

Decision-making protocol: EU funding opportunities

v1: WP1L, 05/01/2026

This protocol outlines the mandatory steps for the OpenEU alliance to approve participation in a European Commission (EC) call for proposals, ensuring academic alignment and institutional commitment.

Step 1: Proposal initiation & WP1B coordination

Any partner or Work Package Board (WPB) proposing an initiative or new proposal for the OpenEU alliance must initiate the approval process through the Work Package 1 Board (WP1B).

- **Action:** Distribute a concept note among WP1B members (briefly outlining objectives and impact).
- **Internal coordination:** If a proposal originates from a WP different from WP1, the WPL proposer must share the concept note with the WP1L or the Secretary General.
- **Strategic oversight:** WP1B members evaluate the proposal's fit with the alliance's long-term strategy and technical feasibility. This step ensures that all new funding initiatives are evaluated under Task T1.4 "OpenEU Sustainability Plan" to ensure it contributes to the long-term viability and resource strategy of the Alliance.

Step 2: Partnership validation & ExBo approval

If the proposal is deemed suitable by WP1B, it must meet the minimum internal participation criteria to be considered as an OpenEU proposal.

- **Minimum threshold:** At least 3 OpenEU beneficiaries must commit to the proposal.
- **ExBo submission:** The proposal is elevated to the Executive Board (ExBo) for formal review.
- **Approval:** The ExBo assesses the political alignment, opportunities and risks. Formal approval from the ExBo is required to proceed to the final stage.

Step 3: Final ratification by the RC

Once approved by the ExBo, the proposal reaches the highest level of governance for final validation.

- **Action:** The Rectors' Council (RC) reviews the proposal.
- **Ratification:** The RC provides the final institutional green light.