes innovative ways to effectively and inclusively engage and involve young people in R&I. Additionally, it invites public engagement and science communication practitioners to build on best practices in the field and develop handbooks and guidelines, co-creating with relevant stakeholders, considering also previous EU-funded activities. <u>Area 2: Scaling up science engagement at EU level</u> Area 2 promotes scientific literacy and dialogue and constructive interactions between scientists and the wider public. To achieve this, it supports visits by researchers, for example, to civil society organisations, workplaces or community youth centres, enabling dialogue and collaboration between researchers and civil society and fostering mutual understanding. Main keywords: Communication studies, Education
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-05 Pillar IV: Upgrading the EU's independent knowledge on China's Science, Technology and Innovation system <i>Forthcoming</i>	This topic aims to support the creation of new knowledge and strengthen expertise and networks in the EU on China's science, technology, and innovation (STI) system. Proposals should address the activities outlined below and propose any additional, complementary activities: • Build a comprehensive framework that facilitates the creation and sharing of knowledge and monitoring of China's STI system. This includes generating new and compiling existing knowledge, tools, and resources on developments in China's STI policies, legal framework, government structures, narratives, and strategies for international collaborations. • Develop and test innovative interdisciplinary approaches and methodologies for assessing China's advancements in critical technology areas (e.g., artificial intelligence, advanced semiconductors, quantum, biotechnologies) and for evaluating their impact on the European economic security, strategic autonomy, and on the EU's ability to achieve the objectives of the Competitiveness Compass. Applicants are encouraged to propose foresight exercises to identify new disruptive, emerging technologies beyond those mentioned above. • Ensure collaboration between EU experts on China and technical experts (e.g., engineers, technology experts, economists, legal experts). Particular attention should be paid to actively involving young EU researchers in project activities. Main keywords: Area studies, Economics, Law

Missions

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

Deadline: 23 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA-05 Demonstrating solutions to protect and preserve cultural heritage from the impacts of climate change <i>Forthcoming</i>	Proposals should identify, test and demonstrate innovative solutions to protect and preserve cultural heritage from the impacts of climate change and identify possible trade-offs and co-benefits. The solutions may address different aspects of heritage protection and preservation such as, but not limited to, innovative environmental assessment methodologies, monitoring technologies and systems, (green) conservation and restoration techniques , risk management and disaster prevention, etc. All of the following aspects should be considered: • The solutions are expected to be co-designed by all the relevant stakeholders and to engage citizens. • When relevant, nature-based solutions should be explored as a priority • The solutions should consider the potential interactions and compound effects of different hazards. • Careful consideration is necessary to avoid maladaptation. 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: Cultural heritage, Sociology, Anthropology, Ethnology
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA-07 Supporting financing of local adaptation actions with combination of public funding and private financing <i>Forthcoming</i> ADDED	Proposals should demonstrate local innovative adaptation actions (testing and demonstration in real-life conditions) and the financing thereof by combining public grants obtained via financial support to third parties (FSTP) with private financing via bank loans. They should also generate recommendations on combining these, on the barriers to such financing and practical solutions to overcome these barriers. Main keywords: Business studies, Economics

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

Deadline: 21 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-01-CLIMA-01 Demonstrating transformative solutions to increase cross-border climate resilience <i>Forthcoming</i>	Proposals should develop, test and demonstrate approaches and innovative solutions relevant for cross-border risks, leading to an increase of climate resilience in cross-border regions. The proposals should address all of the following aspects: • Address at least one relevant cross-border climate risk (e.g. water scarcity, flooding, storms, wildfires, sea level rise) but are strongly encouraged to address risks systemically and to cover cascading and compound risks as well as risks emerging from the degradation of ecosystem services; • Develop, and demonstrate a common classification of the climate risks and define what level of risks are acceptable across the national border. • Develop and demonstrate innovative integrated solutions to make both sides of the border climate resilient. Those solutions should cover cross-border governance and/or socio-economic aspects (but are not limited to that). Nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation should be explored as a priority, in line with the Mission Implementation Plan. • For the successful implementation of the solutions and to ensure their sustainability beyond the duration of the project, the development and testing of the proposed solutions should be embedded, as much as possible in the adaptation planning of the regional or local authority participating in the project and/or in national plans. 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: Anthropology, Sociology, Economics, Law

