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COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Progress report on multi-country projects

Accompanying the document

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

State of the Digital Decade 2026: Closing structural gaps and mobilising investments for 2030 and beyond

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European Commission

State of the Digital Decade 2026:

Progress report on multi-country projects

Contents

1. Introduction

This report looks at selected multi-country projects (MCPs) and European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs) in terms of progress made between May 2025 and May 2026. As background, we first outline the basic concepts linked to MCPs and EDICs, as spelled out in the Decision establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030 ('the DDPP Decision')[1]**.**

Governance structure for multi-country collaboration

The Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030 ('the DDPP') translates the vision of a digitally enabled society into a specific set of targets for the deployment of strategic digital capabilities. At the same time, the DDPP establishes a governance structure to enhance collaboration between the EU and its Member States, including in terms of identifying weaknesses and proposing common solutions. MCPs are large-scale projects financed by the EU and the Member States that will help achieve the digital targets set out in Article 4 of the DDPP Decision. MCPs are one of the building blocks of the governance structure, providing a tool to drive collective investment efforts in the high-priority areas outlined in the Annex to the DDPP Decision.

The purpose of MCPs is to:

- enable large-scale projects that no single Member State could develop on its own;
- pool resources to achieve economies of scale and increase impact;
- help reduce the digital divide between Member States;
- support an interconnected, interoperable and secure Digital Single Market;
- implement flagship initiatives that require cooperation between Member States.

[1] Decision (EU) 2022/2481 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030.

Areas of activity of MPCs, as listed in the Annex to the DDPP Decision:

- European common data infrastructure and services;
- endowing the Union with the next generation of low-power trusted processors;
- developing the pan-European deployment of 5G corridors;
- acquiring supercomputers and quantum computers, connected with European high-performance computing (EuroHPC);
- developing and deploying ultra-secure quantum and space-based communication infrastructures;
- deploying a network of security operations centres;
- connected public administration;
- European blockchain services infrastructure;
- European digital innovation hubs (EDIHs);
- high-tech partnerships for digital skills;
- skills and training in cybersecurity;
- other projects which meet all the requirements set out in Article 11 and which become necessary to achieve the general objectives of the DDPP;
- enable large-scale projects that no single Member State could develop on its own;
- pool resources to achieve economies of scale and increase impact;
- help reduce the digital divide between Member States;
- support an interconnected, interoperable and secure Digital Single Market;
- implement flagship initiatives for which cooperation among Member States is important.

Instruments through which MCPs can be implemented, under Article 11 of the DDPP Decision, are Joint Undertakings (JUs), European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs), EU agencies, Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs) and independent Member State actions. Since the DDPP was adopted, collaboration between the Member States and the Commission has been stepped up through **European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs), an implementing mechanism introduced by the DDPP.** Among the advantages of this legal instrument are a rapid and flexible set-up and a Member State taking the lead role in setting it up and operating the EDIC.

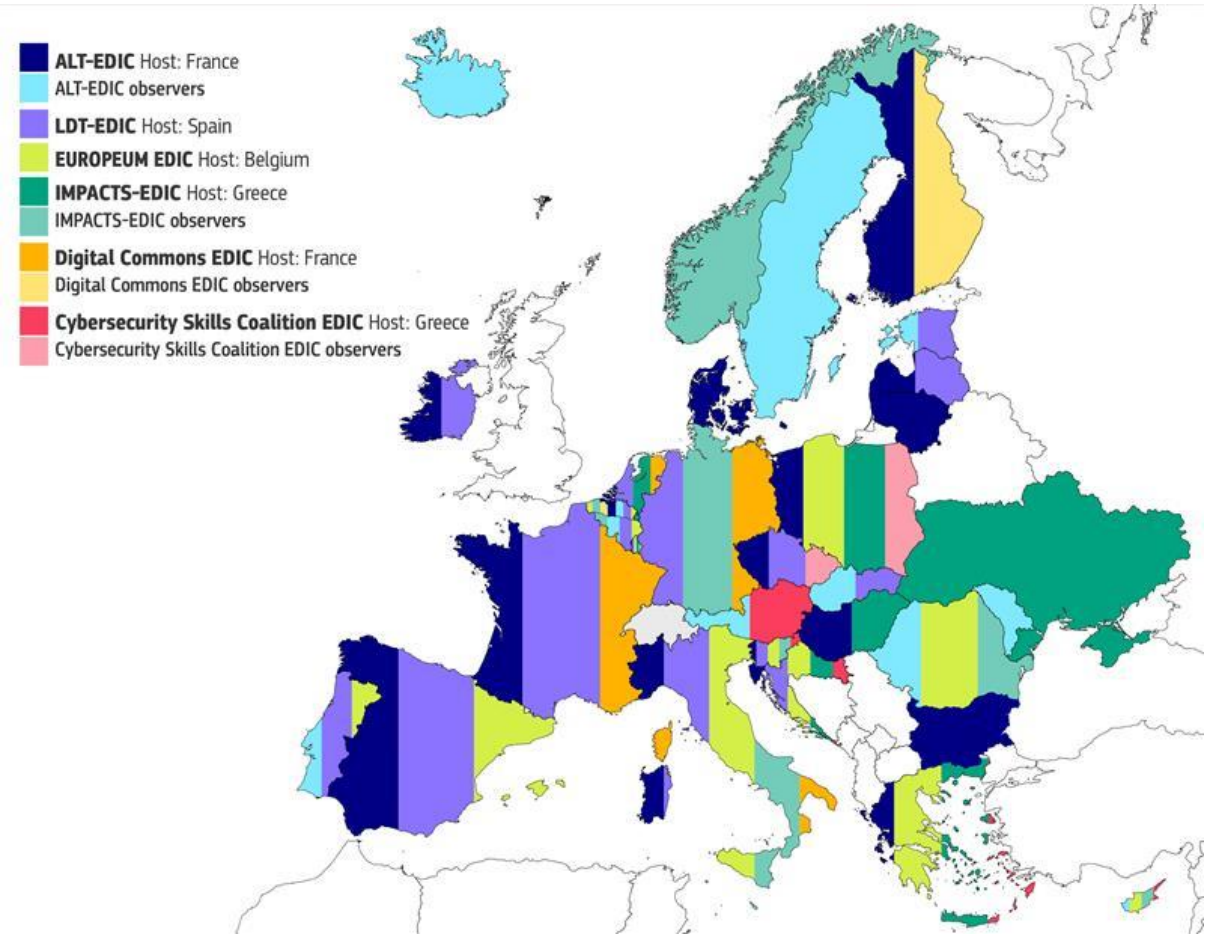
This report shows that the MCPs' areas of activity remained stable in the past year, allowing Member States and the Commission to concentrate on the many large-scale projects already ongoing to advance technological capabilities in those areas. The main new developments since May 2025 are the following initiatives with significant digital elements:

