

Call for expressions of interest

Selecting the representatives of the scientific community, and of stakeholders involved in health care (covering in particular the public sector, including regulatory bodies, patients and end-users in general), as permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel of the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking¹

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¹ Referred to in Article 124 (2) points (d) and (e) of the Single Basic Act.

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The Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking is launching a call for expressions of interest (hereinafter “Eoi”) to select representatives of the scientific community, and of stakeholders involved in health care as **permanent panellists² of the Science and Innovation Panel**.

Background

On 19 November 2021, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe (hereinafter “Single Basic Act”), including the establishment of the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (hereinafter “IHI JU”).

IHI JU is designed as a public-private partnership between the EU and health industry sectors, in order to support pre-competitive, cross-sectoral research and innovation in health area. IHI JU intends to:

- help create an EU-wide health research and innovation ecosystem that facilitates translation of scientific knowledge into innovations;
- foster the development of safe, effective, people-centred and cost-effective innovations that respond to strategic unmet public health needs currently insufficiently served;
- drive cross-sectoral health innovation for a globally competitive European health industry.

To ensure the most impactful generation of new ideas and successful research and innovation activities, core actors in the activities of IHI JU will be researchers from various types of entities, public and private, cooperating in the health care sector. At the same time, stakeholders such as patients, health care professional and health care providers are essential to provide input into the strategic design and activities of the IHI JU, ensuring that it addresses the needs of the health care systems and of the patients. Furthermore, Union-wide and national regulatory authorities, health technology assessment bodies and health care payers should also provide early input to the partnership’s activities, whilst ensuring the absence of any conflicts of interest, in order to increase the likelihood that the results of funded actions achieve requirements for uptake and thus deliver expected impacts. The multi-stakeholder input will help to better design research and innovation efforts towards areas of unmet public health needs.

The stakeholder input described above will be provided, amongst others, by a Science and Innovation Panel that will be established as one of IHI JU governance bodies. The Science and Innovation Panel will provide advice to the Governing Board, at its request or on its own initiative, on scientific and technological matters related to the IHI JU’s objectives, and in particular about:

- (a) scientific priorities, in line with the IHI Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda³ and the Horizon Europe strategic planning;
- (b) draft work programme, including the content of calls for proposals, in line with the IHI Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and the Horizon Europe strategic planning;

² This call for expressions of interest does not apply to those permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel whose appointment is not subject to an open selection process, i.e. representatives of the IHI JU founding members or of the States Representatives’ Group, listed in Article 124 (2) points (a), (b) and (c) of the Single Basic Act.

³ The IHI JU Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) is available at <https://www.ihj.europa.eu/about-ihj/research-and-innovation-agenda>

- (c) scientific achievements to be described in the annual activity report;
- (d) in view of the progress of the IHI Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and individual actions, corrective measures or re-orientations to the IHI JU Governing Board, where necessary;
- (e) planning of additional activities of members other than the Union;
- (f) set up of advisory groups focused on specific scientific priorities;
- (g) creation of synergies with other Horizon Europe activities, including other European partnerships, as well as other Union funding programmes and national funding programmes;
- (h) specific issues as requested by the IHI JU Governing Board, in particular as regards developments in adjacent sectors or to support the assessment of applications of potential associated members and contributing partners.

The Science and Innovation Panel shall be composed of the following permanent panellists:

- (a) two representatives of the Commission on behalf of the Union;
- (b) four representatives of the members other than the Union (i.e. industry associations members of IHI: COCIR, MedTech Europe, EFPIA including Vaccines Europe, EuropaBio);
- (c) two representatives of the States' Representatives Group⁴;
- (d) four representatives of the scientific community, appointed by the Governing Board following this EoI;
- (e) up to six other permanent panellists, appointed by the Governing Board following this EoI, ensuring in particular appropriate representation of stakeholders involved in health care, covering notably the public sector, including regulatory bodies, patients and end-users in general.

The Science and Innovation Panel shall elect a Chairperson from among the four permanent panellists representing the scientific community.

Besides the permanent panellists described here, *ad-hoc* panellists may be invited based on their scientific or technical expertise to discuss specific subjects at given meetings. *Ad-hoc* panellists will be invited by the permanent panellists referred to in points (a), (b) and (c).

Objectives of this EoI

This EoI aims at establishing a list of candidates from which the IHI JU Governing Board will select and appoint the following permanent panellists (hereinafter "the selected permanent panellists"):

⁴ The states' representatives group will be the other IHI JU advisory body. It will provide opinions in particular on: (a) programme progress of the joint undertaking and achievement of its targets as part of Horizon Europe; (b) updating of strategic orientation in line with the Horizon Europe strategic planning and with other Union and member states funding instruments; (c) links to Horizon Europe and other Union, national and, where relevant, regional initiatives, including cohesion policy funds in line with smart specialisation strategies; (d) work programmes; (e) involvement of SMEs.

