



EU-LIFE

Building and promoting excellence in the life sciences in Europe

Estratègies i reptes dels centres de recerca per aprofitar el
finançament Europeu

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8 Juliol 2025

EU-LIFE

IMPROVEMENT OF RESEARCH

- Science policy
- Optimal environment for research:
Develop /share institutional practices
in research culture and research
governance

OUR MEMBERS

- 17 leading research centres
- > 11,000 members of staff
- >600 research groups
- C. 200 research facilities
- >80 spin offs since 2014
- >160 ERC grants (>30% success rate)



A VIBRANT AND OPEN COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



Critical mass
Expertise
Access
Share
Learn

RESEARCH CULTURE

RESEARCH GOVERNANCE



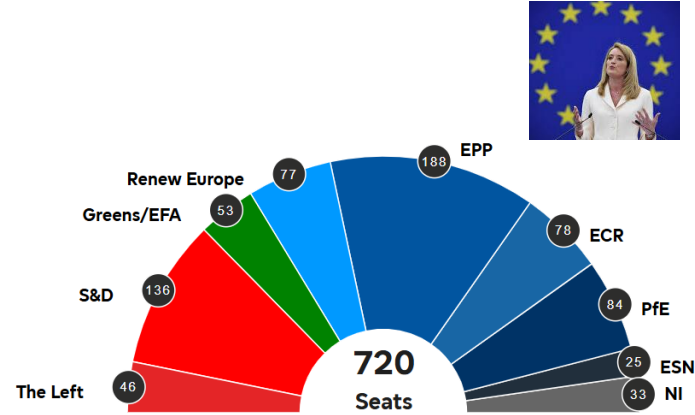
A VOICE IN EUROPEAN
RESEARCH & INNOVATION



WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN ADDED VALUE?

(cannot be address at national level only)

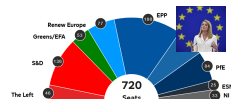
HOW DOES IT CONTRIBUTE TO THE EUROPEAN UNION PRIORITIES?



5Y POLITICAL CYCLE 2024-2029

LAUNCHING KEY STRATEGIES NEW COMMISSION

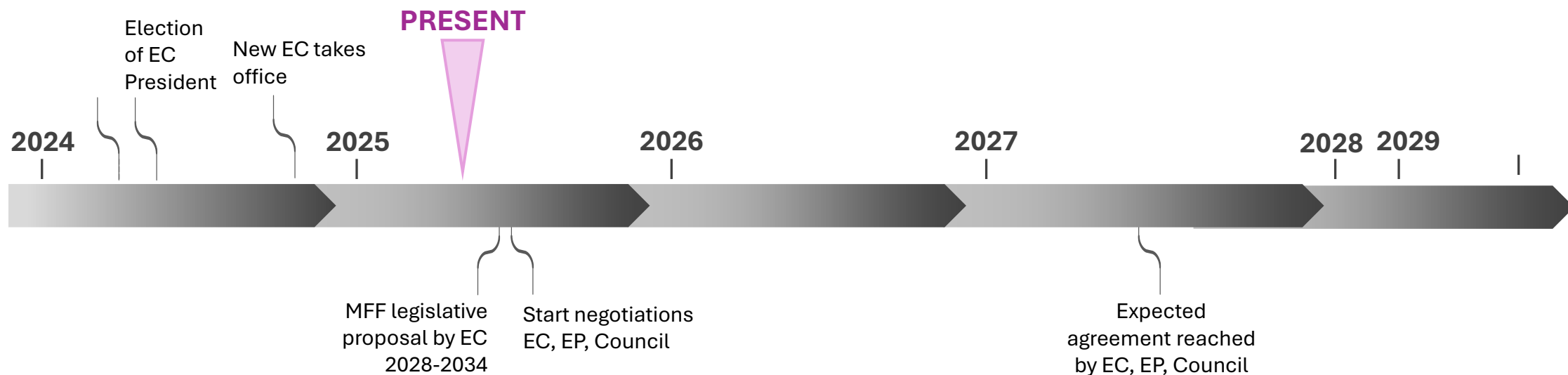




EU POLICY IS LIKE THE FASHION BUSINESS

5Y POLITICAL CYCLE 2024-2029

LAUNCHING KEY STRATEGIES NEW COMMISSION



PREP. FP10 & OTHER FRAMEWORKS

NEGOTIATION OF MFF

**Next MFF
(2028-2034)**

7Y FINANCIAL CYCLE (2021-2027)

