



EUROPEAN POLAR BOARD

Photo: Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research



Dr Maria Grigoratou, Executive Secretary, EPB
Kylie Owen



Background

Formed in 1995 as a strategic advisory body to European Science Foundation.

1995

Jan. 2015

EPB became an independent legal entity hosted by NWO in Den Haag.

EPB became a Swedish legal entity, hosted by the Arctic Centre, Umeå and Lulea University, and the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat.

Jan. 2025

We acknowledge the Sámi people, the Traditional Custodians of Sápmi Ubmeje, the unceded lands on which we live and work in Sweden.



Mission

Enhance European coordination in Arctic and Antarctic research through improved information sharing, optimised infrastructure use and joint initiatives between Members.





Vission

Unified yet diverse European Polar Research Voice where Members can still see their priorities reflected within the collective effort.





Vission

Unified yet diverse European Polar Research Voice where Members can still see their priorities reflected within the collective effort.

Policy-Science interface: Make science relevant to society and show to the society the relevance of science



**EUROPEAN
POLAR BOARD**

The Voice of European Polar Research

**Strategy
2023 - 2027**





EPB Strengths

- Composite and comprehensive diverse membership



FWF Austrian Science Fund

belspo

fst THE FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

fnrs
LA LIBERTÉ DE CHERCHER

fwo

NERC
SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

BULGARIAN ANTARCTIC INSTITUTE

CZECH ANTARCTIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME



POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ARCTIC CENTRE
AT UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

Ministry of Higher Education and Science

Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education

NWO

ACADEMIA SCIENTIARUM ESTONIAE



ARCTIC CENTRE
University of Lapland

PAN
POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF OULU



LULEÅ TEKNISKA UNIVERSITET



POLARLU

MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA E INNOVACIÓN



rannís
www.rannis.is

SWISS POLAR INSTITUTE

CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

CNR | DSSTTA



The Research Council of Norway

cnrs

AWI

ALFRED-WEGENER-INSTITUT
HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FÜR POLAR- UND MEERESFORSCHUNG



INSTITUT POLAIRE FRANÇAIS
PAUL-ÉMILE VICTOR



EPB Strengths





EPB Strengths

- Composite and comprehensive diverse membership
- Polar vision

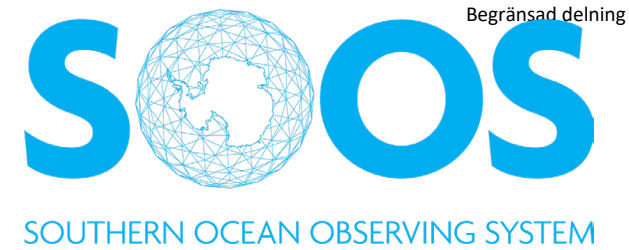




EPB Strengths

- Composite and comprehensive diverse membership
- Polar vision
- European and International Partners







EPB and EU projects

Participation in EU funded Projects & EU Polar Cluster

Active

Arctic Passion

OCEAN:ICE

POLARIN

EU Polar Cluster *(coordination)*

Ended

ARICE

Arctic ECRA

EUROFLEETS 2

INTERACT*

PA-EUAIC

EU-PolarNET2

SO-SHIC

**INTERACT has ended as an EU-funded project but continues as an organization*





EPB and EU activities

EPB's open call to secure Europe's leadership in Polar Research by targeted investments in FP10

16/05/2025

Once perceived as remote, the Arctic and Antarctica are now recognised as global drivers of change, actively reshaping Europe's climate, biodiversity, economy, security, culture, and the daily lives of its citizens.

As the European Union enters a decisive phase in shaping its next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-2034 and Framework Programme 10 (FP10), we, members of the European research community, call for the establishment of a targeted, long-term funding instrument dedicated to Polar Research for 2028- 2034.

