DIGITAL Europe Programme

Policy overview

IT Call 10 Information Session

Vanessa LIAKOPOULOU,
DG CONNECT.R5
Programme Implementation

EC Digital Policy Priorities

#DigitalEUProgramme

European Commission

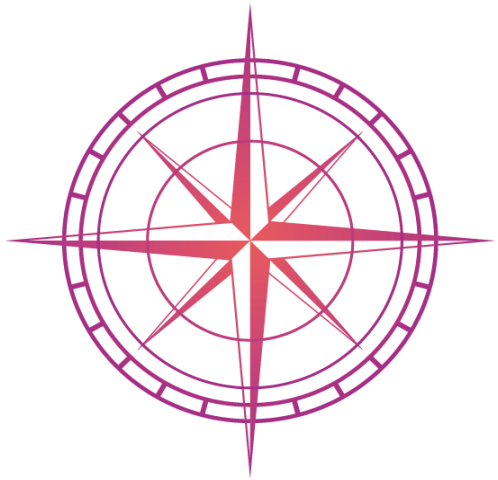
EU's Digital Decade: Goals for 2030s

Skills

ICT Specialists: 20 millions + Gender convergence
Basic Digital Skills: min 80% of population

Public Services

Key Public Services: 100% online
e-Health: 100% availability medical records
Digital Identity: 80% citizens using digital ID



Business

Tech up-take: 75% of EU companies using Cloud/AI/Big Data
Innovators: grow scale ups & finance to double EU Unicorns
Late adopters: more than 90% of European SMEs reach at least a basic level of digital intensity

Infrastructures

Connectivity: Gigabit for everyone, 5G everywhere
Cutting edge Semiconductors: double EU share in global production
Data, Edge & Cloud: 10,000 climate neutral highly secure edge nodes
Computing: first computer with quantum acceleration

European Commission

EC 2024-2029 | Recent digital deliverables

Invest AI Initiative to
MOBILISE €200BN INVESTMENT IN **AI**

Competitiveness Compass
ROADMAP TO BOOST EUROPE'S **ECONOMIC GROWTH**

Proposal for revised
CYBER SECURITY ACT

Proposals for
DIGITAL OMNIBUS & AI OMNIBUS + DATA UNION STRATEGY

Proposal for
EUROPEAN **BUSINESS WALLETS**

Communication
APPLY AI SECTORAL STRATEGY

Action Plan
DRONE & COUNTER DRONE SECURITY

Action Plan
AGAINST CYBERBULLYING

Proposal for
DIGITAL NETWORKS ACT (DNA)

European Action Plan
CYBERSECURITY IN THE **HEALTHCARE** SECTOR

AI CONTINENT ACTION PLAN
to advance AI Technology and Innovation in Europe

Joint Communication
SECURITY OF **SUBMARINE CABLES**

Joint Communication
INTERNATIONAL **DIGITAL STRATEGY**

Competitiveness and connectivity

Digital Decade

- Digital Decade Policy Programme
- Targets & objectives 2030
- Digital Rights & Principles
- Monitoring & assessment - annual report (June)

AI Continent

- AI Continent Action Plan
- Sectoral adoption: Apply AI Strategy
- AI infrastructure: AI Factories & AI Gigafactories
- Skills

Connectivity

- **Digital Networks Act** (Jan 2026) update electronic communications code + spectrum management. Help boost secure high-speed fixed and wireless broadband. Incentivise and encourage investments in digital infrastructure
- **Gigabit Infrastructure Act** – making deployment of Gigabit networks faster & cheaper, simplifying roll-out & procedures, including digitalisation of permits

Competitiveness Compass + Industrial strategy

Sovereignty

- Create EU-native security of supply of key technologies for EU competitiveness:
  - AI (Apply AI + infrastructure)
  - Semiconductors
  - Cloud
  - Quantum
  - Data

- Protect EU digital infrastructure from cyber(attacks)
- Create better investment climate and **simplified** legal framework so EU business can compete globally.
- EU ability to chart own course, with own values, on tech regulation.
- European economic security strategy (updated framework 8th June 2026)

→ Tech sovereignty package 3rd May 2026

A European AI is essential for our future independence

SOTEU, 2025

AI semiconductors

Chips Act (2023)

