



CONTRIBUTION OF THE WIDENING PROGRAMME TO EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Empowering Europe through Electrochemistry

Permanent Representation of Slovenia to the EU, Brussels 23 Oct 2025

A photograph of the European Union flag, which is blue with twelve yellow stars arranged in a circle. The flag is being held up by two hands, and it is waving in the wind. The background is a blurred green landscape with trees.

Doru-Leonard Irimie, Dr
Project Adviser, REA Unit C3-Widening Participation

REA's role in Horizon Europe 2021-2027



Pillar I Excellent science

- European Research Council

• Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

• Research Infrastructures



Pillar II Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness

- Health

• Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
• Civil Security for Society

- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility

• Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

- Joint Research Centre



Pillar III Innovative Europe

- European Innovation Council
- European Innovation Ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation & Technology

CLUSTERS

Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

WIDENING PROGRAMME: OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The main objectives of **Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence Programme (Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe)** are to support less advanced R&I countries to strengthen their R&I intensity and performance, to increase their participation in transnational networks and, overall, to obtain greater research outcomes in low performing EU Member States & Associated countries:

Widening Member States:

- Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, **Luxembourg (H2020)**, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and **Greece (HE)**

Widening Associated Countries:

- Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, North Macedonia, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, **Morocco (pending)**, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine

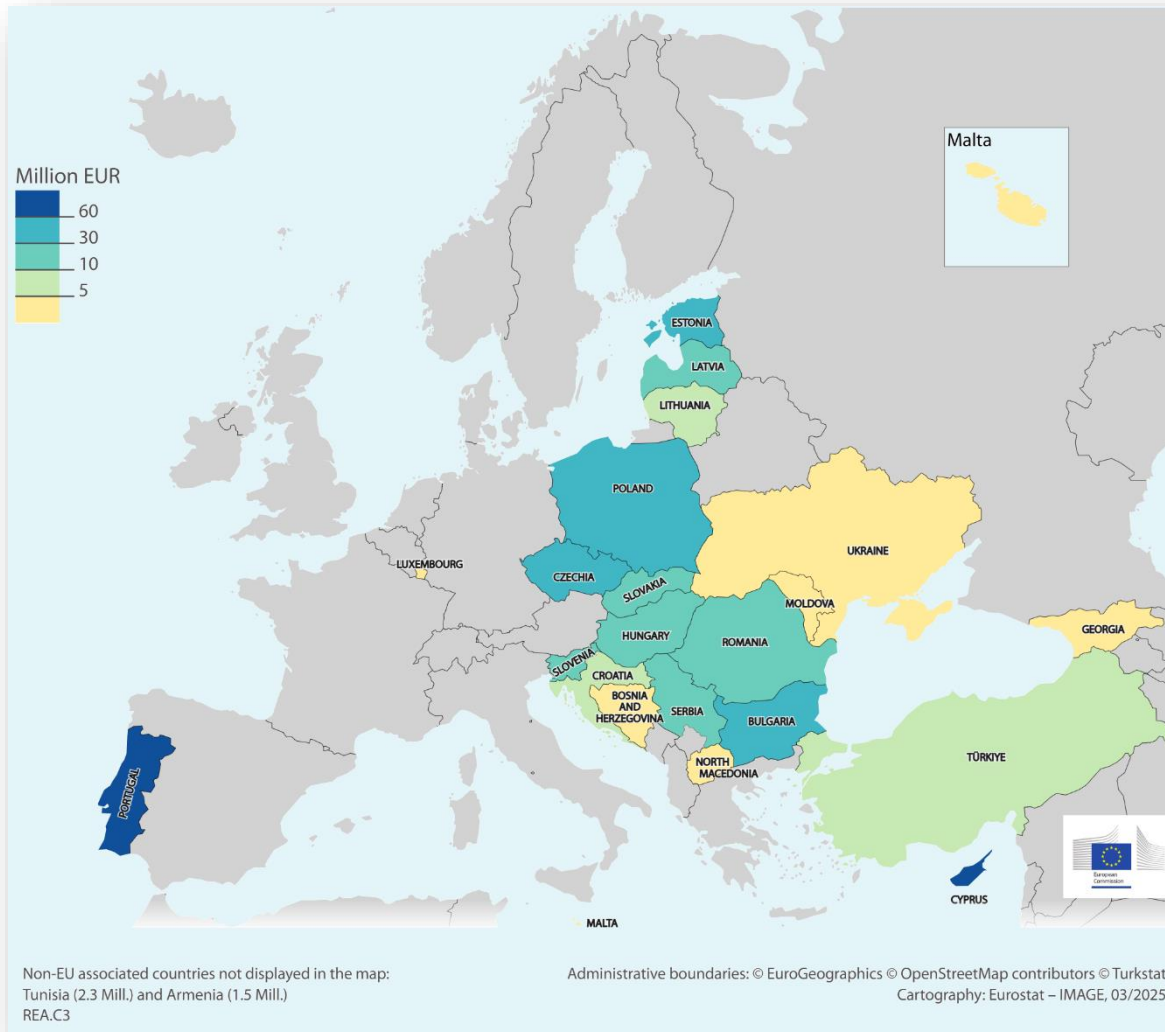
Outermost Regions eligible in HE:

