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Horizon Europe Coordination and Support Action

LUKE

Linking Ukraine to the European Research Area Joint Funding and Capacity Building Platform for enhanced Research and Innovation Cooperation

Research and Innovation cooperation with added value

LUKE Newsletter November 2026

Grant Agreement 101188315

Dear Readers and Partners,

On behalf of the Civitta team, we would like to welcome you to this edition of the LUKE newsletter!



Ivanna Didur
Work Package 3 Leader,
Civitta Ukraine

Civitta Ukraine is proud to be part of the LUKE consortium. Within the project, we are responsible for the Monitoring activities and join the capacity building activities within the LUKE Knowledge Hub.

Through monitoring, we follow the progress of the LUKE Joint Call and the projects it supports. Through the Knowledge Hub, we gather and share the knowledge, lessons learnt and good practices that emerge from Europe-Ukraine research and innovation cooperation.

We look forward to working closely with the new project teams and to sharing their first achievements with you.

I would like to thank you for your interest in LUKE and wish you an interesting read!

Ivanna Didur,
Associate Partner, Civitta Ukraine



We support the European Research Area aimed at creating a single, borderless market for research, innovation and technology in the EU.

KNOWLEDGE HUB:
CONNECTING IDEAS, STRENGTHENING RESEARCH COMMUNITIES

The LUKE Knowledge Hub continues to be actively engaged in organising and delivering events that foster knowledge exchange, strengthen cooperation and support the development of Ukraine's research and innovation ecosystem.

Through a series of workshops, webinars and interactive discussions, the Knowledge Hub creates opportunities for researchers, research managers, policymakers and other stakeholders from Ukraine and Europe to connect, share expertise and explore new approaches to international collaboration.

SCAN ME

Knowledge hub

Meet the Coordinator of the LUKE Knowledge Hub



Henriette Kirch, DLR-PT

The LUKE Knowledge Hub is maintained within LUKE Work Package 2 "Empowering Ukraine – think, decide, act". The Coordinator of the Knowledge Hub is Henriette Kirch from DLR-PT. Henriette Kirch is a Senior Policy Advisor at DLR Projektträger (DLR-PT) specialising in strategic foresight and international research and innovation cooperation. As a Work Package 2 Leader for the Horizon Europe project LUKE, she focuses on empowering Ukraine's integration into the European Research Area through capacity-building, collaborative knowledge exchange, and cross-border science policy dialogue.

> ***Bringing this consortium together made one thing clear: we have some of Europe's strongest project management agencies at the table, all with massive expertise in what makes an R&I ecosystem thrive. We pooled our resources and sat down to strategically identify where we could learn from one another and the result is the Knowledge Hub.***
>
> Henriette Kirch, LUKE Work Package 2 Leader, DLR-PT

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LUKE
Linking Ukraine to the ERA

WHAT'S NEXT?
KEY STEPS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

LUKE Joint Call update

Until now, the LUKE Joint Call is well on track:

- Eligibility check and evaluation process completed
- Eligible project proposals evaluated by international expert panels
- Final funding decisions expected to be announced in December 2026
- Selected projects expected to start in January-March 2027

LUKE capacity building activities continues

Online Workshop
Research Management in Practice – Roles, Skills and Tools Across the Research Lifecycle

19 November 2026 | 11:30–13:00 EET | 10:30–12:00 CET
The sessions will highlight practical skills, approaches and tools that support effective project coordination, as well as the broader contribution of research management to institutional development, international collaboration and long-term research capacity.

SCAN ME

Register here by 17 November 2026

International workshop
Raising IP awareness: Strategies for engaging the wider public

8 December 2026 | 11:00 – 13:15 EET | 10:00 – 12:15 CET
Organised by the LUKE project, together with the Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO) and the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia.

The workshop will explore how to make IP more visible and accessible to wider audiences. Participants will exchange good practices, discover successful public engagement initiatives and take part in an interactive World Café to develop ideas for promoting IP awareness among young people, researchers, entrepreneurs and society at large.

SCAN ME

Register here

Coming soon: Online workshop for startups and SMEs
December 2026 | Online
From Science Diplomacy to Startup Opportunities: Navigating International R&I Partnerships and Support Initiatives

LUKE UPDATES
RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

NRFU study visit to Austria. Sharing best practices in science and innovation communication and international cooperation

From 9 to 13 November 2026, Tetiana Machulina, Head of the Department of Communications and International Cooperation, the National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU), was participating in a study visit organised by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) within LUKE.