POSSIBILITY OF INFLUENCING

NEW GLOBAL CONTEXT



**EUROPEAN UNION'S POLITICAL
CYCLE
(2024-2029)**



**EU FINANCIAL CYCLE
(2020-2027)**



REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION FOR R&I

EU PRIORITIES

Defense & Security

Competitiveness

EU industrial strategy

AI
Thematic priorities

Emphasis on National & Regional
Responsibility



EU PRIORITIES

Defence & Security

REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION for R&I

Defence: Dual – use research & overall funding

Research security and Global collaborations

Principles

Freedom of Research

EU PRIORITIES

Competitiveness

REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION for R&I

EU Competitiveness Fund

Return to economy (rather than environmental or other causes)

Innovation as motor of Europe

Fragmentation I 28th regime

Talent & upskilling

Start up and scale up strategy

EU PRIORITIES

REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION for R&I

EU industrial strategy

Research and innovation under Industrial strategy

Directionality: Translation and applicability

EU PRIORITIES

REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION for R&I

AI
Thematic priorities

AI Strategy

European Life Sciences Strategy (New Priority)

Health innovation

Fragmentation

Translation

Over-regulation

Manufacturing new tech

Where is Frontier research??

Skills and talent

EU Biotech Act (includes value chain from research to development)

EU PRIORITIES

REVOLUTION RATHER THAN EVOLUTION for R&I

Emphasis on National & Regional
Responsibility

European Research Area

ERA Policy agenda (10+8)

Single market for research & innovation

Admin burden and simplification

ERA Act

Freedom of Research

Research is the
responsibility of the
Member States not the EU

EU PRIORITIES

Defense & Security

Competitiveness

EU industrial strategy

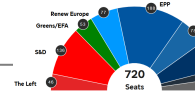
AI
Thematic priorities

Emphasis on National & Regional
Responsibility



HOW DOES EU WORK?

HOW DO WE GO FROM A GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMME TO FRAMEWORK PROGRAMMES (Funding)?



HOW DOES EU WORK?



EC – EUROPEAN COMMISSION

STRATEGY
ROAD MAP
PACT

FRAMEWORK PROG.
ACT
DIRECTIVE

PROPOSALS

EP - EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

INPUT FROM OUTSIDE

+1

POSITION TOWARDS EC PROPOSALS

EU COUNCIL

MEMBER STATES

INPUT FROM OUTSIDE

FINAL DECISION

INPUT FROM OUTSIDE

“EXPERT GROUPS”

CONSULTATIONS

CALLS FOR EVIDENCE

ADDIT. LOBBY ACTIVITY

(...)

ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES

CEPS/WELLCOME
FP10 STUDY

Norway &
Switzerland

**TRILOGUE
EC-EP-EuCOUNCIL**

STAGE OF DECISIONS

COMMUNICATION
CONCLUSIONS

IMPLEMENTATION

**NON
BINDING**

STRATEGY
ROAD MAP
PACT

BINDING

FRWK PROG.
ACT
DIRECTIVE

POSSIBILITY OF
INFLUENCING

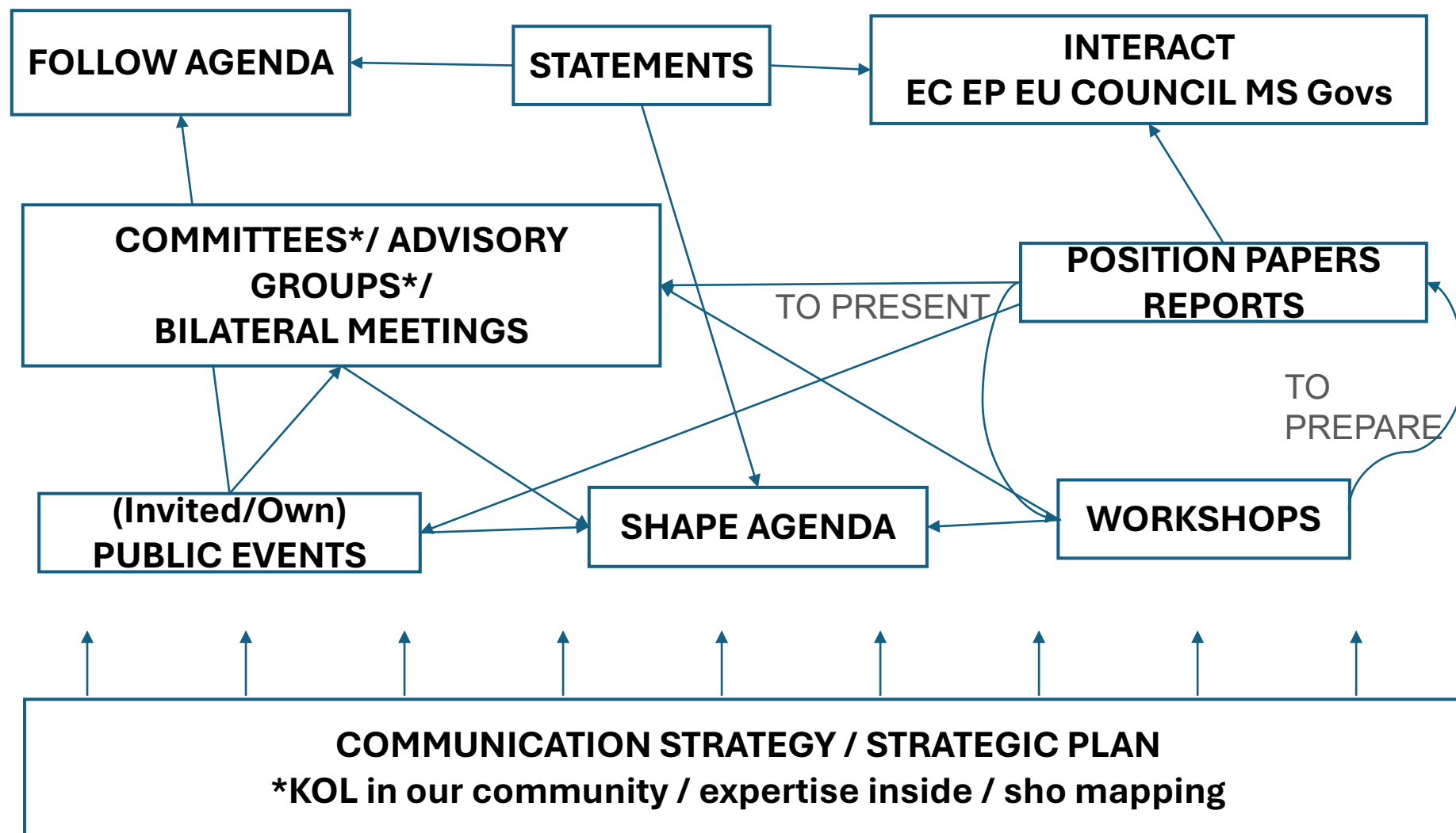
EUROPEAN
level

NATIONAL
level

HOW LOBBY ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATE IN THE EU POLICY



