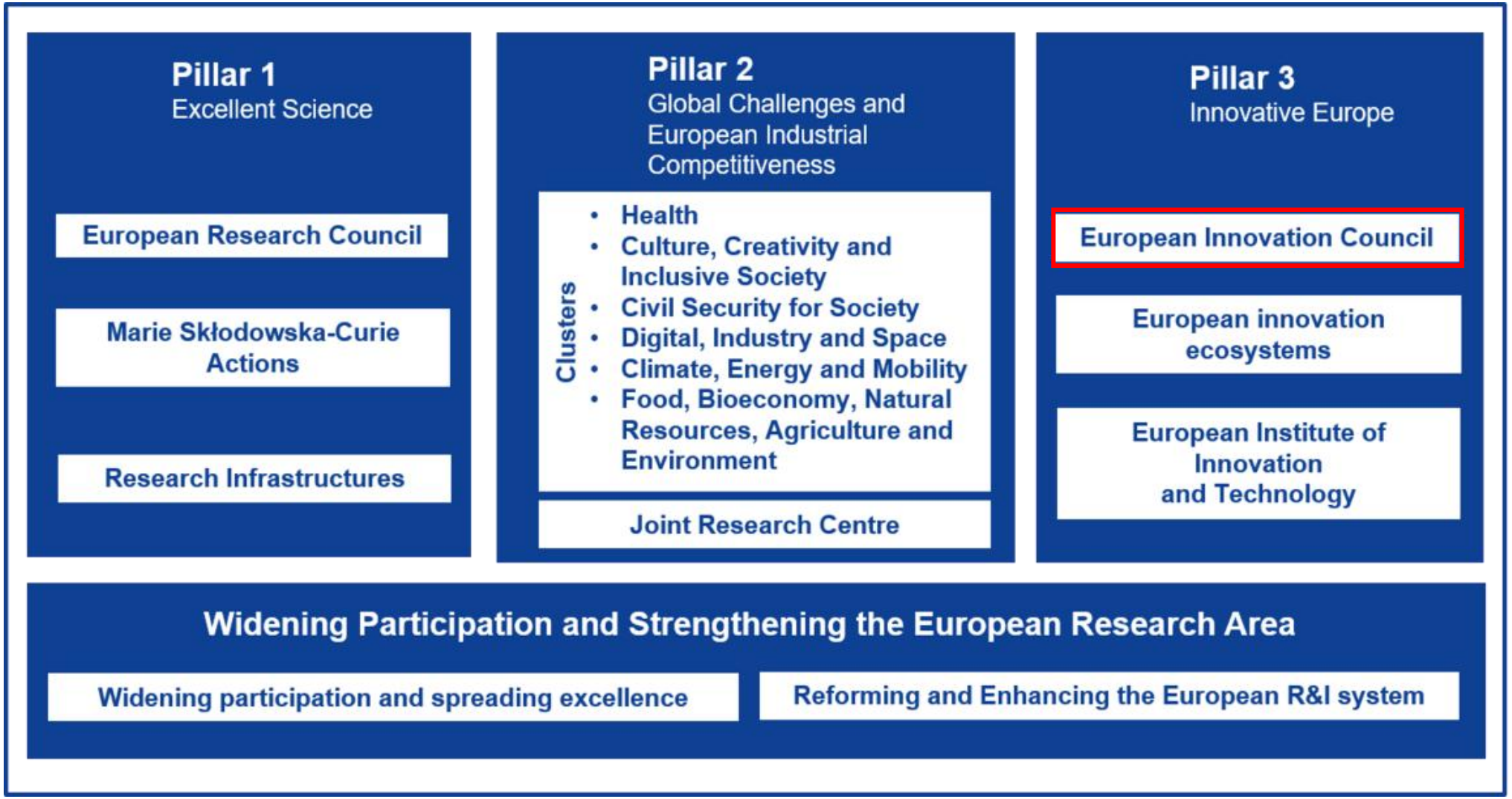
Katrin Reschwamm/ Stefan Fischer
Euresearch Zurich



