
A YEAR OF RENEWAL AT THE EUI



A YEAR OF **RENEWAL** AT THE EUI

The year 2025 marked a period of renewal and forward momentum for the EUI. Building on the foundations laid in the previous year, the Institute has embraced a clearer strategic direction rooted in its original mission, launched new initiatives, and fostered a strengthened spirit of openness and collaboration across its community. This annual report reflects that evolution. Lighter in tone and refreshed in design, it captures a year defined by energy, creativity, and shared purpose. Through a curated selection of strategic novelties from across the Institute, the report illustrates how the EUI is renewing its commitment to academic excellence, intellectual freedom, and engagement with the world.

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EUI IN NUMBERS

24 Member States

1,000+ Scholars

90+ Countries

460+ Faculty, academic, and research staff

120+ Global Partners

EUI PEOPLE

Full and part-time professors	221
Academic and research staff	231
Doctoral researchers and students	701
Global Executive Master students	49
Max Weber Fellows	68
Simone Veil, Fernand Braudel, Jean Monnet, and CIVICA Fellows	59
Policy Leader Fellows	20
Alumni	8,495
Professional staff	375
Countries represented	97

RESEARCH AND TRAINING

Defended PhD and LLM theses	116
EUI research outputs	1,413
ERC projects	17
External funding for research activities	32,399,375 EUR
Summer schools	13
Executive education and training activities	129
Executive education and training participants	5,086

ENGAGING EXTERNALLY

 **126**
Global partners

 **140+**
Research storytelling contents

 **27K+**
Monthly research newsletter subscribers

 **7M+**
Website page views

 **500K+**
Total social media followers



2024 RESEARCH OUTPUT

(source: Cadmus, EUI research repository)

Books	76
Contributions to books	248
Theses	161
Articles	609
Working papers	115
Technical reports	95
Policy papers, briefs (Other)	81
Datasets	22
Videos	6
Total	1,413
Full text	80% (1,122)
Open Access	66% (930)



OUR COMMUNITY

Political and Social Sciences

The *Department of Political and Social Sciences* addresses contemporary challenges facing European politics and societies. As one of Europe's leading centres for research on politics and comparative politics, political theory, international relations, and sociology, the Department fosters cross-disciplinary research conversations where ideas and findings converge.

Economics

The *Department of Economics* prepares researchers across a wide range of theoretical and applied research topics. Following foundational courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics, the Department offers courses, seminars, conferences, and other activities that advance understanding of economic systems and prepare researchers for policy debates on economic and social issues in the EU and beyond.

History and Civilisation

The *Department of History and Civilisation* focuses on global, comparative, and transnational approaches to the history of Europe in the world since 1400. The Department encourages critical reflection on the research, writing, teaching, and dissemination of history across national borders, and empowers researchers to relate historical research to contemporary challenges.

Law

The *Department of Law* addresses challenges in European law, international law, and private and public law. The Department runs a structured PhD programme with interactive, research-oriented courses designed to equip future legal academics with essential professional skills. Scholarship produced at the Department spans doctrinal, empirical, socio-legal, and critical methods.

Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

Established in 1993, the *Robert Schuman Centre* is an interdisciplinary research centre that develops cutting-edge academic research and engages with stakeholders in the public and private sectors. The Centre hosts eight research programmes and 350 scholars and staff members.

Florence School of Transnational Governance

The *Florence School of Transnational Governance* trains current and future leaders in the methods, skills, and theory of governance beyond the state, equipping them to address global challenges. As a hub for research-based teaching and training, the School bridges theory and practice through its two-year Master in Transnational Governance, Global Executive Master, executive training courses, and Policy Leader Fellowship.

Max Weber Programme for Postdoctoral Studies

The *Max Weber Programme* is the largest international postdoctoral programme for the humanities and social sciences in Europe. Through its integrated approach to academic communication, teaching, and research support, the programme enables fellows to share their research with peers from various disciplines and countries while developing professional academic skills.

Fellowships

The EUI offers a range of *prestigious fellowships* designed to support scholars and professionals at various stages of their careers. They provide an opportunity to conduct research, engage with leading academics, and participate in a vibrant intellectual landscape. Our community includes the Jean Monnet Fellows, the Fernand Braudel Senior Fellows, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellows, the Policy Leader Fellows, the Simone Veil Fellows, the CIVICA Postdoctoral Fellows, and fellows under the EUI Widening Europe Programme.

EUI Executive Education

EUI *Executive Education* offers training to professionals worldwide, supporting them in gaining new insights into their fields, honing key skills, broadening professional networks, and enhancing leadership performance and impact. With faculty and trainers from across EUI units combining academic expertise with practical experience, training courses cover broad policy areas and are delivered in-residence, remotely, or in hybrid formats.

