

The ERICs in Horizon Europe

A successful case



www.eric-forum.eu



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On the ERICs and the ERIC Forum

The European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) is a specific legal form that facilitates the establishment and operation of Research Infrastructures with European interest.

The ERIC model

It provides a legal capacity recognised in all EU Member States, a faster process to create an international organisation, and exemptions from VAT and excise duty. This makes the ERIC model a fundamental tool for the establishment and operation of common research infrastructures.

The ERIC Forum

The ERIC Forum strategically contributes to the development of ERIC related policies by sharing best practices, tackling common challenges, fostering visibility, impact and sustainability of ERICs and contributing to the European science policies and research context.

With 32 ERICs established, the ERIC Forum has become one of the leading voices in European science policy.

ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN ERIC



A legal capacity recognized in all EU Member States



Flexibility to adapt to specific requirements of each infrastructure



A faster process than creating an international organisation



Exemptions from VAT and excise duty

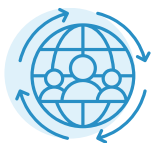
Advantages for Research

ERICs provide the European research community with access to high-quality data and cutting-edge technologies to support scientific excellence and respond to global challenges.

Moreover, they support mobility of researchers and knowledge across the ERA, promote collaboration between countries and favour a European coordination of national infrastructure capacities and capabilities.

More in details

ACCESS TO RIs



- Provide access to state-of-the-art research facilities and services for researchers from Europe and beyond, including universities, industries, SMEs, and incubators.
- Experts provide technical and scientific support to users accessing the RIs.
- ERICs offer predefined access processes, ensuring efficient and transparent use of resources.
- Researchers can access facilities either through funded projects (free access) or with their own funds (subject to capacity).

DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES



- Potential upscaling of research from TRL1 to higher TRLs (e.g. TRL7,8,9) in several research infrastructures facilities.
- Direct contribution to technological development.
- Promote the mobility of researchers and knowledge across the European Research Area, fostering international collaboration.

Euro-BioImaging ERIC

<https://www.eurobioimaging.eu>

Euro-BioImaging is a research infrastructure that offers open access to imaging technologies, training and data services in biological and biomedical imaging. Euro-BioImaging enables researchers and innovators of all backgrounds and experience levels to access expertise, accelerate discovery, and turn scientific excellence into societal impact in health, life science and beyond.

