



EUROPEAN UNION

EU MISSIONS

CANCER

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges

Conquering cancer – mission possible: coordination of actions in Baltic States

16 December 2021

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#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionCancer





EU Missions

A mission is a portfolio of actions across disciplines intended to achieve a **bold, inspirational and measurable goal** within a set timeframe, with **impact** for society and policy making as well as relevance for a significant part of the European population and wide range of European citizens.

Missions will directly support other EU priorities such as the:

- European Green Deal
- New European Bauhaus
- Europe fit for the Digital Age
- **Europe's Beating Cancer Plan**
- EU's Long-term Vision for Rural Areas



Five Missions

Adaptation to
Climate Change



Cancer



Climate-neutral
and Smart Cities



Restore our
Ocean and Waters



Soil Deal
for Europe





Mission on Cancer

Challenges

- **2.7 million people** in the EU a **diagnosed** each year
- **1.3 million people die** from cancer each year (this no. will increase)
- **Total cost of cancer** in Europe in 2018: €199 billion

Four Mission objectives

1. Understanding of cancer
2. Prevention & early detection
3. Diagnosis and treatment
4. Quality of life

Concrete actions

- Horizon Europe to provide €378.2 million (2021-23)
- A strategic R&I agenda
- UNCAN.eu platform (2023)
- Cancer Patient Digital Centre (2023)
- Network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (2025)

GOAL

Improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030, through prevention, cure and for those affected by cancer including their families, to live longer and better, jointly with the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan



Actions : understand

- Establish the 'UNCAN.eu' platform
- Better understand healthy versus cancer cells at individual and population level
- Better understand cancer-patient molecular, cell, organ, organismal interactions
- Determine the role of genetics in cancer



Actions: prevent

- Develop a one-stop cancer information centre on prevention
- Boost research and innovation into risk assessment
- Conduct implementation research on cancer prevention
- Establish synergies on prevention with other missions
- Optimise and improve access to existing screening programmes
- Develop new methods and technologies for screening and early detection
- Develop early predictors/tests



Actions: diagnostic and treatment

- Support the creation of a Network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures, integrating research aspects
- Develop twinning programmes for capacity-building
- Develop a clinical trial programme on diagnostics
- Develop a clinical trial programme on treatments



Actions: quality of life

- Collect and analyse data on today's unmet needs of cancer patients and survivors
- Develop early predictors for quality of life
- Design monitoring programmes for survivors of childhood cancer
- Set up of a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre



EU Missions – synergies with EU policies and initiatives

Initiatives that can help achieve the goal of the EU Mission on Cancer

- Horizon Europe partnerships
- European Cancer Information System
- Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability
- Zero Pollution Action Plan
- HealthyLifestyles4all initiative
- Strategic Agenda for Medical Ionising Radiation Applications
- Research and Training Programme (Euratom)
- Pharmaceutical Strategy

Initiatives that can act as ‘enabler’ for the EU Mission on Cancer:

- European Health Data Space
- Knowledge Centre on Cancer (KCC)
- EIT & KICs
- European Universities Initiative

Initiatives that the EU Mission of Cancer are expected to serve:

- Artificial Intelligence Agenda
- European Data Strategy
- Digital transformation and skills
- New European Bauhaus initiative

National activities



Joint governance

- **Dialogue with Member States:** a sub-group on cancer under the Steering Group on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (SGPP) follows jointly the implementation of the Cancer Plan and the Cancer Mission.
- **Dialogue with stakeholders:** a Stakeholder Contact Group under the EU Health Policy Platform as a basis for discussion and exchange.
- **EU Implementation Group:** a dedicated group to ensure that actions, policies and findings are aligned across the relevant Commission departments.



Support from Horizon Europe and other funding programmes (1)

- **Horizon Europe:** up to 10% of health cluster available to support Cancer Mission directly with a budget of minimum €378 million for 2021-2023
 - Other parts of Horizon Europe: e.g. Health Cluster, European Innovation Council; European Research Council
- **EU4Health programme 2021-2027:** will fund many initiatives outlined in the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, including activities proposed by the Cancer Mission, with €1.25 billion support until 2027.
- **Digital Europe Programme:** support of €250 million for cancer-related activities until 2027.



Support from Horizon Europe and other funding programmes (2)

- **Erasmus+ programme, Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and European Institute of Innovation and Technology** expected to provide up to a total of €500 million for projects in education, training, research on cancer and on the promotion of healthy lifestyles.
- **Technical Support Instrument:** technical expertise to support Member States in institutional, administrative, and growth-enhancing reforms
- **Cohesion Funds:** support of health investments
- **Recovery and Resilience Facility:** support of health investments



Next steps

- Outreach activities
- Dialogue with Member States and stakeholders
- Horizon Europe work programme 2021-2022 for missions
 - Adoption of first WP (16 June 2021): set of actions to lay the ground for the implementation, incl. launch of preparation of the UNCAN.eu platform
 - Adoption of first amendment (15 December 2021): additional topics
 - Second amendment under under preparation
- Selection of new Mission Boards



Reference documents

- EU Mission on Cancer
 - [Commission Communication](#) of 29 September 2021
 - [Implementation plan](#) of 29 September 2021
- [First Horizon Europe work programme for 2021-2022](#) published in June 2021, with update expected in December 2021



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Thank you!

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