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EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

DG MARE, European Commission

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean





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What are EU Missions?

The European Commission launched **five new EU Missions in Oct 2020** – including the Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”

European Missions are **new broad mobilisation initiatives** to face the greatest challenges of our time

Rooted in the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, **Missions go beyond R&I** and the existing instruments, cutting across policies, programmes and different levels of governance

They will develop and demonstrate innovative **technological, social, business and governance solutions**, and promote new forms of governance, allowing everyone to play an active role





Mission objectives and targets

Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

Objective 1
Objective 2
Objective 3

PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

- Protect at least 30% and strictly protect 10% EU's sea areas
- Restore 25.000 km free flowing rivers
- Marine nature restoration targets (incl. degraded seabeds, coastal ecosystems)

PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION OF OUR OCEANS, SEAS AND WATERS

- Reduce by at least 50% plastic litter
- Reduce by at least 30% microplastics
- Reduce by at least 50% nutrient losses, chemical pesticides

MAKE THE BLUE ECONOMY CARBON- NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR

- Net zero maritime emissions
- Zero carbon aquaculture,
- Low carbon multipurpose use of marine space

ENABLERS

Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge system

Public mobilization and engagement



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Mission lighthouses:
sites to pilot, demonstrate, develop and deploy the Mission activities across EU seas and river basins to achieve **all** objectives



Baltic & North sea basin



MAKE THE BLUE ECONOMY CARBON-NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR

Mediterranean sea basin



PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION OF OUR OCEAN, SEAS AND WATERS

Danube river basin



PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

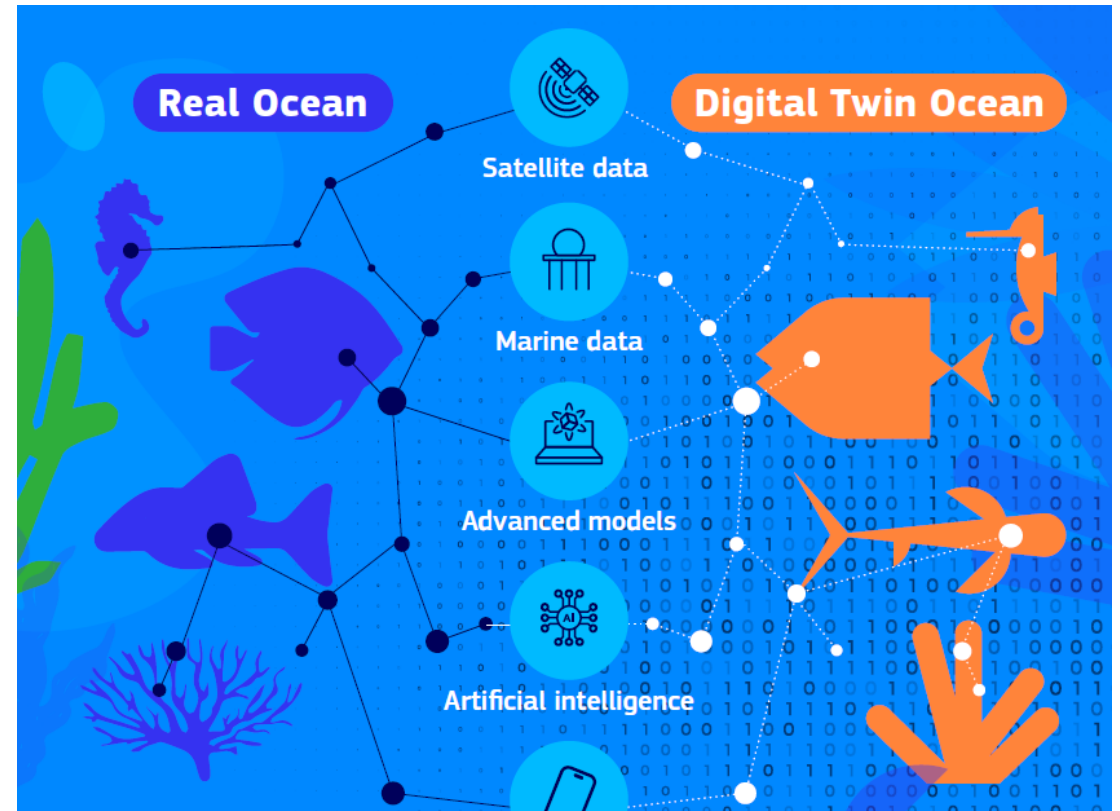
Atlantic & Arctic coast



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poZ7Dz4Xvl8>



Enabler 1: Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge System – Digital Twin Ocean





