

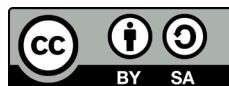
Yellow module - Session 1

Introduction to the EU funding

A brief introduction to the European subsidy landscape



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Session Content

We will answer the following questions:

- Where does the money come from?
- How is funding being set up?
- What is a programme?
- Who decides who gets the money?
- How do I get funding?



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The basics:

The EU Budget and the Multiannual Financial Framework

- The EU functions with budgetary allocations for 7 years, specifying how much money the EU member contribute and how the shared budget is spent: the **Multiannual Financial Framework – MFF**
- Most EU funded programmes follow and are scheduled for the same duration period (Framework Programme aka HORIZON EUROPE, ERDF, ERASMUS+)
- This explains why there are sometimes no calls for an extended period of time or that every 7 years some programme change their name like FP7 becoming Horizon, then Horizon Europe.



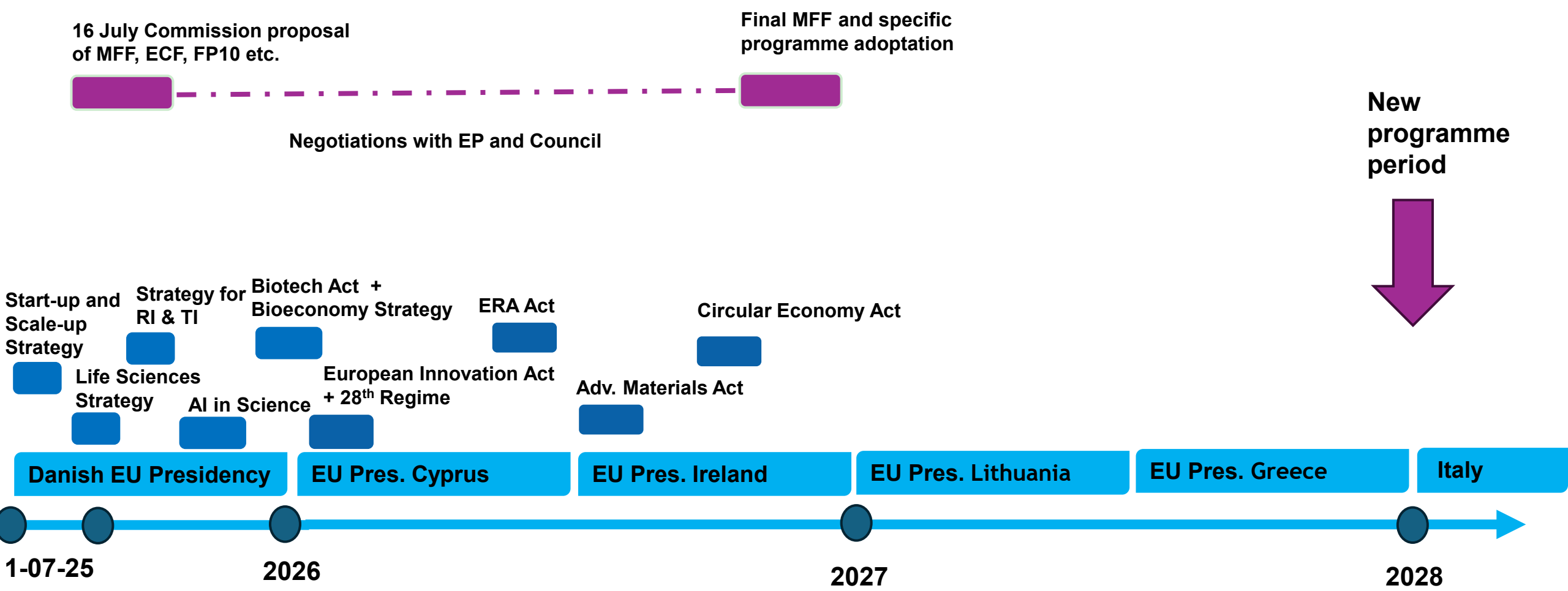
The basics:

