



UKRAINIAN
CLUSTER
ALLIANCE

UCA NEWS

20
25



OCTOBER-
NOVEMBER

DIGEST 4

Головні події в УКА за жовтень-листопад

October and November became a period of unprecedented activity for the Ukrainian Cluster Alliance on the international arena and important steps in internal advocacy. We did not just attend events – we shaped the agenda, opened representative offices, and integrated Ukrainian business into global ecosystems.

ReBuild Ukraine

The ReBuild Ukraine exhibition became a true demonstration of the power of international support. UCA, together with eight partner clusters, spent two days in non-stop networking mode, organizing over one hundred meetings. The presence of thousands of participants from the EU, USA, and Canada testified that the world is ready to invest in Ukraine's reconstruction right now.

This event served as an important reminder: despite the war, trust in Ukrainian business is growing. Joint work at the stands and discussion of future projects confirmed that solidarity remains the foundation on which we will build a new, modernized infrastructure and economy.

More about the event in the detailed [report](#).



Strategic Breakthrough in the Czech Republic: MSV Brno

The culmination of our three-year cooperation with Czech partners was the participation of the UCA team in the MSV Brno 2025 exhibition. This seventh business mission was the largest yet, bringing together over 120 participants. Thanks to the support of the Czech government and the CzechInno agency, we have moved from point contacts to the creation of a full-fledged partnership ecosystem: more than 10 joint projects have been launched, particularly in the

areas of cybersecurity and Smart Industry, and cooperation with the EDIH network has been deepened.

The delegation also visited the UCA representative office in Brno. This is an institutional anchor that will allow us to protect the interests of Ukrainian clusters on an ongoing basis. At a meeting with the local cybersecurity cluster, we discussed prospects for cooperation.



A voice for sustainability in Dublin: TCI Global Conference 2025

At the world's leading event for the cluster community, the TCI Global Conference in Dublin, Ukraine was cited as an example of adaptability. UCA CEO Oleksandr Yurchak spoke at the plenary panel, where he presented Ukraine's unique experience of how clusters become the foundation for business and community resilience during wartime. This message sparked keen interest among experts from more than 50 countries, transforming our crisis experience into a valuable model for the world.



In addition to the presentation, participation in the conference allowed the Ukrainian delegation to study the experience of Irish ecosystems in depth. During study tours in the fields of Advanced Manufacturing and Life Sciences, we learned about best practices in digital and green transformation. For the UCA, this was another step towards integrating the best global standards into domestic cluster policy.

Innovative materials: Integration into Interreg Europe Lightweight EU

The UCA continues to work systematically to involve Ukrainian science in European value chains. In mid-October, we joined the Interreg Europe Lightweight EU partnership meeting in Bratislava, where we discussed the future of lightweight materials with colleagues from Austria, Germany and Scandinavia. Lesya Sobolevska, UCA project manager, presented an analytical overview of Ukraine's potential, clearly stating the readiness of our scientific institutions to be part of European innovation.

This meeting opened up concrete prospects: coordination of interregional cooperation and planned study visits to Dresden and Vienna. This shows that Ukraine is seen not as a passive observer, but as a full-fledged player in the market of high technologies and new materials.

More details about the UCA's participation in the event can be found on [the website](#).



Advocacy for SMEs in Ukraine: Dialogue between government and business

Returning to the domestic agenda, on 31 October, the UCA took part in the 'Dialogue between Government and Business' forum, organised with the support of the UNDP. The focus was on the most pressing issues for small and medium-sized businesses: labour shortages, tax incentives, and survival in frontline areas. We used this platform to convey the Alliance's position on the need for institutional support for clusters.

Yulia Ryzhkova, representing the UCA, emphasised that clusters are not just associations, but a real tool for increasing the competitiveness of the economy. Our participation in panel discussions confirmed the role of the UCA as a key stakeholder in shaping state policy for the restoration and development of MSMEs until 2027.

