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Horizon Europe Coordination and Support Action

LUKE

Linking Ukraine to the European Research Area
Joint Funding and Capacity Building Platform
for enhanced Research and Innovation Cooperation

LUKE Newsletter May 2025
Grant Agreement 101188315

Dear Reader,

On behalf of the whole LUKE consortium, I am delighted to welcome you to this 1st newsletter!

LUKE is a Horizon Europe project funded by the European Commission and it is unique in its kind as it provides joint funding opportunities and capacity building activities. LUKE stands for Research and Innovation with added value.

Beyond being a large project, it is an ambitious initiative aimed at creating a multilateral platform focused on Ukraine, uniting EU Member States and associated countries to strengthen research capacities and support Ukraine's integration into the European Research Area.

We expect that LUKE will enhance scientific cooperation, drive impactful innovations, contribute to sustainable growth and recovery.

We are happy that you are with us at this exciting journey!

Happy reading!

Olga Polotska,
Executive Director of the National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU)



NEW PROJECT LINKING UKRAINE TO THE ERA SUPPORTING EAP COUNTRIES

What is LUKE?

LUKE is a multilateral initiative by EU Member States and Horizon Europe-associated countries to strengthen Ukraine's research and innovation (R&I) ecosystem.

Key objectives:

- To organise a joint call for proposals to fund transnational R&I projects with Ukrainian participation.
- To enhance the country's scientific capacities.

Why is LUKE Important?

A robust R&I system is vital for Ukraine's post-war recovery and economic resilience. LUKE fosters collaboration, pools resources, and supports integration of the Horizon Europe-associated countries into the European Research Area (ERA).

Project Timeline

Duration: 1 Jan 2025 - 31 Dec 2028

Project budget: 1 999 870 EUR (for management and capacity-building)

What key opportunities await our stakeholders in capacity building?



Knowledge Hub

EU Policy | Technology Foresight
| Research Management |
Public Engagement Methods



From scientific idea to market

Science-business collaboration |
Matchmaking | Accelerating
market uptake | IP management |
TTO development



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IDENTIFICATION OF THE TOPICS FOR THE GRANT CALL: UPCOMING EVENT AND 5 MAIN STEPS

Citizen Visioning workshop: Research I Wish for Ukraine

Date: May 27, 2025

Objective: Gather diverse perspectives from Ukrainians with no research and innovation background to shape future European-Ukrainian grant topics.



Participants: Randomly selected to reflect Ukraine's demographic diversity.

Impact: Influence funding priorities to meet societal needs.

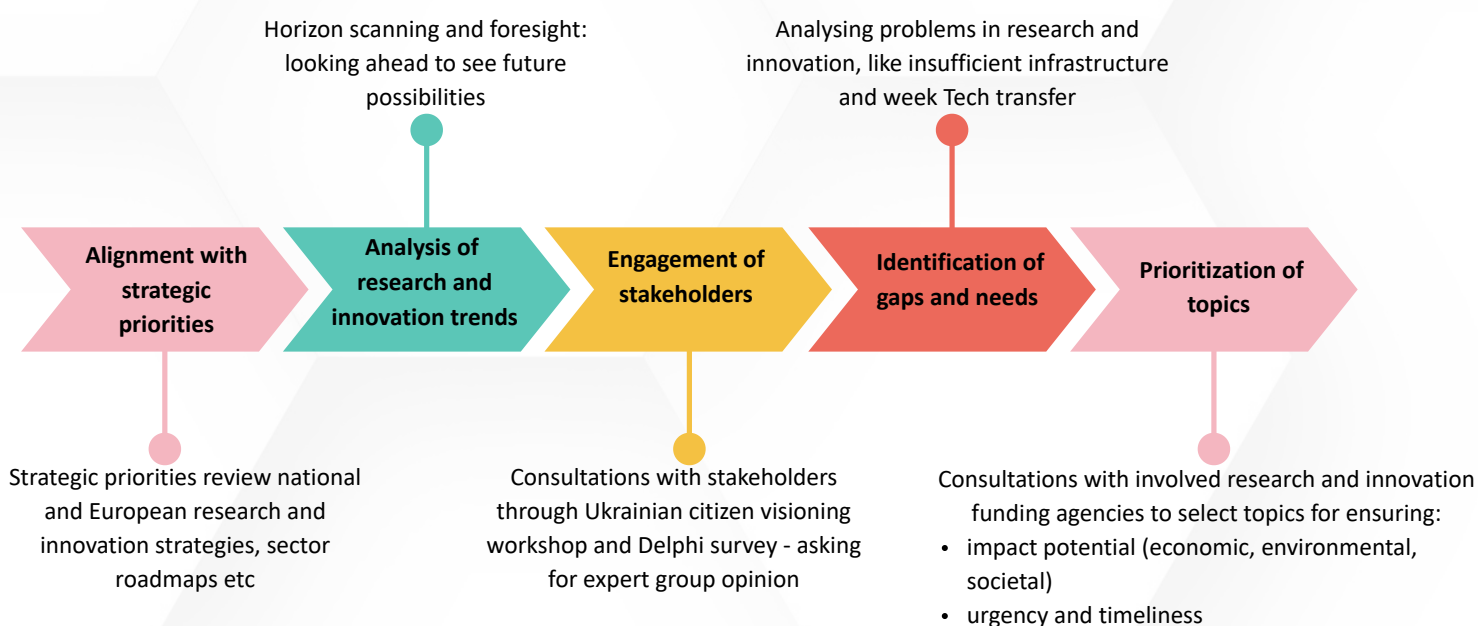
Inspiration: Promotes public engagement in research and innovation, inspired by the efforts of:

