

EUROBRIDGE-Ukraine

HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-06

Research Capacity Building Programme on Cancer **with** and **for** Ukraine

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Call Overview

EU MISSION **Beating Cancer Plan**

The EU's flagship initiative launched in 2021 with a €4 billion budget aims to reverse the cancer burden across Europe. This cross-cutting approach focuses on reducing inequalities, driving digital transformation, and accelerating research outcomes through four key pillars (Prevention; Early Detection; Diagnosis & Treatment; Quality of Life).



EU MISSION **ON CANCER: Horizon Europe 2021-2027**

The EU Mission on Cancer aims to improve the lives of 3 million people by 2030 through prevention, cure, and survivorship support. As part of the Horizon Europe Missions Programme, it unites research, innovation, and policy to deepen understanding of cancer biology and risk factors, accelerating breakthroughs in cancer care across Europe.

HORIZON-MISS-2026 Call Scope

Research capacity-building programme

Between EU Member States / Associated Countries and Ukraine

Support Ukraine to develop or further improve

Research and innovation-related capacities of Cancer Infrastructures

Researchers & clinicians

Access to improved research capacities supporting better integration with care

Patients & citizens

Access to improved screening, diagnostics and treatments — increased participation in clinical trials

Cancer Research and Care in Ukraine: Pre-war Context

**Even before the conflict, the cancer research
and care system in Ukraine faced the following limitations**

Chronic underinvestment in health care and oncology care oncology services and research

Health outcomes below the European average

Structural gaps and variability across the cancer care continuum

Ukraine for Europe

For the European Union, welcoming and supporting Ukraine is not only a geopolitical or humanitarian duty, but a unique **opportunity to learn about and develop models of resilience, digitalization, and flexible logistics, that Ukraine learned for necessity.**

Project Overview



The Project aims to design, implement and evaluate a tailored, multilevel **Research Capacity Building Programme (CBP) in oncology.**

Developed **with and for Ukraine, in close collaboration with EU Member States, Associated Countries and relevant Ukraine stakeholders.**

Aligned with the **EU Cancer Plan and with other European post-conflict recovery and rebuilding initiatives.**

CCI4EU Deep Dive Pilots — Proven Capacity Building at Scale

CCI4EU

10

Deep Dives

across EU & associated countries

95

Experts

mobilised, 22 days each

€350k

per site

average consultancy investment

+15

avg. ΔML

maturity level gain per CCI

Deep Dive sites:

Estonia

Croatia

Slovakia

Spain
(Basque)

Romania

Czechia

Italy
(Piedmont)

France

Portugal

Ireland

The 3-visit Deep Dive model:

Visit 1 Detailed diagnosis

Situational analysis of the CCI against 8 themes via the Maturity Model Tool

Visit 2 Intervention design

Expert team designs the step-change improvement with local coordinators

Visit 3 Follow-up & report

Site reports back, gains focused expert advice; interim & final reports produced

IEPOR & OECI: A Partnership Built on 30 Years of Shared History



Why IEPOR as Ukrainian Co-Leader?

- 1979** **Parallel foundations**
OECI founded in Vienna. **IEPOR*** launches Experimental Oncology journal. Both committed to pan-European cancer science from day one.
- 1994** **OECI Associate Member**
IEPOR becomes OECI Associate Member — one of the earliest Ukrainian institutions to join the European cancer network.
- 2022–** **OECI Ukraine initiative**
OECI dedicates own resources to support Ukrainian oncology.
- 2026** **EUROBRIDGE**
IEPOR selected as Ukrainian partner in EUROBRIDGE-Ukraine (HORIZON-MISS-2026).

IEPOR's 5 pillars of co-leadership

- National research coordinator**
Mandated by **NASU**** to coordinate translational oncology R&I across Ukraine - the institutional bridge between science and clinical practice.
- OECI-aligned infrastructure since 1994**
30+ years inside the OECI network - the only Ukrainian institution with a long-standing A&D-aligned quality culture.
- National Tumour Cell Lines Bank**
Unique national repository of human & animal tumour cell lines.
- PhD & DocSci education hub**
Accredited for training oncologists and researchers (Biology & Medicine).
- Publishing & knowledge dissemination**
Experimental Oncology journal since 1979 — scientific communication infrastructure.

