

EN

Horizon Europe
Work Programme 2023-2024

5. Culture, creativity and inclusive society

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- **This document is work in progress and subject to changes.**
- **The draft call structure may still evolve and actions may be added, removed, merged, changed and/or postponed.**
- **Budgetary information is not included in this document.**
- **Implementation aspects (lump sums, type of actions, etc.) are not fully developed.**

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Introduction

Cluster 2, 'Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society' aims to meet EU goals and priorities on enhancing democratic governance and citizens participation, on the safeguarding and promotion of cultural heritage, and to respond to and shape multifaceted social, economic, technological and cultural transformations. Cluster 2 mobilises multidisciplinary expertise of European social sciences and humanities for understanding fundamental contemporary transformations of society, economy, politics and culture. It aims to provide evidence-based policy options for a socially just and inclusive European green and digital transition and recovery.

The EU is strongly committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), many of which have an important impact on culture, creativity, and inclusive society, notably: SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), with their specific targets to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

Proposals are invited against the following three (3) destinations:

Activities contributing to the **destination "Innovative Research on Democracy and Governance"**, will provide knowledge, data, scientifically robust recommendations to reinvigorate democratic governance and improve trust in democratic institutions. In the long-term, this will contribute to help safeguard fundamental rights to empower active and inclusive citizenship. By doing so, they will also strengthen accountability, transparency, effectiveness and trustworthiness of rule of law-based institutions and policies. Activities will develop recommendations to protect liberties and the rule of law, and shield democracy from multidimensional threats. They will aim to expand political participation, social dialogue and social inclusion, civic engagement and gender equality.

Activities contributing to the **destination "Innovative Research on the European Cultural Heritage and the Cultural and Creative Industries"**, will promote better access and engagement with cultural heritage and improve its protection, enhancement and restoration. Research and innovation will support sustainable growth and job creation through the cultural and creative industries and contribute to integrate them into the European industrial policy as drivers for innovation and competitiveness.

At the same time, through **destination "Innovative Research on Social and Economic Transformations"**, actions will help tackle social, economic and political inequalities, support human capital development and contribute to a comprehensive European strategy for inclusive growth. This also involves understanding and responding to the impacts of technological advancements and economic interconnectedness with a view to social resilience.

The Cluster will support EU migration and mobility policies, both internal and external, while aiming to promote integration. Finally and equally importantly, the Cluster will address societal impacts of the coronavirus pandemic in all its Destinations with the objective to better understand and overcome the current crisis, increase societal resilience and counter future crises of the kind.

Horizon Europe is the research and innovation support programme in a system of European and national funding programmes that shares policy objectives. Through the programme, special attention will be given to ensuring cooperation between universities, scientific communities and industry, including small and medium enterprises, and citizens and their representatives, in order to bridge gaps between territories, generations and regional cultures, especially caring for the needs of the young in shaping Europe's future. Calls could be EU Synergies calls, meaning that projects that have been awarded a grant under the call could have the possibility to also receive funding under other EU programmes, including relevant shared management funds. In this context, project proposers should consider and actively seek synergies with, and where appropriate possibilities for further funding from, other R&I-relevant EU, national or regional programmes (such as ERDF , ESF+ , JTF , EMFF , EAFRD and InvestEU), where appropriate, as well as private funds or financial instruments.

The EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) aims at financing projects that directly tackle the economic and social impacts from the Coronavirus crisis and support the green and digital transition. For project ideas that directly contribute to these objectives and that have a strong focus in one Member State it is advisable to check access to the RRF for a fast and targeted support.

Complementarities and synergies with other relevant Union programmes will be sought, for Cluster 2 in particular with regard to the take-up of research results and innovative solutions developed under Horizon Europe via the following programmes:

- Creative Europe: it improves the safeguarding and valorisation of cultural heritage and further support the cultural and creative sector. Creative Europe can improve sectorial networking and Member States' cooperation in order to apply the latest technologies, stimulate new scientific approaches and boost innovation potential stemming from Horizon Europe.
- Erasmus+: it supports efforts to efficiently use the potential of Europe's talent and social assets in a lifelong learning perspective throughout the education, training and youth fields. It promotes measures for the inclusion of people with disadvantaged backgrounds, including newly arrived migrants, and supports skills development and active citizenship, encouraging young people to engage and learn to participate in civic society and democratic life, raising awareness about EU values, including via online platforms and tools for virtual cooperation. As regards Cluster 2, Erasmus+ could benefit for instance from the use of innovative practices for migrant integration in education, up-take of innovative methods for citizen engagement and education for fostering EU values and democracy stemming from Horizon Europe.

- Global Europe, the EU's Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument: it supports and consolidates democracy, rule of law and human rights, supports civil society organisations outside the EU, further stability and peace and addresses other global challenges including migration and mobility. The actions can benefit from drawing on the findings in H2020 and Horizon Europe projects regarding trust in governance, tackling disinformation and active citizenship.
- Digital Europe Programme (DEP): while Horizon Europe supports research and development of digital technologies, DEP supports the wide uptake and deployment of innovative digital solutions, areas of public interest (including public administration, justice and education), by setting up and making accessible Europe-wide data spaces and platforms and providing SMEs and public administrations access to the latest digital technologies, for example via Digital Innovation Hubs. Priority actions for the first two years of DEP include "Safer internet for kids", a "Platform for combating disinformation", support the EU language technology industry in developing and deploying latest AI-based technologies in all EU languages and the EU digital platform for cultural heritage, Europeana, supporting digital transformation of cultural heritage institutions.
- Reform Support Programme: when supporting the efforts of the national authorities in improving their administrative capacity to design, develop and implement reforms, the technical support instrument of the Reform Support Programme can benefit from the good practices, innovative processes and methodologies identified or developed in H2020 and Horizon Europe projects, and get access to the expertise in research bodies in H2020 and Horizon Europe projects.
- Justice, Rights and Values Fund: the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme can, in its support to civil society organisations for encouraging and facilitating active participation in the construction of a more democratic Union and awareness rising of EU rights and values, draw on the results of H2020 and Horizon Europe projects in the field of citizens' engagement.
- European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) aims to promote social cohesion and equip people with the skills needed for the evolving demands of the labour market. Member States and regions can use the ESF+ to mainstream and upscale innovative technologies and solutions in the areas of employment, social inclusion, education and training, including successful models and practices developed under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. In addition, the ESF+ can support operations and researchers granted a Seal of Excellence under Horizon Europe.
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) focuses amongst others on the development and strengthening of regional and local research and innovation ecosystems and smart economic transformation, in line with regional/national smart specialisation strategies. It can support investment in research infrastructure, activities for applied research and innovation, including industrial research, experimental development and

feasibility studies, building research and innovation capacities and uptake of advanced technologies and roll-out of innovative solutions from the Framework Programmes for research and innovation through the ERDF. It helps governments reap the benefits of digitisation and also encourages investments in social and cultural infrastructure, the development of cultural services and the conservation of cultural heritage.

- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) can also benefit from the dissemination and take-up of R&I results in the field of cultural heritage, in particular in rural and remote areas.
- The InvestEU Programme could also fund the up-take of R&I results related to Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) and cultural heritage.
- The Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF) supports the EU migration policy to ensure that the obligations to provide international protection are met. It facilitates returning those persons who have no right to stay and supports solutions that replace irregular and uncontrolled flows with safe and well managed pathways, and supports effective integration policies. Horizon Europe contributes to the implementation of the AMF providing an evidence base for policies and projects, as regards asylum protection, legal and irregular migration management and migrant integration.

Complementarities and synergies with other parts of Horizon Europe will be ensured, in particular regarding cluster 3, 4, 5 and 6. Cluster 3 will fund actions supporting security for society, including security for cultural heritage from the operational point of view and R&I to develop tools for enhanced criminal investigation capabilities for law enforcement agencies to prevent criminal acts and mitigate their impacts, including cybercrime and violent radicalisation. Cluster 2 will invest on the preventive aspect of protecting cultural heritage and in analyses of drivers behind violent political transformations, developing recommendations on how to address radicalisation from the angle of education and the functioning of and trust in democratic processes and institutions. Cluster 4 will fund actions focusing on developing and testing digital and industrial technologies, while Cluster 2 will focus on using existing digital technologies for R&I in areas supporting the expected impacts for Cluster 2 (reinvigorate democratic governance, help unfold the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors, foster social and economic resilience and sustainability, and inclusive growth). Cluster 5 aims at delivering a just transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient, fair and resilient society and economy based on advanced climate science, pathways and responses to climate change (both in terms of mitigation and adaptation) and behavioural transformations. Cluster 2 will also contribute evidence on how to reach these results, based on the study of societies and economies we live in, in terms of socio-economic transformations and related democratic processes and governance, education and training policies, social investment and welfare. Cluster 6, among others, will foster a sustainable, balanced and inclusive development of rural, coastal and urban areas, providing opportunities for synergies with Cluster 2 actions on cultural landscapes, cultural heritage protection, spatial inequalities, migration, demography and well-being.

The cross-cluster complementarities are set out in detail in the Strategic Plan of Horizon Europe for 2021-2024.

The topics in this cluster require the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

DRAFT

DESTINATION: INNOVATIVE RESEARCH on DEMOCRACY and GOVERNANCE

The invasion of Ukraine by Russia, which unfolds ominously while this work programme is prepared, will have deep and extraordinary consequences for the European security and the international relations overall. However, it cannot be seen as an isolated event. It is part of an accelerated and ever intensifying movement of rejection and challenge of democracy and of the liberal international order. Indexes and reports measuring the overall situation of democracies in the world confirm their increased fragility and vulnerability over the last years: a process labelled as a “long democratic recession”, a shift in the nature of “autocratization” or a “global expansion of authoritarian rule”, which quantitatively translates into the increase of the number of countries moving towards authoritarianism and the overall decline of the quality of democracies.¹

Research on the past and present challenges and tensions in democracy can help to better understand and strengthen the resilience and stability of democracies. It will also help to counter the shift from governance based on expertise, rules-based multilateralism and consensual policymaking towards majoritarianism, unilateralism, nationalism, populism and polarization. It will foster democracy’s further development with a view to enhancing representation, participation, openness, pluralism, tolerance, the effectiveness of public policy, non-discrimination, civic engagement, the protection of fundamental rights and the rule of law. These reflect the European Union’s values as defined in Article 2 of the EU Treaty².

Expected impact:

Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following expected impacts of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan:

- Democratic governance is reinvigorated by improving the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and trustworthiness of rule-of-law based institutions and policies and through the expansion of active and inclusive citizenship empowered by the safeguarding of fundamental rights.

The implementation of the research activities of the destination will assist in the re-invigoration and modernisation of democratic governance. The aim is to develop evidence-

¹ Cfr. the latest reports from Freedom House or the V-Dem Institute:
<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2021/democracy-under-siege>;
<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2022/global-expansion-authoritarian-rule>
http://www.v-dem.net/static/website/files/dr/dr_2021.pdf;
https://v-dem.net/media/publications/dr_2022.pdf

² Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union, Title 1 “Common Provisions”, Article 2: “The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail”.

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based innovations, policies and policy recommendations, as well as institutional frameworks that expand political participation, social dialogue, civic engagement, gender equality and inclusiveness. Activities will also contribute to enhancing the transparency, effectiveness, accountability and legitimacy of public policy-making. They will help improving trust in democratic institutions, safeguarding liberties and the rule of law and protecting democracy from multidimensional threats. Rich historical, cultural and philosophical perspectives, including a comparative dimension, will set the frame for soundly understanding present developments and help to map future pathways. In the medium to long term, the knowledge, data, scientifically robust recommendations and innovations generated will enhance decision making on all aspects relevant to democratic governance. As the Destination aims directly at citizen engagement and at producing lasting change, it is of particular importance that the research and innovation actions promote the highest standards of transparency and openness. When applicable, it is encouraged to open up the process, criteria, methodologies and data to civil society in the course of the research.

The following call(s) in this work programme contribute to this destination:

Call	Budgets (EUR million)		Deadline(s)
	2023	2024	
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01			14/03/23
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01			07/02/2024
Overall indicative budget			

Call – Standing up for democracy

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2023		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-05	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-07	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-08	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex

<i>exclusion</i>	C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-01: Detecting, analysing and countering foreign information manipulation and interference³

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Protect democratic processes in the EU from information manipulation and interference by foreign actors while preserving the fundamental rights and freedoms underlying these processes.
- Increase our ability to pro-actively detect, analyse and counter foreign attempts to harm the integrity of our democratic processes by creating a better understanding of

³ Projects funded under this topic are invited to develop links and eventually use outcomes from the projects financed under HORIZON-CL3-2021-FCT-01-03: Disinformation and fake news are combated and trust in the digital world is raised. They should also foresee appropriate collaboration with the ongoing Horizon 2020 action EU-HYBNET(<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/883054>)

the Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) involved in these attempts, with the aim to improve our ability to technically attribute them to specific foreign actors.

- Increase our understanding of the behavioural and societal effect – both short- and long-term – of those attempts.
- Develop and extend the solution-space for policy makers, private stakeholders, and civil society actors to counter foreign information manipulation and interference and raise resilience to it. Also, improve our understanding of the efficiency and potential negative side-effects of such solutions.
- Improve our normative and theoretical understanding of the tensions between the value/norm of a free, pluralistic, and democratic society, foreign information manipulation and interference, and domestic anti-democratic forces.

Scope:

Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI)⁴ is a key global challenge and needs to be addressed in full respect of fundamental rights like the freedom of speech. A precondition for counter-acting efforts to undermine such democratic values is an understanding of the Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) used to manipulate information environments in an intentional, harmful and coordinated manner. Understanding these TTPs and having the means to share them with stakeholder and partners, allow democratic governments to impose costs and efficiently disrupt the ‘supply chain’ for manipulated information.

This research will therefore look at (1) how to create a common understanding of parameters needed to provide technical attribution, (2) how these TTPs can be identified and gathered and (3) how they can be stored and shared in an adequate privacy-compliant environment. While there are existing proposals (like the DISARM framework⁵), more research is needed on the practicability and potential pitfalls of these frameworks. There are also ongoing efforts to create an interoperable Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC)⁶ which would provide a means for the various stakeholders to systematically and efficiently exchange information of TTPs used by threat actors, to which this research could contribute.

As much of foreign information manipulation and interference, another important research angle is to what extent FIMI is used in conjunction with illegal activity such as cyber-attacks or hate speech. More specifically, the research could look at the following specific contexts in which TTPs may appear: how foreign actors use proxies within their own territory and abroad

⁴ Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) describes a mostly non-illegal pattern of behaviour in the information domain that threatens or has the potential to negatively impact values, procedures and political processes. Such activity is manipulative in character, conducted in an intentional and coordinated manner, often in relation to other hybrid activities. Actors of such activity can be state or non-state actors, including their proxies inside and outside of their own territory. FIMI is to be understood within the wider context of hybrid threats, of which it is one concrete modality. A conceptual model of hybrid threats can be found in “The landscape of hybrid threats” (<https://op.europa.eu/s/vUUK>)

⁵ <https://www.disarm.foundation/framework>

⁶ https://euhybnet.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/EU-HYBNET_Policy-Brief_-Information-Manipulation-and-Interference_Feb-2022.pdf.

to support their activities; how TTPs related to foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) are used in combination with TTPs outside the FIMI remit, such as cyber criminality; how FIMI campaigns may target individual policy makers and/or their groups in attempts to influence decision making processes in politics, economy or societal affairs. Likewise, the connections between foreign actors and their ecosystem with domestic anti-democratic forces should be explored – how do they influence each other, how do they align their TTPs and how could connections be addressed politically, without interfering in the democratic process. Other forms of foreign interference like elite capture, the use of foreign direct investment, or threats of armed attacks as means of influence, are also in the scope of the research this topic aims to cover.

Based on these insights and research, response options should be proposed to give policy makers, but also stakeholders from civil society and private industry, solutions and options to implement as appropriate. All the possible response options need to be in full respect of fundamental rights and freedoms and potential risks of any such options should be outlined, e.g. how illiberal democracies, authoritarian regimes and domestic anti-democratic forces could exploit them for their own purposes.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-02: Disinformation by state authorities: developing a better understanding of information suppression⁷

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding on how to protect fundamental rights and freedoms from possible threats stemming from the use of information suppression as part of Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) by authoritarian regimes.
- In-depth conceptual and practical understanding of how authoritarian states have used and use information suppression – and the specific Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) involved – in their foreign policy, foreign information manipulation operations.

⁷ Projects funded under this topic are invited to develop links and eventually use outcomes from the projects financed under HORIZON-CL3-2021-FCT-01-03: Disinformation and fake news are combated and trust in the digital world is raised.

- Increased understanding of the behavioural and societal effect – both short- and long-term – of information suppression.
- Develop policy recommendations, toolkits and methodologies to detect and address information suppression in the EU, associated and third countries.

Scope:

FIMI⁸ goes beyond the much-used concept of “disinformation”, which focusses on the active promotion of messages and pushing out of false/misleading content. FIMI also includes other aspects of how the information environment and civic discourse can be manipulated, notably through the suppression of independent and critical voices. Information suppression can take many forms but has the opposite goal to active promotion of messages. It aims to eliminate – or suppress – from the public sphere certain voices or messages. Information suppression by authoritarian actors can be domestic but also reach outside of their borders. Domestic information suppression has been observed surrounding the Russian invasion of Ukraine with an unprecedented crackdown on freedom of speech and freedom of the media (including social media) and cutting internet connections and access to mobile data use. Information suppression is also systematically employed by the Chinese Communist Party domestically but also outside of its borders.

Different facets of information suppression should be examined. Which countries outside the EU have used information suppression in a systematic manner as part of their policies and how could a conceptual definition of information suppression look like to incorporate all parts of such activity? This should include a collection of cases and examples of information suppression by different actors to establish such a conceptual definition and create an evidence base. The research should also look at both the domestic and cross-border dimensions of suppression and catalogue the tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) that have been used to suppress information by different actors. This should focus on different aspects, ranging from the individual (harassment, intimidation etc.) to the society (restriction of fundamental rights and freedoms) to the media (restriction of media freedom, pressuring foreign media outlets or journalists), academia (instigating self-censorship, using visa or archive access to pressure foreign researchers) as well as pressure on private industry (forcing social media companies to comply with national, authoritarian rules; using economic coercion to force international companies to be silent on certain issues, etc). A compendium of such TTPs should be created, with examples of such TTPs to document their use.