EUI Library

The *EUI Library* is a leading research hub in the social sciences, offering extensive print and digital collections, expert librarian support, and advanced research tools. As a European Documentation Centre, it provides access to official EU publications alongside databases, e-journals, and eBooks. The Library supports the academic community through its institutional repository, Cadmus, with a strong commitment to Open Access.

Historical Archives of the European Union

The *Historical Archives of the European Union* preserves and provides access to archives deposited by EU institutions. Housed at the EUI, the Archives also collect and preserve private papers of individuals, movements, and international organisations involved in European integration, facilitating research on EU history and promoting transparency in the functioning of EU institutions.





Contracting States 2025

OUR GOVERNANCE

The *EUI is governed through an open, collaborative structure* rooted in its intergovernmental foundation. At the heart of this is the High Council, made up of representatives from all Contracting States. The High Council provides strategic oversight, approves the budget, and appoints senior leaders — with assistance from dedicated advisory bodies like the Research Council, the Budget and Finance Committee, and the Strategic Standing Committee, which together shape policy and priorities.

President Patrizia Nanz leads the Institute’s overall vision, supported by a team focused on mission-driven excellence. Since early 2025, the Provost for Research and External Relations and the Provost for Education and Academic Staff Development support the President in the academic governance of the EUI. In June 2025, we welcomed *Armando Barucco as Secretary General*, who plays a central role in institutional coordination, external relations, and governance engagement.

Day-to-day operations are overseen by *Chief Operating Officer Roberto Nocentini*, who ensures that core support functions — from finance and HR to administrative services — work smoothly to support research and academic life. Across these bodies and leaders, the EUI’s governance remains responsive, strategic, and well connected to its academic community.

WELCOMING THE PROVOSTS AND DEAN

In 2025, the EUI introduced the *Office of the Provosts*, enhancing academic leadership across the Institute. The Provosts work closely with the President to shape academic strategy, strengthen educational quality, and support coordination among research units, while remaining active in their own teaching and scholarship.

Our first Provosts — Giacomo Calzolari, Provost for Research and External Relations, and Josephine van Zeben, Provost for Education and Academic Staff Development — began their roles in March 2025, bringing a collaborative and forward-looking approach to academic governance.

They work alongside *Dean of Graduate Studies* Monika Baar, who oversees doctoral education, supervises academic standards, and supports our researchers' development.

Together with the Academic Council, which guides research and teaching policies, and the Executive Committee, which supports day-to-day academic planning and includes representatives from units, students, and staff, this academic leadership structure reflects the EUI's commitment to excellence, innovation, and community engagement.



THE NEW EUI STRATEGY

A fresh direction inspired by our original mission

A living framework for the Institute's future, developed with and for the EUI community.

At a defining moment for Europe, the [EUI Strategy 2026-2031](#) charts a path of renewal. Co-created with the EUI community, and adopted by the High Council in 2025, this living framework shapes our next chapter as we mark 50 years of excellence — advancing research, innovating teaching and training, exploring new ways to engage, and creating public value in a digital age. Notably, it renews our commitment to the mission of the Institute's founding Convention.

Coming together as a community

To shape the new strategy, the community worked together in an EUI-wide co-creation process.

15 Working groups

15 Working papers

90+ Community comments

150+ Workshop participants



The three dimensions

Based on the 'Vision for a future EUI', the strategy mirrors our three dimensions.

Excellence

Rigorous research, supervision, teaching, and training anchored in academic freedom

Engagement

Connecting scholarship to institutions and society; transforming knowledge into resources that address Europe's challenges

Communication

Making EUI research findable, trusted, and accessible to diverse audiences

Our six strategic priorities

The strategy identifies six priorities that apply across the Institute and address social, technological, and political challenges in Europe and beyond.

1. Reimagining Europe

Four Research Horizons for Europe's key challenges

2. Co-creation of Knowledge

Five strategic initiatives bridging scholars and society

3. Digital Transformation

AI-ready infrastructure and Memory Portal

4. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Institute-wide standards for equitable access

5. Sustainability

Carbon reduction targets across operations

6. Alumni Engagement

First structured global alumni programme

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The first and central dimension of the EUI vision

At the heart of the new EUI Strategy is academic excellence, complemented by co-creation and communication. This is underpinned by four Research Horizons that will guide our work through 2031. These Horizons provide orientation and shared visibility while explicitly preserving space for investigator-driven, blue-sky research, which remains the foundation of the EUI's intellectual vitality.

