

28DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP MODELS

This document summarizes key information about the 28DIGITAL Partnership. This information refers to 2026. For 2027, some changes may occur as a result of the evolution of the cascading funding model under Horizon Europe and decisions made by the 28DIGITAL General Assembly in 2026.

28DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP MODELS

1. **Members**
2. **Affiliated Entities** (ex-“Linked Third Parties”)
 - a. Affiliated entities, e.g. local subsidiaries or branches of member organisations.
 - b. Entities with a legal link with a member organisation for purposes unrelated to 28DIGITAL, e.g. national or regional ecosystem organisations.
3. **External Partners** (membership with limited duration, yearly).

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Partnership status opens access to the entire ecosystem for you to collaborate with. You are invited and expected to play an active role in creating a strong digital Europe.

- Partners have to pay **yearly partnership fees (see below)**.
- Members have **voting rights** in the 28DIGITAL General Assembly.

28DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP FEES

The below are the Partnership fees below are applicable in 2026 as defined by the 28DIGITAL General Assembly in its meeting on 12 June, 2025.

Members or Affiliated Entities with a legal link (2.b above)

- € 32,500 for large enterprises, research institutes and universities
- € 13,000 for mid-size SMEs
- € 6,500 for other SMEs

Affiliated Entities (2.a above)

- € 1,300 for Affiliated Entities affiliated to a member

External Partners (membership with limited duration, yearly)

- € 16,250 for large enterprises, research institutes and universities
- € 6,500 for mid-size SMEs
- € 3,250 for other SMEs

SMEs are defined according to the below criteria (in line with the European Commission definition):

- **Medium-sized SME:** < 250 staff headcount and turnover < €50m or balance sheet < €43m
- **Small SME:** < 50 staff headcount and turnover < €10m or balance sheet < €10m
- **Micro SME:** < 10 staff headcount and turnover < €2m or balance sheet < €2m
- In case of a KIC Partner with affiliated entities, the sum of the staff headcount, turnover and balance sheet defines the status.

APPLYING FOR PARTNERSHIP

In order to start the partnership process and request further information:

- Organisations should fill in the [questionnaire](#) for new organisations
- Once the questionnaire is filled in, organisations will be contacted by the relevant Regional office to complete the process. Please see the Country to Region office mapping below for reference.

COUNTRY (BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	REGIONAL OFFICE
Albania	East
Armenia	East
Austria	East
Belgium	West
Bosnia and Herzegovina	East
Bulgaria	East
Croatia	East
Cyprus	South
Czech Rep	East
Denmark	North
Estonia	North
Faroe Islands	North
Finland	North
France	South
Georgia	East
Germany	East
Greece	South
Hungary	East
Iceland	North
Ireland	North
Israel	South
Italy	South
Kosovo	South
Latvia	North
Lithuania	North
Luxemburg	North
Malta	South
Moldova	East
Montenegro	East
Morocco	South
Netherlands	North
North Macedonia	East
Norway	North
Poland	East
Portugal	South
Romania	East
Serbia	East
Slovakia	East
Slovenia	East
Spain	South
Sweden	North

OVERALL PARTNERSHIP PROCESS

- The prospect Partner **fills in** the [questionnaire](#) for new organisations.
 - once the questionnaire is filled in, the prospect Partner will be contacted by the relevant Regional office to complete the process.
- The Regional Director provides the prospect Partner with:
 - information on the EIT, 28DIGITAL, Business Plan, and the proposal submission process.
 - information on the types of partnership and associated costs.
 - The Application Package Template documents, including templates for the Application and Accession Letter, Membership Criteria document, Statutes, and By-Laws.
- The prospect Partner **receives the Partner Identification number**.
- The prospect Partner **provides the filled-in templates** to the Regional Director with:
 - the signed Application and Accession Letter;
 - the Membership Criteria Document demonstrating compliance with the Membership criteria from the Partner;
 - VAT Registration and certificate of Incorporation;
 - In the case of an Affiliated Entity, also a letter from the Member to which it is affiliated to endorse the entry (Affiliated Entity Support Letter).
- The Regional Director reviews and suggests improvements to these documents, if needed. This step is important as the Partnership application will be accepted or rejected by 28DIGITAL Supervisory Board (SB) also based on the content of the documents and completeness of the information.
- Once received, the Partner Application is sent for approval to the 28DIGITAL Supervisory Board:
 - the **application package is sent** to Supervisory Board with **Written Procedure** to accept or reject the Prospective Partner's application.
 - The Supervisory Board votes on the prospective Partners.
 - If the outcome of the 28DIGITAL Supervisory Board is positive, the partner is informed of the outcome, and its partnership start date. To certify that, the Application and Accession Letter is countersigned by the CEO/CFO of 28DIGITAL.