1. four representatives of the scientific community, including technology research. Submission shall be made according to the scientific / technological field(s) they represent;
and
2. up to six permanent panellists, ensuring in particular appropriate representation of stakeholders involved in health care covering notably the public sector, including regulatory bodies, patients and end-users in general. Submission shall therefore include at least one of the following categories according to the interests the candidates represent:
 - a. patients
 - b. health care professionals
 - c. health care providers⁵
 - d. regulatory bodies⁶
 - e. HTA bodies
 - f. health care payers⁷

Tasks and workload

The selected permanent panellists shall participate in the Science and Innovation Panel in their individual capacity. They may not delegate their tasks to another person.

The selected permanent panellists will be appointed for 3 years. The IHI JU Governing Board may decide to renew the appointment for an additional period to be defined based on the IHI JU needs.

The selected permanent panellists shall contribute to the deliberations of the Science and Innovation Panel in fulfilment of its tasks, bringing their knowledge and expertise as well as highlighting the needs of the area they represent and ensuring that IHI JU is aware of the positions and views of stakeholders from the entire value chain.

Active and regular participation is essential for the functioning of the Science and Innovation Panel. The selected permanent panellists should therefore be prepared to attend meetings and actively contribute to discussions, review documents, and make comments including written feedback reflecting public health needs, with a specific focus on the stakeholder groups they represent in their application, where relevant. They must respect the procedural and legal timelines provided by the Single Basic Act and by the rules of procedure to be adopted by the Science and Innovation Panel.

As an indication, the Science and Innovation Panel is expected to meet approximately 2-4 times a year, via teleconferencing systems or physically in Brussels (Belgium). The selected permanent panellists should consider that the meetings will involve preparatory work. They

⁵ Health care providers encompass organisations that deliver health care goods and services. Typical health care providers are hospitals, long-term care facilities, providers of ambulatory health care, laboratories, nursing care facilities, pharmacies and so on. For the purpose of this call, this category of stakeholders includes central purchasing bodies and public good procurers.

⁶ Regulatory bodies refer to the different bodies involved in the processes regulating medical products and include National Competent Authorities (NCA), the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG), and the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Notified Bodies (NB), while designated to perform a regulatory function (assessment of medical device/in-vitro diagnostics conformity) cannot be considered as regulators however the potential input and expertise of Notified Bodies may still be relevant for the Science and Innovation Panel activities.

⁷ Payers refer to tax-funded national health services (NHS) and compulsory health insurance funds (Social Health Insurance, SHI). NHS and SHI ensure publicly financed health care (the “benefits package”). In some Member States, additional products and services can be covered by voluntary health insurance providing complementary or supplementary insurance scheme.

should be willing to work with electronic methods for the management and exchange of documents. Apart from participation in scheduled meetings, the selected permanent panellists may be consulted on an ad-hoc basis on specific topics, via written consultations or through ad-hoc meetings.

The working documents and all the meetings will be in English, therefore an excellent command of English is essential.

Selection process and criteria for this EoI

The selection will follow the process and will be based on the criteria as outlined below.

The IHI Joint Undertaking may, where appropriate, re-open the Call for Expressions of Interest to ensure the appropriate representation and/or continuity of the tasks of the IHI JU Science and Innovation Panel. To that end, the IHI Joint Undertaking shall reserve the right to publish additional information or corrigenda as appropriate.

1. Selection process

The selection process shall include:

1. verification by the IHI Programme Office of the completeness of the application (see section Application Procedure below);
2. assessment, against the essential and advantageous criteria, by the IHI JU Programme Office of applications received in response to this EoI and fulfilling the formal requirements;
3. submission by the IHI JU Programme Office of a short list of candidates to the IHI JU Governing Board;
4. finalisation of the selection process and appointment of permanent panellists by the IHI JU Governing Board, considering the specific aims of the Science and Innovation Panel and the type of expertise required. The IHI JU Governing Board shall ensure a high level of expertise, balanced representation of relevant know-how and areas of interest in relation to IHI objectives, representative geographical coverage, plus balanced gender inclusion.