- France (Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, Mayotte, Saint-Martin, La Réunion), Spain (Canary Islands), Portugal (Azores Islands, Madeira)

Actions under HE Widening Programme

- ERA Chairs → Bringing excellence to institutions
 - Twinning → Building institutional networking
 - Teaming → Creating and modernizing centres of excellence
 - COST → Stimulating cross border science networks
 - NCPs → Information, communication, support
 - Policy Support Facility → Support for R&I Policy design
-
- ERA Talents → Brain circulation
- NEW!**
- European Excellence Initiative → Empowering universities
 - Excellence Hubs → Strengthening innovation ecosystems
 - “Hop-On“ Facility → Joining on-going R&I actions
 - Pathways to Synergies → Bridging different funding systems
 - Dissemination and Exploitation Support Facility

EU Contributions to Widening countries (Widening Programme H2020)



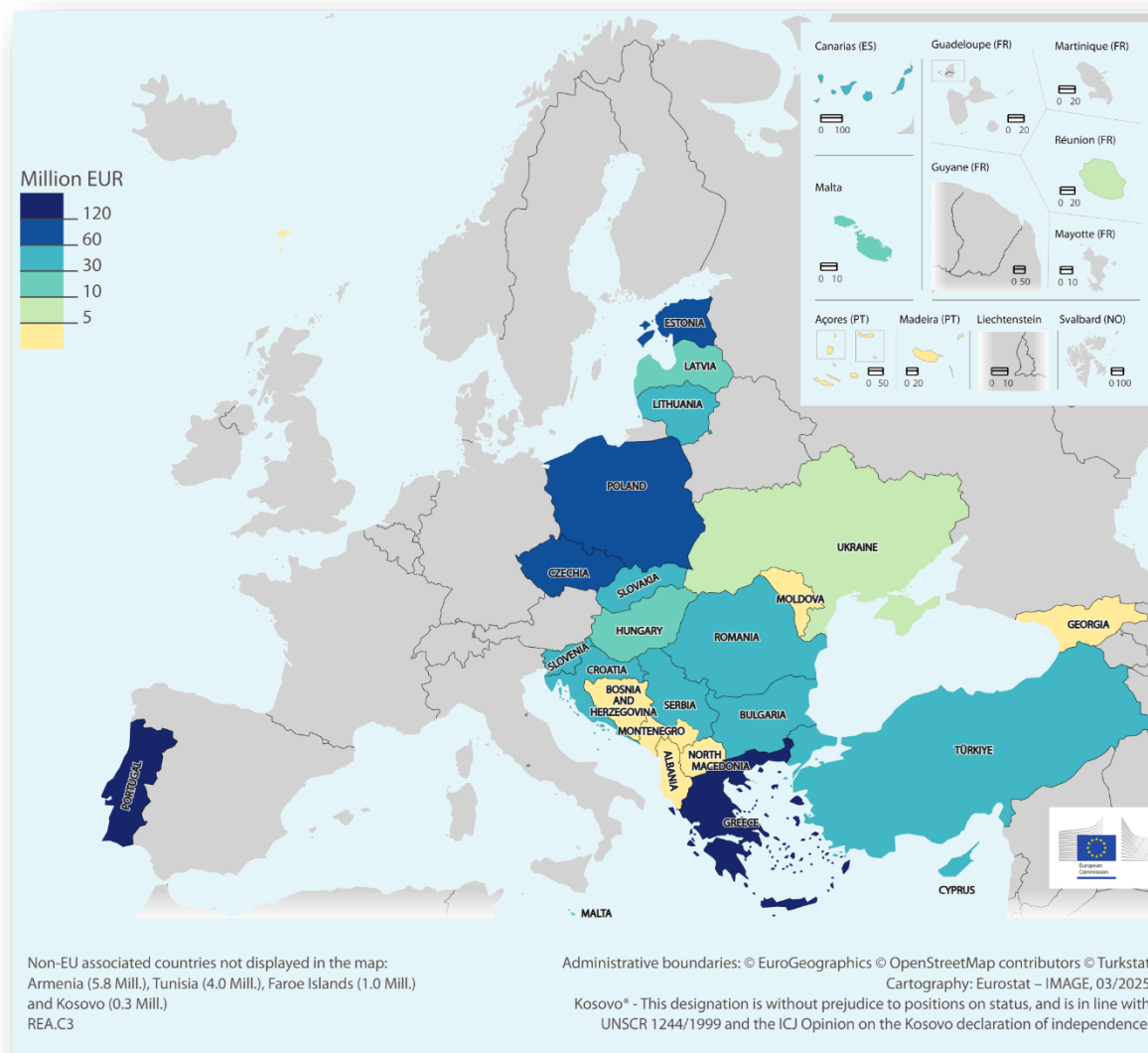
Ranking of Widening Countries in H2020	EU Contribution (Mill.€)
PT	102.319544
CY	88.186610
PL	58.955772
EE	52.806844
CZ	50.575973
BG	30.044338
LV	27.888571
SI	25.930211
HU	24.756051
RS	21.326242
SK	17.950713
RO	10.177905
HR	9.796890
TR	9.591593
LT	5.334265
LU	4.814006
MT	4.093675
TN	2.273924
MD	1.520250
AM	1.506331
UA	0.839823
BA	0.390550
MK	0.238750
GE	0.137391

