

Press Release

Brussels, 29 April 2024

Europe's Rail awards seven grants for its Call for Proposals 2023

Seven new projects worth €21.2 million will be funded under the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-Rail) 2023 Call for Proposals for rail research and innovation (R&I) activities. Europe's Rail co-funding will amount up to €11.7 million. The new projects will support the work done in Flagship Area 1 dedicated to rail mobility management in a multimodal environment, and further strengthen exploratory research activities.

Giorgio Travaini, Acting Executive Director at EU-Rail, said: "In order to satisfy the needs of European citizens and businesses, we must move away from modernising transport modes in isolation of one another, providing optimised, efficient, affordable, and comfortable solution for our customers. For the first time two JUs have worked together and issued a synergy topic call that resulted in a proposal selected for predictability. A better integration of air and railway modes of transport is expected to improve the predictability and punctuality of journey, increase resilience to disruption, ultimately enhance passenger experience and support sustainability targets with increased and optimised use of rail from and to airports."

In addition, six new projects will further strengthen EU-Rail exploratory research activities, essential pathfinders for future R&I, covering topics such as noise and vibration, future metro systems, biodiversity, disruptive assets management solutions, extending the network of PhDs, and DAC fleet retrofitting and capacity plan.

In total 114 entities from 22 countries will develop new solutions under the 2023 Call for Proposals and support the work done in the already running Flagship and exploratory research and other activities projects.

The Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking is looking forward to successfully implementing the projects selected for funding.

For more information on the selected projects, please consult the following link.

Another Call for Proposals is currently open until 5 June. For more information on how to apply, please consult the following <u>link</u>.

About Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking

The Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-RAIL) is the European partnership for rail research and innovation under the Horizon Europe programme (2020-2027) and the successor to the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking. The partnership aims to accelerate research and development in innovative technologies and operational solutions. It supports EU policies and objectives for the rail sector, its competitiveness, and the European rail supply industry. EU-Rail accelerates the use of integrated, interoperable and standardised technological innovations necessary to support the Single European Railway Area.