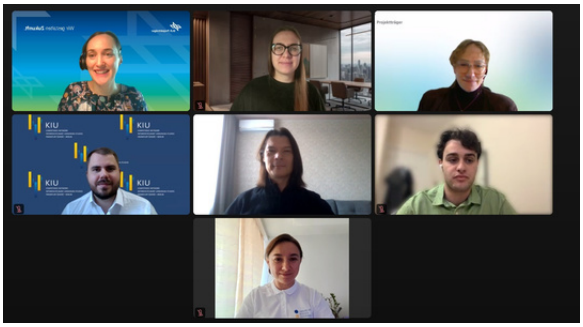
The study visit focused on best practices in science communication, public relations, international cooperation, and the management of research and innovation programmes. As part of the programme, the NRFU representative visited the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), the Austrian Science Fund (FWF), the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) and VISTA Science Experience Center.

The study visit aimed to strengthen institutional capacities, facilitate knowledge exchange and support closer cooperation between Ukrainian and Austrian research and innovation organisations.

> ***What makes the LUKE project truly special is not only the knowledge and experience we gain, but above all - the people we meet and the connections we build along the way. This study visit to Austria has been an opportunity to learn, exchange ideas, and experience the value of genuine partnership and mutual support. I am grateful for the openness, encouragement, and solidarity that make us feel supported and inspire us to bring new ideas and positive changes back home.***
>
> Tetiana Machulina, Head of the Department of Communications and International Cooperation, National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU)

Science Diplomacy Webinar: “Connecting Voices: Building Ukraine’s Science Diplomacy Ecosystem in Europe”

On 5 November 2026, the LUKE project hosted the interactive online workshop “Connecting Voices: Building Ukraine’s Science Diplomacy Ecosystem in Europe”.
The event brought together more than 30 participants across Europe, providing a platform for Ukrainian and European experts to exchange perspectives on the development of Ukraine’s science diplomacy ecosystem and its integration into the broader European research and academic landscape.



The workshop explored the contribution of academic networks, Ukrainian Studies, European science diplomacy initiatives and scientific diaspora communities to fostering sustainable connections between Ukraine and Europe.

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NETWORKING CONTINUES: EU.FFICIENT FOR PARTNER SEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

The thematic group of interest "LUKE Europe-Ukraine R&I" continues its work on the EU.FFICIENT platform.

Through the collaboration between the LUKE and EU.FFICIENT Horizon Europe projects, the platform provides a dynamic space for matchmaking, interaction and knowledge exchange among stakeholders across Europe.

The group offers participants the opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals, researchers and innovators, share insights and explore potential collaboration linked to the LUKE Joint Call and beyond. The platform also keeps users informed about upcoming events and supports continued engagement within the Europe-Ukraine research and innovation community.



LUKE Europe-Ukraine R&I

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Group About Members Events My Calendar



