



Press Release

Brussels, 10 March 2022

Europe's Rail publishes its Call for Proposals 2022-1

Projects worth €390 million, against €234 million funding, are expected to be funded under the Europe's Rail 2022-1 Call for Proposals for Research & Innovation activities, within the framework of the [Europe's Rail Annual Work Programme 2022-2024](#). The application period is now open and submissions will be accepted until 23 June 2022.

This very first Call of the Europe's Rail programme is expected to raise high interest in the transport community and beyond. The Call builds upon the results of the Shift2Rail Programme, to reach high TRL levels, paving the way to the deployment of innovative operational and technological solutions in the areas of European rail network management, automation and digitalisation of rail operations, sustainable and resilient systems, rail freight in the supply chain perspective and regional and capillary lines. It sets the basis for rail to accelerate its contribution to the European Green Deal, the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and the Fit for 55 Package, in a context of recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The systemic approach introduced by the programme's *System Pillar* will frame the works.

Commenting on the launch of the Call, **Henrik Hololei**, Director-General for Mobility and Transport at European Commission, said: *"Europe's Rail and its partners play a key role in making rail travel future-proof. The Call for Proposals launched today will fund projects driving digitalisation and automation within rail, and further improving environmental performance in line with the [EU Green Deal](#) and [Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy](#) objectives. I count on diverse, European consortia to respond in large numbers, to help us make rail more efficient and competitive."*

Carlo Borghini, Executive Director at Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking, said: *"I am looking forward to receiving applications from a variety of entities eligible under Horizon Europe, ensuring that we have an open and inclusive programme, bringing together the research community, SMEs, operators, infrastructure managers and suppliers. Within the framework established in the Single Basic Act, the Call is designed to attract applicants from the research and innovation value chain, while complying with the stringent legal requirements to materialise a leverage effect of the resources invested. The next five years will be critical to achieve large scale demonstrations of key solutions, in view of their deployment."*

Geographical coverage, gender balance, equity creation, synergies, openness are all elements underpinning the Call and its *destinations*.

Do you have questions about our new Call? You can write to Info-Call@rail-research.europa.eu. Please note that the deadline for submitting questions related to Europe's Rail Call for Proposals is 9 June 2022 at 17:00 (Brussels Local Time).

The full details of the Call for Proposals 2022 are available [here](#).

Another Call for Proposals covering *exploratory research and other activities*, will be launched in the second half of 2022 and it will be followed by others on a yearly basis indicatively.



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