- strengthen research and technology leadership
- capacity to innovate in design, manufacturing and packaging for advanced chips
- increase substantially production capacity by 2030
- address acute skills shortage
- in-depth understanding of global semiconductor supply chains

Chips Act 2 (Q2 2026)

- Consolidate & advance key EU strengths (short term)

- Reduce and manage dependencies (medium term)
  - Generate demand for manufacturing capacity (new MFF)
  - Increase manufacturing capacity
  - International cooperation

Cloud & AI Development

EU-wide Cloud and AI Development Act (CADA)

- define research, development and innovation objectives for future of data centre, cloud and AI technologies
- support tripling of Europe's data centre capacity over next 5-7 years by accelerating deployment of sustainable data centres
- set right conditions to enable emergence of truly sovereign cloud and AI ecosystem in Europe (public procurement)

EU wide Cloud policy for public administrations and public procurement

- assist Member States' implementation of CADA by providing non-binding ready-to-use tender specifications and award criteria

Cybersecurity

Cyber Resilience Act

Harmonized cybersecurity requirements for products with digital components + duty of care lifetime of products

Cyber Solidarity Act

Common EU detection & awareness + preparedness & response capabilities major incidents - Cyber Shield + Cyber Emergency Mechanism

Network and Information Security (NIS2)

EU cybersecurity risk management measures & incident reporting obligations

Cybersecurity Act

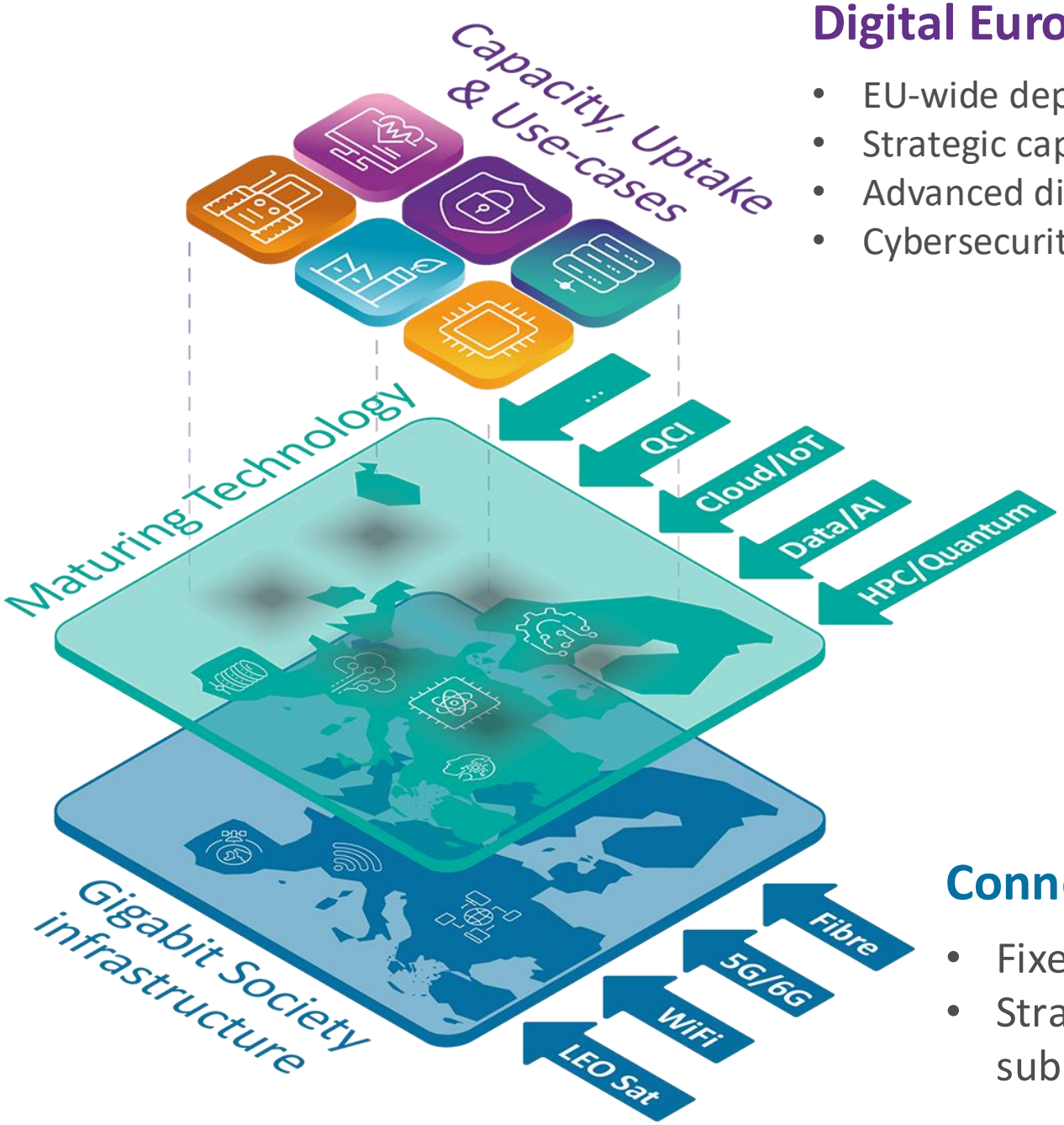
Basis for future European cybersecurity certification schemes for 'managed security services'