Prepared by the European Polar Board, a collaborative network uniting 31 organizations from 22 countries across Europe to foster collaboration and protect the polar environment for the European



> 900 signatures





EPB and EU activities



[Home](#) [About Us](#) [EPCO](#) [Action Groups](#) [Projects](#) [Infrastructure](#) [Communications](#) [News & Events](#)

EPB Calls on EU Leaders to Secure Long-Term Polar Research Funding

06/06/2025

As the European Union begins shaping its next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF 2028–2034) and Framework Programme 10 (FP10), the European Polar Board (EPB) has released a letter and a supporting three-page information document directed at key European decision-makers. The letter and briefing highlight the importance of sustained and dedicated EU funding for polar research. Continued support will allow the EU to maintain its leadership in discovery and respond to the evolving challenges of a changing world, confidently, collaboratively, and with foresight.

The letter, addressed to Members of the European Parliament, Members of the European Commission, Prime Ministers and Governmental Representatives of the EU Member States builds on EPB's recently [open call](#) already supported by 750 research professionals. The accompanying three-page information document provides examples of existing competencies, priorities and strategies. Looking at the future, the document identifies four priority research areas essential for Europe. A dedicated funding instrument for Polar Research will help the EU to maintain its leadership in polar governance and be adaptive in a rapidly changing world.



Letter to MEPs, EC, Prime Ministers, other decision makers



EPB and EU activities

EU 2028-2034 Budget: European Polar Board Calls for Strong Commitment to Polar Research in FP10

17/07/2025 | created by Maria Grigoratou, Executive Secretary of the European Polar Board

This week marks a pivotal moment for the future of European research, as a new round of formal discussions began yesterday on Europe's next Multiannual Financial Framework (2028–2034). These talks will shape the EU's priorities for years to come, including the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, known as FP10. The European Commission has proposed a €175 billion budget for FP10, although the final amount remains subject to negotiation.

As the EU debates how best to allocate its research and innovation funding, the European Polar Board (EPB) is advocating for polar science to remain at the forefront of EU research priorities.



What Are the MFF and FP10?

The Multiannual Financial Framework is the EU's long-term budget, which sets strategic spending priorities across sev

Updated response will be published soon





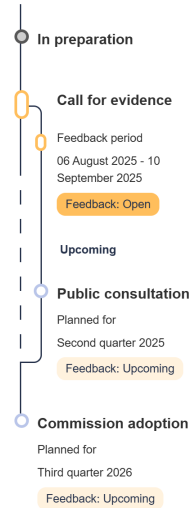
EPB and EU activities

Feedback from: European Polar Board

[Have your say - Public Consultations and Feedback](#) > [Published initiatives](#) > [European Research Area Act](#) > [Feed](#)

Feedback reference	F3627453
Submitted on	04 September 2025
Submitted by	Maria Grigoratou
User type	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
Organisation	European Polar Board
Organisation size	Micro (1 to 9 employees)
Transparency register number	481160852308-95
Country of origin	Sweden
Initiative	European Research Area Act

“The European Polar Board (EPB) contributes evidence to the ECs work to strengthen the ERA. As an independent organisation bringing together 31 members from 22 countries, including research institutions, ministries, funders, and operators, we see the ERA Act as an opportunity to help research and innovation meet Europe's greatest challenges. Polar research may seem distant to some Member States and Associated countries, especially those without national polar research programmes. Yet the polar regions are ground zero for the climatebiodiversity nexus: what happens in the Arctic and Antarctic reverberates worldwide. Polar ice sheets regulate sea levels, polar oceans drive global circulation and climate, and polar biodiversity holds insights for resilience. Investing in polar research safeguards Europe's environment, security, economy



About this initiative

Summary

To improve the general environment for generating innovation, reducing fragmentation and boosting the EU's competitiveness, this initiative aims to strengthen R&D investment and bring it up to the 3% GDP target.

It will focus research support more on strategic priorities, strengthen alignment between the EU and Member States' funding priorities, and promote the free movement of knowledge and talent across Europe.