Information suppression can target any critical and independent voice; however, targeting the diaspora outside of the country’s territory has been observed as one vector. The research should generate an understanding of how diaspora communities are being targeted by information suppression and how FIMI actors try to co-opt them as agents of information suppression.

⁸ See the definition of FIMI in the previous topic

This research will generate a better understanding of the functioning of information suppression as well as its behavioural and societal effects (e.g. self-censorship etc.). This research must contribute to an analytical methodology of how to identify and analyse information suppression in its different forms; it must give policy recommendations on how to reduce the vulnerability to information suppression, how to protect the targets of information suppression and how to respond to it. Ideally, the research should also contribute to a toolkit for civil society and other affected stakeholders on how to identify information suppression and protect against it.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-03: New approaches for combatting corruption and other undue influences on political decision-making⁹

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increased knowledge and data on political corruption and other undue influences¹⁰ on policy-making and policy implementation, and on how these impact the understanding of democracy and rule of law and the adherence of citizens to those values
- Advance knowledge on the use of technologies (including AI, blockchain, encrypted data analysis...) to curb corruption and other undue political influence in Europe and elsewhere.
- Help bridging the gap between an advanced and fertile corruption measurement landscape and the different levels of commitment shown by governments to the prevention of and fight against corruption.

Scope:

⁹ Proposals are invited to seek synergies and collaboration whenever possible with projects funded under the topic HORIZON-CL3-2022-FCT-01-05: Effective fight against corruption

¹⁰ According to the OECD, undue influence is the act of attempting to influence the design, implementation, execution and evaluation of public policies and regulations administered by public officials, whether by providing covert, deceptive or misleading evidence or data, by manipulating public opinion or by using other practices intended to manipulate the decisions of public officials.

In spite of abundant strategies, toolkits, approaches and indicators produced over the last two decades to win the fight against corruption, it can be argued that, as some researchers have put it, the practical results of anticorruption efforts have been disappointing. The problem appears resistant to solution. Beyond the financial and economic costs, corruption and undue influence – whether real or perceived – erodes the social contract underpinning democracies, and hence the system’s credibility and legitimacy. By undermining democracy and exacerbating inequalities, corruption and policy/state capture in general decrease the legitimacy of the democratic system and pave the way for citizen’s distrust and populist narratives.

Corruption and anticorruption are about human behaviour and require therefore multifaceted and multidisciplinary research. Proposals should aim at bringing together the contributions from behavioural and political economists, psychologists and anthropologists, historians, lawyers, political scientists, etc. Their research findings will contribute to a deeper understanding of corruption and further to the evaluation of the quality of democracy and good governance. Proposals under this topic should aim at reproducing the level of ambition, both in terms of consortium composition and the breath, range and duration of their research plan, of the FP7 collaborative project ANTICORRP.¹¹

On the conceptual level, research under this topic should build solid and encompassing understanding of, among others: the cross-border character of new expressions of political corruption involving a constellation of actors cutting across the political, financial and commercial world; integrity and its relationship to corruption and the requirements of effective models of integrity management, both in the public and private sectors; the role played by the data analytics sector in political communication to malignly influence and disrupt politics in foreign jurisdictions; or the role played by investigative journalism in strengthening accountability by revealing transnational corruption and illicit financial flows. Studying, especially through comparative and historical research, rhetorical, linguistic and cultural aspects of corruption will help to develop a stronger theoretical ground for the critical analysis of social representations of corruption. The role of media, and in particular social media and their impact on how corruption is socially constructed, perceived and dealt with in the public sphere, deserves special attention.

On the practical side, proposals should look at tools to strengthen public-private partnerships for fighting corruption, including inter-institutional and inter-sectorial collaborations among different stakeholders (such as small/large enterprises mentorship). The use of technologies (artificial intelligence, encrypted data analysis, blockchain) to detect and combat corruption and other undue influences should receive particular attention. The analysis of open government experiences and dissemination of practices of civic tracking systems, as opportunities of transparency and prevention of corruption, may also contribute to the assessment of the hopes and challenges of digital anti-corruption efforts. While abundant corruption indexes help to understand different angles of this problem, most of them are

¹¹ Anticorruption policies revisited. Global trends and European responses to the challenge of corruption: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/290529>

perception based and/or focus on particular issues. Overall overviews of corruption within the EU are difficult and proposals should aim to overcome this shortfall.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-04: Protest politics in democracy

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding.

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the role and evolution of protest politics, activism and/or civil disobedience and its impact on democracy.
- Analysis of a potential shift from traditional party structures to social mobilisation and activism as means for democratic participation, including drivers and factors that might play a role in fostering such forms of politics (emotional, socioeconomic, cultural, historical, intergenerational, geopolitical, behavioural, psychological, etc.).
- Explore the interrelation between lack of/limited channels for democratic civic engagement and collective political action, including ways to channel social and community mobilisation and protest into new forms of participatory democracy and non-conflictual constructive engagement.

Scope:

In a time with apparent decreasing participation in party politics in Europe, the role of social mobilisations and protests for democracy seems to be of growing importance. Recent years have seen a number of diverse forms of political protest, social movements and activism, both offline and online. In fact, the Eurobarometer Youth Survey 2021 showed that a majority of young people in Ireland, Spain and Belgium, amongst others, consider participating in forms of street politics equally or more effective than voting. Furthermore, the shrinking civic space during the COVID-19 pandemic has been coupled with protests regarding the measures imposed or for social justice.

Research proposals under this topic will contribute to further analysing the shift towards politics of collective action, and their impact on European democracies, including their role in resisting the rise of authoritarian tendencies. This could refer to both online and offline forms

of collective political action, including artistic forms of protest (audiovisual art, literature, etc.), and it might consider drivers and factors that play a role in fostering such forms of politics (emotional, socioeconomic, cultural, generational, geopolitical, etc.), including the role of social media platforms.

Amongst these, projects might consider the relationship between collective action as a way to channel democratic grievances and limited channels for citizen participation, thus analysing the implications of further citizen support for democracy combined with the dissatisfaction with the current democratic channels (with a special focus on accessibility and inclusiveness of democratic channels such as voting for vulnerable people, mobile citizens, migrants, etc.). This could also mean exploring self-organised alternative forms of citizen participation (such as assemblies).

Special attention might be put on younger generations who have vastly participated in shaping the civic space with their activism in movements such as Fridays for Future and feminist mobilisations. A focus could also be on extremist movements' influence for instance on protests against COVID-19 public health measures.

Projects under this call are encouraged to make use of participative methodologies such as ethnographies, network analysis, life histories, etc. They could draw from a combination of methods and literature, including sociology, political psychology, affect theories, social movement theories, cultural analyses, anthropology, socioeconomic analysis, discourse theories, network analyses, etc.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-05: The climate imperative and its impact on democratic governance

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the climate movements and their impact on democratic governance, participation and social cohesion, examining the impact of the green transition on public governance and democratic practices, their legitimacy and responsiveness, and the increasing role of non-majoritarian institutions in decision-making.
- Better informed decision-making and communication to citizens on climate related policies, based on learnings from the management of the Covid pandemic, disaster and end-time scenarios analysis, and other historic examples for such political and societal imperatives.

- Recommendations on policymaking approaches at all levels of government to address the climate imperative in a democratic manner supported by citizens, balancing it with other policy imperatives, including the role of education in fostering climate literacy.
- Better understand the consequences of climate crisis scenarios on demand for democratic structures, international politics and citizen engagement

Scope:

The youth climate movements have highlighted the question of whether urgent climate goals can be met while respecting democratic processes, maintaining trust, legitimacy and efficiency of democratic institutions. A large segment of society, on the other hand, remains in denial about the reality and urgency of the climate crisis, perceives the changes on their personal life-style needed to mitigate or adapt to climate change as too burdensome, or focuses on other priorities, e.g. policy imperatives linked to financial or security issues. Policies adopted under the climate transition will not be pain-free, increasing the difficulty for democratic governments seeking re-election to legislate effectively to meet the demands of the climate crisis. Social inequalities increase the risk that the less advantaged segments of society will be more negatively impacted by the climate crisis and policies made for the climate transition. The common global goals for the climate transition also highlight the deficiencies of governance on supranational issues.

At the same time, the climate imperative also opens up avenues for innovative civic participation in an existential policy area.

Thus, projects in this Call will help reinvigorate democratic governance by suggesting pathways for improved effectiveness of rule-of-law based institutions and policies, notably pathways for open government practices that enable active civic participation throughout the policymaking process. They will help strengthen social and economic resilience and sustainability through a better understanding of the relationship between democratic governance and the climate imperative.

Projects should examine whether tensions effectively exist between democratic governance and climate imperatives, how have societies dealt with bottom-up participation, democracy, and corporate structures in the past, whether more inclusive and politically democratic societies are better able to develop prevention and mitigation policies, and what new structures do we need to tackle the climate imperative.

Projects should take a historical perspective and use the lessons of history as well as analysis of the current situation to make policy recommendations for the future.

Projects should seek synergies and complementarity with other clusters, partnerships and missions of the Horizon Europe Programme, notably projects funded under the Call “*Multilevel governance in times of digital and climate transition*” as well as with other EU programmes and financing instruments to maximise its impact in the long term.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-06: Which democratic governance model for times of disruptive changes to the social contract?

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of ways to account for the need for evaluation and changes in the social contracts in the European Union countries through theoretical, historical, legal, normative and comparative studies, amongst others.
- Investigate and propose safeguards and mechanisms that need to be in place in those circumstances when questioning the very foundations of the social contract.
- Scenarios for how new social contracts in EU Member States could look like or approaches for how to develop the narratives for new social contracts.

Scope: [under development].

A social contract is the intellectual construct referring to the agreement between members of a society, community, or organization that spells out the obligations, functions, and rights of each person agreeing to the contract. The classic concept of social contract also implies the notion of the individual renunciation of some freedoms, in exchange of some public goods, including protection, that societal life can offer. When the social contract fails to uphold its end of the bargain and leaves its citizens disappointed, the government faces the risk of a revolution. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed social and economic inequalities, leading to calls for a new social contract at national, EU and global levels based on inclusivity and sustainability.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-07: Intersectionality and equality in deliberative and participatory democratic spaces

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

<i>project</i>	selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding.

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Develop a thorough theoretical understanding of deliberative and participatory democratic practices through an intersectional lens that engages with structures of power, and identify limitations and opportunities for improvement of such spaces.
- Enhance the design, implementation and evaluation of deliberative and participatory processes at different levels of government (local, regional, national, European), with a focus on marginalised and vulnerable communities, by including an intersectional approach that allows accounting for power relations at all processes of design.
- Develop and pilot innovative designs for citizen engagement that consider intersectionality and allow for other types of participation and deliberation, enhancing democracy while acknowledging political equality in such participatory spaces

Scope:

There has been a recent push to overcome the limits of representative democracy and reinvigorate democratic participation through participatory and deliberative democratic innovations at local, regional, national and European level. Such processes have aimed to bring power and decision making closer to citizens, and have contributed to reimagining the meaning of democracy and to further fostering the involvement of citizens in democratic life.

Nevertheless, difficulties remain as regards the meaningful involvement of minorities and marginalised communities. Despite the implementation of quotas and processes to ensure parity in such democratic spaces, ensuring equality has been proved to be a challenge. In many cases, when the principle of parity has been achieved, there has been a difficulty to ensure meaningful engagement and safe and equal spaces for all. Proposals under this call would contribute to reinvigorating democracy and enhancing citizen participation by designing, envisioning and piloting processes of democratic innovation where overcoming the accumulation and intersection of discrimination or stigmatisation is a core part of the process.

For this, proposals will contribute to offer both conceptual and practical insights into designing, implementing and evaluating more inclusive participatory processes. Thus, research will help to identify the limitations of participatory exercises, and draw power analysis that provide insights into the systemic exclusion and reproduction of inequalities in certain democratic spaces. This could also include behavioural insights to enhance participation of marginalised groups. Furthermore, they will contribute to innovation through the piloting and testing of alternative models of participatory democratic practices and mini-publics that account for meaningful engagement of marginalised or vulnerable communities

(agonistic, counter/alternative publics, community deliberation, intercultural dialogues, multilevel deliberations, theatre and artistic interventions, etc.). Proposals might want to consider the role of digital technologies in such innovative designs. Proposals might draw on the results of deliberative / participatory democracy related EU projects, in particular under Horizon 2020.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-08: Future scenarios and young visions for European democracy 2040

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Well-researched future scenarios for European democracy, debated and co-developed with diverse groups of stakeholders, institutional actors and European citizens.
- Roadmap and action plans to achieve the preferred scenario for the European Union and its Member States.

Scope: [under development]

Democracy in the EU faces challenges from rising extremism and polarisation, covert authoritarianism, election interference and the spread of manipulative information. Political democracies are looking for new balances in fast-changing societal contexts while facing countless number of internal and global challenges and changes in power relations. This – in turn – reduces the willingness to undertake reforms that could deepen the European Union further. Nationalistic and populist tendencies, tensions between national and international frameworks, political and social polarization jeopardize established values and practices (e.g. parliamentary democracy, the rule of law, separation of powers, democratic dialogue, etc.) and seem to weaken the political clout of the European Union in the long run.

Foresight-based full scenario building and planning, cutting across the traditional boundaries of policy areas and government departments as well as scientific disciplines, combined with large scale engagement of diverse groups of stakeholders and citizens, will act as a driver of reflexive mutual social learning processes among policymakers, other stakeholders and citizens at large, and stimulate the generation of common public policy visions.

Proposals should integrate the perspectives, procedures, and tools of both trend research and futures studies. Applicants should strongly build on a multi-stakeholder approach, drawing on

a multitude of internal as well as external sources of knowledge. Therefore, collaboration through large scale engagement between horizontal levels in countries and across countries, between different types of actors (academia, private sector, think-tanks) and with citizens (with special focus on intergenerational engagement, integrating and facilitating a dialogue between the perspectives of older and younger, with their acute focus on global challenges in the context of media influence), is a must. For the citizen engagement dimension proposals are encouraged to involve schools and disenfranchised youth. The involvement of urban living labs in the foresight process and scenario building is strongly encouraged. Proposals could also build on results from previous Horizon 2020 projects dealing with societal and political (dis)engagement of young people.

Call – Past, present and future of democracies

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2024		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-05	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-07	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-08	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-09	RIA			

*Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-2024
Culture, creativity and inclusive society*

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-10	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-11	tbd			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-01: The emotional politics of European democracies¹²

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed

¹² Proposals are invited to seek synergies and collaboration whenever possible with projects funded under the topic HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-05: Evolution of political extremism and its influence on contemporary social and political dialogue.

<i>project</i>	appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the relevance of emotions and affect in democracies, in relation to issues of democratic governance in Europe.
- Thorough understanding of the interaction between emotions, values, identities and beliefs in informing political decision-making.
- Better informed decision-making on ways to build on the emotional dimension of politics to foster and promote European democracies and values, to better communicate evidence-based policies to resonate with the emotional needs and conditions of citizens, and to better listen to the emotional needs when developing policies.

Scope:

With a rise in polarisation in European democracies, the role of emotions has become central in debates about democracy. This has become more evident when considering the role of social media and certain political narratives in targeting and capitalising on such emotions.

In this context, proposals under this call will examine the role of affect and emotions (such as hope, resentment, happiness, fear, dissatisfaction, frustration, solidarity, hatred, etc.) in European democracies, investigating their impact on democracies. In this sense, they will contribute to understanding how changing emotional landscapes and shifts in popular feelings interact with practices and values core to democratic politics. Examples of this might include, but are not limited to, participation and political mobilisation; voting trends; trust, disinformation and post-truths; identitarian movements; activism and social movements, etc. Projects might also consider political narratives, campaigns and styles of leadership that build on such emotional politics, and the role of traditional and social media in fostering such public emotions.

Finally, proposals under this call might ideate and pilot innovative ways to build on the emotional dimension of democracies to foster democratic practices and European values; as well as to better listen to the emotional needs of citizens when developing policies. This also includes exploring better ways to communicate evidenced-based policies and training or awareness raising activities to ensure informed decision-making.

Researchers are encouraged to use a combination of methods from different fields, (including political psychology and psychoanalysis, cognitive scientists, sociology, feminist theory, affect theory, emotional geography, democratic theory, social media analysis...) building novel methodologies, concepts and theories that allow understanding the interplay between emotion and democratic politics.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-02: Multilevel governance in times of digital and climate transitions

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the articulation between local, regional, international and transnational governance, in developing and implementing policy on two areas of transnational importance: the digital and climate transitions.
- Better informed decision-making at national and EU levels based on the identification of where the tensions the opportunities are in top-down and bottom-up policy-making, and policy implementation. How does the division of policy ownership in multi-level governance systems impact the effectiveness of policy-making in these two policy areas
- The development of community-based innovations in the field of democratic governance and processes, notably at the level of cities and regions, and evaluation of their implications for social development, cohesion and inclusion.
- Policy recommendations on improvements and alternative pathways for the national and local implementation of EU law that are endorsed by the targeted public administrations, including through experimentation in deliberative processes.

Scope:

The threat of climate change will require changes in the ways in which we organise our societies, action at all levels of government, and coordination between these levels so that actions are taken at the most appropriate one and complement each other effectively. Optimising complementarity will also be important to face the challenge of staff shortage to tackle the climate transition.

The digital transition is also at the heart of the question of multi-level governance of major transitions: for instance, the Covid pandemic has changed practices, and shown that further paths can be followed in order for digitalisation to be moulded to benefit the climate, and society.

The EU Green Deal and digital strategy, and their national and local implementation strategies, are the policy roadmaps to be examined under this topic.

Projects must analyse how different levels of government in the EU work in developing and implementing policy on the digital and climate transitions. Where is collaboration and collective agenda-setting most effective, in order for climate and digital roadmap goals to be met? How does the division of policy ownership in multi-level governance systems impact the effectiveness of policy-making in these two policy areas: where are the gaps, and where are the duplications?

Projects should also analyse the development of community-based innovations in the field of democratic governance and processes, notably at the level of cities and regions, and evaluation of their implications for social development, cohesion and inclusion.

Given the very particular situation of border regions, projects could analyse innovative legal instruments, organizational set-ups, cross-border democratic processes that strengthen cross-border cooperation and ultimately the resilience of cross-border territories.

As the innovation action part of this RIA, projects should experiment with community-led innovations in one or both policy areas, such as through deliberative processes.