Review (Jan 2026)
Strengthen EU's resilience against rising cyber threats

Action Plan on Drone and Counter-Drone Security (Mar 2026)

United EU approach against threats posed by malicious drones

EU FUNDING



Digital Europe Programme (EUR 8.1 bn)

- EU-wide deployment
- Strategic capacities in AI, cloud and data, chips
- Advanced digital skills
- Cybersecurity

Creative Europe (EUR 2.4 bn)

- MEDIA strand (supports film/TV/games)
- Cross-sectoral strand (incl. news media)

Horizon Europe (EUR 33 bn for digital)

- Preparing/maturing technology & progress (AI/Quantum…)
- By-design regulatory compliance (e.g. privacy friendly, unbiased AI)
- Leading & best in-class (e.g. strategic open autonomy, quantum)

Connecting Europe Facility (EUR 2 bn)

- Fixed + wireless connectivity
- Strategic backbones, including submarine cables

European Commission

DIGITAL Work Programme 2025-27

#DigitalEUProgramme

European Commission

The DIGITAL Europe Programme

Ensure that Europe drives the digital transformation of society and economy, bringing benefits to all citizens and businesses

Compete globally

Other regions of the world invest huge amount of public capital in advanced technologies. For example, the US and China spend € 10-20 billion annually on AI alone

Achieve scale through collective co-investments

Given the size of investments needed, scale required and risks involved Europe needs to pool the resources together

Regain control over Europe's value chains

and ensure Europe's technological sovereignty

Better address Europe's economic and societal challenges

Climate, health, mobility, ..

