



# Open access to JRC Research Infrastructures

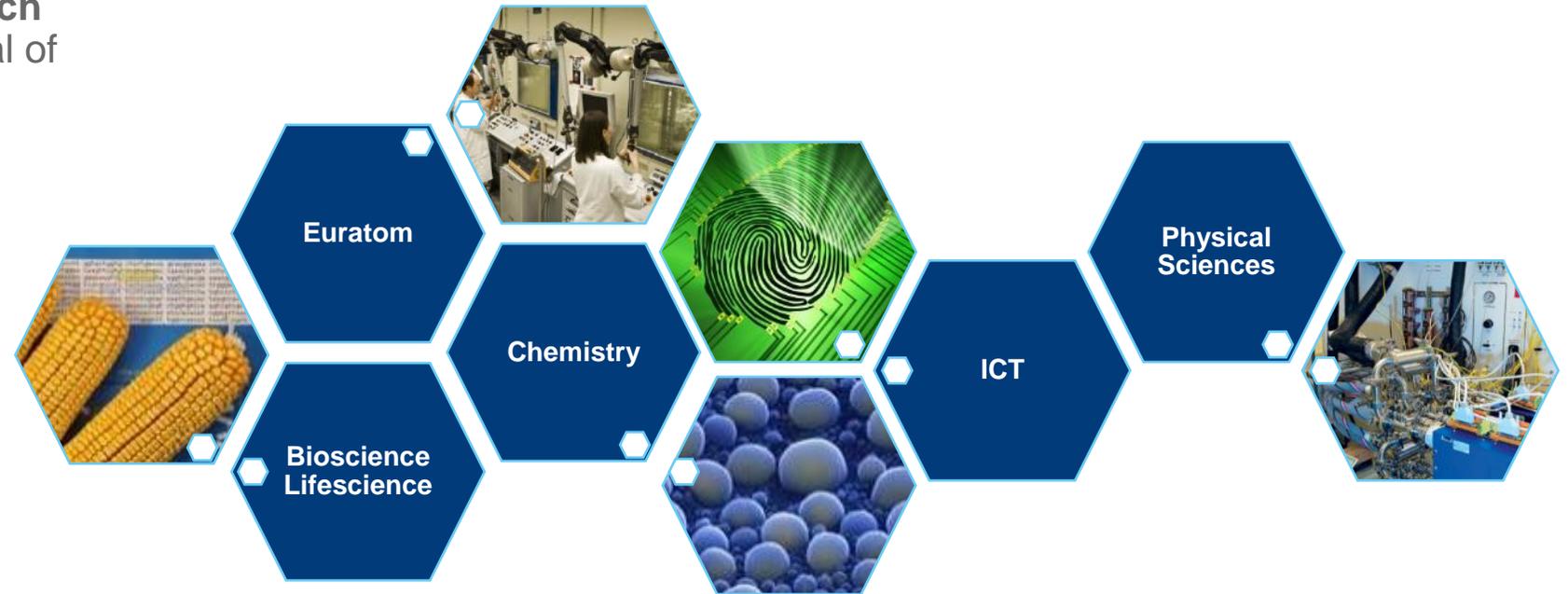
*Fabio Taucer*

*Acting HoU Scientific Development*

# Landscape of JRC Research Infrastructures

JRC hosts **39 physical research infrastructures** with a potential of opening to external users

(out of a total of **53 facilities**)



# Rationale

Opening up access to JRC Research Infrastructures is part of the **JRC Strategy 2030**

## Benefits to users and the ERA

- **Fair** and **transparent** method for allocating access
- Make JRC RIs available to external users in view of the **limited resources** in Europe
- Provide **training and capacity building**
- Bridge the **gap between science and Industry**
- **Dissemination** of knowledge, foster collaboration in Europe

## Benefits to the JRC

- Expand JRC **networking** capabilities
- Enter into **new key areas** of research
- Maintain JRC **scientific excellence**
- Raise the **value and visibility** of JRC RIs

# Framework for Access

Based on the [Charter of Access to RIs of DG RTD](#)

