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The Commission Proposal on
Horizon Europe 2028-2034

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Draghi, Letta and Heitor Reports - 2024

Draghi

- Move out of “mid-tech trap”
- R&I to drive sustainable growth

Letta

- ‘Fifth freedom’ – free movement of knowledge

Heitor

- Enhance alignment and focus of Horizon Europe



Mid-Term review of Horizon Europe – 4/2025

At mid-way (January 2025) **over 15,000 projects** for more than **€43 billion**.

- ✓ Every euro of EU contribution generating **up to €11 in GDP gains** by 2045
- ✓ **Lump sum grants** reducing beneficiaries' admin costs by 14% to 30%
- ✗ Only **1/3 of patents** by univ. / research centers **commercially exploited**
- ✗ **Persistent funding gap** between US and EU, especially for **scale-up**



European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) -1/2

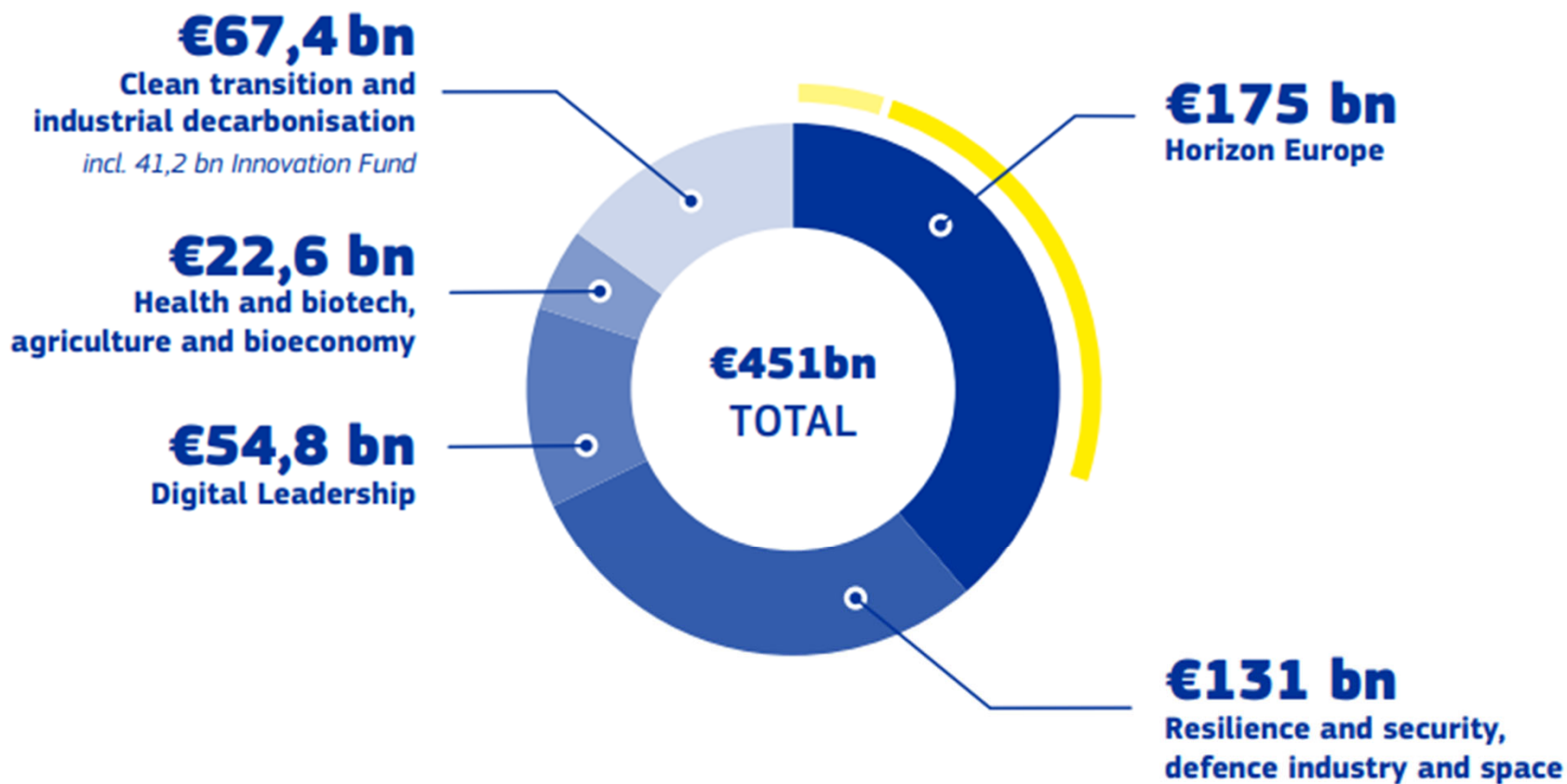
- **Enhance European competitiveness in strategic sectors**
- Consolidate funding instruments into **one comprehensive framework**
- **Budget: EUR 410 billion**

Key Objectives

- Increase technological and economic **impact** through **innovation**
- Reduce **strategic dependencies** and bolster **economic resilience**
- Attract **private investment** and **support SMEs** and **infrastructure**