Ensure broad take-up of digital technologies across all regions of EU

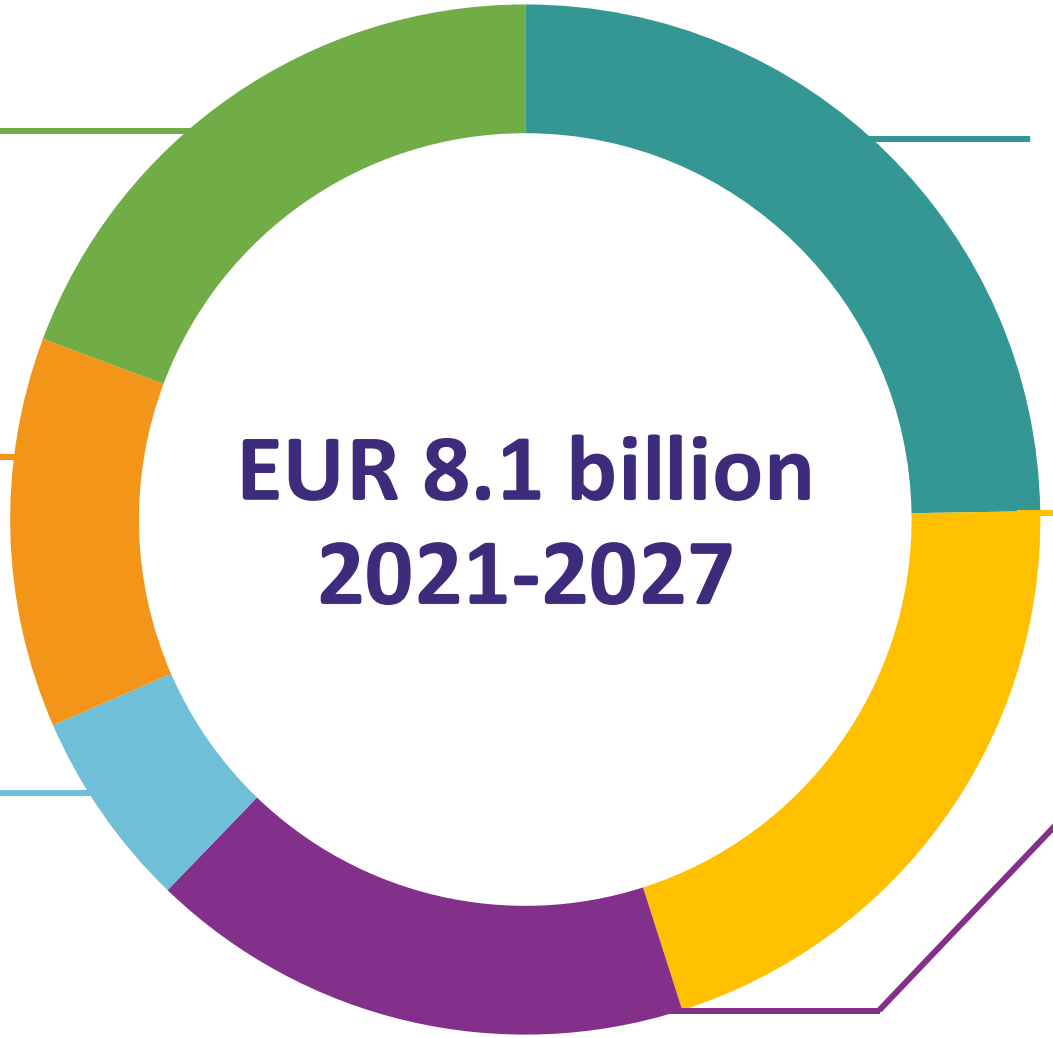
In deploying latest technologies to offer best services to citizens and business

Support SMEs to acquire or access the latest technologies and skills

More than 400,000 EU vacancies in these fields

European Commission

Digital Europe Programme: 2021-2027



EUR 1.57 billion
SO6 Semiconductors
Chips Joint Undertaking

EUR 2 billion
SO1 High-Performance Computing
EuroHPC Joint Undertaking

EUR 1 billion
SO5 Deployment and Best Use of Digital Capacities and Interoperability

EUR 1.66 billion
SO2 Artificial Intelligence

EUR 0.5 billion
SO4 Advanced Digital Skills

EUR 1.4 billion
SO3 Cybersecurity and Trust
ECCC

European Commission

1 HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

Key achievements

- Three supercomputers are in the top 10 of the fastest in the world
- JUPITER, **Europe's first exascale supercomputer**, operational end of 2024 among the fastest and greenest HPC systems in the world
- 19 **AI Factories** launched

WP 2025 -2027

- Establishment of AI Factories
- Quantum Computing
- National HPC Competence Centres

These actions are managed by the EuroHPC JU.

- For High Performance Computing check all work programmes and amendments

European Commission

2 AI, DATA & CLOUD

Key achievements

- Four **AI Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs)** offering testing and validation services to AI innovators
- **Common European Data Spaces** in seven sectors/areas, enhancing data availability for businesses and researchers across the EU, supporting the development of AI and boosting innovation

WP 2025 -2027

- Data spaces (cultural heritage, tourism, skills, manufacturing, public procurement, health, agri-food)
- Support for data
- Cloud-to-edge (e.g., Simpl)
- Apply AI (GenAI TEFs, GenAI for public administrations, Virtual Worlds test beds)
- Apply AI in health (AI-based medical imaging and image screening, virtual human twins)

European Commission

3 CYBERSECURITY & TRUST

Key achievements

- **27 national Cybersecurity Coordination Centres** and **26 national and cross-border CyberHubs**
  - Providing access to technological expertise
  - Ensuring cross-border cooperation
  - Strengthening coordinated EU detection capacities and common situational awareness of cyber threats and incidents

WP 2025 -2027

- EU Cybersecurity reserve
- Cyber Resilience Act reporting platform
- Cyber Situation and Analysis Centre

Most actions for cybersecurity are managed by the ECCC and are covered by a separate WP (published on 28 March).

