

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004547/25
to the Commission
Nicolás González Casares (S&D)
(13 November 2025)**

Subject: Biomedical research affected by disruptions to the EU-US partnership

On 1 May, the United States' National Institutes of Health (NIH) halted all funding for European and non-American teams involved in NIH-financed biomedical research projects with immediate effect. This decision has had major repercussions for the research teams working on NIH-funded transatlantic projects, but its impact is not limited to financial matters: the measure will also undermine the American agency's standing as a global research leader, adversely affect the highly qualified personnel it was funding, disrupt the United States' strategic scientific partnership with the EU and make it impossible to derive any benefit whatsoever from the data that the aforementioned studies (particularly those in the biomedical field, where the cuts have hit the hardest) have collected and analysed.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission planning to implement a contingency plan to sustain and support the research teams affected by the NIH's funding cuts for programmes based in Europe?
2. What action will the Commission take as regards the EU resources that have already been allocated to American research teams and what arrangements will it make concerning American applications to future EU-funded programmes?
3. What steps is the Commission taking to increase cooperation on biomedical research with other countries that provide greater legal certainty?

Submitted: 13.11.2025

**Answer given by Ms Zaharieva on behalf of the European Commission
(15 January 2026)**

The Commission is aware of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announcement to discontinue foreign subawards ⁽¹⁾. This is expected to have an impact on the participation of EU based organisations in future NIH calls. However, the NIH continues to support international collaboration and fund EU based organisations through direct awards ⁽²⁾.

Horizon Europe funding under Cluster 1 'Health' ⁽³⁾ is awarded through competitive calls, therefore no specific ad hoc mechanism is foreseen to compensate EU research teams for the loss of NIH's funding.

It is in the EU's strategic interest to cooperate with countries beyond the EU, particularly for multilateral cooperation on (global) health issues, such as International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC) ⁽⁴⁾, Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) ⁽⁵⁾ and Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) ⁽⁶⁾.

When there is a reciprocal interest, this applies also to United States based entities, who can participate in projects with EU beneficiaries and are eligible for exceptional funding in Horizon Europe Cluster 1 work programmes under a commitment, dating from 2008 ⁽⁷⁾.

In line with the EU's global approach to research and innovation, participation in Horizon Europe projects is not only open to the 21 countries associated to it, but also to participation (albeit on different terms) by entities from other countries and regions worldwide. This includes Cluster 1.

Regarding biodata resources, Horizon Europe is funding the secretariat of the Global Biodata Coalition (GBC 2023-2026, Grant 101260366).

⁽¹⁾ <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-104.html>.

⁽²⁾ <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-155.html>.

⁽³⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/cluster-1-health_en.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://irdirc.org/>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://www.glopid-r.org/>.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://www.gacd.org/>.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://www.science.org/cms/asset/e17dfe9b-e6e4-45bf-9740-e2125650e4b4/pap.pdf>.