The EU Budget and the Multiannual Financial Framework

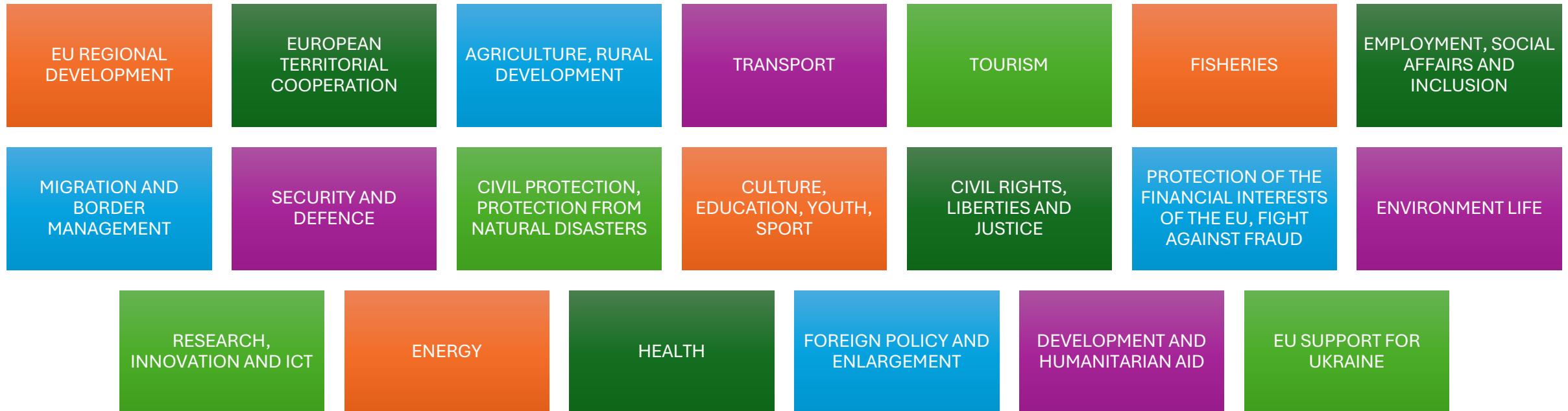
- The total MFF of the EU for 2021 to 2027 reached 1 835,30 billion €
- Funding for research or education is only a small part of the overall budget
 - Horizon Europe: €95.5 billion
 - Erasmus+: €26,2 billion

Illustrating the process and looking ahead: the MFF 2028-2034...