Topic

Employment and social affairs, Research and innovation, Single market

Type of act

Proposal for a regulation

Call for evidence

Feedback: Open

Feedback period

06 August 2025 - 10 September 2025 (midnight Brussels time)

The Commission would like to hear your views.

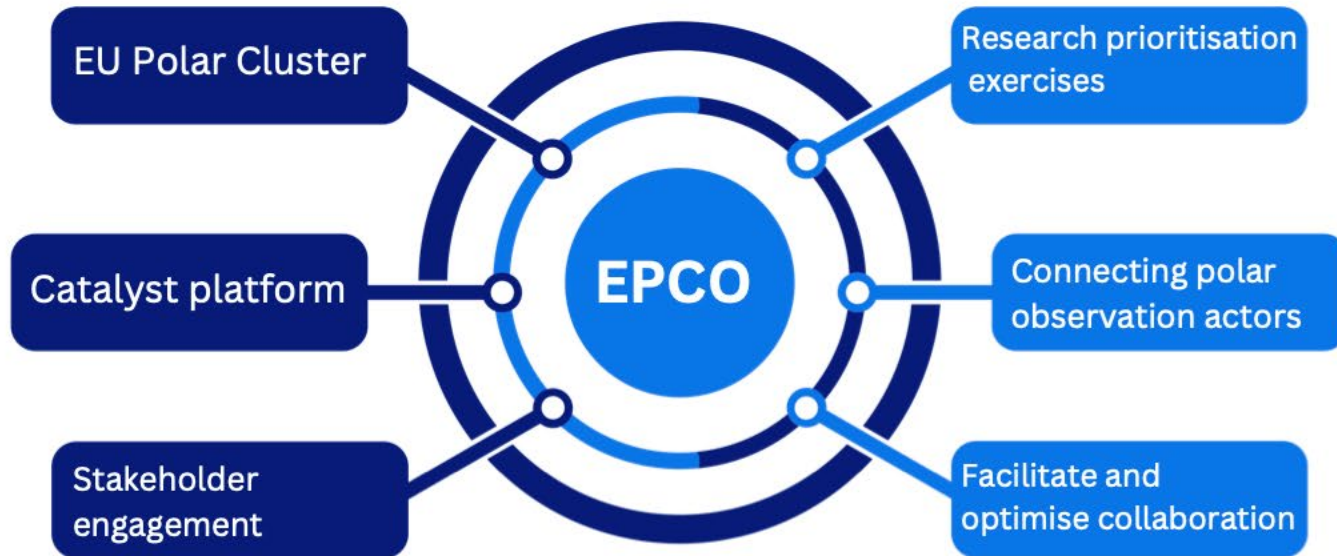
This call for evidence is open for feedback. Your input will be taken into account as we further develop and fine-tune this initiative. Feedback received will be published on this site and therefore must adhere to the [feedback rules](#).

[More about call for evidence](#)

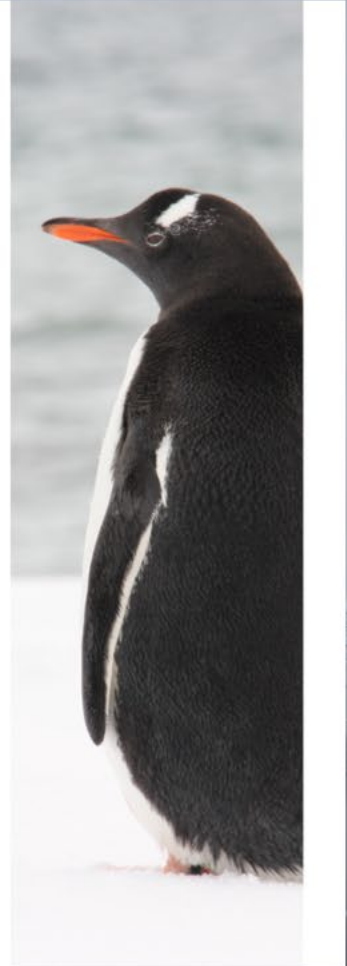


EPB's response to the European Research Area Act

THE EUROPEAN POLAR COORDINATION OFFICE



EU-PolarNet Legacy





European Polar Coordination Office

- builds on the results of the two successful EU PolarNet projects





European Polar Coordination Office

- builds on the results of the two successful EU PolarNet projects
- aims to support and enhance the coordination across the European polar research community at the EU-level