Call - Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission

Deadline: 15 September 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-05 Boosting mental health of young cancer survivors through the European Cancer Patient Digital Centre (ECPDC)	The overall goal of this topic is to develop an online platform targeting, adolescents, and young adult (AYA) cancer patients and survivors (age 15-39, age of first diagnosis) to address specifically their mental health needs, throughout their journey, at diagnosis, during and after treatment. • The platform should include a mix of innovative personalized, evidence-based, and interactive features building on state-of-the-art research to address the mental health needs of AYA patients and survivors. Both cognitive (thinking, reasoning, memory, perceptual etc.), affective (depression, anxiety, etc.), and behaviour change aspects should be considered. • Develop, test and integrate in the platform innovative tools for collection and analysis of mental health relevant Patient Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs) and Patient Reported Experiences Measures (PREMs). Effective mining of lived experience data should be enabled to support for example psychometric development and validation, risk modelling, and the co-creation of personalized psychological measures of mental health. • Projects should include an appropriate mix of stakeholders from various disciplines and sectors, including but not limited to physicians, psychologists, nurses, academia, patients and their caregivers, patient representatives, behavioural scientists, cancer survivorship scientists, AI-experts and solutions providers, SMEs, charities and funding agencies, and research organisations. • Direct involvement of cancer patients and survivors, survivor representative organisations, caregivers is required, along with 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 order to produce meaningful and significant results, enhancing the impact of the proposed activities. Main keywords: Psychology, Behavioural sciences
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-07 Improve the Quality of Life of older cancer patients	The overall goal of this topic is to advance the understanding of older cancer patients' care needs, and develop innovative, age-sensitive care approaches and tools to boost overall quality of life. • Building on data from existing or newly established cohorts provide a thorough assessment of QoL needs and relevant dimensions in older patients, taking into account aspects such as social and health determinants, including sex, gender, age, comorbidities, intrinsic and functional health status, socio-economic status, living in rural or remote areas, education, access/reachability to disease management programs (due to travel distances and abilities) etc. • Develop, test, implement and scale up innovative, holistic approaches and tools in real-life settings to optimize treatment and/or follow-up regimens for older patients, aiming to reduce comorbidities, impairments and frailty, while improving overall quality of life.

	• Primary and secondary endpoints of the pragmatic clinical trial(s) should support patient-reported outcomes and quality of life. 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. • Particular attention should be given to aspects such as pain management, cognitive and social support, mental health services etc. Additionally, rehabilitation tackling common concerns such as reduced mobility, osteoporosis, cardiovascular health, neurocognitive changes, sleep disturbance, loss of independence, time and financial toxicity etc, essential for maintaining good quality of life, should also be addressed. For that purpose, projects should include an appropriate mix of stakeholders from various disciplines and sectors, including but not limited to physicians, psychologists, nurses, academia, patients and their caregivers, patient representatives, behavioural scientists, SMEs, insurance companies, charities and foundations, research organisations, civil society, regional and national health authorities In particular, direct involvement of cancer patients and survivors, survivor representative organisations, and caregivers is required, along with 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 results, enhancing the impact of the related research activities. Main keywords: Psychology, Behavioural sciences, Ethnology, Anthropology, Sociology
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Call - Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission

Deadline: 21 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER-04 Improving equitable health outcomes and added value for and with cancer patients through health-economics research, health systems research and outcomes research <i>Forthcoming</i>	Proposals should address all of the following: • Establish, validate or further refine health-economics research, health systems research, epidemiological or outcomes research methods, models, or modelling to perform (comparative) cost-effectiveness and epidemiological analyses benefiting equitable health outcomes of and added value for people at risk of cancer as well as cancer patients living with and beyond their disease. • Take into account socio-economic inequalities, socio-demographic, organisational, innovative or cultural trends, socio-cultural or behavioural change by involving people at risk of cancer or cancer patients and their caregivers/families through research that stimulates social innovation and supports end-user engagement using participative research models. • Calculate cancer-control related healthcare expenditures and its relation to value-driven healthcare benefitting health outcomes of people at risk of cancer as well as cancer patients living with and beyond their disease, taking into account 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 EU Member States and Associated Countries. • Improve health outcomes of people at risk of cancer or cancer patients and their caregivers/families living with and beyond their disease, by demonstrating how to improve access to and the organisation of state-of-the-art, evidence-based, cost-effective cancer control programmes in dedicated cancer centres or medical centres, hospitals, at home or in community settings, taking into account the socio-cultural context, harms and benefits, overall survival or quality of life parameters. Main keywords: Health economics, Demography, Social and Behavioural studies, Cultural studies
HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER-06 Support a Young Cancer Survivor Quality of Life (QoL) research programme by cancer charities and funding agencies <i>Forthcoming</i>	Registered cancer charities and funding agencies across EU Member States and Associated Countries, organise, fund and implement at least two transnational calls for proposals, resulting in grants to third parties to conduct research and innovation projects targeting quality of life of children, adolescents and young adults cancer patients and survivors. Projects to be financed by charities and funding agencies through transnational calls for proposals are expected to develop, test and scale up in real-life settings innovative, holistic approaches and tools (including digital tools), optimising cancer treatment and follow-up regimens to improve the quality of life of young cancer patients and survivors. This topic requires direct involvement of cancer patients and survivors, survivor representative organisations, caregivers, 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 results, enhancing the impact of the related research activities. The use of participative research models, such as oncology-centred living labs or other approaches to deliver (social) innovation should be considered, prioritising involvement of local communities. Main keywords: Social innovation, Social and Behavioural studies
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Call - Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission

