



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

CANCER

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges



© European Union, 2021

11 September 2023

Annika Nowak, Head of Sector, Cancer Mission Secretariat
DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionCancer



Cancer Mission: objectives

Specific objectives

Understand cancer and its risk factors

Prevent what is preventable

Optimise diagnostics and treatment

Support quality of life of people living with and after cancer

Ensuring equitable access for all



GOAL

*Improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030, through prevention, cure and for those affected by cancer including their families, to live longer and better, jointly with the **Europe's Beating Cancer Plan***



Commission Communication: “EU Missions two years on: assessment of progress and way forward” (19 July 2023)

The assessment of EU missions confirms that they:

- are timely and inspirational initiatives;
- provide new impetus to important EU policy priorities;
- help aligning EU, national, regional and local policy efforts towards shared goals;
- have encouraged broad engagement and active participation of stakeholders;
- are overall progressing in line with their implementation plans.





Cancer Mission: flagship initiatives



Understand

ACCESS

Uncan.eu: aiming at improving understanding of cancer mechanisms



Prevention

EQUITABLE

European Cancer Prevention Centre: aiming at providing evidence on cancer prevention



Diagnostic & treatment

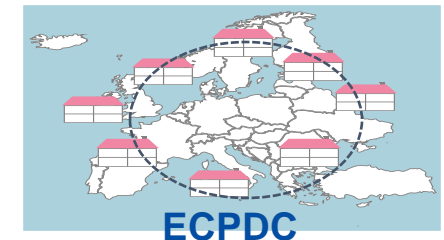
ENSURE

Network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures: aiming at strengthening research capacities of CCIs