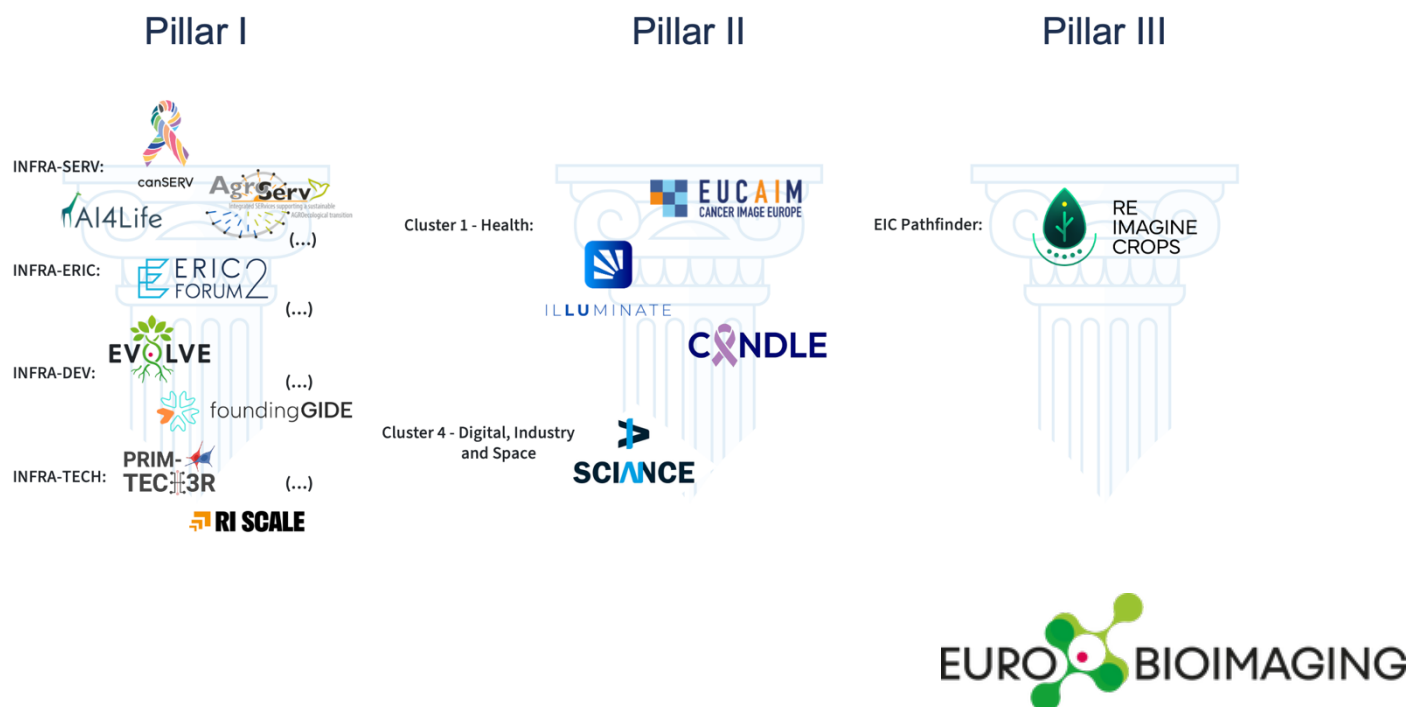
SERVICES

Open access to imaging technologies and data services, Euro-BioImaging provides researchers from academia and industry with open access to state-of-the-art imaging facilities across Europe. This enables cutting-edge research regardless of local infrastructure or institutional resources.

Training and expertise, Euro-BioImaging provides training and expert support in imaging and data analysis. It helps researchers, students and facility staff build technical skills, learn new methods, and advance their research and careers.

Image data services, Euro-BioImaging supports researchers through image data analysis, AI-based tools, and data services across the full data lifecycle. These services promote FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable), image data management and analysis workflows, enabling high-quality and reproducible research.

HORIZON EUROPE - FUNDING



CANDLE

<https://candle-project.eu/>

The CANDLE project will support Member States and Associated Countries in establishing National Cancer Data Nodes (NCDNs) to improve the management, sharing, and reuse of cancer data across Europe. These Nodes will promote harmonisation, interoperability, FAIR data principles, and EHDS-compliant cross-border data access, helping advance cancer research, diagnostics, and treatments. Euro-BioImaging contributes to the conceptualisation of NCDNs and later leads the creation of the CANDLE Resource Kit for the NCDN Network, supporting collaboration, guidance, and sustainability of cancer data infrastructures. It contributes to developing and disseminating recommendations and best practices for cancer data utilisation, helping standardise and improve how cancer data is used and shared across Europe.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CANDLE: National CAncer data Node DeveLopErsGrant
Agreement Number: 101214368
Funded under: HORIZON-MISS-2024-CANCER-01-02
Starting date: 01/06/2025
Ending date: 30/05/2028

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

Coordinated by Health-RI and Lygature, CANDLE has 40 partners from 20 European countries – spanning Member State governance bodies, cancer care providers, patients and public health organisations, as well as six major European Research Infrastructures (BBMRI-ERIC, EATRIS, ECRIN, ELIXIR, Euro-BioImaging and EIRENE).

RE-IMAGINE-CROPS

<https://re-imagine-crops.eurobioimaging.eu>

RE-IMAGINE-CROPS project will develop a portable rover equipped with Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Multiphoton Endoscope (ME) technology to measure crop metabolic processes in real-time, from tissue-level resolution at hundreds of micrometers down to subcellular visualization. This enables quantitative, data-driven fertilizer application tailored to localized plant physiological responses. This innovation minimizes nitrogen dispersion, reduces agronomic and economic losses, and supports sustainable intensification of European agriculture. The major involvement of Euro-BioImaging consists of coordinating the project, leading outreach and dissemination efforts, providing access portals, and ensuring FAIR principles in image data management and analysis.

GENERAL INFORMATION

RE-IMAGINE-CROPS: A real-time mobile multimodal positron emission tomography and multiphoton endoscopic technology for REalistic in-field quantitative IMAGING of CROPS

Grant Agreement Number: 101187260

Funded under HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDEROPEN-01-01

Starting date: 01/05/2025

Ending date: 30/04/2028

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

RE-IMAGINE-CROPS has a highly cross-disciplinary consortium with the unique combination of biomedical engineering, applied physics, optical engineering, chemistry, biophysics, agronomy, and computer science experts. The 9 partners include Euro-BioImaging ERIC, BF Educational, University of Turku, Maastricht University, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Lightcore Technologies, VRVis, University of Teramo, and NOVA.id.