Research Horizons

1. Social foundations of sustainable prosperity
2. Knowledge, power, and trust in digital society
3. Geopolitics of security and governance
4. Resilient democracies

The year 2025 was a launch year: the first tangible steps into the Horizons, with much more to be built in the years ahead. Below is a panorama of EUI research in 2025:

Sustaining excellence

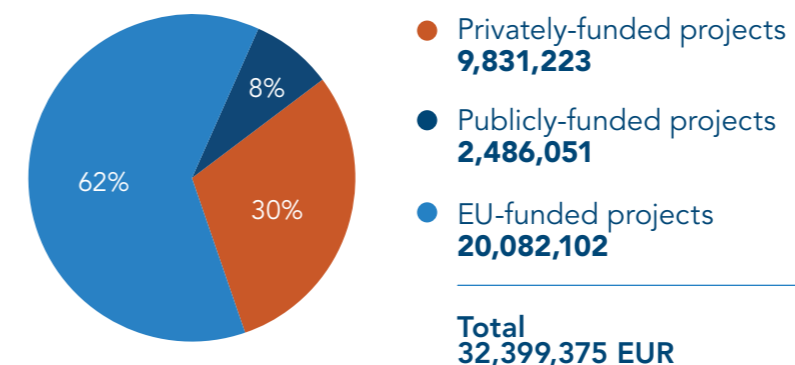
The Department of Political and Social Sciences [ranked 6th globally for political science in the Shanghai Ranking](#). While rankings are not an end in themselves, this recognition reflects the sustained quality, methodological innovation, and global relevance of EUI research, demonstrating continued visibility in core disciplinary excellence — a building block for the interdisciplinary ambitions of the new Research Horizons.

Another milestone, Professor Michael W. Bauer at the Florence School of Transnational Governance [received an ERC Advanced Grant for LIBRAD \(Democratic Administration under Illiberal Rule\)](#). The project focuses on how public administrations respond to democratic backsliding, analysing whether bureaucracies stabilise rule-of-law norms or adapt to illiberal transformations. LIBRAD directly advances the Research Horizons, positioning the EUI at the forefront of research on democratic resilience.

International cooperation and academic solidarity

In 2025, [the EUI Widening Europe Programme launched 11 new research projects](#), expanding collaboration with institutions across EU member states and candidate countries. These projects strengthen networks, foster mobility, and reduce structural disparities in research capacity, embodying the EUI's role as an intergovernmental hub for intellectual integration beyond EU borders.

External projects 2025



17
Number of ERC Projects

Furthermore, [the EUI hosted Maryna Rabinovych under the CIVICA Ukrainian Scholar Short Visits scheme](#), exemplifying the Geopolitics of Security and governance, while demonstrating commitment to academic freedom and solidarity. Alongside broader initiatives for scholars at risk, this visit reinforces both the research community and the EUI's social engagement, reminding us that "international cooperation" is about people.

Inequality, diversity, and policy

Professors Andrea Ichino and Fabrizia Mealli at the Department of Economics received a UniCredit Foundation grant for a randomised controlled trial in Italian schools testing whether algorithmic information from standardised test scores can help teachers make fairer track recommendations — illustrating how careful empirical design can address fairness without oversimplification.

Regulation, governance, and sustainability

The [Global Environmental Non-Tariff Measures Database \(END\)](#), developed by Professor Fabio Santeramo at the Robert Schuman Centre, is an open-access repository of over 6,000 WTO notifications covering more than 100 economies. END enhances transparency and comparability, helping researchers and policymakers align trade regulations with environmental objectives.

At the Department of Law, Marie Curie Fellow Tim Lindgren's [PLACE project](#) explores how incorporating the concept of place alongside territory in international law can offer nuanced frameworks for environmental relationships, strengthening state obligations to address climate change.

Humanities, resistance, and social change

At the Department of History and the Max Weber Programme, Elisa Heinrich's [Sewing Resistance](#) examines women's activism and disability rights, contributing to our Research Horizons by highlighting overlooked forms of social mobilisation.

The [FJP-CEE project](#) by Law Professor Silvia Suteu shows how feminist arguments can translate into doctrinally sound judicial decisions that produce more egalitarian outcomes, inspiring civil society actors engaged in gender equality litigation.

At History and the Robert Schuman Centre, Professor Glenda Sluga's *EUI Research Council-funded project Rebuilding Peace* examines post-1940 efforts that prioritised higher education and expertise in post-war reconstruction, social renewal, and democratic protection.

At the Department of Political and Social Sciences and the Max Weber Programme, the initiative *Bringing research to the big screen*, led by Paulus Wagner and Barbara Wolfram, explores audiovisual communication of research, aligning with knowledge co-creation and public communication, and illustrating that ideas can travel beyond seminar rooms.

Early stage researcher seed funding: 2025 themes

In 2025, early stage researcher funding continued as a “research accelerator” for bottom-up, investigator-led projects across departments. The applications to this call for funding show emerging work focused on empirical and methodological innovation, democracy and governance under rapid transformation, inequality, diversity, social cohesion, and historically grounded humanistic scholarship on rights and societal change.