Deadline: 21 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN-04 Towards community-driven business models: coastal and freshwaters sustainable tourism <i>Forthcoming</i>	Activities under this topic will contribute to the achievement of the Mission “Public mobilisation and engagement” actions by fostering community involvement, awareness and citizen participation to amplify impact, accelerating the uptake of community-led initiatives, anticipating and planning future investments for sustainable tourism. These activities should consider the specific needs and challenges of diverse individuals and groups in local communities, including groups in a vulnerable situation, with a focus on promoting gender equality and non-discrimination addressing the intersectionality with poverty and social exclusion. The focus of activities will be on testing the feasibility and socio-economic viability of site-specific initiatives providing opportunities to couple business-based activities with the protection and restoration of marine and freshwaters ecosystems, in ways that produce benefits for both the environment and local communities. In addition, proposals are encouraged to explore synergies with the New European Bauhaus Initiative in the design and/or implementation of activities under this topic. Main keywords: Business studies, Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Gender studies

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

Deadline: 08 October 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT-01 Energy efficient urban and sub-urban public transport, complemented by shared mobility	The objective of this topic is to explore and test solutions to increase energy-efficiency and attractiveness of urban and sub-urban public transport, urban mobility service car fleets, and other active and shared mobility solutions, in the pilot sites involved in the proposals, including by facilitating exchange of experiences and good practices and fostering learning at European level. The work should lead to an updated and comprehensive overview of the state of the art of the electrification of urban and sub-urban public transport systems, and urban mobility service car fleets and shared mobility solutions, including an assessment of gaps and shortcomings in existing systems. 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: Urban planning

Deadline: 07 October 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-01 Innovative microgrids for improved energy system integration and efficiency in urban contexts	Proposals are expected to address all of the following aspects: • Develop LVDC solutions awareness, education and training materials (respectively for public authorities and general public, for students, for urban planners, project developers and installers), in collaboration with local academia and research partners. • Disseminate project results, engage all relevant stakeholders along the value chain, including residents, users, industry, and researchers, from the planning phase; organise at least one open workshop coupled with site visits. This topic requires contributions from social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts and institutions. Their contributions should enhance the societal relevance and impact of proposed activities from planning to implementation and especially related to the last two bullets. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities

HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-03 Inclusive and climate resilient multimodal passenger hubs enhancing modal shift towards sustainable transport and shared mobility	Proposals should address the following points: • Develop nature-based solutions for increasing multimodal passenger hub's infrastructures resilience demonstrating the respective environmental, social, and economic benefits. • Develop and test solutions to ensure or improve the inclusivity and accessibility of multimodal passenger hubs, accounting for both within-hub flows and access/egress trips, considering that climate change may particularly affect most marginalised populations or those in a vulnerable situation; • Establish co-designing process and engaging with the relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful uptake of the proposed and tested solutions, incl. and economic model, contributing to climate neutrality, climate adaptation and enhanced governance of the multi-modal passenger hubs. Proposals should include activities promoting the New European Bauhaus principles (sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusion) among national, regional, and local authorities, citizens, and stakeholders through dedicated local initiatives (e.g. events, contests, citizens' dialogues, living labs). 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, Urban planning
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Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission (Two stage)