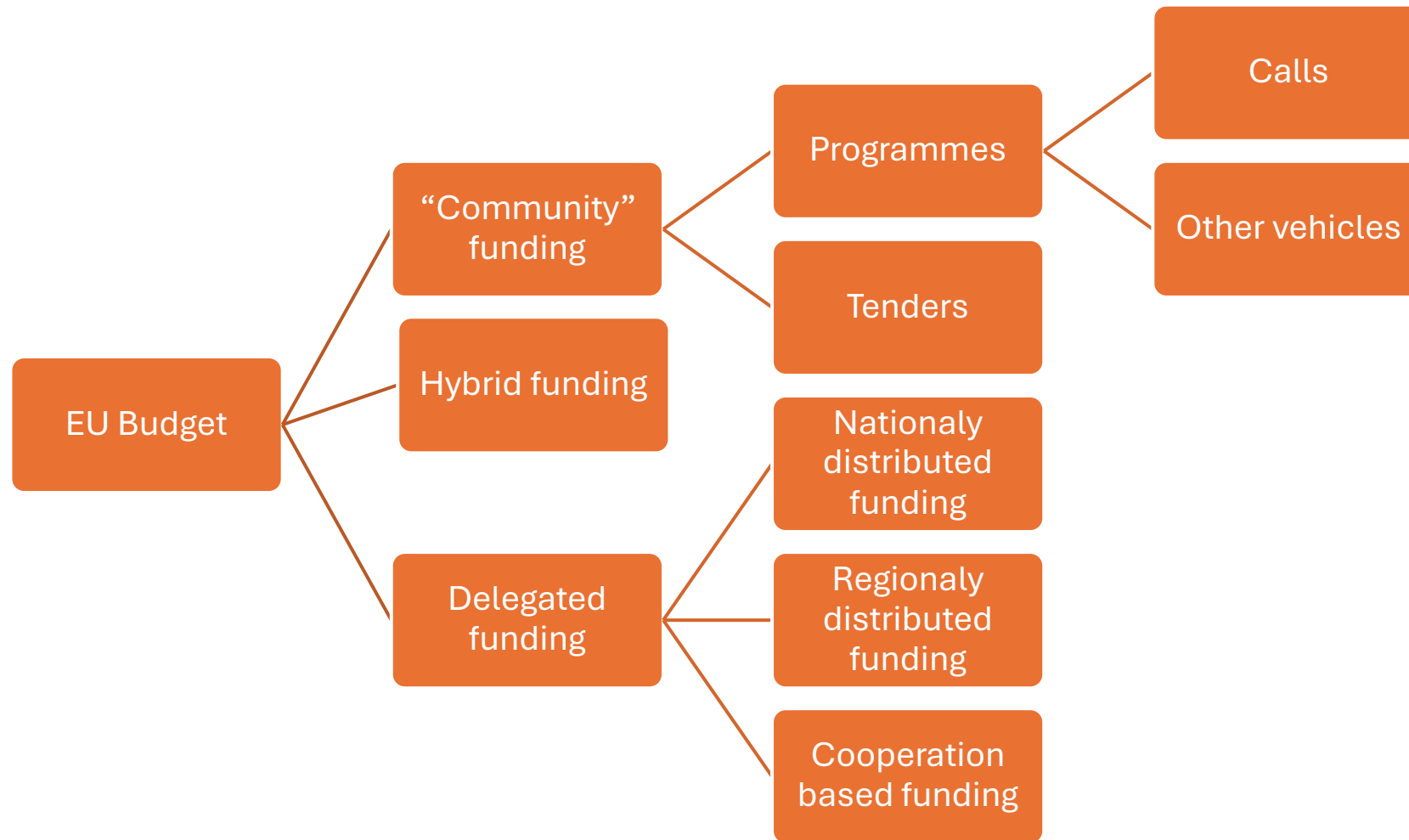
Process of MFF 2028-2032 and FP10



What does the EU fund at the moment?



How is the funding organized?



Community funding / Community programmes

- Programmes prepared at EU level by the European Commission (EC)
- Programmes are agreed at political level between EC, European Parliament (EP) and Member States (MS)
- Usually, the programmes are prepared for the whole duration of the MFF, with subdivisions in work-programmes and regular calls for proposals being published. Think about: Horizon Europe, CEF, ERASMUS +, LIFE...
- Those programmes can be opened up to third countries for participation (or excluding them)
- Management is done by specific executive agencies (CINEA, EASMA, EACEA...)



Community funding / Community programmes

The example of Horizon Europe

- Complete framework programme was launched in 2021 covering the entire period
 - Negotiated between Commission, Parliament and Member States
- Strategic Plans (2021- 2024 and 2025-2027): set out the strategic orientations for the research and innovation (R&I) programme
 - Co-created between Commission, Parliament and Member States
- Work programmes (covering one or two years): translate the strategic plans into specific calls, priorities and actions.
 - Co-created between Commission, Parliament and Member States, including numerous experts at national levels



Delegated funding

- The EU sets up the framework of action through legislation (ESF, ERDF...) for programmes like Interreg or the Just Transition Fund
- Member states, regions, cooperation structures submit programmes to the European Commission;
- Call for proposal are more open and applicants can apply starting from their own ideas and focus;
- EC validates the programmes (or not)
- Management is ensured by national/regional agencies or authorities