eu·fficient

YOUR JOURNEY
STARTS HERE

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Highlights from EU.FFICIENT

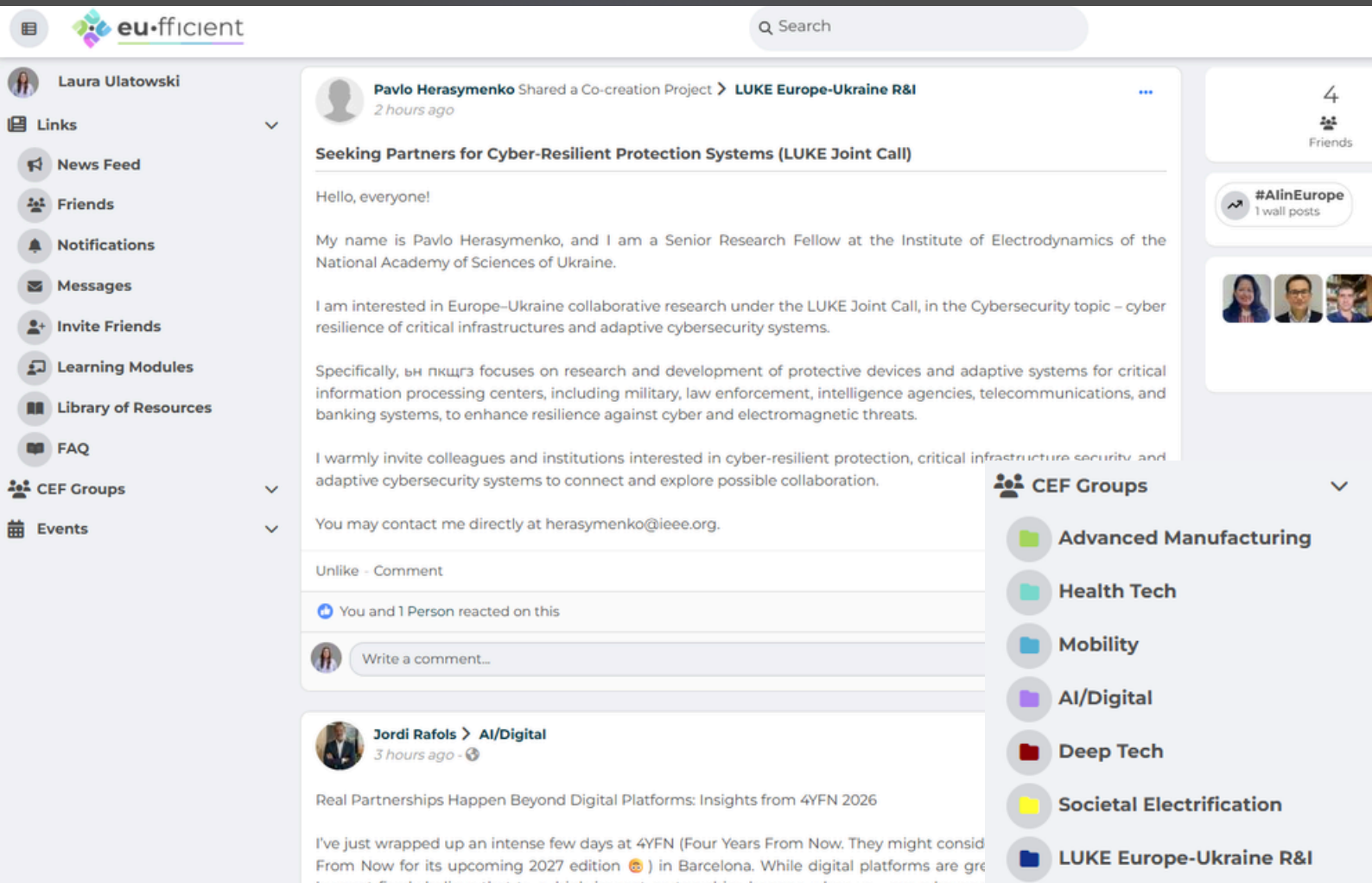
Welcome to your new home for innovation: the **EU.FFICIENT Platform**

The EU.FFICIENT Platform is your hub for innovation, collaboration, and growth. Here's what awaits you:

💡 **Personalised training and hands-on learning.** Level up your skills with practical, tailored training experiences designed specifically for your sector, enabling you to immediately apply new facilitation techniques.

💡 **Exclusive networking.** Become a mentor or find mentorship opportunities, and connect directly with leaders in four communities: Advanced Manufacturing, HealthTech, Mobility, and AI/Digital.

💡 **Tailored for networking.** Connect easily with fellow facilitators and industry leaders, paving the way for future powerful co-creation.



PROJECT PARTNERS

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LUKE
Linking Ukraine to the ERA

Project coordinator

DLR Projektträger
Germany

Responsible for implementation of the capacity building

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION
Austria

DEMOCRACY X
TECHNOLOGY, SOCIETY & SUSTAINABILITY
Denmark

civitta
Ukraine
Lithuania

Ukraine

Ukraine

Ukraine

Ministries

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE
Ukraine

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space
Germany

Romania

R&I Funding Agencies

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF UKRAINE
Ukraine

Latvian Council of Science
Latvia

T A C R
Czechia

FWF Austrian Science Fund
Austria

FFG Promoting Innovation.
Austria

Estonian Research Council
Estonia

UEFISCDI
Romania

ANCD
Moldova

Georgia

TÜBİTAK
Türkiye

NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE POLAND
Poland

Associated partners:

DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
German Research Foundation
Germany

Swiss National Science Foundation
Switzerland

Research Council of Finland
Finland

GEORGIA'S INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY AGENCY
Georgia

Scan to learn more about LUKE!

Information about LUKE activities on social media!

Click here

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