Deadline: 14 April 2026 (First Stage), 15 September 2026 (Second Stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-01-two-stage Living labs to enhance soil health in Alpine and Atlantic biogeographical regions	Proposals should: • support the establishment of four to five living labs either in the Alpine or in the Atlantic biogeographical region. • establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop, and co-implement locally adapted solutions (practices, tools, strategies, etc.) for the common 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; • assess and demonstrate the technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed solutions, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts; • 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. In line with the nature of living labs, projects must adopt the multi-actor approach. The actors involved in each living lab may vary, based on its unique characteristics and may include, among others, researchers, landowners or land managers, industry representatives (e.g., SMEs), public administrators and civil society representatives (e.g., consumers, local residents, environmental NGOs, youth organisations). Care should be taken to describe the capabilities, roles and resources of the different actors involved in the living labs. An effective contribution from social sciences, humanities and the arts (SSHA) is expected to foster social innovation, knowledge transfer and socio-cultural and behavioural change. Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Cultural studies
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-02-two-stage Living labs to enhance soil health in managed forests and in natural/semi-natural lands	Proposals should: • support the establishment of four to five living labs to work together on shared soil health challenge(s) affecting either managed forests or natural/semi-natural types; • assess and demonstrate their technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed solutions, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts; • establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop, and co-implement locally adapted solutions (practices, tools, strategies, etc.) for the common soil

	health challenge(s) on managed forests or natural/semi-natural soils, 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; 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. In line with the nature of living labs, projects must adopt the multi-actor approach. The actors involved in each living lab may vary, based on its unique characteristics and may include, among others, researchers, landowners or land managers, foresters, industry representatives (e.g., SMEs), public administrators and civil society representatives (e.g., consumers, residents, environmental NGOs, youth or other community organisations). Care should be taken to describe the capabilities, roles and resources of the different actors involved in the living labs. 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. Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Cultural studies
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Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission (Two stage)

Deadline: 08 April 2027 (First Stage), 14 September 2027 (Second Stage)

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-01-two-stage Living labs to enhance soil health in Continental, Black Sea, Pannonian and Steppic biogeographical regions	Proposals should: - support the establishment of four to five living labs either in the Continental biogeographical region or in one or more of the following three biogeographical regions: Black Sea, Pannonian and Steppic; - establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop, and co-implement locally adapted solutions (practices, tools, strategies, etc.) for the common 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; - assess and demonstrate the technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed solutions, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts; - 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. In line with the nature of living labs, projects must adopt the multi-actor approach. The actors involved in each living lab may vary, based on its unique characteristics and may include, among others, researchers, landowners or land managers, industry representatives (e.g., SMEs), public administrators and civil society representatives (e.g., consumers, local residents, environmental NGOs, youth organisations). Care should be taken to describe the capabilities, roles and resources of the different actors involved in the living labs. 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. Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Cultural studies, Area studies
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-02-two-stage Living Labs for co-creating solutions to reduce eutrophication from agriculture	Proposals should: • support the establishment of four to five living labs to work together on soil health aspects that could affect eutrophication in nearby freshwater bodies. • establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-design, co-develop, and co-implement locally adapted solutions (practices, tools, and strategies) to reduce eutrophication. Proposed solutions should be adapted to the different environmental, socio-economic and cultural contexts within the river catchment area in which the living labs are operating and take into account the current and future impact of climate change on nutrient exports during floods and droughts; • assess and demonstrate the technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed solutions, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts, including the insights of SSHA; • propose strategies (e.g., financial, organisational) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the established living labs beyond 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. In line with the nature of living labs, projects must adopt the multi-actor approach. The actors involved in each living lab may vary, based on its unique characteristics and may include, among others, researchers, landowners or land managers, industry representatives (e.g., SMEs), public administrators and civil society representatives (e.g., consumers, local residents, environmental NGOs, youth organisations). Care should be taken to describe the capabilities, roles and resources of the different actors involved in the living labs. An effective contribution of social sciences and humanities and the arts (SSHA) is expected to foster social innovation, knowledge transfer, socio-cultural and behavioural change,

	considering the legal/institutional/political framework at local, regional and national level, if relevant. Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Cultural studies, Area studies, Political Science, Business studies
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-03-two-stage Agroforestry for soil health at landscape level	Proposals should focus on landscape-scale implementation of agroforestry practices aiming at scaling up sustainable soil management practices in agroforestry systems across entire value chains and territorial contexts. Proposals should apply participatory, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, involving actors along the value chain, thereby maximizing ecological and socio-economic impact. Proposals should: • using an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach, co-design, co-develop, and pilot locally adapted agroforestry farming systems with a landscape approach that demonstrate an enhancement in soil health in a variety of relevant pedo-climatic areas across the EU and Associated Countries; • assess and demonstrate the technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed agroforestry systems, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts; • involve public and private actors to mobilise finance, including blended, and develop and test long-term, sustainable business models, that facilitate the transition to scalable agroforestry systems; • produce recommendations on how policy and the macro-economic framework could support practically feasible implementation pathways and value chain networks for large scale agroforestry deployment; • provide capacity building and training opportunities for all actors along the value chain—including farmers, advisors, businesses, consumers and policymakers—focused on practical skills and awareness of soil health improvement, efficient agroforestry management, supportive business models, and incentives to accelerate the transition. This topic should involve the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities disciplines. Main keywords: Business studies, Economics, Social studies, Cultural studies
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-04-two-stage Participatory research on the health of communities in contact with polluted soils	Proposals should: • implement community-based participatory research activities to engage with populations living or working in close contact with polluted (or potentially polluted) sites to identify and map human diseases and other health outcomes and their incidence in these areas; • consider and explore direct (e.g., skin contact with soils) and indirect (e.g., consumption of contaminated food, psychological impact of living near contaminated sites) soil-related drivers of human disease and ill-health as relevant; • engage private entities with industrial operations in polluted sites and which work with potential pollutants (including substances of concern), involving them as stakeholders in the research to jointly devise mitigation and remediation strategies and demonstrate corporate responsibility; • propose locally relevant interventions that foster community resilience against soil pollution, encourage polluters due diligence, and deliver recommendations to policymakers at relevant level of governance to