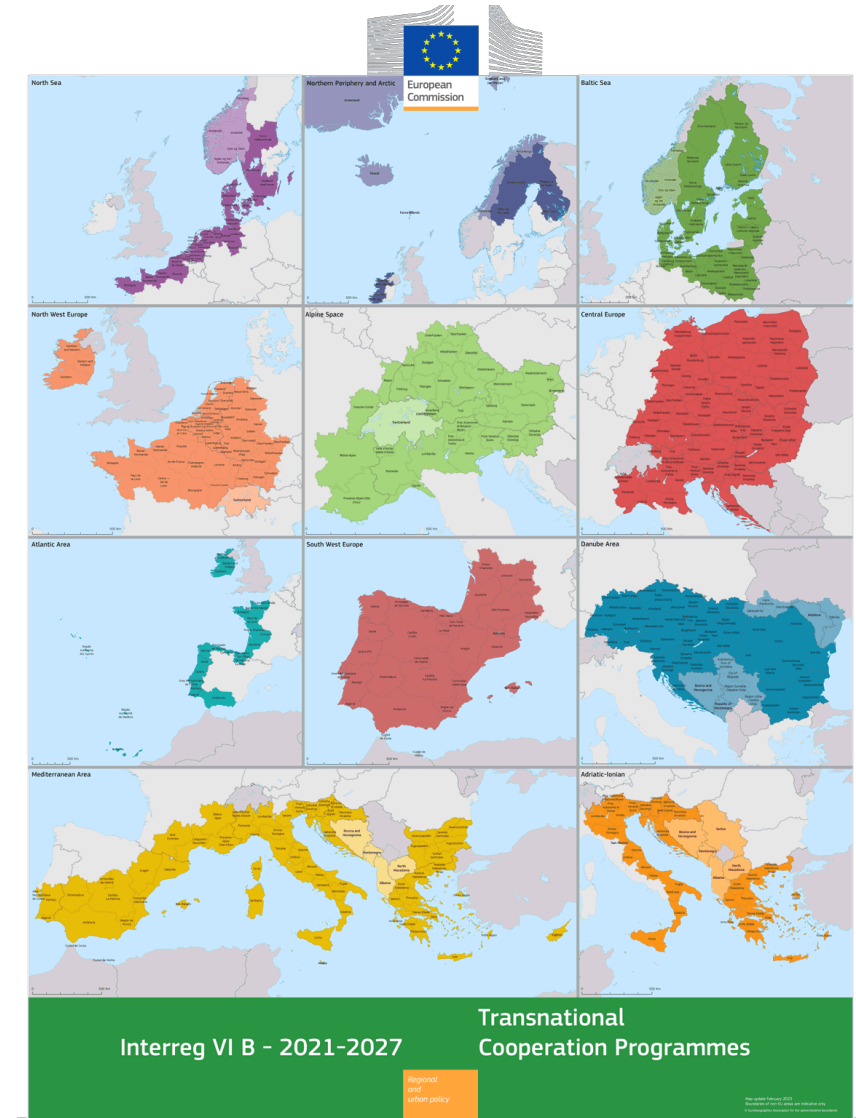


Fig 1: Interreg B - Transnational cooperation map



Hybrid funding

2014-2020 MFF, 2021-2027 MFF, NGEU and top-ups (commitments, € billion, 2018 prices)

2014-2020	MFF €1 083.3	
2021-2027	MFF €1 074.3	NGEU €750
		€11 Top-ups through the increase of MFF ceilings
		Total €1 835.3

