



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 24 February 2025**

**WK 2512/2025 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**ERAC**

*This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.*

**WORKING DOCUMENT**

---

From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)

---

Subject: Leveraging the 90 % - Proposal for a new European Research & Innovation Framework using Art. 184 TFEU (contribution by the AT delegation)

---

Delegations will find in the Annex the PowerPoint presentation submitted by the Austrian delegation, after the ERAC plenary meeting held in Brussels on 13 and 14 February 2025.

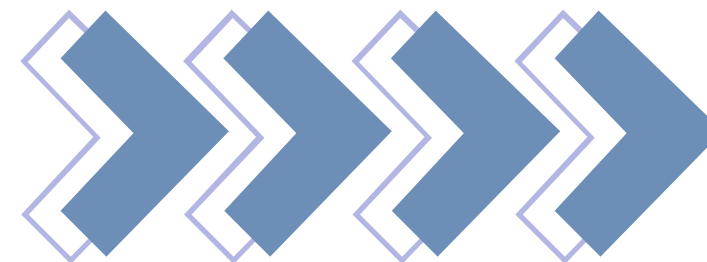
# Leveraging the 90 %

Proposal for a new *European Research & Innovation Framework*  
using Art. 184 TFEU

# Fifth Freedom for Research & Innovation: Leveraging the 90%

## Current Approach & Status Quo

- Fragmentation due to a **lack of strategic focus and coordination** among Member States leads to underinvestment, limited cross-border spillovers and reduced innovation capacity and opportunities.
- Around **90%** of public R&I funding in Europe is allocated at national level, only **10%** in European coordination (FP).
- Imbalance reinforces a **siloes approach** and constrains the potential for large-scale, trans-national projects that could enhance Europe's competitiveness and technological sovereignty.
- **Less capacity for competitiveness**, knowledge creation and problem solving.



## Next Level European Approach

- To put R&I at the heart of our economy we need more than a framework programme.
- We must **leverage national R&I spending** and find a true European pathway in selected strategic R&I areas essential for global competitiveness through:
  - **Pooling EU and national resources**, capacities and expertise in these priority areas to maximise impact.
  - Breaking down national silos and stimulating **deeper collaboration and cross-border funding**.
  - Moving towards a truly **integrated Single Market** for R&I.

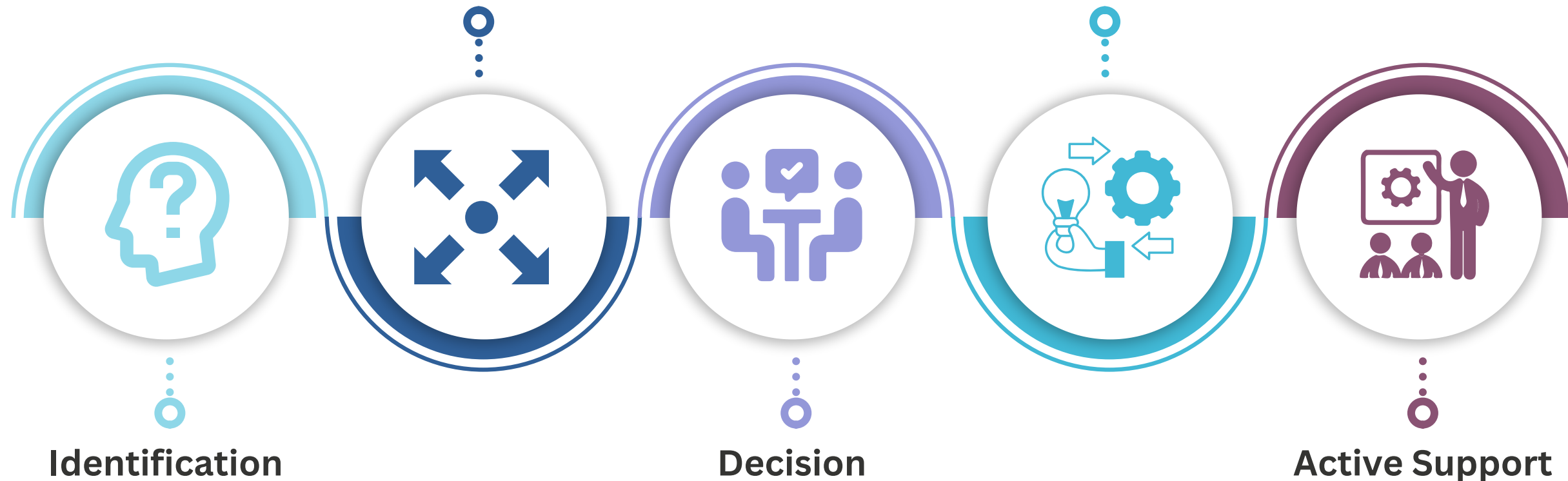
# A way towards realising the Fifth Freedom