	regulate decontamination, promote reuse of land when possible, and protect public health. This topic requires an interdisciplinary approach involving experts on land and soil contamination, epidemiology and in social-science and humanities (SSH) disciplines in particular sociology and anthropology. Main keywords: Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Human Geography
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-06-two-stage Long-term drivers and consequences of soil degradation: learning from the past to improve future soil health	Proposals should: • study past soil degradation processes and their socio-economic, cultural and natural drivers and consequences across different pedo-climatic regions, based on multiple lines of evidence coming from, for instance, historical documents, historical records, archaeological data, sediment archives, buried fossil soils and archived soil and plant samples; • apply, validate and advance the development of methodologies to study past soil health, using techniques such as ancient eDNA analysis, pollen, spores, environmental radionuclides and other proxy indicators, and implement a multi-scalar approach to integrate these data at the scale of pedo-climatic regions; • utilise numerical models and digital tools to reconstruct past soil degradation patterns and predict future trends and develop trajectories for sustainable soil management; • encourage citizen and stakeholder involvement through active participation in the data collection and data analysis with citizen science initiatives, as well as carry out communication and awareness raising activities on the long-term changes of soil health and the societal impact of soil degradation. In carrying out the activities, consortia should work in an interdisciplinary way bringing disciplines, expertise and approaches from the soil sciences, environmental sciences and social sciences and humanities (including history, archaeology, sociology and social geography). Main keywords: History, Archaeology, Sociology, Social Geography

Joint Call between the Soil Deal for Europe Mission and the Cancer Mission

Deadline: 21 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2027-06-SOIL-CANCER Living labs to monitor and mitigate carcinogenic substances in and originating from soils: Evaluating their effects on human cancer risks	Proposals should: • support the establishment of four to five research-and-innovation-centred living labs to work together across different land uses to: 1) deliver research-based remediation solutions for soil contamination by carcinogenic substances; 2) investigate links between carcinogenic substances in soil and transfer of pollutants from soil to humans (e.g. via air, water, or the food chain), and long-term impact on cancer incidence, mortality and prevalence in humans; • establish an interdisciplinary, participatory and multi-actor approach in the living labs to co-implement locally adapted solutions to isolate, immobilise, reduce and/or eliminate carcinogenic substances to and from soils, and to monitor how these solutions affect the pathways of carcinogenic substances in soils within the soil-water-air nexus and its mobility and uptake in the food chain; • demonstrate the technical, social, economic, cultural and environmental viability of the proposed solutions, as well as their potential scalability and transferability to diverse contexts; • propose strategies (e.g., financial, organisational) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the established living labs beyond Horizon Europe funding. Strategies should include 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, or attracting investors and entrepreneurs. In line with the nature of living labs, projects must adopt the multi-actor approach. The actors involved in each living lab may vary based on its unique characteristics, and may include, among others, researchers, landowners or land managers, industry representatives (e.g. SMEs), public administrators and civil society (e.g. consumers, local residents, environmental NGOs, youth organisations). Care should be taken to describe the capabilities, roles and resources of the different actors involved in the living labs. An effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) is expected to foster social innovation, knowledge transfer and socio-cultural and behavioural change. Main keywords: Social studies, Social innovation, Economics, Cultural studies

