



# *A NEW EUROPEAN* **INNOVATION AGENDA**

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*Research and  
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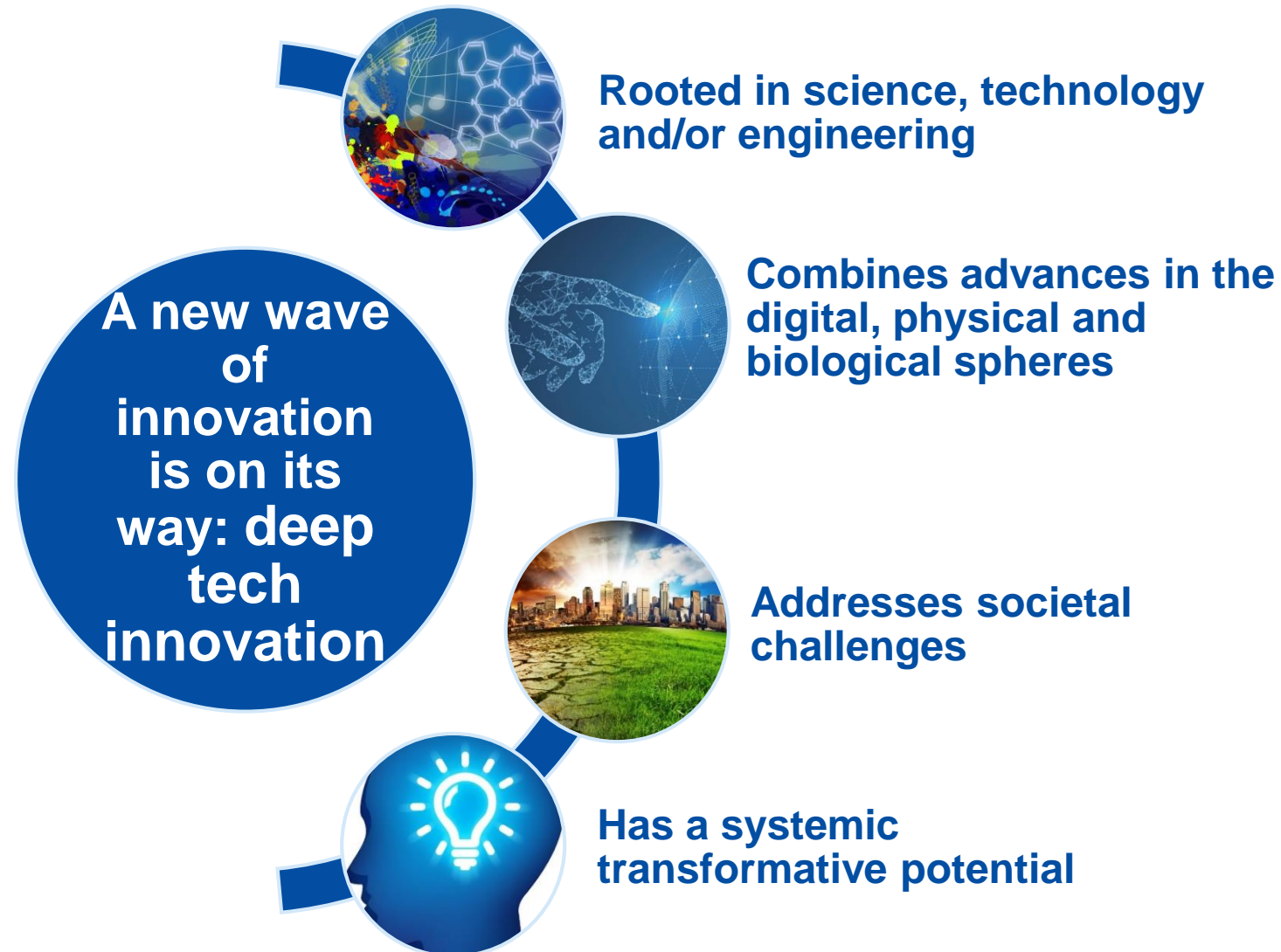
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*“The new European Innovation Agenda will ensure innovators, start-ups and scale-ups, their innovative businesses to become global innovation leaders. For more than a year we have consulted the stakeholders, such as innovation ecosystem leaders, startups, unicorns, women founders, women working in the capital venture, universities, and businesses. Together, we will make Europe the global powerhouse for deep-tech innovations and startups.”*

*Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for  
Innovation, Research, Culture, Education  
and Youth*



# New European Innovation Agenda: context



# Europe's assets

**Europe can lead the new wave of deep tech innovation based on its assets**

1. Leadership in science
2. Strong industrial base
3. Increasingly vibrant start-up ecosystem
4. Ambitious framework conditions conducive to innovation in the internal market
5. Strong talent base
6. Stable institutions and democratic societies