Based on this analysis, projects must suggest pathways for better-informed decision-making at national and EU levels based on the identification of where the tensions the opportunities are in top-down and bottom-up policy-making, and policy implementation.

Projects must form partnerships with government authorities at the relevant levels, in order for their policy recommendations on improvements and alternative pathways for the national and local implementation of EU law to be more likely to be endorsed by the targeted public administrations.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-03: What is the long-term impact of rule of law and European values on socio-economic outcomes?

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the impact of rule of law and other EU values on socio-economic outcomes of individuals and nations.
- Enhanced knowledge of the cost aspects of debilitating rule of law and the quantification strategies in the area of rights and freedoms in the national and European context.
- Building and identifying new datasets for this area of research, incorporating a systematic use of historical experiences, economic and econometric history approaches in conjunction with legal history analysis where adequate.

Scope: [under development]

Recent insights into the role of networks for the creation of value have yet to be transferred in an important manner to areas of study dealing with important public/common goods such as rule of law and the various human and fundamental rights and freedoms established by EU law. It is well understood that networks can amplify asset values in an important manner. How do structural features and metrics of societal networks impact that value of common/public goods? Is it possible to identify similar magnifying effects? And how can they be measured, in which unit can they be expressed? On the other hand value created within one particular network may not be transferable to another network without significant losses. What factors will determine the importance of such losses?

Proposals are expected to address some of the following points: Exploring changing valuation of public/common goods depending on their degree of embeddedness; how are metrics of social and contractual networks associated with varying valuations public/common goods.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-04: The interrelation between social, cultural and political identities, as well as the sense of belonging, and democracies in Europe

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Provide a comprehensive analysis of the interrelations between social, cultural and political identities, the sense of belonging, and democracy, including matters of political representation, participation and trust. This includes considering the intersecting, fluid and fragmented dimension of identities and their relation to the need to belong as well as values.

- Develop critical insights into the ways in which processes of social, cultural and political participation can contribute to further fostering the sense of belonging/ownership to/of local, national and European democratic institutions and processes, or the diffusion of antagonistic identities or social norms.
- Build on findings to formulate recommendations on policy making to address, prevent and correct negative trends, including piloting of strategies and frameworks to prevent discrimination, marginalisation and alienation. Insights on how to contribute to encompassing identities with concrete policy recommendations are highly encouraged.

Scope:

The role of identities and the sense of belonging in democracies is of uttermost importance, where both have been key to define and understand political participation in democratic societies. In the past few years, Europe has arguably experienced an increased fragmentation of identities, given rapid generational, demographic, social and political changes. Simultaneously, the pandemic has highlighted the importance of communities in times of uncertainty. This has opened up questions about the negative impact that such fragmenting trends might have on democratic life, as well as the barriers that certain groups face to be actively and meaningfully engaged in democratic participation.

On the other hand, it can be argued that the involvement of certain communities in democratic processes (through quotas, but also participatory processes at different levels, etc.) can contribute to further foster the sense of belonging to a democratic society, and further increase their participation in democratic life.

In this context, proposals under this call will help further investigate the way that democracy and its key tenets such as political representation, participation or trust are interrelated to social, cultural, and political identities and a sense of belonging to different communities. This includes gender, ethnic, multicultural, multilingual and spatial identities and subjectivities, amongst others, taking into account the cumulative effects of discrimination. Projects might consider the role of migration and refugees, segregation, the notion of European identity, people with disabilities, perception of belonging to urban / rural communities or to diasporas, the role of media and social media in identity fragmentation, etc.

Proposals should identify and explore barriers and factors that limit or impact the engagement of certain communities in democratic practices and processes, and erode their political participation, representation or trust in democratic actors. Moreover, they should consider and propose policies, frameworks and recommendations to prevent and revert such negative trends, as well as ways to further foster the sense of belonging to democratic societies. This could include the piloting of participatory processes or civic engagement activities targeted at fostering the sense of democratic belonging in said communities.

It is important that proposals integrate an intersectional, fluid and multiple approach towards identities, as well as consider the varying concepts and experiences of “belonging” and the possibility to develop several feelings of belonging to different communities simultaneously.

Proposals should also utilise participatory methods for research, involving academic and non-academic actors, with a focus on community empowerment. They might utilise methodologies that build on disciplines such as political and social psychology, behavioural politics, history, sociology, gender and race theories, etc.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-05: Gender-roles in extremist movements and their impact on democracy

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Develop a critical understanding of the construction and performance of gender roles in extremist, identitarian and nationalist movements and their impact on democracy, EU values and fundamental rights.
- Provide evidence-based insights into the role of online communities in the promotion of reactionary, identitarian and extremist ideals, focusing in particular on different forms of masculinities from an intersectional perspective and drawing on engagement with these online communities and platforms.
- Examine gender roles in political leadership styles and narratives, especially in nationalist and extremist parties, and their impact on democratic participation, decision-making and trust in governance, and propose alternative models for more democratic leadership.
- Develop innovative methods, policy approaches and tools to tackle antidemocratic narratives and tendencies, characterized by identitarian, nationalist and extremist ideals.

Scope:

While gender and feminist scholarship in democracy tend to focus on the role of women and female representation, the role of men and different forms of masculinities are equally important to gain a comprehensive understanding of the impact of gender roles and inequalities on democratic discourse, decision-making and governance.

The past years have witnessed a rise of identitarian (alt-right), reactionary and other extremist politics, arguably strengthened by the pandemic. Many of these ideals and politics are developing in online forums and platforms, often characterised by a contempt for the ‘liberal’

elite and perceived as tools for the radicalisation of (young) men. In extreme cases, such politics have been openly hostile towards women, LGBTQI+ collectives and ethnic minorities, and even openly advocated for violence towards them, leading to increased hate speech, harassment, violence and hate crimes. More research is needed into these groups and milieus, especially through active engagement and deliberation with them on their perceptions around socio-political change, fundamental rights, and anxiety about perceived threats to their gendered identity. Therefore, proposals are expected to develop strategies for the engagement and deliberation with men active in reactionary, identitarian, or far-right nationalist online forums, and examine the influence of the online discourse in such platforms on the constitution of extremist movements. This includes, but is not limited to, an analysis and engagement with different types of masculinities and how these relate to political violence, gender-based violence, and hate crimes. Interdisciplinary approaches, connecting social and political sciences with the use of information and communication technologies, including artificial intelligence, are particularly encouraged for this topic.

Moreover, the increased uncertainty and political challenges generated by the pandemic, has been coupled with a turn towards hypermasculinistic modes of leadership and politics that require further analysis. In this context, proposals should consider the interrelation between top-down hypermasculinistic leadership styles and bottom-up identitarian, nationalist and other extremist movements developing in online spaces, and analyse their impact on democratic participation, decision-making and trust in governance

Building on the evidence-based insights, proposals should develop innovative methods, policy approaches and tools for policymakers and practitioners to address the underlying roots of violent, discriminatory and illiberal political discourse and actions in both public and online spaces. This could include awareness-raising and training activities on the of identitarian and reactionary ideals on democracy and EU values, as well as innovative practices to deliberate with the targeted communities

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-06: Computational Social Science approaches in research on democratic legitimacy and trust, resilience of democratic institutions and the new patterns of democratic participation

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Insights into various aspects of democracy, its institutions, its capacity to adapt to changing circumstances, interaction with structural socio-economic patterns utilising Computational Social Science¹³(CSS) to identify systematic patterns to test working hypotheses;
- Develop and test methodologies that combine CSS and SSH methods to study democratic governance, overcoming traditional academic boundaries in the field and producing synthetic data and simulation environments to stage full scale experiments which otherwise are reserved to historical study.
- Use of critical approaches to data and datafication of social data, the development of alternative approaches to research including critical software studies, digital studies, and critical media studies, and development of clear and concise policy recommendations for harmonising CSS approaches with GDPR guidelines in order to encourage and facilitate such studies.

Scope: tbc.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-07: Digital democracy

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Policy makers, practitioners and researchers have increased understanding of digital democracy, to reap its full potential as a means for inclusive participation, achieving a culture of digital governance based on transparency, responsibility and ethics.
- Better decision-making on the future use of digital democracy tools, participation culture and related engagement strategies for building a thriving digitally enhanced public sphere.
- Better understanding of the role of education in fostering digital literacy for participation in the public sphere, aiming in particular at the digitally vulnerable groups.

¹³ Computational Social Science (CSS) uses methods developed in statistical physics to takes advantage of the very rich big data sets and identify systematic patterns to deliver new forms of testing hypothesis at comparably low costs.

Scope:

The COVID-19 pandemic made e-democracy more relevant and influential than ever before since access to the physical public sphere was constrained and limited. Through digital platforms and social media, individuals continue to voice their opinions, expose and mobilize for social movements, fostering change and raising awareness of democracy and fundamental rights. Citizens turned to digital media and collaborative platforms to deal with public affairs exercising active citizenship virtually. Digital democracy platforms expand the opportunities for democratic deliberations through better and faster political information exchange, public dialogue and involvement in public decision-making and exercising voting rights in political elections. Digital democracy can play an active role in creating and deepening societal change. However, they are also more vulnerable to disruption e.g. cybersecurity and privacy threats, misinformation campaigns or digital lobbying, attempting to impact public decision making, including political election outcomes.

Increased level of participation between government and stakeholders/citizens requires radical changes and major investment making public administrations more relevant to the social, economic, political and technological environment. To prepare public administrations for increased participation with the broader public, structures and processes need to be put in place, resources allocated, an ecosystem of intermediaries and representative organizations defined, making public deliberation and moderation in the digital age an integral part of an institutional/governmental ‘culture of participation’.

For this aim, proposals must, building on existing literature and data, investigate the most recent developments, especially as regards the pandemic-induced innovative e-democracy and e-participation solutions at all levels of governance (EU, national, regional, local). Historical analysis will allow the consideration of the wider and long-term impacts of e-participation on democracy, political and civic culture, and international cooperation will facilitate the exchange of good practice and success stories. Research should pay particular attention to digital inclusion as a key challenge and essential element of inclusive citizen participation in public deliberations for a healthy digital democracy through equal participation irrespective of citizen's income level, education, ethnicity, gender, religion, language used, physical impairment, etc. In particular the role of education to foster digital literacy among digitally vulnerable groups, address the digital divide between generations, etc. must be considered.

Based on lessons learnt from local, national and European experiences, proposals should consider the citizens’ perspectives and experiences in building digital democracy tools, including technical aspects like the graphic user interface. The involvement of different stakeholders, including public administrations, end-users, political actors and the private sector is encouraged to foster dialogue and understanding between diverse interest groups in democratic deliberations, enhance the legal frameworks and safeguards for fraud prevention in e-voting, overcome polarisation and reach better public policy outcomes.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-08: The use of culture, the arts and cultural spaces for political expression

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to some of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of cultural activity and engagement as political expression to make political discussions attractive and understandable to groups of citizens who would otherwise not engage in political debates.
- Analysis of the use of spaces beyond classic democratic institutions for civic participation and political engagement.
- Recommendations on how to foster civic participation and political engagement in non-standard spaces, physical and virtual.
- Enhance the scientific evidence from multidisciplinary disciplines informing policies/developments around emergent advanced human-centred and decentralised social media and networks that impact society, democracy and users' empowerment

Scope:

Participation in political life through conventional means, such as elections, has become a challenge. Participation rates decrease while parts of society feel unheard by political elites and see electoral processes as inefficient. On the other hand, some citizens find alternative outlets to express political opinions, such as protests (see topic on protests in the same call), expression on social media and in virtual spaces, art creation, etc.

Government entities are increasingly attempting to capture these inputs through non-conventional means, such as virtual fora (as for instance the Conference on the Future of Europe) or citizen deliberation panels. How effective are these alternative ways to channel political engagement? How inclusive and representative are they, and how can this be improved?

In addition, non-conventional spaces, such as public libraries, art exhibition spaces, cultural centres, etc are increasingly positioning themselves as catalysers for social and economic changes. They become privileged places for deliberation and alternative engagement with politics through debate, education and free expression, for instance. How effective are they at

channelling bottom-up political energy? How can those alternative initiatives feed into the wider political debate? Another aspect of this topic is to look at art and cultural productions (in the broader sense) as vectors of political expression, be it in democratic or non-democratic contexts. How efficient is art activism in mediating political messages?

Aside physical spaces, virtual spaces for exchange and communication have been very active to disseminate political views and influence the political debate. While the link between social media and disinformation as well as political engagement has already been investigated, the re-vival of virtual alternative universes, such as the Metaverse, begs for more scientific evidence regarding what impact this will have on democracy. The Metaverse and other digital universes have strong potential to both threaten and nurture democracies. How to ensure that such digital spaces can, by design, have a positive impact on democratic life? How to exploit these new spaces as positive tools for citizen engagement?

Proposals are expected to investigate cultural activity and engagement as political expression, civic participation and political engagement. The role of cultural spaces (in the broadest possible sense) as non-conventional spaces of political expression must be investigated, while taking into account gender and intersectionality. Proposals could also study ways in which cultural expression, including art activism, can nurture democracy. Investigation of examples and initiatives from outside Europe is encouraged, given the many interesting experiences of art and activism (e.g. Senegal, Burkina Faso, Arab countries, East African countries on LGBTQ+ issues, etc.). Proposals must produce concrete policy recommendations and design proposals to allow the potential for political engagement through physical and virtual non-traditional spaces to be fully expressed, in an inclusive manner.

Research methodologies should include field research and participative methods.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-09: The role and functioning of public administrations in democratic systems

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility</i>	The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the

<i>conditions</i>	consortium selected for funding.
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Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better understanding of the changing concept of public administrations and approaches to their role in enhancing trust in democratic governance, emerging trends and practices, paradigm shifts in public decision and policy making and related culture change.
- Better understanding the ways in which human resource management policies, leadership and innovative work practices ensure that algorithm-based decision making in public administration is fair, justifiably, transparent and accountable.
- Recommendations for European Union Member States on key focus areas and (national and EU level) actions as regards public administration modernization and reform agendas, and whole-government innovation strategies for effective, innovative, future-capable and citizen centric government administrations in Europe.

Scope: [under development]

The role and functioning of public administrations in democratic systems, merits further reflection, beyond the focus in on-going research on solutions for citizen engagement in design, modernisation and digitalisation of public services.

Proposals should – among others - draw on and complement the work done by the Observatory of Public Sector Innovation (OPSI) and its global network of practitioners who are sharing best practices in public administration innovation. Proposals should look beyond innovation into the role of the public sector from a broader perspective, notably the role of the public sector in fostering democratic, economic and social stability.

Proposals should address the impact of innovation and experimentations with public management on the agility of public services and management systems, on enhanced user-centricity, trust and ownership, and on their contribution to societal and economic resilience in crisis situations. It also concerns the causes for gaps between policy decisions and implementation, and the development of new visions and narratives for public administrations. Proposals should consider, among others: citizen participation as one of the drivers for renewing the concept of public administration; new practices and ways of working in government administrations based on case studies and best practices from MS, AC and beyond, in particular regarding balancing expectations towards and resources of public administrations; the process/mechanism for translation of evidence into policy implementation.

The proposed research plans may act as catalysts for public sector innovation in for example policy labs or urban living labs throughout Europe that work on relevant EU or SDG objectives.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-10: Political participation in multilingual spaces

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding.

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Improved understanding of the implications of linguistic diversity for political participation, from the local to the European level.
- Analysis of automated language tools and multilingual means of communication and their impact on democracy-fostering processes.

Scope:

The European Union is made up of a population with a multitude of languages and dialects, which reflect a mosaic of cultures in constant interaction and evolution. Although this is not new, managing political participation in multilingual spaces, and especially participation of communities with language barriers, is a challenge.

The Conference on the Future of Europe has shown that solutions exist to facilitate multilingual communication in a democratic context, including thanks to the use of automated translation tools. However, multi-lingual deliberations tend to crystallise on ensuring that opinions have been rightly conveyed through translation rather than on the outcomes of the discussions and the understanding of cultural codes and perceptions. In other words, how to ensure that multilingual deliberations focus on the content, rather than the form of what is said? How to allow deep and meaningful engagement among participants from diverse linguistic communities? Technological tools may help in virtual settings, but how can these technical innovations be brought into the non-virtual world, in order to address such a deep-rooted societal challenge?

In addition, multilingual spaces are almost always also multicultural. In other words, the translation process is never limited only to translation between language(s), but involves also intercultural translation. How would it be possible to ensure that notions of identity and belonging at the local, national and European level, be coupled with democratic, open and trusting societies? What role can inter-cultural dimensions of social capital and social

dialogue play in strengthening democratic dialogue and on building democratic communities and citizenship (at the national and EU level)?

Proposals should consider outcomes from the Conference on the Future of Europe. They should explore how deliberations in multilingual settings can be best mediated, by design or through technological assistance. Special attention could be paid to linguistic minorities and people with communication impairments. Projects under this call are encouraged to make use of participative methodologies and experimental methods.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-11: Democracy and governance research: From theory to practice

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	RIA / CSA [tbd]
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	<p><i>The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following additional eligibility conditions apply:</i></p> <p><i>[This topic requires the active involvement, as beneficiaries, of at least [...] local or regional or national government authorities, or other relevant [end-user] organisations from at least [...] different EU Member States or Associated countries. For these participants, applicants must fill in the table “Eligibility information about practitioners” in the application form with all the requested information, following the template provided in the submission IT tool.]</i></p> <p><i>[To be eligible, proposals have to draw on the results of research and innovation projects that have finished their research work or published results not more than [24] months ago.]</i></p>
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p><i>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</i></p> <p><i>[Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme</i></p>

	<p><i>for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025)^[1].]</i></p> <p><i>[Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties.</i></p> <p><i>The support to third parties can only be provided in the form of grants.</i></p> <p><i>The maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR [...].</i></p> <p><i>The respective options of the Model Grant Agreement will be applied.</i></p> <p><i>Beneficiaries should refer to General Annex B of the Work Programme for further information and guidance.]</i></p>
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^[1] This decision is available on the Funding & Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Policy makers, practitioners and researchers have increased understanding of the validity of theoretical models, the possibilities to implement recommendations, toolkits, narratives and methodologies and other solutions for issues for democracy and governance stemming [in particular] from Horizon 2020 projects .
- A structured dialogue on the uptake of research results on democracy and governance relevant for the future of democracy in the EU, involving non-science actors, including public bodies, NGOs, civil society organisations, policy-makers, etc. to explore their readiness to implement the solutions developed in the previous R&I project, possibly adapting the solutions to the respective societal / administrative / political context based on the tests.
- Better informed decision-making on changes in democratic processes and governance, based on scientific, policy, legal etc. conclusions from experiments with the results of such earlier projects in a practical / real life context, that allow to replicate the methods, recommendations for legislative changes, or translate the research results into innovations.