➔ 15 calls computed from:

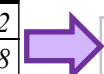
- *Twinning*
- *Teaming*
- *ERA Chairs*
- *ERA Fellowships*

Total budget distributed: **551 Mill €** through **420 grants**

EU Contributions to Widening countries (Widening programme HE)



Ranking of Widening Countries in HE	EU Contribution (Mill.€)
PT ★	160.2
EL ♥	127.8
CZ ↑	93.2
PL ★	82.3
EE ↓	60.1
SI ↑	57.2
CY ↓	50.8
RS ↑	39.2
SK ↑	37.8
HR ↑	37.7
BG ↓	34.1
TR ↑	33.9
ES70 ♥	32.9
LT ★	30.1
RO ★	30.0
LV ↓	29.2
MT ★	13.3
HU ↓	10.1
UA ↑	9.2
AM ↑	5.8
FRY4 ♥	5.7
TN ★	4.0
MK ↑	3.9
BA ↑	3.4
GE ♥	3.4
PT30 ♥	2.7
AL ♥	2.5
ME ♥	1.9
FO ♥	1.0
PT20 ♥	0.6
XK ♥	0.3
MD ↓	0.1



23 calls computed from:

- Teaming
- Twinning
- Twinning WB
- ERA Chairs
- ERA Fellowships
- ERA Talents
- Europ. Excellence Init.
- Excellence Hubs
- Hop-On Facility
- R&I policy in WB
- Pathways to Synergies
- Dissem. & Expl. Facility