Examples include:

- Luca Tenreira's *LAW-SCAPE – Global value chains regulation in the landscape* examines regulatory dynamics in global value chains. (Law)
- Virginia Rocha da Silva's *Non-professional Political Actors and Affective Polarisation* advances experimental approaches to political dynamics. (Max Weber Programme)
- Joris Frese's *The political consequences of valence events* studies how salient events shape political attitudes and outcomes. (Political and Social Sciences)
- Eva Franzmeyer's *Are Carbon Trading Schemes Successful in Boosting Green Energy Demand?* addresses climate policy and market design. (Economics)
- Rasmus Skov Andersen's *The Legacies of the “Russian Question”* links intellectual history to long-term transformations in state, capitalism, and political thought. (History)

This internal funding scheme preserves intellectual freedom, supporting promising smaller-scale projects without narrowing the space for discovery — like giving researchers hiking boots and a map without prescribing which summit to climb.



ENGAGING WITH THE WORLD

The second dimension of the EUI Vision

The Vision for a Future EUI calls on the Institute to open itself to external actors as co-creators of knowledge and ideas. In 2025, the EUI took decisive steps to turn this ambition into reality — strengthening partnerships, broadening its global reach, and building the institutional frameworks needed to engage with the world responsibly and on its own terms.

In 2025

- The EUI launched its first alumni chapters in *Brussels, London*, and Frankfurt, laying the foundation for a truly active network of former researchers and graduates. Further chapters — including thematic ones — are in preparation, turning the alumni community into a living bridge between the Institute and the worlds of policy, business, and civil society.
- The EUI is renewing its partnerships with major European institutions such as the European Investment Bank and the *European Stability Mechanism*, reinforcing its position as a trusted provider of independent knowledge and analysis — and affirming its role as the EU's university.
- The *Widening Europe Programme* entered its second year, strengthening research capacity and academic collaborations across Central and Eastern Europe. *The accession of Croatia as a Contracting State was celebrated at a dedicated Widening event in Rijeka*, marking a new chapter in the EUI's growing European membership.
- A new Ethical Funding Framework was developed with the EUI community and is being finalised in 2026, with the aim of establishing clear principles to safeguard the Institute's autonomy, reputation, and adherence to ethical standards across all partnerships and external funding relationships.