The remaining shortlisted candidates may be placed on a reserve list from which the IHI JU draws recruits as and when needed, subject to their agreement to be placed within such a list. They may notably be contacted by the IHI JU to become ad hoc panellists (as referred to in article 124.3 of the Single Basic Act, as necessary. Accordingly, Candidates' CVs and associated application documents may, for the purpose of constituting such ad hoc expert panels, be shared by the IHI JU Programme Office with the members of the IHI JU, subject to full confidentiality criteria.

2. Selection criteria

a) *Essential criteria*

Candidates for the position of permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel, either as representing the scientific community (as referred to in Article 124(2) points (d) of the Single Basic Act) or stakeholders involved in health care (referred to in Article 124(2) points (e) of the Single Basic Act) shall meet the following essential criteria:

- Proven experience in providing scientific and technical advice in the scientific area(s) relevant to the IHI objectives⁸;
- Very good command of written and spoken English.

Candidates for the position of permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel representatives of the scientific community shall meet the following additional essential criteria:

- Proven competence and expertise in health research and innovation and/or health care in scientific/technological areas relevant to the IHI objectives supported by a university qualification.

Candidates for the position of permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel representing stakeholders involved in health care shall meet the following additional essential criteria:

- Proven competence and expertise in representing stakeholders involved in health care for at least one of the above-mentioned categories⁹;
- Support from one or several organisations, groups or networks representing the interests of relevant stakeholders at European and/or international level.

b) Advantageous criteria

In addition, the following characteristics would be considered as an asset:

- Record of previous participation in scientific and/or technological advisory bodies, demonstrating the ability to look for consensus and to provide synthetic, wide-spectrum analyses;
- Good understanding of the EU research and innovation environment (acquired for example through the participation in EU funded initiatives);
- Good understanding of industrial research and development environment;
- Scientific impact of relevance to the areas of IHI JU activities (in particular for representatives of the scientific community);
- Cross-sectoral experience and expertise, understood as covering several technology areas.

Application procedure and closing date

Interested candidates are requested to submit a completed version of the application form (Annex I of this EoI).

The completed application form (duly signed and dated) shall not extend beyond five pages and shall include notably the following:

- a motivation for expressing interest to join the Science and Innovation Panel;
- the demonstration on how each of the selection criteria is fulfilled; and

⁸ The objectives specific to IHI JU are defined in Articles 115 and 116 of the Single Basic Act.

⁹ See above point 2 of section "Objectives of this EoI"

- a statement of intent to join the Science and Innovation Panel for the full duration of its appointment with active/committed participation in its activities; and
- a statement that the candidate agrees to have its membership in the Science and Innovation Panel made public on the IHI JU website.

In addition, candidates shall indicate whether they would accept to be kept in the reserve list if not appointed as permanent panellists.

The following documents shall be submitted together with the completed application form:

1. A CV of the candidate;
2. A duly completed and signed declaration of interests (Annex II of this EoI);
3. For candidates as representatives of stakeholders involved in health care, letter(s) of support from one or several organisations, groups or networks representing the interests of relevant stakeholders at a European and /or international level.

The application will be disqualified if the dossier is incomplete.

Candidates may apply for one or both types of position as permanent panellists (i.e. representatives of the scientific community and representatives of the stakeholders). They shall submit a single application and clearly indicate this in the application form by selecting both boxes, ensuring that information and documents provided reflects the requirements of each role.

In the case where a candidate applying for both types of position is shortlisted, the ultimate decision remains with the IHI JU Governing Board as to the final position offered. Candidates with a strong preferred position are advised to indicate that position only.

The deadline for submission of applications is 21 February 2022, 23:59 CET.

The completed application must be sent by electronic means to the following address:
sip@ihi.europa.eu

The subject of the email should be "*Science and Innovation Panel call for expressions of interest*"

Applications received after the above-mentioned deadline will not be considered.

All candidates applying to this EoI will be informed in writing and in due time of the outcome of the selection process.

For more information, please send an e-mail to: sip@ihi.europa.eu

Allowances and reimbursement of expenses

The selected permanent panellists will be reimbursed for their expenses related to attending physical meetings (travel, accommodation allowance and daily allowance to cover expenditures at the place where the meeting/work is held).

Independence – Conflict of interest

The selected permanent panellists shall not have financial or other interests in health-related industries which could affect their impartiality. They shall undertake to act in the general interest and in an independent manner.

For this purpose:

- It is essential that candidates submit, together with their application form, a duly completed declaration of interests. All candidates will be subject to a pre-screening of any potential competing interests and any detected direct interest could lead to the exclusion from the appointment process;
- Permanent panellists will be requested to sign a declaration confirming the absence of conflict of interest prior to their first attendance to the meetings of the Science and Innovation Panel.