REPUTATION | REGULAR PRESENCE | INFLUENCE POLICIES

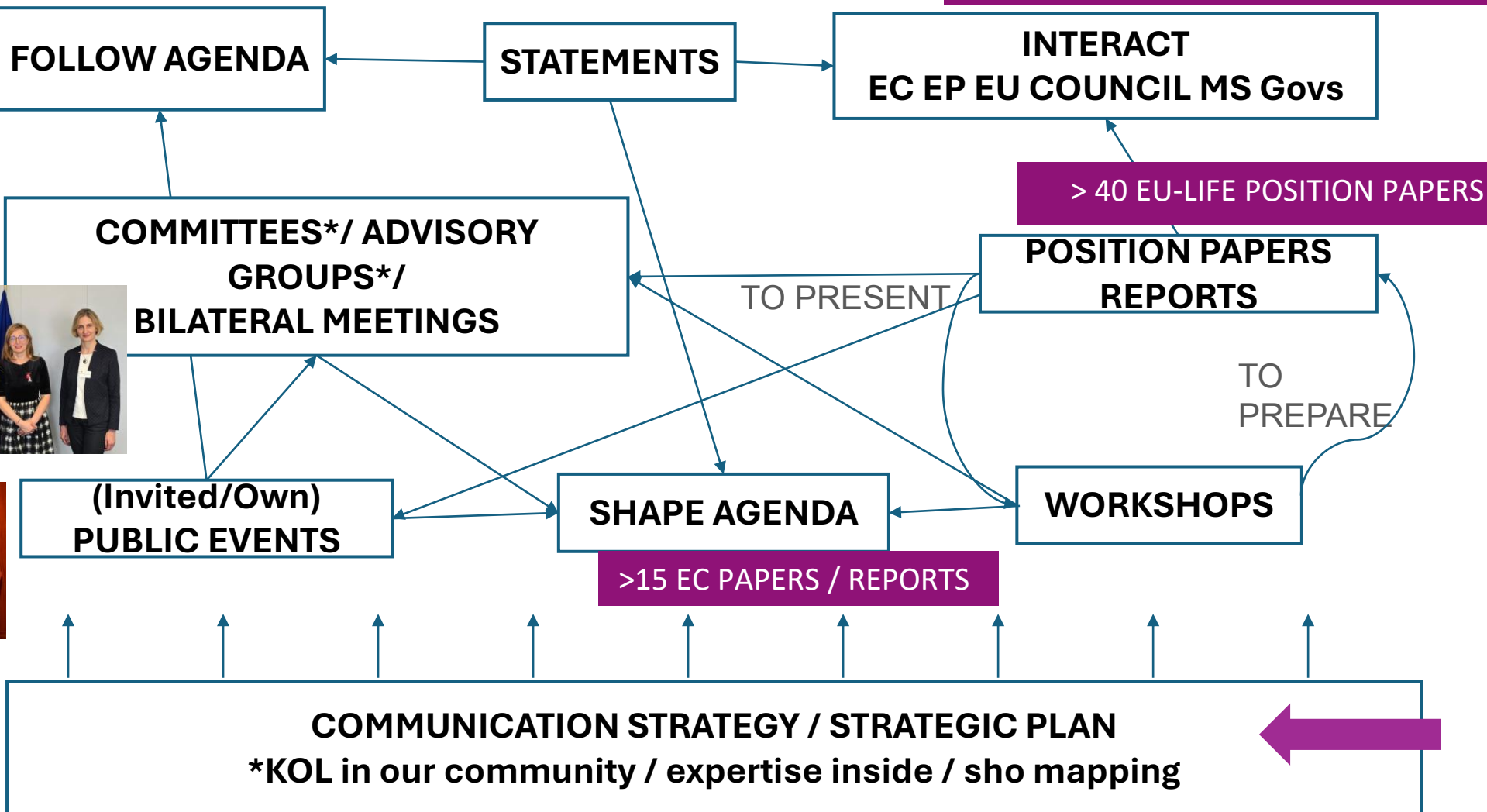


REPUTATION | REGULAR PRESENCE | INFLUENCE POLICIES

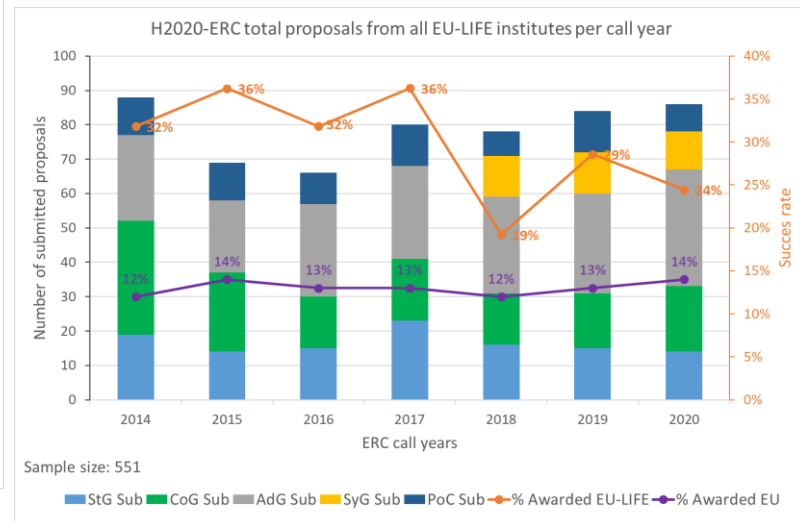
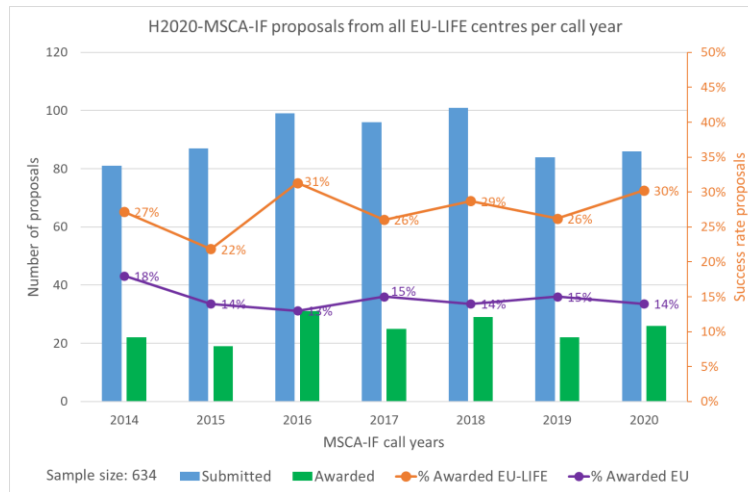
EU-LIFE

Roadmap FP10

EU-LIFE institutes for MS



- EU-LIFE success rate in H2020 almost doubled average in key schemes

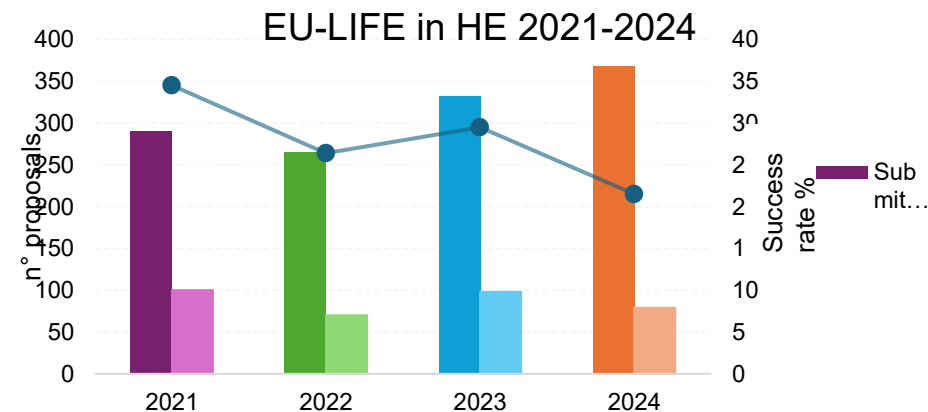


On average, EU-LIFE alliance performs better than the entire EU (+associated countries) across most funding schemes

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Submitted	290	265	332	368
Awarded	100	70	98	79
SR (%)	34.5	26.4	29.5	21.2



2024 with the lowest SR – most submitted proposals
 2021 with the highest SR – most awarded proposals
 SR = success rate



- Extreme competition for funding – practically below viability
 - Institutions and researchers must keep changing their strategies to match the funds
 - High selection: need to be strategic to thrive in so harsh environment
 - Too short funding cycles: too short strategic science
- Bureaucratic
 - Constant reporting and evaluation
 - Different or even conflicting international and national regulations, lack of harmonisation among funding bodies
- Attracting and retaining talent
 - Scientific, technology transfer, impact assessment, funding strategists, education, public engagement, etc.
 - Change in research culture & governance
- Remaining gaps in funding : synergies between national/regional and European level

Scientific Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ambition• Quality & Impact – what does that mean?• Prioritization	Mission & strategic planning institution <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic approach to funding• Prioritization• Become involved in policy
Internal capacity & expertise on transversal areas <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aim for the added value• Investment• Talent retention – career progression	Local regional national landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategy & Consistency• Investment• Fill the gaps (e.g. ERCs)



Thank you and stay tuned!



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