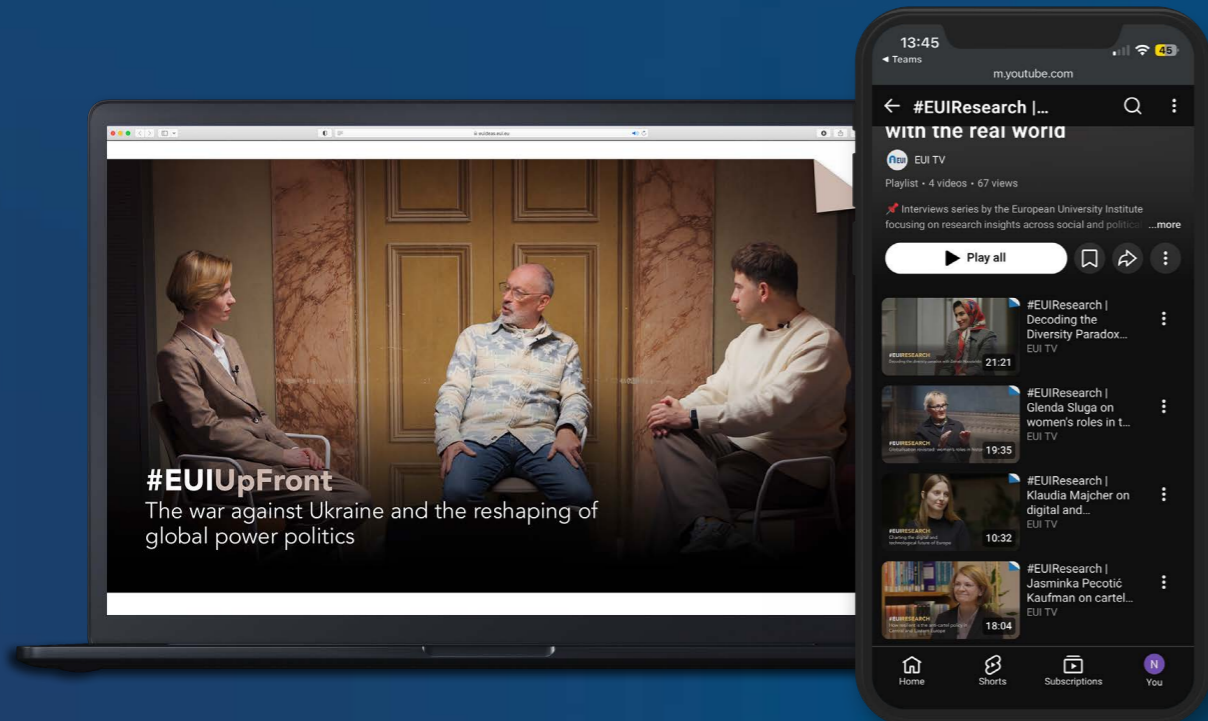


Targeted Widening countries



COMMUNICATION

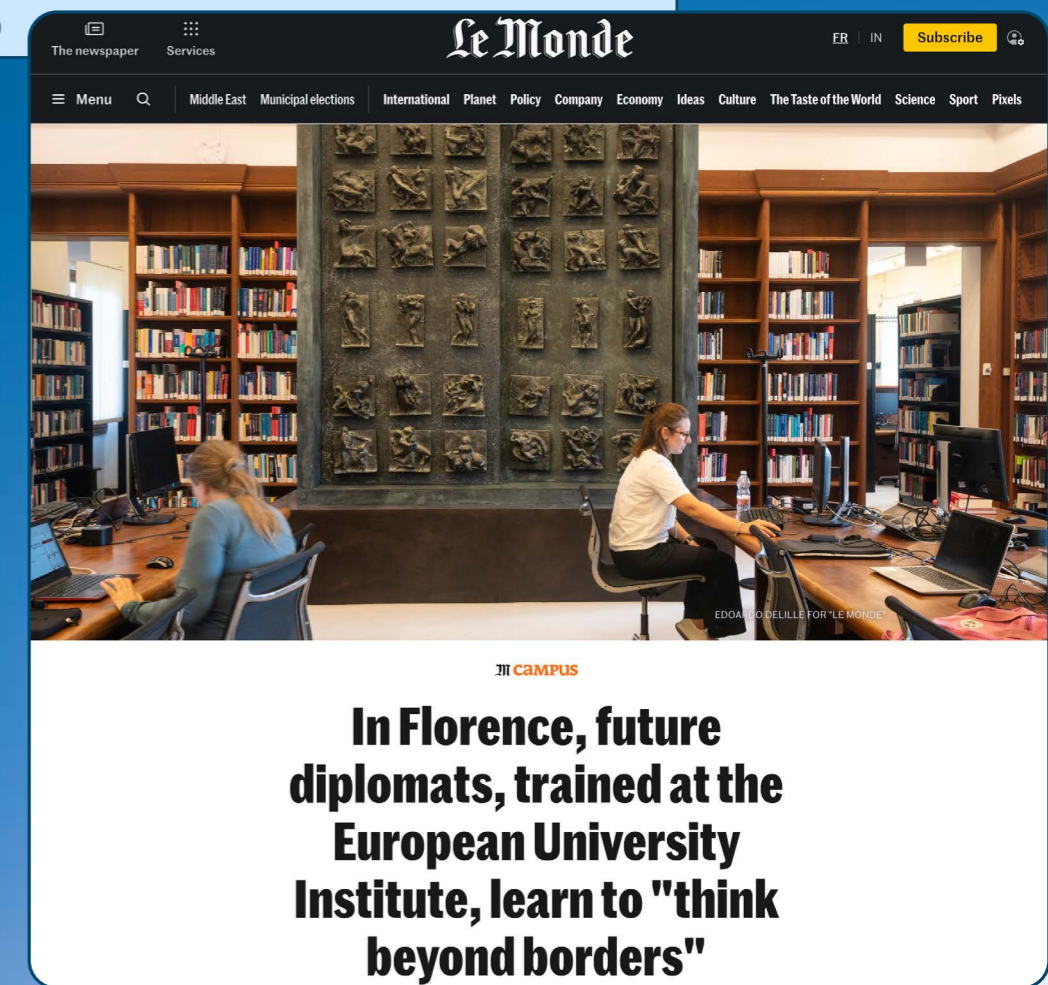
The third dimension of the EUI Vision



Rather than treating it as an afterthought, the new Vision for a Future EUI establishes communication as an essential part of the research journey itself. The year 2025 marked a turning point. Communication became not only more visible, but more deeply embedded in how the EUI conducts research, engages society, and positions itself for the future.

In 2025:

- Through new formats like *#EUIUpFront* and *#MyEUIresearch*, we translated complex data into accessible insights, foregrounding both the substance of research and the people behind it.
- Our scholars collaborated with The Conversation Europe and appeared in leading global titles to provide context on trending issues.
- The EUI organised a range of training activities and seminars with journalists and communication professionals to provide EUI academics with practical support and inspiration, strengthening skills in media engagement, narrative framing, and public-facing research communication.
- The launch of EUI Conversations created a new space for researchers and civil society to interact, moving beyond digital screens into meaningful, live exchanges.
- Recruitment excellence: Our digital-first outreach strategy resulted in a record-breaking year. PhD applications grew by 9%, driven by targeted video content and coordinated open-week initiatives across member and associate countries.



