

Questions & Answers

Call for proposals 2025
HORIZON-ER-JU-2025-01

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1	21/03/2025	First publication: 1-3
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Q 1	Regarding the call HORIZON-ER-JU-2025-FA7-01: Further Technological Development of Maglev-derived Systems, I have a question to ask. Can companies with public and state participation apply? Are there any constraints in the formation of the consortium?	We confirm that in accordance with the Europe's Rail Work Programme 2025-2026 and the call conditions (section 2.3.8 - Type of call: Open), the EU-Rail's call for proposals 2025-01 is open to all eligible entities according to Horizon Europe rules for participation. There are no other eligibility restrictions apart from those laid down in Horizon Europe Work Programme General Annex B. An eligible consortium must include as beneficiaries at least three legal entities independent from each other and each established in a different country as follows: – at least one independent legal entity established in a Member State; and – at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated Countries. As affiliated entities do not sign the grant agreement, they do not count towards the minimum eligibility criteria for consortium composition (if any).
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		Please also note that for public bodies to be eligible, they must have a gender equality plan, following the requirements specified in the above indicated General Annex B.
Q 2	Which is the page limit for the HORIZON-ER-JU-2025-FA7-01 call?	Please note that for the Innovation Action (IA) foreseen in this call the limit is 120 pages, as indicated in the call text and on the Participant's Portal. In the Europe's Rail Work Programme 2025-2026 - Annex VI – Call(s) for proposals 2025-1, Specific Conditions section (p. 145) it was wrongly indicated 70 pages.
Q 3	Can you please explain what the call text meant under “Based on the outcome of WS1 and from the testing, the technical and economical variability of the system shall be analysed”?	Please note that there is a typing mistake, the sentence should be read as follows: “Based on the outcome of WS1 and from the testing, the technical and economical viability of the system shall be analysed.”
Q 4	I am reaching out regarding the Maglev call for proposals. As it concerns an “Innovation Action” project, I am not certain about the applicable funding rate for a non-profit SME. Are they eligible for 100% funding?	As stated in the EU-Rail Work Programme 2025-2026 (Section 2.3.8.1 - <i>Conditions of the calls and calls management rules</i>), “The standard funding rates of Horizon Europe will apply to the CSA or RIA topics as well as for the IA of the call HORIZON-ER-JU-2025-01”. Therefore, and in accordance with Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2025 General Annexes, the maximum HE funding rate for Innovation Actions (IA) is 70% except for non-profit legal entities, where a rate of up to 100% applies.
Q 5	I would like to ask you if organisations from Switzerland could be eligible as beneficiaries in projects submitted to the call for proposals HORIZON-JU-ER-2025-01, in line with the communication https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home/research-and-innovation/international-cooperation-r-and-i/eu-framework-programmes-for-research/horizon-europe.html/#507786868 following the EU-Switzerland agreement on Switzerland's participation in Union programmes published on the 09th of April	Since the conclusion of negotiations on the 20th of December 2024 for the participation of Switzerland in European Union programmes, a transitional arrangement applies to Swiss legal entities allowing their participation in Horizon Europe award procedures implementing the 2025 budget (i.e. 2025 Calls for Proposals). This means that Swiss legal entities are eligible to apply to 2025 calls for proposals. However, Horizon Europe funding will only be accessible if at the moment of the grant signature - provided the proposals participated by Swiss legal entities have been successfully evaluated - the Association Agreement between the EU and Switzerland has already been signed. Only then Swiss applicants will become beneficiaries of the Horizon Europe programme on the same footing as entities from EU Member States.

	2025,https://commission.europa.eu/publications/eu-switzerland-agreement-switzerlands-participation-union-programmes_en.	At the moment of the signature, Switzerland will become an associated country to Horizon Europe with retroactive effect as of 1 January 2025. Please find additional information here: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/bilateral-cooperation-science-and-technology-agreements-non-eu-countries/switzerland_en
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