- Two new EDICs have been set up: the Digital Commons EDIC and the Innovative Massive Public Administration interConnected Transformation Services European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (IMPACTS-EDIC).
- Three EDICs established in 2024, the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC, the Local Digital Twins towards the CitiVERSE EDIC, and the EUROPEUM-EDIC have grown in size, become stable and are delivering their first results.

- Member States have submitted applications to set up two more EDICs, the Cybersecurity Skills Coalition (CSC) EDIC and the EDIC for Agrifood. Further EDICs are being prepared and initiatives to set up new EDICS are being considered.
- Two IPCEIs are now fully operational: the Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT), approved in mid-2023, and the Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS), approved in late 2023.
- On 22 July 2025, the Commission approved a second health-related IPCEI, the Tech4Cure IPCEI. A total of 10 companies from five Member States (France, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Slovenia) are participating with 10 projects that have substantial digital elements. The IPCEI will support cross-border research and innovation and the first industry deployment of medical devices with advanced and novel digital/AI solutions for predictive, preventive, and personalised medicine ('3P medicine'). The five Member States will provide up to EUR 403 million in public funding in the coming years, which is expected to unlock an additional EUR 826 million in private investments.
- The following candidate IPCEIs are currently in the design phase, where they are being shaped and prepared for pre-notification by the participating Member States: on Advanced Semiconductor Technologies, Artificial Intelligence and Compute Infrastructure Continuum.
- The Joint European Forum for IPCEI (JEF-IPCEI) has set up an identification working group for a potential future IPCEI on Clean Connected Autonomous Vehicles.
- The Chips JU and the EuroHPC JU are making good progress towards delivering on their expanded objectives.

Apart from these individual projects and infrastructures, efforts have also been invested in developing the EDIC ecosystem. The first annual EDIC gathering took place in November 2025 with close to 100 participants. It aimed to harness synergies, support the exchange of knowledge, help identify solutions to common challenges and facilitate a strategic discussion among the stakeholders about the future of EDICs. The minutes of the annual EDIC gathering and the recording of the first day of the event are available on the event webpage.

2. Existing European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs)



2.1 Alliance for Language Technologies European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (ALT-EDIC)

The Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC (ALT-EDIC) was established by the Commission on 7 February 2024 through Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/458.

ALT-EDIC is chaired by France and currently brings together 17 Member States as full members: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia and Spain; also, the Region of Flanders became a full member in March 2025. Nine other Member States participate as observers: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden. Iceland is also an observer country. Bulgaria expressed its intention to join as an observer.

ALT-EDIC helps achieve the objectives of the European Data Strategy by pooling Member States' efforts to collect, share and combine national language datasets, including through crowdsourcing initiatives. It supports the development and deployment of advanced multilingual language technologies by making available and allowing the reuse of high-quality multilingual data. In parallel, the Commission is making available high-quality language data from the EU institutions, covering all official EU

languages. Together, these efforts help boost Europe's technological competitiveness while safeguarding its linguistic diversity and cultural richness.

Soon after it had become fully operational in January 2025, ALT-EDIC launched into its activities, a key pillar of which is to coordinate or participate in several large-scale projects funded under the Digital Europe Programme. These projects collectively aim to build a coherent European language technology ecosystem, spanning the full value chain from data to models, infrastructure and deployment. They include:

- **ALT-EDIC4EU**, which focuses on setting up core infrastructure, including a European centre for evaluating language technologies, mapping the LT landscape and organising capacity-building activities such as training and workshops;
- **LLMs4EU**, which supports high-quality dataset collection, model fine-tuning, and the provision of tools and services for SMEs and other stakeholders;
- **LLM-BRIDGE**, which aims to strengthen European generative AI ecosystems by supporting start-ups and scale-ups that develop and deploy LLM-based solutions and their investors;
- **OpenEuroLLM**, a flagship initiative that brings together leading research organisations and EuroHPC centres with the aim of developing high-performance, multilingual and open large language models with a strong focus on transparency, compliance and accessibility.

ALT-EDIC is also set to play a key role in the governance and long-term sustainability of the European Language Data Space (LDS), developed under the Digital Europe Programme. The LDS enables the secure exchange and monetisation of language data in line with EU rules. Preparations are underway to transfer the LDS to ALT-EDIC by the end of the current contract (Q1 2027), ensuring continuity and sustainability of the platform.

In addition, ALT-EDIC will facilitate access for SMEs, public administrations, academia and NGOs, among other European stakeholders, to AI-based multilingual services developed by the Commission. These include tools for automatic translation, speech transcription, anonymisation and other language processing capabilities, supporting the uptake of language technologies across Europe.

