

EMERGE-EU

AI and Health

NETWORKING VISIT

FOR EMERGING RESEARCHERS

 **Location: Brussels**

 **15 - 17 June 2026**

The visit will focus on AI and Health, with particular attention to funding opportunities, consortium building, and project development at the intersection of science, technology and healthcare.

The programme includes thematic sessions with representatives of the European Commission, meetings devoted to opportunities offered by the ERC, EIC and COST, as well as an overview of upcoming opportunities under Horizon Europe and Digital Europe Programme. The agenda also features a matchmaking session bringing together participants from different countries, along with a study visit to one of Belgium's research institutions i.e. FARI - AI for the Common Good Institute Brussels. Participants will represent countries such as: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Slovakia and the United Kingdom.

The event is addressed to young, outstanding leaders entering or strengthening their independence in the world of science (R2/early R3 level). Participants are scientists in the field of health and life sciences who base their research on AI tools, and scientists in ICT who develop AI tools for researchers in the field of health and life sciences.

EMERGE-EU

A Networking Study Visit for Emerging Researchers

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Programme

11.06.2026

Thursday

Online session

Study visit programme presentation by its co-organisers

15:00 - 16:00

Making the most of brokering events by Perry Guess - Horizon Europe UK National Contact Point (Cross-Cutting), InnovateUK

15.06.2026

Monday

Permanent Representation of the Republic of Bulgaria to the EU

Sq. Marie-Louise 49, 1000 Brussels

12:00 - 12:15

Introduction, welcome address and presentation of the programme

12:15 - 13:00

Welcome Lunch

13:00 - 14:30

First round of pitch session – let's get to know each other
for instructions follow separate page with session description

14:30 - 15:00

Coffee Break

15:00 - 16:00

Thematic policy session: EU policies for AI in Health

Anca SCORTARIU

Deputy Head of Unit for AI in Health and Life Sciences - DG CNECT

16:00 - 17:00

Strategy for Life Sciences

Tomasz DYLAG

Deputy Head of Unit for Health Innovations & Ecosystems - DG RTD

19:00

Dinner and evening networking @ Wolf Food Market Brussels

Rue du Fossé aux Loups 50, 1000 Bruxelles

AGENDA

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16.06.2026
Tuesday

NCBR Office in Brussels
Rue Belliard 40, 1040 Brussels

9:00 - 10:15

Opportunities of ERC and tips on how to write a successful proposal

Colm CARROL,

Research Programme Agent in Health, Environmental Biology and Biotechnology – ERC Executive Agency (ERCEA)

10:15 - 10:45

Coffee break

10:45 - 11:45

Compass AI

Sara ZULLINO

Scientific Lead in AI for Medical Applications, Compass AI

11:45 - 12:30

COST opportunities

Judith LITJENS

Officer at Policy Unit, COST

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 15:00

Unlocking EIC Pathfinder for Emerging Researchers

Orsolya SYMMONS

EIC Programme Manager for Health and Biotechnology

15:00 - 15:45

Upcoming opportunities under Horizon Europe Work Programme 2027

Sarah STROOBANTS & Marie TIMMERMANN

FWO / NCP Flanders

15:45 - 16:00

Coffee break

16:00 - 18:00

Matchmaking session among participants - exploring collaboration opportunities
for instructions follow separate page with session description

18:00 - 18:15

Feedback session

18:00 - 20:00

Brussels city tour - European Quarter and surrounding area

AGENDA



PolSCA
Polish Science
Contact Agency
in Brussels



UK Research
and Innovation



Bulgarian Liaison
Office for Research



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17.06.2026
Wednesday

FARI Institute – BeCentral
Cantersteen 12, 1000 Brussels

AI at the service of Local Health (FARI perspective and projects)
Carl MÖRCH, director & researcher - FARI Institute

Trustworthy Robots, AI and Health
Shirley ELPRAMA, researcher - FARI Institute (imec SMIT, VUB)

10:00 - 13:00

Ethical and legal assessment framework for AI-driven eHealth applications (DIGILUNG project)
Valentina DALLA GIOVANNA, researcher - FARI Institute

Digital Twin demonstration – focus on global health indicators (AR/VR room)

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch

17.06.2026
Wednesday

Palais des Académies
Rue Ducale 1, 1000 Brussels

15:00 - 18:00

IGLO Summer Reception (optional – only upon registration & its confirmation)
Event website and registration [here](#)

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15.05.2026
Monday
13:00 - 14:30

First round of pitch session – let's get to know each other

Participants will be divided into small groups of up to ten people. Each group will stay together for 30 minutes, and participants will then rotate to a new group. Over the course of the 90-minute session, this will allow everyone to meet a broad range of other participants, practice introducing themselves, and explore potential connections for networking and matchmaking.

Within each round, please keep your self-introduction to approximately 3 minutes so that everyone has enough time to speak and exchange.

Guiding questions

1. *Who are you, and what is your academic or professional background?*
2. *Present shortly your affiliation institution with the focus on your unit/department*
3. *What are you currently working on? Which research topics or questions are most important to you at the moment? What methods, approaches, or tools do you mainly work with?*
4. *What motivates your research, or what broader challenge are you hoping to address?*
5. *What kind of exchange, expertise, or collaboration are you hoping to find through this workshop?*

16.05.2026
Tuesday
16:00 - 18:00

Matchmaking session among participants - exploring collaboration opportunities

Session is divided into two parts.

During the **first part** of the session (around 60 min.), participants may present their future research ideas and plans with a view for possible collaboration. Slide presentations (max. 2 slides) are optional, not mandatory. Each intervention can take approximately 4-5 min.

Guiding questions

1. *What are your main research ideas that you would like to pursue in the future?*
2. *What capacity can you offer for the collaboration?*
3. *What kind of partners will be valuable for your research? What kind of experience, capacities, resources, data sets would help you realise this idea?*
4. *Can you see any Horizon Europe funding opportunities for this purpose? Eventually, what kind of national funding can you offer?*

Second part of the session is not moderated. Participants will discuss the potential of future cooperation individually or in groups, according to the scope of their interest.

INSTRUCTIONS