New European Bauhaus Facility

Call - Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities

Deadline: 01 December 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01 Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus	This topic focuses on developing and/or updating housing-led approaches that apply NEB values and principles. Proposals are expected to refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, that: • Are adapted to the specific characteristics of the neighbourhoods where the approaches will be applied (e.g. existing local/national regulations, composition of the population, cultural differences, existing infrastructure, etc.). • Provide permanent housing to homeless people complemented by services that (re-)integrate homeless populations in their local community. • Integrate plans for the green transition of the permanent housing and the social dimension of living conditions for a conflict-minimised cohabitation of different social groups. • Are co-created with the targeted homeless populations, paying special attention to families with minor children, and people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family. • Include measures to address the institutional barriers that hinder access to housing in the selected neighbourhoods. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Sociology, Anthropology, Human Geography, Law, Cultural Studie
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02 Innovative approaches for the spatial design of neighbourhoods	Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Assess how spatial design determines gendered, age-appropriate and identity-related patterns of use (e.g. in terms of mobility, safety, sense of security and access to public and private spaces) and how inclusive approaches and accessibility can address diverse needs and experiences of users and the community. • Develop one approach to designing and planning public space that uses innovative methods. These innovative methods are expected to: • Demonstrate the approach in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.

	• Develop plans and recommendations for the take up of the demonstrated approach. This includes assessing its potential application to other areas of the green transition of neighbourhoods (e.g. water resilient design planning, public service design, procurement, etc.) as well as identifying skills needs and gaps. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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: Gender studies, Cultural studies, Education, Cultural and Creative industries, Urban Planning, Design
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03 Understanding inhabitant's experiences of neighbourhoods to support their health and well-being	This topic will further investigate how inhabitants experience their neighbourhoods, the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being, and how these experiences can be improved through NEB in the context of the green transition. Proposals are expected to obtain a deep understanding of inhabitants' sensory and emotional experience of their neighbourhood and the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being. Proposals are expected to: • Involve in the research a diversity of people and groups, including those in a vulnerable situation and/or marginalised (such as women, children, youth, older adults, people with physical and psychological functional variations and their families/carers, LGTBQIA+ people, migrants and refugees). • Assess the extent to which experiences and impacts vary across sociodemographic groups as well as in neighbourhoods with different characteristics. For example, in relation to the geography (e.g. urban, peri-urban, rural, coastal, insular areas); the quality of the built environment, including its accessibility and perceived beauty; social, economic and demographic characteristics (e.g. population density, social mixing, social infrastructure, property census); reputation; access to natural, cultural and artistic spaces and offers. • Provide consistent and comparable data across different project sites and populations, making use of, among others, the NEB self-assessment method. • Validate the findings in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Psychology, Human geography, Demography

<u>HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-03</u> Innovative solutions for the sustainable and beautiful use of vertical space	Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Develop and demonstrate at least one innovative solution that makes use of the un-used or under-used vertical space above buildings and/or streets in a beautiful and sustainable manner to improve the availability and affordability of housing and / or provide more green spaces. • Integrate circularity principles to the solution(s) developed. • Assess the life cycle environmental social and economic impacts of the proposed solution(s) with appropriate methods. • If relevant, minimize and mitigate the negative effects of densification. • Assess the potential for the proposed solutions to contribute to a reduction in demand for land use. • Identify and address the regulatory, technical and societal barriers to the implementation of the proposed solution(s) and propose solutions to overcome them. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to involve the local community and, if relevant, cultural and creative industries, in the co-creation of the solution(s) developed. Proposals are expected – to the extent possible – to contribute to the urban greening goals set out in the Nature Restoration Regulation. 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, Sociology, Anthropology, Ethnology, Economics, Law, Human Geography
<u>HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01</u> Structurally addressing homelessness through coordinated social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods	Research is required on how to analyse the interconnected, contextual conditions that drive and mitigate homelessness at the neighbourhood level and how to inform strategies to structurally address homelessness. Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Develop a system-based approach to mitigate homelessness and support the reintegration of individuals in communities by coordinating key social infrastructure and services (including healthcare, education, employment, community integration and other relevant social services) at neighbourhood level. The approach must cover at least the following: • Develop and validate the approach in at least five neighbourhoods located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Sociology, Education

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02 Understanding capital market dynamics for increased investment in New European Bauhaus projects in neighbourhoods	There is a need for research to understand the capital demand and supply-side aspects that influence and shape investments in NEB-aligned neighbourhood projects and to identify appropriate mechanisms to attract increased investment. Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Analyse the capital market dynamics that influence investments in NEB-aligned projects for the transformation of neighbourhoods. This includes analysing at least the following: • Based on the above, develop an innovative investment solution that addresses and leverages the analysed capital market dynamics towards increased investment in NEB-aligned projects. • Conduct the above analysis and validate the developed solution in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. Main keywords: Economics, Business studies
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03 Approaches to reuse vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces	Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Develop a systematic and context-sensitive approach for vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces, including buildings or infrastructures. The approach must cover at least the following: • Assess the social (e.g. accessibility, inclusion, social cohesion), cultural (e.g. aesthetics), environmental (e.g. more sufficient resource use, waste reduction, biodiversity, climate resilience), and economic (e.g. economies of scale, efficiency) value of the approach. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Cultural studies, Arts