Principles and guidelines when defining Access policies for RIs

## Access Modes

- **Relevance-driven**
  - **Peer-review selection** following a call for proposals: Scientific implementation, collaboration and access to new users, strategic relevance to the JRC, strategic importance for Europe
  - Mainly targeted to academia and research institutions, as well as to **SMEs**
  - Users charged the **additional costs**; nuclear RIs free of charge – Users pay for consumables
  - Open dissemination after an 18 month embargo period
- **Market-driven**
  - Selection by the JRC
  - Mainly targeted to industry
  - Users charged the full costs
  - Data not disseminated via open schemes



# Eligibility

## Non-nuclear

- **Member States**
- **Associated countries:** Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, UIK, Ukraine

## Nuclear

- **Member States**
- **Associated countries:** Ukraine

### Open to

- ✓ EU Member States
- ✓ Countries associated to Horizon Europe

# Facilitating Access – Conditions

## Relevance-driven mode – Non-nuclear

### Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence (WPSE) countries

- **Cover travel and subsistence** of Users from User Institutions located in the **WPSE** list of countries.
- **Waive the access costs** in the relevance-driven mode to proposals where the Lead User Institution, and at least 2/3 of the Users Institutions are from the **WPSE** list of countries.
- The calls are in competition with EU Member States

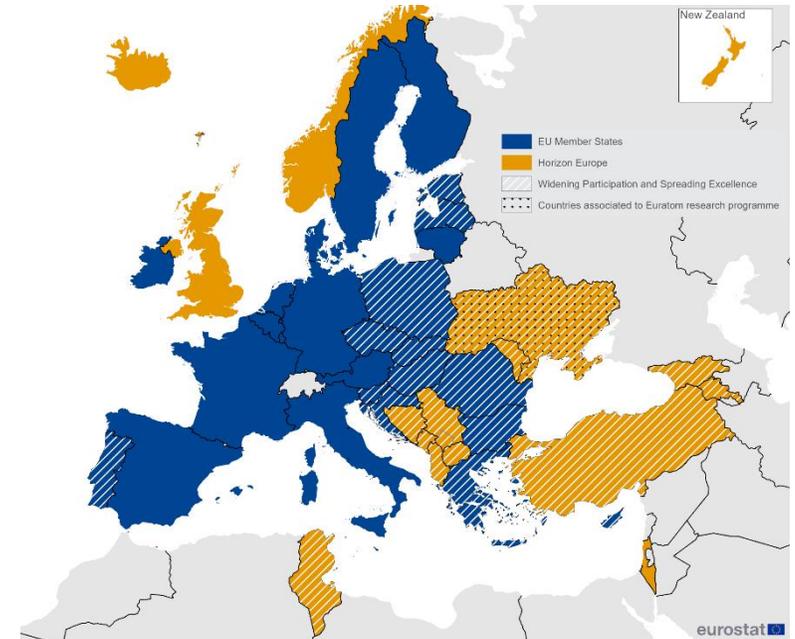
## Relevance-driven mode – Nuclear

- **Cover travel and accommodation** of Users as part of the Pilot Action in the field of nuclear safety

# Facilitating Access – list of countries

## Relevance-driven mode – Non-nuclear / WPSE Countries

- **Member States:** Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.
- **Associated countries:** eligible countries based on an indicator and published in the work programme.
- **Legal entities from outermost regions as defined in Article 349 TFUE:** Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Réunion, Saint-Barthélemy, Saint-Martin, the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands.



## Relevance-driven mode – Nuclear

- **Member States**
- **Associated countries:** Ukraine

**Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence (WPSE) countries**

# Research Infrastructure Access Agreement

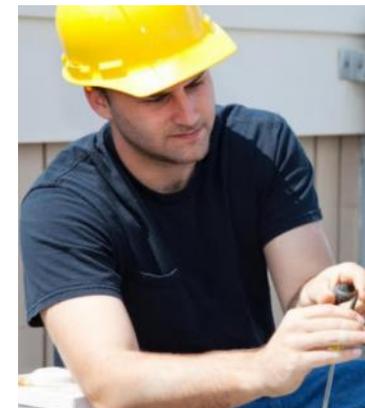
## Rights and obligations of JRC and the user(s) concerning:

- Health and safety
- Security rules
- Data protection
- Confidentiality
- Liability and financial aspects
- User access assessment