Scope: [under development]

The aim is to bring to society the benefits from previously funded research in the field of democracy and governance. The actions have to build on the rich stock of actionable recommendations, knowledge, toolkits, educational material, and scientific methods etc.

developed in particular by the over 300 Horizon 2020 projects on democracy and governance related issues. The actions have to take those R&I results further through testing and experimenting in the relevant operational environment, and enhancing the potential take-up of innovative solutions by civil society, public institutions, including educational institutions, and policy makers at all governance levels.

Proposals should address issues in line with the European Democracy Action Plan or EU policy initiatives that emanated from this Action Plan.

Possibilities of coordination with related activities funded through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme or the Global Europe Programme should be analysed. Cooperation should be sought with the Network for innovative solutions for the future of democracy funded under HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-02-01.

Actions should not duplicate or replace the dissemination and exploitation activities that are part of the initial R&I projects.

Proposals should involve end-users (including civil society organisations) and/or strategic partners who can foster the societal impact of the research and innovation results. Possible end-users and strategic partners could include for instance local or regional authorities, schools/universities, cultural institutions, civil society, [foundations, political parties, trade unions, youth organisations]. Proposals should also involve practitioners and experts in science communication.

Besides fostering the societal impact of previous democracy and governance related research and innovation actions, proposals should explore and draw lessons on how the translation between research results in this field and policy actions takes place and what kinds of expertise is needed for achieving this. Proposals could aim to develop also strategies for promoting citizens activism and community engagement to build inclusive societies.

DESTINATION: INNOVATIVE RESEARCH ON EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE AND CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES - BUILDING OUR FUTURE FROM THE PAST

Europe's rich cultural heritage and strong creative tradition not only reflect our past, but **shape our future**. It is by building on this base and developing our strengths that we can face the great challenges of our time with confidence, and shape a future based on European values and the respect of human rights.

Europe's wealth of monuments and sites and its creative diversity of traditions, crafts, arts, architecture, literature, languages, theatre, films and music is a unique asset. It enriches our lives, fosters social and cultural cohesion and contributes to a sense of belonging. It also underpins an economy generating more employment than the automotive industry and a similar trade balance as food, drinks and tobacco combined. Many of Europe's multinationals build their international success on the European heritage and creativity. At the same time, the sector is nurturing large numbers of dynamic small and micro enterprises, creating employment not the least for young people, while deploying their creativity not only to generate income but also to contribute to social and cultural sustainability, well-being and projecting European values at home and abroad.

European R&I activities under this destination will support and strengthen European cultural heritage and cultural and creative industries essentially under three areas:

GREEN: Europe's cultural heritage and its cultural and creative industries need to adapt to the consequences of climate change, and mobilise their resources to support European citizens and societies for an inclusive, socially and culturally sustainable climate transition.

R&I actions will focus on, for example, supporting the cultural and creative industries to turn the challenges of the climate transition into opportunities, and become drivers of an inclusive societal transition. R&I actions will foment the development of new environmentally friendly technologies and methods to manage, restore and preserve cultural heritage, with a view to making Europe a world leader in sustainable management of cultural heritage. R&I will also strengthen our capacity to manage anthropogenic threats. Support to the New European Bauhaus initiative is part of this area, with the human perspective, sustainability and aesthetics at the centre.

DIGITAL: The digital transition promises enormous opportunities for Europe's cultural heritage and cultural and creative industries, but also serious challenges.

R&I actions will focus on, for example, innovative approaches to empower the cultural and creative industries, including its many micro enterprises, to reap the benefits of using digital technologies, creating more appealing and valuable products, services and experiences for its users. R&I actions will deepen our knowledge on what, how and why digitised and digital cultural heritage may be exploited, reaping the benefits while avoiding the many pitfalls, and creating societal value. Collaborative platforms for cultural heritage and cultural and creative

industries will be supported, including a cloud platform for European cultural heritage institutions. Such platforms will strengthen the collaboration and co-creation among cultural heritage institutions and with other stakeholders in the cultural heritage domain, widen access for citizens and strengthen research. Also, cooperation between different actors within the cultural and creative industries and between the CCIs and other economic sectors and industries will be strengthened.

INNOVATIVE: To an ever greater degree, creative and cultural aspects drive innovation and growth. Successful new digital and physical products and services need to be appealing and attractive, adapted to cultural particularities. Similarly, societal transformations such as the green and digital transitions depend on behavioural changes, which are largely based on changes in culture and perceptions. In such processes, the human is at the centre, and cultural heritage, the arts and the cultural and creative industries are key.

R&I actions will cover a variety of subjects, such as strengthening the innovation capacity of the cultural and creative industries, and their capability to act as innovation engines. Actions will focus both on cultural heritage and cultural and creative industries holistically, as an innovation ecosystem, and on specific CCI sectors such as music, filmmaking and video games. Actions will also foment innovation in cultural tourism, as well as explore innovative connections between cultural expressions and democracy and politics. Actions will also support the development of new innovative technologies and methods to restore, preserve and manage cultural heritage, as well as re-inforce the role of Europe's cultural heritage in promoting European values abroad.

In line with the Commission priorities, R&I actions under this Destination will help promote the European way of life, contribute to achieving the Green Deal goals and support an economy that works for people. They will contribute to the New European Bauhaus¹⁴ initiative, to realising the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to building a stronger crisis-resilient society and economy. They will support the realisation of the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative industries as drivers of sustainable innovation and a European sense of belonging.

Expected impacts:

Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following expected impact of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan:

The full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors as a driver of sustainable innovation and a European sense of belonging is realised through a continuous engagement with society, citizens and economic sectors as well as through better protection, restoration and promotion of cultural heritage.

¹⁴ The New European Bauhaus initiative was launched by European Commission President von der Leyen in her State of the European Union speech autumn 2020. More information here: https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-2024
Culture, creativity and inclusive society

The following call(s) in this work programme contribute to this destination:

Call	Budgets (EUR million)		Deadline(s)
	2023	2024	
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01			14/03/23
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01			14/03/23
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01			07/02/2024
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01			07/02/2024
Overall indicative budget			

Call – Research and innovation on cultural heritage and CCIs - 2023

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2023		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-05	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-07	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-08	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call

<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.

<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-01: Advanced technologies for remote monitoring of heritage monuments and artefacts

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- New remote methods to monitor the state of degradation of original materials of cultural heritage monuments, buildings and artefacts;
- Innovative on site monitoring methods of pollutants and the status of previous interventions in cultural heritage buildings, monuments and artefacts in order to select the optimal green and effective conservation strategies and materials

Scope: Cultural heritage monuments, sites and artefacts are threatened by a variety of natural and environmental factors such as earthquakes, floods or sea level rise, fires, atmospheric pollution, urbanization and man-made threats. Innovative advanced and cost effective technologies for systematic and representative monitoring of built cultural heritage monuments' and artefacts state of preservation are needed, addressing limitations of location size and transportability.

Remote technologies with emphasis on non-destructive techniques will focus on obtaining analytical chemical information regarding pollutants and/or degradation products from previous interventions in monuments, buildings or important in size cultural objects, which

are not easily accessible or in remote places for representative sampling. Remote chemical mapping should be included too.

For onsite studies of the chemical or structural state of cultural heritage items (monuments, buildings, artifacts), a toolbox of chemical probes (e.g. fiber optics sensors...), assays and technologies will be adapted. These may include:

- a) Novel transportable equipment for rapid in situ chemical analysis and/or mapping of pollutants including, when necessary, from previous interventions. This is crucial not only for monuments or buildings but also for assessing the state of valuable artworks and artefacts in museums, which are difficult or of enhanced danger if removed.
- b) Sensors (including embedded sensors), interferometric or photoacoustic technologies for systematic monitoring of the structural integrity of monuments, buildings and artefacts are also important for their early protection or for determining proactively interventions in response to natural disasters (earthquakes, extreme climate or anthropogenic effects etc.).

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-02: Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Evidence-based approach(es) on how innovative business models, including use of new technology, can make Europe’s cultural and creative industries (CCIs)¹⁵ true drivers of a sustainable climate transition.

¹⁵ CCIs as defined in the European Parliament Resolution ‘A coherent EU policy for cultural and creative industries’:

- European CCIs better prepared to adapt to and contribute to the climate transition in line with the 2030 goals spelled out under a European Green Deal¹⁶.

Scope: The cultural and creative industries (CCIs) are an important source of growth and job creation in the European economy. Moreover, the CCIs play a key role in shaping culture, values and perceptions across the European Union and beyond. Thus, the role of the CCIs in achieving the European Union's climate transition objectives is crucial.

At the same time, the CCIs are characterised by a large and diverse number of chiefly small and micro enterprises, as well as by hefty differences across geographical and sectorial divides. Large parts of the CCIs, thus, lack the capacity to take the necessary measures to adapt to and thrive under the climate transition, not to speak of driving this transition.

Specific approaches are therefore needed to enable Europe's CCIs to develop their full potential to support a sustainable climate transition.

Projects should develop and validate an economically sustainable model, or a portfolio of approaches, that address this challenge. Proposals should select a suitable set of CCI sector(s), or/and cross-sectoral issues, to focus on, which allow significant impacts to be achieved.

The approach(es) developed need to address the adoption of new sustainable business models, including the use of new technologies and possibly the development or adaption of new technological solutions, as well as gaps in skills and capacities. The proposed models should be valid across different member states/associated countries, and address the needs of small, micro as well as larger companies. Projects should therefore involve different member states/associated countries, and engage with a wide set of stakeholders, including concerned policymakers, to ensure that solutions developed are effective and realistic.

Proposals may involve the use of platforms or networks to facilitate sharing investments, facilities or competencies among several companies or across sectors. In such cases, established platforms, networks or clusters for CCIs should be taken into account, to avoid duplication of efforts.

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, projects should establish links and seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020. In particular, projects should, where appropriate, seek cooperation with projects funded under the topic 'Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition' of the Horizon Europe Cluster 2 2024 call.

¹⁶

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52016IP0486&from=EN>
https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-03: Re-visiting the digitisation of cultural heritage: What, how and why?

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Evidence-based recommendations and/or method(s) on how the European cultural heritage sector can better manage digitisation of their collections, including setting priorities, ensuring the correct context is reflected on the digital objects created, and guaranteeing their long term durability.
- Validated framework(s) that support the cultural heritage sector to make best use of their digital assets, in order to reap the full benefits of the digital transition and avoid the pitfalls.
- Digitally adept European cultural heritage institutions, capable of capitalising fully on the opportunities of digital cultural heritage.

Scope: The cultural heritage sector, as the rest of society, finds itself in the midst of a dramatic digital transition. This transition deeply affects its activities, its organisation, and at times the purpose or existence of its institutions and subsectors.

A key component of European and national cultural heritage policy has been, and is, the digitisation and subsequent broad access to cultural heritage¹⁷. Large sums have been invested by the European Union and member states to digitise collections, monuments and buildings, and more will follow.

Digitisation of cultural heritage can bring many benefits. In terms of preservation, accessibility and of supporting cultural and creative innovation, digitised cultural heritage can be an enormous asset. One of the reasons why these large investments are made is that such digitised objects should facilitate a wider, more creative use of Europe's world-renowned cultural heritage, and the creation of more societal value in Europe and beyond.

However, along with the benefits of digitising cultural heritage come pitfalls. One risk may be that digitised cultural heritage is used, or misused, out of its context.

¹⁷ See for instance <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/cultural-heritage>

Libraries, museums and archives have long histories. Both the collections they house and the language they use(d) to describe these collections are products of that historical legacy. Taken out of its context, such items may be used to convey messages contrary to the intended, possibly in conflict with European values or the policy of the institutions housing the collections.

Other risks may emerge from the (perceived) loss of control over the uses of the digital objects, possibly prompting cultural heritage institutions to limit the access to and the use of their digital assets, thus hampering the realisation of the wider societal value digitisation is expected to bring.

The uses of digitised cultural heritage, and the strategies that might be pursued in order to reap the full benefits while avoiding the pitfalls, have not been thoroughly researched. Projects should address these gaps in knowledge, and elaborate evidence-based recommendations on how digitisation of cultural heritage can best be managed, as well as on how digitised cultural heritage can best be used.

The European cultural heritage sector is wide and diverse, comprised of many different actors, from large public institutions to independent artists and artisans. Moreover, the context, the cultural heritage itself and the policy landscape often vary strongly between different countries and regions. This diversity must be taken into account when elaborating recommendations, so that these can realistically be applied across Europe.

To the extent possible, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, where appropriate projects should establish links and seek synergies with related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020. In particular, projects should liaise with the projects funded under the “European cloud platform for museums and other cultural heritage institutions” initiative in the frame of Horizon Europe Cluster 2.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-04: Strategies to strengthen the European linguistic capital in a globalised world

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Strategies for protection of the European linguistic capital including socially sustainable and economically affordable implementation measures and processes in the short and medium term.
- Enhanced cooperation at the European level between experts on the subject and other relevant stakeholders including educational institutions.
- Recommendations to inform the EU’s multilingual and education policies on new measures targeting the promotion of use of more than the native languages and the embrace of humanistic studies by EU citizens and in particular by the youth.

Scope: Under preparation

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-05: Cultural heritage in evolution – facing change with confidence

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Deeper and broader understanding of the constantly changing nature of cultural heritage, and of how this understanding can be effectively transmitted to citizens.
- Evidence based method(s), tested in small scale, that help citizens approach change with more confidence, based on a deeper understanding of the changing nature of cultural heritage.

Scope: Cultural heritage has enormous potential in terms of its contribution to improving the quality of life for people, understanding the past and assisting territorial cohesion¹⁸. Cultural heritage give us a sense of identity and belonging, and shape our future.

Often, cultural heritage is perceived as essentially unchangeable remnants from an idyllic past or as symbols of inherited values to be proud of. In the same vein, current policy discourses

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See for example Cultural Heritage in a Changing World (Borowiecki, Forbes, Fresa 2016)

focus essentially on the need to protect and preserve cultural heritage for the benefit of future generations¹⁹.

However, just as culture and society, cultural heritage is in reality subject to constant change. Cultural heritage, ranging from the tangible to the intangible, from narratives and practices to monuments, landscapes and objects, is created, developed, destroyed, re-interpreted and re-valued relentlessly. Moreover, how we interpret, value (or not) and manage our cultural heritage is, necessarily, a function of our currently dominating beliefs, values and other cultural and socio-economic circumstances. In effect, the now dominating discourse emphasizing the need to protect and preserve a cultural heritage which is perceived as precious and fragile is a relatively recent phenomenon – and not necessarily universally shared.

European citizens and societies are facing an ever faster pace of cultural, social and technological change, where old habits and beliefs are forcefully replaced by new ones. Every age in the course of history has experienced change to a greater or lesser extent, but it hardly seems an exaggeration to suggest that the world in the 21st century faces epochal changes which affect every part of society. Subjected to such a dramatically changing environment, it is natural that citizens feel uncomfortable, perhaps lost, and long for the perceived stability of the past.

Should the constantly changing nature of our cultural heritage, the ongoing creation, destruction and re-interpretation, be made a more prominent and visible feature in the interaction with users, this can potentially help make sense of today's and tomorrow's societal transformations. A greater understanding and broader awareness of the changing nature of our cultural heritage can help put societal changes in perspective, diminish the stress perceived by people affected, and help approaching change with more confidence and less fear.

The challenge is to devise ways to broaden the awareness of the changing nature of cultural heritage, with the aim to help citizens approach change with greater confidence. The approach(es) chosen should be evidence based, effective and economically, culturally, politically and environmentally sustainable.

In order to verify and refine the effectiveness and sustainability of proposed method(s) across Europe, at least three small scale pilot trials should be carried out in different settings.

Projects may chose to focus broadly on a wide spectrum of cultural heritage or only on a highly relevant and potentially high-impact subset. Projects should, however, strive for the recommended methods to be effective across the cultural, geographic, political and socio-economic diversity of Europe.

To the extent possible, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, projects may establish links

¹⁹ See for instance the preamble to the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972)

and seek synergies with related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-06: Fostering socioeconomic development and job creation in rural and remote areas through cultural tourism

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increase the macro-regional cultural tourism cooperation to help the socioeconomic development of rural and outermost territories
- Develop cultural tourism²⁰ and creative tourism²¹ business models for rural areas to increase sustainable job opportunities and investments
- Promote an inclusive and sustainable cultural tourism that fosters social inclusion, respects the needs of local communities, the heritage and the capacity of the rural and outermost areas.

Scope: A large part of European landscapes outside urban territories is rural and yet the World Heritage has recognised the majority of them as cultural landscapes. Cultural tourism, as a driver of sustainable development, could give visibility to those rural cultural landscapes and have a significant positive impact on the revitalisation of rural and outermost areas. It could bring benefits to local communities, foster sustainable development, job creation and social inclusion, by promoting the indigenous cultural history and culture (with its traditions, arts and crafts) as well as the local gastronomy and farming.

However, increasing cultural and creative tourism in remote areas might not be an easy task, as it requires specific and different policy solutions to address the challenges and specificities of the diversified rural and outermost areas. Neighbourhood countries encounter similar

²⁰ According to the definition adopted by the UNWTO General Assembly, at its 22nd session (2017), Cultural Tourism implies “A type of tourism activity in which the visitor’s essential motivation is to learn, discover, experience and consume the tangible and intangible cultural attractions/products in a tourism destination.

²¹ UNESCO (2006) also identifies creative tourism as “travel directed toward an engaged and authentic experience, with participative learning in the arts, heritage, or special character of a place, and it provides a connection with those who reside in this place and create this living culture” (UNESCO, 2006:3).

challenges and specific problems, which the current one-size-fits-all cultural tourism business models cannot address. In addition, the geographical and cultural similarities within each macro-region provide the basis for cooperation and joint strategies, which could help to profile each region as a cultural tourism destination for key markets, but their full innovation potential is not yet fully exploited.

Therefore, research and innovative solutions for cultural tourism development in rural and outermost areas that will aim at job creation and socio-economic regeneration, taking into consideration the specificities of each region and the diversity of economies should be explored by the research proposals under this topic.