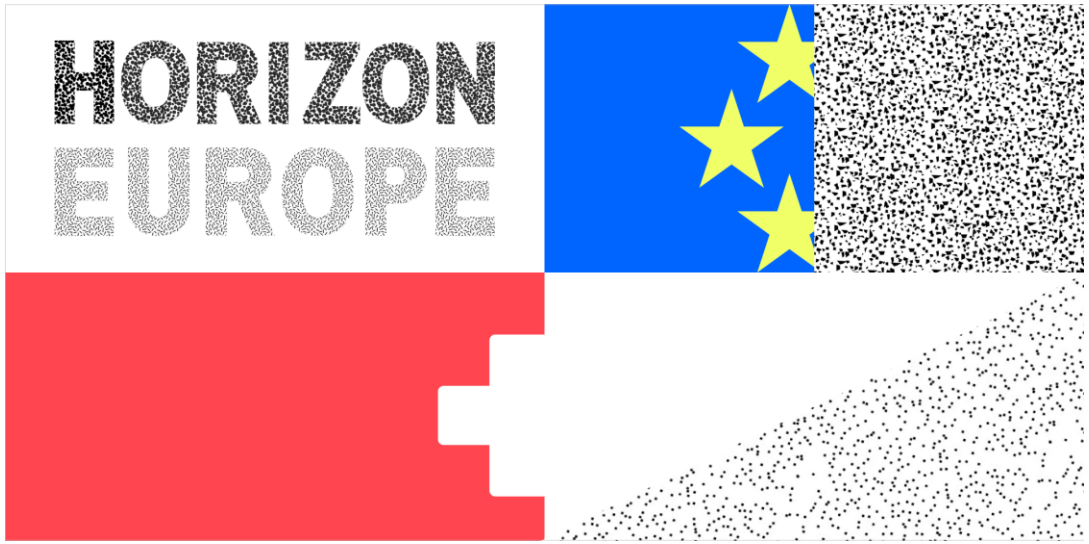
euresearch
Swiss guide to European research and innovation

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Structure of Horizon Europe



Status of Switzerland in Horizon Europe



Regular updates from State Secretariat for Education Research Innovation (SERI)

↳ www.horizon-europe.ch

Associated Country to Horizon Europe	Swiss entities can apply as Beneficiaries
Coordination is possible	Direct Funding From the EC

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For whom?

Academia



Small & Medium Enterprises

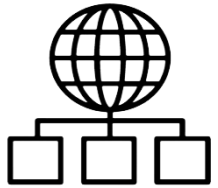
< 250 Employees



Large Companies



Other Organisations



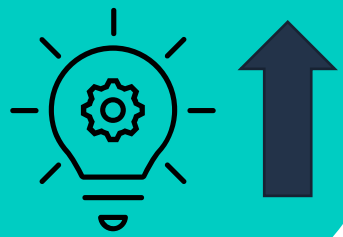
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What Research & Innovation Can Be Funded?

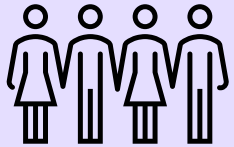
Pre-defined / top-down



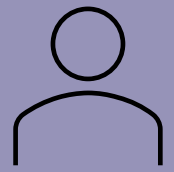
Bottom-up



Collaborative

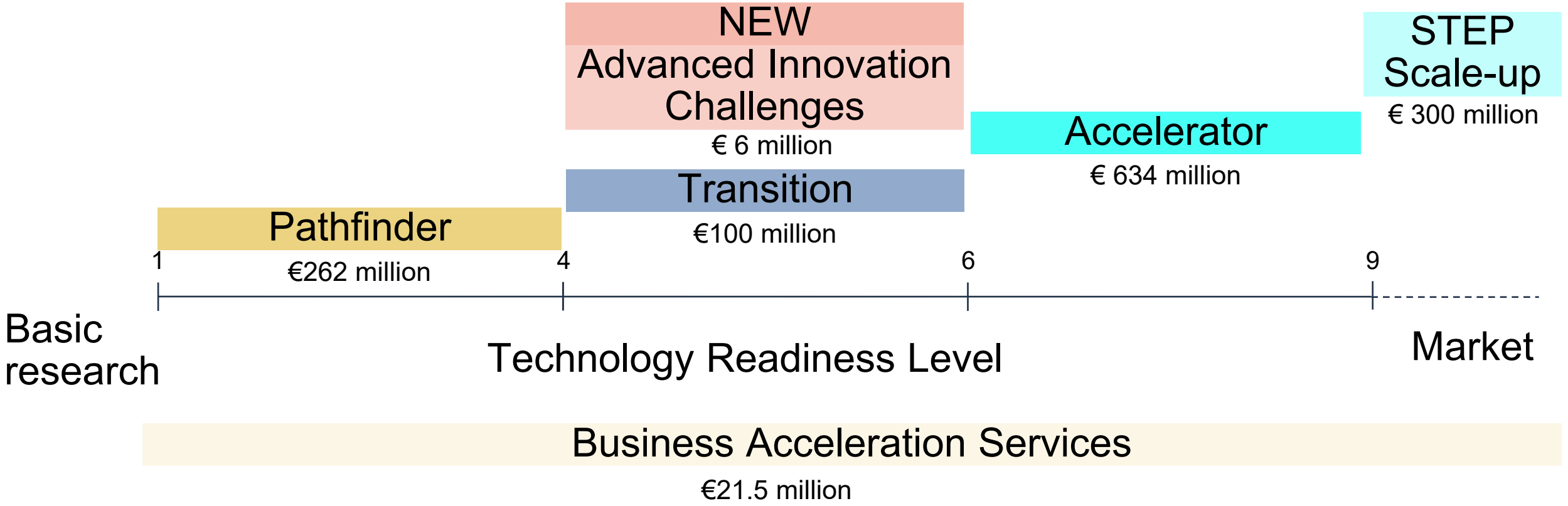


Mono-beneficiary



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European Innovation Council funds strategic technologies and scaling up companies - from basic research to market