The main WP only covers actions which are implemented by ENISA.

European Commission

4 ADVANCED DIGITAL SKILLS

Key achievements

- **Over 20,000 participants in educational and training programmes** in highly specialized fields, like AI, robotics, cybersecurity, or quantum
- **Initiatives for key sectors and specific target groups**
  - Skills for cybersecurity, semiconductors and HPC
  - Supporting girls and women in digital

WP 2025 -2027

- Sectoral digital skills academies
- Excellence in higher education and training programmes in key digital areas and applied technologies
- European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies
- Digital Skills and Jobs Platform
- Other: e.g. EU Code Week, Girls and Women in Digital, European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions

European Commission

5 ACCELERATING THE BEST USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Key achievements

- **European Digital Identity Wallet:** Large-scale pilot projects involving over 500 organisations across 20 key use-cases
- Network of **Safer Internet Centres** established
- Over 2,900 reusable interoperability solutions provided on the **Interoperable Europe Portal** and courses for civil servants available on the Interoperable Europe Academy
- Over 230 consumer protection inspectors across the EU are benefitting from *eLab*, an IT tool helping to identify **misleading discounts, fake reviews and other dark patterns**.

WP 2025 -2027

- **Deployment of public services**
  - European Digital Government Ecosystem: eID, Once Only Technical System, eProcurement and eInvoicing
  - Interoperable Europe
  - Justice and Consumers
  - Building capacity to deploy the EEHRxF and digital health services
  - European Cybersecurity Support Centre for hospitals and healthcare providers
- **Confidence in the digital transformation**
  - Safer Internet
  - European Digital Media Observatory and European network of fact-checkers
  - Situational Awareness and Operational Centre
- **Programme Support Actions**

European Commission

6 SEMICONDUCTORS

Key achievements

- **5 Pilot Lines for Chips:** state-of-the-art facilities to test, experiment, and validate chips technologies and designs to form the basis for Europe's next generation of semiconductor production
- 30 Competence Centers set up to enhance technical expertise and develop a skilled workforce for the semiconductor sector

WP 2025 -2027

- Financial instrument for the support of:
  - Semiconductor technologies and solutions for development and production of microelectronics and photonics components and systems
  - Development, production and commercialization of new semiconductor chips for digital applications

European Commission

EUROPEAN DIGITAL INNOVATION HUBS

Key achievements

- **169 European Digital Innovation Hubs,** available in 90% of the European regions and seven associated countries, serving public and private organisations, in particular SMEs

- **Services:**
  - Test before invest
  - Innovation ecosystem
  - Digital skills
  - Access to finance services

WP 2025 -2027

- Completion and consolidation of the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) and focusing its activities on **supporting AI technologies and AI ecosystem** in Europe

European Commission

DIGITAL so far (2026)

10

Waves of calls

40+

Individual calls

150+

Individual topics

EUR

4.39 B

invested through grants

EUR

~208.6 M

committed from DEP in financial instruments

EUR

~858.7 M

committed through procurements

Italy in DIGITAL: Key statistics

Total Cost (EUR)

295,3M 6,52% of DIGITAL

EU Contribution (EUR)