Research should first explore and analyse how cultural tourism can benefit rural and outermost areas as well as should address the challenges and needs of cultural tourism in these areas. Considering that cross-border cooperation might help rural areas to promote the European region as an attractive destination, the research should identify existing cross-border and macro-regional strategies for cultural tourism and analyse the level of cooperation of the neighbourhood countries and the countries of the same region. The researchers should examine whether the implementation of the existing practices contribute to or burden the balanced development of cultural tourism in rural and outermost regions, as well as identify the barriers in their implementation. The projects are expected to provide recommendations for improvements and develop cross-border/macro-regional cultural tourism policy scenarios for rural and outermost areas that will aim to connect the more touristic with less touristic and remote destinations and to foster a balanced level of socioeconomic development. Solutions that would include the use of digital technologies to promote less touristic and remote destinations are welcome. The projects should guarantee an equilibrium between the increase of cultural tourism and the capacity of the sites and the rural areas.

Cultural and creative tourism business models that will act as catalysts for the cooperation between the rural areas of the each region should be developed. Such models should aim at creating new job opportunities, fostering participation of local citizens in cultural tourism and increasing social inclusion, while promoting not only the natural and historical heritage but also the local identify, arts and crafts by engaging tourists with the creative process. The cultural and creative tourism business models and the processes of settlement development that the models might include should consider the protection of nature and built heritage of the rural and outermost areas.

The projects should also analyse how these business models can be applied to the cultural tourism for rural and outermost areas to fully utilize their potential. The projects may also consider promoting silver economy and silver tourism, through the proposed cultural and creative business models.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-07: A world leading European video game innovation system

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Well founded and prioritised recommendations for European policy, including R&I policy, to support sustained innovation and growth in the European video game industry.
- Methodology(ies), supported by evidence, to increment the use of video game know-how and technology to drive innovation in other economic sectors.
- A thriving European video game industry contributing decisively to economic growth, job creation, physical and mental wellbeing as well as to social and cultural cohesion.

Scope: The video game industry has shown exceptional growth and a fast paced evolution since its inception in the 1970's. In 2019, the size of the European Union video game market was over 20b€²², a growth of 55% compared to 2014. 51% of the Union's population played video games in 2019. Most forecasts predict continued rapid growth both in usage, turnover and added value for the foreseeable future.

The video game industry is in many ways a pioneer when it comes to harness the digital transition to create attractive products and rewarding experiences for its users. Also, the video game industry drives the development of new methods and technologies which have proven valuable in other industries, such as the automotive and pharmaceutical industries, as well as in the public sector.

Thus, the video game industry is not only a key channel of increasing importance for the expression of culture and creativity in Europe, but also a major economic sector in itself, and a vital driver of innovation in other economic sectors. Yet, the potential contributions to European economic growth, wellbeing, sustainability and social cohesion, and how to mobilise this potential, has not been thoroughly researched.

Research should address these gaps in knowledge, and develop recommendations for how to support sustained innovation, growth and competitiveness in the European video games

²² "Key Facts" (2020), by ISFE

sector, as well as for how to encourage the uptake of know-how and new technologies in other economic sectors.

The European cultural heritage and arts are diverse and uniquely renowned, and the European creative tradition strong. Such factors can constitute an important source of competitiveness for the sector.

Parts of Europe are often considered examples of success in the video game industry, such as Sweden, France or Finland, where some leading companies are headquartered and where the sector produce sizeable contributions to GDP and export revenues. Other parts of Europe, however, punch below their weight. Projects should therefore involve different member states/associated countries, in order to develop recommendations that are valid on a European scale.

The value chain – or ecosystem – of the video game industry is complex, diverse and rapidly evolving, as is generally the case in creative industries. Key roles are played by established companies with well-known brands, small independent development companies and freelancers, as well as by distribution platforms of various kinds.

Proposals do not have to cover the entire ecosystem in all its complexity, but may chose a more limited focus to allow a stronger impact. Research should, however, properly take into account all parts of the ecosystem which are key in accordance with the chosen focus and scope. Projects should therefore engage with a wide set of stakeholders, including relevant policymakers, to ensure that proposals developed are effective and economically, culturally and politically feasible at a European level.

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, projects should establish links and seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01-08: Promoting cultural literacy through arts education to foster social inclusion

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increase understanding of the value of cultural literacy on social cohesion and the increase of tolerance on cultural diversity
- Provide innovative policy solutions that will increase cultural literacy in Europe through formal and non-formal education, as well as ways to integrate them into the education policies
- Foster cultural literacy around European and non-European culture in order to create a two-way integration

Scope: Cultural literacy may help individuals encounter cultural differences and to elaborate one's own identity in a respectful social interaction with other people. Cultural literacy is necessary in the current European landscape, which has been intensified due to the various socioeconomic challenges, including misinformation, demographic change and migration, increasing the plurality of cultures and identities. Existing research has examined the importance of cultural literacy, its value in formal and non-formal education, while has examined ways to improve cultural literacy in Europe. However, the challenge is to better understand the value of cultural literacy on social cohesion and inclusion, how we could exploit its benefits through arts in education and what are the best practices/ policies to further integrate it in school and out of school activities. Education and education policies are a key to increasing resilience and cohesion in Europe, however, cultural literacy in education differs among the European countries, while the current policies in Europe commonly have a narrow and normative notion on how to implement this in practice.

Research proposals should first analyse the role of arts in the different stages of education (primary, secondary and/or higher education), including in non-formal education (especially in cases when non-formal education methods are integrated in formal education curricula) as well as how arts education can enhance/promote cultural literacy, aiming to develop prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable societies.

The research under this topic should examine the value/impact of cultural literacy on social cohesion and cultural diversity, and analyse how it can assist on the inclusion of disadvantaged groups and migrants into the cultural and social life. This analysis should include an indicative/representative examination of educational systems where cultural literacy education is well integrated as well as systems where it is less integrated or even absent (vis a vis indicators on multicultural competence).

The research proposals should examine the implementation/development of cultural literacy in Europe in the different stages of education including in non-formal education (taking also into consideration digital experiences) and identify the main barriers and needs for the integration of cultural literacy in education policies. Using the results of previous funded projects under H2020, the proposals should also analyse existing proposed solutions for the inclusion of cultural literacy in formal and informal forms of education and provide recommendations for effective actions for increased access of children and young people on

cultural literacy. Proposals should take into consideration digital solutions, such as the interactive digital arts and lucid literacy. Proposals should include a lifelong learning perspective (early childhood education and care, school, vocational education and training and higher education, non-formal learning), and include national, regional and local support for partnerships (for example between schools and arts and cultural heritage organizations).

Europe needs policies and practices that seek to advance social cohesion and inclusion in a way that reflects the increasingly diverse reality of today's Europe, supports respect for diversity and difference, and enables the growth of young people's identities. Therefore, the proposals under this topic should identify innovative policy solutions/recommendations to increase cultural literacy in a way that both European and non-European cultures will be promoted in order to create a two way integration and provide ways that those solutions could be integrated into the education policies in Europe. The proposals should also propose methods that will help countries better assessing the impacts of cultural literacy on the inclusion of all children and young people.

The participation of countries with divergent policies on cultural literacy is encouraged by the current call for proposal.

Call – European cloud platform for museums and other cultural heritage institutions - 2023

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2023		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01-04	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.

<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.
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Topics under this call will:

- Design and implement the basic architecture and governance of the cloud platform.
- Implement basic tools not requiring an operational platform, for:
 - Managing bibliographies
 - Monitoring and analysing users' interaction in museums and sites
 - Designing and testing new organisations/expositions

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

Call – Research and innovation on cultural heritage and CCIs - 2024

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2024		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-02	IA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-03	IA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-04	IA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-05	IA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-06	IA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.

<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-01: New European Bauhaus – Innovative solutions for greener and fairer ways of life through arts and culture, architecture and design for all

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Innovative solutions, validated in pilot trials, demonstrating how strategic investments in the spirit of the New European Bauhaus initiative²³ in cultural heritage and cultural strategic assets (which may include natural landscapes) can be successfully realised.
- Increase the understanding and visibility of the role that cultural-led innovation integrating the NEB approach²⁴ can play.

Scope: The New European Bauhaus brings a cultural and creative dimension to the European Green Deal. The September 2021 [Communication on the New European Bauhaus](#) emphasises the role that culture plays in the realisation of the initiative. In addition to the aesthetic dimension of the NEB, which is closely connected to culture, the Communication recognises that artists and cultural and creative professionals are essential actors when it comes to reflecting and conveying values, to transmitting new and symbolic meanings, and to ensuring sustainability and enabling societal transformation.

²³ For further information on the initiative, please refer to the Commission Communication on the New European Bauhaus (COM(2021) 573 final) as well as its official website (https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en).

²⁴ Projects are expected to bring together researchers from different fields (e.g. designers, architects, engineers, material scientists, etc.) together with practitioners, managers and entrepreneurs from the cultural and creative industries and sectors (e.g. as design, fashion, crafts, arts and heritage professionals at large) as well as engage with the communities in the places where the transformation will take place.

Projects should test and refine innovative solutions to achieve strategic investments in cultural heritage and cultural strategic assets in the spirit of the New European Bauhaus initiative. At least 5 small scale pilot trials under real world conditions should be carried out in a minimum of 3 different member states/associated countries.

Projects should tackle, as appropriate, one or more of the thematic axes of the NEB.

Proposals should include:

- An ambitious and credible executive plan that identifies and analyses the challenges and resources of the targeted spaces in terms of the three core values of NEB.
- Strategies and methodologies to address the challenges identified, considering the wide variety of actors making use of the targeted spaces.
- The development of an ambitious, quality co-design process, based on citizens' and stakeholders' participation and transdisciplinary and multilevel collaboration.
- Deployment of an initial set of solutions as demonstrators within a two-year timeframe, accompanied by a rigorous impact evaluation methodology.
- A detailed roadmap for implementation, with a sustainable financial plan quantifying and identifying substantial additional investment based on involvement and partnerships with different actors (national, regional, local, public and private sources)²⁵.
- Evidence of developed relationships and partnerships with responsible authorities and/or representatives for the implementation of the innovative solutions.
- Substantial additional investments to ensure the implementation of the full-scale project after the grant.

The proposed solutions should consider:

- Renewable materials as for example nature-based materials produced sustainably
- The valorisation of cultural diversity
- The role of arts, design and quality architecture in the built environment and/or natural landscapes
- Synergies between crafts and new industrial techniques
- The entire industrial ecosystem, from production to delivery and consumption, with a circular economy mind-set

²⁵ The grants awarded under this topic are exclusively intended for investments in culture, any additional funding required by the project will need to be secured through other means.

- The re-use, regeneration, life extension and transformation of cultural heritage buildings, spaces with cultural value and heritage landscapes²⁶
- Adaptive re-use of cultural heritage

The use of quality principles²⁷ to leverage the full potential of cultural heritage and cultural landscapes should be taken into consideration.

Cultural Heritage, tangible and/or intangible, should be an important target setting for the pilot trials. The pilot innovative actions should, as appropriate given the chosen focus of the project, inspire and help to establish new approaches for living together, long-term transformational change of places and environments, new sustainable products and/or inclusive ways of life.

The proposed solutions should be replicable across different cultural, political and societal conditions across Europe.

Projects are expected to contribute to the NEB initiative by interacting with the NEB Community, NEBLab and other relevant actions of the NEB initiative through sharing information, best practice, and, where relevant, results.

Projects may include the following additional aspects: demonstration of broad engagement and consultation of citizens and all relevant stakeholders to define the needs analysis and the understanding of implications of the challenge to be addressed (e.g. neighbourhood, district, ...) in terms of sustainability (in line with the European Green Deal), inclusion (also covering accessibility and affordability), and aesthetics (including functionality, comfort, attractiveness, etc.)

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities, networks and platforms, notably the ones funded by the European Union or under the New European Bauhaus initiative.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-02: Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

²⁶ For further info, see the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.

²⁷ As framed in the ICOMOS revised publication on “*Quality principles for EU funded interventions having a potential impact on cultural heritage*”.

<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Refined and validated approach(es) for Europe’s cultural and creative industries (CCIs)²⁸ to become true drivers of a sustainable climate transition.
- European CCIs better prepared to adapt to and contribute to the climate transition in line with the 2030 goals spelled out under a European Green Deal²⁹.

Scope: The cultural and creative industries (CCIs) are an important source of growth and job creation in the European economy. Moreover, the CCIs play a key role in shaping culture, values and perceptions across the European Union and beyond. Thus, the role of the CCIs in achieving the European Union’s climate transition objectives is crucial.

At the same time, the CCIs are characterised by a large and diverse number of chiefly small and micro enterprises, as well as by hefty differences across geographical and sectorial divides. Large parts of the CCIs, thus, lack the capacity to take the necessary measures to adapt to and thrive under the climate transition, not to speak of driving this transition.

Specific approaches are therefore needed to enable Europe’s CCIs to develop their full potential to support a sustainable climate transition.

Such approaches need to address the adoption of new sustainable business models, including the use of new technologies, production methods and possibly the development or adaption of new technological solutions, as well as gaps in skills and capacities. They should be valid across different member states/associated countries, and address the needs of small, micro as well as larger companies. Such approaches may involve the use of platforms or networks to facilitate sharing investments, facilities or competencies among several companies or across sectors.

Projects should test and refine such model(s) through small scale pilot trials under real world conditions. These pilot trials should verify the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the action(s), as well as the efficacy.

Proposals should chose a suitable set of CCI sector(s), or/and cross-sectoral issues, to focus on, which allow significant impacts to be achieved. Results should be valid at a European level, therefore the pilot trials need to involve at least five member states/associated countries, as well as CCI companies of different size and origin, according to the focus chosen by the proposal.

²⁸ CCIs as defined in the European Parliament Resolution ‘A coherent EU policy for cultural and creative industries’:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52016IP0486&from=EN>

²⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

Projects should engage with a wide set of stakeholders, to ensure that pilots are developed in an effective and realistic way, so that conclusions can readily be taken up and solutions scaled up effectively.

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities, networks and platforms, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, projects should establish links and seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020. In particular, projects should establish links to, and where appropriate build on findings from, projects funded under the topic ‘Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition’ of the Horizon Europe Cluster 2 2023 call.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-03: Leverage the digital transition for competitive European cultural and creative industries

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Validated and refined measures to increase the use of innovative digital technologies by Europe’s cultural and creative industries (CCIs)³⁰, with a view to increased competitiveness and sustainability³¹.
- European CCIs capable to contribute to a human-centred digital transition.

Scope: The cultural and creative industries (CCIs) are an important source of growth and job creation in the European economy. Moreover, the CCIs play a key role in shaping culture, values and perceptions across the European Union and beyond.

³⁰ CCIs as defined in the European Parliament Resolution ‘A coherent EU policy for cultural and creative industries’:
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52016IP0486&from=EN>

³¹ ‘Sustainability’ should in the context of this topic be interpreted as comprising several dimensions: Economic, environmental, cultural and social.

At the same time, the CCIs are characterised by a large and diverse number of chiefly small and micro enterprises, as well as by hefty differences across geographical and sectorial divides.

The ongoing digital transition brings great opportunities for the CCIs, but also serious threats. The measures taken during the Covid-19 pandemic to reduce contagion forced much human interaction into the digital realm, to a degree illustrating possible consequences of the digital transition. As a consequence, large parts of the European CCIs were devastated³².

To take full advantage of the many opportunities offered by the digital transition, and avoid the pitfalls, require capacities and competencies that large parts of Europe's CCI ecosystems currently lack.

Projects should devise effective and cost efficient measures to support CCIs to embrace and make full use of digital technologies for competitiveness and sustainability.

Proposals should chose a suitable set of CCI sector(s), or/and cross-sectoral issues, to focus on, which allow significant impacts to be achieved. A wide array of digital technologies should be considered, which are deemed crucial to the CCI sector(s) or/and issues chosen. Analytical technologies such as "big data" or "artificial intelligence" could be used for instance to better understand users' behaviour, to better plan activities or/and to engage deeper with customers. Visualisation technologies such as "virtual reality" or "augmented reality" could be employed to create more attractive products and services. Etcetera.

The proposed support measures should be effective and efficient across different member states/associated countries, and address the needs of small, micro as well as larger companies. Such measures may involve the use of platforms or networks to facilitate sharing investments, facilities or competencies among several companies or across sectors.

Projects should set up at least four small scale pilot trials under real world conditions to test and refine the proposed support measures. To ensure validity of the results across different national contexts and company sizes, the pilot trials need to involve at least four different member states/associated countries, as well as CCI companies of different size. Projects should engage with a wide set of stakeholders in accordance with the focus chosen, to ensure that pilot trials are developed in an effective and realistic manner and that results can readily be taken up by relevant policymakers or/and other decision makers.

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities, networks and platforms, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Furthermore, projects should establish links and seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020.

³² See for example the report 'Rebuilding Europe – The cultural and creative economy before and after the COVID-19 crisis', published in January 2021 by GESAC and EY

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-04: Europe’s cultural heritage and arts – promoting our values at home and abroad

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Further increase the visibility of European arts and culture internationally.
- Develop and test pilot solutions based on a mixed model that will allow cooperation between local, national and European level and establish strategic alliances between art and cultural sectors and with other sectors.
- Assess the effectiveness of good practices, programmes and policies that promote the EU priorities, culture and fundamental values abroad.
- Strengthen the CCIs presence worldwide by promoting the European arts internationally

Scope: The European Union should endeavour to use its cultural and creative assets to better assert its influence around the world. The arts can play an important role on building the contemporary image of the EU by increasing the visibility of the European identify, cultural heritage and the promotion of its values. In addition to the cultural benefits, the increased visibility of European arts and culture abroad can foster a sustainable and inclusive local, regional and national development and growth, while influence countries outside the EU on important societal issues, such as the protection of the environment, peace and security, migration, gender equality, justice, or freedom of expression.

However, when it comes to the presentation of the European traditional arts and culture abroad there is still lack of cooperation between national and European level. Even though there is a lot of funded research on the benefits of the European arts and culture and the ways to increase their visibility, the EU does not yet have an aligned vision and approach on how to promote the European values and identities through arts and meet common goals on behalf of the EU.

The objective of this innovation proposal is to test existing practices and policies that allow arts and culture to promote European values and identities outside Europe, to identify potential existing barriers and propose a mixed model for cooperation that will take into

account participation at the local, national and regional level and the coordination of different sectors and stakeholders. In this analysis, the presence of the cultural and creative industries (CCIs) should be considered.