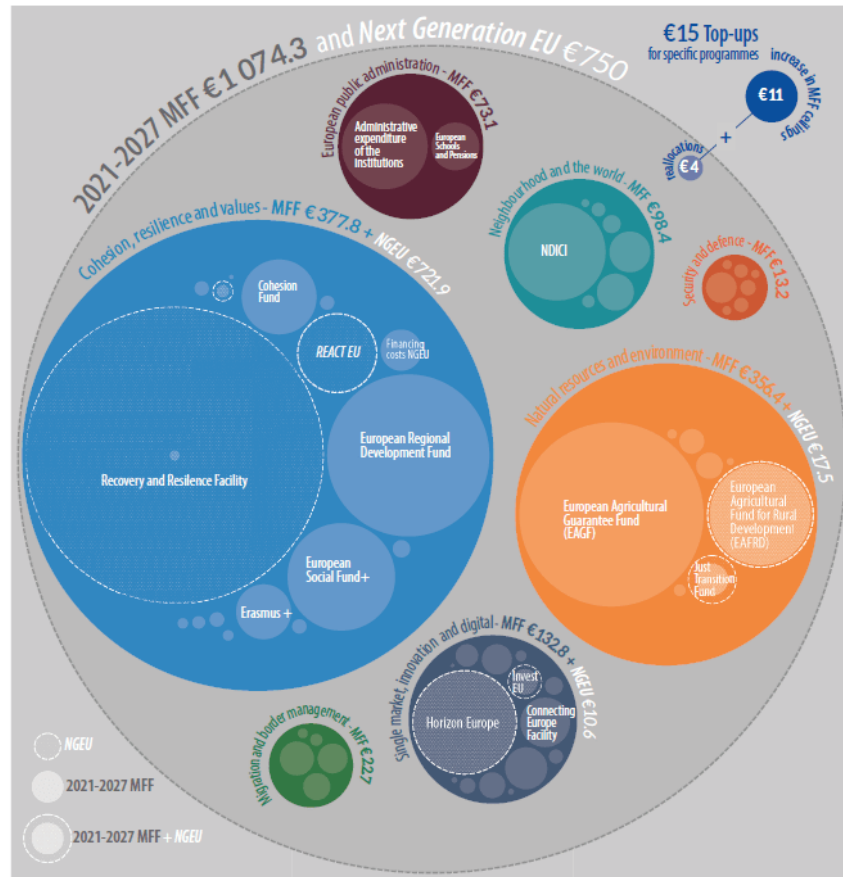


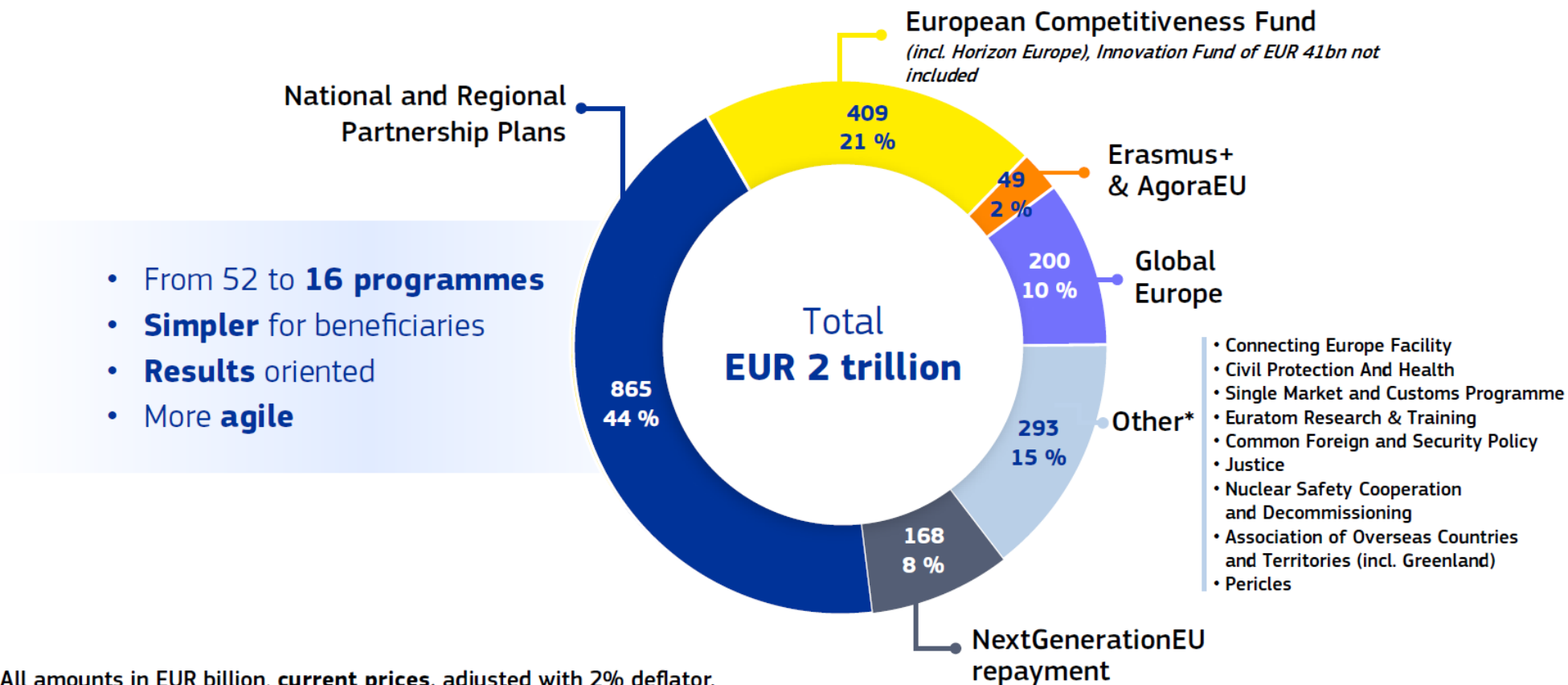
Fig.2 Briefing infographic. [EPthinkTank](#), Authors Magdalena Sapala, Marianna Pari and Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolchova

- A few programmes have dual components
- Certain actions are covered at EU level, others at national levels. Think about Erasmus +, ESF, AMIF ...
- Certain actions are collaborative between member states and the EU, those are Partnerships (HORIZON). Think about the Driving Urban Transitions Partnership
- This does not mean that “local” funding is specifically adapted to local circumstances, it can also just be a delegated tasks...



How will this look like in the future?

An ambitious budget with a credible proposal for reforming the revenues to finance it.



All amounts in EUR billion, current prices, adjusted with 2% deflator.