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EIC Accelerator 2026

With **deep tech**, high-impact innovative products, services or business models

Seeking to **scale up** and create new markets or disrupt existing ones in Europe and worldwide

Requiring substantial funding, but the **risks** involved are too high for private investors alone to fund

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EIC Accelerator 2026 Key Features

Accelerator applicant must be:

Single company*, no consortia

Deep tech (technology that is based on cutting-edge scientific advances and discoveries and is characterised by the need to stay at the technological forefront by constant interaction with new ideas and results from the lab), high-impact innovative products, services or business models

TRL 6

* SMEs including spinouts, spin-offs and startups; small mid caps

Application pathway

1. **Short Proposal** — submitted any time
2. **Full Proposal** — 2026 batches
3. **Interview** — May & October 2026; February 2027

Funding schemes

Grant only

Blended Finance

Investment only

Key checks before applying

Company-led deep tech project, ready from TRL 6, with a clear funding route.

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EIC Accelerator 2026 Funding options

1. Grant only

For companies that have completed **TRL 5** and aim to reach **TRL 8** by the end of the project.

You have sufficient financial means (e.g. revenue flow, existing investors or shareholders) to finance the deployment and scaling of your innovation

2. Blended Finance

Grant component

- **< €2.5 million**
- TRL **6** → **8**
- 24 months
- Funding rate **70%**
- No TRL 9 activities

Investment component

- **€1–10 million** expected co-investment 50%
- <25% of voting shares
- Equity or guarantee
- Patient capital principle

3. Investment only

For the funding gap in rapid scale-up of a high-risk innovation.

Non-bankable SME

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EIC Accelerator 2026 – Funding schemes

Open
(‘bottom-up’)

Supporting projects in **any field** of science, technology or application.

No predefined thematic priorities

Indicative Budget **€ 414 million**

Challenges
Predefined thematic areas (‘top-down’)

- Advanced materials for renewable energy and energy storage systems
- Alternative concepts and enabling technologies for fusion power plants
- Biotech for regenerating agricultural soils
- Boosting the European critical raw materials value chain
- Deep tech for climate adaptation

No Health Challenges in 2026

Indicative Budget **€ 220 million**

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Timeline EIC Accelerator 2026



Short proposal

12-page proposal
10-slide pitch deck
3 min video pitch

Submission

Any time
Evaluation proposals batched
1st Tuesday, 17:00

Feedback 4–6 weeks

Full proposal

20-page full business plan
10-page implementation plan
Pitch deck (10 min)
3 min video pitch

Batch dates 2026

7 January · 4 March · 6 May
8 July · **2 September**
4 November

Feedback 8–9 weeks

Pitch

Face-to-face interview with the EIC jury

Indicative dates

May & **October 2026**
February 2027

Feedback 2–3 weeks

Negotiation

Scope

Grant and investment component

Indicative date for signing grant agreements: 8 months from the full-proposal submission deadline

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Key takeaways

Choose the EIC instrument by maturity, eligibility and funding need

The core message

Fit beats funding size

Assess three things now:

1. **TRL & evidence**
2. **Applicant fit**
3. **Funding route + deadline**

Which EIC route fits?

Use this as the one-minute filter.

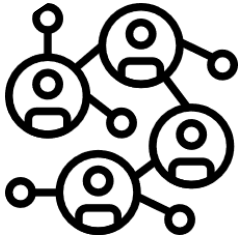
Pathfinder Challenges **TRL 1 → 4**	Breakthrough, disruptive research; thematic Challenges; grant up to €4 M.
Transition **TRL 4 → 6**	Builds on previous EU R&I results; matures technology and business case; grant up to €2.5 M.
Accelerator **TRL 6 → 9**	Single company for deep-tech scale-up; grant/equity; multi-step evaluation.