Technology Bridge: Start-up Mission to Saxony

The development of Industry 4.0 remains our priority, as confirmed by the visit of Ukrainian high-tech start-ups to Dresden as part of the Ukraine-Saxony Tech Bridge initiative. The delegation, which included representatives of the UCA and APPAU, spent three busy days meeting with German industrial giants and scientists.

The effectiveness of the trip is measured not only by the number of meetings (more than 30), but also by the quality of networking. We created conditions for direct matching between Ukrainian innovators and the German ecosystem. This paves the way for technology transfer in

mechanical engineering and industrial IT, further integrating Ukrainian high-tech into the European space.



Analytics and benchmarking: Poland's experience

Understanding one's own position is impossible without a qualitative comparison. On 18 November, UCA CEO Oleksandr Yurchak visited Warsaw to participate in a conference on cluster benchmarking. The Polish experience, where the state agency PARP systematically analyses the effectiveness of clusters, is a benchmark for us.

During meetings with the management of PARP and the Polish Cluster Association, we discussed plans for cooperation in 2026. The UCA is already preparing its own report, and the opportunity to synchronise our metrics with our Polish colleagues will allow us to better understand our strengths and areas for growth in the European context.

More details on the conference conclusions can be found in [the report](#).

Development Policy: Lessons from Barcelona (Accelerate GDT)

Our participation in the Accelerate GDT project in Barcelona concludes this section. The UCA delegation, together with partners from Vinnytsia and Lviv, presented Ukrainian approaches to cluster policy. We showed Europe how regional initiatives (the cases of Vinnytsia and Lviv) work in conditions of limited resources and outlined the problems of synchronising national strategy.

Discussions with European partners highlighted key challenges: policy coordination and long-term financing. Although there are no ready-made recipes, this dialogue is important for adapting the best European models to Ukrainian realities. The UCA continues to analyse this experience in order to transform it into effective tools for the development of our clusters.

For more details, see [the post](#) by UCA CEO Oleksandr Yurchak.



The evolution of UCA: From accelerator to ecosystem platform

At the end of 2025, the UCA officially redefines its mission. We have grown from the concept of a 'cluster accelerator' focused on launching young communities and are moving towards positioning ourselves as an 'ecosystem cluster platform'. This decision is the result of the evolution of the last three years: our functionality has long gone beyond just training and support.

The new status unites and strengthens the seven key roles of the Alliance: from cross-sectoral networking and rapid internationalisation to advocacy of national policies and implementation of European standards (ESCA). The UCA now acts as a holistic ecosystem for managing complex challenges, where clusters are not just associations but institutional drivers of innovation, digital transition and economic sustainability in Ukraine.

Read more about the changes [here](#).

Overview of cluster activity in September

National events: Developing the ecosystem at home

Autumn 2025 was a period of intense activity within the country. Ukrainian clusters are not only adapting to reality, but also actively shaping the agenda: from the reintegration of veterans and the digital transformation of regions to large-scale industry forums.

Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster: The voice of the hospitality industry

The Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster team demonstrated unprecedented activity, becoming a key participant in four landmark events of the season. At **the Kyiv International Economic Forum 2025** and **the International Hospitality Conference 2025**, the cluster positioned the hospitality industry not just as a service, but as a driver of economic stability and investment

attractiveness. Representatives of the cluster held a series of negotiations with developers and investors, emphasising that HoReCa creates jobs and develops the export of services even in times of war. This resulted in new agreements on educational initiatives and pilot projects.

A separate focus was placed on export potential and global thinking. At the **4FoodForum** and **KA Group Sales Forum 2025**, cluster president Iryna Zelenina and her team promoted the idea of 'globality as a way of thinking.' Participants in the discussions viewed exports not only as logistics, but as an indicator of business maturity and reputation. The cluster continues to bring together producers and hoteliers, helping them overcome barriers to entering international markets and build business ecosystems based on honesty and responsibility.