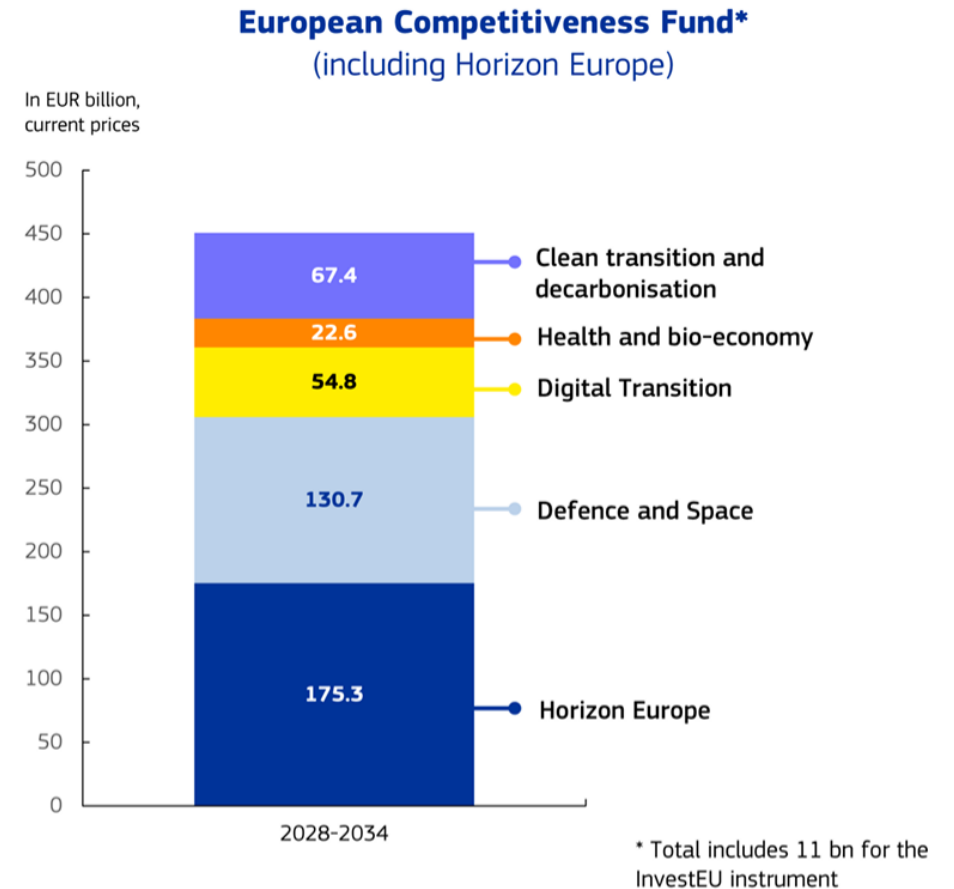
*Also includes Administration and decentralised agencies.