- ★ **Consolidating**
- ♥ **Newcoming**
- ↑ **Improving**
- ↓ **Worsening**

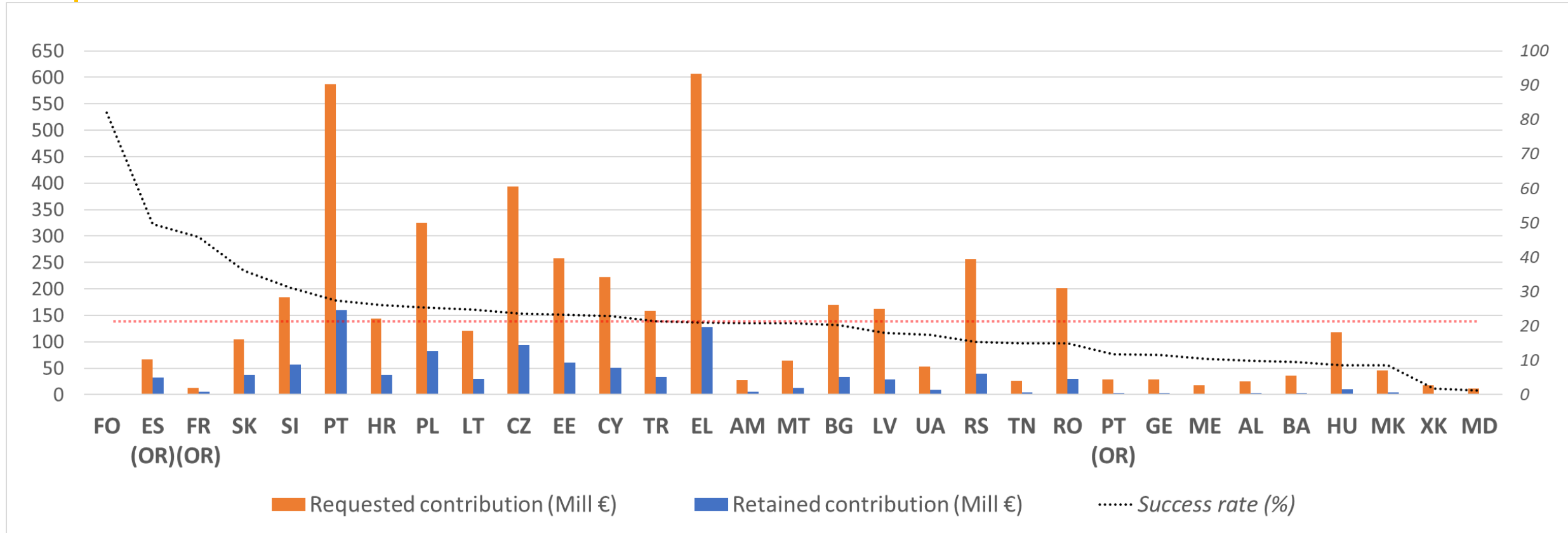


Total budget distributed: 1,005 Mill € through 627 grants

Outermost Regions: ES70 – Islas Canarias; FRY4 - La Réunion; PT20 – Açores; PT30 – Madeira

EU Contributions' Success Rate of Widening countries

WIDENING programme in Horizon Europe (23 Calls of Proposals)



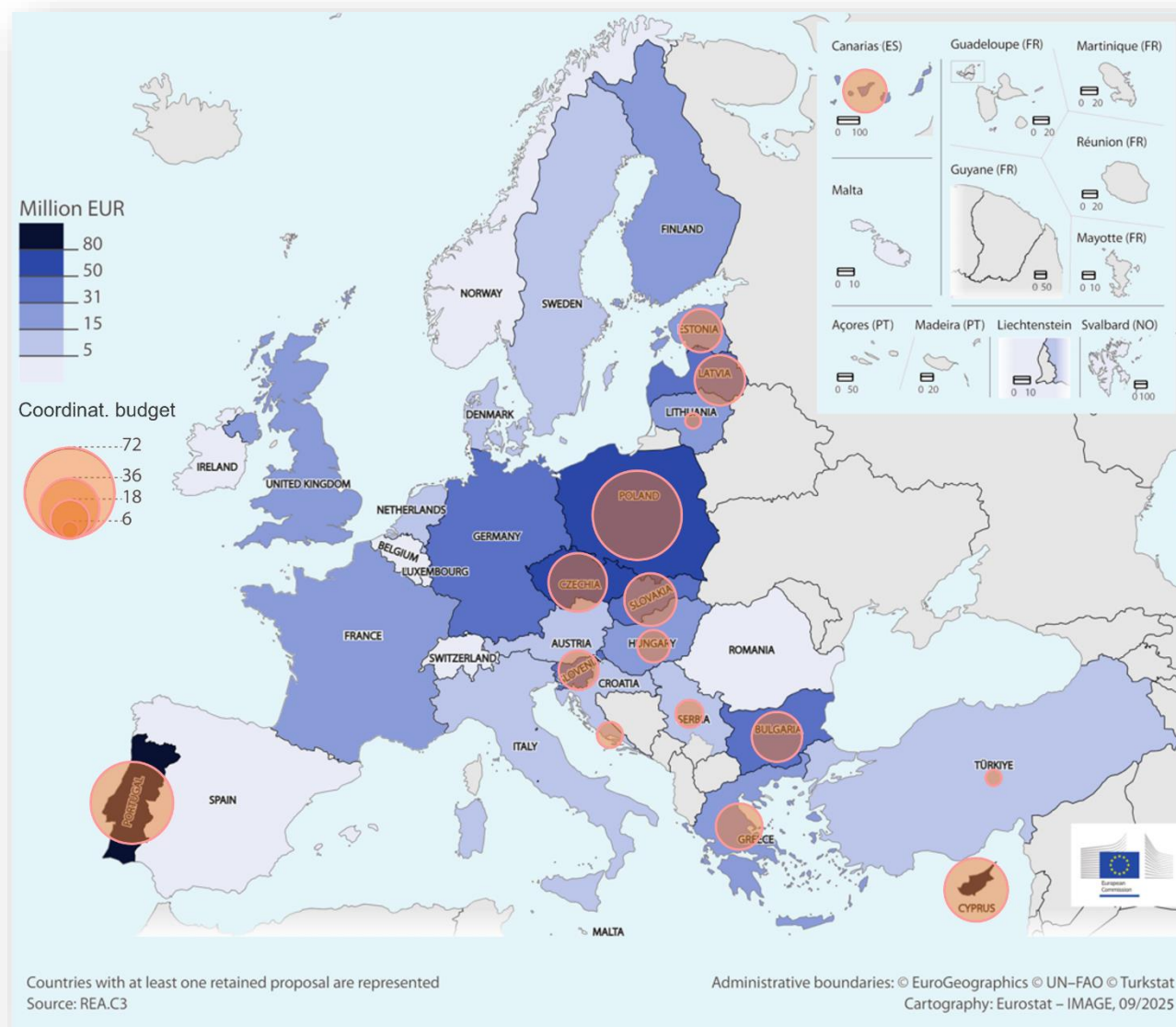
..... Average success rate (22%)

(OR) = Outermost Region as of Art. 349 TFEU

Total budget of submitted proposals: **4,479 Mill €**

Total budget retained: **1,005 Mill €**

50+ CoE from H2020 & HE Calls



From H2020:

-10 Teaming CoE from 2016/2017 Call
-14 Teaming CoE from 2018/2019 Call
24 Teaming CoE - 390 Mill EUR total EU Contrib.