## In-kind contributions:

- Human resources, i.e. for running all or parts of the experimental work or assisting the experimental campaign
- Provision of consumables and equipment



# Dedicated portal at EU Science Hub

- **All supporting documents:** Framework and related annexes (template for proposals, agreement documents, IP rules, etc.)
- **Eligibility Criteria**
- **Call for proposals per Research Infrastructure**
  - ✓ Estimated total number of Access Units allocated to the call
  - ✓ Average number of Access Units per project
  - ✓ Estimated additional costs per Access Unit
  - ✓ Priority topics of the Research Infrastructure
- **Selected Projects**
- **User Access Report** / link to databases (after embargo period)



<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/research-facility/open-access>

# Research Infrastructures opening access

**European Laboratory for Structural Assessment (ELSA) (Ispra, IT)**

**Reaction Wall**

**HopLab**

**Consumer Products Safety (Ispra, IT)**

**Nanobiotechnology Laboratory**

**Energy Storage Facilities (Petten, NL)**

**BESTEST** – Battery Energy Storage Testing for Safe Electric Transport

**FCTEST** – Fuel Cells and Electrolyser Testing facilities

**GASTEF** – Gas Tank Testing Facility

**European research infrastructure for nuclear reaction, radioactivity, radiation and technology studies in science and applications (EUFRAT) (Geel, BE)**

**GELINA** – Neutron time-of-flight facility for high-resolution neutron measurements

**HADES** – Underground laboratory for ultra-low level gamma-ray spectrometry

**MONNET** – Tandem accelerator based fast neutron source

**RADMET – Radionuclide Metrology laboratories**

**Actinide User Laboratory (ActUsLab) (Karlsruhe, DE)**

**PAMEC** – Properties of Actinide Materials under Extreme Conditions

**FMR** – Fuels and Materials Research

**HC-KA** – Hot Cell Laboratory

**Laboratory of the Environmental & Mechanical Materials Assessment (EMMA) (Petten, NL)**

**LILLA** – Liquid Lead Laboratory

**SMPA** – Structural Materials Performance Assessment Laboratories

**AMALIA** – assessment of nuclear power plants core internals

**MCL** – Micro-Characterisation Laboratory

Since 2017, 17 RIs have opened access to external users at the JRC sites of Ispra, Karlsruhe, Petten and Geel:



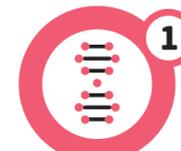
EUFRAT, GEEL



ACTUSLAB, KARLSRUHE



EMMA, PETTEN



NANOBIOTECH, ISPRA



ELSA, ISPRA



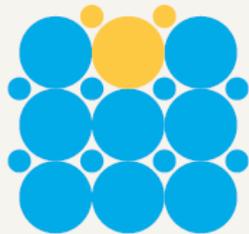
ENERGY STORAGE, PETTEN

# Statistics

## Statistics of the selected projects

User institutions:  
countries associated to Horizon  
Europe vs. EU Member States

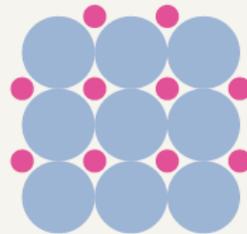
12 % Institutions from countries  
associated to Horizon Europe