Support QoL

European Cancer Patient Digital Centre: aiming at supporting QoL of patients

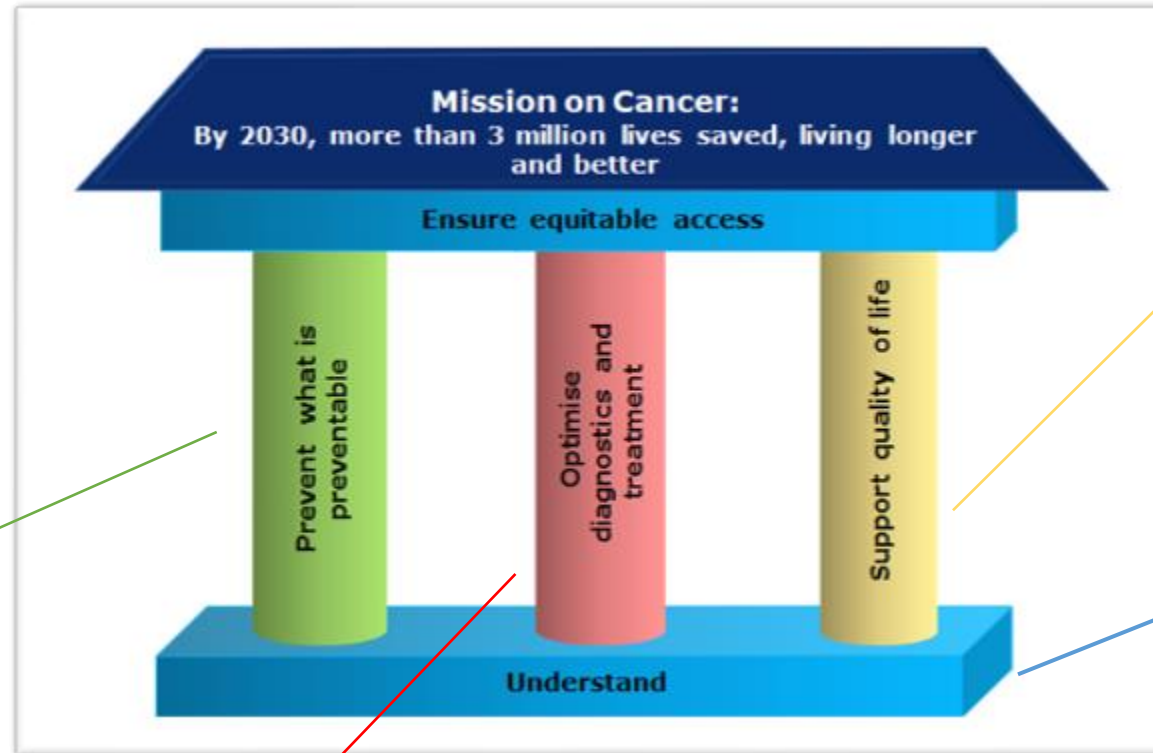




Cancer Mission: Work Programmes 2021-2023

Overall approach

- Mission-guiding principles
- Mission clusters
- Synergies Cancer Plan
- Total budget 2021-2023: € 378.5M



- Develop new methods and technologies for screening and early detection
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-01
- Improving and upscaling primary prevention of cancer through implementation research
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-01
- Enhance cancer prevention through behaviour change
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-02

- Pragmatic clinical trials to optimise treatment for cancer patients
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-03
- Strengthen research capacities of comprehensive cancer infrastructures
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-02
- Pragmatic clinical trials minimally invasive diagnostics
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-03

- Develop and validate a set of quality of life measures for cancer patients and survivors
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-02
- Towards the creation of a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-04:
- Improve quality of life for survivors of childhood cancer (Best practices and tools)
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-04:

- Preparing UNCAN.eu, a European initiative to understand cancer
HORIZON-MISS-2021-UNCAN-01-01
- Better understand healthy versus cancer cells at individual and population level
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-03
- Better understand tumour-host interactions in cancer patients
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-01

Creation of national cancer mission hubs
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-05



Beneficiaries from Slovenia in CSAs (Mission WPs 2021 + 2022)

	Project Acronym	Beneficiaries from Slovenia
HORIZON-MISS-2021-UNCAN-01-01	4.UNCAN.eu	KEMIJSKI INSTITUT (NIC)
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-05	ECHoS	NACIONALNI INSTITUT ZA JAVNO ZDRAVJE (NIJZ)



Cancer Mission: Governance

Dialogue with Member States: health and research ministries work together in a [sub-group on cancer under the Public Health Expert Group](#) to ensure scientific evidence systematically informs policy development.

Dialogue with stakeholders: a [Stakeholder Contact Group](#) under the EU Health Policy Platform as a basis for discussion and exchanges with stakeholders.

Dialogue at national and regional level: future National Cancer Mission Hubs will engage national stakeholders in policy dialogues on cancer.



Cancer Mission: synergies with EU policies and initiatives

Initiatives that can help achieve the goal of the EU Mission on Cancer

- Knowledge Centre on Cancer (KCC)
- European Cancer Information System (ECIS)
- Council Recommendations on Cancer Screening
- Strategic Agenda for Medical Ionising Radiation Applications
- Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability
- HealthyLifestyles4all initiative
- **Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health**
- Non-communicable Diseases Initiative
- Digital transformation and skills
- Artificial Intelligence Agenda
- EIT & KICs

Legislative initiatives:

- **European Health Data Space**
- **Pharmaceutical Package**
- Revised Directive on Asbestos in Workplace

Initiatives under Horizon Europe:

- HE Health Cluster, Horizon Europe partnerships e.g., IHI
- Research & Training Programme (Euratom)
- European Innovation Council

Other EU programmes:

- EU4Health
- Digital Europe
- Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)
- European Investment Bank (EIB)

National activities



Synergies with other EU programmes: Horzion Europe (EIC, partnerships, cluster), EU4Health & Digital Europe

HE- European Innovation Council (EIC)

EIC Accelerator Challenge: Novel biomarker-based assays to guide personalised cancer treatment

HORIZON-EIC-2023-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-01

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Status	Open for submission
Type of action	HORIZON EIC Accelerator Blended Finance	Deadline model	multiple cut-off
Opening date	08 December 2022	Next deadline	22 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time

EU4Health Framework Programme

Call for proposals to monitor and strengthen the implementation of innovative approaches to prostate, lung and gastric cancer screening at Union level

EU4H-2022-PJ-01

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	EU4Health Programme (EU4H)	Status	Closed
Type of action	EU4H Project Grants	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	22 February 2022	Deadline date	24 May 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Digital Europe Framework Programme