Enabler 2: Public Mobilisation



Co-creation and co-design

- Co-design of Mission
- Citizen Assemblies

Citizen Science

- Plastic Pirates
- Citizen Science initiatives

Education, Literacy & Awareness

- EU4Ocean coalition
- Youth engagement
- Student and school initiatives (Blue Schools)
- Choose your fish

Stewardship and volunteering

- Community-driven initiatives





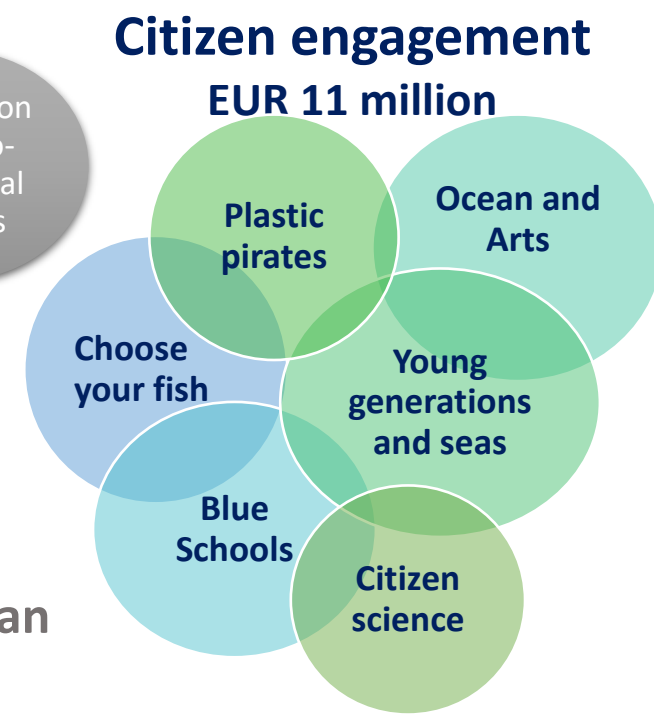
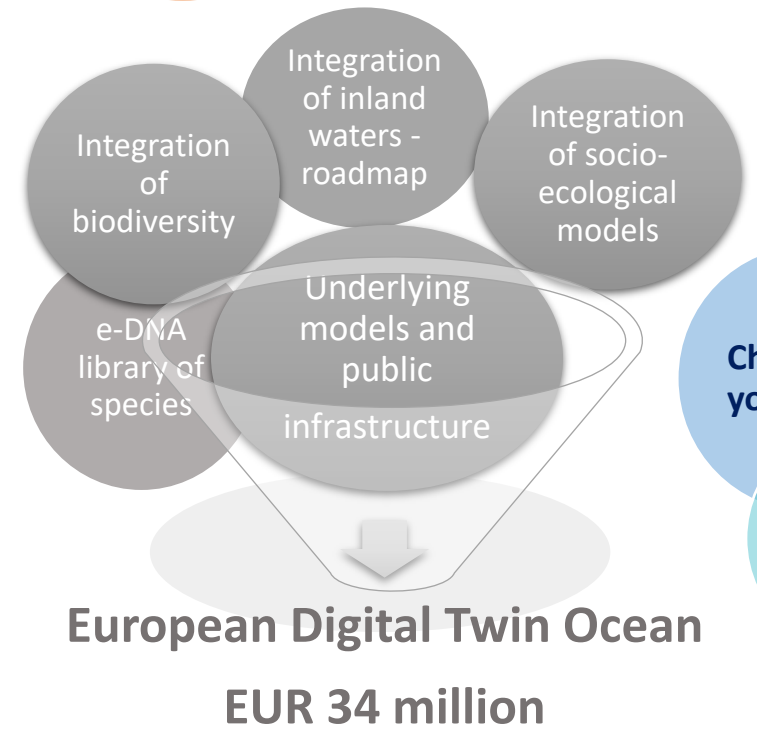
Mission work programmes 2021-2022-2023:

2021 CALL CLOSED - EUR 114 million | *Grant Agreements signed*

2022 CALL CLOSED - EUR 118 million | Grant Agreements under signature

2023 CALL CLOSED - EUR 118.7 million – *Evaluation ongoing*

2024 WP in preparation: expected adoption early 2024





Evaluations ongoing

Management of sediments in the Danube river-Black sea system

European Natural lakes

Danube River basin and freshwaters – WP 2021-2022-2023

Waste-free European rivers

UPSTREAM – Circular and Bio-Based Solutions for the Ultimate Prevention of Plastics in Rivers Integrated with Elimination And Monitoring Technologies
INSPIRE - Innovative Solutions for Plastic Free European Rivers

Wetlands and marshes and biodiversity in Danube river

Nutrients in the landscape-sea-river system

DaWetRest - Danube Wetlands and flood plains Restoration through systemic, community engaged and sustainable innovative actions
Restore4Life - Restoration of wetland complexes as life supporting systems in the Danube Basin

Freshwater and transitional waters ecosystems Danube river

Landscape water retention capacity

DANUBE4all - Restoration of the Danube river basin waters for ecosystems and people from mountains to coast
DALIA - Danube Region Water Lighthouse Action

Evaluations ongoing



Synergies – Teaming up beyond EC / HE level

Across different EU Programmes

Horizon Europe, EMFAF, Life, Inter-Reg, InvestEU

With Member States and Regions

National and regional programmes / initiatives, partnerships

With International partners / initiatives

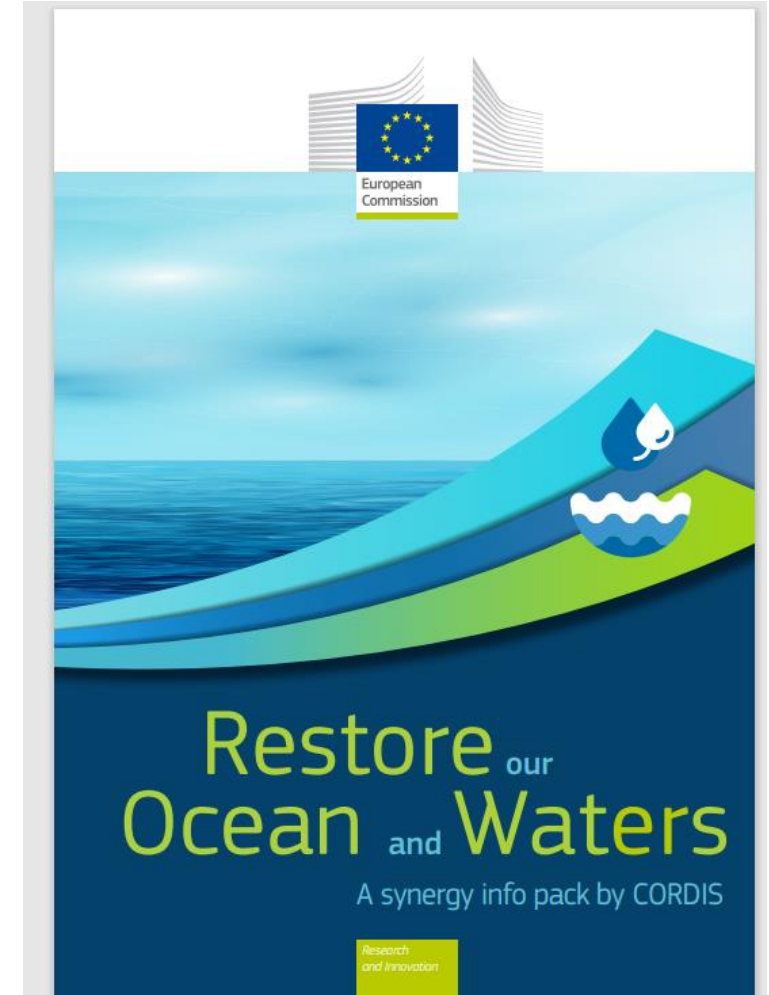
UN Decade Ocean Sciences, UfM, Alliances (e.g. AAORA)