Call - Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability

Deadline: 01 December 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-01 The transformative potential of co-governance in the green transition of neighbourhoods	This topic will investigate how co-governance can support a fair green transition in neighbourhoods while also provoking positive changes in society, culture, the arts, the natural environment as well as the public perception and reputation of those neighbourhoods. Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Refine and demonstrate co-governance approaches in at least ten neighbourhoods. The selected neighbourhoods are expected to be located in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries, as well as comprise a variety of contexts (i.e. urban, peri-urban and rural areas) and experiences (i.e. neighbourhoods with and without experience in public participation in governance of transition processes). • Ensure that the co-governance approaches facilitate the inclusive, cultural, environmental and sustainable development of neighbourhoods. • Based on the evidence collected, produce guidance and recommendations for policy makers and neighbourhood actors on co-governance (including on best practices; the benefits of co-governance for the green transition of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation and climate resilience, as well as for other levels of governance; administrative, legislative and regulatory changes to facilitate co-governance). Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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: Arts, Cultural studies, Sociology
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02 Intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities aligned with the New European Bauhaus	This topic will support the development of intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities that better address the needs of the different age groups, while simultaneously tackling various local challenges (including, but not limited to the demographic transition, climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss, loss of cultural heritage, feelings of insecurity). Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Demonstrate a methodology to measure and monitor the extent to which neighbourhoods and communities are intergenerational. These may include digital platforms, smart sensing systems, or participatory data collection methods that enhance inclusiveness, accessibility, and real-time insight. Among others, the methodology is expected to:

	○ Identify barriers (e.g. legal, regulatory, institutional) to intergenerational living in neighbourhoods and communities. ○ Explore perceptions of the different generations. ○ Determine the role of informal services (including culture, social and health care, and education), in fostering intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities. ● Demonstrate at least three solutions that promote intergenerational living in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. The solutions are expected to: ○ Redesign neighbourhood spaces, functions and/or services, where possible building upon the cultural and creative sectors and analysing users' perception. This includes multisensory perceptions as well as perceived beauty. ○ Be adaptable to different local contexts. ● Monitor, evaluate, and document the demonstrated solutions. Based on the evidence, propose recommendations for their adaptation and uptake. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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: Demography, Law, Psychology, Urban Planning, Public Administration
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03 Novel combinations of knowledge and research methods to address social issues and advance a fair green transition of neighbourhoods	This topic focuses on innovative approaches for combining knowledge from local communities and non-scientific actors with scientific knowledge and/or formal research methods to address social issues that influence the green transition in neighbourhoods. Proposals are expected to address all of the following: ● Develop an innovative, transdisciplinary approach that brings novel insights on social issues that hinder a fair green transition in neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation. The approach is expected to: ● Propose guidelines and recommendations for the uptake of the resulting insights and transdisciplinary approaches in decision-making, policymaking, design and planning, and/or public service design for neighbourhoods. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Ethnology, Urban planning

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-01 Combining conventional and innovative construction materials, products and techniques for sustainable and beautiful buildings	Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to co-create the solution(s) with the relevant public and private stakeholders of the construction ecosystem. 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, Design, Law
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-02 Sustainable, beautiful and healthy construction and renovation sites	Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Urban planning
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03 Revitalising neighbourhoods around existing railway and motorway corridors	Proposals are expected to address the following: • Develop and demonstrate a package of measures to mitigate the negative effects of active railway lines and motorways on nearby neighbourhoods and revitalise those neighbourhoods. Implement this package of measures in three distinct neighbourhoods – one urban, one peri-urban, and one rural – located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. • Measure and assess the changes in environmental, ecological, economic, social and health impacts resulting from the package of measures developed and applied in the demonstrator sites. • Identify barriers hindering the implementation of the proposed measures, including regulatory aspects and propose solutions to overcome them. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to co-create the solution(s), engaging with relevant stakeholders such as public authorities, architects, urban and landscape planners or inhabitants. 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, Sociology, Economics, Human Geography