The EDIC can be contacted here.

2.2. European Digital Infrastructure Consortium for Networked Local Digital Twins towards the CitiVERSE (LDT CitiVERSE EDIC)

The Local Digital Twins – CitiVERSE EDIC was established on 7 February 2024 by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/459.

The founding Member States were initially Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Latvia, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. Belgium, Luxembourg and Slovakia also joined the original notification and are considered founding Member States. The constituent assembly was held on 12 December 2024 at the seat of this EDIC (Valencia, Spain), where three new Member States (Italy, the Netherlands and Ireland) joined. The legal establishment process finished in March 2025. As of May 2026, 15 Member States are members: Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany (joined February 2026), Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and the Netherlands.

The Director was appointed in November 2025, and the management team is fully operational. The EDIC can be contacted here. The Local Digital Twins – CitiVERSE EDIC aims to build a shared European digital infrastructure and ecosystem to speed up the adoption of interoperable and reusable local digital twins, making cities and communities across Europe more liveable and sustainable. It supports the Commission's priorities for the digital and green transitions and contributes to initiatives such as the New European Bauhaus.

The EDIC connects current local digital twins and helps Member States and their cities pool resources for joint digital infrastructures, advanced digital services, best practices, and user-driven applications. A key goal is to ensure the sustainability and scalability of infrastructures and applications funded by the Digital Europe Programme, thereby supporting the digital transformation of cities and regions while securing European values and digital sovereignty.

The strategic priorities of Local Digital Twins – CitiVERSE EDIC include providing a common European infrastructure and toolbox for local digital twins, implementing an EU architecture blueprint for smart community data spaces, and, based on practice, validating interoperable, robust, AI-based smart community solutions in real-life city 'sandboxes'.

2.3. European Digital Infrastructure Consortium for European Blockchain Partnership and European Blockchain Service Infrastructure (EUROPEUM-EDIC)

The European Blockchain Partnership and European Blockchain Services Infrastructure EDIC (EUROPEUM-EDIC) was created on 21 May 2024 by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/1432, with nine members (representing Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Italy, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania and Slovenia). Poland joined shortly afterwards and Spain joined in early 2025, increasing the number of members to 11. Sweden has indicated its intention to join as a member, as have some other Member States, and more countries could join at a later stage. The EDIC is seated in Brussels, Belgium.

EUROPEUM-EDIC was set up to establish and operate the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI) with the aim of delivering EU-wide cross-border services in areas of public interest. Beyond supporting the EBSI MCP, EUROPEUM-EDIC fosters cross-border cooperation between public authorities on decentralised technologies. It also aims to ensure interoperability between other solutions and technologies (including blockchain protocols, smart contracts, and applications) and create better conditions for innovation across the EU.

The Director started their mandate in October 2025, with a Chief Technology Officer and a wider team also in place by the last quarter of 2025. EBSI quickly became operational and had been fully transferred (from the Commission to EUROPEUM) by the end of the first quarter of 2026. The EBSI production phase is scheduled to start as of the second quarter of 2026. The objective is now to move from pilots to actual implementation in use cases concerning, among others, EUROPEUM member countries and the EU institutions.

The EDIC can be contacted here.

2.4. European Digital Infrastructure Consortium for Digital Commons (DC-EDIC)

The Digital Commons EDIC was created on 29 October 2025 by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/2170, with five Member States, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, as members. Finland, and the Region of Flanders, have joined as observers and Denmark, Finland and Poland are interested in obtaining this status. The EDIC is seated in Paris, France.

The Digital Commons EDIC aims to build a European community around digital commons by boosting public funding and facilitating access to funding, supporting development and scale-up, and participating in digital commons projects. It seeks to act as a one-stop shop for stakeholders such as open-source communities and developers, serve as an incubator for strategic digital commons, and accelerate joint projects such as the European digital workplace. Through collaborative and open governance models, the DC-EDIC also supports the development and scaling of reusable digital solutions and common digital infrastructures that can strengthen interoperability, resilience and cooperation across Member States.

The EDIC's specific objectives include: (i) acting as a one-stop shop for various stakeholders such as open source communities, developers and adopters and promoting the use of open source digital solutions; (ii) becoming an incubator for the development and maintenance of strategic digital commons; and (iii) accelerating the roll-out and implementation of joint projects such as the European digital workplace (based on France and Germany's Open Desk / La Suite Numérique).

The Digital Commons EDIC aims to contribute to the following MCP areas of activity spelled out in the Annex to the DDPP Decision: (i) European common data infrastructure and services; and (ii) connected public administration. It will also help achieve general objectives of the DDPP (Article 3) such as promoting a human-centred, inclusive, transparent, secure and open digital environment and ensuring digital sovereignty. The EDIC will create synergies with the European Digital Innovation Hubs.

2.5. European Digital Infrastructure Consortium for Innovative Massive Public Administration interConnected Transformation Services (IMPACTS-EDIC)

IMPACTS-EDIC was created on 2 December 2025 by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/2414, with six Member States (Greece, Croatia, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland and Luxembourg) as members, together with Ukraine. Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Italy, Moldova, Norway, Romania and Slovenia are observers.

IMPACTS-EDIC intends to develop reusable, digital solutions for public administrations that will help implement EU policies and that can be further disseminated through the Interoperable Europe Board (governance body established by the Interoperable Europe Act). In addition, IMPACTS-EDIC aims to help meet the priorities of the Interoperable Europe Agenda by providing solutions and taking implementing actions in line with the annual strategic roadmap. Furthermore, it focuses on creating innovative public services, enabling cross-border cooperation, and reducing administrative barriers for the public and businesses. IMPACTS-EDIC also contributes to the Connected Public Administration MCP area of activity.