Call to action | Map your project to one EIC route, check eligibility/deadlines, discuss with Euresearch team

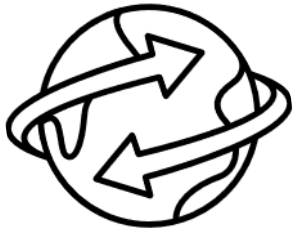
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Consortium – How to? ERA_Opportunities_2027.pdf

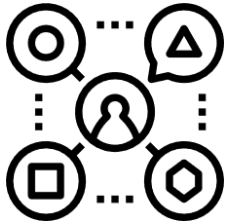
Use your network



Brokerage events



Partner search platforms



Past projects

CORDIS

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Remember…

It’s often not a linear journey

Efforts may not immediately pay off

Contact your Euresearch/ Company advisor and NCP

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Euresearch Network

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We help you to find the most appropriate funding scheme for you and your institution and company.

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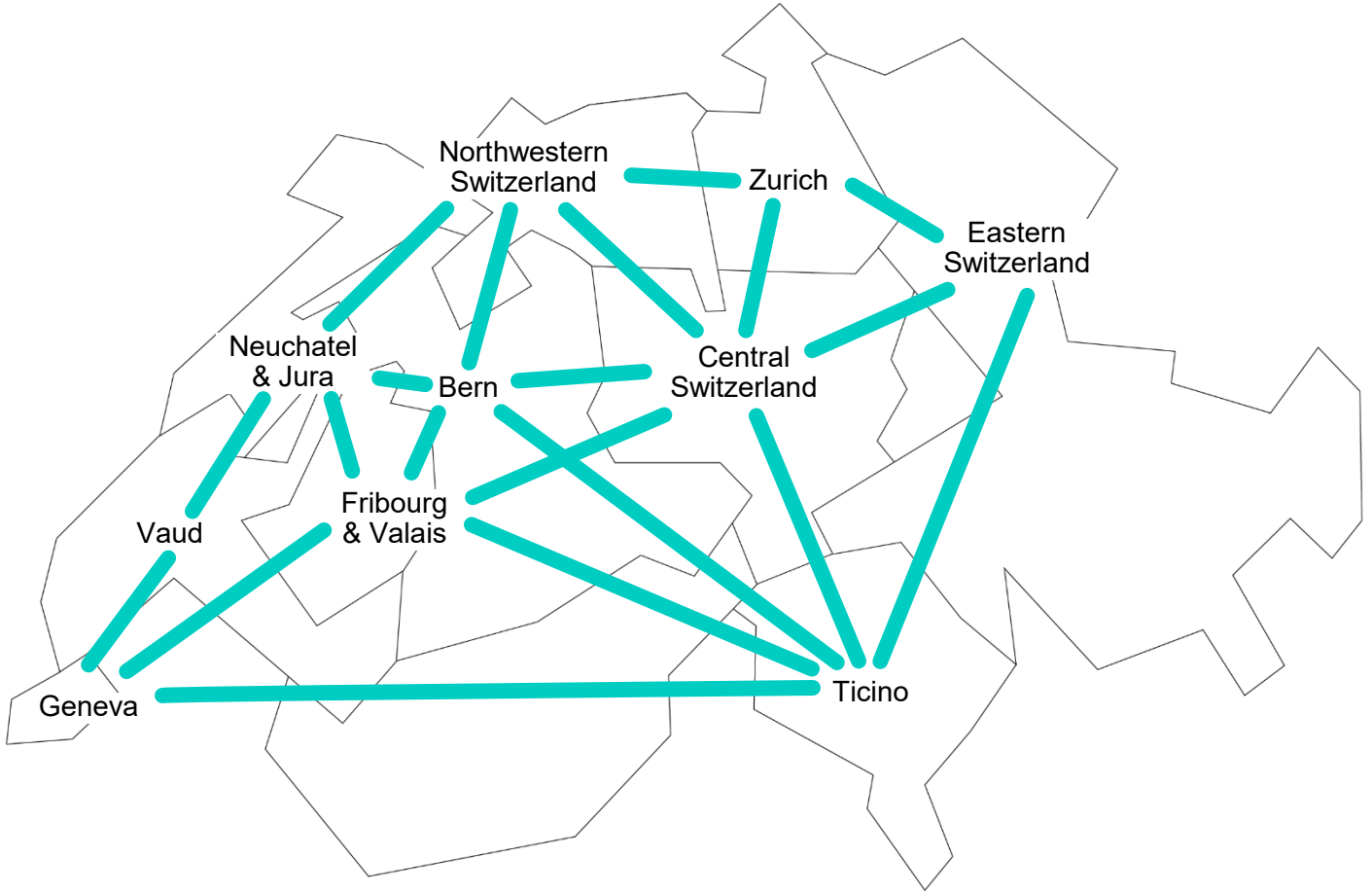
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Euresearch Network

10 Euresearch Regions

Your first entry point is the office in your region.

↳ *www.euresearch.ch/contacts*



Network Office in Bern

Network administration and infrastructure and all National Contact Points for Horizon Europe

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Euresearch Services



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