From HE:

-14 Teaming CoE from 2021/2022 Call
-13 NEW Teaming CoE 2023/2024 Call
27 Teaming CoE - 382 Mill EUR total EU Contrib.

Ongoing 2025 call:

- ca. 18 Teaming CoE
- 270 Mill EUR

Thematic Fields in H2020 Teaming Projects

ICT

- Artificial Intelligence
- Smart Cities
- Cyber-Physical Products
- Maritime

LIFE SCIENCES

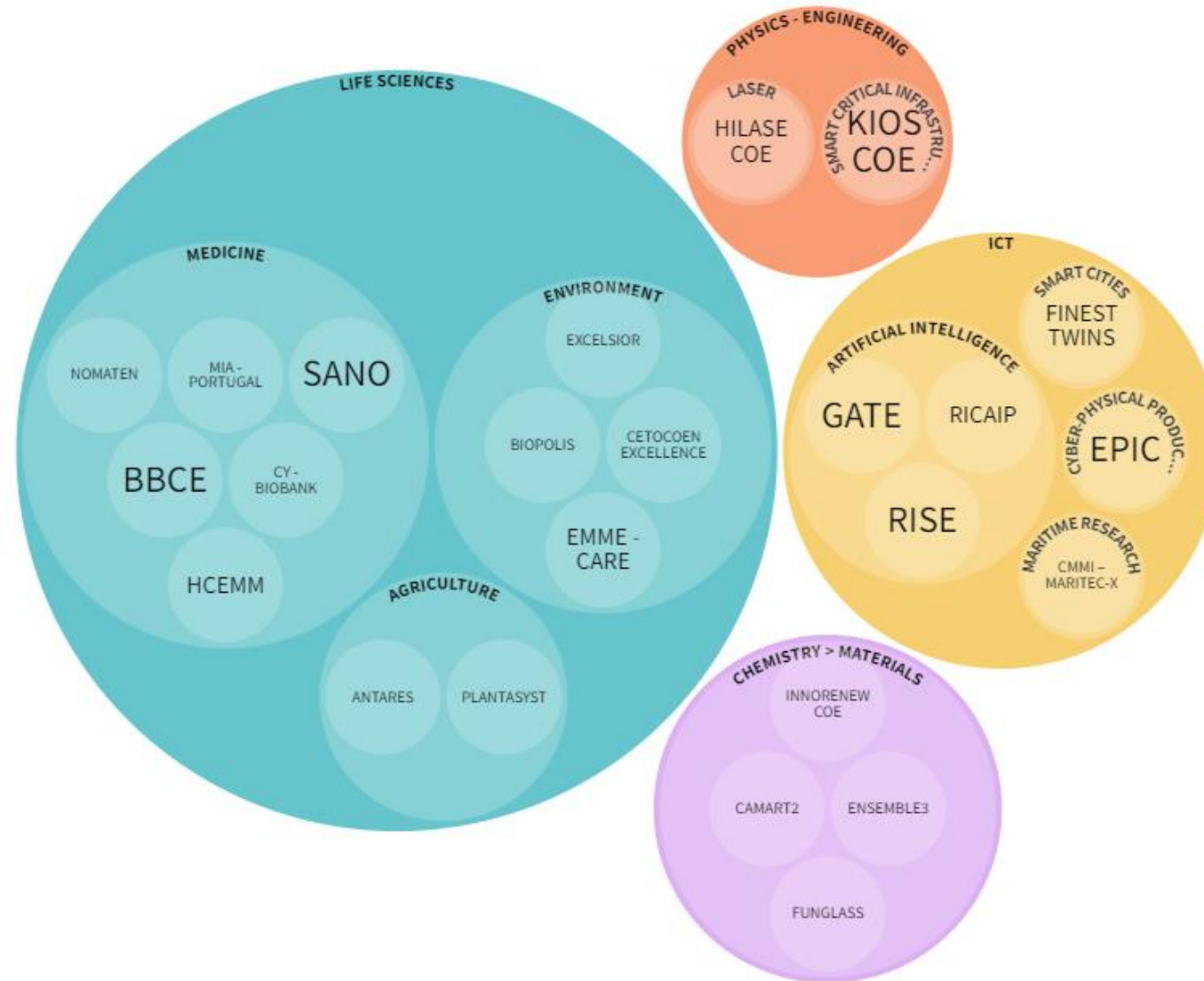
- Medicine
- Environment
- Agriculture

PHYSICS

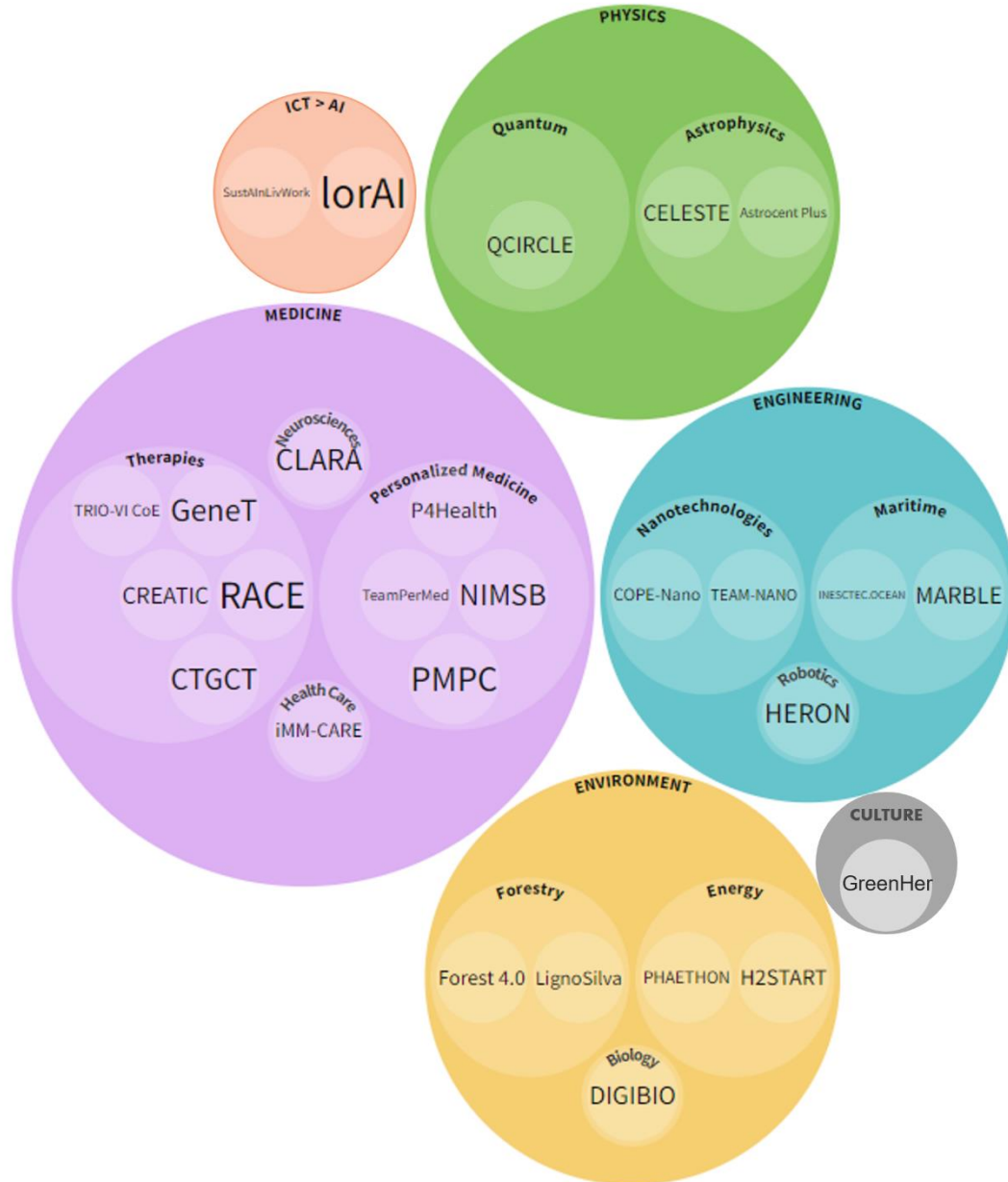
- Laser
- Smart Infrastructures

CHEMISTRY

- Materials



Thematic Fields in HE Teaming Projects



MEDICINE

- Therapies
- Personalised Medicine
- Neurosciences
- Health Care

ENVIRONMENT

- Forestry
- Energy
- Biology

ENGINEERING

- Nanotechnologies
- Maritime
- Robotics

PHYSICS

- Quantum
- Astrophysics

CULTURE

- Cultural Heritage

ICT

- Artificial Intelligence

Source: REA.C.3 - Teaming: HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-01-two-stage and HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-01-two-stage