Several IMPACTS-EDIC workstreams aim to help create innovative public services and new reusable interoperable solutions, exploiting the following current EU and national initiatives:

- the European Trans-border Information Architecture (BOARD-IA);
- the data analytics platform for public administrations in the EU;
- the platform for the co-creation of cross-border public services;
- the regulatory sandbox for data exchange between Member States;
- the EU Digital Identity Wallet (EUDIW), a secure, personalised and user-controlled tool enabling people to prove their identity, share documents, and sign digitally;
- the secure and interoperable cross-border network for the exchange of data;
- 'zero-distance public administration', aiming to ensure that the public and businesses have access to the public services and the information they need with minimal administrative barriers and delays, regardless of location.

3. European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs) in the making

3.1. Progress towards setting up the Cybersecurity Skills Coalition EDIC (CSC-EDIC)

In early 2026 a formal application to set up a Cybersecurity Skills Coalition EDIC was submitted by five Member States that would join as members: Greece, Cyprus, Austria, Croatia, and Slovenia. Poland and the Czech Republic would join as observers. The application is currently under evaluation.

The CSC-EDIC aims to address the cybersecurity skills gap across Member States to strengthen the EU's competitiveness, growth, and resilience. It should support key organisations like the European Commission, ENISA, and the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre in implementing the Cybersecurity Skills Academy initiative. The EDIC intends to focus on upskilling and reskilling professionals, particularly within SMEs and public administrations. The CSC-EDIC intends to help develop competencies that align with emerging market needs, focusing on cybersecurity skills that meet the requirements of recently adopted EU legislation and initiatives, including the NIS2 Directive, the Cyber Resilience Act and the European Action Plan on the Cybersecurity of Hospitals and Healthcare providers.

This commitment is set out in the Communication of the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council 'Closing the cybersecurity talent gap to boost the EU's competitiveness, growth, and resilience' ('The Cybersecurity Skills Academy')[2].

3.2. Progress towards setting up the EDIC for Agri-Food

In early 2026 a formal application to set up an EDIC for Agri-Food was submitted by eight Member States that would join as members: France, Austria, Finland, Croatia, Italy, Netherlands, Romania and Slovenia, as well as the Region of Flanders. Three Member States, Germany, Spain and Ireland, would join as observers. The application is currently under evaluation.

The Agri-Food EDIC aims to leverage digital and data technologies to reduce administrative burdens in the agri-food sector, enhance competitiveness and sustainability, and improve data sharing and availability, including for AI. A key focus is the implementation of a digital Farm ID aligned with the EU Digital Identity and business wallets systems to simplify B2B and B2G data exchanges, especially across borders, while harnessing AI capabilities and fostering AI deployment in multi-country settings. The EDIC plans to build on existing and upcoming assets, such as the Common European Agricultural Data Space.

The Agri-Food EDIC will contribute to the European common data infrastructure and services MCP area of activity, spelled out in the Decision establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030.

[2] COM/2023/207 final

3.3. Progress towards setting up the Genome EDIC

On 31 March 2023, the special group of national representatives on the 1+ Million Genomes initiative endorsed, as their preferred approach, creating an EDIC to run the future European Genomic Data Infrastructure (GDI).

The 1+ Million Genomes (1+MG) initiative aims to create a European GDI to enable secure access to genomics and related clinical data across Europe. The goal is to support research, personalised healthcare, and health policymaking. The Genome EDIC would ensure the sustainable operation of the GDI, governed by agreed data governance and mandates laid down by Member States, contributing to the European common data infrastructure and services MCP area.

In June 2023, nine Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Luxembourg and Spain) put forward an initial draft of EDIC application, with Luxembourg offering to host the EDIC. The governmental group on the GDI project, made up of representatives of more than 20 Member States, acts as the EDIC informal working group. Besides reflecting on the requirements and features of a future EDIC, the group has been working on the data governance and legal arrangements for the European GDI and its alignment with the European Health Data Space. In March 2024, the working group set up a task force that started work on the EDIC application; Luxembourg, France, Italy, Sweden, Denmark and Czechia signed an initial letter of intent to join. In February 2026 the task force finalised the application package. On that basis, all Member States were invited to join the EDIC as founding members and the process of collecting endorsements began. The application is expected to be submitted in the second quarter of 2026, allowing the EDIC, subject to the positive assessment by the Commission, to be set up by the end of 2026.

3.4. Progress towards setting up the Cancer Image Europe (EUCAIM) EDIC

The Cancer Image Europe platform[3], established under the EUCAIM project funded by the Digital Europe Programme, is part of the European Cancer Imaging Initiative. It is intended to be a cross-border, interoperable, and secure infrastructure making large amounts of cancer image data and associated clinical information available to clinicians, researchers and innovators. Moreover, it will be involved in developing, benchmarking, testing and piloting innovative AI-based tools for personalised cancer diagnosis and treatment. In 2025, the Cancer Image Europe Infrastructure transitioned from its initial deployment phase to a more production-ready ecosystem. Operational from 2026, it now offers a growing public catalogue of more than 80 medical imaging datasets, across nine cancer types. It also provides over 35 preprocessing tools, a federated analysis toolbox and an execution manager enabling distributed training of AI algorithms. The platform is being further enhanced through the EU4Health BreastScan and UNICA projects. Establishing an EDIC would ensure the sustainable operation and long-term viability of the Cancer Image Europe data infrastructure when the EUCAIM project has ended, also enabling the platform to be brought into line with the European Health Data Space regulatory framework.