88 % Institutions from  
EU Member States

Type of  
institution

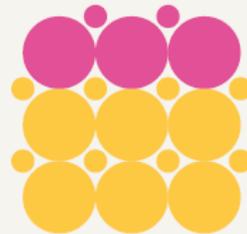
10 % SME/Industry



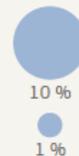
90 %  
Academia/Research institutions

User distribution  
by gender

32 % Female



68 % Male

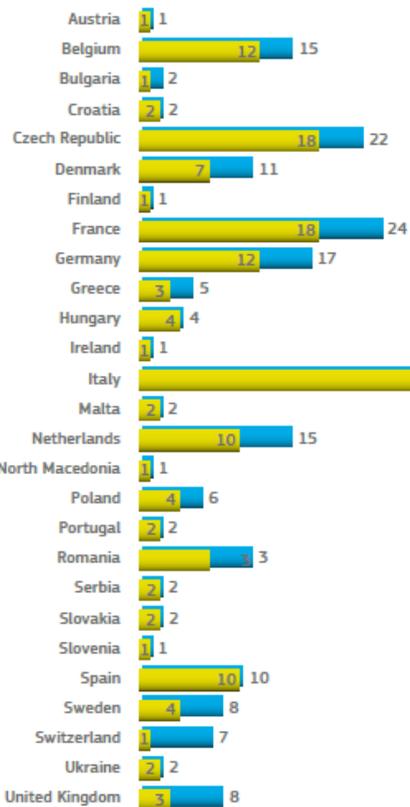


- 279** eligible proposals submitted to the JRC
- 213** selected proposals
- 164** lead users signed agreements with the JRC
- 132** user institutions from the proposals having signed agreements with the JRC
- 562** users from the proposals having signed agreements with the JRC
- 33** countries from the proposals having signed agreements with the JRC
- 104** user access projects that have been completed
- 32** % of female applicants
- 10** % of business participation
- 12** % countries associated with Horizon Europe

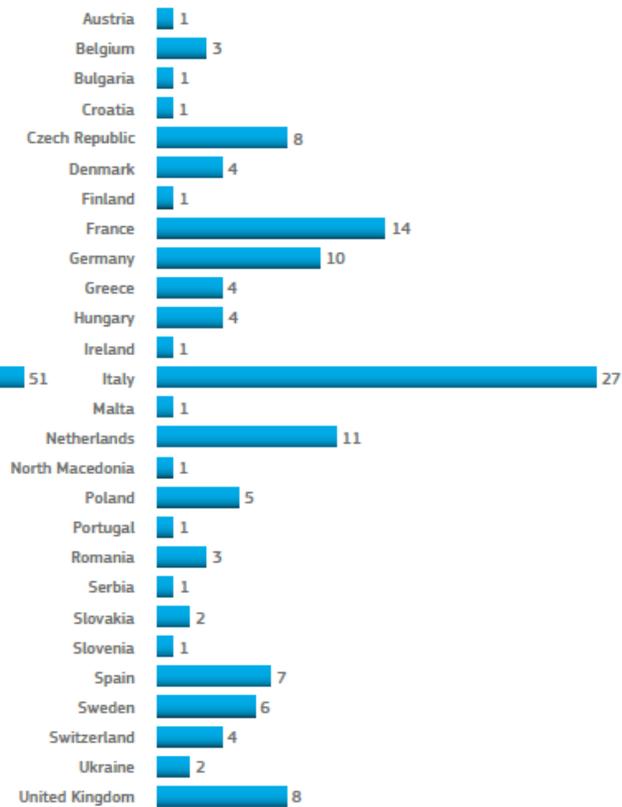
# Statistics

Number of projects per country

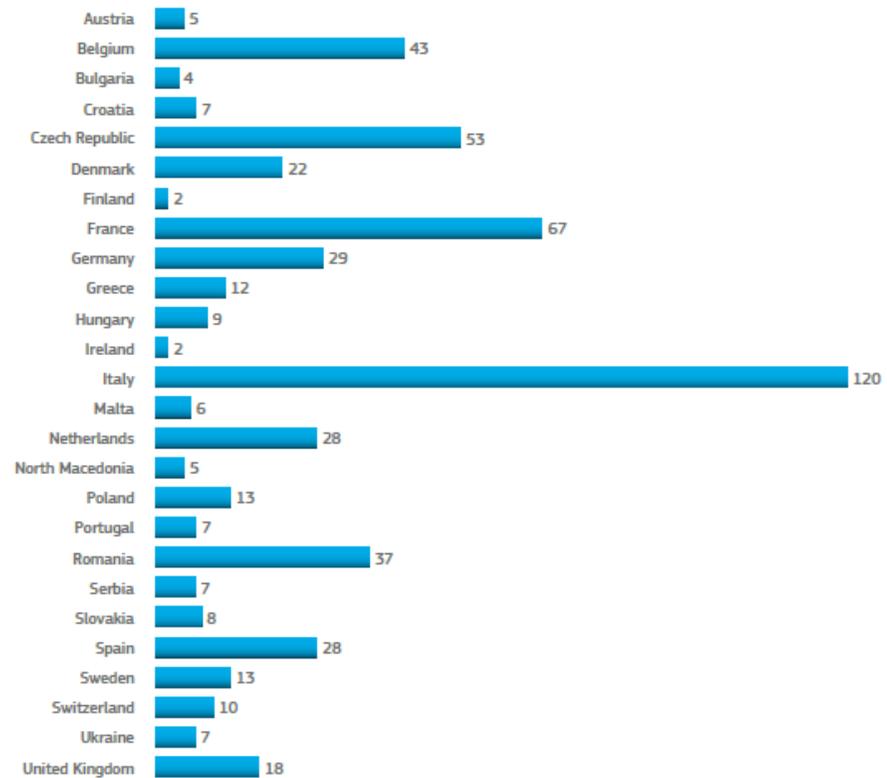
■ Only lead user  
■ Countries from consortium members