Evaluation timeline for Teaming Call 2025-2026

10 April 2025
Call deadline

11 April to 4 May 2025

Pre-evaluation (admissibility and eligibility checks, allocation of proposals, experts contracting):

- 340 submitted proposals
- 317 evaluated proposals
- 22 ineligible/inadmissible proposals
- 1 withdrawn proposal

5 May to 25 May 2025

Remote evaluation (IER phase)

26 May to 9 June 2025

Remote evaluation (CR phase)

10 June to 4 July 2025

Consensus meetings

Final debriefing meeting (proposal ranking)

29 July 2025

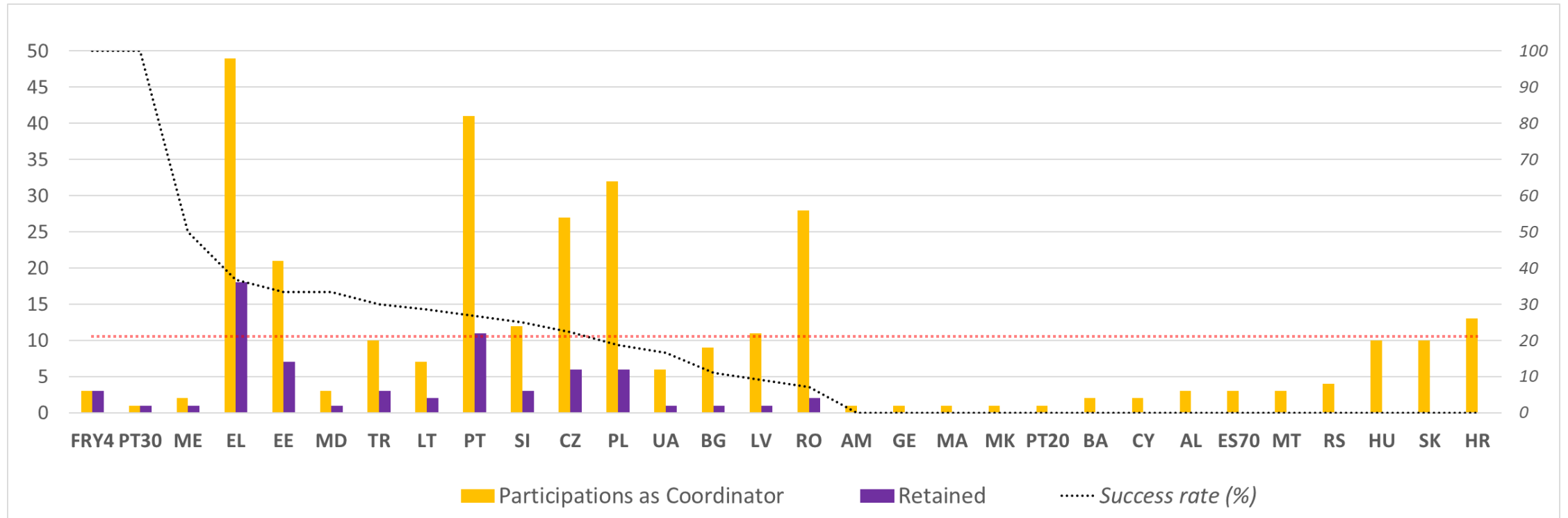
Results communicated to applicants

Stage 2: 20/01/2026

- *Mid-February to mid-April - Evaluation*
- *Early May - Results to applicants*

Coordinators' Success Rate

Teaming for Excellence: HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-ACCESS-01-01-two-stage (Stage 1)



..... Average success rate (21%)

ES70 = Islas Canarias (Outermost Region)
FRY4 = La Réunion (Outermost Region)
PT20 = Açores (Outermost Region)
PT30 = Madeira (Outermost Region)