The working group on EUCAIM EDIC was set up on 3 August 2023. As of January 2026, Spain, France, Italy, Latvia, Czechia, Sweden, Poland, Cyprus, Estonia, Malta, Luxembourg and Hungary participate through officially appointed representatives. Portugal, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Croatia, Greece, Germany and Belgium participate as observers or are represented by institutions participating in the EUCAIM project. Spain is the coordinating country and Valencia has been proposed as the EDIC's

[3] https://cancerimage.eu/

seat. EUCAIM EDIC would seek to contribute to the European common data infrastructure and services MCP area of activity spelled out in the DDPP Decision. An informal pre-notification of the EDIC was submitted to the Commission on 21 January 2025 by Spain, France and Latvia.

3.5. Progress towards setting up the EDIC for Mobility and Logistics (EDIC M&L)

In June 2023, the Netherlands, Finland and Germany submitted a pre-notification for a Mobility and Logistics Data EDIC, later renamed EDIC for Mobility and Logistics (EDIC M&L).

The EDIC M&L would aim to help effectively implement the European common data infrastructure and services, an MCP area of activity spelled out in the DDPP Decision, focusing in particular on mobility and transport. It would seek to boost the application of data and AI-driven innovations by: (i) supporting the coordinated application of cross-border use cases (e.g. freight visibility in multimodal logistics chains, traffic management); and (ii) encouraging Member States and key actors to share knowledge and to coordinate and draw up collective agreements as a basis for sustainable digital infrastructure for mobility and logistics.

The core group of six Member States (Germany, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden) is expected to submit a formal application to set up the EDIC M&L in the second or third quarter of 2026. At this stage, Germany is expected to host the EDIC.

3.6. Possible set-up of the Europe Startup Nations Alliance (ESNA) EDIC

The EU Startup Nations Standard (EU SNS) initiative was launched in March 2021 to encourage Member States to put in place the best possible framework conditions and regulatory environment for start-ups. Eight relevant policy areas (or 'standards of excellence'), where Member States act within their national powers, are set out in the political declaration on EU SNS3 signed in March 2021 by ministers from 27 countries (all Member States except Hungary and Iceland). To move from political aspirations to an operational reality, a legal entity – the Europe Startup Nations Alliance (ESNA) – was established in December 2021 under Portuguese law.

ESNA is a first-of-a-kind approach, driven by Member States, towards creating a better regulatory framework for start-ups. ESNA has a full-time management board and has received funding of EUR 8.5 million for its first four years of operation. To date, 21 of the 27 signatory countries have completed the formal process for joining ESNA. These countries not only account for 86% of the EU's GDP and 93% of its population, but are also home to 82% of its unicorns. In addition, Ukraine joined ESNA in 2024 with non-voting rights.

At the end of 2024, ESNA secured a grant of EUR 1 million from Horizon Europe to help it scale up operations and prepare for being converted into an EDIC. If set up, the EDIC would be well-positioned to contribute to MCP areas of other projects referred to in point (l) of the Annex to the DDPP Decision.

During 2025 the ESNA leadership has been working on the statutes of a future EDIC, and a formal application to set up ESNA EDIC is expected in the second or third quarter of 2026.

3.7. Early-stage initiatives

EBRAINS EDIC

EBRAINS is a European distributed digital research infrastructure created by the EU's Human Brain Project. It aims to promote and speed up advances in neuroscience, brain health research and neuro-inspired technology, including next-generation AI.

EBRAINS provides the scientific community with curated brain data, multilevel brain atlases, simulation and modelling tools and medical data analytics platforms. It also gives access to high-performance computing resources, large-scale data storage and neuromorphic systems, all tailored to support neuroscience. It operates through a network of National Nodes in 12 countries, with nine full member institutions and 34 associate members.

EBRAINS is positioned to become the platform for the European Brain Data Space, aligned with the European Health Data Space, with the aim of bridging basic and clinical brain research. It seeks to make collaborative digital neuroscience a pillar of scientific research, helping reproducible brain science to become the norm. Moreover, the infrastructure's Innovation and Technology transfer hub will facilitate a dialogue between EBRAINS and relevant industrial players, entrepreneurs and capital investors.