With public & private sectors, and investors

Universities, Joint Undertakings, EIB, EBRD, philanthropy

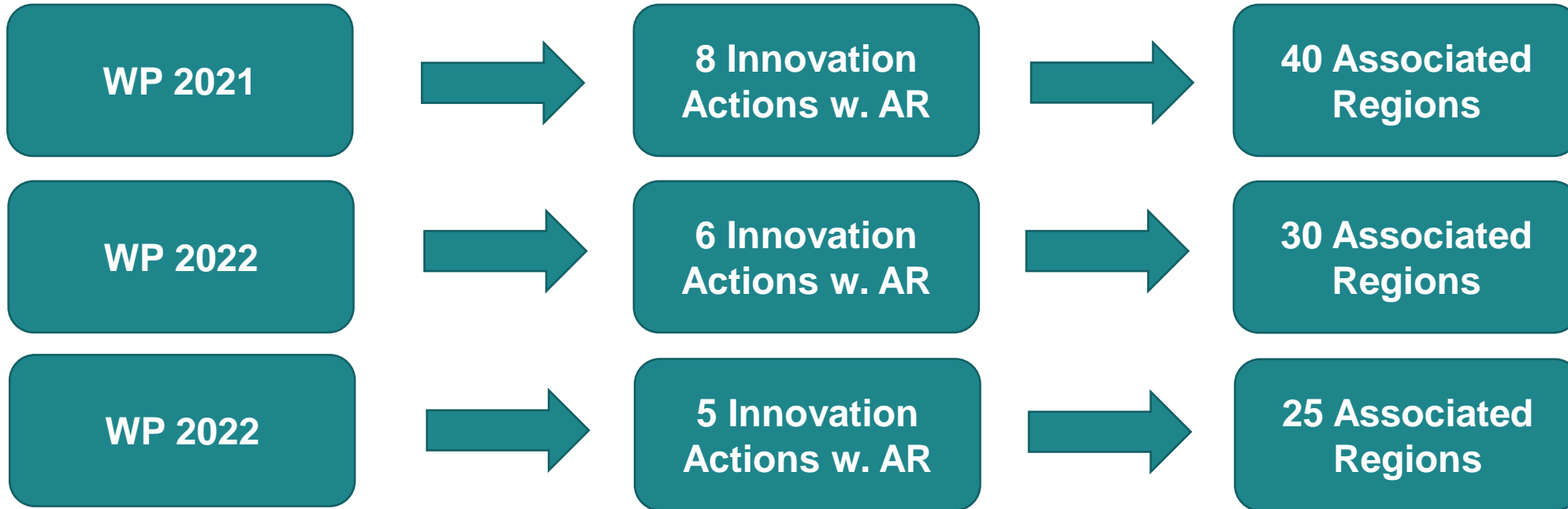
With citizens and youth

Citizens initiatives, EU4Ocean, Youth ocean Ambassadors





Associated regions



The financial support to third parties may only be awarded to **local and/or regional authorities from an ‘associated region’**. To address the impact-driven approach of the Mission and the nature of Innovation Actions, proposals are **expected to work with and engage at least 5 ‘associated regions’** to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the solutions developed within the projects in other areas.

‘Associated regions’ are understood as **areas with similar ecosystems** (e.g. neighbouring regions and/or regions in a different river basin) and/or less-developed regions, to build capacity to implement the innovative solutions to restore freshwater ecosystems. The proposals should ensure that the **associated regions are located in Member States/Associated countries other than those that are part of the project consortium**. An ‘associated region’ must benefit from the Financial Support to Third Parties provided under this topic only once.