- EU <https://cop-demos.jrc.ec.europa.eu/resources/engage2020-action-catalogue>
- UNESCO <https://www.unesco.org/en/open-science/aboutand>
- OECD https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/open-research-agenda-setting_74edb6a8-en.html

[Read more about this event here](#)

How does the LUKE team identify topics for the R&I grant call?

Balancing between strategic priorities, stakeholder needs, research excellence and innovation potential



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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION GRANT CALLS INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

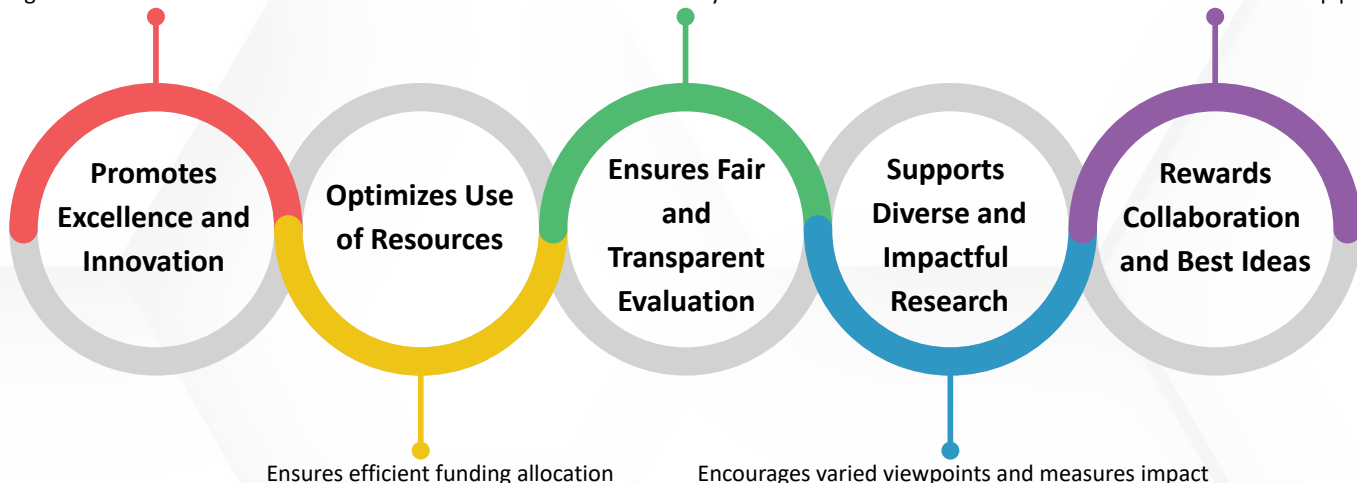
Why are research and innovation grant calls important?

The modern research funding system is largely based on competition. Competition encourages researchers and institutions to strive for excellence.

Drives high standards and creative solutions

Maintains accountability and fairness

Fosters teamwork and rewards top proposals



How does international collaboration strengthen research and innovation?

Enhanced innovation and creativity

Leads to groundbreaking innovations by bringing together diverse perspectives and expertise.

Access to talents and resources

Access to a broader pool of talent, cutting-edge technologies, and specialized resources.

Career development and networking

Boosts career development and expands professional network.

Strengthened research security and global challenges

Enhances security and pools resources to tackle global challenges effectively.

Shared knowledge and best practices

Accelerates discovery and implementation of new solutions.

Research and Innovation cooperation with added value



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PROJECT PARTNERS



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Project coordinator



DLR Projektträger

Germany

Responsible for implementation of the capacity building

ZENTRUM FÜR SOCIALE INNOVATION
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



Austria

DEMOCRACY X
TECHNOLOGY, SOCIETY & SUSTAINABILITY

Denmark

civitta

Ukraine
Lithuania

Ministries



MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION AND
SCIENCE OF UKRAINE

Ukraine



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

Germany



Romania



Latvian Council of Science

Latvia



Czechia

FWF Austrian
Science Fund

Austria



Austria



Estonian
Research Council

Estonia



Romania



Moldova



Georgia



TÜBİTAK

Türkiye

R&I Funding Agencies



Ukraine



NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE
POLAND

Poland

Associated partners:



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
German Research Foundation

Germany



Schweizerischer
Nationalfonds

Switzerland



Suomen Akatemia

Finland



GEORGIA'S INNOVATION &
TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

Georgia



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