Kharkiv IT Cluster: Technologies for Veterans

The social responsibility of the tech community reached a new level during the Opportunities Fair in Kharkiv. The event, organised as part of the **Veterans2Tech** initiative, brought together over 150 participants and became a bridge between veterans and business. The cluster's main message is that military experience is a competitive advantage, not an obstacle.



To ensure that words are matched by deeds, the cluster presented specific tools: a collection of free courses on cybersecurity, programming, and data science. This project, implemented with the support of IREX and the US State Department, demonstrates how the IT industry is taking the lead in the reintegration of defenders by offering them real career prospects in civilian life.

Lviv Medical Business Cluster: Development of a MedTech Hub

Lviv is establishing itself as a centre for medical innovation. The cluster's participation in the **IDDM 2025** conference at Lviv Polytechnic highlighted the deep synergy between science and business. The focus was on the use of artificial intelligence, digital medicine, and

rehabilitation. The event proved that the regional ecosystem is already generating products that are moving from student laboratories into clinical practice.

At the same time, the cluster is working on institutional strengthening. At the UNDP Business Association Development Academy, cluster representatives shared their experience of transforming Lviv into a medical hub for Eastern Europe. This shows that the Lviv model of cluster cooperation is becoming a benchmark for other regions, demonstrating the importance of bringing competitors together for the sake of joint market development.

Rivne Interregional Medical Cluster: European Horizons

At the **Public Health 2025** exhibition in Kyiv, the Rivne cluster focused on attracting international funding for reconstruction. Coordinator Tetiana Vorontsova presented the **Clusters4Health** project, which is being implemented jointly with partners from five EU countries.



This initiative aims to create a sustainable ecosystem that brings together hospitals, businesses and patients. A presentation at the panel on donor programmes highlighted the cluster's role as a conduit for European practices and grant opportunities for the Ukrainian healthcare system, which is particularly relevant in the context of plans for 2026.

Ukrainian Automotive and Mobility Cluster: Course towards European integration

The main event of the automotive industry, the **Ukrainian Automotive & Mobility Forum 2025**, took place in Lviv. The cluster created a powerful platform where the interests of the European Commission, the Ukrainian government, and giants such as Bosch and LEONI intersected. The key topics were integration into EU supply chains and the development of engineering talent.

The presentation of the inclusive MeGoElectric UA electric car and the results of the EDIH hubs attracted particular attention. The forum demonstrated that the Ukrainian automotive industry is alive, innovative and ready to be a partner for Europe, rather than just a raw materials appendage.



Podillia Fashion Cluster: Digitalisation of the light industry

The cluster is actively working to modernise the industry in the region. As a partner of **Light Conf 3.0**, Podillia Fashion Cluster gained access to an audience of 600 participants, expanding its network of contacts and promoting services for the garment business. This strategic partnership consolidates Khmelnytskyi region's status as one of the centres of the fashion industry.

At the same time, participation in the digital transformation forum together with **EDIH Clotex-HUB** demonstrates the technological vector of development. The cluster helps small and medium-sized enterprises to implement digital tools, proving that light industry can be modern, efficient and competitive thanks to innovation.



Carpathian Industrial Cluster: Sustainable Development and Gender Equality

The Prykarpattia Industrial Cluster is demonstrating leadership in implementing social change. At the UNDP conference in Lviv, cluster chair Nataliia Zakharova presented the case of

the Kalush community, where businesses are actively integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their strategies. This is an example of how global UN principles are being transformed into concrete actions at the local level.



In addition, the cluster actively joined the '1325 Strengthens the Country' campaign, raising the issue of women's role in community security and economy. Supporting women's leadership in industry is becoming not just a trend, but an important element of the region's sustainability, which the cluster is systematically developing.

Ukrainian Association of Furniture Manufacturers: Efficiency through LEAN

UAM continues to improve production culture through **LEAN tours**. This time, furniture manufacturers studied the experience of leaders in the Kyiv region – Nova Poshta, ViYar, and MHP. Visiting innovative terminals and automated production facilities provides a powerful impetus for change in their own companies.