***IEPOR**: refers to the R.E. Kavetsky Institute of Experimental Pathology, Oncology and Radiobiology

****NASU**: National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

Multilevel Capacity Building Programme Structure



THREE COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMMES — INDEPENDENT BUT COORDINATED — WITH PLENARY SYNERGY MEETINGS

MACRO

Authorities

MESO

Cancer Institutes & networks

MICRO

People

Areas of Intervention



Strengthening Research

1. Develop joint research training programmes, including online and distance-learning modules.
2. Enhance skills of researchers, clinicians, and healthcare professionals in cancer research and innovation



Linking Stakeholders

1. Implement twinning activities between EU and Ukrainian institutions.
2. Support staff exchanges, joint research projects, and access to advanced research services



Evaluation of impact

Assess the extent to which the programme strengthens cancer research capacity in Ukraine through improved skills, institutional capabilities, collaborative research activities



Research & Education



Data Collection & Digital Capacity



Outcomes Evaluation

Alignment to the call



Digital Transformation

1. Improve cancer data collection, exchange, interoperability, and governance.
2. Support the development and strengthening of digital infrastructures

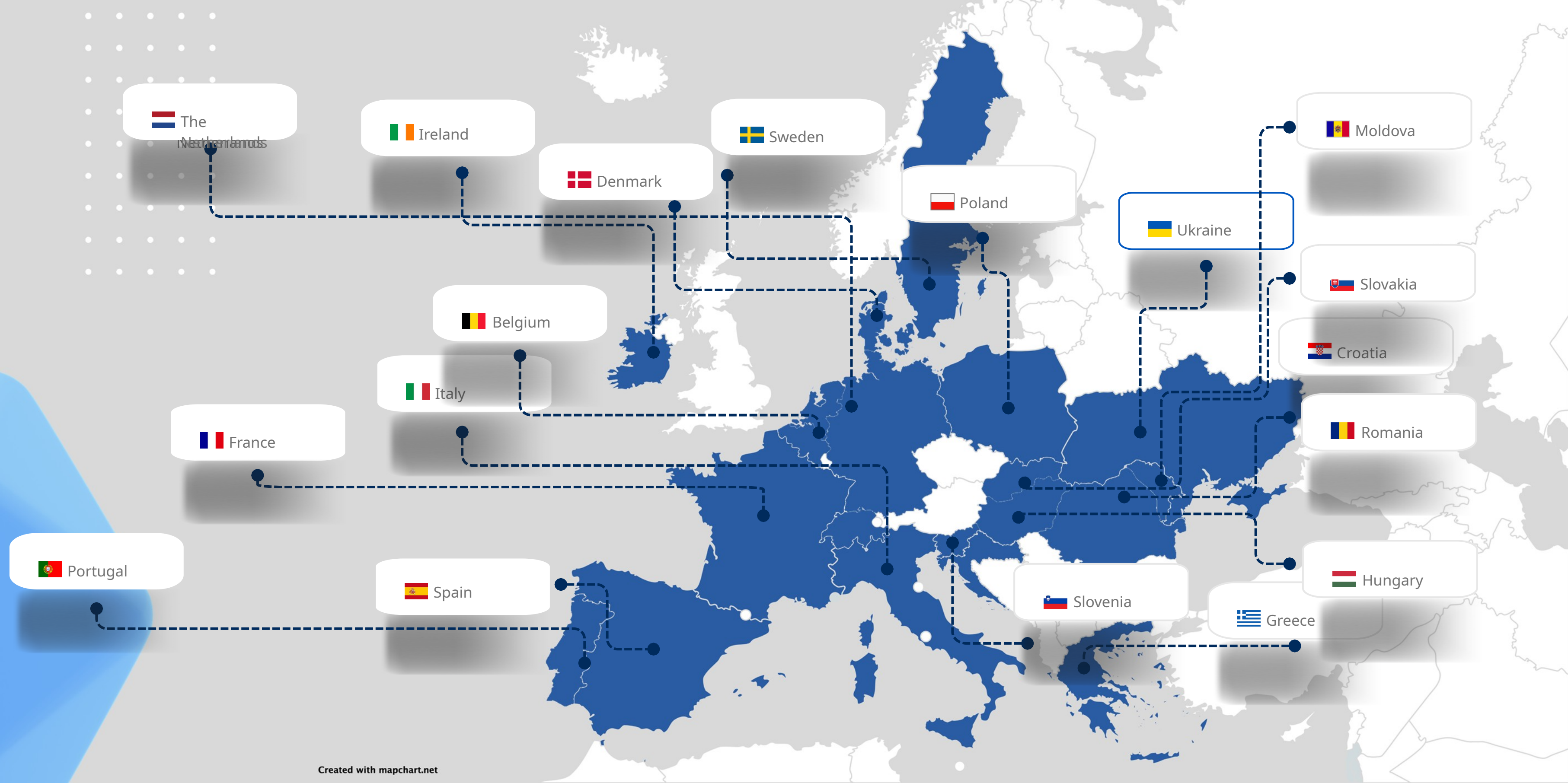


Alignment with the call specific needs

1. Translate research findings into better clinical practice and patient outcomes.
2. Give special attention to cancers affecting children, adolescents, and young adults

EUROBRIDGE

CANCER CENTRES, PATIENT ASSOCIATIONS AND EUROPEAN/INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



Next steps: finalising the proposal

The consortium is now working on the proposal and aim to submit for the established deadline in September. All are welcome to create synergies and coordinate with our consortium.

The goal is to support our Ukrainian partners and colleagues

**We welcome all opportunities to collaborate.
Come and meet us to discover how we can work together.**

EUROBRIDGE-Ukraine

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR ATTENTION