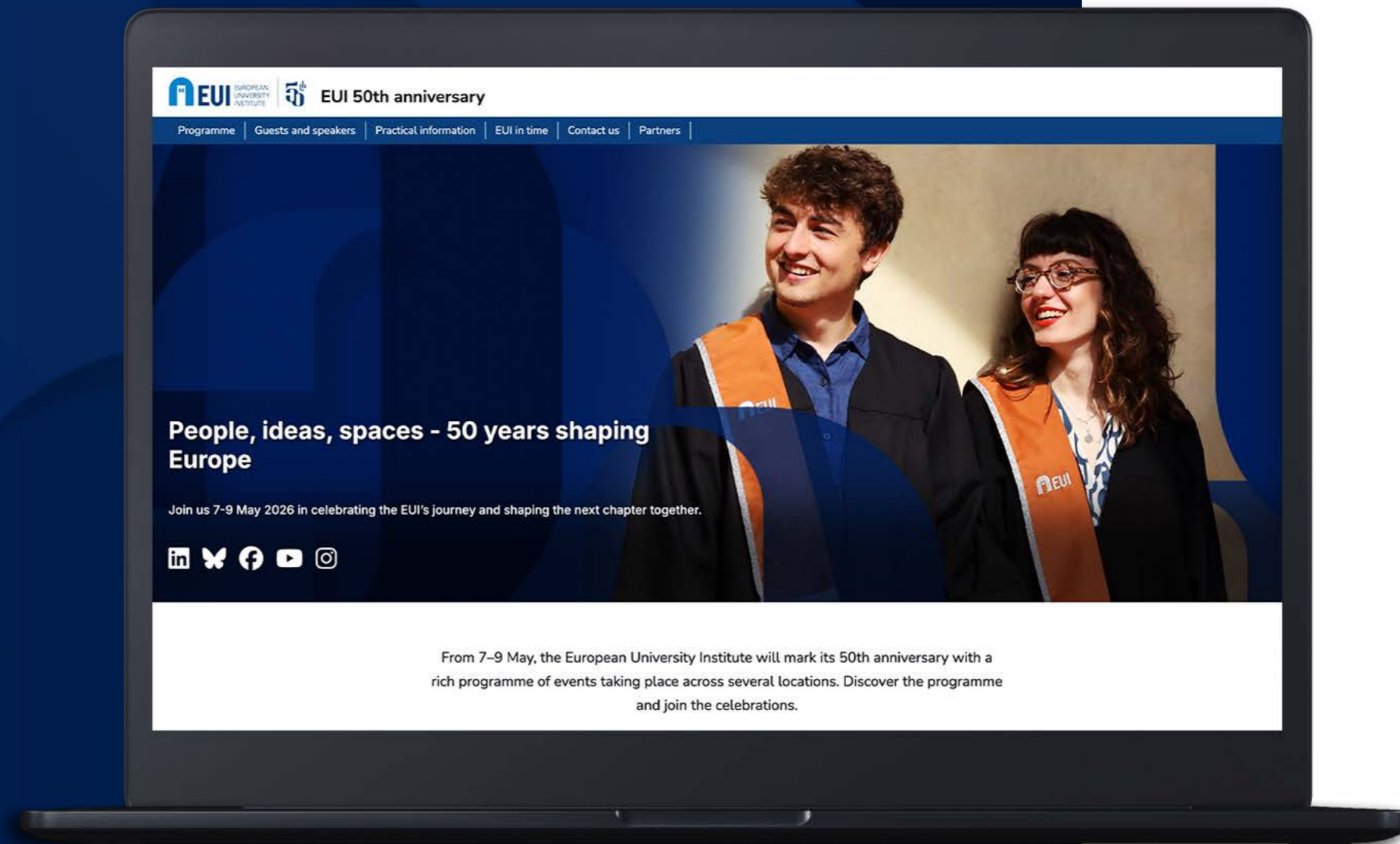
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

An anniversary invites us to look back, but at the European University Institute it is equally an opportunity to look ahead. What will Europe look like in 2076? How will universities harness the power of knowledge to build a better future?

In 2025, the Institute laid the strategic, narrative, and digital foundations for two defining milestones: its *50th anniversary* in 2026 and the launch of EUIdeas, a new flagship research and engagement festival. Rather than treating this as a moment for celebration alone, the EUI used this pivotal year to position the anniversary as a platform for reflection, renewal, and forward-looking ambition — linking five decades of academic excellence to its evolving role in European scholarship, policymaking, and public debate.

From 7-9 May 2026, the anniversary will bring together the EUI community and its partners through a series of landmark events: the Official Opening Ceremony, a Ministerial Summit on the Role of Universities, the “OPEN” exhibition and inauguration of new spaces at Palazzo Buontalenti, and the first edition of EUIdeas, launched under the theme *The Power of Knowledge*. Conceived as more than a festival, EUIdeas will foster sustained dialogue and co-creation among researchers, policymakers, civil society, alumni, and early-career scholars.

The groundwork completed in 2025 ensures that 2026 will not only mark 50 years of excellence, but also serve as the launchpad for the Institute’s next chapter — where knowledge continues to illuminate debate, inform collective choices, and shape Europe’s future.



Discover more at www.eui.eu/50th.

FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIC INITIATIVES



In the new EUI strategy, co-creation reframes engagement as genuine reciprocity. To embed this principle, the EUI is developing a series of initiatives designed and delivered by its academic community.