Such exchange of experience, supported by partners such as Kleiberit Ukraine, allows the industry to see the real results of implementing lean manufacturing and green technologies, which is critical to maintaining competitiveness in the global market.

Industrial potential for export: AGRITECHNICA 2025



Хоча виставка **AGRITECHNICA** відбулася в Ганновері, вона стала важливою подією саме для національної екосистеми машинобудування. Український Індустріальний Кластер та члени Прикарпатського кластеру (група «Моторімпекс») представили Україну на найбільшому світовому агрофорумі.

Завдяки національному стенду, 11 українських виробників отримали прямий доступ до світових ринків. Це свідчить про те, що попри війну, українське машинобудування зберігає експортний потенціал і здатне конкурувати з глобальними гравцями, привозячи додому валютну

виручку та нові технологічні партнерства.

U-Food Association: Science for the agricultural sector

The U-Food Association team strengthened the link between science and business by co-organising the Congress of Agricultural Economists. The strategic future of the industry was discussed at the Institute of Agricultural Economics.



The association's participation in such fundamental events ensures that the voice of business is taken into account when developing scientific approaches to rural community development. This is an important step towards creating the analytical foundation necessary for the restoration and development of Ukraine's agri-food sector.

Clusters at international events

Autumn 2025 became a time of global expansion for members of the Ukrainian Cluster Alliance. From Cologne to Tokyo, from Bordeaux to Barcelona, Ukrainian clusters are not just visiting exhibitions, but forming new partnerships, presenting dual-use technological solutions and integrating national businesses into European consortia.

Food security and exports: A powerful voice at Anuga 2025



Ukraine confidently cemented its status as a guarantor of food security at Anuga 2025 in Cologne, one of the world's largest food exhibitions. **The U-Food Association** organised a collective exhibition where 15 companies demonstrated their export potential on an area of 27.5 m². The effectiveness is measured in concrete figures: more than 215 B2B meetings and 60 direct contacts with international buyers in just the first few days confirmed that the world is ready to buy Ukrainian products not out of empathy, but because of their high quality.

At the same time, **Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster**, in partnership with Ukrainian Export Alliance, made a real breakthrough by presenting a record-breaking exhibition area of 191 m². The stand, which brought together 19 leading companies, became a showcase for innovative formats of Ukrainian exports. It was a demonstration of synergy: from retail to the HoReCa segment, Ukrainian businesses showed their readiness to play the long game on the European market.

Aerospace technology and the Dronearium: From Bordeaux to Prague



Ukraine's high-tech sector made a splash at France's UAV Show 2025. **The All-Ukrainian Association of Innovative Space Clusters** presented the UCA Dual Technology Resource Centre, focusing on the integration of artificial intelligence into unmanned systems. A panel discussion with Ukrainian and European experts provided a platform for sharing unique, albeit unfortunate, combat experience, while Drone Fight Club demo flights clearly demonstrated the skills of our pilots. It was a clear signal: Ukraine is a co-creator of the European security ecosystem.

Стратегічне партнерство продовжилося у Празі, де під час

Чеського тижня космосу було підписано Меморандум між Чеським космічним альянсом та українським Об'єднанням. Ця угода відкриває двері до спільних проєктів у сфері супутникових технологій та участі в програмах Європейського космічного агентства (ЄКА). Співпраця виходить за межі декларацій, фокусуючись на реальних R&D та освітніх ініціативах.



Medical ecosystem: Innovations that save lives

The Rivne Interregional Medical Cluster is actively promoting Ukrainian expertise in Germany. At the Health Forum in Berlin, cluster coordinator Tetiana Vorontsova presented the Clusters4Health project, emphasising the role of the cluster model in the post-war reconstruction of medical infrastructure. This not only increased the visibility of the cluster, but also laid the foundation for attracting European resources to restore the Ukrainian healthcare system.