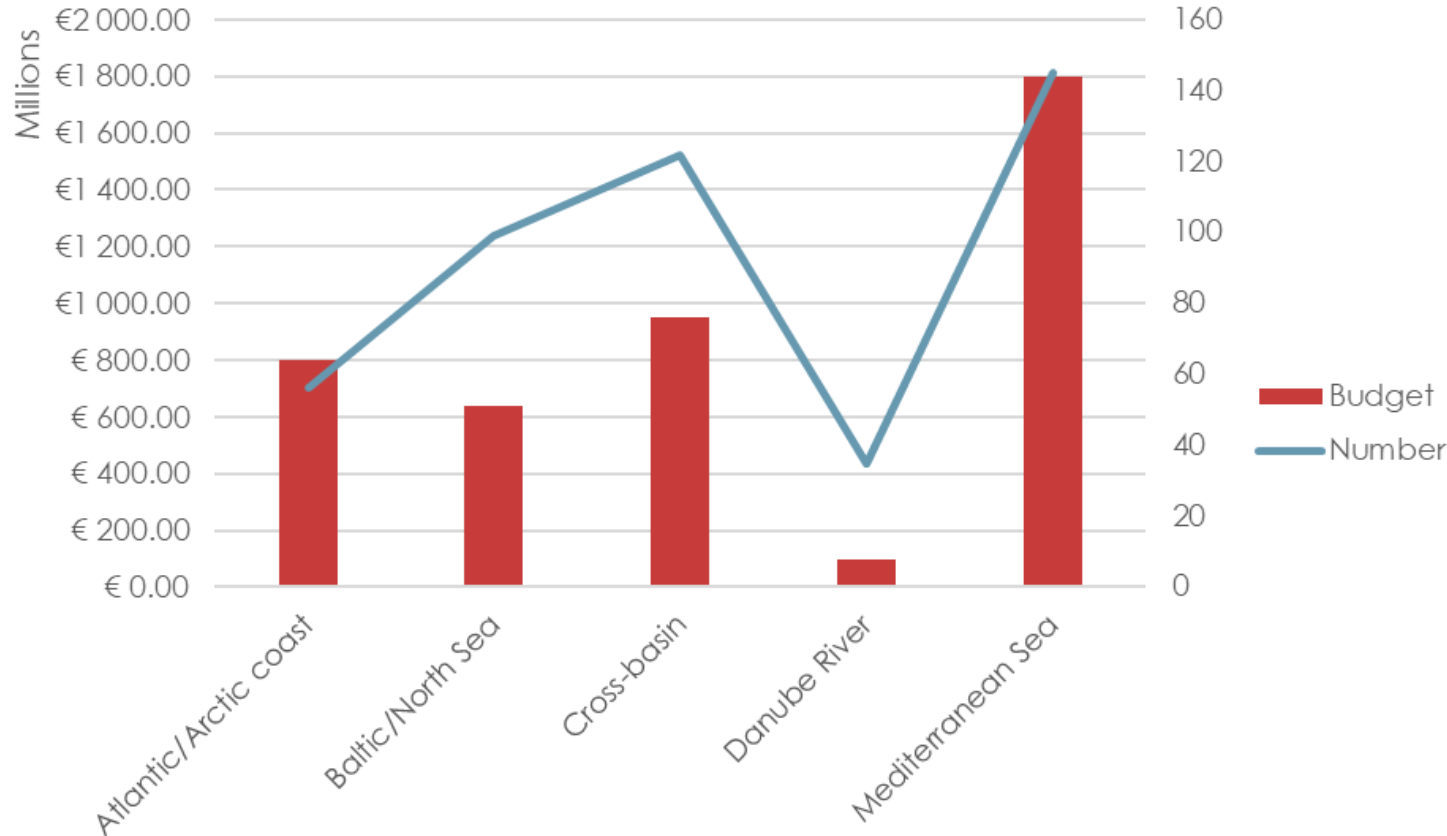


The Mission Charter is meant to **mobilise** all stakeholders to achieve the goals of the Mission, strengthening **cooperation**, aligning **efforts** and achieving **critical mass** for the transformational **change** needed to restore our oceans and waters. by 2030.