Federated European infrastructure for cancer images data

DIGITAL-2022-CLOUD-AI-02-CANCER-IMAGE

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)	Status	Closed
Type of action	DIGITAL Simple Grants	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	22 February 2022	Deadline date	17 May 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

HE - Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) public-private partnership

Next generation imaging and image-guided diagnosis and therapy for cancer

HORIZON-JU-IHI-2022-01-02

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Status	Closed
Type of action	HORIZON JU Research and Innovation Actions	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	28 June 2022	Deadline date	20 September 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Personalised oncology: innovative people centred, multi-modal therapies against cancer

HORIZON-JU-IHI-2022-01-03

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Status	Closed
Type of action	HORIZON JU Research and Innovation Actions	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	28 June 2022	Deadline date	20 September 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

HE - Health Cluster

Improved supportive, palliative, survivorship and end-of-life care of cancer patients

HORIZON-ILTH-2021-DISEASE-04-01

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Status	Closed
Type of action	HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	22 June 2021	Deadline date	21 September 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time

Research infrastructures services to support research addressing cancer

HORIZON-INFRA-2021-SERV-01-01

Call for proposal Grant

Programme	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Status	Closed
Type of action	HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions	Deadline model	single-stage
Opening date	22 June 2021	Deadline date	23 September 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time



Citizen engagement: Workshop with young cancer survivors (26 May 2023, Brussels)



Main recommendations:

Understanding and managing late-effects in AYA:

- Support long-term clinical studies to better characterise late-effects in AYAs;
- Support research to predict the occurrence or relapse of late effects;
- Support research on fertility issues, including its psychosocial dimension;
- Support research to develop effective approaches to for the management of late-effects;
- Develop targeted education on late-effects for both healthcare workers and patients;

Provision of AYA care:

- Late-effects units should be available in hospitals or cancer care facilities throughout the EU.
- AYAs should be followed by multidisciplinary teams throughout the cancer continuum, both as patients and as survivors;
- Improve health data portability
- Support implementation of “Right to be Forgotten” in all EU Member States;



Cancer Mission: other activities

Interacting with Cancer Mission Board

- Regular meetings & Ambassador activities

Organising citizen engagement activities

- Focus groups in several Member States (2022)
- Workshops and conference with young cancer survivors (2023)

Building of mission portfolios

- Creation of project clusters, e.g. “Understanding” and “Prevention”

Strengthening international cooperation

- Exploring areas of cooperation with US



Meetings and upcoming events

- **Cancer Mission Day Ireland:** 26 Sept. 2023 [EU Cancer Mission Day - Ireland](#)
- **European Health Forum Gastein:** session “*Boost mental health of young cancer survivors*”, 27 Sept. 2023, Bad Gastein, Austria, [European Health Forum Gastein](#)
- **European Week of Regions and Cities**, session “*National Cancer Mission Hubs*”, 12 Oct. 2023, Brussels [European Week of Regions and Cities](#) (only in person)
- **Conference on Personalised Medicine:** the evolution of healthcare to improve people's lives, Valencia, Spain, 4-5 Oct. 2023 (Satellite Session Cancer Mission Status, 3 October 2023) [Conference on Personalized medicine](#)



Links

- [EC Communication Missions 2023 \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [Commission staff working document](#)
- [Cancer Mission implementation plan 2021 \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Leaflet: [ec_rtd_eu-missions-cancer-leaflet-en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#) (24 languages)
- [Video: EU Mission on Cancer - Addressing the needs of Young Cancer Survivors](#)



EUROPEAN UNION



Thank you!

#EUmissions

#HorizonEU

#MissionCancer

RTD-SANTE-CANCER-MISSION@ec.europa.eu

© European Union, 2021

Reuse is authorised provided the source is acknowledged and the original meaning or message of the document are not distorted. The European Commission shall not be liable for any consequence stemming from the reuse. The reuse policy of the European Commission documents is implemented by Commission Decision 2011/833/EU of 12 December 2011 on the reuse of Commission documents (OJ L 330, 14.12.2011, p. 39).

All images © European Union, unless otherwise stated. Icons © Flaticon – all rights reserved.