<u>HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-01</u> Mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components to transform the existing built environment	Proposals are expected to address the following: • Develop an innovative solution for the mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components, which applies technologies and technological advancements such as distributed manufacturing, building information modelling (BIM), and modular construction approaches. • Demonstrate the innovative solution in an operational environment in at least three Member States and/or Associated Countries. Mass customisation of the modular construction components should address the needs of at least three application areas (e.g. residential, commercial, public space, cultural heritage, education, recreation). • Evaluate the economic, aesthetic, environmental, social, and cultural value and the business case to invest in the solution. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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, Sociology, Cultural studies, Business studies
<u>HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-02</u> Innovative models for collective community investment and ownership	Proposals are expected to address all of the following: • Develop a collective community investment or ownership model that involves diverse community stakeholders, including marginalised groups or those in a vulnerable situation, in the co-creation and revitalisation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus by focusing on one of the following options: • Assess the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the model on the targeted neighbourhood(s) and their surrounding environment, including long-term affordability, accessibility, and local community and public interest outcomes. • Identify potential systemic challenges to the uptake of the model and formulate solutions to overcome them. This should include considerations of the influence of local capital and real estate market dynamics, and the long-term financial viability of the developed model . • Consider and leverage existing relevant investment and ownership regulations and legal aspects at the local, regional, and national levels. • Provide recommendations to scale up and adapt the model in different local and cultural contexts. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. 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: Business studies, Economics, Sociology

[HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03](#)

Anticipating the long-term future of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and validate a participatory foresight approach to inform the long-term planning, (re)design and development of existing neighbourhoods. The approach must cover at least the following:
 - Analysis of socioeconomic, cultural, demographic and climate conditions, long-term trends (e.g. population decline; shift in population composition and diversity; migration between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas; societal and aesthetic acceptance in neighbourhoods), as well as the drivers for those long-term changes in the targeted neighbourhoods.
 - Development of scenarios and visions for potential futures for the neighbourhood, including objectives, measurable targets and packages of measures. This should include intergenerational fairness perspectives that will have a major influence on neighbourhoods in the future.
 - Use of co-creation approaches to foster the participation of diverse local stakeholders (including marginalised or underrepresented groups as well as those in a vulnerable situation).
- Develop and validate the participatory foresight approach in at least three neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Provide recommendations to inform local authorities, decision makers, and the public on applying the participatory foresight approach.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

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, Demography, Sociology, Cultural studies

Call - Joint Call between the New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission

Deadline: 15 September 2027

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02-NEB-SOIL-01 Reducing soil sealing through sustainable urban and territorial design in the New European Bauhaus	Proposals are expected to address the following: • Develop innovative, regenerative and place-based planning and spatial design solutions that prevent soil sealing or promote the unsealing of currently sealed soils, improve soil health, support food systems transformation and enhance climate resilience and biodiversity (e.g., by mitigating urban heat islands and improving water management). These solutions should integrate nature-based, human-centred and regenerative approaches (e.g., ecosystem restoration, permeable pavements, green roofs, shared and community gardens, or urban agriculture); • Demonstrate each one of these solutions developed in at least three neighbourhoods (i.e. at least one in urban area, one in peri-urban and one in rural area) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries; • Implement participatory and co-creation processes as well as cross-sector collaboration with different stakeholders (e.g., artists, architects, startups, engineers, planners and territorial managers, local authorities, NGOs, researchers, citizens and communities) to integrate creative, scientific, and local knowledge in the design of the proposed solutions; • Develop innovative funding models to mobilize financing opportunities, and engage investors and businesses to support the long-term sustainability and replicability of implemented solutions; • Support policy uptake and market deployment by translating project results into actionable recommendations aligned with relevant EU strategies, and by fostering dialogue with decision-makers on their broader institutional and regulatory adoption. Proposals are expected to follow a participatory, multi-actor and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. Proposals should include an effective contribution from social sciences, humanities and arts (SSHA) disciplines and experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related activities. Main keywords: Arts, Urban planning, Sociology, Business studies, Economics

Horizontal activities

Call - AI in Science 2026

Deadline: 21 April 2026

Topic	SSH aspects
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-01 Thematic Networks of Excellence for AI in Science (RAISE pilot)	The aim of this topic is to establish networks of excellent labs across Europe, dedicated to collaborative research using AI in strategic and promising scientific areas or domains, piloting RAISE and aligning research efforts. The selected consortia will be composed of leading European research labs in the thematic area with strong experience in applying AI in the research process. At least half the members of the consortium should have a proven track record of developing innovative AI solutions for scientific research. Consortia are welcome to involve expertise in Social Sciences and Humanities in their proposal as they see fit to achieve the objectives. Main keywords: Social Sciences and Humanities