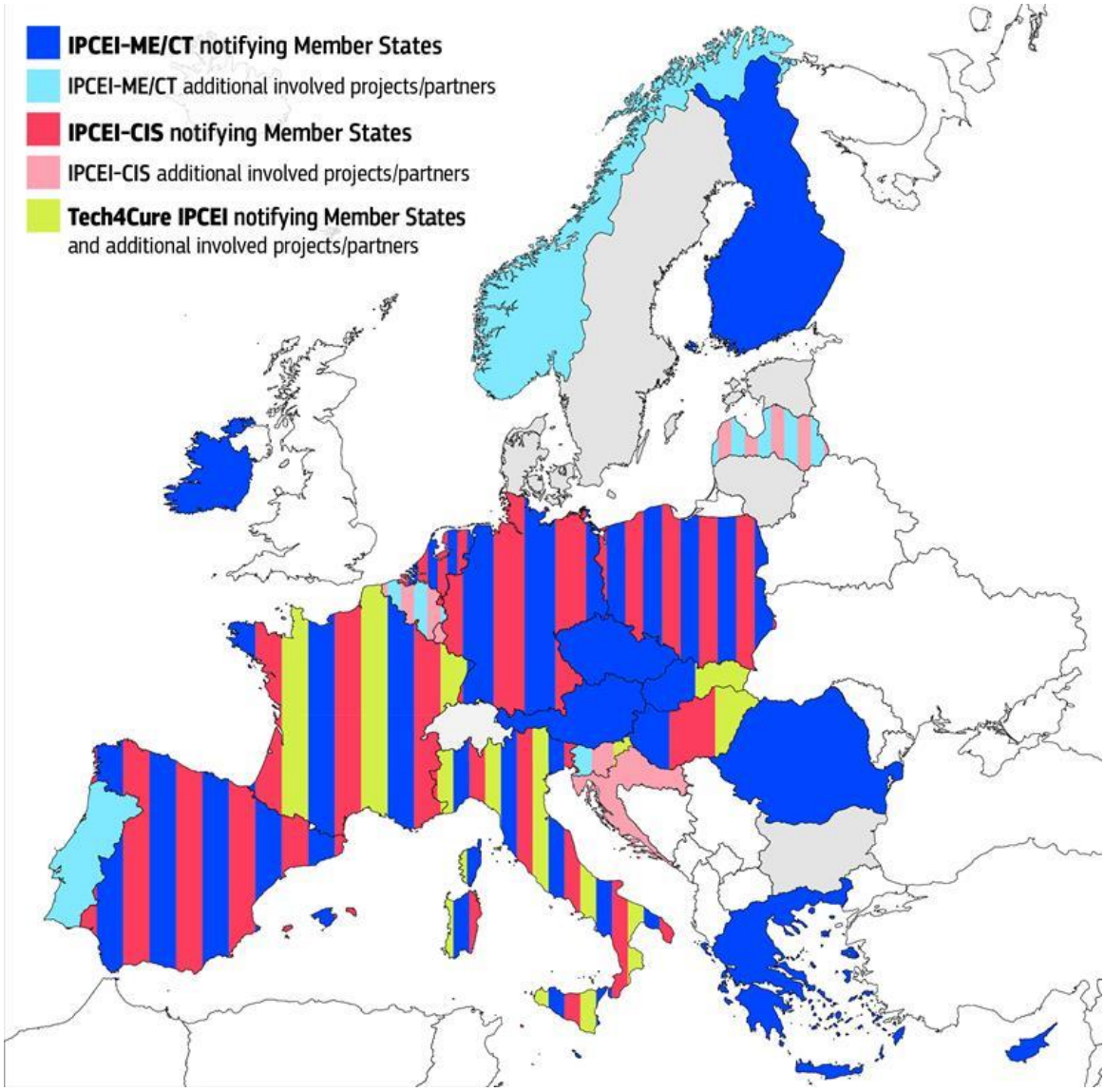
Currently, EBRAINS is actively building a founding coalition of EU Member States with the aim of submitting an application to become an EDIC. Its current funding model mainly relies on two consecutive Horizon Europe grants, of EUR 38 and EUR 32 million respectively, covering research infrastructure operations and further developments till the end of 2029. As for the future, its infrastructure sustainability model will be based on four complementary streams: Member State contributions to the EDIC, EU grants via Framework Programme participation, AISBL membership fees, and industry revenue.

Health TEF EDIC

TEF-Health offers potential clients a catalogue of services, including access to physical and virtual infrastructure for conducting testing activities; access to health data in a regulatory-compliant manner; support for clinical trials; business development support and market positioning; scientific and technological expertise; and ethics and regulatory compliance services.

The project is conducted by a consortium led by Charité University Medicine Berlin, composed of 52 public and private organisations from nine Member States, including certifiers, standardisation authorities, university hospitals and research organisations. TEF-Health is looking to develop a sustainability model that will allow it to a) ensure the continuity of investments; b) provide continuity of service delivery; c) provide the necessary guarantees of professionalism and service quality; and d) update its portfolio to take account of changes in the target market (developers of AI services for health care), the regulatory environment, and national and EU strategies. Such sustainability issues can only be addressed by founding an autonomous legal entity, potentially an EDIC.

4. Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs)



4.1. Potential IPCEI candidates in the area of digital

Based on work conducted by the JEF-IPCEI since 2023 to identify potential IPCEI candidates, eight candidates have entered the design phase with the support of the IPCEI Design Support Hub. Of these, three are in the field of digital:

- IPCEI-AI: this IPCEI in the area of artificial intelligence would seek to develop next-generation AI technologies for data processing and orchestration, sovereign AI foundation models and sector-specific foundations models offering a range of innovative AI capabilities and thus strengthening AI sovereignty and facilitating access for EU industry innovative and sovereign AI capabilities
- IPCEI-CIC: this IPCEI in the area of computing infrastructure would seek to deploy the next generation of sovereign, federated and distributed computing infrastructure as a necessary for the deployment and uptake of technologies, including but not limited to AI, in the European Digital Single Market.

- IPCEI-AST: this IPCEI in the area of advanced semiconductor technologies would seek to create a novel European ecosystem of highly innovative semiconductor technologies able to meet EU industry's most strategic requirements while at the same time boosting EU competitiveness and resilience.

The JEF-IPCEI continues its work to identify potential IPCEIs in the area of clean, connected and autonomous vehicles. A new candidate IPCEI on Critical Raw Materials entered into the design phase in May 2026.

4.2. Approved IPCEIs in the area of digital

4.2.1 IPCEI Innovative medical devices and support software (Tech4Cure)

In July 2025, the Commission approved the Tech4Cure IPCEI, which had been prepared and notified by five Member States: France, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Slovenia. A total of 10 companies from these countries are participating in the IPCEI with 10 projects. The IPCEI will support cross-border research and innovation and the first industry deployment of medical devices with advanced and novel digital/AI solutions to support predictive, preventive, and personalised medicine ('3P medicine'). The five Member States will provide up to EUR 403 million in public funding in the coming years, which is expected to unlock an additional EUR 826 million in private investments.

