



# SCALING EUROPE'S STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGIES

## EIC funding pathways for dual-use and defence innovation

### TWO PATHWAYS TO HELP YOU SCALE



#### DUAL-USE PATHWAY

EIC Accelerator and STEP expansion

##### FOR WHOM

- ▶ Start-ups, SMEs & small mid-caps ( $\leq 499$  employees)
- ▶ Dual-use technologies (civil + defence markets)
- ▶ Early scaling stage (from TRL 6 and above)
- ▶ EU Member States and Horizon Europe associated countries

##### EXAMPLES OF TECHNOLOGY

- AI
- Quantum
- Robotics
- Space
- Cyber
- Advanced materials

##### FUNDING

Up to  
**€2.5m**  
Accelerator grant

Up to  
**€10m**  
Accelerator equity

**€10-30m**  
STEP  
equity

##### TIMING

*Short proposals & STEP: submission any time*  
*Full proposals: as from 9 July 2026*  
*Batching dates: standard cycles*



#### DEFENCE SCALE-UP PATHWAY

EIC STEP Scale Up Defence Call

##### FOR WHOM

- ▶ Start-ups, SMEs & small mid-caps ( $\leq 499$  employees)
- ▶ Critical defence technologies
- ▶ Scaling stage (from TRL 6 and above)
- ▶ EU Member States, EEA countries associated to Horizon Europe, Ukraine
- ▶  $\geq 20\%$  private co-investment must be secured before application

##### EXAMPLES OF TECHNOLOGY

- Air & Missile defence • Artillery & Precision strike drones & Counter-drones • Strategic enablers • Cyber, AI & Electronic warfare
- Military mobility • Ground combat
- Maritime • Air combat • Medical & Countermeasures

##### FUNDING

**€10-30m**  
equity per  
company

**€50-150+m**  
total round  
size

Private  
investment  
commitment  
required

##### TIMING

*Call opens: 30 June 2026*  
*Deadline: 28 October 2026, 17:00 CET*  
*Evaluation results: early 2027*



Apply now