195,7M 7,69% of DIGITAL

Signed Grants

183 22,85% of DIGITAL

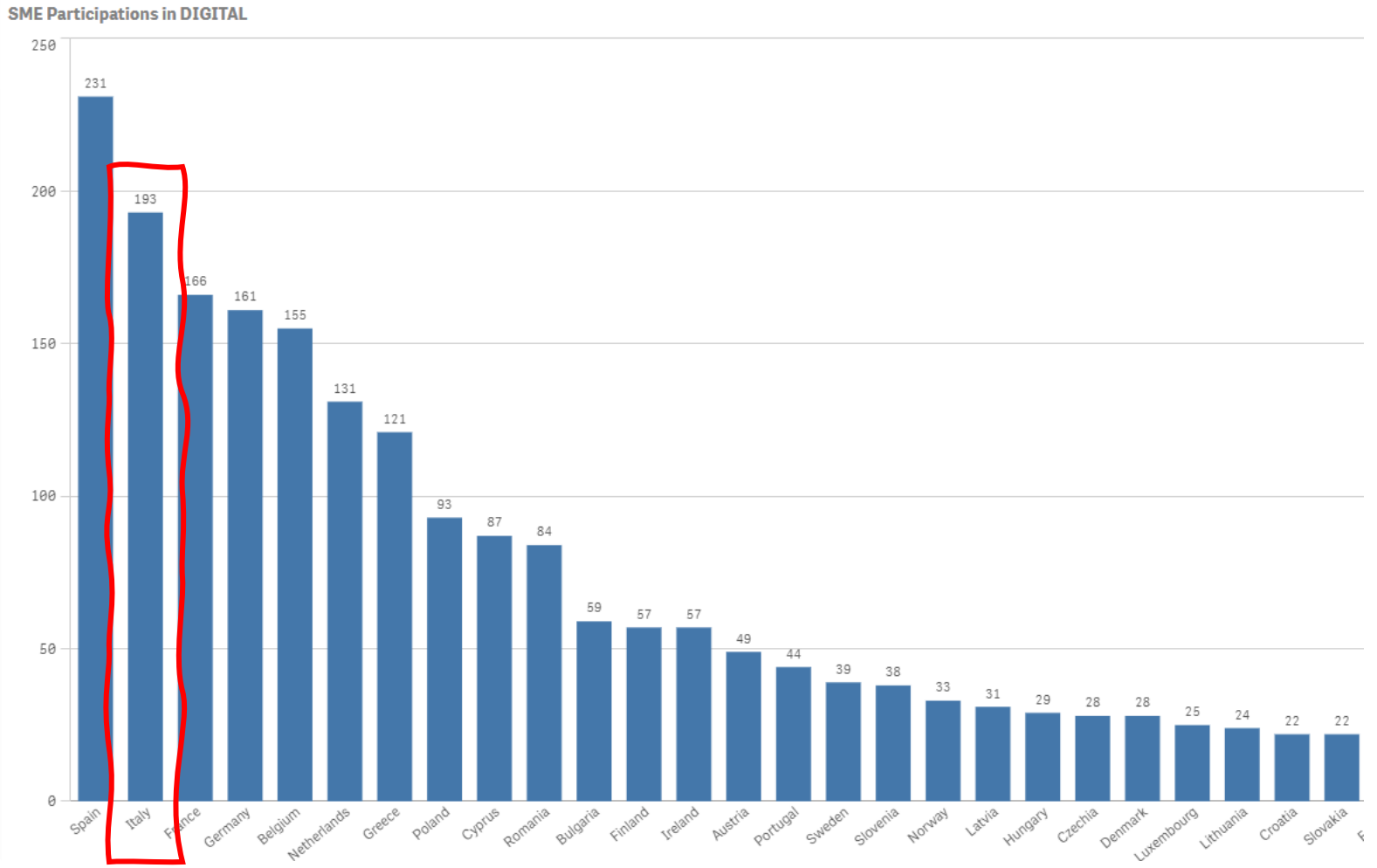
Participation

806 8,51% of DIGITAL

Unique Participants

427 8,49% of DIGITAL

SMEs



Source: [DIGITAL Dashboard]