At the beginning of each meeting, permanent panellists will be requested to declare promptly any conflict of interest that may arise from his/her participation in the Science and Innovation Panel which might be considered prejudicial to their independence in relation to the items on the agenda. In such a case, the concerned panellist(s) shall undertake to refrain from participating in any discussion/vote on the item and shall leave the discussions accordingly.

Selected permanent panellists shall not participate in proposals or projects funded under the IHI JU, either in their personal capacity or as representative of the organisations to which they belong.

Where discussions address proposals or projects in which their organisation is involved or where they have any advisory role (e.g. advisory board or contracted external expert), they will be asked to leave the meeting for the discussion of the concerned item/subject.

Furthermore, panellists shall inform the IHI JU programme office and the Science and Innovation Panel if any agenda item or subject discussed is of significant relevance for IHI JU projects or known proposals in which their organisation is a participant or adviser. The said permanent panellist(s) can be requested to abstain from the deliberations and/or leave the meeting for the discussion of the concerned item/subject. This does not impact their position within the Science and Innovation Panel.

Transparency and data protection

The IHI JU will make public the names and an agreed bio sketch of the members of the Science and Innovation Panel on the IHI JU website. Any changes in panellist bio sketch should be notified by the panellist to the IHI JU programme office.

The agenda of the Science and Innovation Panel meetings shall be made publicly available in a timely manner on the IHI JU website¹⁰. To the extent possible and subject to confidentiality obligations, the advices and reports of the Science and Innovation Panel shall be published on the IHI JU website¹¹.

All personal data provided by candidates will be dealt with in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

For more information, candidates are invited to read the IHI JU Privacy Policy on Personal data protection: <https://www.ihj.europa.eu/legal-notice-and-privacy>

¹⁰ Article 26.4 of the Single Basic Act

¹¹ Articles 26.8 and 33 of the Single Basic Act

Confidentiality

Members of the Science and Innovation Panel shall respect the rules of confidentiality, in particular of any work of the Science and Innovation Panel that has not been published on the IHI JU website.

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Selecting the representatives of the scientific community, and of stakeholders involved in health care (covering in particular the public sector, including regulatory bodies, patients and end-users in general), as permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel of the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking¹²

APPLICATION FORM

All relevant fields must be duly completed. The completed application form shall not go beyond 5 pages. Please use a legible font with a minimum font size 10 points as well as standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing. Please sign using BLUE ink and date the completed form. **Please note that the candidate will be disqualified if this application form is incomplete or supporting documents missing.**

1. Surname¹³:.....
Forenames:.....
Title¹⁴:.....
Job title:.....
2. Address for correspondence¹⁵:.....
N°.....
Postal Code:.....Town:.....
Country:.....
Telephone No:.....
E-mail address:.....
3. Date of birth: Day: Month: Year:
4. Gender: Female Male Other
5. Nationality¹⁶:

AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	ES	FI	FR	GR	HR	HU
IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	Others

¹² Referred to in Article 124 (2) points (d) and (e) of the Single Basic Act
¹³ IMPORTANT: Your expression of interest will be registered under this name. Please use it in all correspondence. Any other name (e.g. maiden name) appearing on diplomas or certificates accompanying this expression of interest should be indicated into brackets.
¹⁴ Examples of title Prof, Dr, Mr, Ms
¹⁵ The IHI programme office should be informed of any change of address.
¹⁶ Abbreviations based on the ISO 3166 country code.

6. Please indicate the position(s) you are applying to¹⁷:

permanent panellist representing the scientific community, including technological research

Please indicate the scientific/technological field(s):
.....

permanent panellist representing stakeholders involved in health care

Please indicate the category(ies) that you are representing:

Patients Health care professionals Health care providers Regulatory bodies

HTA bodies Health care payers

7. Please explain your motivation to join the Science and Innovation Panel:

8. Demonstration on how each of the selection criteria is fulfilled (see the section *selection criteria* in the Call for Expressions of Interest).

8.1 Essential criteria for all candidates:

Proven experience in providing scientific and technical advice in the scientific areas relevant to the IHI objectives

¹⁷ In case where candidates wish to apply for both positions as permanent panellists, they shall clearly indicate it in this application form by selecting both boxes.