Building on existing evidence, including from projects funded under topic HORIZON-CL2-2022-HERITAGE-01-02, proposals should identify creative practices, policies and programmes that aim to increase the attractiveness of the European arts (including digital arts) and culture abroad. They should collect good innovative practices developed at the EU and national level and develop small-scale pilots that will test their efficiency. The projects should identify and analyse the barriers, shortcomings and needs of the existing policies and practices and propose policy recommendations for improvements.

In this context, the proposals should also analyse the extent to which the existing practices and policies encourage coordination among countries as well as coordination among bodies at regional and local levels as well as the role and support of the EU on the cooperation and harmonization of the Member States actions, as regards the of European arts' promotion abroad.

The projects may also look after the potential impacts of new regulations on the arts sector, including the copyright Directive that was adopted in March of 2019, and evaluate their effectiveness as regards their international access to European works of arts and performing arts.

The projects should propose pilot policy solutions based on a mixed model that will allow cooperation at local, national and European level, better cooperation of the art sectors and the CCIs, while establish strategic alliances with other sectors.

The proposed mixed model should be developed and tested in wide and diversified partnerships of stakeholders. Policy recommendations for integrating this innovative mixed model into the arts policies are expected to be developed by the projects.

Call – European cloud platform for museums and other cultural heritage institutions - 2024

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2024		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-01	CSA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-05	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-07	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-08	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-09	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01-10	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.

<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Topics under this call will:

- Set up the steering and coordination entity for all actions under the European cloud platform for museums and other cultural heritage institutions
- Implement basic tools requiring a partly operational platform, for:
 - Embedding scientific value (data provenance) and IPR in digital objects
 - Producing Interactive digital content
 - Enriching semantics with metadata and annotations collaboratively
 - Digitising in the visual and non visual spectra
 - Digitisation of dynamic elements
 - Advanced visualization – Mixing Media
 - Using digital twins in art studies

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

DESTINATION: INNOVATIVE RESEARCH on SOCIAL and ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS

Europe is being transformed by changes that impact the livelihoods and wellbeing of its citizens. Such changes present important opportunities for the EU to innovate and shape forward looking inclusive societies and economies, while avoiding the mistakes of the past and promoting an inclusive recovery that strengthens economic and social resilience. However, demographic changes, digitalisation, automation, environmental degradation, the transition to a low carbon economy and globalisation all pose multidimensional, interconnected and complex social and economic challenges. At the same time, there has been an increase in inequality, poverty and social exclusion, a polarisation of skill needs in the labour market, and a slowdown in convergence in income and employment in most European countries. Inequalities threaten social and territorial cohesion, economic growth and wellbeing. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the pervasive inequalities across European societies, with significant differences in the way losses and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic and the crisis that followed are distributed in society. To seize the opportunities emerging from socio-economic transformations in a strongly connected and integrated world, these challenges need to be better understood and tackled.

Population ageing increases social protection spending on pensions, health and long-term care and restricts the capacity of the redistributive system to reduce inequality. Societies also need to adapt to a new role elderly people may have, with their experience and capacity to remain productive. Policies need to support a transition towards more environmentally-friendly ways of producing and providing private and public services, while ensuring all regions and individuals equally benefit from these transitions and that no one is left behind, in particular when it comes to access to essential services. Access to social protection for those in need should be ensured, while making sure that everyone can participate in economic, social, political and cultural developments. Social protection supports individuals in emergencies that they can no longer cope with on their own and, in addition, protect them by means of long-term measures – whether in the event of illness, accident, need for care, unemployment or old age. Moreover, mitigation and adaptation strategies are essential to make sure population movements shaped by these transitions are positive for all areas, and do not contribute to deepening the divide between regions or countries.

Education and training are key long-term factors in preventing and reversing inequalities and promoting equal opportunities, inclusion and social mobility. However, the educational outcomes of younger generations are still determined to a large extent by the socio-economic background of their parents rather than by their own potential. Promoting and ensuring inclusion and equity in education and training is thus fundamental in breaking these patterns.

In this context, it is important to reflect on the nature of economic growth and the need to better capture the different dimensions of social progress. It is increasingly important to distinguish between the different purposes of measurement: economic activity, social and cultural wellbeing and sustainability, and to develop relevant indicators. This is particularly

the case as the pervasive effects of the COVID-19 pandemic has altered the economic performance and socio-economic fabric of many countries in Europe.

Migration has been a critical component of the makeup of European societies, one that is likely to dominate policy and political agendas for many years to come. It is an issue requiring comprehensive and coordinated European responses in order to ripen its benefits, both inside and outside the EU, involving Member States, Associated and partner countries, EU actors, as well as local and regional authorities, civil society organisations, migrants' representatives – including migrant organisations – and economic and social partners. Partnerships between these stakeholders are needed to make the most of the positive consequences of migration, as well as ensuring that migration occurs in an orderly and dignified manner. The task of research is to better understand migration in a global and EU context, assist in its governance, support security and help the socio-economic as well as civil-political inclusion of migrants in European societies. It can enhance policies by providing evidence on the causes and consequences of the phenomena and facilitate timely response by identifying trends and suggesting possible policy solutions.

The implementation of the research activities in the two calls of this Destination will contribute to a comprehensive and reflective European strategy for inclusive growth, including social, economic, ecological and historical dimensions. This will strengthen the resilience of the EU and of its citizens, and will ensure that no one is left behind, including through the accumulation and preservation of human capital in the face of old and new risks. It will equally support productivity gains and their fair distribution, as well as boosting social and economic resilience that is essential to face situations of crisis such as in the case of COVID-19. Activities will contribute to EU migration and mobility policies, both internal and external. The overall knowledge generated, including a holistic understanding of societal wellbeing, will feed into the design of policy strategies in line with the above mentioned objectives and will facilitate the assessment of policy needs and outcomes in the field of the societal and economic transformations.

The Destination calls for proposals that may help in reaching these key strategic policy objectives in the EU. It invites proposals to do so by integrating feedback loops with stakeholders and policymakers that may help in developing suggestions and recommendations throughout their lifecycles. These proposals should take into consideration the stakeholders associated to the decisions that are suggested, and should also account for the context in which decisions are made. Therefore, in order to maximize and facilitate the uptake of group-sensitive recommendations in policy, they should include analyses of political and financial trade-offs associated to the recommendations produced, reflecting also on contextual changes needed to implement proposals developed. Proposals are also invited to build upon previous research funded by Horizon 2020, valorising its experience and findings.

Expected impacts:

Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following targeted expected impacts of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan:

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-2024
Culture, creativity and inclusive society

- Social and economic resilience and sustainability are strengthened through a better understanding of the social, ethical, political and economic impacts of drivers of change (such as technology, globalisation, demographics, mobility and migration) and their interplay.

Inclusive growth is boosted and vulnerabilities are reduced effectively through evidence-based policies for protecting and enhancing employment, education, social fairness and tackling inequalities, including in response to the socio-economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following call(s) in this work programme contribute to this destination:

Call	Budgets (EUR million)		Deadline(s)
	2023	2024	
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01			14/03/23
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01			07/02/2024
Overall indicative budget			

Call – Inclusiveness in times of change

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2023		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-01	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-02	CSA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-05	CSA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-07	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-08	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-09	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-10	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-11	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General

	Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-01: Remote working arrangements and their economic, social and spatial effects

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increased understanding on the impact of remote working arrangements on the living and working conditions, including health and safety at work, work-life balance and consequences of cross-border working.
- Better understanding of the spatial implications of increased remote working and its challenges for regional planning;
- Recommendations to help urban and rural areas to shape the trends of remote working, cope with the challenges and seize the opportunities

Scope: Remote working arrangements have considerably increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, giving a new perspective to a long ongoing debate on a solution which before was primarily an opportunity to improve employees' work-life balance.

This phenomenon decentralises jobs away from metropolitan areas creating opportunities for both urban and rural areas, notably the less favoured regions. It could alleviate housing prices and improve air quality in urban areas, while tackling ageing population and skills shortage in rural areas, which tend to concentrate key sectors for the green transition, such as agriculture and clean energy production.³³

On the other hand, this trend could aggravate existing spatial segregation and skills related polarisation of societies, as it is estimated that approximately 37% of EU-27 workers are in occupations that can be carried out from home³⁴. It could add pressure on rural areas by increasing the need for housing in these areas, as well as for related infrastructure including essential services, possibly accelerating agricultural land take³⁵.

Besides the spatial considerations, remote working arrangements also affect working conditions, notably health and safety of workers and working time. Moreover, it can have impacts on the work-life balance and change family and care arrangements (childcare as well as care in case of illness and old age).

Employees whose workplace is in a different country than the place of employment may face complications regarding social security and taxation.

The project should take stock of recent developments, give an outlook on future evolution and provide policy recommendations for the EU level as well as Member States', Associated Countries' and regional/local authorities.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-02: Towards sustainable economic policy paradigms

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and

³³ “Regions located further away from metropolitan areas are leading in clean electricity. Such regions, which account for 27% of the electricity produced in OECD countries, generate 44% of their electricity using renewable sources. Among them, remote regions record a higher share of renewables (51% of total production) than regions that are close to a small or medium city (32% of total production)” - OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance 2020

³⁴ JRC policy brief: Who can telework today?, https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/default/files/policy_brief_-_who_can_telework_today_-_the_teleworkability_of_occupations_in_the_eu_final.pdf
See also Market and wage development in Europe (correct quote missing)

³⁵ Defined by the European Environmental Agency as the change in the area of agricultural, forest and other semi-natural land taken for urban and other artificial land development) The European Environmental Agency estimates that in the EU-28, 78% of land take at occurred on agricultural areas between 2000 and 2018

	selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Coordination and Support Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Key enablers and main barriers to the targeted paradigm shift.
- Evidence-based, realistic and feasible pathway(s)/method(s) to make human and planetary prosperity and wellbeing the central driver of economic policy in the EU.
- Further insights into what constitutes a workable framework for sustainability-based economic policy-making.

Scope:

Arguments are strong – in the context of the climate transition perhaps stronger than ever – for the need of a paradigm shift in economic policy-making.

GDP is the best-known measure of macro-economic activity. GDP and associated concepts such as economic growth are also the most prominently used, both by policy-makers around the world and in public debates. However, these indicators were never designed to be comprehensive measures of human and planetary prosperity and well-being.

It is widely acknowledged that other indicators are needed to assess and address the challenges of the 21st century, such as climate change, inequality, poverty, resource depletion and to promote physical and mental health and a higher quality of life. Much research and analysis has been done, and many initiatives launched in this sense (EU, OECD, World Happiness Report, etc.). Such research has produced several proposed frameworks for ‘Beyond GDP’ indicators and scoreboards, some of which are used in European Union policy and others by some Member States.

However, core economic policy-making, as well as public debate, keeps revolving chiefly around the traditional metrics.

The challenge is to achieve a paradigm shift: Economic policy driven chiefly by short and long term human and planetary prosperity and wellbeing, in the European Union and beyond.

Proposals should identify the key enabling factors and the key hurdles that need to be overcome, and devise realistically viable pathway(s) to achieve the paradigm shift.

Proposals should build on evidence and experience in addition to theoretical knowledge. The various attempts to achieve such an economic policy paradigm shift should be analysed in depth, in order to identify key enabling factors, key hurdles and other key learnings in each case. A multi-disciplinary approach needs to be taken, to properly account for the many different dimensions; economic, cultural, political, statistical, psychological, behavioural, etc.

The proposed pathway(s) need to be viable and sustainable economically, politically as well as culturally, through involving a wide set of stakeholders, including policy-makers, from the onset. To create impact, special effort needs to be put into a regular dialogue with policy-makers at all levels and a wide dissemination to the general public.

When developing their activities, proposals should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Proposals should also take into consideration key European policy in the area, such as ‘A European Green Deal’³⁶. Furthermore, proposals should seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020. In particular, proposals should liaise with projects funded under the Horizon Europe Cluster 2 topic ‘Public policies and indicators for well-being and sustainable development’ under the work programme 2022, and where appropriate build on the findings of these projects.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-03: Assessing and strengthening the complementarity between new technologies and human skills

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Deepen our understanding on the potential of new technologies such as artificial intelligence technologies and robotics to substitute or complement human skills and job tasks;
- Develop policy recommendations to support the development of technologies that complement and enhance human skills, and to support the development of the corresponding skills in the workforce.

Scope:

Recent research highlights that new technologies may increase or reduce overall employment opportunities: they tend to increase them in the presence of strong productivity gains or if they create new tasks that are best carried out using human skills (possible example: a nurse using medical machines to perform checks previously carried out by a doctor), but can reduce them if the substitution of labour by machines dominates (possible example: self-service

³⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

supermarket counters). However, there is still a limited understanding of which types of technologies and technology applications are particularly promising from the perspective of *enhancing* rather than *displacing* human skills and employment opportunities.

Some authors argue that recent technological change has been biased towards automation and has focused insufficiently on creating new tasks where labour can be productively employed, with associated declining labour shares in national income, rising inequality and lower productivity growth. This highlights the need to better understand the complementarity between new technologies and skills that can serve as basis for policy recommendations that complement and enhance human skills, such as targeting investment subsidies. Policy may for instance want to prioritize public investment support in areas where innovation is more complementary to existing skills (possible examples: education and healthcare as opposed to pattern recognition “across the board”), or it may want to support the development of skills complementary to emerging technologies with targeted education and training programmes. Both types of policy interventions could improve the impacts of new technologies on employment prospects and social inclusion, but their design requires opening the “black box” of technology-skill demand complementarity.

Examples of research activities carried out under this topic include the development of criteria to assess the complementarity of specific new technologies with human skills and vice versa. This could include an analysis of relevant case studies and specific applications of new technologies (such as artificial intelligence technologies and robotics), and the development of policies to support technologies and skills/training courses that are conducive to a digital transition that creates more good jobs.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-04: Global Shortages and Skill Partnerships

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Provide tools to decision makers to navigate skill shortages in EU labour markets

- Present an overview of the trade-offs of filling shortages with migrant workforce vis-à-vis other alternatives such as education/local upskilling/automation
- Enhance EU migration governance by matching analyses of skills shortages in the EU and in non-EU countries.

Scope: As the EU's workforce grows older, there is increasing political attention on how to recruit workers with the right skills for a changing labour market. The EU has proposed to develop 'Talent Partnerships' with third countries of origin, in order to train and recruit workers from outside of the EU. This type of international partnership based on skills, is premised on the idea that in many sectors shortages are global, and thereby one can develop training centers at lower cost outside of the EU, training people which may then spend their skills both in the origin countries, as well as in the EU. Research has started to look at this promising principle finding interesting practices, yet attention is needed on a macro level to better understand causes and consequences of such shortages globally, in order to envisage scaling up such promising pilots and practices.

Firstly, research should focus on countries of destination, with a particular focus on the EU in the context of an ageing population with a shrinking workforce and tax base. Proposals should focus on the shortage model that leads to recruitment of foreign workers through skill partnerships, and should assess their existence and their cause, with particular attention on how to define and measure them. This should shed light on the need to expand workforce by recruiting foreign labour, also by assessing viability and trade-offs of other alternatives. These could be, but are not limited to: raising wages, also considering incentives needed employers to do so vis-à-vis foreign worker recruitment; education and upskilling of local workforce, considering the possibility of matching supply and demand of labour depending on the sector and timeframe of the needs; automation, with a focus to investments and incentives needed to reach a level of automation of work in sectors which rely on migrant workforce. As such, proposals should assess causes and consequences of shortages in destination countries warranting the establishment of partnerships with third countries to recruit needed skills.

Proposals should then focus on third countries of origin, and go beyond single case studies keeping a macro and/or cross-case comparison perspective. Proposals should develop a way to evaluate labour markets and analyse matching needs and shortages compared to the EU. It could combine labour market analyses with a focus on the education system and analyse structures in place for training people for those sectors in need, including spending attention on qualifications obtained in view of EU recognition, as well as on language skills as a factor for migrant integration. Proposals should also analyse the relation between investing in upskilling local workforce in view of recruiting a proportion of this, together with the creation of local human capital that could act as a driver for local development. This could be coupled with a survey in different countries with skilled (migrant) workers, in view of developing a database of microdata on the interaction of developing skills with local development processes. Overall, such analyses should shed light on conditions which influence positively or negatively local development processes vis-à-vis foreign upskilling and recruitment, analysing conditions which lead domestic institutions to capitalize on the positive effects.

Proposals may also include a historical perspective with comparisons with ‘guest worker’ programs of recruitment of foreign workers in the second half of the 20th century, to build on what has worked and what has not in the past. Proposals are encouraged to consider in their analyses the pilot projects on legal migration carried out by the Mobility Partnership Facility

As such, proposals should consider both sides of ‘skill partnerships’ including the issues of brain drain and economic development of third countries, and assess the shortage model on which they are premised both in destination and origin countries, looking at the distribution of benefits for destination countries, origin countries and migrants themselves.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-05: Bridging the migration research to policy gap.

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Coordination and Support Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Strengthen EU migration governance by developing methodology and network to share research outputs with decision makers and practitioners.
- Valorise existing research and maximize outputs produced by distilling useful information for policy makers.
- Develop series of opportunities for mutual learning between practitioners and the research community, based on research outputs and implemented through innovative methodologies and practices.

Scope:

Proposals should build a rigorous method to bridge science to policy relations on migration, building from existing literature not exclusive to migration policy, including on decision-making, organizational studies, behavioural insights and public policy literature. It should therefore define a strategy towards informing policy making on migration through evidence, taking into careful consideration all elements of the policy cycle, including: institutions involved, networks of actors and stakeholders, frames, perceptions and narratives that shape the context in which decisions are taken, information available to decision makers, and finally the way in which policy choices are taken. This should also include consideration of

cognition, values, human rights and biases and the role these play in distilling information available and deciding upon a course of action.

Having developed such a strategy specific to EU migration policy-making at its different levels (supranational, national, local), proposals should make a selection of migration research, and distil useful findings for policy makers. The specific topics on which to focus should be selected in synergy with practitioners, identifying research consensus as well as knowledge gaps in the policy processes on which quick advice can be most useful. Projects are encouraged to focus first on EU funded research and projects (funded through Horizon 2020/Europe, AMIF, ESFD+, EUTF, NDICI), but are also encouraged to look for further evidence available whenever necessary.