## Scope

- European Commission initiates package proposal(s) for **Supplementary Programme(s) based on Article 184 TFEU**, defining scope and core objectives of strategic research area(s).
- Package proposal(s) outline the rules applicable to the Supplementary Programme(s), including dissemination of knowledge, access of Member States, expected impacts, funding mechanisms, and collaboration structures.
- All Member States are eligible for calls in the strategic research area(s) of “FP10”, but the opening-up of national initiatives is **limited** to researchers from Member States participating in Article 184.
- **Dissemination of knowledge** follows rules of the Single Market with **no barriers whatsoever across the EU-27**.

## Enabling Measures

- Supplementary Programme(s) benefit from **favorable ecosystem in the Single Market** (e.g. 28th regime, Savings and Investment Union).
- In principle, participating Member States open up their **national innovation pipelines for all TRLs** in given strategic research area(s).
- For all national and EU components of the Supplementary Programme(s) a **common playbook** of simple and effective implementation procedures and evaluation standards will be put in place.



- European Commission identifies **strategic research areas** to boost European competitiveness based on **consultation** with **Member States** and **key stakeholders**.
- Identified areas correspond to priorities under the **Framework Programme** (Competitiveness Fund) with high European Value Added if aligned with national initiatives of Member States.

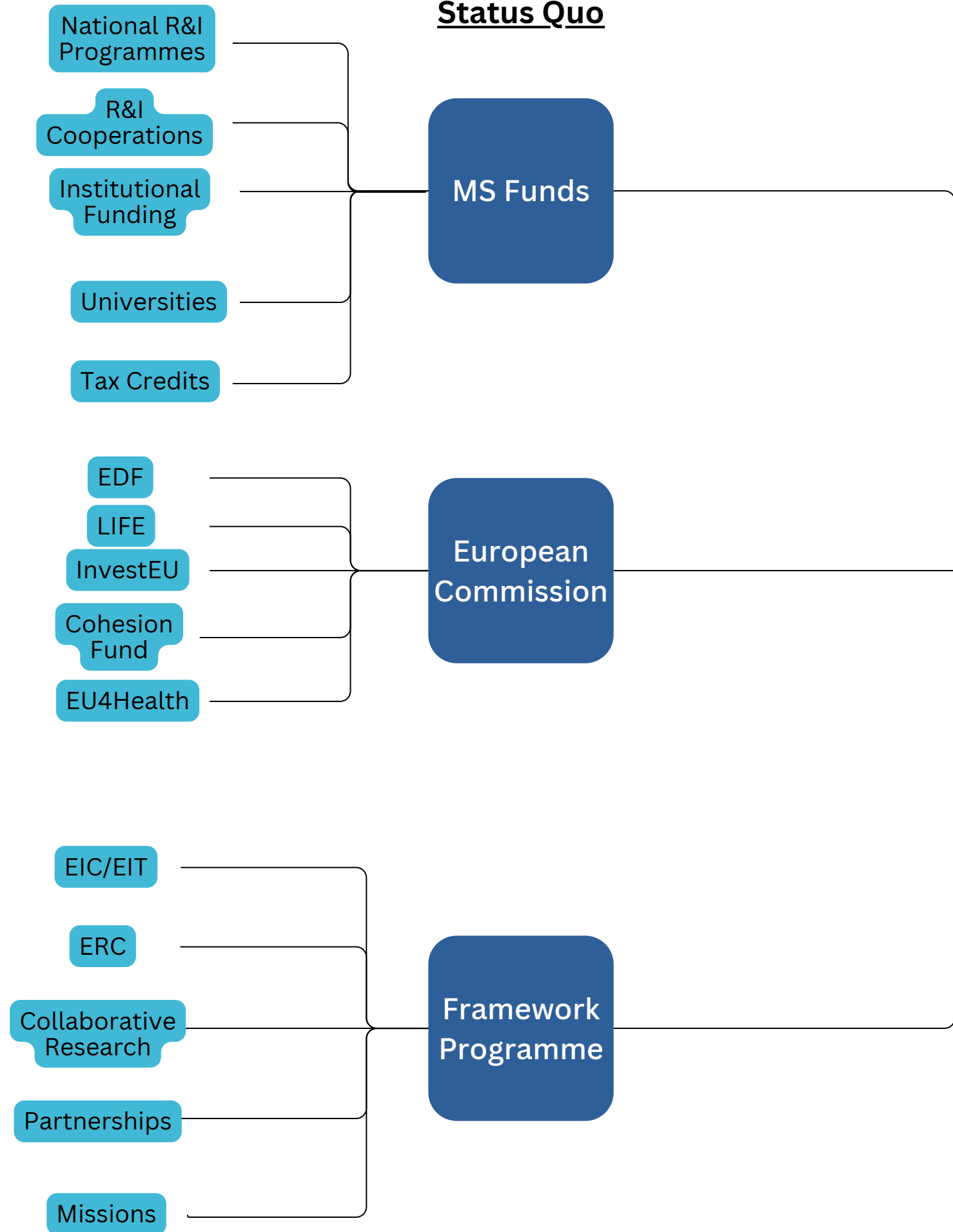
- Commission’s proposal(s) are brought to the **Council** and the **European Parliament** for negotiation.
- Each Member State decides whether to participate in the proposed Supplementary Programme(s), either through **direct contribution to the budget or in-kind**.
- Final decision is taken based on the ordinary legislative procedure. The agreement of the participating Member States is required.