Mission Charter actions

Budget and Number of Pledges by Basin
(Accepted pledges as of October '23)

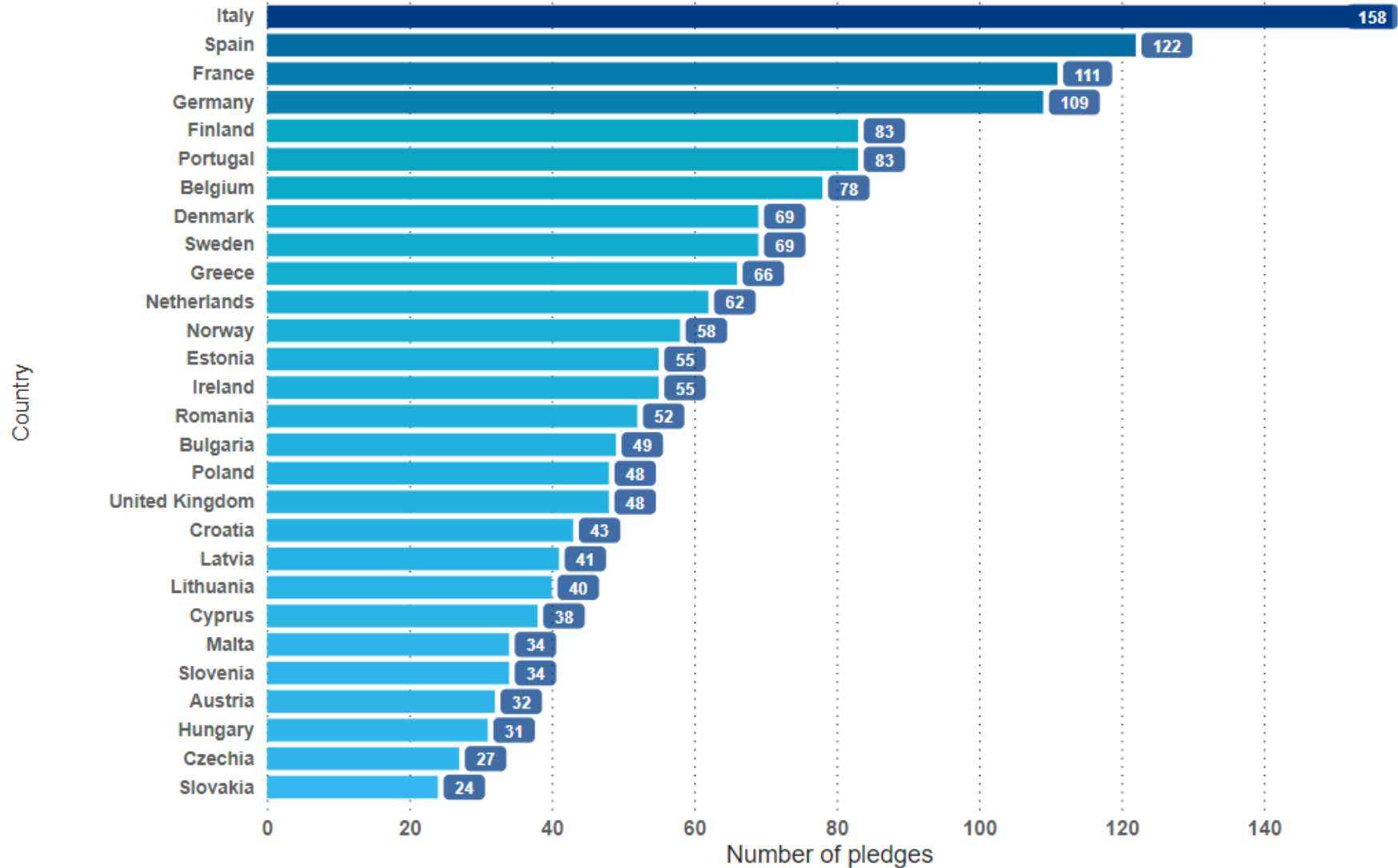


**Almost 600 actions pledged with
457 actions visible to the Mission
Atlas
Budget: €4,28 billion**



Mission Charter actions

Number of pledges: 1 158
79,5





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Thank you!

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