



EU Mission: Cancer

What are EU Missions?

EU Missions transcend conventional research and innovation projects; they are dynamic initiatives to tackle Europe's toughest challenges. Picture a diverse range of stakeholders working together to create solutions for the big issues facing our society.

- The Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission;
- The Oceans Mission;
- The Soil Health and Food Mission;
- The Adaptation to Climate Change Mission;
- The Mission on Cancer.

Why a Mission on Cancer?

Because cancer affects us all, creating a ripple effect that burdens families, societies, and economies. Just think about it – every year the EU sees:

- 2.7 million cancer diagnoses;
- 1.3 million lives lost;
- A €200 billion economic toll.

What's more, the annual number of diagnoses in Europe is expected to exceed 3.24 million by 2040 due to:

- ageing populations;
- unhealthy lifestyles;
- unequal access to screening and care.

To reverse this trend, the Cancer Mission has set itself the goal of improving the lives of more than 3 million people affected by cancer by 2030.

It will do this by supporting the **EU's Beating Cancer Plan** and by breaking down barriers to involve a wide range of stakeholders, including patients, and pooling resources to work towards the common goal of fighting cancer.



What are the Mission's objectives?

The Mission aims to improve:

- understanding of cancer and its causes;
- prevention and early detection;
- diagnosis and treatment;
- quality of life for people living with cancer.

How will the Mission achieve its objectives?

The Mission will ensure that new research and innovation developments are effectively translated into concrete solutions to improve cancer prevention and control.

Research funded through the Mission will:

- increase understanding of cancer development and contribute to preventing some 40% of cancers by strengthening research and accelerating integration of research findings into care;
- Improve diagnosis and treatment by supporting the development of more effective screening methods and treatments, increasing overall survival;
- improve patients' lives during and after treatment through monitoring programmes and by providing solutions to a range of physical and psycho-social side effects;
- Special attention is given to paediatric and rare, difficult to treat cancers, tackling also inequalities in access to care.

Other flagship initiatives include establishing:

- UNCAN.eu, a European data platform that will combine cancer research data with clinical and other types of data at an unprecedented scale, enabling researchers to greatly advance in the understanding of cancer development and progression;
- a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre to empower cancer patients and survivors to co-decide on their care, and have access to tailored information and to their own clinical data;
- national Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures to improve access and quality of care.

The EU Mission on Cancer is YOUR mission

Whether you are a public official, researcher, healthcare provider, investor, patient or just someone who cares, your voice matters. Your views and needs are important, which is why the Mission encourages you to contribute to the design, implementation and review of actions in workshops, focus groups and surveys.