Finally proposals should apply the strategy for engaging with policymakers already from the beginning of their lifecycle to create opportunities for mutual learning between researchers and policymakers, on the topics identified in synergy with practitioners. This should not be limited to a normal dissemination strategy (policy briefs, presentations) aimed at feeding research into policy. It should also include innovative methodologies for exchange and learning, such as, but not limited to: case study analysis, scenario building, and other useful strategies that may help simulate how to manage disagreements and the intrinsic complexity of migration policy making. This should create a network of participants from EU institutions, Member States, International Organisations, Third Countries, NGOs and other stakeholders, with a view to be sustainable as a basis for exchange beyond the lifetime of the project. The proposals are strongly encouraged to seek ways to work in complementarity with existing migration networks at the EU level, notably the European Migration Network and the Knowledge Center on Migration and Demography.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-06: Efficiency and effectiveness of investment in high-quality education and training.

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Design, develop and experiment methodologies to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of specific policy measures or programmes in the field of education and training based on rigorous quantitative research methods, for example randomised

controlled trials, using natural experiments or other statistical techniques to perform causal evaluations

- Gather evidence to assess costs and benefits to compare the efficiency of policy measures or programmes
- Identify education and training policies ensuring an efficient use of public resources to improve students' learning outcomes, as well as measures of equity and inclusion of education and training systems
- Develop policy recommendations to inform policy measures, programmes, and actions in the field of education and training

Scope: Effective and efficient investment in education and training is a prerequisite for enhancing quality and inclusiveness of the education and training systems and improving the education outcomes, as well as for driving sustainable growth, improving wellbeing, and building a more inclusive society ([Council Resolution 2021/C 66/01](#)). The Commission launched an [Expert Group on Quality Investment in Education and Training](#) focusing on teachers and trainers, digital education, education infrastructure and learning environments and equity and inclusion.

Investing effectively and efficiently in education and training has a potential to aid the recovery and contribute to the green and digital transitions of the education and training sector. However, most of the empirical evidence on the evaluation of education and training policies comes from the US or the UK. More analysis in EU Member States and Associated countries is necessary to know if promising policies identified in the academic literature would be effective in a different local context. Moreover, a cost-benefit analysis of the policy measures evaluated is rarely available. Proposals should select education and training policy measures or programmes and assess their effectiveness to improve learning outcomes and measures of equity and inclusion in education and training systems, including adult learning. Proposals could complement the quantitative research methods analysis with qualitative research methods. Proposals should also evaluate the costs associated with the policy measures or programmes analysed. Close cooperation with authorities responsible for the education and training policies analysed is essential and should be ensured. Proposals should improve knowledge about the links between the outcomes of policy actions or programmes and their specific contexts, and about conditions for success to enhance the EU value-added.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-07: Mapping of longitudinal data and assessment of inequalities in education, training and learning achievements.

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Map and collect existing regional or national longitudinal data allowing to follow individual cohorts of students over time and allowing to analyse their learning outcomes, and trends in educational inequalities
- Analyse the available literature and make a selection of techniques used to assess inequalities in education, training and learning achievements over time
- Analyse existing longitudinal data to identify the interventions that compensate inequalities in learning outcomes over time.

Scope: Long-standing educational inequalities have been pervasive across the European Union and the disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have further aggravated inequalities within and between countries. Despite the richness of analysis, existing initiatives and recommendations, longitudinal studies of individual student cohorts are rare, and it is difficult to follow students, assess their learning outcomes over time and identify trends in education inequalities. It is even more difficult to examine any causal link between educational policies and inequalities in education achievements. Proposals should map and collect surveys with a longitudinal design, following the learning progress of students over time, and linking with information for example on students' achievement scores, socio-economic background, language spoken at home, the school they attend, or whether they have attended early care and childhood education. Close cooperation with authorities owning the data is essential and should be ensured. Proposals should enhance the knowledge base of what shapes the educational outcomes of students over time, and how to best support their learning and reduce education inequalities in the short, medium and long-term.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-08: Tackling European skills and labour shortages

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 9 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Policymakers are provided with a set of data at European level on skills and labour shortages

- Citizens and policymakers can access to Europe wide sound indicators for skills and labour shortages
- Provide policymakers with viable pathways to reduce skills shortages and mismatch

Scope:

Well-functioning and balanced skills and labour market are a precondition for an inclusive society, low unemployment and inequalities, and a thriving economy.

Yet, due to globalisation, demographic change, technological change, green transition and the Covid-19 crisis reshaping European societies and economies, the labour market demand is changing at an unprecedented pace. This increases the risks of growing labour shortages, and related skills shortages if there are skills mismatches. Currently, accepted and comparable cross-country indicators on skills and labour shortages are lacking, hindering skills match, cross-country cooperation and supranational policies in order to reduce these issues.

Hence, research activities are expected to take stock, also building on existing literature and studies, of the current labour shortages across Europe, by sectors and occupational groups, based on a sound methodology and ensuring that data is comparable across countries. Afterwards, proposals should identify the main causes of the labour shortages, with a particular focus on skills needs and skills gaps. The causes may include working conditions (pay, working hours, OSH, well-being at work, etc) on labour supply. Proposals may:

- focus on the skills needed for green/digital with a focus on the “transferability” of existing skills from one sector/occupation to other sectors/occupations (e.g. what is the real gap in skills);
- focus on shortages forecast;
- explore changing tasks profiles within jobs;
- have a regional dimension;
- Explore the impact on labour market polarisation and segmentation;

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-09: Integrated care solutions for better quality, person-centred long-term care and territorial inequalities in their provision

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.

<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action
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Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Gather evidence on the potential of integrated care and support solutions (within formal and informal long-term care (LTC), but also between social and healthcare) to enhance the quality of the LTC services and investigate the impact on informal carers and the formal care workforce from the perspective of their skills development and needs;
- Analyse promising policy practices in long-term care, in particular the potential of ICT to support integrated, person-centred approaches, and develop policy recommendations;
- Gather evidence on territorial inequalities and interdependencies, particularly in relation to gender in the need and provision of long-term care and identify the main drivers contributing to the challenge of regional and intersectional gaps between supply of and demand for formal LTC services.

Scope:

The quality of long-term care is affected by a number of factors, including funding, workforce, organisation, and technology. Concerning organisation, new models of integrated care have started to emerge, which aim to structure care services around personal needs to improve user satisfaction, psychological health, and well-being.

Within many EU Member States and Associated countries, long-term care is typically funded from various sources and organised at different levels. In terms of regulation, funding and service provision, the provision of long-term care services may be closely interlinked with (or be part of) policies such as those in healthcare, social care, housing and housing support services, and for people with disabilities. This horizontal division may hamper the co-ordination of care and even service provision. Long-term care is especially strongly interlinked with the provision of healthcare, as people with long-term care needs often have healthcare needs due to multiple chronic conditions or co-morbidities. The provision of integrated care, where different professionals work closely together to address people's healthcare and long-term care needs, is thus essential. Technology can help improve the quality of long-term care provision, for instance by personalising service provision, increasing users' independence, supporting quality-assurance efforts through monitoring of service provision, remote care management, etc.

Recent reforms include establishing new services, as well as measures reinforcing the integrated delivery of care. The latter measures mostly tackle sectoral disparities between healthcare and social care by setting up co-ordination structures. They are also aimed at improving local and regional management and enhancing co-operation between different providers of homecare.

In the context of ageing societies, a key challenge is to provide adequate, accessible, and affordable formal long-term care services of high quality to those who need it. The availability of formal long-term care services differs greatly among EU Member States. With a large increase in demand ahead, already today many people in need of long-term care services cannot access or afford them. Among the barriers to ensuring equal access to adequate long-term care are geographical disparities or even shortages in supply. Differences in the use of care reflect personal preferences and differences in family structures, as well as the availability and affordability of formal long-term care services. For example, effective access to care is often hindered in rural and remote areas. However, data on regional differences of long-term care provision is scarce.

The role of social economy as an important player in innovative practices in care provision is often highlighted. Proposals should identify best innovative practices, including in new and emerging areas, such as platform cooperativism in the field of LTC.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-10: Housing inequalities

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Provide policy-makers with a comprehensive overview of how income and wealth polarization affect the housing market;
- Policy-makers better understand how the green and digital transition could affect housing inequalities;
- Provide guidance on effective measures that can increase the socio-economic integration of marginalized communities, migrants and disadvantaged groups by reducing housing inequalities.

Scope:

Access to affordable and social housing as well as homelessness remain challenges to foster social inclusion and tackle entrenched poverty across Europe. Energy poverty affects nearly 34 million Europeans who are unable to afford keeping their homes warm. Housing prices have been steadily growing every year and faster than disposable income. Housing is now the highest item of expenditure for European citizens.

The top 1% wealth shares have risen again recently in Europe. During the COVID pandemic, high-income workers suffered limited income losses and often increased their savings compared to low-income workers for which the opposite holds. These trends are likely to bring about house purchases (sales) from high-income (low-income) households, reinforcing wealth inequalities in the housing component. Research may provide a mapping of recent household wealth dynamics and their segregation implications.

The European Green Deal will affect housing markets notably through the Renovation wave, the revision of the Energy Efficiency and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directives. Increasing the energy efficiency of buildings helps tackling energy-poverty. Research may inform policy measures that ensure energy efficiency and affordable housing go hand in hand and are accessible to all socio-economic groups. Interlinks between housing inequalities and carbon inequalities as well as mobility poverty are of interest too. Barriers housing inequalities put on the relocation of workers from regions facing job losses to regions generating new jobs in the transition may also be considered.

Interlinks between the digital transition and housing inequalities merit more attention. Links between workplace and housing inequality are multidimensional, with structural conditions, working conditions and family conditions playing important roles. Housing inequalities should not lead to new forms of discrimination in labour markets. Research may inform policy actions to ameliorate the organization of work from home, notably for vulnerable households. New forms of work could also impact preferences for rental housing compared to homeownership.

Research should make a granular assessment of these issues for different geographical areas, tenure statuses and different household's compositions. The gender and intergenerational dimensions are essential.

HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-11: Tackling inequalities in the green and digital transitions

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Policy-makers at EU/national/local level are provided with a comprehensive view of the risks to widen existing inequalities or create new ones as a result of the twin transition;
- New and/or updated policies are timely put in place to both address existing inequalities and mitigate potential negative socio-economic effects of the twin transitions.

Scope:

The next decades will be deeply characterised by the twin green and digital transitions. For these transitions to be fair, policy-makers need to both recognise existing inequalities and vulnerabilities and take duly into account the possible socio-economic effects of new/revised policies (e.g. the Green Deal and its Fit for 55 Package). While major aspects of the transitions are subject to impact assessment and are constantly scrutinised by policy-makers and relevant stakeholders, the twin transitions might fail to address or, worse, widen existing inequalities and/or create new ones. For this reason, research under this action should: 1) extensively investigate areas where the twin transitions and their driving policies face existing inequalities and vulnerabilities and/or risk increasing inequalities; 2) identify mitigation measures to counter such inequalities; 3) inform policy-making of the research findings with the double objective of i) reducing ex-ante the possible negative socio-economic effects of green and digital policies and ii) promoting corrective policies/action aimed at reducing existing inequalities.

Call – A sustainable future for Europe

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01

Conditions for the Call

Indicative budget(s)

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million)	Number of projects expected to be funded
		2024		
Opening: - Deadline(s): -				
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-01	CSA			

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-2024
Culture, creativity and inclusive society

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-02	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-03	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-04	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-05	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-06	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-07	CSA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-08	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-09	RIA			
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-10	RIA			
Overall indicative budget				

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-01: Policy recommendations from socio-economic impacts of loneliness in Europe

Specific conditions

<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 3.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 3.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Coordination and Support Action

Expected Outcome:

This topic aims at supporting activities that are enabling or contributing to one or both expected impacts of destination 3 “INNOVATIVE RESEARCH on SOCIAL and ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS”.

Proposals under this topic should advance SSH research and contribute to the behavioural changes needed for a more resilient and just society by delivering results tailored towards all of the following expected outcomes:

- pooling of socio-economic data to existing data to inform on key aspects of the impacts of loneliness in Europe
- providing evidence-based recommendations for socio-economic-based policies to prevent, counter, and manage loneliness in Europe at individual and population levels
- creating a framework to monitor loneliness in the long term

Scope:

Loneliness is becoming an urgent public health issue that calls for effective policy interventions. In 2016, 12% of EU citizens felt lonely. With the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing, the figures have increased to 25%. Although loneliness affects citizens from all age groups, its prevalence is uneven in the Member States. The effects of loneliness are harmful for health, but also have significant impacts on social cohesion and community trust.

Several EU research projects and initiatives, such as the Pilot Project on Loneliness run by the JRC in collaboration with DG EMPL, already focus on loneliness and proposals submitted under this topic should ideally synergize with these and capitalize on available data to support the pooling of socio-economic data to existing data on individual and societal loneliness.

This effort should capitalize on available data to identify commonly agreed socio-economic risk factors, drivers and trends of loneliness within and across Member States including of specific populations (such as teenagers, unemployed, recently retired people, immigrants and people with disabilities) and provide recommendations to design effective loneliness policies as well as develop tools for the long term monitoring of loneliness at the individual and population levels.

Work is also expected to foster the public debate on loneliness and in particular on the stigma that is associated to it.

The approach will be based on a FAIR³⁷ data-sharing culture and will promote the use of new technologies to quantify and assess the social and economic effects of loneliness in Europe.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-02: Strengthen economic fairness and resilience of active labour market policies and address high unemployment

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Estimate the macro effects of labour market policies on general equilibrium including displacement and substitution effects;
- Develop strategies, also at sectoral level, to promote skills development during periods of economic downturn benefitting from lower opportunity costs;
- Increase labour market participation and employment in a context of high unemployment and high number of job vacancies, notably in low and high skilled jobs.

Scope: Active labour market policies are widely used by European countries to improve the functioning of their labour markets by addressing skill mismatches, labour market segmentation, and by promoting the integration in the labour market of those facing difficulties in accessing it. Policies aimed at skill development could be effective in periods of low economic activity at the macroeconomic level, given that the opportunity cost of training programmes is lower in times of recession. These policies could facilitate the reallocation of labour, prepare the ground for a fair economic recovery, and facilitate transitions towards the green and digital sectors.

However, there have been studies post the 2007 recession arguing that training programmes have so far had only a modest effect in generating post-programme employment. Furthermore, researchers found that responses of adult learning and training to the business cycle are different for employed and not employed workers, with the participation of the latter

³⁷ Data need to meet the FAIR principles: findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

group diminishing in times of economic downturn due to credit constraints preventing them from investing in education.

In light of such studies, more research is needed to survey the different types of active labour market policies enacted by the Member States, especially in the area of skills development during economic downturns, and their effects on people facing economic challenges, eg. people at risk of poverty or workers whose job is at risk of automation. Proposals should focus on the ways in which active labour market policies can be strengthened to provide economic fairness and resilience.

Research activities may focus on the response of public authorities to the COVID-19 crisis and estimate their effectiveness including displacement and substitution effects. Alternatively, research could also focus on the participation of persons coming from a vulnerable socio-economic background (e.g. people at risk of poverty) to active labour market policies with an aim to mapping barriers and policy responses to increase their participation. Research could also focus on the impact of active labour market policies while incorporating a gender dimension. Another research avenue could be analysing the role of active labour market policies within broader exercises to rethink employment and income protection with an aim of underpinning synergies that enhance their effect, e.g. the interplay between active labour market policies and housing allowances in the housing first approach.

Where relevant, activities should build upon existing research, draw lessons from recent policy interventions in a contextual and transdisciplinary manner and propose adjustment measures, or test them through social innovation experiments.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-03: Minimise costs and maximise benefits of job creation and job destruction

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Effective management of processes of job creation and job destruction triggered by macro drivers of change;
- Different socio-demographic groups and regions are favourably affected by the creation of new green jobs and new industries and the destruction of some jobs in

carbon-intensive activities, while nobody is left behind as a result of the reallocation of jobs across regions and sectors;

- Reskill and upskill older workers and/or unskilled workers to ensure a smooth transition to the emerging jobs/sectors.

Scope:

Globalization, technological change, demographic change, green transition and other macro drivers of change are accelerating the processes of job creation and job destruction. These have profound socioeconomic effects. On the one side, they lead to changes in the status of people (e.g. from unemployed to employed); working lives are more fragmented, with less stable working relationships. On the other side, they reshape the economic landscapes and ecosystems of different sectors, often linked with technological, social and business innovation. In both instance, they raise a question on how effectively embrace them so as to minimise costs and maximise benefits.

The proposals may investigate the following issues:

- How should sector reallocation take place to ensure social integration and that nobody is left behind?
- How do we reskill and upskill older workers and/or unskilled workers to ensure a smooth transition to the emerging jobs/sectors?
- What are the upskilling/re-skilling programs that work the best (maximising the benefits while minimising the costs)?
- What are the best ways to train refugees, immigrants, women, older and younger people, people affected by disabilities? These people have fewer resources to cover transition spells
- What are the impacts of the green transition on labour market opportunities of different and disadvantaged socio-economic groups, across economic sectors, green-vs.-brown job decompositions, and income brackets?
- Given the pre-crisis trend of constant increase of labour market participation, how could we increase the labour market participation of under-utilised workforce?

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-04: Social services: economic and social returns and value added

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.

<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action
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Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Examine social and economic return of social services, including interlinkages between child poverty and gaps in access to social services, and access to employment and access to social services
- Establish a methodology to better capture and measure the value added of the provision of social services, including informal social services, in the EU Member States and Associated countries,

Scope

Social services have a fundamental role in our society, safeguarding and promoting the welfare and wellbeing of vulnerable groups. The proposals should consider social services in a broad manner, including both universal social services (such as healthcare, education, childcare), more targeted ones (including housing, counselling or shelters, personalised social services), and informal ones.

Concerning the economic and social returns of social services, the proposals should focus on estimating the impacts on both children (development in their childhood and also into adulthood) and on the employment and income situation of adults of investments in healthcare and education, including childcare and extracurricular activities for the children, but also other services such as housing and nutrition. Such impacts should in particular be estimated in terms of employment outcomes and incomes.

More generally, linked with the "beyond GDP" approach, it is important to analyse how to better measure the actual value added of the provision of public social services, primarily in terms of monetary valuation. Currently the value added of the public provision of social services is considered into national accounts at production prices (when there are no price associated to the related services) or also sometimes at the (reduced) price the related services are financed.