# Leading the new wave of deep tech innovation

Innovation and particularly deep tech innovation is an answer to



Improve Europe's competitiveness



Contribute to the green and digital transition

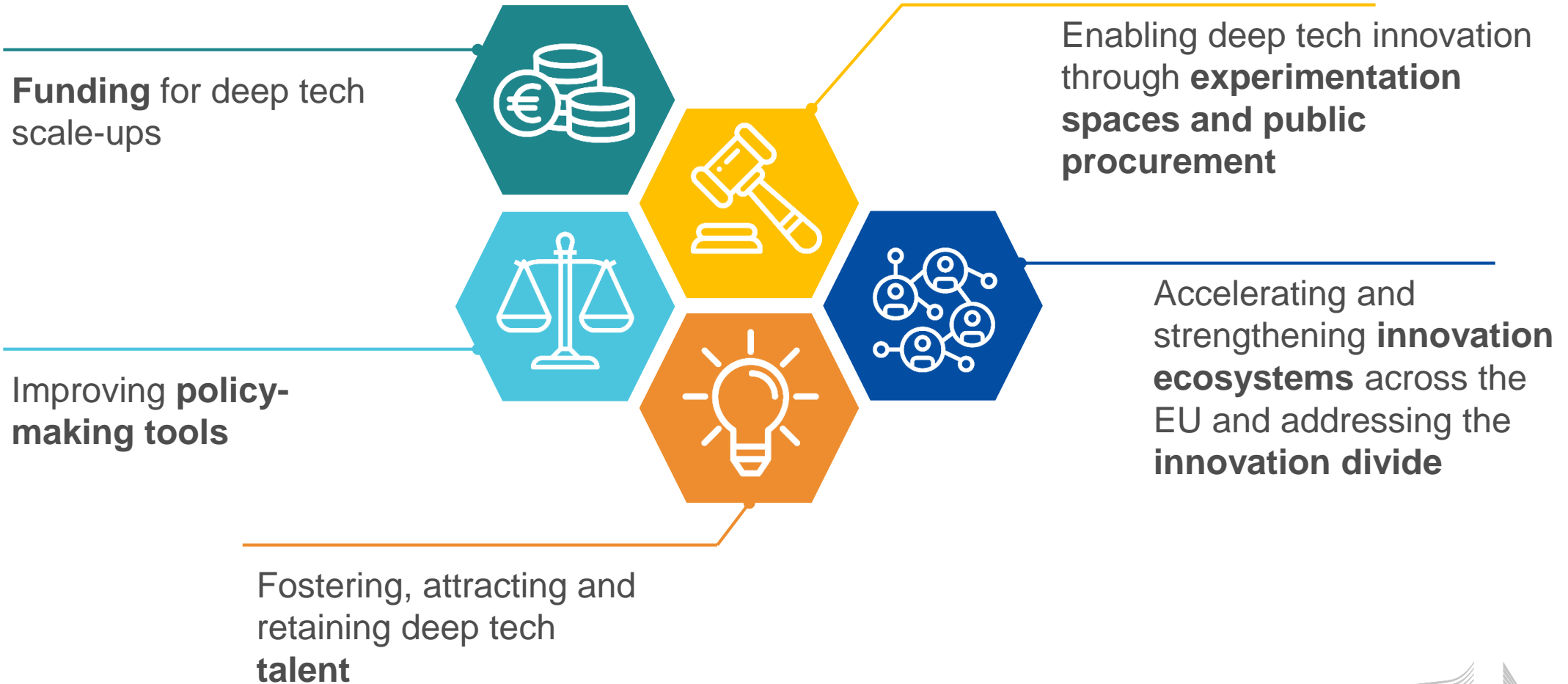


Narrow the innovation divide



Reinforce Europe's open strategic autonomy

# The five flagship areas of the NEIA



# New European Innovation Agenda – Funding for deep tech scale-ups

## Actions

1. Directive on debt-equity bias reduction allowance (DEBRA) on corporate income tax, Commission proposal – **COMPLETED, May 2022**
2. Listings Act, Commission proposal – **COMPLETED, December 2022**
3. Later stage venture capital financing:
  - Expansion of the European Scale-Up Action for Risk Capital (ESCALAR) mechanism – **ongoing**
  - EU Tech Champion Initiative - **13 Feb 2023, EIB-G + 5 MS and growing**
4. Increasing diversity:
  - EIC WP 2022 Pilot European innovation gender and diversity index
  - EIT Women2Invest Programme – **training ongoing**

# New European Innovation Agenda – Enabling deep tech innovation through experimentation spaces & public procurement

## Actions

1. Guidance document on Regulatory Sandboxes
2. Open innovation test bed in renewable Hydrogen
3. Launch Testing and Experimentation Facilities for testing AI innovation
- 4. COMPLETED** Revised State Aid Framework for Research and Development and Innovation Innovation that will allow support to RDI investments in technology infrastructures (adopted 19/10/22)
5. Launch Innovation Procurement Specialist Advisory Service
6. Innovation Friendly Regulations Advisory Group (IFRAG) – first meeting on 14 March, second on 28 April