DIGITAL Call 10 – Overview of calls

Call ID	Topic ID	Topic title	Type of grant	Budget (Meuro)	Restr (12.6)
DIGITAL-2026-AI-PILOTING-10 (AI Continent)	DIGITAL-2026-AI-PILOTING-10-SCREENING	Piloting AI-based image screening in medical centres	SG	9.0	Y
DIGITAL-2026-AI-DATA-10 (AI Continent)	DIGITAL-2026-AI-DATA-10-COMPLIANCE	Digital solutions for regulatory compliance through data	LS	8.5	N
DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-10 (HaDEA) (Advanced Digital Skills)	DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-10-DIGITAL-HEALTH-STEP	Advanced Digital Skills for AI Uptake in Health	LS	7.8	N
	DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-10-NATIONAL-COALITIONS	Digital Skills and Jobs Platform	CSA	2.0	N
	DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-10-EDTECH	EdTech Accelerator	CSA	2.7	N
DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-10 (HaDEA) (Accelerating the Best Use of Technologies)	DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-10-NETWORKSICS	Network of Safer Internet Centres (SICs)	SG	10.0	N
	DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-10-EHDS	Building capacity to deploy the EEHRxF and digital health services	GFS	14.4	N
DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-RSF-10 (Accelerating the Best Use of Technologies)	DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-RSF-10-AWARENESS	Situational awareness on information integrity	GFS	6.0	N
DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-MCP-10 (Accelerating the Best Use of Technologies)	DIGITAL-2026-BESTUSE-MCP-10-EDIC	EDIC Support Hubs	CSA	1.0	N
DIGITAL-2026-SUPPORT-10 (Programme Support Actions)	DIGITAL-2026-SUPPORT-10-DISSEMINATION	Support to Dissemination and Exploitation (D&E)	CSA	1.8	N

Call 10 Timeline

European Commission

What comes next?

#DigitalEUProgramme

European Commission

Commission proposal for the next MFF

(July 2025 package)

A modern budget fit for our ambitions

Next Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034
reinforced, focused, simpler, impactful

European Competitiveness Fund

- part of MFF & Competitiveness Compass
- investment capacity supporting strategic technologies & manufacturing, critical to European competitiveness, including R&I, and IPCEIs
- help leverage and de-risk private investments

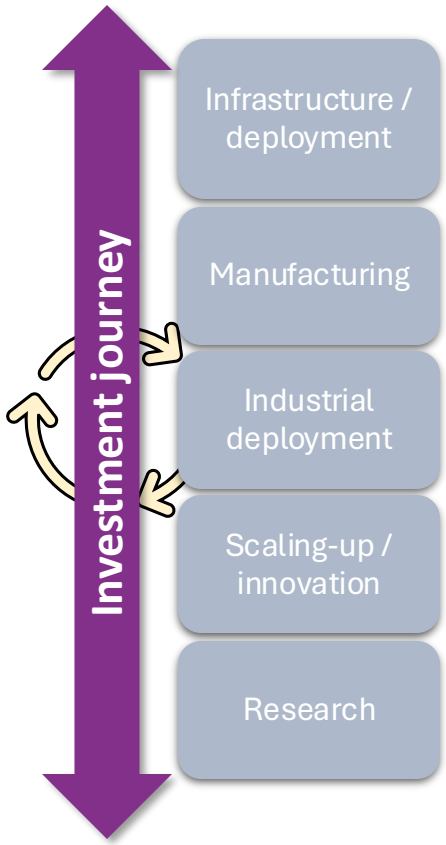
InvestEU Facility

- announced by President von der Leyen (Paris, February 2025) to mobilise €200bn investment in AI

Horizon Europe 2028-2034

- Double the current budget distributed across 4 pillars
- Capacity to develop ‘moonshot projects’

ECF window structure and budget



EUR 234.3 bn

COMPETITIVENESS FUND

Clean transition & industrial decarbonisation	Health, biotech, agriculture & bioeconomy	Digital leadership	Resilience and security, defence industry & space
ECF [EUR 26.2 bn]	ECF [EUR 20.4 bn]	ECF [EUR 51.5 bn]	ECF [EUR 125.2 bn]
Horizon [EUR 25.3 bn]	Horizon [EUR 19.6 bn]	Horizon [EUR 16.8 bn]	Horizon [EUR 6.4 bn]

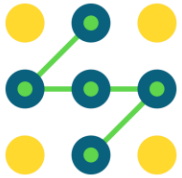
Key features

SCALE

Pulling together **investment power of € 451 billion** at EU level for our industrial leadership in strategic sectors.

IMPACT

To deliver one powerful financial toolbox to leverage and mobilise private investment.



SEAMLESS INVESTMENT JOURNEY

To fund entire investment journey from research to scale up, and global manufacturing.

SINGLE RULEBOOK

To simplify rules and make funds get faster to applicants.

POLICY COHERENCE

To ensure coherence between industrial and research policies.

AGILITY

To react quickly to new priorities.

vasiliki.liakopoulou@ec.europa.eu

Thank you!

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