EUCAIM

<https://cancerimage.eu/>

The EUCAIM project aims to deploy a pan-European federated infrastructure of FAIR, de-identified cancer-related real-world images and linked to clinical data, which will be used for the development of AI tools toward Precision Medicine. It will address the fragmentation of existing cancer image repositories by enabling data federation, discovery, federated search, annotation, distributed processing, privacy-preserving learning, and the development of trustworthy AI tools to enhance the (cancer) diagnosis procedure, treatment and the identification of the need for predictive medicine benefiting patients across Europe. The involvement of Euro-BioImaging consists of co-leading the Business and Sustainability work package, supporting the establishment of the EUCAIM legal entity and operational sustainability plan, leading open calls for new data providers, and contributing through its Nodes to the technical implementation of the platform, image data provision, tools for data processing and AI deployment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EUCAIM: European Federation for Cancer Images

Grant Agreement Number: 101100633

Co-Funded under EU-DIGITAL Programme

Starting date: 01/01/2023

Ending date: 31/12/2026

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

The EUCAIM consortium consists of 95 partners from 17 countries. Many partners are part of the “AI for Health Imaging” Network (AI4HI), a cluster of 5 large EU-funded projects on big data and AI in cancer imaging (CHAIMELEON, EUCANIMAGE, INCISIVE, ProCancer-I, PRIMAGE), whose data repositories EUCAIM is building on. The Consortium also involves major European Research Infrastructures, such as Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, EATRIS and ELIXIR.

ILLUMINATE

<https://www.ihl-illuminate.org/>

The ILLUMINATE project aims to transform theranostics-based treatment for advanced-stage cancer and increase the availability of lutetium-177. It will advance Metabolic Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MeMRI), to improve patient selection, monitoring, and treatment decisions, with a focus on metastatic prostate cancer. The project will also support deployment of MeMRI across MRI scanners and expand lutetium-177 manufacturing capacity, including recycling of Ytterbium and centralised radiopharmaceutical preparation. The role of Euro-BioImaging in ILLUMINATE consists of communication and scientific dissemination activities and facilitating training for healthcare staff in matters such as awareness and clinical trial recruitments. Euro-BioImaging will leverage its network to promote collaboration with European initiatives and other Research Infrastructures. Three Euro-BioImaging Nodes (in Italy, Sweden, and the Netherlands) are actively involved in the development and clinical testing of radiotherapeutics, metabolic MRI methods, and novel MR contrast agents in the project.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ILLUMINATE: Increasing lutetium production while leveraging metabolic imaging to enhance theranostics effectiveness

Grant Agreement Number: 101172722

Funded under HORIZON-JU-IHI-2023-05

Starting date: 01/10/2024

Ending date: 31/03/2029

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

The ILLUMINATE consortium consists of 15 partners. Coordinated by the University Medical Center Utrecht, the project includes 6 industrial partners from medical imaging instrumentation and pharmaceutical sectors, 4 universities and university hospitals, 3 research organisations, and a project management company.

SCIANCE

<https://www.sciance.eu/>

SCIANCE is a European coordination initiative establishing the foundations for the Resource for AI Science in Europe (RAISE). Bringing together leading research infrastructures, scientific organisations, and AI centres of excellence, SCIANCE develops a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) through an iterative co-creation process. By combining scientific domain expertise with AI research and infrastructure knowledge, SCIANCE delivers robust, evidence-based guidance that is scientifically credible and strategically aligned with European Commission objectives, laying the foundations for future collaborative, AI-enabled science in Europe. Euro-BioImaging serves as representative of the Life Sciences in the SCIANCE project, playing a role in identifying and addressing long-term research challenges where AI can drive scientific breakthroughs.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCIANCE: AI in Science

Grant Agreement Number: 101293570

Funded under HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-DIGITAL-62

Starting date: 01/01/2026

Ending date: 30/06/2028

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

The SCIANCE consortium consists of 13 partners and brings together leading scientific organisations, AI research centres, digital infrastructure providers, and policy experts to strengthen Europe's AI in Science ecosystem. Coordinated by the European Science Foundation (ESF). One representative per scientific pilot area: University of Manchester (Astronomy & Nikhef, Fundamental Physics), Constructor University (Materials Science), University of Twente ITC (Earth Sciences), Euro-BioImaging (Life Sciences), and CNR-ISTI/SoBigData ERIC (Social Sciences & Humanities). AI research organisations: DFKI, SZTAK. E-Infrastructures: EGI, OpenAIRE. Others: Big Data Value Association (BDVA).