# New European Innovation Agenda

## Accelerating & strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems & addressing the innovation divide

### Actions

1. Establish and connect regional innovation valleys – call for expression of interest opened on 28 March
2. **COMPLETED** Commission notice on synergies between Horizon Europe and European Regional Development Fund programme
3. Double the number of Hydrogen Valleys
4. Establish an ‘innospace’ – one stop shop for innovation ecosystems’ players – ongoing
5. Scale-up 100 – call for the MS to nominate companies on 1 June

# New European Innovation Agenda - Fostering, attracting & retaining talents

## Actions

1. EIT deep tech talent initiative – **LAUNCHED**, already almost 400 expressions of interest with over 500 000 learners
2. Launch innovation intern scheme
3. Launch an EU Talent Pool to help businesses, including startups, find non-EU talents – **first stage launched**
4. Women Entrepreneurship and Leadership scheme – **ongoing**
5. **Best practice exchange on startup employees' stock options** – new EIC Forum WG
6. Education and Innovation practice community – **ongoing with OECD**
7. Launch Erasmus+ Alliances for Innovation
8. Launch Digital Europe call to train experts in future-oriented fields

# New European Innovation Agenda - Improving policy making tools

## Actions

1. Report on definitions related to startups, scale-ups and deep tech innovation
  - EIE WP action to develop ***European Start-up Scoreboard***
2. Strengthen the role of the European Innovation Council Forum
  - Plenaries during the Spanish and Swedish presidencies, 6 Working Groups in 2023
3. Horizon Policy Support Facility and Technical Support Instrument



# Coalition of the Willing

Launched on 6 July 2022 with four major groups with which the European Commission worked in 2021 on the NEIA: **EU Unicorns, Innovation Ecosystem Leaders, European Women in Venture Capital and Women Founders.**

**Objective** of the Coalition is to **support and provide feedback on the implementation** of the New European Innovation Agenda actions.

<http://www.coalitionofthewilling.eu/>

2<sup>ND</sup> PART

# Regional Innovation Valleys





# Flagship on accelerating & strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems across the EU and addressing the innovation divide

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Create the basis for the emergence of connected regional innovation valleys across the EU, notably involving regions with a lower innovation performance, by building on strategic areas of regional strength and specialisation, in support of key EU priorities

A group of people's hands are shown holding together several interlocking puzzle pieces. The puzzle pieces are in various colors (yellow, blue, green, white) and are being assembled over a dark background that appears to be a city map or a globe at night, with some lights visible. The overall scene suggests collaboration and building a complex system.

# Connected regional innovation valleys



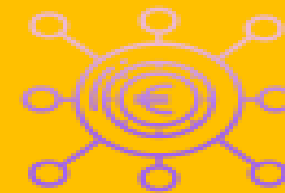
## Objective

Strong innovation ecosystems across the EU, by accelerating the development and deployment of innovation, including deep tech innovation, to address the most burning challenges facing the EU

Up to 100 regions committed to enhance coordination and directionality of their R&I investment & policies



# Connected regional innovation valleys



## Funding

EUR 100 million from Horizon Europe

EUR 70 million from the Interregional  
Innovation Investments (I3)

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- European Innovation Ecosystems call will open on 17 May 2023 & close on 17 October 2023
- Budget for 2024 will be EUR 60 million
- 50% co-fund
- Info day on 25 May 2023





# Connected regional innovation valleys



## How the project will look like

### Coordination & Support Part

Create Interconnected Ecosystems

### Innovation Action

3-4 Interregional Innovation projects on specific thematic/technological area



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- Access to cross border infrastructure and expertise
  - Exchange of staff, training and skills development
  - Developing standards and regulations through sandboxes and test beds

- Reduce reliance on fossil fuels
- Increase global food security
- Master the digital transformation (including cybersecurity)
- Improve healthcare
- Achieve circularity



What is the minimum requirement for the consortium in the EIE call?

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At least five (5) national or regional authorities, from at least five (5) different Member States or Associated Countries, of which at least two (2) are representing a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and at least one (1) is representing a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region.



Is this action only for the national and regional authorities?

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- Provision of Funding to Third Parties (FSTP) to implement the projects
- Participation of private actors, either for the joint implementation of proposed activities, and/or their possible co-funding

# Call for expression of interest to become regional innovation valleys

The call for expression of interest will help interested regions to:

- Identify relevant partners, by facilitating matchmaking and interconnections among those regions who are committed towards the same objectives
- Put forward the essential commitments to be named regional innovation valleys

**The call for expression of interest will remain open until 18 September 2023**



For more information: [Call for expression of interest for Regional Innovation Valleys is now open \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)



# Thank you! Any questions?

[The New European Innovation Agenda \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)  
[New European Innovation Agenda roadmap \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)  
[European Innovation Ecosystems \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)  
[EIC Forum \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)  
[EIC 2023 work programme \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)



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