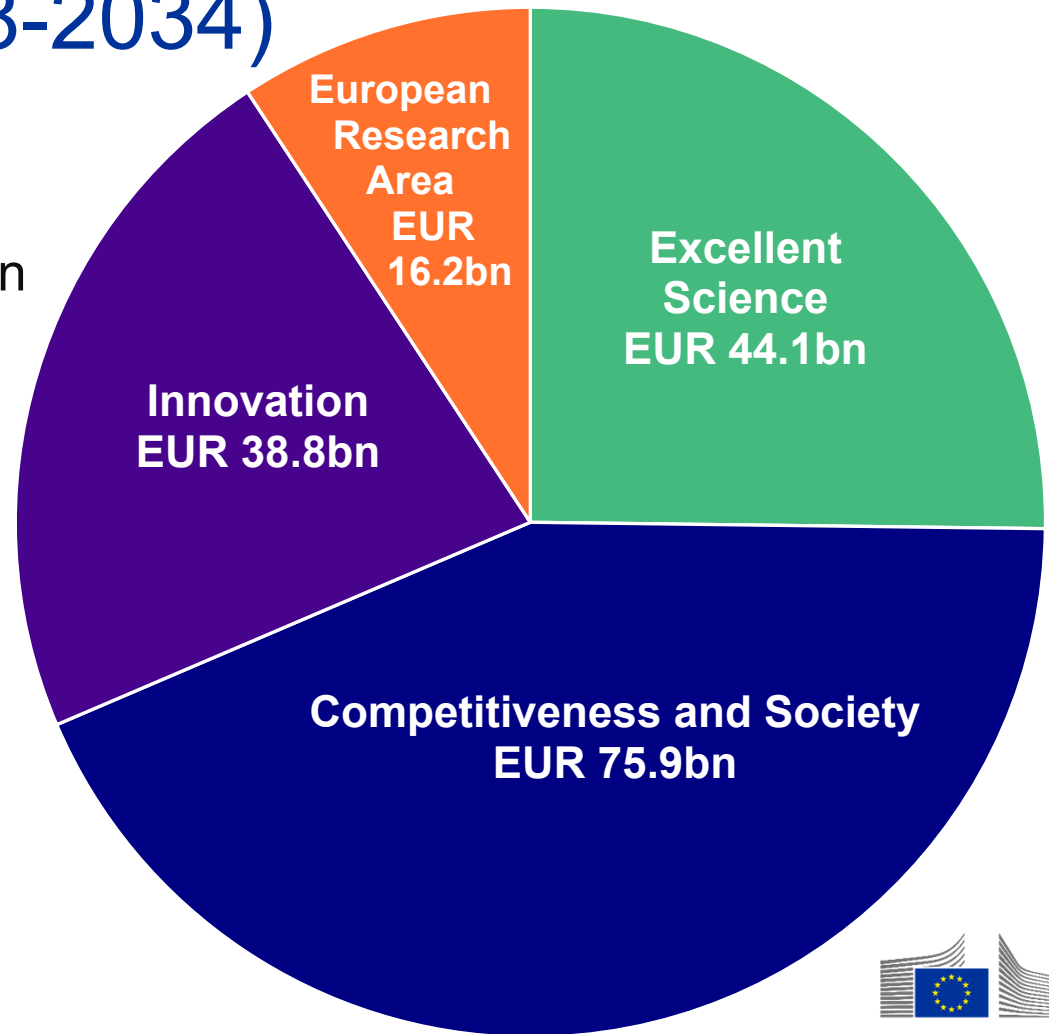


European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) -2/2



Horizon Europe (2028-2034)

- **Deeply linked with the ECF**
- Almost double budget: EUR 175bn
- Stronger European Research Council and European Innovation Council
- Simplification
- Streamlined Partnerships
- Research and Technology Infrastructures
- Dual-Use



Pillars and Policy Windows

Pillar I	Pillar II	Pillar III	Pillar IV
EXCELLENT SCIENCE	COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIETY	INNOVATION	EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA
€44.079 BILLION	€75.876 BILLION	€38.785 BILLION	€16.262 BILLION
EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL	COMPETITIVENESS¹ : 1. Clean Transition and Industrial Decarbonisation 2. Health, Biotech, Agriculture and Bioeconomy 3. Digital leadership 4. Resilience and Security, Defence Industry and Space	EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL	ERA POLICIES
MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS	SOCIETY: 1. Global societal challenges 2. EU Missions 3. New European Bauhaus Facility	INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS AND THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE	RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURES
SCIENCE FOR EU POLICIES			WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

7

¹ Consistent with activities under the European Competitiveness Fund



Simplification and Partnerships

- **Simplification** at all levels
from work programmes to reporting
- **Streamlined partnerships**
with Member States and private sector



Next Steps

- Interinstitutional negotiations between European Parliament, Council and Commission
- Timeline of next Council Presidencies:
 - 2026 – Cyprus / Ireland **Negotiation**
 - 2027 – Lithuania / Greece
 - 2028 – Italy / Latvia **Implementation**





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