IPCEI Tech4Cure aims to address emerging healthcare challenges and meet the evolving demands and needs of healthcare providers and patients, focusing in particular on the development and validation of medical devices in support of 3P medicine. It will promote innovative medical devices that put major medical and technical advancements to practical use, while at the same time ensuring improved access to health care. According to the participating Member States, the results achieved by IPCEI Tech4Cure have the potential to sustainably improve the quality, safety and effectiveness of treatments for patients. IPCEI Tech4Cure also contributes to the EU's digital strategy by supporting the green and digital twin transition. In particular, there are several projects focusing on digital solutions for 3P medicine: connected devices, online platforms, software, IoT, data collection and use, and AI development. Data use and AI could help develop tailored solutions for patients in terms of prediction, prevention and personalisation of treatments and diagnostics. IPCEI Tech4Cure will also enable the European medical devices sector to embrace the crucial shift towards digitalisation, ultimately offering better health outcomes. Moreover, the support will help firms guarantee compliance with data protection and its fair use for patients and customers. The IPCEI will also contribute to the European Action Plan on the Cybersecurity of Hospitals and Healthcare Providers by ensuring that digital solutions in the medical sector, developed through this IPCEI, will include suitable security measures to fend off cyber-risks.

4.2.2 IPCEI on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT)

In June 2023, the Commission approved the IPCEI-ME/CT, which had been jointly prepared and notified by 14 Member States (Austria, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Spain). The IPCEI currently covers 57 projects out of an initial 68 (after some projects have been withdrawn and others finished early), involving 47 companies that cooperate closely with more than 30 associated companies, including from other Member States (Belgium, Hungary, Latvia, Portugal and Slovenia) and Norway. In total, 20 European countries are involved. In addition, around 600 indirect partners, companies and organisations benefit from its dissemination activities through collaboration agreements with one or more direct IPCEI-ME/CT participants.

IPCEI-ME/CT is now fully operational. Participants meet at the annual general assembly, most recently in November 2025, a key event allowing them to discuss technical aspects and report on activity, dissemination, and networking. Reporting to the Commission on current activities takes place on an ongoing basis. The next general assembly is scheduled for November 2026 in Malta.

Member States will disburse around EUR 7 billion in public funding, which is expected to unlock an additional EUR 12 billion in private investments.

IPCEI-ME/CT works on research and development projects covering microelectronics and communication technologies across the whole value chain from materials and tools to chip design and manufacturing processes. Its projects seek to come up with innovative microelectronics and communication solutions and develop energy-efficient and resource-saving electronics systems and manufacturing methods to enable the digital and green transitions. They contribute to technological advancement in many sectors, including communications, autonomous driving, AI and quantum computing.

4.2.3. IPCEI on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS)

In December 2023, the Commission approved the IPCEI on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS) under State aid rules. The initiative had been jointly notified by seven Member States (France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain).

The participating countries will support the initiative with up to EUR 1.2 billion in public funding to enable the implementation of 19 highly innovative projects. On top of this, the initiative is expected to attract EUR 1.4 billion in private investments. IPCEI-CIS has already launched around 120 projects across Europe.

Beyond IPCEI-CIS's direct participants, the wider IPCEI-CIS ecosystem includes over 90 indirect partners, including large, medium and small businesses, start-ups, and research institutions from five more EU Member States (Belgium, Croatia, Latvia, Luxembourg, and Slovenia).

IPCEI-CIS is the first IPCEI in the cloud and edge computing domain. It is developing the first interoperable and open European data processing ecosystem, the multi-provider cloud-to-edge continuum. It will develop data processing capabilities and software and data sharing tools that enable federated, energy-efficient and trustworthy cloud and edge-distributed data processing technologies and related services. IPCEI-CIS innovations will open up a wide new range of possibilities for European businesses and the public, helping to advance the digital and green transitions in Europe.

Results achieved by IPCEI-CIS are building blocks of the 8ra initiative, a long-term umbrella framework designed to ensure that European cloud-edge innovations have a broader impact beyond any single programme. It does so by fostering take-up, continuity and collaboration across industry, research and policy stakeholders. The official release of the first version of the IPCEI-CIS Reference Architecture, a common blueprint for stakeholders across countries and sectors designed to enable interoperable, scalable digital services, was a major milestone for the 8ra initiative that will lay the technical foundation for a trustworthy cloud-edge continuum in Europe.

IPCEI-CIS will be key to drive the adoption of the technology necessary to achieve two of the Digital Decade's targets: (i) 75% of EU companies using cloud, AI or big data; and (ii) 10 000 climate-neutral, highly secure edge nodes deployed across Europe by 2030.

4.2.4. IPCEI in Microelectronics (IPCEI-ME) – completed

The first IPCEI in the area of microelectronics was approved in December 2018, with 32 participants from five countries: Germany, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, and (from July 2019) Austria. Its overall approved State-aid funding came to around EUR 1.9 billion, in addition to EUR 6.5 billion in private investments. With 43 projects from five countries collaborating across five technological areas, ICPEI-ME successfully supported research, innovation, development and first industry deployment projects of its direct participants. The participating companies were also able to secure existing jobs, create new jobs and carry out numerous spillover activities at EU level. A number of the Member States and companies that participated in IPCEI-ME are now involved in IPCEI-ME/CT.

IPCEI-ME was selected for the first pilot evaluation to assess IPCEI outputs and impact in the long term. The assessment is being carried out by the JEF-IPCEI with the help of the Joint Research Centre and the results are expected in the fourth quarter of 2026.