Total number of eligible proposals: **317**

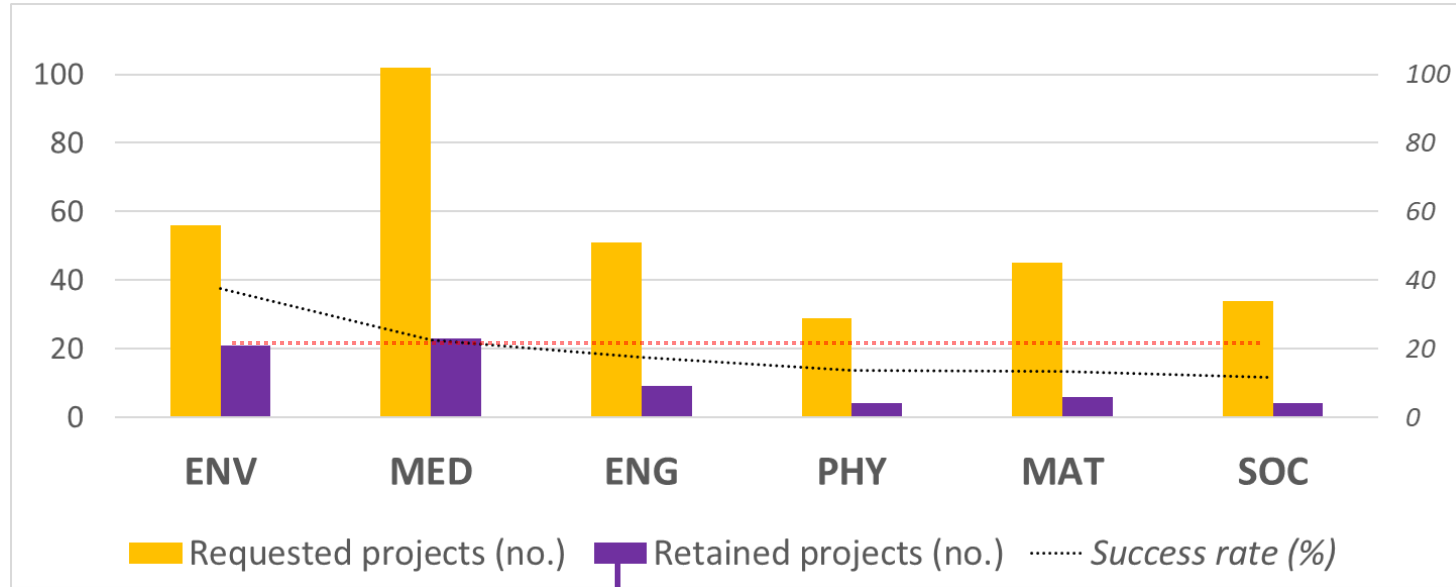
Total number retained: **67** (score 9.0 and beyond)



Note: Only eligible proposals are considered

R&I Domain

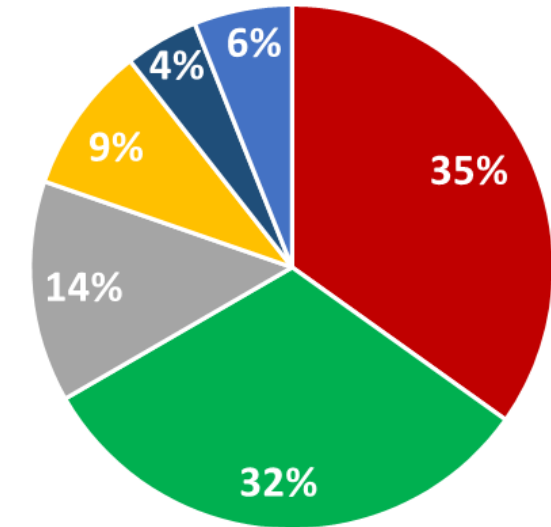
Teaming for Excellence: HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-ACCESS-01-01-two-stage (Stage 1)



..... Average success rate (21%)

Total number of eligible proposals: **317**

Total number retained: **67**



- MED: Oncology, Medtech, eHealth, Epidemiology, Molecular, Neuro, Clinical, Adv. therapies, Public health
- ENV: Agrifood, Water, Biotech, Climate, Chemistry
- ENG: Nanotech, Electronics, Manufacturing, Materials, Automation/robotics, Space, Transport, Geospatial
- MAT: Data, AI, ICT/communication, Quantum
- PHY: Particles, Energy
- SOC: Cultural Heritage, Politics/sociology, Education, Economics, Art/religion

Countrypedia, European Semester

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/wikis/spaces/RIKB/pages/771328071/Slovenia>



Brussels, 4.6.2025
SWD(2025) 224 final

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

2025 Country Report - Slovenia

Accompanying the document

Recommendation for a COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION
on the economic, social, employment, structural and budgetary policies of Slovenia

{COM(2025) 224 final}

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Research for the patients' benefit

FEATURED NEWS



European
Commission

The structure of the new Horizon Europe



¹ Consistent with activities under the European Competitiveness Fund

Widening – two categories of countries

Transition Member States



Cyprus



Malta



Estonia



Portugal



Greece



Slovenia

- **Classification** based on innovation performance (EIS) in the last three years; and participation success (financial returns) under HE

- **Measures:**

- a) Widening: capacity building (e.g. Teaming, ERA Chairs, ERA Research Managers)
- b) Widening & Transition: networking (e.g. Twinning, COST), knowledge valorisation, countering brain drain and dedicated National Contact Points (NCP) support.

Widening Member States



Bulgaria



Lithuania



Croatia



Poland



Czechia



Romania



Hungary



Slovakia



Latvia



Thank you!

HorizonEU

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe>



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