- **Programme implementation** is supported by dedicated **working groups**.
- These groups address **policy alignment**, **best practice exchange**, and **programme management**.
- Continuous monitoring and refinement ensure effectiveness and long-term impact.

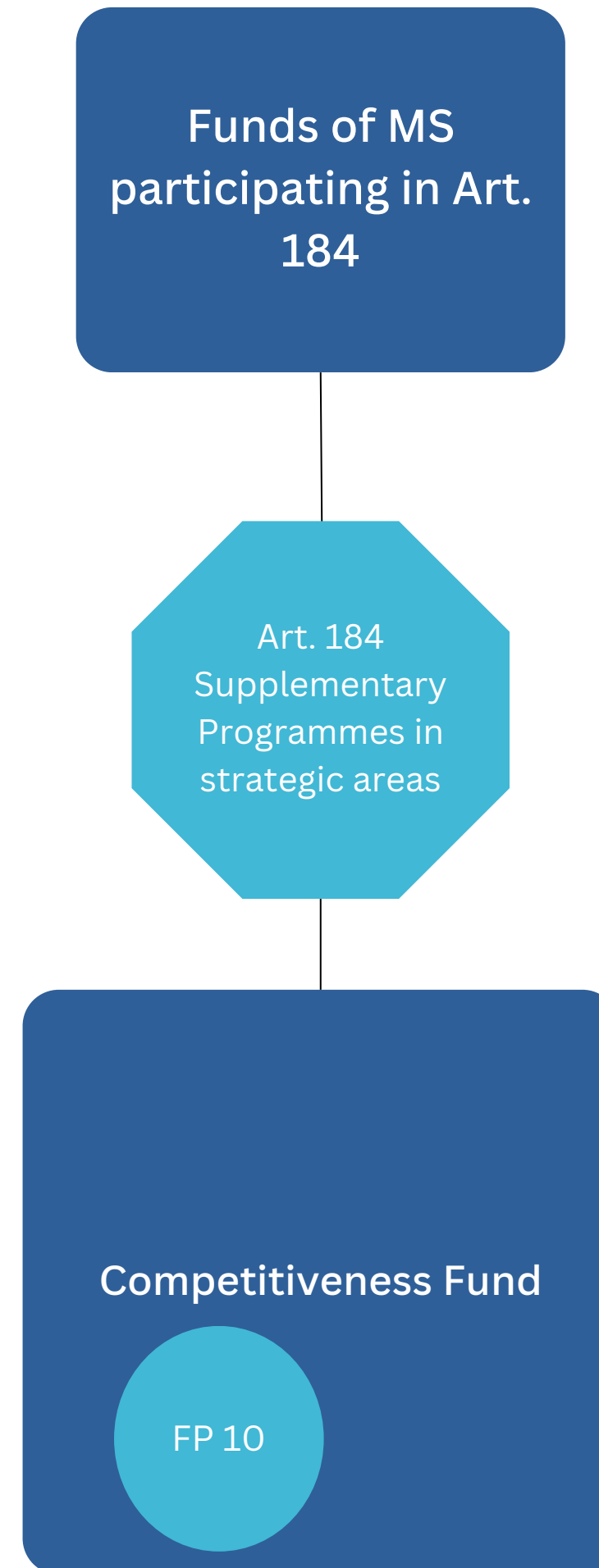
**Leveraging the 90%**  
Structure of a  
*European Research & Innovation Framework*