Very good command of written and spoken English:

Please indicate your level ¹⁸

8.2a. *Essential criteria for candidates representing the scientific community:*

Proven competence and expertise in health research and innovation and/or health care in scientific/technological areas relevant to the IHI objectives supported by a university qualification:

8.2b. *Essential criteria for candidates as representatives of stakeholders involved in health care:*

Proven competence and expertise representing stakeholders involved in health care, for the category(ies) you are representing

¹⁸ Levels:

English Basic User (A1, A2) A1 (Beginner) A2 (Elementary English)

English Independent User (B1, B2) B1 (Intermediate English) B2 (Upper-Intermediate English)

Proficient English User (C1, C2) C1 (Advanced English) C2 (Proficiency English)

Support from one or several organisations, groups or networks representing the interests of relevant stakeholders at European and/or international level.

Explanation:

Please list the organisations, groups or networks from which you have letter(s) of support that are joined to the application:

8.3 Advantageous criteria:

Record of previous participation in scientific and/or technological advisory bodies, demonstrating the ability to look for consensus and to provide synthetic, wide spectrum analyses:

Good understanding of the EU research and innovation environment (acquired for example through the participation in EU funded initiatives):

Good understanding of industrial research and development environment:

Scientific impact of relevance to the areas of IHI JU activities (in particular for representatives of the scientific community):

Cross-sectoral experience and expertise, understood as covering several technology areas:

9. Can you confirm that you are available to actively participate in activities of the Science and Innovation Panel for the full duration of the appointment?
 YES NO
10. Can you confirm that you agree to have your membership in the Science and Innovation Panel made public on the IHI JU website?
 YES NO
11. Can you confirm that in case not appointed as permanent panellist, you accept to be kept in reserve list to be contacted later in time to replace permanent panellists or to be invited as ad hoc panellists if need be?
 YES NO

Protection of personal data

The IHI JU will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39). This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. For more detailed information on the scope, purposes and means of the processing of their personal data in the context of this Call.

12. Declaration:

I declare on my word of honour that the information provided above is true and complete. I understand that any misrepresentation in supplying this information may lead to my exclusion from the present Call.

Done at (place)..... on (date).....

Signature:

The following documents shall be submitted with the completed application form:

1. A Curriculum Vitae of the candidate;
2. Duly completed and signed declaration of interests
3. *Only for candidates as representatives of stakeholders involved in health care*, letter(s) of support from one or several organisations, groups or networks representing the interests of relevant stakeholders at a European and/or international level.

[MODEL] DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

to be submitted together with to the application form in answer to the Call for Expressions of interest to select representatives of the scientific community and of stakeholders involved in health care as permanent panellists of the Science and Innovation Panel of the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU)

Surname and Forenames:

E-mail:

do hereby declare on my honour that, to the best of my knowledge, the only direct or indirect interests¹⁹ I have in the [pharmaceutical, medical technology, biotechnology, digital health, vaccines, etc] sector[s] [are][is] those listed below:

1. Current and Past activities:

Employment held over the last 3 years in [pharmaceutical, medical technology, biotechnology, digital health, vaccines, etc] companies (any form of occupation, part-time or full-time, paid or unpaid, in the company).

Consultancy to a [pharmaceutical, medical technology, biotechnology, digital health, vaccines, etc] companies (any advice activity (including training on a one-to-one basis) to a pharmaceutical company regardless of contractual arrangements or any form of remuneration.

Strategic advisory role for a [pharmaceutical, medical technology, biotechnology, digital health, vaccines, etc] companies (any activity (with a right to vote on/influence the outputs) in a(n) (scientific) advisory board/steering committee with the role of providing advice/expressing opinions on the (future) strategy, direction and development activities of a company, either in terms of general strategy or product related strategy, regardless of contractual arrangements or any form of remuneration.

Principal investigation for studies instigated/sponsored by a [pharmaceutical, medical technology, biotechnology, digital health, vaccines, etc] companies

¹⁹ Please note that the holding of interests does not give rise to a conflict of interest, if the independence and objectivity of decisions are not at risk. The primary responsibility for assessing whether an interest might impede independence or influence judgement or for declaring any possible conflict of interest is placed on the individual concerned.

2. Current Financial Interests:

Any direct financial interests, (managerial stakes in companies, including ownerships of patents or any other relevant intellectual property rights), or assets (shares and/or securities held in companies) or grants or other funding which might create a conflict of interests in the performance of their duties, with an indication of their number and value, as well as the name of the company/provider of the grant/funding.

[No Interest Declared] / [Interest...]

3. Any other relevant interests:

[No Interest Declared] / [Interest...]

4. Family Member Interest:

Spouse's/partner's/dependent family members' current activity and financial interests that might entail a risk of conflict of interest.

[No Interest Declared] / [Interest...]

I confirm the information declared on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and I consent to my information being stored electronically by the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking.

Done at [place], [date]

Name and Signature