A particular achievement was the recognition of Ukrainian innovations at the EU level. The startup VRRevive, founded by the CEO of the Rivne cluster, won 2nd place in the prestigious EIT

Jumpstarter competition (Rebuild Ukraine track). The project, which teaches pre-medical care through VR, was among the top 10 out of 900 participants. This is clear evidence that clusters are not just administrative superstructures, but real incubators of world-class technologies.



The Lviv cluster of medical business has expanded its partnerships to Italy and Japan. At the SMAU Milan 2025 exhibition, ideas for joint projects in the field of virtual medical tours and gamification of dentistry were developed. Participation in the JETRO Business Exchange opened a dialogue with Japanese innovators on health-tech solutions. Such activity demonstrates the systematic integration of Ukrainian medical technology into global innovation networks.



Maritime Strategy: Blue Economy and Logistics

The Ukrainian Maritime Cluster (UMC) continues to fight for the restoration of the country's maritime potential. At the BALTEXPO 2025 exhibition in Gdańsk, the cluster, together

with the Ukrainian Register of Shipping, presented its vision for the restoration of port infrastructure. Participation in such a large-scale event is critical for keeping Ukraine on the maritime map of Europe and integrating it into new logistics chains.



The topic was continued in Constanta, Romania, at the Black Sea Common Maritime Agenda conference. The ICU delegation presented Mykolaiv's experience in financing innovations for the 'blue economy.' Active participation in seminars on maritime spatial planning confirms that Ukraine, despite the war, remains a key stakeholder in the development of the Black Sea region.



Industry 4.0 and mobility: European horizons

APPAU is deepening its cooperation with German partners in the field of critical materials and sustainability. Participation in the IDEALIST project stadium tour in Dresden allowed the Ukrainian delegation to join discussions on EU raw material security. At the same time, at the Asset Performance 2025 conference in Antwerp, participants in the APPAU ecosystem (IT-Enterprise) demonstrated their expertise in Industrial AI, proving that Ukrainian solutions in the field of predictive maintenance meet the highest global standards.

The Ukrainian Automotive and Mobility Cluster scored an important victory by joining the RESIST II project consortium of the EUROCLUSTERS programme. Only 16 out of 70 applications were selected, which is a sign of high confidence in the Ukrainian cluster. This opens up new financial instruments for SMEs and accelerates the green and digital transition of the national automotive industry.



IT and Smart City: Anti-fragility Strategy

Kharkiv IT Cluster presented a unique case study at the Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona. Together with Deloitte and the city council, they presented a Smart City strategy for Kharkiv. It is not just about digitalisation, but about 'anti-fragility' – a city management model that allows for development even in conditions of constant threats. Kharkiv's experience is becoming a global benchmark for sustainability.

External activity was reinforced by internal improvements: Kharkiv IT Cluster completed training in the Export Alliance Mastery programme, achieving the best results. Now the cluster's export service operates according to international standards, providing world-class consulting to community members.

Fashion & Textile: Cross-cultural partnerships

Podillia Fashion Cluster розширює горизонти співпраці, підписавши Меморандум з Impact Hub Yerevan (Вірменія). Це партнерство фокусується на розвитку креативних індустрій та цифровізації МСП. Обмін досвідом та спільні освітні ініціативи допоможуть українським виробникам одягу швидше інтегруватися в міжнародні екосистеми соціальних інновацій.

Clusters and the State: Synergy of Joint Actions

Interaction with state institutions is reaching a new level of strategic partnership. Ukrainian clusters are becoming full-fledged partners in shaping national policies, resolving personnel crises, and developing entire sectors of the economy.

