



Status update: Swiss participation in the Horizon package 2021–2027

Information as of 10 November 2025

- **10 November 2025, Signature of EU Programmes Agreement (EUPA):** The EUPA was signed in Bern by Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin and EU Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva. It applies with immediate effect, meaning that Switzerland is associated to Horizon Europe, the Euratom programme and the Digital Europe Programme (DEP) retroactively from 1 January 2025, will participate in ITER from 1 January 2026 and will be able to associate to Erasmus+ from 2027. Project funding will now come directly from the European Commission, as Switzerland will make a mandatory contribution to the EU for this purpose. The EUPA signing has taken place ahead of the Switzerland-EU package but remains part of this package.
- **20. June 2025, Order of priority for direct funding 2021–2024 enters into force:** A large number of project proposals and corresponding requests are expected for direct funding. It is expected that the requested funding will exceed the available funds. On 20 June 2025, the Federal Council therefore decided to allocate an additional CHF 75 million for this purpose. In addition to this funding and pursuant to the relevant Ordinance, SERI applies measures based on an order of priority to all pending funding requests in relation to 2021–2024 calls for proposals (further information: SERI website).
- **28 April 2025, Access to strategic areas:** The European Commission has completed its assessment and concludes that in the Horizon Europe 2025 work programmes (e.g. Cluster 4), Switzerland receives full access to calls for proposals in strategic areas (artificial intelligence, quantum, communication and network technologies, and space sensitive research topics). This also applies to strategic areas in the 2025–2027 work programmes of the DEP.
- **10 April 2025, Federal Council approved the EU Programmes Agreement (EUPA):** At its meeting on 9 April 2025, the Federal Council approved the EU Programmes Agreement (EUPA) along with the associated protocols on education, research, innovation and health. It also authorised Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin to sign the agreement.
- **02 April 2025, Initialling of the EU Programmes Agreement (EUPA):** The chief negotiators from Switzerland and the European Union initialled the EU Programmes agreement. The agreement comes into force once the Switzerland-EU package has been ratified, but could already be applied provisionally after the signing, which is due to take place in November.
- **20 December 2024, material conclusion of negotiations:** Switzerland and the EU have materially concluded negotiations on the Switzerland-EU package (including EU programmes Horizon Europe, Euratom, DEP and ITER).
- **20 December 2024, full activation of the transitional arrangement:** The European Commission has fully activated the transitional arrangement as of 1 January 2025, which enables researchers and innovators in Switzerland to participate as beneficiaries in almost all calls for proposals of Horizon Europe and the Euratom programme, from the programme year 2025 onwards (also as coordinators).
- **20 December 2024, participation in the Digital Europe Programme (DEP) from 2025 onwards:** Under the transitional arrangement, researchers and innovators in Switzerland also have the opportunity to participate in DEP calls for proposals as beneficiaries from the 2025 programme year onwards. This means that they can submit their project applications in the role of coordinator. Specific Objectives 3 (Cybersecurity) and 6 (Semiconductors) are exceptions to this; they are only accessible to EU member states and, to a limited extent, to countries in the European Economic Area (EEA). For questions about the DEP: digital-europe@sbfi.admin.ch.