However, the actual added value of the provision of these services is meant to be higher than the production costs (or related reduced prices). It would be useful to reflect on the main channels to be accounted for in this respect in ensuring a better accounting of the actual level of the value added provided by public social services. On top of it, some actual estimates of the actual added value of the provision of public social services should be provided, reflecting in a more accurate way in particular both the short term impact (such as stabilisation function on the economy) and the longer term impact. These can be related to structural positive impact on employment and incomes, or savings allowed in terms of preventing adverse impacts, such as in terms of preventing permanent adverse spells – such as health outcomes or early school leaving – or transitory periods such as unemployment or inactivity of social services provided.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-05: Social dialogue in the new world of work

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Assess the impact of trade unions and employers' organisations on employment and social outcomes;
- Analysis of the distributional costs related to the activities of social partners for their members;
- Improve representation forms available to non-standard workers in the social dialogue by involving social partners;

Scope: Social dialogue plays a crucial role in the functioning of the European social market economic model. Through constructive negotiation between employers and employees, social dialogue can deliver a more competitive economy while also improving working conditions. However, the profound changes in the world of work kick-started by digitalisation, globalisation, and the proliferation of non-standard forms of work raise a number of constraints that hinder the ability of social dialogue to effectively steer the labour markets through economic and social transformations. Some of these constraints deal with the current legislative framework while others are tied to the deterioration of the employer-employee relationship on which social dialogue was first built.

There is an acute need for more innovative research that investigates the impact of the transforming world of work on the capacity of social actors to engage in social dialogue, as well as its effectiveness. Moreover, innovative research is needed to highlight opportunities arising from digitalisation that social partners need to seize in order to deliver positive socio-economic outcomes.

Research activities should focus on the interplay between non-standard forms of work (temporary employment; temporary agency work, part-time work, platform work, and other forms of non-standard employment) and social dialogue. Alternately, they can investigate

legislative barriers prohibiting social partners from engaging in dialogue, such as competition law in the case of self-employed workers. Research proposals should also investigate if the current legal framework remains fit for purpose and the ways in which it can be adapted to respond to the changing realities of the world of work. Proposals should analyse the outcomes of social dialogue in industries where non-standard forms of work are proliferated. Furthermore, they should investigate new innovative ways in which social partners have surmounted the previously mentioned barriers. Research activities should also focus on the specific national or regional circumstances in which social dialogue developed and how these are affecting its effectiveness today, and its ability to respond to the changes in the evolving world of work.

Where relevant, activities should build upon existing research, draw lessons from recent policy interventions in a contextual and transdisciplinary manner and propose adjustment measures, or test them through social innovation experiments.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-06: Beyond the horizon: A human-friendly deployment of artificial intelligence and related technologies

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Established guiding principles based on human rights and European values on how to approach the long term opportunities and threats posed by artificial intelligence and related technologies.
- Structurally enhanced capacities to foresee, evaluate and manage the long term opportunities and threats by artificial intelligence and related technologies.
- Well founded and prioritised recommendations for European policy on R&I and in other key areas, aimed at
 - c) ensuring that Europe is prepared to face the challenges raised by potential developments of artificial intelligence and related technologies based on science and evidence as well as human rights and European values, and

- d) reinforcing Europe's capacity to guide the development and deployment of these technologies in ways aligned to human rights and European values.

Scope: The history of artificial intelligence is littered with hype and fanciful claims. It is easy to dismiss the current hype and forecasts made as products of lively imagination.

Nevertheless, today the collection of computer technologies commonly labelled artificial intelligence, along with related technologies for instance in the fields of neuroscience and biotechnology, already show capabilities that start to undermine many basic human beliefs and societal assumptions.

Many thinkers have expressed dystopian views of the future related to artificial technologies while others forecast a future where human and machine will merge.

We don't know which directions the development of artificial intelligence and related technologies will take, nor how fast it will progress, nor to what ends these technologies will be deployed. However, it is probable that these technologies will give us capabilities that force us to re-evaluate deeply held beliefs, such as what privacy or a free will really signify, how our societies work, or what it actually means to be a human being.

Before being faced with a fait-accompli, research and policy-making should anticipate and prepare for possible and high impact scenarios. Moreover, the development of these technologies, and their uses, can in part be influenced and steered by European policy and regulation, if initiative and leadership are backed by evidence-based scientific advice and policy recommendations.

The challenge is to establish a sound European capacity to anticipate and prepare for the challenges to societies, beliefs, cultures and values that may come from the capabilities of artificial intelligence and related technologies in the future. The basis should be scientific, a good understanding of the concerned technologies, human rights and European values. The ambition should be not only to prepare our societies, citizens and decision-makers for what may come, but also to influence the development and deployment of these technologies in favourable directions, based on human rights and European values, as well as other priorities such as European technological leadership and economic prosperity.

Proposals should propose how best to establish such a capacity at a European level.

Proposals should elaborate a set of guiding principles for such work, which should be widely consulted and found to enjoy broad support.

Proposals should propose European policy actions in a priority order, notably in the area of research and innovation but not excluding other important policy areas, that would serve to strengthen European preparedness and resilience in the face of future developments within artificial intelligence and related technologies as well as to guide the development and deployment of these technologies in a desirable direction.

In order to achieve these outcomes, projects need to take a multi-disciplinary approach, and engage with a wide set of stakeholders, including research organisations, enterprises, citizens and policymakers.

When developing the activities, projects should build on existing knowledge, activities and networks, notably the ones funded by the European Union. Projects should also take into consideration existing European policy in the area, such as Excellence and trust in artificial intelligence under A Europe fit for the digital age³⁸. Furthermore, projects should seek synergies with closely related actions, such as relevant R&I actions funded by Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-07: Methodologies for teamworking of researchers – reinforcing transversal skills, behavioural and implementation sciences.

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 3.00 would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 3.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Coordination and Support Action

Expected Outcome:

This topic aims at supporting activities that are enabling or contributing to one or several expected impacts of destination 3 “INNOVATIVE RESEARCH on SOCIAL and ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS” advancing SSH research and increasing SSH integration to produce changes in society.

To that end, proposals under this topic should deliver results that are directed towards and contributing to all of the following expected outcomes:

- map, evaluate and develop elements for promoting teamwork in researchers’ curricula and professional updating, including for enhancing careers and jobs paths
- produce evidence on the impacts of teamwork, reach out activities, communication and dissemination skills for systemic thinking and researchers/stakeholders’ relationships
- provide methodologies to include behavioural and implementation sciences for improving teamwork among researchers

³⁸ See further <https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/excellence-trust-artificial-intelligence#documents>

- produce recommendations for Universities and research Institutions on how to enhance teamwork and teambuilding to tackle global challenges and produce changes in societies

Scope:

As acknowledged by UNESCO, ‘Transversal skills are increasingly in high demand for learners to successfully adapt to changes and to lead meaningful and productive lives.’

To maximize impact and incite societal changes, the following elements should be considered:

- to further develop and promote a wider uptake of behavioural and implementation sciences
- to design methodologies for training of researchers in transversal skills, such as communication, cross-sectoral teamwork and research involving stakeholders.

Proposals under this topic should therefore combine communication and management skills with behavioural sciences and implementation sciences for the lifelong training of researchers in ‘transferrable’ skills. This will be an asset in the career and job paths and will gradually lead to achieve and maximize impact on and in our societies, economies and democracies.

Efforts should be directed to identify, evaluate and suggest methodologies for training of researchers in behavioural and implementation sciences and transversal skills, in the course of their curricula or as part of the updating of their professional careers. Work will also concentrate on the practical aspects of teamworking.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-08: Arts and cultural awareness and expression in education and training

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Develop and apply methods to support the use of arts in education and interventions to foster cultural awareness and expression and to assess their impacts on the development of competences and inclusion of all children and young people
- Inform policies, programmes and actions using arts in education and contributing to foster cultural awareness and expression, identify existing gaps and effective actions to reach most children and young people and develop recommendations

Scope:

Arts in education and developing cultural awareness and expression, which is one of the [key competences for lifelong learning](#)³⁹, have value in themselves. They are also key to creativity, innovation, critical and design thinking, communication, collaboration and intercultural skills and more broadly for inclusive education and training systems, democracy and civic engagement. Evidence is missing on whether, and how, education and training systems have capacity to support learners in developing cultural awareness and expression. Proposals should support policy makers and professional development providers in identifying effective actions and gaps in their systems, and better understanding how their investments could be improved. Proposals should include a lifelong learning perspective (early childhood education and care, school, vocational education and training and higher education, non-formal learning), and assess national, regional and local support for partnerships, for example between education institutions and arts and cultural heritage organisations. Projects are expected to contribute to the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative⁴⁰ by interacting with the NEB Community, NEBLab and other relevant actions of the NEB initiative through sharing information, best practice, and, where relevant, results.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-09: The role of social economy in addressing social exclusion and providing quality jobs

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increased understanding of the role and weight of social economy organisations in addressing social exclusion and providing quality jobs;
- Increased understanding of the working conditions in social economy organisations, including in the care sector;

³⁹ European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, *Key competences for lifelong learning*, Publications Office, 2019, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/291008>

⁴⁰ https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en

- Address challenges of the policy and legal frameworks that hinder the thriving of social economy and the scaling up of its successful activities;

Scope:

Almost 3 million social economy entities in Europe offer concrete and innovative solutions to key challenges EU society faces e.g. they create quality jobs, contribute to equal opportunities and socioeconomic inclusion of disadvantaged groups, they also play an important role in Europe's welfare systems and help revitalise Europe's rural and depopulated areas.

The social economy can also help implement the principles of the European Pillar for Social Rights and deliver on its 2021 Action Plan and the 2030 headline targets e.g. by increasing the employment rate and the reduction of the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

There is an uneven development of the social economy within the EU and a major untapped economic and job creation potential for the social economy in several Member States and regions. The Social Economy Action Plan⁴¹, adopted in December 2021 puts forward measures to help further mobilise the potential of the Social Economy.

Research funded under this topic should provide a comprehensive analysis of the extent to which social economy contributes to countering social exclusion in the EU, in HE Associated Countries and in Third Countries, what services it provides, and compare efficiency, cost and quality aspects of services provided by the social economy with those of other providers. The research proposals can tackle (one or more) different angles of socioeconomic exclusion. For instance, the role of social economy as an important player in innovative practices in care provision is often highlighted. Research could identify best innovative practices, including in new and emerging areas in the field of care provisions.

As the availability and use of formal care services differ significantly between Member States and regions, research should investigate the role of social economy between different countries and the drivers of these differences in order to design effective long-term care and social economy policies. Residents in rural areas in particular can suffer with limited access to long-term care services, while social economy organisations are often motivated to provide services based on local needs and can play a revitalising role in the economies of rural regions.

Research should also investigate what are the working conditions in social economy organisations, including in the care sector.

Proposals should aim to provide policy makers with recommendations in the field of social economy support.

HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-10: Effective education and labour market transitions of young generations

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR

⁴¹ COM(2021) 778 final.

<i>contribution per project</i>	x.xx and x.xx million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR x.xx million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Action

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to the expected outcomes described in the first and second bullet points, or to the expected outcomes described in the third and fourth bullet points. Projects could contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Provide quantitative and qualitative evidence of what determines participation and completion rates in upper secondary and tertiary education, including the long-term impact of the Covid-19 crisis and the role of policies and investments to promote equity and inclusion in education and training.
- Enhance the knowledge base about which policies can promote better-informed and more effective educational choices at all levels, including the role of vocational education and training.
- Improve the understanding of the long-term impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the transition from education and training to the labour market of the young generations across the EU, including through foresight activities.
- Inform policies and programmes aiming to help the transition from education and training to the labour market, including in the area of student and graduate international mobility.

Scope: Effective educational transitions, in particular participation and completion rates in upper secondary and tertiary education, are prominent in the European Education Area, which includes specific targets on early school leaving and tertiary educational attainment. Promoting successful transitions from education to the labour market has been one of the core European Commission policy activities since the outburst of the Great Recession. The Covid-19 crisis has made educational and labour market transitions more challenging, especially for young people from lower socio-economic backgrounds. This may lead to worsening inequalities, which could become persistent unless education and training policies and investments tackle them appropriately.

Proposals should use quantitative and qualitative methods to analyse transitions between educational levels and/or between education/training and the labour market and improve the evidence base for policy decisions by addressing several interrelated research questions, such as: what are the determinants of participation and completion rates in upper secondary and tertiary education and how can they evolve in the post-Covid world? What are the implications of Covid-19 on learning mobility and on graduates' labour market outcomes? How do education outcomes and socio-economic backgrounds interact in defining labour market outcomes of young people? How can vocational education and training institutions adapt to the future of education and work?

Other Actions not subject to calls for proposals

Grants to identified beneficiaries

1. Presidency event - tbc

Expected Outcome: tbc

Expected Impact: tbc

Scope: tbc

Legal entities:

tbc

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary according to Financial Regulation Article 195(e) - Coordination and support action

The general conditions, including admissibility conditions, eligibility conditions, award criteria, evaluation and award procedure, legal and financial set-up for grants, financial and operational capacity and exclusion, and procedure are provided in parts A to G of the General Annexes.

Indicative timetable: tbc

Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2023 budget

2. Presidency event - tbc

Expected Outcome: tbc

Expected Impact: tbc

Scope: tbc

Legal entities:

tbc

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary according to Financial Regulation Article 195(e) - Coordination and support action

The general conditions, including admissibility conditions, eligibility conditions, award criteria, evaluation and award procedure, legal and financial set-up for grants, financial and

operational capacity and exclusion, and procedure are provided in parts A to G of the General Annexes.

Indicative timetable: tbc

Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2023 budget

3. Presidency event - tbc

Expected Outcome: tbc

Expected Impact: tbc

Scope: tbc

Legal entities:

tbc

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary according to Financial Regulation Article 195(e) - Coordination and support action

The general conditions, including admissibility conditions, eligibility conditions, award criteria, evaluation and award procedure, legal and financial set-up for grants, financial and operational capacity and exclusion, and procedure are provided in parts A to G of the General Annexes.

Indicative timetable: tbc

Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2024 budget

4. Presidency event - tbc

Expected Outcome: tbc

Expected Impact: tbc

Scope: tbc

Legal entities:

tbc

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary according to Financial Regulation Article 195(e) - Coordination and support action

The general conditions, including admissibility conditions, eligibility conditions, award criteria, evaluation and award procedure, legal and financial set-up for grants, financial and operational capacity and exclusion, and procedure are provided in parts A to G of the General Annexes.

Indicative timetable: tbc

Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2024 budget

• **Other budget implementation instruments**

5. Expertise for the design, implementation and evaluation of Cluster 2, Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society 2023

This action will support the provision of independent expertise for advising and assisting the Commission services with the design, implementation and evaluation of EU research and innovation policies in the thematic areas covered by Cluster 2. Individual experts will work in the following policy and thematic areas:

- Democracy and governance
- Cultural heritage, cultural and creative sectors and industries
- Social and economic transformations
- Migration, refugee and asylum policies
- Social sciences and humanities, including their integration in Horizon Europe programme parts
- Inter-, multi- and transdisciplinarity; impact assessment

The tasks of individual experts would include:

Portfolio analysis of projects funded under Horizon Europe or previous European research and innovation programmes; analysis of the state-of-the-art at European and international level; participation in international symposia organised by Commission services, including the drafting of reports; assistance for setting-up a research and innovation strategy for selected domains; policy recommendations and options assisting Commission services in elaborating evidence-based and scientifically sound policy proposals.

The advice provided by each individual expert will focus on specific areas and policy relevant projects' results and how results and outcome could be used for policy making and policy follow-up initiatives. These activities will not duplicate past or ongoing Commission work and will be essential to enable Commission services to support the policy making process in the above-mentioned policy areas.

The individual experts' tasks will include attending bilateral meetings with Commission services, presentations at workshops and symposia, remote drafting and preparatory work.

The experts will be highly qualified and specialised, and will be selected on the basis of their knowledge and experience.

A special allowance of EUR 450/day will be paid to the experts appointed in their personal capacity who act independently and in the public interest.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: in 2024

Indicative budget: EUR 0.20 million in 2024

6. Expertise for the design, implementation and evaluation of Cluster 2, Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society 2024

This action will support the provision of independent expertise for advising and assisting the Commission services with the design, implementation and evaluation of EU research and innovation policies in the thematic areas covered by Cluster 2. Individual experts will work in the following policy and thematic areas:

- Democracy and governance
- Cultural heritage, cultural and creative sectors and industries
- Social and economic transformations
- Migration, refugee and asylum policies
- Social sciences and humanities, including their integration in Horizon Europe programme parts
- Inter-, multi- and transdisciplinarity; impact assessment

The tasks of individual experts would include:

Portfolio analysis of projects funded under Horizon Europe or previous European research and innovation programmes; analysis of the state-of-the-art at European and international level; participation in international symposia organised by Commission services, including the drafting of reports; assistance for setting-up a research and innovation strategy for selected domains; policy recommendations and options assisting Commission services in elaborating evidence-based and scientifically sound policy proposals.

The advice provided by each individual expert will focus on specific areas and policy relevant projects' results and how results and outcome could be used for policy making and policy follow-up initiatives. These activities will not duplicate past or ongoing Commission work and will be essential to enable Commission services to support the policy making process in the above-mentioned policy areas.

The individual experts' tasks will include attending bilateral meetings with Commission services, presentations at workshops and symposia, remote drafting and preparatory work. The experts will be highly qualified and specialised, and will be selected on the basis of their knowledge and experience.

A special allowance of EUR 450/day will be paid to the experts appointed in their personal capacity who act independently and in the public interest.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: in 2024

Indicative budget: EUR 0.20 million in 2024

7. External expertise 2023

This action will support the use of appointed independent experts for the monitoring of running actions (grant agreement, grant decision, public procurement actions, financial instruments) funded under Horizon Europe and previous Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation and where appropriate include ethics checks.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative budget: EUR 0.20 million in 2023

8. External expertise 2024

This action will support the use of appointed independent experts for the monitoring of running actions (grant agreement, grant decision, public procurement actions, financial instruments) funded under Horizon Europe and previous Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation and where appropriate include ethics checks.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative budget: EUR 0.20 million in 2024

Budget

	Budget line(s)	2023 Budget (EUR million)	2024 Budget (EUR million)
Calls			
HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-CLD-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-CLD-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		

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	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
Other actions			
Grant to identified beneficiary according to Financial Regulation Article 195(e)			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
Expert contract action			
	<i>from</i> <i>01.020220</i>		
Estimated total budget			

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