

# NEWSLETTER

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## HCCC INFORMATION DAY

On Friday, February 6, 2026, NCSR “Demokritos” hosted the Hellenic Chips Competence Centre (HCCC) Information Day. The event served as a high-level gathering of industry leaders, researchers, and policymakers, all focused on a single mission: strengthening Greece’s position within the European semiconductor value chain under the umbrella of the EU Chips Act.

[Learn more](#)

## NEW PROJECTS

### DeepTechSeeds

The **DeepTechSeeds** project addresses Europe’s growing need for a skilled and adaptable research workforce in key areas such as AI, quantum computing, robotics, and advanced materials, fostering stronger connections between academia, industry, and the public sector. Demokritos is part of a consortium of eight partners, combining diverse and complementary expertise and networks to support this effort.

[Learn more](#)



### ENVESOME

The **ENVESOME** project examines how real-life environmental exposures affect human health, particularly in urban areas where people are constantly exposed to a combination of stressors that are further exacerbated by climate factors, as well as by social inequalities that intensify health disparities.

[Learn more](#)



## UPCOMING DEADLINES

1. **Horizon Europe 'Health'**, 16 April 2026
2. **Horizon AI in Science**, 21 April, 2026
3. **Innovative Health Initiative**, 21 April, 2026
4. **Innovation Fund 2025 Net-Zero Technologies Call**, 23 April, 2026

6. **Research, Innovation and Technology Call for Proposals (RITC)**, 27 April, 2026
7. **IHI call 11**, 29 April, 2026
8. **Europe’s Rail Joint Undertaking**, 7 May, 2026
9. **Chips For Europe**, 7 May, 2026
10. **FAMES Pilot Line Open-Access**, 22 May, 2026

# IMPORTANT EU NEWS



## Commission proposes Industrial Accelerator Act to strengthen industry and create jobs in Europe

The European Commission has proposed the Industrial Accelerator Act (IAA), a legislative initiative aimed at strengthening EU manufacturing, boosting demand for low-carbon and “Made in EU” technologies, and enhancing industrial competitiveness. The Act introduces targeted requirements in public procurement and support schemes for key sectors such as steel, cement, aluminium, automotive, and net-zero technologies, while remaining open to global trade and investment under conditions of reciprocity. [Source](#)

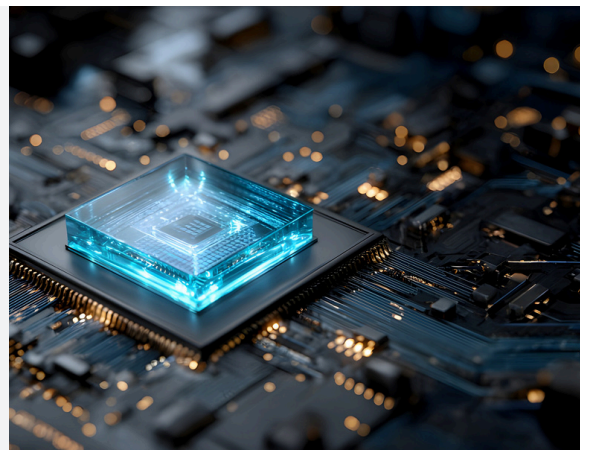


## Concerns regarding Smart Specialization in the new funding Scheme

A coalition of research and university advocacy organisations has raised concerns about the potential weakening of “smart specialisation strategies” in the EU’s next research and innovation framework programme, expected to launch in 2028. These strategies are designed to concentrate investment on areas where regions already demonstrate strong research and innovation capabilities, rather than dispersing funding across too many priorities. However, according to current European Commission proposals, the concept risks losing its strategic clarity and could be downgraded to a non-mandatory territorial consideration, as highlighted in the letter. [Source](#)

## 2nd Open annual open access call from FAMES

FAMES, one of the first semiconductor pilot lines supported under the EU Chips Act, has launched its second annual open-access call targeting stakeholders from industry, research, and academia. Coordinated by CEA-Leti, the French public research institute for electronics and information technologies based in Grenoble, FAMES provides users with access to a broad portfolio of semiconductor capabilities, including testing services, process design kits, demonstrators, and manufacturing infrastructure. The call is open until 22 May 2026. [More details](#)



## Post CMOS technology Roadmap by IMEC

Imec, a globally leading research and innovation centre in advanced semiconductor technologies, has established a first-of-its-kind consortium bringing together 26 European university groups (among them National Technical University of Athens) to collaborate on the post-CMOS technology roadmap (CMOS 2.0). The initiative will concentrate on advancing design automation and chip architecture for next-generation semiconductor systems, while leveraging the NanoIC pilot line to translate academic research into industry-relevant innovations. Looking ahead, similar collaborative consortia are expected to be developed in areas such as advanced materials and alternative computing paradigms. [More details](#)

# TIPS: COMMUNICATE YOUR RESEARCH

## Why this is more important than you think?

Effective communication is a key pillar of EU-funded projects, ensuring that results generate impact beyond the consortium and contribute to wider European priorities.

- **It demonstrates your project's importance and EU added value**

Communication makes your project visible and meaningful. It ensures citizens understand its value, how EU funding is used, and its contribution to science and society.

- **It contributes to transparency and accountability**

Beneficiaries are expected to communicate openly about their activities and results, reinforcing trust in EU-funded research and innovation.

- **It strengthens impact pathways**

Clearly communicated results are more likely to inform policy, standards, and future research and innovation actions.

- **It enhances exploitation potential**

Increased visibility improves the chances of results being adopted, scaled up, or commercialised by relevant stakeholders.

- **It fosters new collaborations and networks**

Communication helps projects reach beyond their immediate consortium, attracting interest from new partners, building synergies, and opening opportunities for future collaborations across sectors and countries.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

### CALLS OF INTEREST & CONSORTIUM BUILDING

1. **Horizon Europe open calls** [click here](#)
2. **EDF Open calls** [click here](#)
3. **EIC Accelerator 2026** [click here](#)
4. **EIC Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) Scale Up scheme** [click here](#)
5. **The Digital Europe Programme** [click here](#)
6. **Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme** [click here](#)



## Fundraising Unit: How We Can Support You

- Share relevant funding opportunities tailored to your research area.
- Help develop research ideas in line with call requirements and priorities.
- Support consortium building by identifying and connecting with suitable partners.
- Assist with proposal writing to ensure clarity, structure, and compliance.
- Provide guidance on budgeting, eligible costs, and financial planning.
- Support the full proposal submission process.
- Offer project management support.

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