Ukraine's Thermal Energy Cluster: Investing in Human Capital

The critical issue of personnel shortages brought together business and government at the forum 'Creating a Personnel Reserve,' where the Ukrainian Thermal Energy Cluster was one of the key participants in the dialogue. Together with the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Education and Science, and KSE ProfTech, the cluster joined the search for systemic solutions to overcome the shortage of technical specialists. This is not just a discussion about vacancies, but work on changing the paradigm: from the development of dual education to the creation of social housing for employees.

The cluster's position is clear: the reconstruction of energy infrastructure is impossible without people. Therefore, the organisation takes on the role of moderator between educational institutions, donors and business, helping enterprises to attract trained specialists. The emphasis is on the comprehensive profile of the employee of the future, where technical competencies (hard skills) are organically combined with the flexible skills (soft skills) necessary for working in conditions of uncertainty.

Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster: Strategic alliance with SATD

The hospitality sector received a powerful impetus for development thanks to the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster and the State Agency for Tourism Development of Ukraine (DART). This landmark event took place at the Mriya Hotelier business forum and marked the transition from situational cooperation to the creation of a unified ecosystem. This joint effort by the state and the relevant cluster lays the foundation for transforming the Ukrainian hospitality industry into a modern, innovative mechanism.

This partnership has an ambitious goal – to make the Ukrainian hospitality brand recognisable and competitive on the world map. Working together will allow us to synchronise the vision of business and the capabilities of the state, introduce new quality standards and promote the national tourism product more effectively. For the cluster, this is an important step in institutional strengthening, opening up new horizons for each of its participants – from local producers to large hotel chains.



Clusters and Education: Investing in the Human Capital of the Future

The development of industries is impossible without high-quality training of specialists. This autumn, Ukrainian clusters demonstrated that they are not just consumers of human resources, but active architects of the educational environment, building a full cycle of talent support – from school desks to university competitions.

Ivano-Frankivsk IT Cluster: Building an end-to-end talent pipeline

The Ivano-Frankivsk IT Cluster continues to implement its systematic career guidance strategy, initiating dialogue with future specialists while they are still at school. On 12 November, the Cluster partnered with the event 'IT DAY: Choose the Right Profession,' which took place at King Danylo University. Experts from leading companies (EPAM, SoftServe, Sombra, DataArt) introduced 9th and 11th grade students to the real landscape of the profession.

The main goal of such events is to demystify the industry. Cluster Executive Director Iryna Darvai and guest speakers not only talked about the skills needed for the AI era and project management, but also showed concrete prospects: there are already about 5,000 specialists working in the city.



The next logical step in this chain was to support the student elite. Together with partner companies (Avenga, Sigma, SoftServe, TenantCloud, Sombra), the Cluster supported the regional stage of the ICPC 2025 International Programming Olympiad. This year, a record number of participants gathered at IFNTUOG – 26 teams, which indicates a growing interest in algorithmic programming.

For businesses, this is not charity, but a pragmatic investment in hard skills. By supporting such competitions, companies directly influence the quality of training for young engineers, forming a talent pool for complex technical tasks.



Ukrainian Industrial Cluster: Synergy of Technology and Humanities

The Ukrainian Industrial Cluster is breaking the stereotype that industry only needs 'techies.' Signing a memorandum of cooperation with the People's Ukrainian Academy (Kharkiv) was a strategic response to the shortage of management personnel. Today's industry is in dire need of qualified managers, marketers and economists who are capable of managing complex production processes and bringing products to market.

Cooperation with a leading humanities university provides students with a complete immersion in the realities of business: from working on real-life cases to participating in

research. The cluster emphasises that modern industry is a combination of technology and strategic thinking. This partnership creates conditions under which talented young people in Kharkiv receive a clear signal: it is possible and necessary to build a successful management career in the national industrial sector.

October and November 2025 marked the transition of Ukrainian clusters from situational response to systematic development, which is officially enshrined in the new status of the UCA as an 'ecosystem cluster platform.' International cooperation has become as pragmatic as possible: we are moving from establishing contacts to integrating into European value chains and working in consortia, proving the competitiveness of Ukrainian products on global markets.