European Polar Coordination Office

- builds on the results of the two successful EU PolarNet projects
- aims to support and enhance the coordination across the European polar research community at the EU-level
- functions as a central contact point for the European polar research community, policymakers & decision-makers, including the European Commission





Dr. Kylie Owen
EPCO and EPB officer

- expertise in marine mammal ecology
- polar research
- experience in project management, science-policy interface, and science communication

EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

- EPB Members decide their contributions to IPY & UN Decade



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

- EPB Members decide their contributions to IPY & UN Decade
- Some EPB Members are part of the IPY planning committee as national or/and organization representatives



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

- EPB Members decide their contributions to IPY & UN Decade
- Some EPB Members are part of the IPY planning committee as national or/and organization representatives
- EPB's Ex. Secretary is a member of the IPY planning committee and Task Group 1: Vision and Priorities for IPY

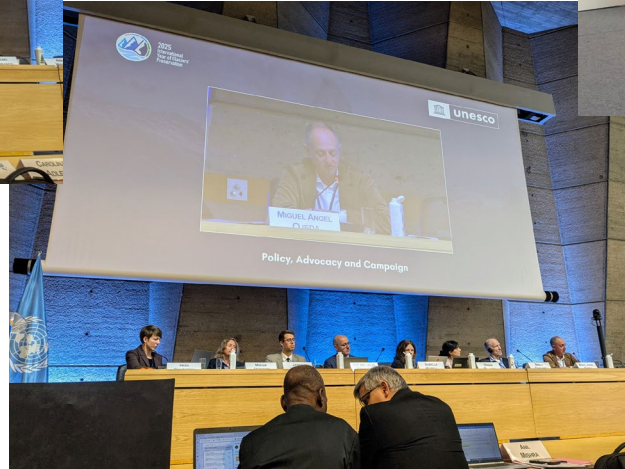


EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

- EPB Members decide their contributions to IPY & UN Decade
- Some EPB Members are part of the IPY planning committee as national or/and organization representatives
- EPB's Ex. Secretary is a member of the IPY planning group and Task Group 1: Vision and Priorities for IPY
- EPB has established connections with UNESCO for the UN Cryosphere Decade



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB contributions (as an organization):

- Promotion of actions and guidance on how countries can contribute



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB contributions (as an organization):

- Promotion of actions and guidance on how countries can contribute
- Communication Bridge



EPB – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB contributions (as an organization):

- Promotion of actions and guidance on how countries can contribute
- Communication Bridge
- Awareness and engagement campaigns – polar focus



EPB – EPCO – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB- EPCO contributions:

- Coordinate, Communicate and Promote the European Polar Research Voice



EPB – EPCO – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB- EPCO contributions:

- Coordinate, Communicate and Promote the European Polar Research Voice
- Co-organize actions with IPY, UN Decade, European bodies, EU-funded projects and international partners with a focus on the science-policy interface



EPB – EPCO – IPY5 & UN Cryosphere Decade

Potential EPB- EPCO contributions:

- Contribute to actions towards research prioritization, facilitate actions for enhanced collaborations



EPB – EPCO - IPY5

Potential EPB- EPCO contributions:

- Contribute to actions towards research prioritization, facilitate actions for enhanced collaborations
- Promote and support the active participation of early careers (APECS, EU-funded projects)





Thank you

For further information

Website, join our mailing list:

www.europeanpolarboard.org

Contact us: secretariat@europeanpolarboard.org,
mgrigoratou@europeanpolarboard.org