## Status Quo

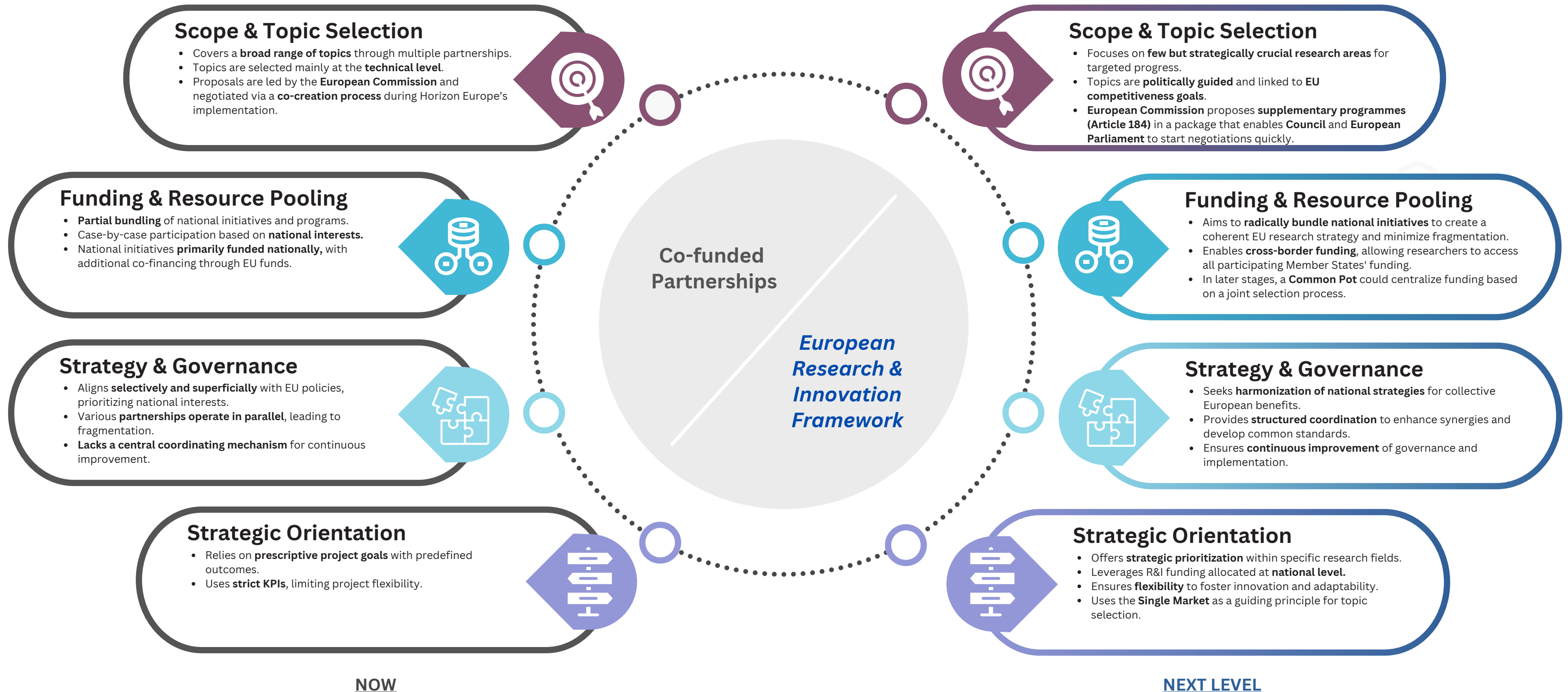


## Next Level European Approach



# Streamlining Initiatives and Funding

# Comparison\*: Co-funded Partnerships and European Research & Innovation Framework



\*The comparison with the Co-funded Partnership is an exemplary one for the purpose of distinguishing the European Innovation & Research Framework from existing instruments with similar features.