Number of institutions per country



Number of users per country of applicant institutions



# Statistics

| European Green Deal            |                                 | <a href="https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/hydrogen_en">https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/hydrogen_en</a> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| ● ● ●                          | 3 Hydrogen                      | ... hydrogen_en   |
| ● ● ●                          | 4 Safe nuclear technology       | ... safe-nuclear-technology_en  |
| ● ● ●                          | 5 Small modular reactors        | ... small-modular-reactors_en   |
| ●                              | 7 Cities and buildings          | ... cities-and-buildings_en   |
| ●                              | 9 Zero pollution                | ... zero-pollution_en   |
| ●                              | 11 Sustainable food systems     | ... sustainable-food-systems_en   |
| ●                              | 12 Sustainable materials        | ... sustainable-materials_en  |
| Europe fit for the digital age |                                 |   |
| ●                              | 15 Trustworthy AI               | ... trustworthy-artificial-intelligence   |
| ●                              | 16 Cybersecurity                | ... cybersecurity_en  |
| Economy working for people     |                                 |   |
| ●                              | 26 Future risks & opportunities | ... risks-and-opportunities-future_en   |
| European way of life           |                                 |   |
| ●                              | 25 Crises management            | ... crisis-management_en  |
| ●                              | 27 Health crises responses      | ... health-crises-response_en   |
| ●                              | 28 Life and health sciences     | ... life-and-health-sciences_en   |
| ● ● ●                          | 29 Cancer & non-comm. diseases  | ... cancer-and-non-communicable-d   |
| ●                              | 30 Science for security         | ... science-security_en   |
| ●                              | 31 Nuclear compliance assurance | ... nuclear-compliance-assurance_en   |
| European democracy             |                                 |   |
|                                | 33 Innovative policymaking      | ... innovative-policymaking_en  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| ● | Nanobiotechnology laboratory  |
| ● | European Laboratory for Structural Assessment   |
| ● | Battery and hydrogen technologies research infrastructure                                     |
| ● | Nuclear reaction, radioactivity, radiation and technology studies in science and applications |
| ● | Actinide User Laboratory  |
| ● | Laboratory for environmental & mechanical materials assessment                                |

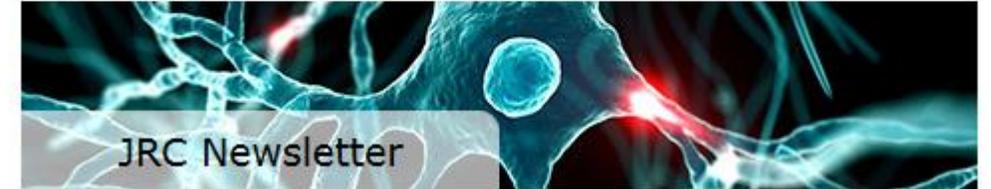
# Training and capacity building

- Addressed to groups of Users from **universities, research or public institutions, or from a Small-Medium-Enterprises (SME)**
- Preferably with **existing** or under **construction/upgrading** RIs **similar** or **complementary** to those of JRC
- Stays at the JRC will comprise a **full week**, with the participation of groups from several institutions and countries.



## JRC Newsletter

You can [subscribe](#) to receive a monthly update direct to your inbox.



# Thanks

## Any questions?

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