5. Joint Undertakings

5.1. Chips Joint Undertaking (former Key Digital Technologies (KDT) JU)

The Chips JU was set up under Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, as amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2023/1782. It started operations on 21 September 2023, the date on which the EU Chips Act entered into force. Before the amendment Regulation entered into force, the Chips JU's predecessor, the Key Digital Technologies JU (KDT JU), extensively supported industrially-driven research, technology development, and innovation in the area of electronic components and systems. The scope of the new Chips JU was extended to allow it to meet the following objectives of the Chips for Europe Initiative under the Chips Act: (i) set up a chips design platform; (ii) enhance existing advanced pilot lines and develop new ones; (iii) build capacity to accelerate the development of quantum chips and associated semiconductor technologies; and (iv) establish a network of competence centres across the EU.

The Chips JU is a tripartite partnership made up of the Commission (representing the EU), the participating States (Member States and countries associated with Horizon Europe and/or the Digital Europe Programme), and private members, i.e. the three industry associations Aeneas, Inside and EPoSS. The JU receives funding from Horizon Europe (up to EUR 2.725 billion) and the Digital Europe Programme (up to EUR 1.450 billion). The participating States match this amount, and the private members have committed to contribute at least EUR 2.5 billion.

In 2025 the Chips JU continued, in the framework of the Chips for Europe Initiative, to implement the five pilot lines selected in 2024, which receive EU funding of EUR 1.85 billion from the Horizon Europe and Digital Europe programmes, matched by funding from the participating States. The pilot lines focus on five key areas: (i) beyond 2 nm leading-edge system-on-chip; (ii) fully depleted silicon-on-insulator applications; (iii) advanced packaging; (iv) wide-band gap materials; and (v) photonic integrated circuits. Additionally, six framework partnership agreements have been signed for pilot lines focusing on quantum chip technology. These are expected to be implemented through specific grant agreements providing EUR 150 million in funding and a matching amount from the participating States.

There are plans to develop a cloud-based design platform to strengthen the European chip design ecosystem. A platform coordination team has been selected to host the design platform's virtual infrastructure and central services, coordinating access to a wide range of tools, assets and services, and to help the Chips JU procure a cloud platform. In 2025, nine design enablement teams were selected to help users set up and customise design environments and flows, and to deploy Electronic Design Automation tools on the cloud. In addition, a call was launched for financial and technical support for fabless start-ups. A European network of competence centres in semiconductors, consisting of 30 competence centres and a coordination action across all Member States and Norway, also received EU funding of around EUR 100 million, matched by the participating States. Finally, six quantum chip pilots were selected in 2025, with six different technology platforms.

The Chips JU also continues to support R&D collaborative projects in electronic components and systems funded by Horizon Europe. Beyond the general open Innovation Action (IA) and Research and Innovation Action (RIA) calls under the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, there have been calls to support: (i) automotive hardware and software-defined vehicles; and (ii) semiconductor R&I cooperation between the EU and Japan. These topics, among others, were backed by total EU funding of EUR 231 million in 2025, supplemented by funding from the participating States and industry.

The Chips JU's role will be key to achieve the Chips Act's objectives, in particular that of bridging the gap between research, innovation and production to enable the commercialisation of innovative ideas.

5.2. European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC)

The EuroHPC JU promotes MCP initiatives in the area of supercomputing, artificial intelligence and quantum computing. It develops, deploys and maintains a federated, secure, and hyper-connected supercomputing, quantum computing, service and data infrastructure that makes the EU a world leader in this field. The EuroHPC JU enables Member States to coordinate their supercomputing strategies and pool their investments in supercomputers and quantum computers. This in turn allows them to deliver advanced services across Europe to a wide range of users, including academic and industrial users, SMEs and the public, through applications that will improve people's everyday lives and help tackle the challenges facing the planet. This approach is necessary because purchasing and owning supercomputers and quantum computers requires high levels of public and private investments. The estimated costs are as follows:

- Mid-range supercomputer – investment per system: EUR 30-50 million;
- High-end supercomputers – investment per system: EUR 150-500 million;
- Quantum computers (as stand-alone machines or supercomputer accelerators) – investment per machine: EUR 50-250 million.

To date, the EuroHPC JU has procured 11 supercomputers located across Europe: (i) LUMI – Finland; (ii) Leonardo – Italy; (iii) MareNostrum 5 – Spain; (iv) MeluXina – Luxembourg; (v) Karolina – Czechia; (vi) Discoverer – Bulgaria; (vii) Vega – Slovenia; (viii) Deucalion – Portugal; (ix) Jupiter – Germany and, more recently, (x) Mimer in Sweden and (xi) Dedalus in Greece. Through EuroHPC Access Calls, these supercomputers are available to users from the public sector, industry or academia anywhere in Europe.

In 2024, the EuroHPC JU received a new mandate to develop and run AI factories. These will be centred around EuroHPC supercomputing facilities and will support the growth of a highly competitive and innovative AI ecosystem in Europe. 19 AI Factories and 13 AI Factory Antennas have been selected and are gradually becoming operational across its participating States (Member States and associated countries). Interconnected AI Factories and Antennas will operate as a federated network ensuring seamless collaboration, efficient resource sharing, and secure cross-border access, strengthening Europe's strategic autonomy in critical digital capabilities. AI Factories and AI Factory Antennas have mobilised total funding of EUR 2.6 billion to be invested in European AI excellence as part of a sovereign, world-class AI and HPC ecosystem. This includes the procurement of 15 new EuroHPC AI-optimised supercomputers plus one major upgrade, resulting in a five-fold increase in AI computing capacity. This network of public supercomputers will provide an open environment for AI researchers and innovators in strategic sectors such as life science, manufacturing, climate, space, finance, cybersecurity, agri-tech, culture, and more.

In this context, in September 2025 the EU entered the exascale era with the launch of Jupiter, the first European supercomputer capable of performing one billion calculations per second. This supercomputer serves one of the selected AI Factories. In November 2025, three EuroHPC systems ranked among the top 10 of the most performant supercomputers in the world.