Within the country, clusters have established themselves as reliable partners for the state and the education sector, working together on strategies for recovery and overcoming the shortage of skilled workers. We are entering 2026 with a renewed positioning and a clear focus: to transform our established authority and partner networks into sustainable economic results for Ukrainian business.

See you again in October

Where to find Ukrainian clusters in December – here is a list of the main events

Ukraine

16 December | Hack & Match Event by Edih Kyiv HiTech

An event where real business cases will be analysed in six segments: food industry, mechanical engineering, defence industry, as well as cross-sector areas (AI, asset management, circular economy).

The packed programme includes a presentation of the challenges facing SMEs, solutions from providers, a tour of additive technology laboratories, and a fundraising session.

SMEs can submit their cases for consideration.

Details and registration at [the link](#).

16 December | Second workshop in the Cluster Management Excellence series

This is the second workshop in a series dedicated to the topic of 'Highly effective services for participants – development and quality implementation.' Speakers Ciprian Morcan (Transylvanian Furniture Cluster) and Andrea Toma (Hygia) will talk about the implementation of the 'one-stop shop' model, identifying the needs of participants and increasing their satisfaction.

**The 'one-stop shop' model is a business model that provides customers with the opportunity to receive a wide range of services in one place, as is the case in clusters and business associations.*

The event will take place on 16 December at 13:00 in an online format.

Registration via the [link](#).

18 December | Practical webinar 'Innovative financial solutions and market analytics as tools for business development in the HoReCa segment'

Ukrainian HoReCa Cluster, together with eDilo and Pro-Consulting, will hold a practical online webinar on innovative financial solutions and analytics for businesses in the hospitality industry. Participants will learn how restaurants, hotels, and cafes can use BNPL mechanisms for procurement, how to sell HoReCa services in instalments, and which analytical tools help make strong management decisions. This is a great opportunity to join and get practical tools for developing your project or company.

For more details, follow [the link](#).

Grant opportunities for 2025-2026

DIGITAL, IT, TELECOM, B5G

- [Envelope – B5G Trials Programme](#)
- [Digital Europe – European Digital Identity Wallet \(EUDI\)](#)

AI / DEEPTech / HPC / PHOTONICS / QUANTUM

- [FORTIS – DeepTech Uptake Programme](#) /
- [PhotonQBoost](#)
- [FFplus – HPC for SMEs](#) / AID – Thèses IDEES (France)
- [QuantERA Call 2025 / QuantERA III](#)

DIGITAL HEALTH / MEDTECH / EHDS

- [UNITE – Digital Health Innovation](#) /

DEFENCE / DUAL-USE

- [Horizon Europe – Cluster 3 \(Civil Security for Society\)](#)
- [Polish–Swiss Call \(NCBR + Switzerland\)](#)
- [SPRIND Challenge – Anti-Drone Response](#)
- [Drone Navigation without GNSS \(Germany – BMBF\)](#)
- [NCBR Defence & Security Programmes \(Poland\)](#)
- [ASTRID – Dual-Use R&D \(France\)](#)
- [AID – Thèses IDEES \(France\)](#)
- [EDA Hub for Defence Innovation \(HEDI\)](#)
- [Estonia – Defence Investments & UAS Procurement](#)
- [Lithuania – Vytis Defence & Security Innovation Centre](#)
- [MILInvest 2 – €40M Defence VC Fund \(Lithuania\)](#)
- [Innovation Fund IF25 \(EU\) – opening Dec 2025](#)
- [Latvia – Defence Innovation Fund \(2026 launch expected\)](#)
- [Germany – Cyberagentur ATARA](#)
- [European Defence Fund \(EDF\) 2025 Work Programme](#)
- [NATO Innovation Fund \(NIF\)](#)
- [EDA CapTech R&T Projects \(rolling\)](#)
- [NATO DIANA – Accelerator & Challenge Calls](#)
- [DIANA Baltic Testbeds \(Riga, Tallinn, Vilnius\)](#)
- [Poland – Armaments Agency \(IU\) Calls](#)
- [Switzerland – armasuisse S+T Innovation Sandbox](#)
- [Germany – dttec.bw Innovation Hubs](#)
- [Brave1 – Dual-Use & Defence Innovation \(Ukraine + Norway\)](#)
- [France – AID Open Innovation Challenges / i-Nov Défense](#)
- [France – AID RAPID \(Rolling\)](#)
- [Germany – BAAINBw Defence R&T](#)
- [Norway – NDMA / FFI Innovation Partnerships](#)
- [Switzerland – Payerne Dual-Tech R&D Site](#)