Fig 3. An ambitious budget for a stronger Europe 2028-2034

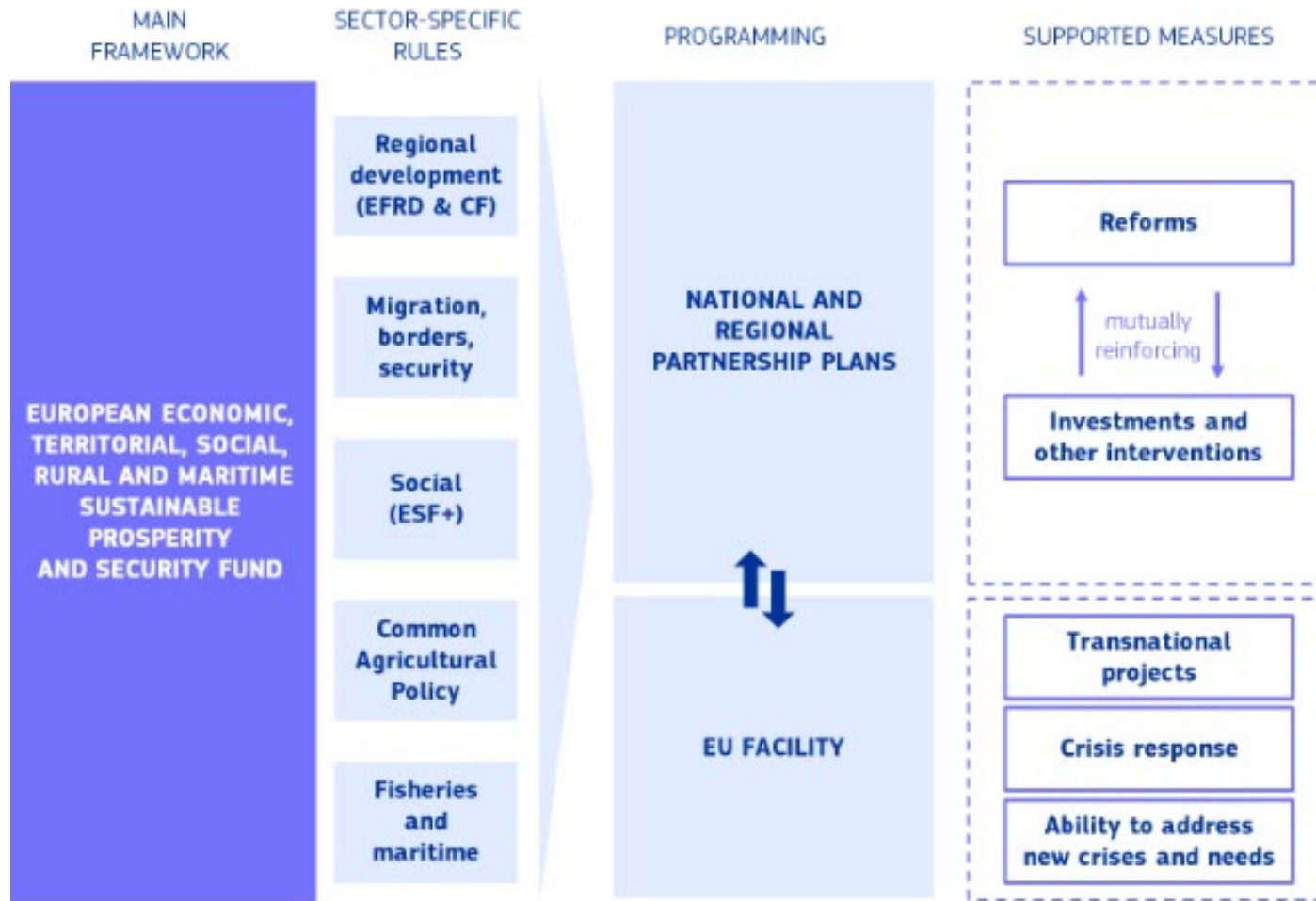


The European Competitiveness Fund And FP10

- The aim is a single funding framework for research and innovation
- FP10 as a separate programme but "integrated" work programmes and rules)
- 4 "Policy windows"
 - Clean transition and industrial decarbonisation;
 - Health and biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy;
 - Digital leadership;
 - Resilience and security, defence industry and space.
- Flexible and various financing (loans, grants, equity, quasi-equity, blending, tenders, guarantees)



Cohesion Governance



European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security

- ERDF and Interreg will be part of the **NRPP**
- More money for less developed regions
- Performance reviews of reforms based on the European Semester
- More flexible on an annual basis
- Budget halved step by step over 7 years
- NRPP includes:
 - European theme choices
 - National decision-making
 - National programming for regions
 - Submission by 31/1/2028



Sources

- Fig. 1 European Commission DG Regio, https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/trans-national_en
- Fig 2 EPRS European Parliament <https://epthinktank.eu/2020/12/10/eu-financing-for-2021-2027-political-agreement-on-the-2021-2027-multiannual-financial-framework-mff-the-next-generation-eu-ngeu-recovery-instrument-and-new-own-resources/>
- Fig3 European Commission: Directorate-General for Budget, *Europe's budget – An ambitious budget for a stronger Europe 2028-2034*, 2025, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2761/3758793>
- Fig 4 Communication From The Commission To The European Parliament, The European Council, The Council, The European Economic And Social Committee And The Committee Of The Regions A dynamic EU Budget for the priorities of the future - The Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0570R%2801%29&qid=1753797062248>
- Fig 5 European Commission: Directorate-General for Budget, *Europe's budget – National and regional partnership plans*, page 2 Publications Office of the European Union, 2025, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2761/9109969>

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- European Commission, MFF communication: 2028-2034 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0570R%2801%29&qid=1753797062248>
- European Commission, ECF communication: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0555&qid=1753802586340>
- European Commission, HEU communication: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0543&qid=1753802854776>
- European Commission, The 2028-2034 EU budget for a stronger Europe: [EU budget 2028-2034](#)

Thank You!

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Please check the following tools for further information:

[CARPE Website](#)
(general project information & training material)

[LinkedIn](#)
(news & up-dates)

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