EBRAINS

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EBRAINS Roadmap 2026 - 2036 Call

Proposal submission details and procedure

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on behalf of the EBRAINS Management Board

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Purpose and Vision

EBRAINS invites the neuroscience, clinical, and technology communities to co-create the **EBRAINS 10-Year Roadmap (2026–2036)** — a shared vision for the next decade of digital neuroscience in Europe.

This roadmap aims to identify the **scientific, clinical, and technological priorities** that will guide EBRAINS as a European research infrastructure.

We seek visionary yet concrete proposals that define science that cannot be done elsewhere — projects, capabilities, or collaborations uniquely enabled by EBRAINS' data, models, compute, and federated ecosystem.

Proposed activities should make full use of the EBRAINS suite of digital tools and services.

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EBRAINS suite of digital tools and services

Brain Atlases – Offer detailed 3D maps and analytical tools for human, macaque, and rodent brains, enabling exploration of brain structure, function, and connectivity across multiple scales.

Medical Analytics – Provides privacy-compliant platforms for the secure analysis and sharing of clinical and neuroimaging data, supporting research in diagnosis and personalized treatment.

Modelling and Simulation – Enables computational modelling from single neurons to whole-brains, using simulation tools such as The Virtual Brain (TVB) and NEST, to explore mechanisms and test hypotheses.

Data and Knowledge – including FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) Data, Models and Software - ensure transparency and reproducibility of research assets through the EBRAINS Knowledge Graph and Curation Service.

Collaborative Platform – A cloud-based digital workspace that integrates co-design tools such as the EBRAINS Collaboratory and Software Distribution, supporting workflow sharing and education.

Computing Infrastructure – Provides access to Europe's leading supercomputing and neuromorphic systems (e.g., JUPITER, BrainScaleS, SpiNNaker) for large-scale simulations, AI development, and data-intensive neuroscience.

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Purpose of EBRAINS roadmap

Scientific democracy: letting the community shape the EBRAINS priorities through open proposals to ensure community input, inclusiveness and credibility.

Strategic coordination: using EBRAINS to curate, synthesize, and align with European and national funding landscapes; this will enable a structured synthesis and positions EBRAINS as Europe's neuroscience roadmap authority.

Iterative continuity: establishing a 3-year review/update cycle ensures that the roadmap remains a living document to consider changes in research, keeping the community engaged, e.g., through high-impact communication events, strengthening debate of shaping EBRAINS.

EBRAINS' leadership: strengthening EBRAINS role as the voice of European digital neuroscience and provide a tangible instrument for dialogue with the EC and national funders.

Key dates of actions

Call announcement	November 18, 2025
Launch of the Roadmap process at EBRAINS Summit	December 10, 2025
Submission deadline	March 1, 2026
EBRAINS Strategy Symposium	Q2, 2026
Publication of Roadmap Contributions	April 15, 2026
Roadmap Synthesis	Q4, 2026
Adoption of Roadmap	Q1, 2027

Format of contributions

Length: 2–10 pages (PDF)

We welcome shorter proposals of 2-3 pages, as well as more elaborate documents up to 10 pages.

Language: English

Suggested Structure

1. **Title and Abstract** (≤250 words)
2. **Scientific or Technological Rationale** – What grand challenge does your proposal address?
3. **Why EBRAINS?** – Explain why EBRAINS' capabilities are essential
4. **Proposed Approach and Activities** – Key methods **and deliverables**.
5. **Expected Impact** – Scientific, clinical, or societal benefits.
6. **Synergies and Integration** – Links to other initiatives and projects
7. **Implementation Outlook** – Milestones, timeframe, estimated technical resources

Templates and guidance materials will be available on the EBRAINS portal.

Who can contribute?

- Consortia or individuals in all fields of neuroscience research
- Clinical and translational researchers
- AI and digital twin experts
- Industrial and innovation partners
- Representatives of national nodes and infrastructures
- Societal, ethical, and policy researcher

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What is a contributor's benefit?

Shape Europe's neuroscience agenda — contribute directly to defining EBRAINS' scientific and technological priorities and influence future European funding directions.

Amplify your vision — gain visibility through open-access publication in the *EBRAINS Roadmap Proceedings* and discussion of your proposed topic at the EBRAINS Strategy Symposium to a pan-European audience.

Stimulate discussions and build collaborations — connect with researchers, infrastructures, and national nodes to form new partnerships and future project consortia.

Guide infrastructure evolution — ensure that your scientific and clinical needs inform the next generation of EBRAINS tools, atlases, data services, and modeling pipelines.

Strengthen collective intelligence — help shape a shared European ecosystem for digital neuroscience, grounded in open science and FAIR data principles.

Stay engaged long-term — join a continuous community process, with roadmap updates every three to five years and sustained consultation opportunities.

Earn recognition and legacy — secure authorship in the citable proceedings volume.

Contributing to the EBRAINS 10-Year Roadmap means taking part in defining the next decade of neuroscience — not as an observer, but as an architect.

Review and Integration process

- **Expert Review:** by the EBRAINS Roadmap review group (to be determined)
- **Community Discussion at EBRAINS Strategy Symposium:** debate during the EBRAINS Strategy Symposium (Late Spring 2026). Agenda will be based on thematic clustering of accepted contributions by the EBRAINS Roadmap review group. The Symposium will be open to the entire neuroscience community.
- **Publication:** all accepted proposals will appear electronically in *EBRAINS Roadmap Proceedings* (open access, in the simplest case website download only, but we will also seek publication in a journal).
- **Roadmap Synthesis:** key insights will be integrated into the *EBRAINS 10-Year Roadmap* (2026–2036, condensed to approx 10 pages), adopted by EBRAINS governance and updated initially after three years, then regularly every five years

Review criteria

The review is deliberately light-touch: it acts as a quality and relevance filter to prevent clearly inadequate submissions, while keeping the bar low enough to encourage diverse, creative and unconventional contributions.

- **Scientific & Technological Excellence** – originality, ambition, and potential to advance understanding or innovation in neuroscience
- **Relevance to EBRAINS** - clear justification of why the work requires EBRAINS data, models, or infrastructure.
- **Impact Potential** – expected scientific, clinical, technological, or societal value and European leadership potential.
- **Integration & Synergies** – cross-disciplinary reach, collaboration across national nodes, and complementarity with other infrastructures.
- **Feasibility & Clarity** – coherence of approach and credible implementation plan.
- **Ethical & Open Science Values** – alignment with EBRAINS principles of openness, responsibility, and sustainability.

Useful Information

- Link to **EBRAINS Roadmap 2026-2036 Proposal Template**
- Link to **Submission**
- Contact: ebrains-roadmap@ebrains.eu