- **The Science-Policy Interface** fosters a structured and trusted space where evidence and decision-making intersect. Through curated dialogues, a matchmaking ecosystem for expertise, and the professionalisation of knowledge ‘translators’, it turns episodic outreach into continuous collaboration that shapes research questions and renders policy challenges analytically tractable.

As a first step in 2025, the EUI launched a cooperation initiative with the Secretariat-General of the European Commission featuring a series of hybrid debates hosted by the EU Policymaking Hub. Inspired by the Draghi Report recommendations and dedicated to interaction between academia and policymaking, a first debate focused on the reform of the EU electricity market, while a second addressed the challenges to Europe’s innovation and competitiveness.

- **The EU Security Initiative** *connects knowledge co-creation with high-level European security fora* to refresh the continent’s strategic thinking. Through its Florence Security Forum, targeted policy dialogues, a cross-EUI research network, and a fellowship programme, it channels scholarly insight into actionable options for a credible EU security posture.

- **The Tech Lab** centres technology as a subject-matter for the social sciences and humanities. It will experiment with new technologies and methodologies for effective transversal and interdisciplinary collaboration on technology research at the EUI, while offering researchers opportunities to engage in related work. It will invite technologists, engineers, natural scientists, policymakers, and social actors to imagine and co-design alternative technological trajectories for Europe

and the world. An initial focus will be on creating the conditions for democratic technological sovereignty by imagining and designing new digital infrastructures for the future European public sphere.

- **The Open Lab** will be a space that encourages experimentation across disciplines, sectors and generations. At its core is a fellowship programme that convenes trios of scholars, artists, and civic actors around curated themes. In collaboration with the EUI community and local actors, they craft artefacts and experiences aimed at providing orientation to society at large. An evolving digital and physical ‘Museum for the Future’ will serve as both an accessible archive and a public platform for the Open Lab.

To launch the initiative, the EUI laid the ground for a new exhibition space at Palazzo Buontalenti, with a first show, OPEN, programmed for debut during the EUI’s 50th anniversary celebrations in 2026.

- **The Future of Universities Initiative** draws on the EUI’s intergovernmental foundation and pan-European network to convene scholars and civic actors to design the academic infrastructure needed for a more just and prosperous Europe. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and prefigurative politics, this initiative moves beyond conventional debates to identify real challenges, imagine alternatives to traditional models, and build communities of practice that test and implement new approaches to higher education and research.

In 2025, the Future of Universities Initiative held two collaborative workshops, each with 25 participants. These events informed work on a policy brief and a manifesto on the future of universities, which will be at the heart of the EUI’s 50th anniversary celebration events in 2026.