BUSINESS SUPPORT / AGRIFOOD / BIOTECH / SME

- [EIC Accelerator](#)
- [EUIPO SME Fund 2025](#)
- [EIF – Ukraine Facility \(UF\)](#)
- [UIF – MSME Lending](#)
- [EU4Business – Access to Finance](#)
- [FAO – HACCP Micro-Grants](#)
- [Google for Startups – AI](#)
- [OSF – Economic Resilience Fund](#)

CLIMATE / ENERGY / BIOMASS

- [Horizon Europe – Cluster 5 \(Energy & Climate\)](#)
- [CBE JU – Circular Bio-based Europe](#)
- [LIFE Clean Energy Transition](#)
- [Innovation Fund \(ETS\)](#)
- [NEFCO Green Recovery II](#)
- [develoPPP \(Germany\)](#)
- [European Energy Communities Facility](#)
- [IKI – International Climate Initiative](#)
- [USAID SPARC / ESP Energy Grants](#)

NL UKRAINE PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (UPF)**EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS (January–February 2026)**

- [EIT Manufacturing – Open Calls 2026](#)
- [EIT Urban Mobility – Innovation Call 2026](#)
- [EIT Digital – Innovation Factory 2026](#)
- [Erasmus+ – Cooperation Partnerships 2026](#)
- [Erasmus+ – Alliances for Innovation \(2026\)](#)
- [Creative Europe – Cooperation Projects 2026](#)
- [Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE – Call 2 \(expected Jan 2026\)](#)
- [SMP COSME – Single Market Programme \(SME Pillar\)](#)
- [EuroHPC JU Calls 2026](#)

UA UKRAINIAN PROGRAMMES (opening in January–February 2026)

- [Український Фонд Стартапів \(USF\) – Pre-seed / Seed Waves 2026](#)
- [USF – Defence Tech Track 2026 \(очікується окремий call\)](#)
- [Brave1 – Expanded Defence Innovation Call \(new cohorts 2026\)](#)
- [Startup Ukraine – Innovation Grants 2026](#)
- [Ministry of Energy / Ministry of Recovery – Grants for Energy Resilience \(Wave 2026\)](#)
- [UAF – Ukrainian Angels Fund \(Q1 2026\)](#)

ADDITIONAL EUROPEAN INSTRUMENTS (January–February 2026)

- [Women TechEU – New Edition 2026](#)
- [European Innovation Council – Transition 2026](#)
- [SMP – Women Entrepreneurship Call 2026](#)

- [European network of national competence centers for innovation procurement \(HORIZON-EIE-2026-01-CONNECT-01\)](#)
- [Scaling up deep tech ecosystems \(HORIZON-EIE-2026-01-CONNECT-03\)](#)
- [HORIZON-DIGITAL-2026-SUPPORT-09-NCP-NETWORK \(Network of National Contact Points for Horizon Europe Digital – підтримка NCP мережі\)](#)

For more details on the list of grants, please follow [the link](#).

Contacts and feedback

This digest was prepared by the UCA Executive Directorate for our partners from government and international organisations, Ukrainian and foreign clusters, donors and sponsors of the cluster movement.

We look forward to working with you.

For further information, please contact us: info@clusters.org.ua