BUDGET FIGURES

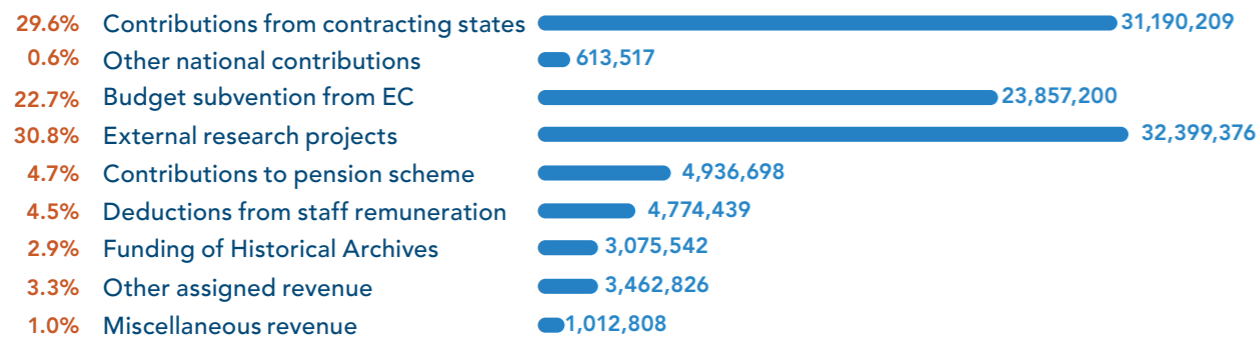
€ 105,322,613.87

Total revenue

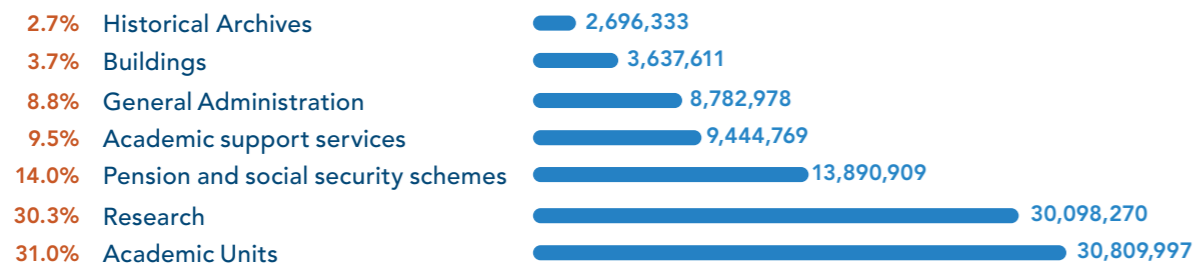
€ 99,360,866.97

Total expenditure

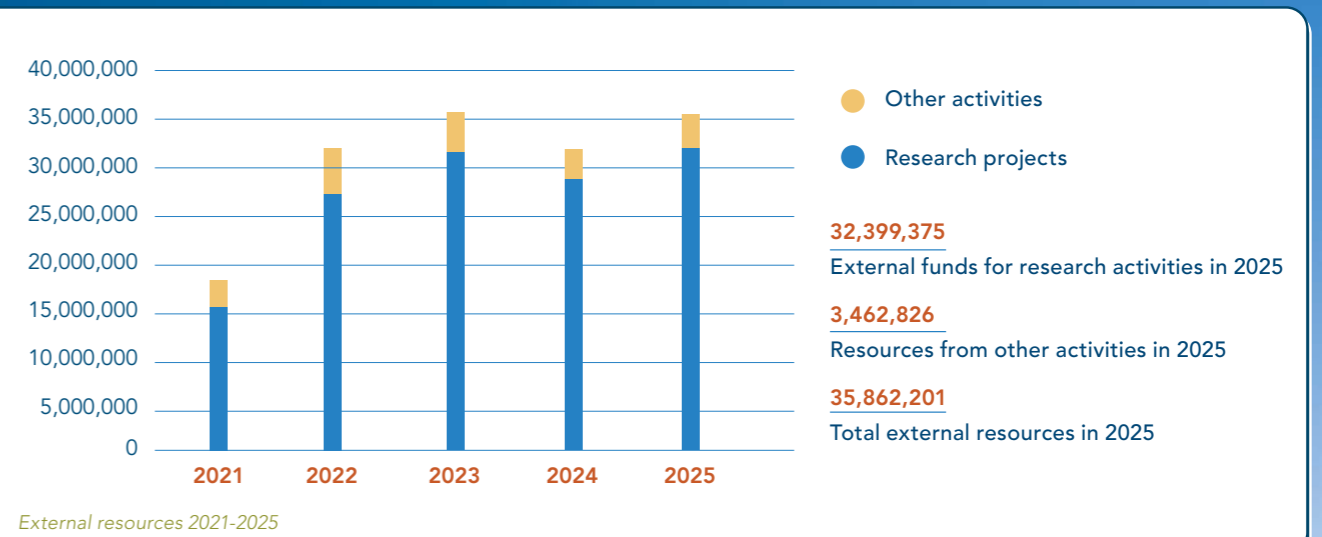
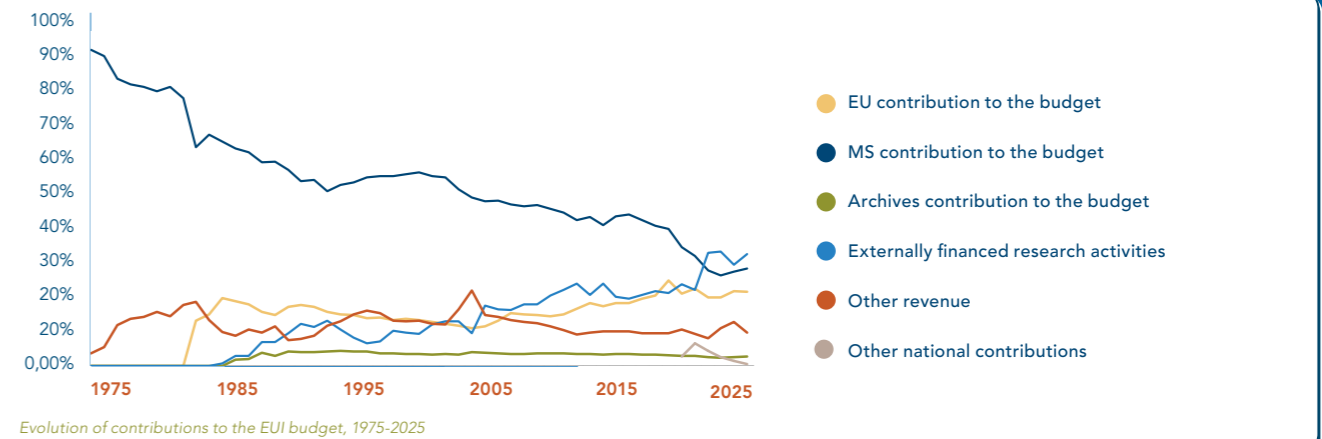
WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM...



...AND HOW IT IS USED



The funding of the Institute: Revenue and expenditure for the 2025 financial year in euros



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